

Inside Indianapolis

By Ed Sovola

FIRE CHIEF Roscoe A. McKinney she'll always be "Chief" painted a word picture that was so realistic the other day. I want to apply for pension money, too.

Sadness was in my heart when I climbed the stairs of headquarters to wish the Chief all the luck in the world as a private citizen.

Chief McKinney wasn't too happy. As a frustrated fireman looked at a "go-in man" of 38 years service, nostalgia, coming out of a 3-inch nozzle, hit him.

"How do you feel about leaving the service, Chief?"

"It breaks my heart."

"Remember the Crystal Flash Petroleum Co. fire we were on last summer—summer before last? Darn, the years sure fly."

The Chief remembered and shuddered and said we were lucky on that one. "Burned my hand that day," he said.

"Got my shoes wet," I said.

IT WASN'T long before we were sitting with our feet propped up hating the minutes as they slipped by.

"I sure hate to see the first of the year come," sighed the Chief. "My only consolation is that Joe (Joseph F. Hancock) will be the chief. He's a fireman's fireman."

My eyes roamed the wall where all the Chief's badges he ever wore were hanging in a frame behind glass. From substitute fireman to the top job. He's been called Chief since 1922.

From my memory book I recalled the night I spent at Station 13 and went out on the only fire. It was a Chief Sale blaze on the Southwest Side. The razing the "rookie" took is still clear in his ears.

It was the Chief's turn to remember. He talked about being blown out of buildings, almost checking in his rubber boots twice, always making sure never to send in men where he wouldn't go in himself.

WHEN HE told about the time he was blown out of a passageway in a factory fire, the smoke and flame were in my nostrils. I could see my Chief lying on the floor. Voices could be heard above the noise of the conflagration.

Then one brave man appeared and picked the limp body up and started walking to safety. All of a sudden there was no fire. The fireman had walked into the pit of an elevator shaft.

"That was something," laughed the Chief. "There I was, unconscious and choking from smoke one minute and drowning the next. But we got out and whipped the fire."

Another time the Chief (this is as clear as if I heard it yesterday instead of day before) Chief McKinney was knocked heels over belt buckle and then brought to the station and put to bed. His mind was in a fog. Neither the Chief nor the men at the station know how he got out of bed. Anyway, they found him back at the fire as if he'd never left.

"A man who loves this job can't miss being a good fireman," mused the Chief. How true.

NEW YORK, Jan. 2—Gregory Ratoff, the famous Russian director, who says, "My awnlee claim to fame is I wrote four times for Roosevelt," is now an Eisenhower man.

"As an ex-Rawshun, I say, for peace for 8 years, we should alact Mr. Eisenhower," he told me the other night at Gog's Lare. "The Rawshuns respect power. I say, eef we alact Mr. Eisenhower, day weel be a very seck people."

Ratoff, probably won't bet on Ike, though. "I'm the awnleekest gambler in the world," he said. "When I vote for Roosevelt, I bet on Dewey. So now when I vote for Eisenhower, I bet on Taft!"

OUR ITEM about Billy Rose being seen with 6-foot-5 actress Dorothy Ford while "holidaying in Hollywood" was evidently misinterpreted to Billy by whoever wired or phoned him about it, for he has telegraphed us: "Dear Earl: I came out here to visit with my sister and her husband and take care of some business. I am not holidaying with Dorothy Ford, Henry Ford or any other Ford and would appreciate your saying so. Regards."

Dear Billy: Inasmuch as I never did say you were holidaying with Dorothy Ford, I am prectely willing not to say it again. Season's greetings. (Everybody happy?)

HENRY YOUNGMAN told of the customer in Lindy's who put six spoons of sugar in his coffee. Finally Lindy demanded: "Why don't you stir that?"

"Because," said the customer, "I don't like it sweet."

JOE FRISCO, the comedian, said to us in "Toots Shor's": "Did you read in the paper about me passing away?"

"No."

"You m-must have," shouted stuttering Joe. "Y-y-you ain't been writin' about me."

IN GOSSIP-COLUMNING which Irving Hoffman called "carpet-sweeping in the Hall of Fame," the first guy there often gets the dirt or the wisecrack. Indeed, when I chanced to overhear a witticism because I'd got up at 10 a. m. one day Seldon Bennett said to me, "You're living proof that it's the early schmo who get the mot."

BIG-TIME ATTY. Arnold Grant, counsel to many famous people, was still in his bathrobe Christmas morning when a man at the door of his home in Rye said, "Your car is here, sir."

"I didn't call for any car," replied Grant.

"Your name is Arnold Grant?"

"Yes."

The man handed him a Christmas card from his law partner, Greg Bautzer of Hollywood, and showed him his Christmas present from Bautzer—a new Jaguar automobile.

NICKY HILTON's new romantic interest is shapely Piper Laurie (whom a dialect guy recently called "Peter Lorre") . . . Geo. Jessel and Joan Lyle De Something to Each Other . . . Wouldn't be surprised if they got married . . . Jessel says he has made more pictures than Wald & Krassa

Chief McKinney Sad At Leaving Service



THROUGH SMOKE AND YEARS—Chief Roscoe A. McKinney spun some yarns while "Chief Inside" directed the fire-fighting on a 4-alarm.

Ever since I was knee-high to a fire extinguisher I loved the service.

"Remember, Chief, the time you put shoe polish on the harness for the big Fire Prevention Week parade?" Brother, I was gone then.

ONCE AGAIN the scene of Driver McKinney putting black shoe polish all over the harness came back. Chinch and Jackie were going to be in the best-looking, shiniest harness in the parade. Spectators' eyes would pop when McKinney went by with Chinch and Jackie.

Well, it was steaming hot that day. Chinch and Jackie perspired like all good horses do and by the time the parade started, the shoe polish was running with the foam. They could have been called "Fudge" and "Ripple" the way Chinch and Jackie looked. Ah, it was good to laugh at the old days.

Chief McKinney gave his blue dress coat to Chief Hancock. He'll have enough blue trousers to go to fires in and the Chief intends to go. He wished the city had kept some of the old pieces of fire apparatus for sentimental reasons. Other cities have. The Chief recalled the day Joseph F. Hancock reported to him for duty as a rookie. Lt. McKinney liked the new man. He'd make a good fireman.

Goodbyes are tough. The Chief was right when he said, "It breaks my heart to leave." A lot of guys know what you feel, Chief.

ANNUAL GUIDE—

Your Income Tax Primer—No. 3

Here Are Two Important Changes That Affect Your Dependents

By RICHARD A. MULLENS
Times Special Writer

TWO important changes in the new income tax law will affect your exemptions this year.

First, your dependents can now have up to \$600 income and still be claimed as an exemption. Last year the amount was \$500.

Second, those of you claiming dependents other than wife or child have to fill out a new schedule, added to this year's returns, which gives the Bureau more information about the relatives you show as exemptions.

In other respects, exemptions are the same as last year.

But, it's even more important this year to show your correct exemptions because the Bureau is going to examine them more carefully than ever before.

In a recent test audit the Bureau discovered that the most common error made by taxpayers with income less than \$5000 was on exemptions. So, if you want to stay out of trouble, read this article of the primer carefully.

Exemptions can be divided into three classes: for yourself and wife, for your children, and for other relatives.

Turn to page 4 of the official instructions and read first the section on "Exemptions for You and Wife." You will have no trouble if you remember two things:

FIRST—you were 65 or over in 1951 if your 65th birthday was on or before Jan. 1, 1952.

SECOND—unlike other de-

pendents, you cannot claim your wife as an exemption if she files a separate return to get back the tax withheld on her earnings of less than \$600. If your wife has income of less than \$600 you should file a joint return. Her income has to be included with yours, but you get a \$600 exemption for her (more if she's 65 or blind) so it's cheaper than filing separate returns.

Each child and each dependent relative who meets all the tests set out on page 4 of the official instructions can be claimed as an exemption.

The exemption tests are short but not entirely clear. To help you with this important step, the Primer lists the tests and then adds explanations.

ONE—Did you have \$600 or more gross income in 1950.

EXPLANATION: Remember that gifts or non-taxable income such as dividends on GI insurance, disability payments and insurance proceeds are not included in gross income. Non-business deductions for contributions, interest, taxes, etc., cannot be used to reduce income below \$600. For example, suppose your son earned \$600 in 1951 and gave \$5 to the community chest. His gross income

is still \$600 and you cannot claim him as an exemption.

TWO—Received more than one-half of his or her support from you or your wife, if filing a joint return.

EXPLANATION: Fill in the form printed with this article. It will show you how to figure whether you contributed over one-half of the support.

THREE—Is not claimed as an exemption on the return of her husband or his wife.

EXPLANATION: For example, suppose your daughter was married on Dec. 31, 1951. Even though you were her sole support during 1951, you can't claim her if she files a joint return with her husband or is claimed as an exemption on her husband's separate return.

FOUR—Was either a citizen of the United States or a resident of the United States, Canada or Mexico.

This Worksheet Will Help You Determine Whether You Contributed Over Half Of Dependent's Support

Enter the entire cost during 1951 of dependent's support for:

Board (Estimate as closely as possible) \$ _____
Clothing (" ") _____
Lodging (" ") _____
Medical Care _____
Education _____
Entertainment _____
Other costs of supporting dependent _____

Total Costs _____
One-half of Total Costs _____

(Include in above figures all amounts spent for such items whether contributed or provided by you or someone else. If your son was included into the armed forces in 1951, include in the above figures the value of his board, lodging and clothing while in the service.)

Enter the amounts provided to support dependent:

By you and your wife if filing a joint return \$ _____
By dependent _____
By others _____
By Government _____

Total Contributed _____

(Unless debts have been incurred in the support of the dependent, the amounts shown as Total Costs and Total Contributed should just about equal each other.)

UNLESS THE AMOUNT PROVIDED BY YOU AND YOUR WIFE IF FILING JOINTLY IS GREATER THAN THE AMOUNT SHOWN AS ONE-HALF OF TOTAL COSTS, YOU CANNOT CLAIM AN EXEMPTION FOR THIS DEPENDENT.

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relative other than wife or child is Schedule A of Form 1040A and Schedule J on Form 1040. The only part of this schedule which may bother you is Column 4, asking for the amount you contributed towards the support and the amount contributed by others. The box printed with this article will help you answer these questions.

Tomorrow the Primer will take up the next step in filling out your return—how to report your income.

Tax Primer Q. & A.

Q—My wife, who died Aug. 15, 1951, would have been 65 on Sept. 1, 1951. Do I get an "over 65" exemption for her?

A—No. You would, though, if she had reached 65 before she died.

Q—My brother and I split the cost of supporting our parents. Who can claim them as dependents?

A—Neither you nor your brother can claim your mother and father as a dependent if you both contribute exactly half to the support of each. One of you should contribute over half of one parent's support and the other over half of the other parent's support. Then you each get one exemption for your parents.

Q—My wife earned \$800 in 1951. Can I show her as an exemption?

A—Only if you file a joint return and then her \$800 income must be added to yours.

Q—I supported my mother until she passed away on Jan. 2, 1951. May I claim her as an exemption?

A—You may if she had less than \$600 income in 1951.

DAD, I EARNED \$600.02 THIS SUMMER. AREN'T YOU PROUD OF ME?

YEA, AND IF YOU'D EARNED 3¢ LESS, IT WOULDN'T COST ME A \$600 EXEMPTION.

FIVE—Must be your son, or daughter, or legally adopted child, or related to you in one of the ways specified in test five on page 4 of the official instructions.

EXPLANATION: Even though your relative died in 1951, you can still claim an exemption. A still-born child cannot be claimed but a child who died shortly after birth in 1951 can be claimed.

The new schedule to be filled out this year by any taxpayer claiming an exemption for a

Our Lady of the Lighthouse—

Monks Carry Out Trappist Tradition



MONUMENT—Lighthouse-shaped memorial to Our Lady of the Lighthouse.

By SEC. AL KAFF, U. S. Army
Times Special Writer

HAKODATE, Japan, Jan. 2—At 2 o'clock in the morning, there is not much activity in the tiny fishing village of Oshima-tobetsu. But far up the hill overlooking the village, the day has already begun in the brick monastery of Our Lady of the Lighthouse.

The monastery is home to 53 Trappist monks, who begin their day of work and devotion at 2 a. m. Our Lady of the Lighthouse is one of two Trappist monasteries in Japan; the other is in southern Japan. This one is on the rugged, cold, remote north island, Hokkaido, only 250 miles east of Siberia.

Like Trappists in Europe, Africa and the U. S., the Japanese monks keep a strict regime. At 2 a. m., they arise to sing in Latin the ancient chants of devotion of Roman Catholicism. In the unheated church in one wing of the building, they begin their long day by chanting the Matin, first of the seven canonical hours.

OUTSIDE, lights twinkle from fishing boats in Tsugaru Strait, which connects the Pacific Ocean and the Sea of Japan, and the boats bob in the fresh, chill wind. Inside, the cold night air doesn't disturb



DEVOTION—Choir monks at office in Japan's Trappist Monastery read from ancient Latin books.

Beyond their food, clothing and religious books, they have no earthly needs.

The monastery was founded in 1896 by seven monks from France. Two years later, they were joined by the first Japanese Trappist monks. By 1940, there were 50 monks. Then came the war, which broke through the cloistered walls.

FOURTEEN MONKS were forced into military service, and four killed. The Japanese army used the monastery as a billet. When the war ended, there were only 35 members. Today, it is back to 53, including a monk from France and one from Germany.

The Japanese monks are a young group, mostly between 21 and the 40s. Father Thomas Takashima, the monastery's father superior, is 43. Many were born into Buddhism and Shintoism, the religions that embrace most of Japan's 80,000,000 people.

In the six years since the war, 15 candidates have entered the monastery. There are three students studying there now.

"In Japan," said Father Takashima, "we are few, but the conditions since the war are better for our growth. We think the war was providential."

REPAIR—Self-sufficient Japanese monk mends his own robes.



REDS ENJOY ALL THE COMFORTS OF A CAPITALIST—Communist delegates to the Korean peace talks are shown arriving at Pannunjom in an American-made sedan. They've been riding in Russian-built jeeps up to now, but the switch in vehicles started when the freezing weather set in.