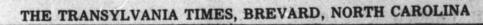
PAGE 4, SECTION B



- Check the safety measures

taken by the facility such as

lighting, sturdiness of chairs,

handrails in hallways and

bathrooms, etc. One par-

- Time your visit during a

meal so that you can see how

the residents are fed. Talk

with the dietician at the

facility. Note whether the

residents are eating hot,

nutritious meals and whether

the food is properly prepared

according to a doctor's

Find out what type of ac-

tivity programs are offered by

the facility such as church

services, transportation to

and from town for shopping

-Talk to the patients, check

their alertness, freedom to

communicate, happiness, etc.

- Finally do not be pressured

into making a snap decision as

to which facility best suits

your needs. Consider carefully

the advantages and disad-

vantages of each home and

These suggestions will aid

you as well as the state in

select one accordingly.

specifications (if any).

trips, etc.

pany.

cidents, were used by all

groups to assess and rate the plants for selection of each

group's nominee for corporate

competion. These 17 criteria

also will be basis for deter-

mining the best in the com-

Simon Sees Governmen

Although government ca

serve many worthy purpose

it is now almost out of ou

control, warned Secretary (

Treasury William Simon at

recent meeting of the Nation.

Association of Manufacturers

the guise of handouts and sul

sidies and protection from

competition, but beneath th

ribbons and bows is a lumbe

ing, clumsy giant that is threa

ening the liberties and smothe

ing the spirit which were one

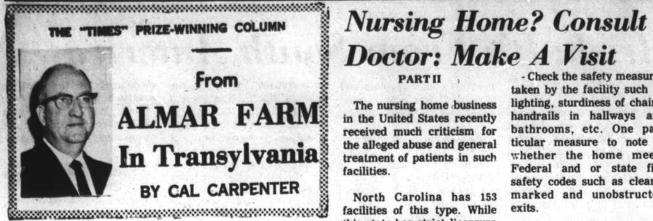
the foundation of America

greatness."

"It comes neatly packaged i

As 'Clumsy Giant'

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My brother-in-law, Kagues Smathers who lived in West Asheville, died February 28th. He was the second brother-inlaw I've lost this year, for Fred Pressley, who lived in Canton, passed on in January. Time, it seems, is thinning my family just as it does with families, and we must accept this as the way of life.

Perhaps another time I'll write something of my brother-in-law Fred Pressley's story, for he had an interesting and full life before leaving us at the age of 72. But in this column, I'd like to tell a little of Kagues William Smather's story, a man who gave his life and more for his country.

Kagues died at 67, finally victim to World War II injuries that had crippled him for 30 years and kept him bedfast for the last 12 years. His going must have been a relief, for as I've written before in these columns; death is not always tragic but suffering is.

And Kagues, although almost completely paralized for a long time must have suffered; if nothing more, from a terrible mental anguish . For he had been a strong, outdoor man, a steel rigger. To lie helpless in bed for years after the airy freedom of this dare-devil work, could have only been deeper than most of us can imagine.

But he never complained. He was cheerful with a deep and abiding religious faith. As a helpless bedfast in his home he served, as the minister conducting his funeral service said, as an inspiration to many people by his acceptance and lack of bitterness.

Kagues Smathers, as a Staff Sergeant, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, received his plate in his skull and heavy terrible injuries in an incident braces on his back, but was of the last great war that is finally discharged and now history. He was on the Ludendorff Bridge at Remagen, Germany, when it

weakened structure, went on across.

The story has been told that thd German Captain of Engineers who was charged with destroying the bridge, was taken back to Berlin and shot for the failure, on Hitler's orders; although with his best explosives taken from him, he was obviously not at fault.

For some two days and nights, the American forces poured into Germany across the weakened bridge. In the meantime, American engineers had been put to work repairing the bridge, for it certainly had been badly damaged. Staff Sergeant Kagues Smathers was one of these men.

From my conversations with him, Kagues did not know - nor, it seems is anyone else sure - what finally made the bridge collapse. There was, he said, artillery fire and sporadic bombing by German aircraft going on the whole two days. Maybe it was nothing more than the heavy traffic over the weakened structure. All he remembered was working on top of the truss, some 200 ft. above the water; then waking up in a hospital in England.

From fellow engineers who survivied, Kagues heard something of his personal story after he fell. He was dragged from the water, unconscious, by a fellow engineer, a man who faithfully made long trips to visit him over the long years from the end of the war until he died. When dragged from the river he was considered to be dying. He was kept in a front line medical station for some 72 hours, then evacuated to the hospital in England.

He came out of a series of Army hospitals with a silver returned home.

For several years he worked outdoors in construction.

received much criticism for ticular measure to note is the alleged abuse and general whether the home meets treatment of patients in such Federal and or state fire facilities. safety codes such as clearly marked and unobstructed North Carolina has 153 facilities of this type. While exits.

PARTI

The nursing home business

this state has strict licensure standards as well as rules and regulations which must be followed in the care of a patient, it is impossible to monitor each patient closely enough to ever prevent abuse.

There are, however, certain precautions which you can take should a relative or friend have to be placed in such a facility.

making any Before decisions, consult a physician. Let him aid you in determining what type of facility the patient needs - a family care home, a home for the aged, an intermediate care facility, or a skilled nursing home.

Find out whether the facility falls under Medicare-Medicaid eligibility provisions. Deciding upon these two factors will narrow your choices considerably in selecting a home.

> Ernest Phillips, assistant director of the Division of facility services of the N. C. Department of Human Resources, suggests checking the following when it is actually time to visit a home:

- Read the brochures concerning each home.

-Personally visit several homes.

- Check the location - is it close to a hospital or doctor and is it convenient for visits from friends and relatives?

- Talk to the head nurse in each facility (if the homes require. one) as well as the administrator. Note their attitude toward patients, visitors and staff. Are they available to answer questions, hear complaints or discuss problems?

- Do not notify the facility in advance that you are coming - this will give you a chance to view everyday operations as they actually occur.

- Take a walking tour of the facility and the grounds. Note the cleaniness of the home and

Olin Will Compete In Safety Contest

Olin Corporation's cellophane plant here has been picked to compete in Olin's first annual safety contest to determine, safetywise, the best plant in the company.

Garza Baldwin, Jr., President of the Fine Paper and Film Group, said that the Film Division plant here was chosen on basis of its overall excellence in safety to represent the group in forthcoming competition with those plants selected by other Olin groups. The winner will be awarded the new Best in Corporation Safety Award.

Safety-conscious Olin is seeking even further improvements over the gains shown in 1974, "A year of outstanding improvment," he said.

Baldwin complimented the entire Fine Paper and Film Group for its achievements in

seeing that patients receive proper care. Should abuse be noted, talk with the facility administrator.

If this brings no satiscfaction, contact:

Division of Facility Services Licensure and Certification Section P. O. Box 12200 Raleigh, North Carolina 27605

Telephone: 919-829-7461

1974 and asked for "continued involvement possible level of safety.

> responsible labor can do no ss," he said.

Selection of the group's best plant was made extremely difficult because of the impressive safety improvement throughout, he said.

"My hope is that your sustained efforts and continued improvement will make it more difficult in the future. I am satisfied that any of the three group plants could represent the group with distinction and place well in any final decision at the corporate level."

John D. Link, Film **Division's Vice President and** General Manager, and "his large delegation of safety disciples" will be presented soon with an appropriate group trophy and plaque. The winning plant will retain the plaque awarded each year. The trophy, however, will travel each year to the winning plant, to become retired and retained permanently by the plant being judged the Group's best for three consecutive years.

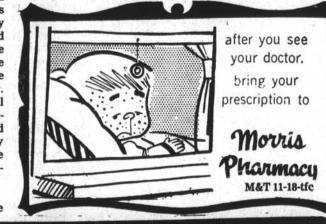
The announcement of the

cellophane plant's selection included the following:

"Most of you are aware of the intense effort and interest directed to employee safety in the Fine Paper and Film Group in 1974. This was not only true in our group but all across the Olin Corporation. Both for our group and the corporation it was a year of outstanding improvement. The payoff was in terms of greatly reduced human suffering and conservation of our human resources.

"Our congratulations go to the people in the Film **Division's Pisgah Forest** plant, and we wish them success as they compete against the other Olin plants for the corporate award."

Seventeen qualifications, ranging from safety policy to incidents of off-the-job ac-





of all management and labor in the future to cause our operations to operate at the highest

"Good management and

collapsed into the waters of the Rhine River shortly after General Patton's American tanks had made the first in- safely operate vasion of Germany.

written on this fabled incident. I can only give a brief he said, he could never stand background here.

The long, steel-truss bridge had been mined with explosives to deny Allied Armies an easy crossing of the river. But before the arrival of the American tanks on the west crutches and do what he could. bank of the Rhine, the high quality, powerful explosives already wired onto the bridge. had been removed for more pressing needs and replaced with less powerful charges. When these charges were bridge, it was badly damaged trucks, chancing

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Then he began having blackouts and could no longer heavy machinery. He refused the Veterans Administration offer There have been books of training for the sedentary job of watchmaking because,

> He finally had to stay indoors, for he slowly began to lose control of his legs. Never discouraged, he continued to drag himself outside on

to stay indoors.

Before he reached the point where he was shut in, he built several houses, including the home he died in.

The VA did all it could. He detonated, just before the received a full disability American tanks reached the pension, medicines, and special sick room equipment; but did not fall. The tanks and but the time came, about 12 the years ago, when he was

whether it complies with Medicare-Medicaid sanitation standards. bedfast. He refused VA hospitalization even then and stayed at home, cared for around the clock by my sister, Lois. He lived to see his and Lois's only child, Anita, born early in the war, educated and happily married - she's now

a social worker in California. But finally, after 12 years of slowly dying, he was mercifully, quickly taken by pneumonia. He was laid to rest the 3rd of March, a man who had given 30 years of suffering and, lastly, his life,

May this country always have such men when it needs them. And may Kagues Smathers rest in peace.

in defense of his country.

