

Tomlinson's News Notes

Selected and Edited up from Here, There and Everywhere

by J. W. Tomlinson

Awards Presented

King Gustav Adolph VI on December 10 presented the 1954 Nobel awards to seven winners in Stockholm amid traditional royal pageantry.

Dr. Linus Pauling of the California Institute of Technology, received the chemistry award. Pauling is the tenth American to win the Nobel Prize for chemistry. The Swedish Academy of Science awarded it to him for his study of the structure of molecules and the hidden forces that hold together these "building blocks" of matter.

The prize in medicine went to three American doctors, John F. Enders, of Harvard, Thomas H. Weller, of the Harvard School of Public Health and Frederick C. Robbins of Cleveland's Western Reserve Medical School. They shared the medicine prize for their research in the fight against polio.

Two German doctors, Max Born, who fled the Nazis but returned recently to West Germany after working ten years in Britain, and Walter Bothe of Heidelberg University shared the physics prize for their research on nearly half a century into the ties between solid matter and invisible radiation and for their studies of cosmic rays.

The literature prize went to Ernest Hemingway who also received a hint that "brutal, cynical and callous sides" to his earlier works delayed the coveted international recognition.

Except for the physics prize, the 1954 Nobel awards were a sweep for the United States.

No peace prize was awarded this year and no reason was given for the omission.

Action to Free Americans

On December 11 the United Nations released a cable to Prime Minister Chou En-lai of Red China asking for a meeting to seek the release of eleven American fliers held as spies. U. N. Secretary Gen. Dag Hammarskjöld dispatched the cable after the General Assembly approved 47-5 a resolution condemning Red China for failing the aviators and calling on him to act for their release. He suggested a meeting in Peiping around December 26.

A radio broadcast from Peiping

on November 23 said that thirteen Americans had been sentenced to prison for periods of from four years to life for participating in a spy plot. Nine Chinese were also sentenced, some of them to death, on the same charge. All but two of the thirteen Americans are members of the United States armed forces, one of them a colonel and one a major, the others holding rank from captain down to private.

Most of them are members of the American air forces, being crews of planes downed in North Korea.

The U. S. State Department at once sent to China a strong protest against the sentencing of the Americans on what it declared to be "trumped up charges."

On November 25 the British government took an unusual action, condemning the action of the Chinese Communists in sentencing the Americans an "outrageous violation of international law."

On November 28 Red China rejected the United States protest and handed the American note back to the diplomat in Peiping who had delivered it.

Atoms-for-Peace Approved

In the United Nations' Assembly Political Committee a few days ago the Western powers and Russia joined in a unanimous vote approving President Eisenhower's atom-for-peace plan. The committee adopted a resolution endorsing negotiations for an international scientific conference to be held next summer.

After eight years of stalemate on major issues, it was the second time in three weeks the West and the Soviet Union had acted together on a major subject. Recently the Assembly by unanimous vote instructed the United Nations Disarmament Commission to resume talks on limitation of armament and on prohibiting atomic weapons. Those talks will begin in January.

The U. S. Navy

The Navy of the United States, according to the latest edition of "Jane's Fighting Ships," now is equal as a fighting force to all the other major navies of the world put together. The volume says the American navy of five thousand vessels is not only the largest peacetime fleet ever maintained by any country, but appears to be adopting scientific advances somewhat more rapidly than any other navy.

Russia was rated superior to the United States only in numbers of submarines. The volume estimated the Red underwater fleet at 370 to 400 vessels against the United States navy's 200. A large number of long-range Russian submarines "are now known to have been completed and commissioned for service recently," the report says.

In comparing the American and Russian fleets Jane's says that the United States has 101 fleet and escort aircraft carriers against none for Russia; fifteen battleships against Russia's three; seventy-five cruisers against Russia's twenty-six; and 737 destroyer and destroyer-escort types against Russia's 138.

France and India

For the first time in nearly three centuries France has no territory

Damaged Timber May Entitle You To Income Tax Deduction

If your timber has been damaged by fire, storm, or other casualty during the year, you may be entitled to claim a deduction on your income tax. In order to do this, it is necessary to know what type of loss may be deducted, how the damaged trees are to be measured, and how the tax deduction is calculated.

The losses that may be deducted comprise for the most part those which involve actual physical damage and are of sudden, unusual, or unexpected character. Some are caused by natural physical forces such as lightning, wind storm, ice, hail, sleet, and insect infestation and plant disease of an epidemic nature. Others are man caused, such as those resulting from fire or plane crash, or from war.

Two types of loss that differ from those just described but are treated in a similar manner are those resulting from seizure or requisitioning by public authority through exercise or threat of exercise of the power of condemnation, or those resulting from theft. Progressive deterioration resulting from a steady operating cause such as soil erosion is not recognized, nor is retardation of growth or losses resulting from the willful negligence of the taxpayer. These cannot be claimed as tax deductions.

Secure Appraisal

Since you must be able to support any statement of loss claimed as a deduction on your tax return, it is desirable to secure an accurate appraisal of the damage. The appraisal may be made immediately after the fire or other cause if there is no doubt as to the death of the trees. On the other hand, when there is doubt as to survival the appraisal should not be made until after the following growing season.

In requesting a damage estimate, it is well to be specific as to just what information is needed, since the basis for calculating the tax deduction is frequently not understood. Your recognized loss for tax purposes with respect to timber intended for sale or for use in your business is the difference between the adjusted basis (volume and stumpage value of damaged timber) for depletion of the damaged timber and the sum of the salvage value, if any, of the timber plus any insurance recovery.

Consult Foresters

Sound forestry advice and assistance, once hard to get in North Carolina, is now available to all land owners in the state. Some of the help is free while other services are

in India. In a brief ceremony a few days ago France handed over to India the French Settlements of Pondicherry, Karikal, Mahé, and Yanam, which have been ruled by France for 220 years.

In 1947, just after India won independence from Britain, France handed over to the New Delhi government several other small plots of land that once were trading posts. Chandernagore, near Calcutta, voted in 1949 to join India, and a treaty for this transfer was approved by the French in 1952.

The total territory transferred comprises about 196 square miles and has a combined population of some 325,000. Thus, France's bid to beat the British in establishing a great empire on the Indian subcontinent, an effort that started back in the seventeenth century, is ended.

Portugal, which has similar possessions, has not yet agreed to New Delhi's demands for the cession of Portuguese India—three small districts and an island on the northwest coast, north of Bombay. Indian nationalists in recent months have invaded some of the Portuguese possessions and clashes resulted with Portuguese authorities.

A Bit of Humor

I took my daughter, Betty, who

furnished on a free basis. The following agencies are sound advisors that land owners can turn to for assistance with forestry problems:

The North Carolina Forest Service is primarily a service organization responsible for preventing and suppressing forest fires, enforcing forest laws, producing tree seedlings, measuring and marking timber, and examining timbered areas for private woodland owners.

The North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service and county farm agents can help land owners who are interested in proper forest management. If the problem is a technical one the agent can call upon one of the Extension forestry specialists at State College.

Consulting foresters may be found in most sections of the state. Usually these men are timber estimators. Each county agent has a list of these foresters who work on a fee basis.

Industrial foresters are often available within their company's operating area. These foresters are anxious to help landowners with their woodland problems, as they know their future depends on good forest management.

Do You Expect To Live

Once more the thought of our aged men and women keeps me ever wanting to do something to help make them happy, and enjoy the life they deserve.

If everyone could only realize what joy it would give one to know they had helped make some old person happy, who had thought their days were over, and were just waiting to die. Had you ever thought about it? This new Era of medical sciences, medicines to make the old feel young again, has taken many a person who felt they were old and decreed down off the shelf and found a new life for them. And it could be you.

This new field known as Geriatric in medical terms, adds years of health and happiness, (or will with a little help), vigor, usefulness and brings many hobbies which would be worthwhile. We need to help old people, help to rid them of fears of being old and forsaken. People don't have to get old. In mind that is, they need someone to talk to about their troubles, hopes and fears

recently entered college. To see an elderly aunt of mine who has always lived on a farm and has been more or less out of touch with things, "Aunt Emma," I said proudly, "Betty is a co-ed now."

Noticing a look of disappointment on her face, I thought she didn't understand. "You know what a co-ed is, don't you?" I added.

"Sure," she replied. "That's a girl who didn't get her man in high school."—Harley McCullough True.

Willie's mother was giving him a lesson in the art of brotherly love. "Even if you fought with Danny," she said, "shake hands and make up before you go to bed. Remember, he might die before morning."

"All right," grumbled Willie. "It's okay if he dies before morning—but he'd better look out if he doesn't!"—Frances Rodman in Quote

Have you heard about the rich Texas oil man who visited Paris? He leaned 'way back to look up at the Eiffel Tower, and then exclaimed: "Um-m-m... Ah wonder how many barrels that one produces!"—Oren Arnold, Kiwanis Magazine.

VA News Letter

As people turned their thoughts to selecting Christmas gifts for their loved ones and friends, the Veterans Administration offered suggestions of appropriate and desirable Yule gifts for veterans who are patients in VA hospitals.

Generally, VA said, the gift which brings the most satisfaction to any hospital patient is a visit on Christmas day or during Christmas week from a member of his family or a friend. If it's not possible to visit him, the next best thing is a long, friendly, newswy letter.

A gift of a VA canteen coupon book was recommended. These come in denominations of 50 cents, a dollar and five dollars. They permit the patient to select for himself articles that he may wish from the stock of the VA canteen in the hospital. For the benefit of patients confined to their beds, articles from the canteen are brought in carts into the wards so that patients may make their selections.

The canteen coupon books may be purchased from the VA hospital. They are good for use the year round.

For patients who are smokers, cigarettes, cigars, pipe and tobacco are considered welcome gifts, together with other smoker's accessories.

Writing materials, including stationery, fountain pens and mechanical pencils are recommended as useful and acceptable.

Razors and razor blades, other shaving materials, hair brushes, combs, lotions and other toilet items

are among gifts which many patients would be glad to have. Gifts were cautioned not to give candies, cookies or other sweets unless they are certain the patient is permitted by his doctors to have them.

VA pointed out also that books, magazines, playing cards and many kinds of games are furnished to veterans in the hospitals, so gifts of this nature would be generally less acceptable than others mentioned.

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Q—My husband is a patient at a VA hospital in another state. Would it be possible for him to transfer to a VA hospital nearer home?

A—A transfer to a VA hospital nearer home might be possible. Your husband should apply to the officials of the hospital in which he is presently a patient.

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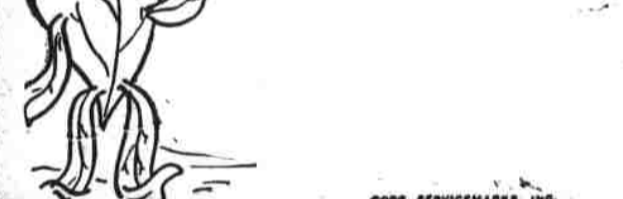
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