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Portland, Oregon  
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445-P

Frank Geisel  
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Dear Om;

Received your letter inclosing my card #445 P and your note for which I thank you and hope you will excuse my tardiness in answering. The Roster and Directory came a couple of days later, and after spending hours going through it, I am not so sure that I should be listed after reading what a lot of the fellows have accomplished in life. This book is the result of a lot of work and I sure appreciate it. Have lost contact with all of my wireless friends and fellow students so hardly think that I will be able to recommend anyone for membership.

at present I am nearly deaf but can manage to copy CW and make out fairly well with most people on speech by using a powerful hearing aid. In 1942, the Navy took over the steamship "Olympic" and the crew was paid off. This finished me as a wireless operator as on the "Olympic" the shack opened right into the wheelhouse and I did not have a speaking Tube or Telephone, which I could not operate. So after trying a number of jobs ashore, I had to settle for a job with B.P. John Furniture Corp. which employed a number of deaf persons. Never realized that it was nearly a necessity to be able to hear.

Retired in 1962 at age of 62 and am glad that I did as now I have lost my sense of balance after my stroke 4½ months ago. Feel OK otherwise but stagger around like a drunk and can't control my left hand too good.

QTH? First

The only wireless O.T. that I can think of that should be eligible for membership is Theron Bean and he had quite an experience on his second voyage in 1918. Theron Bean was an amateur and taught code at the Y.M.C.A. Wireless School at Portland in 1918. He went to Seattle and took the commercial exam and on passing was signed on the old "City of Seattle" and made a round trip to Alaska. Then he came back to Portland and signed on the wooden coal-burner "DUMARU" for a trip to the Philippines. The ship was struck by lightning and set afire and Bean sent out SOS. The ship was abandoned with part of crew on a raft and a larger number of men in a lifeboat. Bean was in the lifeboat and it finally reached eastern LUZON after nearly a month under the blazing tropical sun. Bean survived but about half of the men in the boat died. Don't know if young Bean ever made any more trips after that and do not know if he is alive or where he is located, but think I read something about him a few years ago saying he was with some kind of labor relations firm in S.F. Somebody, maybe Bean, wrote a small book about the "Dumaru" and think it was called "The Cruise of the Dumaru". Will do what I can to try to locate Bean and will write the library about the book. neglected to say that I went to the Y.M.C.A. Radio School in 1918 but dropped out with the end of WWI and in 1923, with a little more sense, went back and got my commercial license.

Good story

Have a number of books that may be of interest to OTS. ... Practical Wireless Telegraphy by Elmer E. Bucher 1918 = Robinson's Manual of Radio Telegraphy and Telephony. 1918 = "How to Pass U.S. Wireless Examinations, 1918 = Berne List of Coast Stations 1929 = U.S. GOVT. call BOOK, about 1928 = copy of ARTA May 1935. Berne List of Ship Stations, Feb. 1929. also have a copy of "Lumber Ships of the Pacific" which I will send later after John Peel returns it.

Did not list the following on my application form as all were of short duration: -

Tanker "CHILSCO - KDHU" - 1928 = ~~Wrecking~~ Tug SALVAGE  
(KDKY) "PEACOCK" - less than a week - 1928 = Tug "CHICAMAUGA"  
about 2 weeks - 1926.

Will send books in a few days. Thanks for note and directory and hope the organization gets a lot more OTS signed up.

73's

George Meister

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