

Sherman County Journal

Fifty-Seventh Year No. 7

Moro, Oregon, Friday, December 22, 1944

Official County Paper

**A column of news
About Government,
Politics and People
with especial emphasis
on the Northwest**

Confirming terse statements by army and navy officials on the enormity of the task faced in the Pacific is the quarterly report of the West Coast Lumbermen's association as to the items urgently needed for Pacific naval installations, beachhead construction and lumber for boxes and crates. Lumbermen have received orders for full speed ahead on output for a prolonged war, and this fact ties in with general belief in army and navy circles that the conquest of Japan will not come soon or easily. It is frankly admitted that Japanese advances in China have vastly complicated the situation and may prolong the war in the Pacific for several years. The loss of American built airports in China is tragic in its implications and has created conditions distressingly disadvantageous to General MacArthur's plans. Many months have elapsed and many American lives have been lost since landing on Guadalcanal, and a much longer road lies ahead before Tokyo is entered.

The supply problem in the Pacific is not a poor second to that which General Eisenhower faces in Europe. As an example, during the first two months on Saipan more cargo was moved than the port of San Francisco handled in the entire twelve months of 1940, and the distance from source of supply is so great that the task was more difficult than assuring an uninterrupted supply to American forces attacking the Siegfried line. Probably within a few years a few weeks at most—there will be a call for increased production of war materials for use in the Pacific, and already plans are shaping for fullest utilization of Pacific coast ports to handle these supplies.

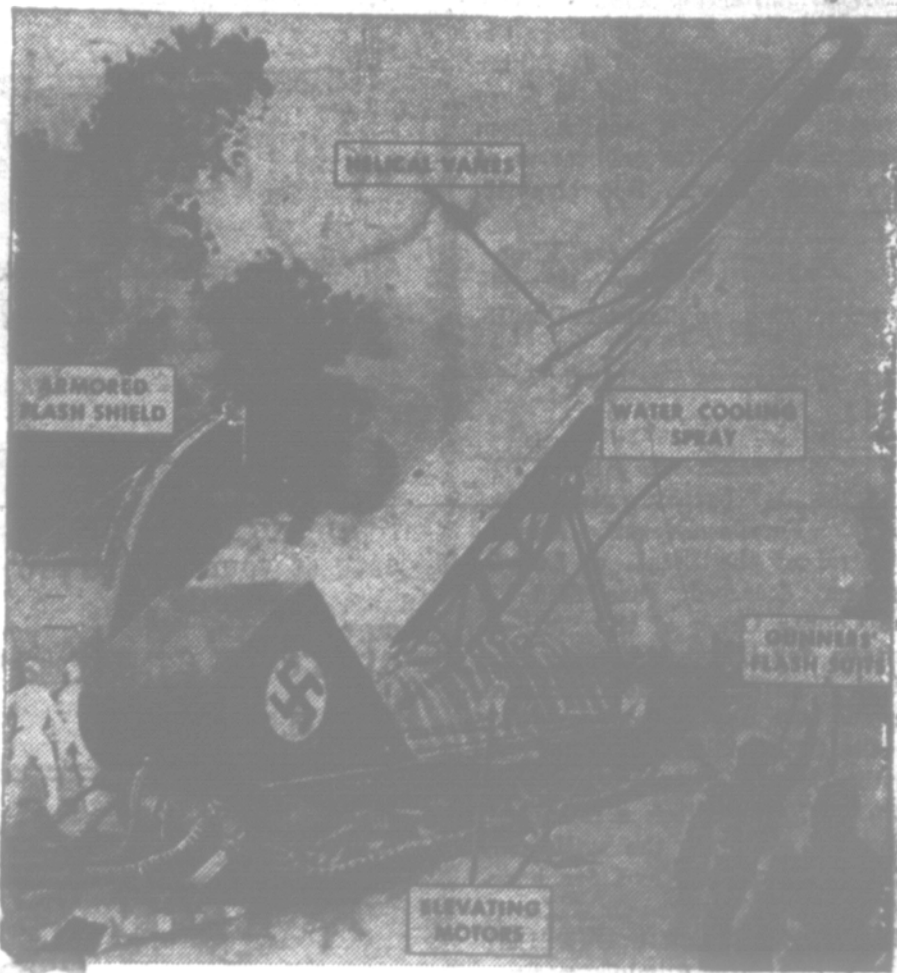
It is because of these facts the military deprecate public discussion of plans for reconversion by either the heads of private industry or member of war production board in charge of civilian supplies. Army men point out that even a victory in Europe will not permit of an immediate let-down in war production, and that talk of conversion at this time may seriously disrupt the effort to provide General MacArthur and Admiral Nimitz with the supplies they must have to press the battle against Japan. MacArthur's advance is so far ahead of schedule that ships and munitions which were on the "must" list for delivery next spring are urgently needed now to shorten the war and save American lives.

No formal action is to be expected by the newly created surplus property board until Senator Gay Gillette of Iowa retires from the senate in January. Robert A. Hurley, Connecticut and Edward H. Heller of San Francisco, whose appointment to the board by President Roosevelt has been confirmed, will do no more than go through routine gestures until the third member is named and it is understood that Senator Gillette will receive the appointment, unless critical statements made in his swan-song in the senate a few days ago cause the president to change his mind. If Gillette is the man his appointment cannot be announced until after he has retired from the senate. As soon as the three members have been qualified and policies have been agreed upon the board will proceed to take over the disposition of government owned properties as fast as surpluses are declared.

Another loss is to be borne by the government as plans now being considered for handling the 1945

Continued on Page Two

V-2 and Portable Platform



Here for the first time is an artist's conception, based on authoritative analyses and reports, of how V-2 may be hoisted from its portable platform from a powerful truck. In the drawing the launching ramp, adjustable, has been raised to a 45-degree angle which gives maximum range. The platform rests on hydraulic jacks to absorb the recoil.

Army Engineers Camped at Rufus Will Be Entertained Christmas

On behalf of the Red Cross, of which she is county chairman, Mrs. A. F. McIntyre has been organizing the county to aid in making life more pleasant and homelike for the engineer battalion members who are camped at Rufus.

Housekeepers have been asked to look up their best cookie recipes and send cookies to the school houses each Friday from where they will be taken to the camp each Saturday. Those who find it over optimistic to entrust cookies with perpetually hungry youngsters may leave them with the cookie chairmen who have been appointed for the several towns of the county. Mrs. George Fox at Rufus, Mrs. Ed Alley at Grass Valley, Mrs. Carroll Sayrs and Mrs. Chester Coats of Moro and Mrs. Mabel White and Mrs. O. G. Hilderbrand of Wasco will accept them.

Efforts to persuade the OPA to release sugar points for the cookies failed.

Citizens who have, or can make, an extra place at the dinner table Christmas day are asked to see or phone Mrs. Louis Hastings at Wasco, Mrs. Dewey Thompson at Moro, Mrs. Ed Alley at Grass Valley or Mrs. Tracy Fields at Rufus by Friday. These invitations will be transmitted to camp Saturday. It is estimated at about 800 of the men can be given time off Christmas day and this county and The Dalles expects to give each one of them a Christmas dinner of kind and quality that will cause them to remember this area until rout or ulcers remove pleasant thoughts of food from their minds.

The men will be taken as far as Grass Valley by truck Christmas day. They will arrive in Wasco at 12, at Moro at 12:30 and at Grass Valley at 1. Hosts will be expected to meet them in town.

Because reading material is always at a premium around an army camp there is also a campaign on to remedy this lack. In charge of this part of the general activity is Mrs. O. G. Hilderbrand.

WEATHER WEARING

Weather for the last week has been such that winter sports have been enjoyed by those who enjoy winter sports. Several skating parties have been held on the Say pond and since the ground has been covered with frost and ice there has been some sleighing by the boys and girls around town. Frost and ice on telephone, telegraph and electric transmission wires has disrupted service in few instances although crews of men have been busy knocking the frost off and repairing the lines where broken. Kent has been out of lights several times and the wires between there and Grass Valley are said to be stretched until they reach the fences.

Group Formed To Direct Vets Needing Aid

Lt.-Col. George E. Sandy was in the county Thursday of last week to organize a Veteran's Information Service committee, that will be in charge of providing information for returned service men and women as to their rights under the GI bill, and giving service as to hospitalization and relief, when necessary.

The local committee is composed of the following: Willy Knighten, as Red Cross Service officer, R. O. Scott as service officer of the American Legion, Miss Lola Martin as relief administrator, LeRoy Wright as AAA secretary and Willy Knighten as Selective Service chairman.

The office of selective service will be used to provide this service for veterans and from that office those needing the services will be directed to whatever agency can best serve them.

Similar groups are being set up in each county of the state, according to Sandy who said all counties would be organized by the first of the year.

Winnie Helyer Dies After Long Illness

Winnie G. Helyer, long a resident of Sherman county, died at a hospital in The Dalles Tuesday after a long illness and many years of ill health.

Mr. Helyer was born in McMinnville, but had spent nearly his entire life in the Kent neighborhood until his removal to The Dalles about a year ago. Surviving are his widow, Clara, a son Jesse of Kent and a daughter, Mrs. R. A. Holdaway of The Dalles, and a grand daughter Doris Holdaway, three brothers, William of Lyle, Willard of Antelope and Wilbur of Kent, a sister Mrs. Minnie Pape of Corvallis.

Funeral services will be held Friday at 1:30 from Callaways and interment will be made in The Dalles cemetery.

Wheat Leaguers Study Production

Production practices recommended by farmers at the recent session of the Eastern Oregon Wheat league at Arlington included a straight-out endorsement of trashy fallow as a soil-saving measure. The report by the committee on land use urged "that all possible consideration be given to experiments in this connection and that proper machinery to be used for the preparation of this type of fallow be brought to the point of highest efficiency and in general use at the earliest possible date."

The committee on production pointed to what it termed an albedo increase in the amount of rye volunteering in eastern Oregon wheat fields. More than 7 per cent of the hard red winter wheat of the 1944 crop was graded down because of rye, or three times as much as was docked in 1941 for that reason. Control measures recommended included planting seed free from rye, prevention of volunteer rye from going to seed in summer fallow, thorough cleaning of equipment used with rye, and a switch to spring seeding on badly infested fields.

Further standardization of varieties was recommended, with special attention to producing the kind of soft wheats most desired by millers. For most of the wheat-producing areas the best variety can be found among the following, according to the report: Winter varieties—Rio, Rex, Elgin and Golden; Spring varieties—Federation, Hard Federation 31, White Federation and Baart.

The Elgin variety was especially recommended for those areas where there is a demand for soft wheat for special flours. Elgin is an improved strain of Alice, which it is replacing as fast as seed supplies will permit.

Bridging Practice Expected By Army At Rufus

Engineers Make Camp On Highway; Get Ready For Maneuvers

About a thousand soldiers, of the army engineers, are encamped along the Columbia highway just west of Mrs. May Fowler's home at Rufus. They are reported to be here to conduct bridging operations on the Columbia river, a maneuver that may take a couple of months, although no specified time is given by officers in charge.

The detachment consists of members of the 1687 Combat Engineers Battalion under Major Lipard, the 558 Heavy Ponton Engineers under Major Weber and the 1490 Engineer Maintenance company, under Captain Brinkman.

With a chilly east wind drifting down the Columbia the men were busy the first of the week setting up the familiar square tents of the army and getting established for what looked like a cold bit of weather. Tent floors had just arrived after the tents had been erected and these were being placed to add comfort and cleanliness, if not heat to the tents.

Officers said that when operations actually begin nearly everyone in the area will be busy and will not be able to look out for civilians who may be filled with curiosity and that therefore observing would be a long distance matter.

Housing was complicated for a few days as the men arrived before their equipment. They slept in the Rufus school house, Grange hall and other public buildings. Entertainment is going to be some thing of a problem, it is feared, as there are enough men to fill all show and dance halls in the towns in the usual traveling distance.

Seniors Tread Boards In Pleasing Play

Seniors of the local high school presented "Growing Pains," a 3 act comedy caricaturing adolescence at the school auditorium Saturday night.

Action of the play revolved around the troubles of Professor McIntyre (Harold Meizer) and his wife (Anajean Knighten) with their two children George (Duane Lemley) and Terry (Veda Eshel) who were having difficulties with their social affairs.

George was persuaded by his mother to invite Elsie Patterson (Mary Sayrs) a lifeless lass, to his party, because her mother (Dorothy Barnett) insisted. He had also traded for a jalopy from Omar (Bob Platt) and in it he broke traffic rules so seriously that he was arrested by an officer (Dean Wilcox) and placed temporarily in jail much to the disgrace of his family.

Background for the escapades and participants in the social affairs of the group were Luella Welsh (who vamped the boys) John Schadewitz, Bon Christianson, Patty French, Pat Pinkerton, Doris Payne, Doris Jones, Katy Gaiser, Gloria Douma, as the McIntyre maid, provided, as usual, some of the laughs.

Cleo Barnum Wedding Attended By Relatives

Mr and Mrs Lester Barnum and Mr and Mrs Giles French and daughter, Patty, went to Bend Sunday to attend the wedding of Cleo Barnum to Miss Marie Rastovich of that city. The service was held in the Presbyterian church at Bend with Miss Mary Lovdick as bridesmaid and Lee Putnam as best man. A reception was held later at the Rastovich home east of Bend.

Seal Sale Held Below 1943 Performance

The Sherman County Seal Sale, so brisk in the first two weeks, has been lagging the last week, and in most communities is not up to the sum at the same relative time in 1943. While the sale officially continues until March 1st, 1945, still, a prompt return of the blue envelopes to the local chairmen will enable them to close their books and get on to other urgent business such as baking cookies for the service men at Rufus. The Seal Sale in this county is handled by volunteer workers. Local chairmen are Kent, Mrs. James Mathes; Grass Valley, Mrs. Wren Hogue; Wasco, Miss Georgia Harper; Rufus, Mrs. R. S. Macnab and Moro, Mrs. Carroll Sayrs.

Seventy-five cents of every seal sale dollar stays in this county to pay for public health work and education, the school health program and at present the establishment of a reserve to be used when the state mobile X-Ray Unit shall be available for residents of this county.

Library Report Shows Book Use

Report of the state library includes data on local libraries that gives information about the comparative use citizens make of them.

The Grass Valley library has 819 books with a circulation of \$37,814 in F bonds, \$3,000 in G bonds, \$17,150 in O bonds in the year for a per capita cost of 19 cents.

The Moro library has 1147 books and a circulation of 814. Total expenditures were \$69 giving a per capita cost of 22 cents.

The Wasco library has 3175 books and a circulation of 2991. Expenditures there were \$362 and the per capita cost was \$1.18. Average per capita cost in the state was 61 cents. With one exception Wasco has the largest number of books of any library in towns under 1000 persons.

Leonard (Curly) Vincent came last week to spend a week or so on county, which is in the submarine service and proud of it, total quota.

Agricultural Census Director Outlines Coming Questions

Sometime in January a census taker will knock at the door of every farmhouse and begin asking questions. He will want to know name, age, and race; the number of dwellings on the farm; the number of persons dwelling in each unit; the acreage which the farm covers; the size of the mortgage; buildings; and whether the land is rented or owned says R. L. Ackerman, district supervisor.

Because the 1945 Census of Agriculture is the first ever to be taken when the Nation was actually engaged in war, it will certainly be one of the most significant ever taken, and therefore, a number of new questions will be asked. This census is expected to show how the American farmer so gallantly overcame the obstacles of shortages in labor and materials and made the 1944 crop year a peak War production year. Also, since we hope soon to be shifting from a wartime production basis to a peacetime one, the figures gathered now will be of untold assistance in helping the farmer avoid the various pitfalls of overproduction or underproduction which he may face in the process of reconversion.

Therefore, it will be necessary to ask more questions—and these questions may require the farmers to do some paper work. It will save time and effort for both the census taker and the farmer if the answers to these questions are prepared ahead of time. Here are some of the new questions which will be asked:

What is the value of your various crops?

County Doubles Bond Quota; Not E Quota Yet

\$200,000 Needed To Double Quota of E Bonds; May Be Reached This Week

Sale of bonds in Sherman county in the past week has been slower than at any time since the drive got well under way, although this week the county passed the \$300,000 mark putting it over 200 percent of its total quota. This is the first drive the county ever subscribed its total quota to a greater percentage than its E bond quota.

E Bonds \$192,722.

Sales of E bonds are \$102,000 according to the Thursday morning compilation. Efforts are being made to bring this up to \$200,000 to double the original quota and give help to the state which is lagging in E bonds sales. The sales are needed also to insure that the county will reach a high enough figure to average \$100 per capita purchase of E bonds for the last four drives.

Sales were concluded in favor of the issues offered in the campaign Saturday night. Still on sale are the E, F, G, and O bonds which will be counted, if sales are completed by the first day of the year.

All Varieties Liked

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