

LETTER FROM WASHINGTON

HARRIS ELLSWORTH, M. C.
4th District, Oregon

ATOM BOMB TEST

Elaborate preparations to make a test of the effect of atomic bombs on naval craft have been under way for some time. All of the plans and specifications had previously been worked out. I believe even the lists of scientists and War and Navy Department personnel who will be permitted to see the tests are also nearly complete. But it was only this week that the bill to authorize the use of Navy ships for targets in the test was passed by the House. It was argued on the Floor by a few Members who were opposed to the conduct of the tests that it was wrong to destroy a number of our ships, some of which have been completed less than two years. The answer to this objection was that we cannot tell what sort of ships to have in our future naval defense unless we know definitely what happens to ships when they are attacked with atomic bombs. The completion of some ships now under construction has been delayed until these tests are made. It was pointed out that, unless some modern ships are used as targets, we have no way of knowing how modern construction will react.

I have been invited to witness the tests and may do so if too much time is not required, and if there is a lull in Congressional business.

LEND-LEASE STILL GOING

Believe it or not, we are still shipping vast quantities of goods on lend-lease commitments. Lend-lease officially was declared at an end on VJ Day, but it was later agreed that goods being manufactured and in transit would be delivered. Such goods, incidentally, include 18,000,000 feet of hardwood lumber, considerable of which could be used as flooring lumber for homes. The countries receiving lend-lease goods since the actual end of the war have agreed to pay for them over a period of thirty years at an interest rate of two and three-eighths percent on the unpaid balance.

This week, an attempt was made to reduce the amount of these commitments by \$200,000,000, but on a straight party vote, Republicans voting to save the money and Democrats voting to spend it, the House insisted on going ahead and spending the \$200,000,000. The vote was close—171 to 148.

MAGICIANS IN CONGRESS—

I was reminded by the announcement by Congressman Fritz Lanham of Texas that he would not seek reelection and would retire from Congress that we have at least two excellent magicians in the House of Representatives—one Republican and one Democrat. Fritz Lanham is positively a genius as an amateur

magician. I have seen him do his act, and I believe he is far better than most professionals. Equally good is Congressman Paul Shafer of Michigan.

Although not a Member of Congress, Carl D. Shoemaker, also an excellent amateur magician, has been coisely identified with the work of Senate Committees for a number of years. Carl Shoemaker has done his act for the Oregon State Society and numerous other groups. He is a former Oregon man. His brothers, S. J. Shoemaker and Dr. B. R. Shoemaker, live in Roseburg.

Food Saving For Famine Aid To Be Sought in Oregon

Oregon citizens will be asked to eat less of some foods, prevent waste and endure a few shortages to make more wheat and food fats and oils available to save lives in famine ridden countries.

The voluntary support of every man, woman and child in the state will be sought in a comprehensive food conservation program being initiated by county USDA councils. E. Harvey Miller, state director of the USDA Production and Marketing administration and chairman of the Oregon USDA council, has announced. Miller and county AAA committee chairmen have been named by Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson as state and county emergency food program managers.

Voluntary food-for-famine-relief committees, made up of representatives of all groups who can help in the program, are proposed for each county in plans adopted by the Oregon USDA council and sent to each county emergency food program manager.

Food conservation goals will be set up for each county. Subcommittees representing consumers and trade groups, such as restaurants and bakeries, will be formed to put into effect specific food conservation measures. As proposed by the national famine emergency committee, these measures will include such wheat-and-fat saving steps as substitution of potatoes for bread, serving fewer dried foods, open-face pies, and one slice of bread with restaurant meals.

"The world food situation is exceedingly serious. Millions of our fellow human beings in other lands face the terrible disaster of famine. Every ounce of food we can spare from our abundance will save the lives of starving people," Miller commented.

Mrs. Anna Alves and son, Bill, of Ashland visited Mrs. Lottie Gregory last Friday afternoon.

Farmers' Share In Food Dollar Varies by Years

Considerable confusion continues over the so-called "farmers' share of the consumers' food dollar" says L. R. Breithaupt, O.S.C. extension agricultural economist. This is not strange, he adds, because of the complicated production and marketing processes between the land and the table that are not too generally understood.

These production and marketing processes involve costs, of course. Owing to these costs, the net income that remains available to the farm families is only a fraction of national consumer expenditures for food, amounting to about 25 percent last year.

In 1944, United States consumers spent slightly over 30 billion dollars for food. But 50 percent of the total cost of food was required to pay processing and marketing charges. Thus gross farm receipts were 50 percent of the consumers' food dollar. Out of this the farmer's production expenses must be deducted. The net farm income from market food products was approximately 25 percent of the consumers' food dollar in 1944, as data indicate that approximately 50 percent of the gross farm income was required to pay farm operation expenses that year.

Usually production expenses amount to more than 50 percent of the gross farm income. According to the data for Oregon, the 1939 ratio was 63 percent while in 1929 61 percent of the gross went for expenses. Over a period of normal years in the past, both marketing and production expenses took greater proportions of the consumers' food dollar than in 1944, leaving less net for farm family income.

Currently, the trend of prices for farm products in relation to production and marketing costs is moderately toward prewar ratios. Should these trends continue, the farm family's net share would again become smaller than one-fourth of the consumers' food dollar, possibly even less than one-fifth as a general average for all farm products.

school classes on the campus with flying conducted from the Corvallis airport four miles to the south.

Though largely self supporting through a special term fee of \$50, the flight training work quickly drew applicants to the capacity of the firm that has contracted to give the air work. The Smith-Livingston Air service, one of the oldest in the state, will employ 15 flight instructors, and will have 15 Piper Cubs, six Ryans for restricted acrobatics, a few Vultee BT 13 instrument trainers, and one twin-engine Cessna.

The special fee of \$50 covers cost of flight training, transportation to and from the field, and insurance. Extra low insurance rates have been granted because of the excellent safety record made by the firm in 160,000 hours of flight instruction.

Locals

Mrs. Henderson and Elvira Lewis were business visitors in Medford last Friday afternoon.

Mrs. Gladys H. Sjodin will speak next Wednesday evening at 7:45 at the Church of Christ in the interests of China Christian Missions. Mrs.

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Flying Course at OSC Enrolls 300 Trainees

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Sjodin is now attending Northwest Christian College in Eugene. The public is cordially invited to hear her message.

Mrs. Jewett has been substituting this week for Miss Mabel Dodson, third grade teacher, who has the flu.

Mrs. Ray Burns is the new representative for the Masonette line of dresses for this district.

Last Saturday evening, Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Goehring entertained with a pinhole party. Guests present were Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Downing, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Carr, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Guest, and Mr. and Mrs. Claud Geissel of Grants Pass, and Mr. and Mrs. Doc, Kessler of Prospect.

Mr. John Anhorn, of Herick, South Dakota, is here visiting his sons Willie and John Anhorn.

Mrs. W. M. Tetherow has been ordered by her doctor to take a three weeks rest in bed.

Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Goehring and daughter, Bonnie, were guests Monday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Downing.

Greeting Cards for all occasions

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