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Editor and Proprietor

EDITORIALS

U.S. SAVINGS BONDS AND THE FARMER

American agriculture has enjoyed a series of unusually prosperous years and the farmers of the lush, green Oregon country have shared fully in the good times. This doesn't mean that every farmer has done well—even in the best years some crops and some areas fall below the general level. But, taking conditions by and large, Oregon producers have reaped a fine financial harvest.

The statistics, as presented by the Department of Agriculture, are impressive. The Oregon wheat crop was recently forecast at nearly 29,000,000 bushels—well above the previous record established in 1927, and 33 per cent over last year. The tonnage of the principal field crops

is expected to be 9 per cent over 1947, and 20 per cent better than the 1937-46 average. Similar gains are anticipated for other products of the farm. And prices are good all along the line.

The wise farmer, like the wise industrialist, prepares in good times for the bad times that may come in the future. No one knows how long the current high price level will last. The farmer, in addition, must face such special hazards as early frosts, too much or too little rain, and the other vagaries of nature. His best possible defense is to accumulate a reserve in cash or its equivalent—precisely as the owner of a business does. And there is no better way to do that than through the purchase of United States Savings Bonds.

The people of Oregon own more than \$500,000,000 worth of these securities now. A considerable percentage of that enormous total is in the hands of farmers—and it should be steadily increased. The bonds can be turned into cash if the need arises. If held until maturity, they return a handsome profit on the original investment. They are guaranteed by all the resources of the United States government. And they give the farmer, and everyone else, the finest possible means of protecting himself against the unknown exigencies of the future.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ARMISTICE DAY

The significance of Armistice Day goes deep into the heart of this country. It marks our victory in the two most destructive wars the world has ever known. Of compar-

able importance, it should remind every American of the enormous human and economic wealth we have been forced to spend to maintain our liberties, and to defend those principles upon which the dignity of man depends.

Armistice Day should bring us another thought as well. This nation has never provoked a war. No people on earth is more peaceful in intention. None will do more to achieve a just and lasting peace for all countries. If ever we are forced to engage in war, it will be because we can find no other means of maintaining those rights and freedoms which make up the American tradition.

The United States must build and conserve its strength. That means, on the surface, that we must have a strong military force capable of dealing with aggressors, and a mighty industrial structure to back it up. But these things, vital as they are, represents a reflection of our strength rather than the sub-

stance of it. For the core of this nation's strength and power lies in the spirit of its people.

That spirit is the spirit of freedom. It is based on the knowledge that every American has inalienable rights which cannot be abrogated. The right to speak our minds, the right to own property, the right to engage in a business of our choos-

ing, the right to be free of dictation by government—these and other rights constitute our strength. And that too is the significance of Armistice Day.

Pfc. Jack Holmer, who has just finished his basic training at Lackland Air Base, San Antonio, Tex., is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs.

John Holmer of the old Stage road. Pfc. Holmer will drive back this week-end to the base where he is permanently stationed.

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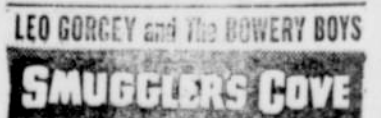
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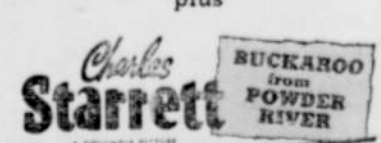


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