

# Southern Oregon Miner

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## BE INFORMED—IT WILL SAVE TIME

REGISTRATION for sugar allowance will start Monday, May 4, and continue for four days. The task has been assigned to the public schools and since the teachers already have their time fully occupied it will be advisable, as well as a matter of courtesy, to go to the registration rooms prepared to answer questions readily and accurately.

For instance, don't hesitate when asked your name, age, weight or any other personal questions establishing your identity. Each small delay adds to the difficulty of accomplishing this herculean task of registering 130,000,000 people in the short space of four days. Have a list of members of your family, give a description of each individual as required by the registrar, and be prepared to state to the pound how much sugar is in possession of the family.

Your cooperation in this matter will lessen the work of the registrars. It is estimated that four minutes will be required to register those who are prepared to make ready answers, while an average of 10 minutes will be necessary for those lacking specific information.

It is only fair to ask in behalf of those handling this work that you not trust to memory but jot down on a pad everything calling for an answer as found in an article on another page of this issue of The Miner.

## WHAT ARE WE HEADED FOR?

TIME was when a citizen of the United States of America could go about his business without interference, unless in pursuit of that business he violated one or more of the laws governing the peace and safety of others. If he chose to follow a certain pursuit, such as working at some particular job, there was nothing to hinder him except, possibly, the party for whom he wished to work. If a mutual agreement was reached between employer and applicant the matter ended there.

In the past ten years there has been a decided drifting away from the old order. Powerful groups have seized control of labor and practically everything else John Citizen used to deem his own and today it is difficult to define just what is a democracy. But to illustrate the point in mind at the beginning of this article, an editorial from an exchange is quoted to show what others think of the situation. Headed "Something to Remember," the editorial states:

"If you have a boy serving his country in the army or navy, whose life may depend upon the delivery of supplies to the four corners of the earth, read this:

"In Portland, Oregon, where conditions are similar to those in hundreds of other American cities, a free-born American citizen answered the call for men to man a new freighter going into the transport service. He waited around for some days before the ship was ready, and when it came time to sign up was about out of money. He then found that before he could go on board as a seaman he had to pay the labor union about \$15. He didn't have the money. Fortunately he found a friend who loaned it to him.

"Words are inadequate to express one's opinion of such a condition. Here is a situation where an American citizen can't get a job on an American ship carrying American-made supplies to American armed forces that are fighting to preserve this nation, until he pays tribute to private labor bosses. If the closed shop can tie our country up in this manner, what personal liberty have we to boast about?

"In a free country, a man should have the right to join a labor union if he so desires, and he should have the right not to join if he so desires. Certainly no private organization should have the power to deny a man the right to work in a war effort, until that man can first pay it a cash tribute. How long the rank and file of American citizens will put up with such a condition remains to be seen."

Does not such occurrences make you pause and wonder what we are headed for? In war time it is expected that unlimited powers will be vested in the President and others in high authoritative offices, but is it not carrying things a little too far in these strenuous times to indulge in racketeering at the expense of those who are willing and anxious to help in the defense effort?

## DON'T KILL THE GOOSE!

REPORTS are being circulated, and apparently not without foundation, that landlords of the Rogue River valley are charging exorbitant rentals for houses and other living quarters. It can truthfully be said that these reports have not been prompted by rentals in Ashland. To be frank, Medford has been cited as the "horrible example" in connection with the practice which has aroused resentment among many newcom-

ers brought here for cantonment work.

It is regrettable that these reports are being circulated, and even more regrettable if there is cause for such reports. If Medford landlords are gouging a little they are merely pursuing a practice followed in other communities that have found themselves suddenly expanding in population. It is the old rule of supply and demand and in the local case may be looked upon by some as an opportunity to grab while the grabbing is good. But there is a limit of decency in all such matters and greed should give place to some common sense.

In the generous army of people moving in for the cantonment work there are many who may be looking for places to make their homes after the conflict is over. There are few spots in the west to offer more to the homeseeker than this valley and we should be making a bid for those with means to buy property here. Many of them have expressed a liking for Ashland and regret that there is not more available housing here. Some of these people doubtless would make this their permanent home.

Reports of high wages paid to some classes of workers at Camp White may be the reason back of this desire to charge excessive rates for living accommodations. A reasonable raise is warranted, but there is no call for gouging, if such is being done. It would look better to spread the butter a little thinner and have it last longer.

Ashland landlords report business good at present and are pleased to have their houses, hotel rooms, apartments and camp cabins filled. So far as we have been able to learn none of them wishes to kill the goose while it is busy laying golden eggs.

Ashland is a victim of the war inasmuch as the Plaza project has been given a setback for the duration. The disappointment occasioned by the postponement is not lessened any by the fact that plans for the improvement were built in large part around wartime necessity—that is, elimination of a so-called bottleneck to facilitate traffic which grows heavier as the war advances. A spark of hope remains in the possibility that it may become necessary to eliminate the blind corner within a short time, but that may be a case of the wish being father to the thought. How long that block will have to remain in its present state no one knows. It is hoped it will not become one of those things that dies getting fairly started.

Another impediment to the idea of marriage is the increasing difficulty in supporting the government and a wife on one income.

## MRS. AMERICA IN THE WAR

- Bonzo Will Scratch
- No Trouser Cuffs
- Bananas As Skid Grease
- Records Suffer Too
- Turn the Rug Around
- Laundries Curtailed
- No More Radios

BONZO will have to stand some scratching—and he can blame his new troubles on a shortage of rotenone. Rotenone is a chemical widely used as an ingredient in sprays and soaps for dogs, cats and other household pets, as well as a household insecticide. Now all such uses are prohibited. Unfortunately, the source of rotenone is certain woody plants grown mainly in Malaya and the Netherlands Indies, and our present supplies must be conserved for use as a spray for specified food crops.

A LOT of Mrs. Americas, handy with the needle have been asking about putting cuffs on hubby's trousers at home. But if you have any such plans, you are breaking the law as much as if you walked off with a necklace from Tiffany's. The war production board order prohibits any person (and the penalties are severe)—that means manufacturers, retailers, custom tailor and you, the customer's wife.

IF YOU can't get bananas for dessert some evening it may be because they have been used instead to launch a ship for victory. A subchaser recently went down to the sea on a cushion of seven tons of bananas. With fats and oils in the critical-material class, bananas have proved a worthy substitute for greasing the ways.

A LITTLE insect of northern India and your recording of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony have always been closely related but it takes a war to point out how. The principal ingredients of records is shellac which is refined from the resinous substance secreted by tiny insects on the twigs of certain trees. Virtually our sole supply of shellac comes from India. So it is not surprising that record production must be cut 70 percent and other shellac uses drastically limited. Shellac has a great many important military uses as well as for marine paints,

health supplies and navigation and communication instruments. As for your future supply of Freddy Martin and Bing Crosby, manufacturers are experimenting with substitute materials and will also try reclaiming old records.

ONE OF the oddities of the war is that sterling silver may soon be easier to buy than silver-plate. Already cheaper lines of silver-plate have been discontinued because copper has been the most commonly used alloy. Now further use of all base metal alloys is forbidden. A very small amount of alloy metal must also be used for sterling, but, so far, there has been no restriction for this purpose.

IN THE first concrete demand of them, the housewives of America came through. Largely through their efforts, the crisis in the wastepaper shortage has been passed. Now the urgent need is for scrap rubber. Look around again for old tires, inner tubes, hot water bottles, rubber bath mats, old raincoats and rubber jar rings. Reclaimed rubber has a big role to play in winning the war.

IT WILL be too bad if you're allergic to milk weed because you may soon be sleeping on it. It is being tried out as a partial replacement of kapok in pillows, as well as in life preservers and heat-insulating coverings.

YOU'LL just have to turn the rug around again and put the most thread-bare spot under the sofa. Last week, jute for rug making was further curtailed; this week, wool has been banned entirely for all floor coverings, drapery and upholstery fabrics. Even wool that manufacturers had on hand cannot be put into process. The only bright spot for consumers is that all wool now in production will be permitted to be run through for the civilian market.

NOW your laundryman and dry cleaner are up against it. Just like Mrs. America they won't be able to get new machinery. All production of commercial laundry equipment must stop after June 1, dry cleaning machinery after July 1.

MANUFACTURERS are not only going to stop making radios, they're also going to discontinue about half of the radio tubes now on the market. Most of these tubes (349 out of 710) are duplicate, obsolete, or small-demand types. Even if your radio uses one

## THIS AND THAT

(By Old Timer)

To the Editor:

There is a new type of tourists in Continental Europe. They call them Commandos.

A luxury is something you don't need but which you want more than anything you do need.

An Italian doctor reports Mussolini has lost control of himself. Another crack in the Axis.

Those small Balkan nations must realize that that was no no Hitler band wagon they hopped on. It turned out to be a cage.

Ben Franklin invented the rocking chair, but he became a great man by studiously avoiding it.

Ancient worshipping Japs are being sent to join their ancestors at an accelerated rate.

There are some sections in this town adapted to the herding of goats. Ho, hum!

Roses are red, violets blue; sugar is sweet and extremely scarce too.

Spading a Victory garden is as easy as a round of golf.

Clean up your premises and don't tolerate a slovenly neighbor.

## FORMER RESIDENTS GUESTS OF GALEYS

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Washburn of Oakland, Calif., are guests of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Galey this week.

Years ago Mr. Washburn was principal of the old North school, later moving to Oakland where he became dean of the evening high school. He is now retired. Mrs. Washburn attended the old Southern Oregon Normal school. She is a cousin of Mrs. Galey.

## PRO MUSICA TO SPONSOR MUSIC WEEK PROGRAM

During Music week, May 4 to 8, Pro Musica will sponsor a daily recorded program from 12:45 to 1:15 p. m. in Miss D. V. Hales'

of the discontinued types, you need not worry, however, because present stocks are reported adequate for two years. And in many cases, other types may be substituted for these prohibitions.

RIGHT now you may be walking around on loofa sponges—but not for long. One of the main uses of the loofa plant, grown commercially only in Japan, is for inner soles in footwear. Other popular uses are for household cleaners and scrubbers. From now on, however, the Navy will take most of the loofa sponges we have, for use as oil filters.

## Remember Mother with JEWELRY

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## Oregon is Forging Ahead with Gov. Sprague

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## QUESTIONS

1. Where was John Milton, the poet born?

2. What is a celesta?

3. Who discovered the argali sheep?

4. Who designed the Statue of Liberty?

5. How did the words "In God We Trust" come on a coin?

6. Who ruled the world when Christ was born?

7. What is the meaning of the phrase "veni, vidi, vici"?

8. In what country is the cow worshipped as a sacred animal?

9. Is the American bison a member of the cattle family?

10. Who invented the saxophone?

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