

## Southern Oregon Miner

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### WET SPRING SPELLS TROUBLE IN FOREST

IT MAY appear a bit contrary to common opinion, but a wet, late spring is the forerunner of trouble in the forested areas. Moisture is a wonderful thing for the trees and it makes pasturage better. These are both to be desired for there is need of reforestation to replenish the rapidly disappearing timber, and livestock thrives better on summer pasture in the higher wooded districts. Yet, while these things are good for the sawmill man and the stockman, they create worries for the man whose duty it is to protect the forests.

The advent of hot weather has brought to the fore the perennial warning against carelessness in the forests. It has particular significance this week, with the Fourth of July holiday inviting thousands of people to the mountain areas. Official action, establishing certain areas to be visited and restricting those areas where the greatest danger to timber would result from man's carelessness, could prevent loss. Such action is taken only in extreme cases and there is no disposition on the part of officials to prevent people from using the forests, relying on the alternative of appealing to the patriotism and good citizenship of visitors to make it unnecessary to call out the firefighters.

An appeal comes from State Forester N. S. Rogers to all users of our forests. He suggests "during a period of continued cloudy weather and late spring rains most of us become complacent, forgetting the need for fire vigilance. Then, when summer suddenly breaks, we are not aware of the fire danger. Actually, three or four sunny days with a light wind place the forest at the mercy of the camper or smoker, for the fuel reaches the inflammable point and fires easily "run" under such conditions. To prevent wasted acres, I ask that every forest visitor be constantly on the alert. Enjoy an outdoor week-end, but remember the fire warning."

Remember the forest code—do not throw away burning material along highways or other roads. Such violation is subject to a fine. Use your ash receptacles in disposing of lighted cigarettes, pipe or cigar materials. Better still, see that the spark is extinguished before depositing the ash in the receptacle.

Another thing to remember is that we are menaced by an enemy from without. One plane can deposit enough incendiary bombs in the forests to command the attention of thousands of fire fighters. Let it not be said this year that the great enemy from within—human carelessness—put an added strain on the limited fire fighting forces.

### LET HIM CARRY A GUN!

A MAN who has been enjoying the fruits of cantonment wages was heard to remark that the soldiers didn't need \$50 a month for they couldn't spend that much money. (Let it be said that this was not a local man, but one of the itinerant workers who probably has been enjoying the first real prosperity in his life.)

There is no quarrel with the worker who is receiving high wages at this time. He is contributing to the war effort, in most instances is working hard and is entitled to fair pay. The point is that the fellow making high wages while working under comparatively safe conditions should have little to say about what the other fellow is getting. Especially is this so when the other fellow happens to be a man who has offered his life in defense of his country in order to make it safe for the other fellow to follow peaceful pursuits at big wages.

Too many of us look upon the present crisis as a time for "getting ours" while the getting is good. Not enough thought is given to the position we might be in if there were no soldiers. As to the service man's ability to spend the \$50, he has a whole month to dispose of about half that paid many workers on the cantonment each week. If he can't spend all of it, certainly he can put some of it away against the day when peace will be declared, a day when he will need to be financed over a period of readjustment the length of which will be as uncertain as the day the present conflict will end. If we have no thought other than personal gain from this or any other war, we deserve to get licked—and probably will.

### ONE ARMY AT A TIME PLEASE!

IF CONGRESS should find time on its hands, an effort should be made to place restricted legislation on the bureau boys who, when lacking anything else to do, lay plans for enlarging their prospective groups.

Latest development in bureaucracy is the request



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from the Office of Price Administration for a large appropriation to add some 100,000 new employees, mostly enforcement personnel, to the OPA roll. These employees, in other words, would constitute a sort of private police force and would spend their time and the taxpayers' money looking for violations of the price-freezing order.

In protest against this latest effort of the bureaucrats the National Association of Retail Grocers, representing thousands of independent food merchants throughout the country, submitted a resolution to Congress which said in part: "It is implied in this proposal to turn loose an army of snoopers on the retail merchants of the United States. These men and women proposed for OPA enforcement personnel can render more useful service in the prosecution of the war against the Axis powers, rather than as an army of harassment operating at public expense on the home front."

The merchants are right. This is no time for a "second front" at home what with business straining every effort to back the government in the war program and the services of every man and woman needed to keep the service of supplies functioning. The movement smacks of politics and Congress will do well to throw the OPA's proposal into the capitol ashcan.

### SPEED SACRIFICED FOR ECONOMY

MORE evidence of pressing war demands and the growing lack of rubber is found in the announcement this week that the Greyhound Lines, beginning July 1, have cut the speed of their buses to 40 miles per hour. It is one more step toward full cooperation

### MRS. AMERICA IN THE WAR

- Repairmen Popular
- Retain Old Can Lids
- Raw Materials Limited
- Vacation Near Home
- Redecorate If Necessary
- Milady's Cosmetics
- A Clean Stove
- Fast Dyes Increased

THE NATION'S repairmen will be called upon more and more by Mrs. America to conserve goods since new products are becoming scarcer every day. Consequently, an encouraging note to the family budget is the new maximum price regulation for consumer services which controls charges for repairs to all kinds of things. The new regulation places a ceiling on prices of services rendered at retail in connection with a commodity. However, it does not extend to personal services. For instance, the following are among services for which prices are controlled. Dry cleaning, laundry, fur repair and storage, furniture repair and storage, radio repair, bicycle and luggage repairs, shoe shines and repairs, clothing alterations, and lawn mower sharpening. And these are some of the services not covered: beauty parlors, barber shops, utilities, doctors' and dentists' fees.

THE DAY of tossing empty spice cans, baking powder tins or coffee cans into the garbage is over. Save these precious containers for some dry foods which have been sold in cans soon will be available only in paper packages. Likewise, retain as many covers of relish jars and empty catsup

Continued on page 4)

with the government in its war on the Axis.

Reasons given for slowing schedules are understandable and the company is entitled to recognition for its commendable action. Primarily the step was taken to aid in conserving rubber. One big bus has a carrying capacity equal to nearly a dozen private passenger cars and uses only a fraction as much rubber per passenger mile as automobiles. Express and limited schedules have been eliminated entirely, due to the withdrawal of many buses for military personnel and war workers, the tremendous increase of passengers due to tire and private automobile rationing and the resulting shortage of buses.

### Pelicans Topple Craters from Lead

Virgil Haynes, former Ashland softball player, stopped the winning streak of Medford's Joe Dickinson at Klamath Falls Saturday night when the Pelicans won a 14 to 2 Oregon-California league base ball game from the Craters. Haynes set the hard-hitting Craters down with but four bingles.

Klamath Falls elevated themselves to head of the league when they completed the week-end whitewashing of the Craters Sunday afternoon to the tune of 10 to 2. Ernie Bishop's Pelicans now top the league with Medford second, Dorris third, and Grants Pass fourth. The Owl Drug team, one of the fastest semi-pro clubs on the Pacific coast, comes to Medford July 4 and 5 to face the Pelicans.

—Get Away from the Heat for the Week-End—

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## The Emblem Of Freedom Long May It Wave!

Today more than ever in the life of this nation our glorious flag stands for freedom. In 1776 it meant liberty for the oppressed colonies. Today it means freedom for countless millions who have come under the domination of ruthless militarists.

All forces at our command are being pressed into service to meet the challenge of the Axis powers, and in this all-out effort ELECTRICITY is doing its full share. There scarcely is any part of this supreme effort that electricity does not contribute its magic energy, and the government, realizing the limitless value of this energy, is expanding power units to meet the ever-increasing load.

We can, we will, we must win this war, and to that end electricity will be employed to the growing embarrassment of the Axis.

## Ashland Light Department

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