

Washington, D. C., Apr. 30.—Within a few months there will be 90,000 workers in the shipyards managed by Edgar Kaiser in the Portland area. Mr. Kaiser plans 30,000 men for his plant at Vancouver, 30,000 for Oregon Shipbuilding Co. in Portland, and 30,000 at Swan island, where 50 oil tankers are to be built on what will be virtually an assembly line arrangement. These 90,000 do not include the workers employed at Willamette Iron works, the Commercial Iron works, and other plants with navy contracts nor the plants with orders to build engines for the "ugly duckling" ships at Portland and Vancouver.

Where this army of workers will live, how they will find means of transportation to the yards (with rubber tires wearing out and no more streetcars available) and where they will be fed will prove serious problems for Portland and Vancouver. It is proposed to transport 6,000 workers daily from Portland across the Columbia to the yard there, possibly the boat leaving the seawall in Portland, but there will be 24,000 others on the Vancouver job, most of them domiciled there. Of course these thousands of workers are to be temporarily employed, but they will be working at least until the end of 1943, by which time the maritime commission may provide more contracts for more boats carrying over into 1944.

Locating all of this labor when the armed forces are drafting men is no simple matter. Scouts will be sent to the midwest, to Colorado, to Kansas and Wyoming recruiting workers for the shipyards.

The war department is spending many millions of dollars now in Oregon and expects to spend many other millions before it is through using and developing facilities. Much has been talked of the two cantonments, Medford and Corvallis, representing approximately \$60,000,000, and it is known that the army air force at Pendleton has a large station, with another at the Portland-Columbia air base, and the hundreds of concrete igloos forming the munitions dump at Hermiston; but this does not complete the list. There are shore stations for the navy along the coast, an elaborate program of air fields which embrace every section of the state, a munitions depot on the Oregon side of the lower Columbia river, a proposed shell load-

ing plant in eastern Oregon, two bombing ranges in the central and southeastern sections of the state. Under present conditions the location of many of these facilities cannot be divulged, although each is known to the people in the vicinity where it is placed.

Government was slow in recognizing Oregon but now it is going to town in a big way. There is no politics involved in the location of the various air bases, munitions dumps, cantonments, etc. Members of the congressional delegation know nothing of a development until they are confidentially advised. Until all is set the high command refuses to discuss plans with anyone.

Little of the army's preparations is handled by Oregon contractors. The army has preferred dealing with contractors who can put up a heavy

bond, a bond larger than any local contractor or group of contractors can provide. To help the Oregon contractors, however, the Corvallis job was broken down into sections—roads, sewers, construction being let individually instead of in the lump.

The navy, too, is awarding a contract for a floating drydock in the Portland area. Local experienced contractors have been passed up and the job given to a Puget Sound concern. Navy explains that as Portland will have the drydock it should not begrudge the building job to an outside outfit.

It will not be compulsory for the women of Oregon to register, but registration will be solicited on a voluntary basis. Registration for women will probably be called for July 4, at least that is the talk of

the national capital. There is expected to be 1,500,000 women working in munitions factories and on farms within 12 months, plus the thousands of trained nurses required for the armed force, and the women's auxiliary corps, the latter a uniformed group which can be sent to any part of the world where American troops are stationed.

Reclamation service announces that it will carry on investigation of the feasibility of projects at John Day, for the basin; Pendleton, Talent, Medford, Clear Lake. Sam's valley and five projects in Willamette valley. They are intended to be "backlogs" when the war is over and there will be need for public works to provide employment. No appropriation was allowed for continuing the Deschutes project, but it will not be suspended as there is

MUSTANG NETTERS LOSE

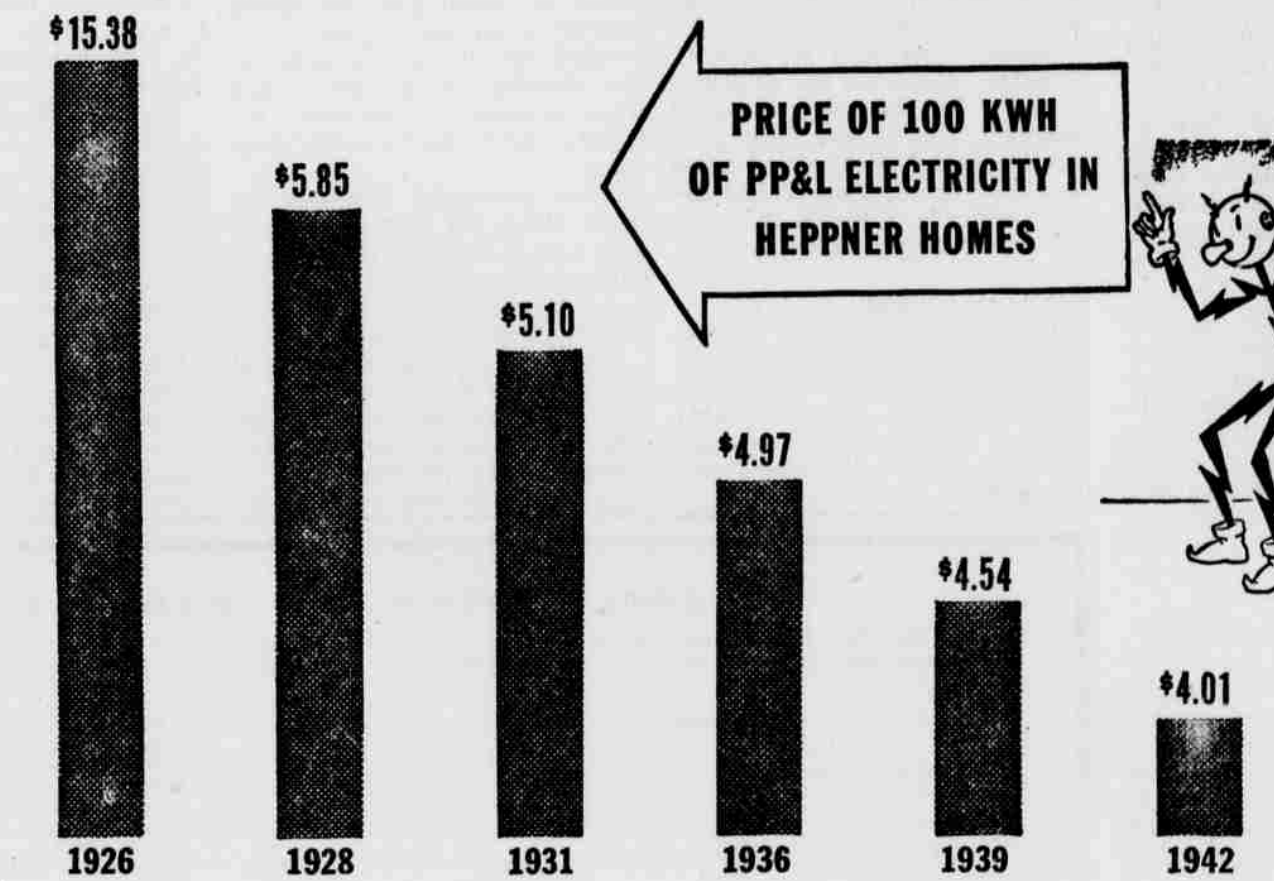
Last Saturday the Echo tennis squad defeated the Heppner high school team by a 4-2 count. The only matches won by the locals were the two girls' singles played by Wanda Howell and Dorothea Wilson. This was the first match lost this season by Heppner. In earlier matches Hermiston was defeated 5-0 and in a return match, 3-2. The next match is a return match with Echo there Saturday, May 2. Two matches have also been scheduled with Pendleton later.

Cooked food sale, Case Furniture Co. store, Friday, May 1, by ladies of the Rhea Creek grange.

sufficient surplus from previous appropriations to carry on the work at least one more year, say into the summer of 1943.



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