

## Heppner Gazette Times

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### RUMORS ARE HARMFUL

One of the hardest battles being fought on the home front is the suppression of rumors. We are told that little slips here and there are picked up by enemy ears and eventually molded into a tale that is given authenticity by Axis authorities with the sole objective of lowering our morale. Spreading untruths is their chief stock in trade and the more rumors they can circulate to cause agitation among the people at home the more successful their campaign to break down the morale of those responsible for keeping the weapons of war rolling toward the fighting front.

In these strenuous times it matters not whether rumors are about the conduct of the war or have to do with local affairs. The portent is the same—it affects the morale of the people. What appears to be innocent discussion of local affairs frequently turns out to be vicious propaganda of the sort that is music to the Axis ears.

Webster defines a rumor as a "story circulating without any known foundation or authority; an unverified report passing from person to person." It is unnecessary to recall that a little rumor grows with each telling until it becomes a big story.

Such a rumor has been in circulation regarding the closing of a certain store in this community. A search for the facts in the case revealed that there is no foundation for this report. No one has a right to spread such tales. When a business gets ready to retire from the field the management will make the announcement at the proper time. One may speculate about such things but speculations should not be given

### Food Program

Continued from First Page

the amount of meat they can butcher for their own use, but if they hold their own consumption down March 3. At the conclusion of these meetings neighborhood leaders will share information and printed material with the armed forces and America's allies, Beck stated.

With the smell of spring in the air many people are feeling the urge to polish their spade and hoe and do some digging. It is important that this third job of the neighborhood leaders be completed before time for seeding the earliest vegetables, as there is the important job of fertilizing and planning the garden before even the first lettuce or radishes are seeded, states Conrad.

Meetings for community and neighborhood leaders for the other seven communities have been announced by Conrad as follows: Boardman FFA class room, 7:30 p. m., Tuesday Feb. 23. Irrigon high school lunch room, 7:30 p. m. Wednesday Feb. 24. Lexington high school lunch room, 7:30 p. m. Thursday, Feb. 25. Heppner farming community, County Agent's office, 2 p. m. Saturday, Feb. 27.

Eightmile-Hardman, Rhea Creek grange hall, 7:30 p. m. Tuesday, March 2.

City of Heppner, county agent's office, 7:30 p. m. Wednesday, March 3.

At the conclusion of these meetings neighborhood leaders will share information and printed material with their neighbors by a personal call or at small neighborhood meetings.

### GOING TO PORTLAND

Cornett and Herman Green left early this morning for Portland where Cornett will confer with officials of the Interior Warehouse company, of which he is local agent. Herman will look into the buyers' market for stock for his hardware store.

### RECOVERING FROM ILLNESS

Mrs. J. T. Knappenberg who has been very ill several weeks at the home of her sister, Mrs. D. M. Ward, is recovering and expects to return to her home in Portland by the first of March.

utterance.

As we progress with the war there may be many changes, perhaps more closings, but let us not make the going harder for those in business by reading them out before their time comes.

### LET THE FARMER HAVE HIS SAY

For a long time the rule has been for every body but the man in question to say how the farmer should run his business. The man on the street, every one not earning his living out of the soil, has had more to say about what the farmer should do than the farmer could possibly find time to think about, let alone tell his troubles to a cockeyed world. When there is nothing else to talk about, and especially now that weather is no longer a common topic for conversation, the farm question generally looms up.

It is not the purpose of this article to discuss the farm situation. Such a discussion could throw no light upon the proper or improper methods of cultivating the soil, the best type of grain or stock, or any of the other countless products of the soil; neither could we solve the farm labor shortage. We can offer the columns of the newspaper for free and open discussion by the farmers and stockmen themselves, if any feel so inclined, and do hereby make that offer. The all-absorbing question facing the farmers and stockmen today is that of labor. There is little doubt about the ability to produce what is being asked of them if they can be assured ample assistance.

It would be interesting to print the views of men engaged in agricultural pursuits, particularly how they plan to meet the increased production asked of them and faced as they are with a labor shortage. Perhaps the women might wish to express their opinions on the proposals that they take over and let the men go to war. There is a lot of interesting material if our rural neighbors can find time to take pen in hand and make copy of their thought.

"There are periods in a lifetime when it is more difficult to live for your country than it would be to risk your life for your country. You and I are living in such a time today. We must fight for our principles, our rights, and our convictions at home even if in that fight, the opponent is our own government." —Carl W. Ackerman, Dean, Columbia University.

### Radio Programs to Highlight Birthday

The 75th anniversary of the founding of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will highlight a number of radio programs over the networks during the week of Feb. 14 to 20. Orchestras will salute the 500,000 members of the Order and especially the 55,000 Elks serving in the armed forces; several Quiz programs are featuring Elks comedy programs will include comic Elk "gags" and at least two and Elks' wives in verbal "battles royal."

The grand exalted ruler of the order, Hon. E. Mark Sullivan of Boston, Mass., will speak to a nation wide audience over the Columbia Broadcasting system. He will discuss the part the Elks are playing in winning the war and emphasize the fact that the Elks through their long history have constantly worked for national unity.

Among the radio stars who have saluted the order so far are Marion Loveragt, Kate Smith, Fred Waring and Al Jolson. On Thursday Abbott and Costello will salute the fraternity on the Camel Caravan; Double or Nothing on Mutual, Friday, and the Frank Crumit-Julia Sanderson show will wind up the week's celebration over CBS 8 to 8:30 p. m. with three Elks and three Elks' wives as contestants on the quiz portion of their program.

### HERE FROM BREMERTON

Mr. Jennie E. Elder, mother of Mrs. D. A. Wilson, is visiting the Wilson family, coming here from her home at Bremerton, Wash. Her son, Morris Elder, member of the anti-tank division stationed at Camp Bowie, Texas, also is visiting here.

A high school in Azlton, Pa., started a tin can collection contest between rooms and wound up the week with 29,000 cans.

### GETS RADIO POSITION

Paul Farnsworth, son of Mr. and Mrs. K. W. Farnsworth of The Dalles, is now an aviation radio man in the U. S. armed forces, according to word received by his aunt, Mrs. D. M. Ward. Paul was one of two winning the position.

### AT DESERT TRAINING CENTER

Technical Sgt. Stanley A. Way, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Way of Lexington, is now receiving training at the Desert Training Center, Indio, Calif. He was recently promoted to the rating of technical sergeant.

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