



Washington, D. C. Nov. 4—There has been plenty of hooey regarding the repeal of the Chinese exclusion act. Congressional speakers have said the law originally was a mistaken one and even President Roosevelt criticized the passage of the exclusion act. The truth is that John Sutter was the cause of bringing Chinese to this country when gold was found in his millrace back in 1848. There came a demand for cheap labor and the Chinese were imported. They came as contract labor. The resentment against the Chinese was really resentment against the labor contractors who were bringing them in to do hard work for little pay. The American workmen went on a rampage as the Chinese were depressing the scale of wages and consequently the standard of living. A handful of rice, a few cents a day and a guaranty that their bones would be sent back to China if they died in the United States was the total compensation of the aliens. Notwithstanding the assertion of President Roosevelt, enactment of the exclusion act was not a mistake.

It is funny how congress can back up and reverse itself. Early this year there were at Ellis Island 1,000 Chinese who had deserted from British ships because they were poorly paid by British skippers, harshly treated and were being sent into dangerous zones. The British wanted these crewmen back, so to please the British skippers the house of representatives passed a bill (H. R. 2076) forcing these Chinese to return to British ships, and there was no voice raised then to speak of the brave Chinese allies as has been done in the argument over repeal of the exclusion act.

When this bill reached the senate last July it was given an amendment that took the sting out and saved the Chinese ship-jumpers from being put in the class of runaway slaves of the pre-civil war days. Congressmen who a few short months ago voted to turn the Chinese sailors over to the British have since been loudest in the demand for repeal of the exclusion act as an evidence of their high regard for the Chinese people.

Lack of cooperation between government agencies, supplemented by the confusion incident to the changing fortunes of war, will mean financial loss to many farmers unless the government is prepared to put up the cash and write off as a bad investment its efforts to produce hemp to take the place of the supply cut off by Japan's capture of the southwest Pacific islands and Italy's partnership with Germany in their effort to dominate the rest of the world. With Japan's treacherous attack upon Pearl Harbor imports of hemp and sisal to the United States ceased with a suddenness that threatened

to disrupt American industry and war production board sought to avert this calamity by promoting an expansion program for hemp production.

Commodity credit corporation and defense plant corporation were called upon and the former announced a guaranty of \$30 to \$50 a ton for hemp straw. DPC followed with an offer to finance the erection of 42 hemp mills at a cost of \$360,000 for each mill. Kentucky farmers were urged to produce the seed and agricultural adjustment administration rushed men into the corn belt where they succeeded in signing up 20,000 farmers to grow hemp. At the top price of \$50 a ton the hemp crop promised returns of \$200 an acre and the farmers regarded this as an opportunity they could not afford to overlook.

But now, with greatly increased imports of hemp from Central and South America and the opening up of a possible supply from Italy, war production board has lost its enthusiasm for the domestic product and both CCC and DPC stand to be left holding the bag if they make good their promise to the farmers. Only two mills have been completed so far and only a few others are scheduled for completion this year, so defense plant corporation may be able to pull out of the venture with the minimum of loss. But commodity credit corporation is obligated to see that the farmers do not suffer loss, although their product may not be needed in the war effort. Meanwhile war production board ignores its responsibility for the mix-up and goes merrily on its way, brining imports of hemp and sisal from other lands at the expense of outright cash loss to the government.

Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes lost his "indispensable" man to the navy, Abe Fortas, assistant secretary of the Interior, who has caused many a sleeper's night to the owners of private utilities in the Pacific northwest, has finally donned a uniform despite "Honest" Harold's announcement of his irreplaceability.

Cloakroom gossip has it that Washington's Senator Homer T. Bone will not be a candidate for re-election because of illness. The senator has been ailing for some time and his friends believe he will retire, 1945. If such is the case, it will throw a different light on the political situation in Washington. It is known that several Democrats are aspirants for Bone's seat, should he retire, and they have been trying to get the senator to say something definite on the subject. However, at least one, and maybe two, intend to go after his scalp, regardless. In the meantime Mr. Bone has nothing to say on the subject, and in all probability won't until next spring.

MOVE TO CORVALLIS
Raymond Drake has moved his family to Corvallis to make their home. They have rented the farm property of Mrs. Drake's father near the college town and will engage in farming. Raymond has been employed in a war plant at Glendale, Calif. and found that a change was needed to benefit his health. He and Mrs. Drake and the baby visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. K. Drake, before going to Corvallis.

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STAFF
Editor Merlyn Kirk
Asst. Editor Marylou Ferguson
Sports Ed. Herb Schunk
Asst. Sports Ed. Tad Miller
Spl. Story Writer Jean Turner
Senior Interview Betty Coxen
Gazette Times Rep. Ray French

MUSTANGS BLANK HONKERS
Heppner Mustangs won their first victory of the season Friday by trimming the Arlington Honkers 12 to 0.

In the second quarter, after Heppner had taken the ball on a blocked kick, Edmondson scored from the five yard line. Midway in the fourth quarter Bill Ulrich circled his own right end for 65 yards and the second touchdown.

The Mustangs showed much more power offensively because of better blocking and running. The Honkers' running and passing attack was slowed down considerably by the muddy field.

MUSTANGS TANGLE WITH BLUE DEVILS
Scheduled for Friday, Nov. 5, is a game in which the Heppner team tangles with the Condon Blue Devils on the opposing team's field.

It is rumored that a heavy backfield on the opponents part is expected, and the resulting score is unpredictable. Although Condon has won several games, they were trounced by Arlington 13 to 7.

COLLEGE TEST COMING
On Nov. 9, the Army-Navy college qualifying test will be given in

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high schools and colleges all over the country.

Boys between 17 and 18 may take this test providing they will graduate from high school before March 1, 1944. If they do not graduate then they may take the test in April. The test covers general education. If a person makes an acceptable score, he is then eligible for a military scholarship under the army specialized training program or the navy V-12 program.

ORCHESTRA STARTED
A band within our band has been organized for a school orchestra. The first practice was held Monday. The orchestra is composed of ten members of the high school band. The purpose of this organization is to give its students a different type of training and to provide entertainment for themselves and for social affairs.

RETURNS FROM VISIT
Mrs. R. K. Drake returned a week ago from Salem and Portland where she spent several days visiting. Her daughter, Claudine, is attending business college in Salem.

ON VACATION
Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Cowins went to Pendleton Monday to spend a few days with their daughters, Rae Cowins and Mrs. Walter McNeill. From there they will go to Portland to round out Mrs. Cowins' vacation of a week to 10 days.

WORD OF APPRECIATION
We wish to thank the Heppner fire department and our neighbors who rushed to our assistance at an early morning hour and saved our property from serious damage. Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Bauman Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Dyerson

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