

Heppner Gazette Times

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Our Men In Service

Sgt. Joe E. Aiken has been seeing a bit of the world in the Mediterranean area and wrote an interesting letter to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Aiken, describing some of the scenes and his experiences. Ed, referred to in the letter is a pal with whom Joe "tours" the region when the two of them have furloughs at the same time.

22 March 1944

Dear Folks:

Well I have a lot to tell this time for a change for I have just come back from six days leave with Ed.

We went to Italy and from there to the Isle of Capri. It was a two and one-half hour trip by ferry from the main land, and on the way over to the isle we went by the only mountain in Italy that is an active volcano, the one that destroyed Pompei centuries ago. Enough of that for now as I will come back to it after awhile.

We docked about 5 in the afternoon, and as we were coming off the ferry there was a crowd of kids that seemed to be trying to get on as we were getting off. It turned out that they wanted to carry our bags to the truck. After we had placed our baggage on the trucks which took it to the hotel, we went to the tram. It is made up of five cars, all of which make one about the size of a street car in Portland. Each section is made so that when it starts up the mountain it is level at all times. There are two cars on the track—when one goes up the other comes down. It works on a gravity pulley of some kind.

From the tram station, Finiculi, we walked about two and one-half blocks to the hotel, (one block there if you can find where it ends is about as long as two in Portland.) The streets are just about wide enough for a jeep, and wander all around the island. The hotel was much the same as any that we have in the states at any resort. Your meals are included in your bill. We paid a dollar a day to pay the help. The food is GI but you would never know it as it is really fixed up. Ed and I had a room in what they call a villa, in the states I think it would be called an annex. Twin beds and a balcony that overlooked the sea. In the lobby of the hotel they had a bar that was open just before meals and just after; of an evening it stayed open until 11.

We would walk into the dining room and sit down at a table with a white table cloth and real silverware there was a glass of fruit juice or fruit cocktail; after you finished that off they brought the first course, usually meat, and followed by another meat course, with vegetables. The butter was fixed like little seashells. After the last course they served coffee—gals brought that around. The cups were about the size of small teacups and I drank about seven cups (maybe it was the cute gals who served it or perhaps it was the small cups—In either case, I got enough coffee).

Capri is one of the oldest resorts I think there is. The Romans used it back in Christ's time. And the story that goes with the island is that the sirens of the sea used it to entice the sailors there in ancient times. Some of the high spots I saw were:

BLUE GROTTTO: It is a cave made by the ocean in a solid rock cliff. You go in by boat through a small opening just large enough for a row boat. We had to lie down in the bottom of the boat to get in. It was real dark inside but after our eyes got accustomed to the dark we could make it out. What light that comes in penetrates through the rocks and is reflected off of the bottom. It takes the strangest blue

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P. P. & L. Patrons to Receive Share of Profits in May

Customers of Pacific Power & Light company will receive a \$300,000 "rate dividend" early in May under a wartime-earnings-sharing plan approved by the Oregon Public Utilities commissioner and announced at Salem on Wednesday.

Amount of the dividend will be proportionately one-half of each customer's average monthly electric bill, according to Homer Beale, district manager for the company.

To be paid to each participant by check instead of by credit on bills, the "rate dividend" will return approximately \$28,000 to electric users in this district, he said.

"Designed to meet the abnormal conditions created by wartime loads and revenues, this 'rate dividend' is just one more consistent step taken by P. P. & L. to give customers the benefit of greater volume of business," said Beale. "Its effect will be to reduce still further the low average price of electricity of our system."

All active customers who were billed for electric service between Feb. 20 and April 20 and who are on the company's books on May 1 will share in the dividend.

Red Cross Drive Brings in \$5,958.06

Financial tabulation was made Wednesday of the recent Red Cross war fund campaign and Chairman Bennie Howe states that Morrow county went over the top to the tune of \$5,958.06. The quota was \$3,600. Divided into districts the results were as follows:

Irrigon \$67.75; Boardman \$177.75; Blackhorse \$46; Cecil \$174.50; Pine City \$112.10; Hardman \$117.35; Reed's Mill \$24.81; Morgan \$36.50; Eight Mile and Gooseberry \$701.50; Ione \$1,855.50; Lexington \$1,127.50; Heppner \$1,465.80, and Lower Willow creek \$20.

STINGLE-VANCE

A wedding of interest to Heppner people was held in Winnemucca, Nev. April 11 when Mrs. Izora Vance and E. V. Stingle were married with Mr. and Mrs. Glen Stingle of Ontario witnessing the ceremony.

A wedding trip which took the newly-weds through parts of Nevada and Idaho was enjoyed enroute to Portland where they stayed a few days before returning to Heppner where they are at home in the Jones apartment house.

SERVICES AT VALBY CHURCH

Rev. Kenneth Andeen of Seattle will hold services at Valby Lutheran church at 10:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sunday, April 21.



Petty Officer, Ivy Quale of the WAVES will be in Heppner Tuesday, April 25, from 1 p. m. until 3:30 p. m. to assist young women in learning about their opportunities in the WAVES. She will be at the temporary WAVES recruiting office at Morrow county local board of selective service.

Potato Surplus to Be Used in Making Industrial Alcohol

New Equipment to Be Installed for Big Scale Operation

According to the Oregon City Banner-Courier, which printed an exclusive interview with Ben Walling, manager of the Carver Distillery, processing of Clackamas and Multnomah counties potatoes of lower grades into industrial alcohol will be under way within a month.

Installation of a 2-ton cooker, two huge stills and other equipment to augment the plant that was operated last fall in producing alcohol from cull apples and prunes, will be started as soon as an industrial engineer finishes his survey of the plant, the BC quotes Walling. The cooker has been purchased at St. Helens and the tills are awaiting shipment from a California copper works.

With the conversion of the steam plant from wood to oil, priorities for which are now being processed, the Carver distillery will be ready to turn out 3800 gallons of high-proof industrial alcohol every 24 hours, Walling stated.

A contract from the Commodity Credit corporation to the Carver company, now owned by the Grain Products, Inc., Heppner, has been recommended by the War Food administration to care for surplus potatoes. Announcement of this contract is expected in a few days, according to Walling.

Later word from Oregon City is to the effect that the Carver plant will have to be enlarged to accommodate the new equipment. It was found that a charging hopper to be placed atop the 200-ton cooker will require extensive alterations, including the raising of one section of the roof to about 50 feet. The cooker will stand about 25 feet and the hopper, conveyors, elevator and working space above that will require an additional 25 feet.

Officials of the company residing at Heppner verify the report on these improvements and state that they expect a profitable run on potato alcohol production at the Carver plant.

Choral Club to Appear May 9

Tuesday evening, May 9 is the date chosen by the Heppner Women's Choral club for the presentation of the first annual concert. This concert, culmination of the year's training, will be held in the high school gymnasium and open at 8 o'clock p. m. A nominal admission will be charged, the proceeds to be donated to the Portland blood donor center.

The concert will consist of three-part choruses sung by the group of 25 women under the direction of Mrs. O. G. Crawford, and piano numbers by Marylou Ferguson, guest artist. This is the first year of work by the group, formed from members of the Heppner Music study club and others invited to participate. There are few such groups in the state, even in larger cities.

The club held annual election of officers Tuesday evening at which time Miss Rose Hoosier was elected president; Mrs. W. E. Davis, vice president; Josephine Mahoney, secretary-treasurer, and Mrs. O. G. Crawford, director.

Ralph Bengel, Mrs. Rosa Eskelson and Mrs. Ruth Barnett, Pendleton, were called to Lewiston, Ida. Sunday by the illness of a sister, Mrs. Mattie Henderson. Terrill Bengel took his father and Mrs. Eskelson to Pendleton Sunday to catch a train for Lewiston.

"Purity Squad" Removes Old Tires And Other Rubbish

A group of volunteers from the Heppner chamber of commerce responded to C. D. Conrad's appeal for aid in clearing off the rubber salvage on the corner next to the Noble harness shop and Tuesday evening found them engaged at the task. All salvagable tires, those that are fit for shipment were removed to the fair pavilion where they will be held awaiting shipping orders. All other rubbish, and there was plenty of it, was hauled to the city dump ground. The huge box built to receive the old tires was torn down and there will be no further excuse for people to make a public dump ground of the corner.

Miss Marjorie Sims, senior at Heppner high school, was the guest speaker at the chamber of commerce luncheon Monday. Her topic dealt with conditions as viewed from the young peoples' standpoint. She pulled no punches in pointing out the conduct of the older people and her remarks were so well received that she was invited to visit the club again sometime.

Dead Service Men To Be Honored

Service men who have lost their lives in the armed forces will be honored by having their names placed on a memorial plaque at Portland's Victory Center, it was announced this week by P. W. Mahoney, chairman of the Morrow county war finance committee, and E. C. Sammons, state chairman, Oregon war bond staff.

Families of men eligible are requested to turn in names either to Mr. Mahoney or the war finance committee, American Bank building, Portland, Oregon.

ALL SCHOOL MUSICAL EVENT OF EARLY MAY

Heppner teachers and pupils are busy putting on finishing touches of the all-school music program which will be presented on the evening of March 5. This event will replace the usual county-wide day of music. An interesting program is promised and your attendance is hoped for.

La Grande Rotary Club Sponsoring Teacher Training

An increasing shortage of teachers is causing others than school authorities to "view the situation with alarm." This is seen in recent action by the La Grande Rotary club to sponsor teacher training scholarships at Eastern Oregon College of Education. The club has posted seven \$74 scholarships at the college, of which five high schools outside of Union county will be recognized.

One senior from La Grande high school will be chosen; one from a Union county high school outside of La Grande, with the other five to be chosen outside of Union county.

Candidate will be selected upon scholarship ability, character and personality, worthiness and need, and leadership quality. Students interested in a scholarship should apply for application blanks from either the principal of La Grande high school or the Registrar, Eastern Oregon College of Education.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl January of Pendleton were business visitors in Heppner the first of the week.

Bill Sampson left Sunday for Ft. Knox, Ky. after visiting his father F. L. Sampson, section foreman on the Heppner branch.

William Newhard who went to Seattle last week for a physical went right on to San Diego for training. His wife and children have moved to town from Keene's logging camp. She is a niece of Fred Lorenzen.

Farmers Urged to Keep Trucks in Best of Condition

Increase of New Trucks Not Seen In Current Trend

Information being circulated that a considerable number of new trucks are now available for immediate delivery to farmers is not in accordance with the facts, the county farm transportation committee reports. The real situation in regard to new trucks constitutes an urgent warning for careful repairs and maintenance of all existing farm trucks, the committee believes.

A total of 88,000 new trucks has been authorized for manufacture in 1944, but most of them will not be made until late in the year. This compares with 725,000 new trucks sold during 1941, more than half of which were for replacements.

The pool of pre-war trucks has practically disappeared, with few being left after release of 63,500 in 1943. Of this total, 18,335 went to agriculture, or about 29 percent. If farmers receive the same proportion of the 88,000 new trucks to be made this year, then agriculture can count on only about 26,000 new trucks for replacements during the year.

Repair and maintenance programs, together with mileage-saving conservation measures are being pushed by all concerned. The repair part picture is considerably brighter. Manufacturers have been given materials for all of the parts they can produce in the portions of their plants not tied up on military orders.

Maintenance specialists of the office of defense transportation offer assistance in locating any repair parts still on the "scarce" list. Farm truck owners who are unable to find needed repair parts are urged by the committee to use this service. Full information can be obtained from the farm transportation committee's headquarters in the AAA office.

County Invests Heavily in Bonds

Morrow county may not have invested heavier than other sections but figures submitted by P. W. Mahoney this week reveal that since the war finance committee was organized the people of this county have purchased \$1,910,963 worth of war bonds.

Mahoney has been chairman of the war finance committee since its organization and tendered his resignation this week in view of soon being called for service. B. C. Pinckney, who has been active in the war finance campaign, at times serving as co-chairman, has been appointed to take Mahoney's place.

RETURNS TO HOSPITAL

After a few weeks at home, W. G. McCarty had to be taken back to the hospital in Portland. His daughter, Mrs. Raymond Rice, accompanied him Monday. She was enroute to British Columbia to visit her husband, Dr. Raymond Rice, member of the Canadian medical corps. Mrs. Oscar Borg came from Portland Sunday to be with their mother until Mrs. Rice returns.

Mrs. Lawrence Mills was called to Boise, Ida. the first of the week due to the illness of her mother and a sister.

Ensign Lewis Gilliam is spending the week here with his father, L. L. Gilliam.

Mrs. Donald Rowe took her mother, Mrs. Clifford Noble, and her sister to Portland Monday for medical treatment.

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