

Heppner Gazette Times

Heppner, Oregon, Thursday, October 26, 1944

Volume 61, Number 106

OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
PUBLIC AUDITORIUM
PORTLAND, OREGON

News From The Boys at The Front

CPL JOHNSON FIRST OF VOLUNTEERS TO RETURN

In 1940 seven Morrow county young men enlisted in the National Guard. When war was declared following the Pearl Harbor disaster, these boys were transferred to the 41st division and soon found themselves enroute to the South Pacific. Australia was their first stopping place but it was not long until they were in direct contact with the enemy.

Of the seven youths in the group, Cpl Jimmy Johnson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Johnson of Heppner, was the first to return to the States on furlough. The group was split up and placed in separate companies but all have seen plenty of action and two have made the supreme sacrifice.

Johnson has been enjoying the hospitality of home folks and feels that such attention as he is receiving makes it worth while to be a soldier. He also praises the loyalty of the natives in the islands taken over by the Allied forces.

Enlisting with Johnson in 1940 were Donald Bellenbrock, Donald Fell (wounded on Bisc) Pfc Earl Crismon, Raymond Cagle, Marvin Sadler, and Harry Ring of Ione.

MARCEL JONES MARRIES ARKANSAS GIRL

Mr. and Mrs. C. N. Jones have received word from their son, Charles Marcel Jones, who is stationed at Camp Chaffee, Ark., telling of his marriage to Miss Phelma Dee Davis of Paris, Ark. The young folks were married Oct. 7 in the Baptist church of Paris.

The bride is the daughter of a large cotton farmer in that district and at present is employed in the library at the state sanatorium.

LEXINGTON SOLDIER GAINS GOOD CONDUCT RIBBON

Pfc Wm. V. Lane, Lexington, now at Ephrata army air base has been awarded the Army Good Conduct ribbon. This award is given for excellent character and efficiency as a soldier.

Pfc Lane attended Lexington high school. A brother, Pvt. Kenneth Lane is now serving with the armed forces overseas.

BROTHER VISITING

Ray Patterson is visiting this week at the home of his sister, Mrs. Elmer Palmer near Hardman. Ray recently was transferred from a Florida base to a California air base. Another brother, Arthur, who was at home on furlough last summer, is recuperating from an appendectomy at an army base hospital.

McMURDO BOYS HOME

Lt. Bernard McMurdo and wife of Farragut spent the week-end in Heppner with his parents, Dr. and Mrs. A. D. McMurdo, leaving the first of the week for San Francisco where Bernard will be based for a while. Scott McMurdo, Ph M 2/c, also spent the week-end here, returning the fore part of the week to Astoria where he is stationed at the base hospital.

BACK IN STATES

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Wehmeyer have received word from their son, M Sgt. Steven Wehmeyer, that he is at Camp Kilmer, N. J. Steven went overseas with the African invasion forces serving in the air service photo mapping division. His unit has been in the vanguard of the Mediterranean activities, in Northern Africa, Sicily, Italy and more recently, southern France.

Lumber Company Road to Buckaroo Ready for Gravel

Heppner Concern To Extend Cutting 10 to 15 Years

Grading on the Heppner Lumber company's new logging road from the mouth of Shaw creek to the Buckaroo flats, 12 miles to the northeast, is progressing satisfactorily and during the week the company awarded a rock contract to the Nyberg Construction company of Spokane which is moving in. Eight miles of the grade has been roughed out, with four and one-half miles to go.

The logging road leaves Willow creek at Shaw creek, running along the Taylor ridge to the Matlock ridge and thence on to Buckaroo flats where the company has extensive timber holdings. With this additional supply of timber it is expected the mill's operation will be extended from 10 to 15 years.

In preparation for the winter's run the company is accumulating a huge supply of logs at the local plant. There is no accounting for the weather from now on and come what may, there will be enough timber on hand to keep the saws buzzing for several months.

Scarcity of Deer Noted by Ranger

Hunters of the 1944 season have complained that buck deer are scarce in the Blue mountains south of Heppner. Their complaint is born out in the number of animals brought to town or taken through here. Not only are the bucks scarce but the big rangy fellows are conspicuously absent among the carcasses seen so far.

Fred Wehmeyer says there has been an appreciable decrease in the number of deer in recent seasons. The forest service is unable to account for the decrease other than that feeding conditions have not been so good and that disease and predatory animals likewise have made inroads. He offered the theory that the elk roaming the mountains in this vicinity may be driving the smaller animals out of their native habitats, as the deer are scattered over the open country more than ever before.

Regardless of the deer scarcity, Wehmeyer stated that Dick and Benny Steers and Max and Delmer Buschke each got a buck during the past week.

Service Men Turn In Strong Vote

Evidence that the service men are interested in home affairs is seen in the percentage of absentee ballots returned to the office of County Clerk C. W. Barlow. Out of 123 ballots mailed out from the local office, 79 have been returned for the count on election day.

Ballots have been returned from England, China, Guam, and New Guinea, to name a few, and Barth that there still is time to receive low stated the first of the week more. He not only considered the returns a good percentage but also felt that the mail service has done a good work in getting the ballots over and back.

RETURNING HOME

Mrs. Edwin Hughes and little son expect to return to their home at Lena Saturday. They have been in Pendleton since the birth of the little boy, Merlyn Percy, on Oct. 12.

ONTARIO COUPLE VISITS

Guests at the Earl Gilliam home from Saturday to Monday were Mrs. Gilliam's sister and husband, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Lake of Ontario.

Silence Is Golden--or at Least Safer--Yanks Say

By Pvt Joseph E. Palmer

With the 3rd Division France—"Hackensack was never like this," thought Pfc Joe Parisi as he peeked through a crack in the attic of the French farm house and saw 15 Germans milling around in the room below.

It all came about when Parisi left his 7th Infantry company's front line position to go back and tell the supply sergeant that more mortar ammunition was needed.

"I found the house where the sergeant and three other guys were located and told them the situation," explained the 3rd division soldier. "The sarge and another guy took off in a jeep to get the stuff, leaving myself and a corporal alone in the house. The corporal was still asleep.

"It wasn't long after they left that I heard a Jerry machine pistol spitting up in the hills but I didn't think much about it because you get used to that stuff after so long a time. But the noise got closer and closer all the time. Finally I opened the door a crack and peeked out. There a hundred or so yards away came a Jerry holding the machine pistol followed by 12 or 14 other Krauts.

Luckily, he didn't see me so I

shut the door and woke up the corporal. We piled a couple of chairs on top of a table and managed to squeeze through a little door leading to the attic. Then we kicked the chairs down and closed the door.

"It wasn't a minute too soon either because we had just got up there when the front door opened and in walked these Germans. We could peek through a crack in the floor and see them eating our rations and rummaging around. We only had one carbine with us and that wouldn't do a whole lot of good against 14 of 'em so we just had to keep quiet and sweat those guys out for one hour and a half.

"The Krauts finally were chased out by GI's and I never was so happy to see anyone in my life as those guys in O.D.

"When we got out we found that the Germans had brought a wounded American soldier with them and put him in the hayloft of the nearby barn. He was evacuated safely to the rear."

Parisi comes from 27 Pink street, Hackensack, N. J. The corporal with him was Silva Houston of Heppner, Oregon.

Ed Note: Information regarding Houston was not available but Pvt Palmer's story merited publication just the same.

Morse Points Way To Better Times In Saturday Talk

Change of Federal Attitude Needed to Create Confidence

A change of administration and adoption of a more favorable attitude towards business and industry are necessary before the country can be placed on a basis of permanent prosperity, Wayne Morse, republican candidate for United States Senator told a fair sized crowd at Masonic hall Saturday afternoon.

Commenting upon the situation since the New Deal took over, Morse said that the administration's attitude has been to handicap business and industry rather than to encourage private enterprise. The tendency towards government control of everything has led us far astray from the principles upon which this nation was founded, he said, and unless a right about comes soon we are faced with a government by edict rather than a government by law.

Morse cited his record as a member of the national labor relations board and later as arbiter of the war labor board. In all his decisions he abided by the principles of law involved in the cases and in so doing won the praise of employers and employees, even when the cases were decided against one or the other. He has letters of commendation from every railroad company in the country, as well as from heads of labor unions and many business enterprises.

Referring to international relations, he favors not two-party negotiations or trade pacts but five or six parties so that certain of our export commodities will not be handicapped. This policy will thwart efforts of certain governments to gain monopolies on products which will be reflected in high prices to the ultimate consumer.

The speaker said that although he lives on a small farm near Eugene, he is not trying to sell himself to the farmers as one of them. He is a practicing attorney and lives on a farm because having been raised as a farm boy he knows it is the best place for his children to grow up. He showed a keen understanding of farm problems and in his swing around the state has contacted farmers as much as possible.

A luncheon was held at the Lucas Place at noon at which time Mr. Morse outlined his campaign to those present, urging them to get out and work for the entire ticket.

Accompanying the republican nominee were Marvin Klemme and Bill LaBursky. Klemme was recently discharged from the service. He was candidate for representative in congress in the spring of 1942, being eliminated from the race by Lowell Stockman.

THREE YOUTHS ACCEPTED

Three young men from Morrow county selective service board recently were accepted for general military service, Victor Robert Rieeman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Rietmann of Ione; Raymond A. McDonald, Heppner, and Sherfey Thornton, a transfer from another board.

RECEIVES PROMOTION

Mr. and Mrs. Earle Gilliam have received word that their son Jackson has been raised to the rank of first lieutenant. Jackson is right in the thick of things in the Pacific. Howard Gilliam is now stationed in the Marianas.

Farm Bureau Sets Special Meeting

A special meeting has been scheduled by the Morrow county farm bureau for the purpose of giving people of the county an opportunity to hear F. H. Young, manager of the Oregon Business and Tax Research, Inc., discuss some of the measures on the Nov. 7 ballot affecting the tax structure of the state. The meeting will be called at 8 p. m. Monday, Oct. 30, in the I. O. O. F. hall in Heppner, having been changed there from the Rhea Creek grange hall as a more central location.

Two members of the state farm bureau, C. L. Jamason and Sam Hunter, also will be present at the meeting to lend encouragement in the campaign to enroll more members in the local chapter.

Young probably is the best informed man obtainable on the matter of taxes and assessments. Not only does he keep abreast of state tax measures but is in touch with the several counties relative to their tax problems. He frequently vigorously opposes measures passed by the people, basing his opposition on facts obtained thru detailed research. On the other hand, he upholds with equal vigor those measures which he deems in the best interests of the state.

Officials of the Morrow county farm bureau are urging taxpayers to come out Monday evening and hear an able discussion of the tax situation.

SP ALL RIGHT

It's a great thing to be in the service of one's country, and even shore police duty is OK, but every SP and MP as well as every man bearing arms is looking eagerly forward to the day when arms can be laid down and the trek homeward taken up. That's the way CPO Clarence Bauman feels about it and he believes he is not violating any rules regarding military secrets in talking about it.

Bauman did the pinch hitting for the program chairman Monday at the chamber of commerce luncheon and told some of the things the shore and military police are called upon to do in pursuit of their duties. However, the greatest thrill he has had since entering the service did not come in the line of duty but when he bagged a buck last week.

Fire Department Given Two Calls

It looked like a busy season for the Heppner volunteer fire department this week when the smoke eaters were called out Wednesday afternoon and again shortly after 6 o'clock Thursday morning. No serious damage resulted from either fire although several tons of hay went up in smoke in one instance.

An alarm Wednesday afternoon started the department on its way only to find that the fire was out side of town. Pump tanks were loaded into cars and sent on to the Charlie Osmin place where it was found a stack of hay and not the Osmin house was burning.

The Thursday morning blaze was in O'Donnell's cafe where burning grease around the flamo range threatened to engulf the building. After the blaze was subdued it was found that principal damage was due to smoke and the cafe was operating as usual in a short time.

Mrs. D. A. Rowe Paralysis Victim

Private funeral services will be held in Portland Friday morning for Mrs. Donald Rowe, 23, whose death occurred in that city, Saturday morning, Oct. 21. Immediate cause of her passing was infantile paralysis. Mrs. Rowe was stricken on her birthday, Oct. 15, was taken to Portland Oct. 18 and placed in an iron lung with the hope of checking the disease but it had taken its course and she succumbed early Saturday morning. Commitment services will be held at 2 o'clock p. m. Friday at Hood River.

Musetta Estelle Noble was born Oct. 15, 1921. She was married to Donald Arthur Rowe in 1940 and to this union was born one child, Elizabeth Jean, aged three. The father has been overseas about two years, serving with an infantry radio division with the rank of sergeant. Up to the time she was stricken, Mrs. Rowe was employed at the local exchange of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph company.

Survivors include the husband and child, the parents, Rev. and Mrs. Clifford Noble, and a sister, Mrs. Delphia Goss.

PORTLANDER VISITS

Mrs. Harold Stiles of Portland has been a guest of her mother, Mrs. Josie Jones, for the past ten days.