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Farm Wage Scale Given Approval of War Food Agency

Rates Affect Non-Irrigation Areas Of River Counties

A specific wage ceiling became effective June 15, 1945 for general farm labor throughout the year on wheat, peas and hay farms and for harvesting labor on wheat and dry pea farms, non-irrigated areas of Sherman, Wasco, Umatilla, Gilliam and Morrow counties of Oregon according to information received here the first of the week from Alden E. Orr, executive officer of the Oregon WFA wage board, Portland.

The specific ceiling establishes maximum wage rates that may be paid except in hardship cases as they are brought to the attention of Oregon wage board and their granting of special approval. Wages less than the rates specified in the order may be paid, but excess wages paid except for approved cases will be prohibited and cannot be claimed as a deductible business expense in computing income tax returns. The maximum wage rates for non-irrigated area only established by this ceiling are:

General farm labor, \$8.00 per day and board, or \$200 per month and board.

Mechanics working on the farm, furnishing their own tools and repairing farm machinery exclusively, \$2.00 per hour.

Wheat and dry pea harvest labor—combine operators, unskilled, unable to repair the harvesting machinery, \$15.00 per day and board; combine operators, skilled, who repair the harvesting machinery, \$20.00 per day and board; combine operators

tractor drivers, crawler type tractor, \$12.00 per day and board; sack sewers \$12.00 per day and board; head tenders, sack jiggers and all other wheat and dry pea harvest labor, \$10.00 per day and board.

Tractor drivers doing summer fallow work during wheat and dry pea harvest season, \$12.00 per day and board.

This represents an increase over 1944 wages and the WFA's approval was based on the testimony and petition of more than 51 per cent of the farmers in the district, according to Arnold Ebert. Meetings were held at Arlington and Pendleton early in the spring to prepare data to present to the WFA and the findings at these meetings were sufficient to convince the higher authority of the necessity for paying a higher scale.

Plans Progressing For Celebration

Committees are carrying the work forward for the CAP celebration July 4 and now have a program of the day's activities outlined.

As previously announced, the opening event will occur the evening of the third with a dance at the fair pavilion in Heppner. The program for the 4th includes air thrills, carnival, sightseeing trips, Lexington airport exercises and other features, culminating in a big dance at the Lexington grange hall.

ATTENDING CONFERENCE

Rev. Bennie Howe and Mrs. Howe are in Salem this week attending the regular annual conference of the Methodist church for the Cascade district. They expect to make a little vacation trip out of the journey unless, of course, Rev. Howe is transferred elsewhere and his church flock and the townspeople alike are holding the thought against that event.

JUDGE BACK ON THE JOB

Judge Bert Johnson is back on the job at the court house after an absence of several weeks due to illness. He had his annual round with ervsipelas, to which was added other complications which gave him a lot of misery.

County Showing Lack Of Interest In E Bonds

For the first time since war bonds have been sold, Morrow county is exhibiting a spirit of indifference with the result that up to date scarcely more than one half of the E bond quota has been taken. This is giving the finance committee no small concern and the people are being urged to step up buying within the next few days so that the quota will be met.

It is recognized that the Mighty 7th was scheduled at a time when crop conditions are in the doubtful stage and this fact has deterred farmers from investing with their usual enthusiasm, but a check of purchases made to date reveals that the number of purchasers is less than in previous drives and it is felt that there are many outside of the farm class who should buy although their investments may be comparatively small.

If each former purchaser of E bonds would buy now the quota could be met," stated P. W. Mahoney, county war finance chairman. "We realize it is not the best time for farmers to buy, but since there will be but two drives during the year, everyone should make it a point to help put the Mighty 7th over."

With the quota of \$248,000 in E bonds, purchases up to June 18 amounted to \$124,574—slightly over 50 percent. This is a poor showing in contrast with previous drives and gives the reasons for worry on the part of finance officials. The



quota of other bonds by individuals is \$70,000, of which \$64,300 have been taken. Balance of the \$353,000 quota is in corporation sales, which will be taken, Chairman Mahoney states.

For the benefit of farmers and others who feel they can not spare the money at this time, the First National Bank of Portland announce short term loans at low interest rate to have money available for bond purchasing. Since the campaign closes June 30, it is urged that those desiring this loan service not delay making application.

RUFUS HILL ENROUTE HOME, FAMILY LEARNS

Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Hill have been informed by their son, F O Rufus Hill, that he will be seeing them soon. He wrote them to send no more mail and inquired if they would be having fried chicken, strawberry shortcake and some of the other delicacies dear to a soldier's heart on the 4th of July.

Rufus has been gone from home three years. He had no furlough until he reached England about 16 months ago.

NEW U. S. CITIZEN

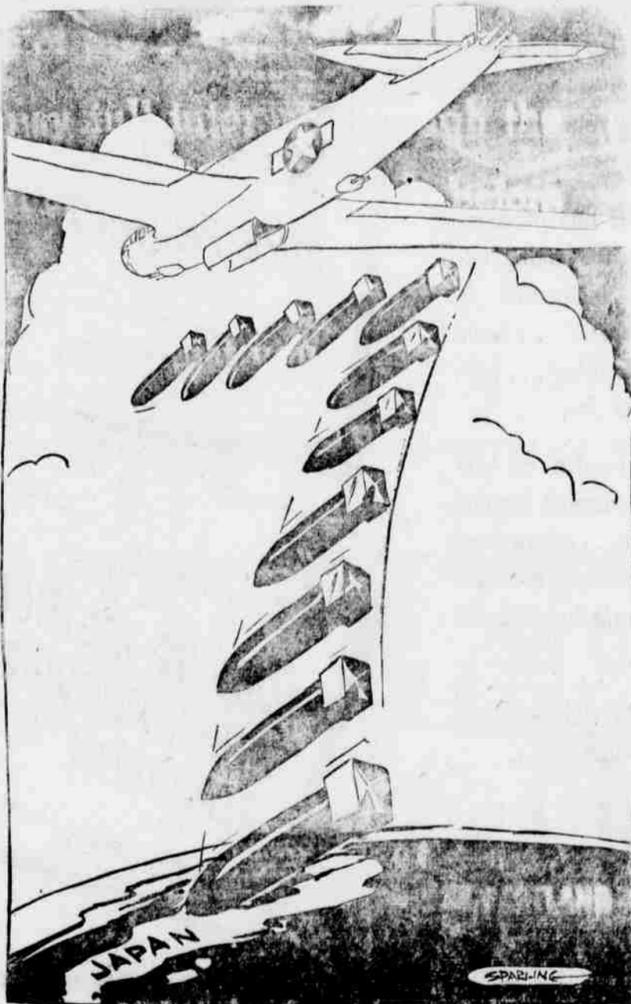
Mrs. Grace Turner, secretary of

Morrow county selective service board, has received word from T4 Geoffrey John O'Connell that he is now a citizen of the United States. The fighting Irishman, who was sworn into the army in August 1942, was issued certificate of naturalization No. 6462579 by the U. S. district court of the Territory of Hawaii on June 6, 1945. O'Connell volunteered for service.

MRS. BARLOW IMPROVING

Mrs. C. W. Barlow, who submitted to a major surgical operation in Pendleton last week, is on the road to recovery, according to the latest reports from the hospital.

Bonds Aweigh—By Sparling



Heat Wave Follows Close Upon Frost

Like a person suffering from fever, the weather has been running first cold and then hot since the first of the month, and currently it is on the upgrade, coming with such force as to warrant the most pessimistic in casting aside winter garb and donning lighter material.

Only last week gardeners reported "sass" nipped by frost. Then by Monday of this week the mercury had soared to 93 degrees. It dropped Tuesday to 89 and was up again to 91 on Wednesday. This morning a cool breeze from the west alleviated the suffering a bit.

The soaring mercury has aided the youth of the town who find comfort in swimming. The tank was filled yesterday and Mrs. Adele Hayes is busy life guarding and instructing the young idea in the proper form of water technique.

Surprise Sprung At School Election

A surprise was sprung at the annual school election Monday afternoon when Harold Becket was elected director to succeed C. W. Barlow, incumbent chairman of the board. Up until time for the meeting there was no evidence of a contest and Barlow had expressed a willingness to serve another term if that was the desire of the voters. When the balloting was completed it was found that Becket had 43 votes and Barlow 23.

Due to errors in the published budget notice it will be necessary to re-publish the budget and the notice of special school election. The revised budget is published this week and the election will be held July 12. A straw vote was held Monday and the budget met the approval of all but seven of those expressing their wishes.

4-H Clubbers Off To Summer School

Eleven Morrow county boys and girls left bright and early Tuesday morning for Corvallis to attend the annual 4-H club summer school on the campus of Oregon State college. The trip was made in the school district number three bus, with Don Strait acting as driver and chaperone. County Agent Arnold Ebert left the same morning by private car and will aid in conducting the school.

The Morrow county representatives included Carolyn Bergstrom, Heppner; Faye Cutsforth, Vesta Cutsforth, Lorene Van Winkle and Audre Maieske, Lexington; Hil-muth Herman, Robert Peterson and Louis Carlson, Ione, and Marian Pearson and Virginia Roach, Boardman. Jean Rauch, Lexington, is saving her own way and will stay with relatives while in Corvallis.

Lorene Mitchell is also in attendance having earned a scholarship on her sewing in Joseph and is enrolled with the Wallowa county delegation.

Scholarships were provided by the First National Bank of Portland Heppner branch; J. C. Penney company; Heppner Parent-Teacher association; Braden Tractor and Equipment company; Heppner chamber of commerce; Boardman P-TA; Home Economics committee of Boardman grange; Lexington grange (2), and Morrow County Farm Bureau. Other organizations have volunteered scholarships but the number of students is limited because of housing facilities.

SAVINGS DEPOSITORS URGED TO BUY BONDS

Savings depositors of the First National Bank of Portland have been given an added incentive to make additional purchases of war bonds before the end of the current Seventh War Loan drive according to an announcement by B. C. Pinckney, manager of the Heppner branch.

"Depositors of our bank who withdraw funds from their savings accounts between now and the 30th of June for the purchase of war bonds will be paid full interest on their deposits through the end of June, even though the money is withdrawn before that time, which is the normal interest paying date," stated Manager Pinckney.

Special Election Is Fare for People Of Oregon Friday

Approval Sought For Educational, Building Program

Citizens of the state of Oregon will go to the polls Friday to express their approval or disapproval of two measures submitted by the legislature seeking authority for the state board of control to earmark \$10,000,000 from income tax source as a postwar building program and aid to education on the one hand, and levying of a cigarette tax to augment the state school fund.

Rep. Henry Peterson who had a hand in preparing the measures, stated that the \$10,000,000 will not be levied against property and if the people fail to approve the measure the money will be collected anyway and will go into the surplus or reserve fund. Two-fifths of the amount will go to higher institutions of learning which the state now supports and which need many extensions and improvements. The remaining three fifths of the \$10,000,000 will go for improvements and new buildings at state institutions such as the TB hospitals, boys training schools, Fairview and Hillcrest homes, penitentiary and many others, which are badly in need of modern and enlarged improvements. "I have served on public institutions committees at the last two sessions of the legislature and have visited many of the state buildings where we keep our wards and in many cases the conditions are deplorable. I sincerely urge you to vote 300 yes on your ballot," Peterson stated.

Measure 302 is a tax of one-tenth of one cent on every cigarette or two cents per package of 20 cigarettes sold in the state of Oregon, funds to be derived therefrom to be used in support of the elementary and secondary schools. If the people approve this measure, the state will support and financially aid the schools to the extent of approximately 13 million dollars. Much of the support from the state now comes through income tax receipts, amounting to around eight million dollars at present. When incomes go down and the state does not have the surplus it now has, it is possible that school operations costs may have to revert to the property taxpayer.

Some 30 states now have taxes on cigarettes for various purposes, according to Rep. Peterson. Cigarettes are a luxury, not a necessity, he avers, and it will reach many people who now contribute little or nothing to the support of schools. It will be a stable and permanent state support for schools and it is estimated it will bring in around \$2,000,000 annually. "It was an honest attempt by the legislature to find some more means of direct state support for schools. I urge you to vote 302 yes on your ballot," Peterson concluded.

The polls open at 8 a. m. and will remain open until 8 p. m. Proponents of the measures are urging a wide spread expression by the voters.

Leave Fawns Alone, Commission Warns

The Oregon State Game commission makes its annual request that sympathetic individuals refrain from picking up fawn deer that appear to be deserted. In most cases this is not true, and if the fawn is left alone its mother will eventually return to claim it. Deliberate handling of fawns in order to pet it is against the law, and a permit is not issued to keep it unless it can be proven that the fawn actually was deserted and would have died.

The young deer may be attractive pets, as they grow older they can become burdensome to care for and often dangerous to human life if adequate facilities are not provided. In the end, the deer may have to be killed as most of them cannot be satisfactorily released after being raised in captivity.