

EDITORIAL

Whose Two and a Half Acres?

The next time you stand on the banks of a muddy stream and watch the silt-laden water rush by ask yourself this question, "Whose two and a half acres of land is that?" says the bulletin of the Production and Marketing Administration, USDA, on Oregon information. The bulletin points out that if all the harvested cropland in the United States were divided up evenly there would be about two and one-half acres of land for each person. Only twenty-five years ago the ratio was three and one-fourth acres per person. It should be remembered further that the fertile soil on that two and one-half acres may be only a few inches deep. The average for the United States is only about six inches.

While farmers may own the land, the bulletin continues, all of us depend on that land for a living. From that two and one-half acres must come practically all our food—fish the exception—and most of the fiber for our clothes. And, because some farmer is willing and has the equipment to till that two and one-half acres for what he can get from the crops, many people do not have to raise their own food and fiber. That means there are enough people to build automobiles, run the railroads, practice law, teach school, or what have you. The large output per man is what makes out modern civilization possible. If each of us had to farm our share of the land all this would not be possible.

So the next time you see a muddy stream you may well ask whose two and one-half acres is now going down the river.

'Tis Better to Give . . .

If you are one who believes in the principle that it is better to give than to receive, there is nothing in the way of exercising that belief to the fullest. Many millions of people are cold and hungry this winter because of a war-torn economy that in more than two years of so-called peace has as yet to be readjusted. Consequently, these millions of people are dependent upon that part of the world still able to produce the necessities for their very existence. This, naturally, means that they are looking to America for the bulk of their support.

That American people are responsive to the cries for aid is seen in the numerous organizations and in the Friendship train which deliver-

ed at New York some 8,000,000 pounds of food for relief for Europe. And at present, our congress is wrestling with an aid bill of more than one-half billion dollars to bring immediate relief and at the same time offered as an offset to communist activities in the countries of western Europe.

An organization known as CARE has been in operation for some months, a movement national in scope and doubtless contributing generously to the general relief program.

Coming closer home, we have "Oregon Heifers for Relief." One hundred and seventy heifers have just been shipped to parts of Italy where food is sufficient for them. One hundred and ninety-three milk goats have been distributed on Okinawa among villages, agricultural stations, orphanages, and leper colonies. One hundred and ninety-one goats reached Japan on November 25 to be distributed by the welfare departments of the Japanese government in cooperation with the American relief agencies and the United Church of Japan. Five thousand dollars has just been sent from Oregon to purchase milk goats in Switzerland for Austria. Two thousand goats are scheduled for Japan when funds are available and the state and war departments furnish transportation for which application is pending.

It is more noble to give than to receive, yet in this matter of aid to Europe and eastern Asia it is more of an investment in our future security than just plain relief and before starting on a holiday shopping spree for the usual line of Christmas gifts, we should examine the budget carefully and see if we cannot appropriate a few dollars to help bring joy where it has not been known for many years.

Morrow county committee members of the Eastern Oregon Wheat League and the chambers of commerce of Heppner were unaware that Condon was preparing to bid for the 1948 convention of the grain raisers, otherwise there would have been no bid from Heppner. As it turned out, the Morrow county delegation was able to throw its support behind the Condon representatives and help turn the tide in their favor. According to the rotation system that has been in operation, it will be Heppner's turn in 1949 and it is hoped that ere that time rolls around facilities here for entertaining sizable delegations will be greatly improved.

CHAUFFEURS LICENSES, BADGES NOW BEING ISSUED

Renewal applications for 1948 chauffeur's licenses and badges are now being accepted, Secretary of State Earl T. Newbry has announced.

Only holders of 1947 licenses are eligible to apply on a renewal basis, Newbry emphasized.

Because of the unprecedented large number of applica-

tions to be processed, license holders are urged to renew old cards well in advance of December 31, the date all 1947 chauffeur's licenses expire.

Licenses may be renewed by filling in the reverse side of a 1947 card and mailing it to the secretary of state along with the \$1.00 renewal fee, or by presenting it to any authorized driver's license examiner of the state department.

Rebekahs Schedule Annual Xmas Party

Following the regular meeting Friday evening, December 19, San Souci Rebekah lodge will hold its annual Christmas party for Rebekahs and husbands and Oddfellows and wives.

There will be an exchange of gifts on a basis of men to men and women to women, with a limit of \$1 per gift.

30 YEARS AGO

From Heppner Gazette Times Dec. 13, 1917.

The Tom Morgan house in the lower end of town was visited by fire last Monday morning about 6 o'clock and all but entirely destroyed. Origin of the fire is unknown. The Schwab family has been living there. They got out unharmed.

W. B. Barratt was re-elected president of the Oregon Wool Growers at their annual meeting in The Dalles last Saturday.

Mrs. M. J. Edmondson and Luther Huston were married at the home of Rev. Turner B. MacDonald last Saturday.

Miss Jackson of the lone high school is teaching the girls in the domestic art class how to knit. The knitting done by the girls will be turned over to the Red Cross.

Among the young men of Morrow county who have enlisted in the service of Uncle Sam during the past week are Frank Barlow of Eight Mile, Bernard Cox of

Rhea creek, Earl Gurdane, Ralph Justus, Harold Cohn, Sam Turner, Elra Hayes and Glenn Jones.

Dale Bleakman, the 11 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Bleakman of Hardman, was the first applicant of that town to buy thrift war savings stamps at the Hardman postoffice. He purchased two thrift stamps and three war savings stamps from money he had earned running errands and like work.

Ralph Jones who recently closed up the City Meat market here is spending a few days in Heppner on business. He says Mrs. Jones' health is not good as yet.

Fourteen inches of snow at the coal mines in Willow creek basin is the report brought back by parties visiting there this week.

The Y.M.C.A. fund is growing. The amount to date is \$3501.20.

The Red Cross bazaar last week added \$315.16 to the local treasury.

Elks Adopt Plan To Sponsor And Help Finance Boy Scouts

The 1475 lodges of Elksdom, representing some 900,000 members, have adopted for the coming year an aggressive plan to sponsor and assist financially the promotion of the Boy Scout program. Senior Scouting and Cub Scouting, especially in less privileged districts and neighborhoods, according to an announcement received by Harvey White, exalted ruler of Heppner lodge No. 358, from Lafayette A. Lewis, of Los Angeles, newly elected grand exalted ruler of the B.P. O.E. In this connection Colonel Charles Spencer Hart, past grand exalted ruler, has been appointed to represent the Elks on the National Civic Relationships committee of the Boy Scouts of America.

On a special trip to New York, Mr. Lewis conferred with Dr. Elbert K. Fretwell, chief Scout executive for the United States, Colonel Hart and Commander Thomas J. Keane, U.S.N.R., national director of civic relations of the Boy Scouts of America, and developed plans for Elk participation.

"Already we have 300 lodges of Elks sponsoring Boy Scout troops and cub packs," Lewis declared. "But our goal is to have every one of our 1,475 lodges cooperate with from one to three local Scout units. More than one million boys—nearly 1,100,000—reach twelve years of age each year and 700,000 of them indicate they want to become Boy Scouts. Yet only 400,000 can be accepted because of insufficient sponsorship. We want to help provide Scouting facilities for the 300,000 left-overs and we mean to furnish funds and offer many of our war veteran Elks and Scout leaders and committee-men.

"The 68,000 Boy Scout troops for nearly two million Scout members are not enough. We have seen militant minorities working for some revolution or other; why not the militant minority of Scout-trained citizens sponsored by Elks who stand for our best institutions and traditions?"

Mr. Lewis quoted with pride the figures of Admiral Chester

Nimitz that 40 percent of his men had been Boy Scouts and that 60 percent of his decorated heroes had been Scouts.

The new Elks' chief plan has arranged itineraries totaling 150,000 miles of travel to subordinate lodges this year. On his visitations he plans to pledge more vigorously than ever the Elks' campaign against internal enemies of America. The particular targets of the Elks are the Ku Klux Klan, Communism, Fascism and any other subversive elements.

In its 79-year history the B.P. O.E. has donated to worthy causes more than \$22,000,000, reaching a total of \$8,000,000 during the past year alone in addition to other sums given by local lodges. Lewis expects basic contributions this year will total more than \$12,000,000. Much of this will go for care of war veterans in 152 hospitals in 41 states, for the benefit of crippled children and toward college scholarships to outstanding secondary school students.

Lorine Van Winkle's Marriage Scheduled For New Year's Day

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Van Winkle of Lexington announce the forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Lorine, to John D. Ledbetter, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bergen Ledbetter of Heppner. The wedding will be an event of January 1, 1948 and will be solemnized at the Congregational church in Lexington at 3 o'clock p.m. Friends of the young couple have been extended a cordial invitation to attend.

The bride-to-be has been employed the past few months in the tax department at the court house, and the groom-to-be is employed on the Duval ranch, where the young people will make their home.

Mr. and Mrs. Carston Brandhagen (Marjorie McFerrin) were over from Pendleton to spend the week end here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Loy McFerrin.

Veterans Should Keep Informed On Service Ratings

War-time rates for service compensation and pension payable for disability or death in World War II are limited by dates fixed by presidential and congressional action, Charles M. Cox, Veterans Administration contact representative in this area, pointed out today.

These are higher than peacetime rates, hence the definition of war service is important to veterans or their dependents, Mr. Cox explained.

Actions governing awards were 1. President's proclamation ending hostilities at 12 o'clock noon, December 31, 1946; 2. public law 239 of the 80th congress, which officially terminated the war July 25, 1947, for certain purposes. Wartime service began December 7, 1941.

To qualify for service-connected benefits based on active war-time service, a veteran must have served between December 7, 1941, and prior to noon, December 31, 1946, and the disability must have originated by July 25 of this year. If the veteran died in service, death must have occurred by July 25 to be considered in World War II service.

Claims of persons who entered service after noon December 31, 1946, will be adjudicated as peacetime service, but if injury or death occurred by July 25, 1947, then awards will be paid at wartime rates. The higher rate may also apply to peacetime service in claims based on extra-hazardous duty, including simulated warfare.

For claims for non-service-connected permanent and total disability benefits by a veteran, or claims for pension or compensation by dependents of a deceased veteran, the period of qualification in World War II is 90 days of service with some part of that service falling between December 7, 1941, and noon, December 31, 1946.

Under present legislation no death benefits are payable to dependents of World War II veterans who did not have a service-connected disability.

ATTEND MEMORIAL SERVICES FOR NEPHEWS

Mrs. Joe Hughes went to Portland Tuesday to attend memorial services for two nephews who lost their lives in World War II and whose bodies have been returned home for burial.

The body of Pfc Kenneth B. Williams was one of 27 Oregon men returned from the European theater on the U. S. Army transport Joseph V. Connolly which docked at New York Sunday. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Allen E. Williams of Portland, and was killed while serving with 1st Army in Germany. He was 26, a native of Hood River, and graduate of Oregon State college. His brother, Pfc Ralph L. Williams, marine corps, was killed in the battle for Tarawa, and his body was sent home on the Honda Knot. Kenneth died in March 1945 and Ralph on November 20, 1943. The boys' mother and Mrs. Hughes are sisters.

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LUTHERAN SERVICE AT LEXINGTON
Confirmation service will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14 at Lexington. Rev. E. Phillip, Lutheran minister from Hermiston, will officiate. 37-38

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