

By Mrs. Bob Woodward

A lawn party at the Baxter Hutchinson home on Sunday evening was enjoyed by twenty-five neighbors and relatives, the occasion being Mr. Hutchinson's birthday anniversary. An out-of-town guest was Miss Florence Pearson of Pendleton, niece of Mr. Hutchinson.

"Grandma" Ellis was honored on her 91st birthday anniversary, Friday, July 11th, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Forrest Moore, who entertained a small group of ladies from the Central Church of Christ. The ladies presented Mrs. Ellis with a lovely angel food birthday cake, and Mrs. Moore served ice cream.

Earl Getchell arrived home Tuesday from Ft. Lewis. He is on a 10-day furlough.

Batie Rand and two small sons of Irrigon visited Monday at the Foster home.

Mrs. Willard Stratton (Edna Ott) of John Day has been visiting at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Ott during the past week.

Ted Hatfield and son, Jimmy, of Umatilla visited Sunday at the Joe Udey home.

Mrs. LaVonne Miller and daughter, Patsy of Portland arrived Monday for a two weeks' visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Udey.

Ruth McCulley went to Athena Tuesday and will be employed at the Joe Cannon place through the harvest season.

Miss Emma Lenz of Salem visited relatives here last week. Ella Pardon, niece of Miss Lenz, motored to Salem with her for a two weeks' visit.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Rosenau of Pendleton spent several days this week at the home of her mother, Mrs. Mabel Weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. John McNulty of Vale, Oregon, accompanied by Mrs. McNulty's brother, George Griffith, visited Tuesday at the John Knox home.

Charles Kik was a business caller at the Joe Udey home on Tuesday evening.

Norma Getchell is working at the Sandy McDonald place near Pendleton during harvest.

Marian and Robert Norquist of Centralia, Wash., who are at the home of their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Lenz, plan to return home Sunday after spending two weeks visiting relatives here.

Mrs. Louise Middlestadt of Portland is visiting at the home of her daughter, Mrs. George Liebe.

Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Metcalf of Sunnyside visited last week with his sister, Mrs. John Knox.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Hart and two children of Gaston, Oregon, came last Thursday for several days' visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Upham.

Mrs. A. H. Cable and Dorene drove to Lebanon Wednesday with Mrs. Alva Stone of Heppner. The Stone family is moving to Lebanon to make their home. Mrs. Cable and daughter will visit her brother, Oscar Mikesell and family in Albany before returning.

Along the Diagonal: Comments on the weather . . . The second cutting of hay being put up . . . Maxine Blinston driving a new coupe.

MATTRESS PROGRAM TO BE POSTPONED

The start of the mattress making program in the west end of the county, expected to get underway locally about July 15, has now been set for the first of August, or perhaps even later, according to information received by Assistant County Agent M. E. Knickerbocker.

Lack of supplies of ticking is said to be the cause of postponement of the start of the program. Batting supplies are said to be available at the present time. The signup in this area was in the neighborhood of 175 mattresses and it was originally hoped to complete the project during the summer school vacation months.

INSPECTOR ROSS ARRIVES AT SITE

Rollie M. Ross reported to the Umatilla Ordnance Depot this week as Principal Ammunition Inspector on the staff of Captain J. M. Piercy, Ordnance Department, and has established his residence in Stanfield at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Russell.

Mr. Ross was formerly stationed at Delaware Ordnance Depot, Pedricktown, N. J., and has been with the Ordnance Department for a number of years, associated with ammunition and explosives.

WATERMELON CROP PROMISING

Newcomers in the Hermiston area are promised a real treat this year as the watermelon crop at this time looks very promising. In some localities melons weighing from 14 to 20 pounds are already reported although the bulk of acreages usually come about August 1. The earliest local melons will be ready in just a few days.

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SUPERINTENDENT TELLS OF SCHOOL TROUBLES HERE

HELP SOUGHT TO RELIEVE SITUATION

By W. G. KERSBERGEN
With the opening day of the local school term six weeks distant, many people are beginning to wonder what the situation will be. Various rumors have circulated, but none are completely correct. From the standpoint of the school board and superintendent of schools the following facts are set forth, for two reasons, first that people may know what has occurred and secondly that they may help in the problem of keeping the schools open to all.

The trustees and superintendent have made numerous contacts, consulted with various government bureaus and in every way tried to forward a settlement. The files in the superintendent's office show that as early as February 13, 1941, the school officials asked that something be done. This request was sent to the Quartermaster General's office in Washington, that office disclaimed responsibility.

Next the United States Bureau of Education was contacted both by Superintendent Kerbergen and Mr. Frye, representing J. A. Terteling & Sons. The bureau was sympathetic, but stated that it could do nothing. Next the matter was taken up with Congressman Pierce and Senator McNary. Both assured us that they would do their best to help us by support of an appropriation in Congress. They did.

On June 12 house bill 4545 was passed by the Senate and later signed by the President. This bill appropriated one hundred and fifty million dollars to be expended for construction and maintenance of schools and public works in defense areas. This money is being disbursed by P.W.A.

At a recent meeting in Pendleton the Hermiston schools were given priority in this area. Application was made for funds. The P.W.A. people said they would accept applications for buildings and equipment, but not for operation. Operation means teachers' wages, bus transportation, janitor service, etc. A grant for building without operation costs is useless for we could not run it. There the matter rests at present.

The problem itself is acute. Last year the Hermiston grade schools enrolled three hundred and six students and the high school one hundred and eighty one. According to standards of the State of Oregon no more could be accepted without increasing the number of teachers. In fact last spring we added two teachers to comply with this standard. This was done because the vanguard of the present defense project population was arriving.

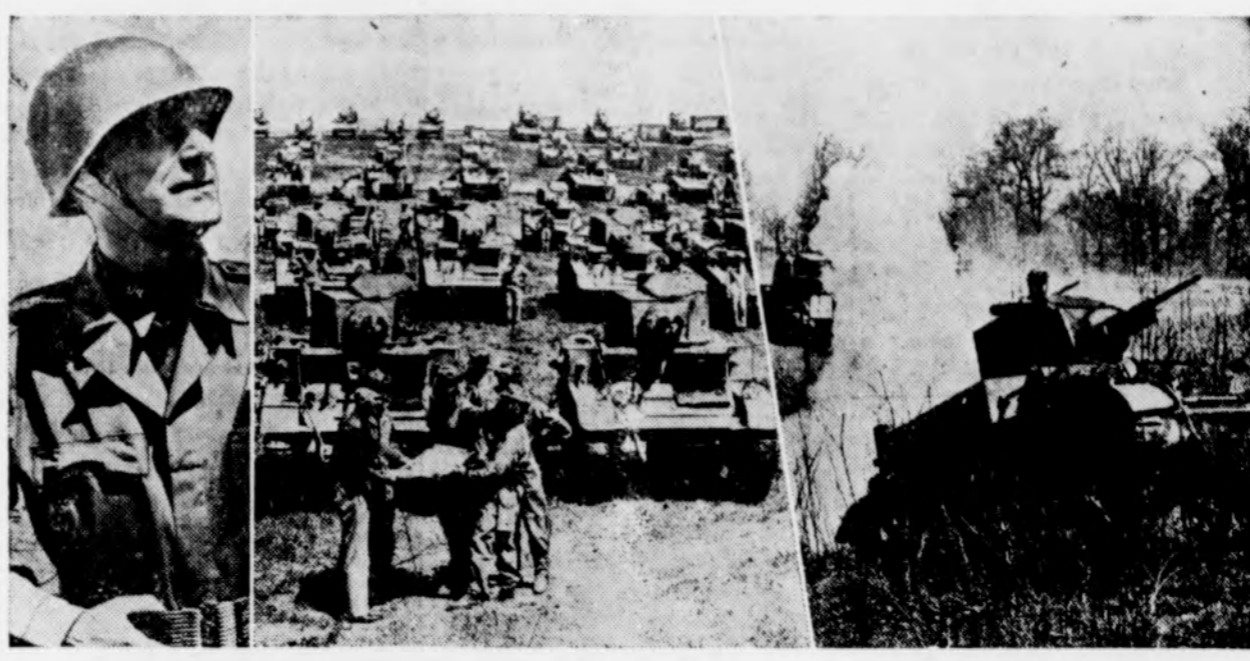
A communication from the Constructing Quartermaster of the Umatilla Ordnance Depot, received July 16, indicates a probable increase of seven hundred and thirty six in enrollment. Consider adding seven hundred and thirty six pupils to a system previously caring for four hundred and eighty seven, and this without any additional funds. The Oregon school law limits the increase in a school budget to six per cent in any year. This amount would not make a start.

The local school authorities have maintained that the additional children have been brought here by agents of the federal government. Secondly the federal government pays no taxes. Thirdly that if it paid taxes on the cost of the Umatilla Ordnance Depot at the same rate as last year's local school tax, this tax would run to \$175,000.00 or roughly twice what it will cost to care for the additional children. By the passage of house bill 4545, the Congress of the United States backed and fully legalized our contention.

Yet with school only six weeks off not a single dollar has been granted or even promised, by any federal agency in meeting their acknowledged responsibility. The Hermiston schools cannot pay the bill. If and when the Government of the United States through one or more of its agencies arranges to finance the education of the children of its employees, then they will receive indistinguishably the same advantages as children long resident here.

(Continued on last page)

U. S. Army's Panzer Division in Action



STAMP SALES SKY ROCKET WITH NEW ACTIVITIES HERE

The best barometer of business in Hermiston is the local post office. According to Postmaster W. E. Logan, stamp sales and money orders for the first six months have jumped by leaps and bounds with general delivery and regular business keeping his personnel on the go from early morning to late in the evening.

The following is a table of comparison for the first six months in 1940 and 1941: Stamp sales, first six months, 1940, \$4,459.51, while in 1941 the figure stands at \$7,325.79, an increase of \$2,766.28, or a 61 per cent gain. Money orders, first six months in 1940, \$31,614.74, and in 1941, \$82,174.20, an increase of \$50,559.46, a gain of 160 per cent.

An inspector of postal buildings has spent considerable time in Hermiston the past week and hopes are held for some relief from the congested conditions.

F.S.A. TO MOVE TO HERMISTON

Work was started this week in re-decorating the building formerly occupied by the Hermiston Mercantile and to be occupied soon by the Farm Security Administration with offices now in Pendleton. Reports are that the entire staff of five persons will be moved here as soon as the building is completed.

Bruce E. Stewart will be in charge as county supervisor and territory included under the local office will be Umatilla, Morrow and Gilliam counties. The move to Hermiston was deemed advisable to be nearer the scene of operations.

DEALERS ASK COOPERATION

Milk dealers in Hermiston are experiencing considerable difficulty in recent weeks in obtaining sufficient milk bottles. All patrons are urgently asked to cooperate in this matter by returning all empty bottles.

RED SOX TO PLAY AT PENITENTIARY

The Hermiston Red Sox, who have been idle the past few weeks, will resume activities Sunday when they tangle with the Walla Walla state penitentiary Mavericks within the prison walls. The contest is slated to get under way at 1:30.

It is expected that the Red Sox will be bolstered somewhat for the occasion as the Mavericks again have a strong combination. Players should leave Hermiston not later than 11:00 o'clock in order to be on hand at the gate at 12:30 sharp.

FOUR-H YOUTHS LEAVE FOR TOUR

Assistant County Agent M. E. Knickerbocker and a group of 4-H boys from this district left Wednesday for a three-day trip sponsored by the Eastern Oregon Livestock organization at Union. The tour will take the group to many of the outstanding ranches in eastern Oregon.

Those accompanying Mr. Knickerbocker were Junior Brown, Jim and Wendall Hogg, Wayne Barber, Billy Gilbert, Jim and Andrew Lamont, Jim Quinn, Bob Attebury, Robert Grimps, Carl Bennett, David Dufur, Elvin Herrick and George Corliss.

SOFTBALL TEAM WINS TWO TILTS

The Hermiston entrant in the Pendleton softball league annexed two wins this week, thereby jumping to fifth place in the league standings. Monday night the locals defeated the First National team 12 to 2 and Tuesday night won over the 26th Material squad 14 to 2.

Bud Beard, Hermiston Trading Co. butcher, is proving to be the slugger of the squad. Tuesday night, as first man up, he clouted out a long home run. Evans, on the mound for the locals, held the material team to two blows. Brandon was behind the plate.

MRS. H. E. HANBY, LOCAL PIONEER, PASSES TUESDAY

Mary Estis Hanby was born in Nashville, Tenn., October 12, 1880. She passed away at the Portland Sanitarium on the evening of July 15, having reached the age of 60 years, nine months and three days.

At the age of six years she moved with her family to Springfield, Missouri, where she attended public schools. She came to Oregon in 1905 when she was married to Henry E. Hanby, who was working in the gold mines at Baker.

In December, 1906, the family moved to Hermiston and were employed by the government reclamation service. After living on a farm south of town until 1926, they operated the Hermiston Dairy until 1934. At this time they bought the Newport place, where they have resided since.

Mrs. Hanby was outstanding as a business woman and was a member of the Hermiston Baptist church. She is survived by her husband, Henry E. Hanby, and one son, Eugene. Also surviving are four sisters and six brothers in Missouri and Kansas.

Funeral services will be held Friday afternoon at 2:30 at Prann's Funeral Parlors. Interment will be in the Echo cemetery.

GRASSHOPPERS PAY HERMISTON VISIT

Some indication as to what a grasshopper plague is like has been experienced the past few nights on Main street. Grasshoppers of all descriptions and sizes, swarmed about the lights Tuesday and Wednesday nights.

Farmers stated Wednesday that they have noted very few grasshoppers about the countryside and were surprised to see the number on Main street. Apparently they have been attracted by the bright lights.

THERMOMETER HITS 108 DEGREES ON TWO SUCCESSIVE DAYS

NO DANGER FELT FOR WATER SHORTAGE

It is the privilege of a country editor when news during the summer months is somewhat lax, to discuss the weather. The past few days, however, have brought something out of the ordinary in the way of extremes. Wednesday the thermometer soared to 108, the high mark for the year. Tuesday gave an indication as to what was to follow the next day when a 105 degree mark was recorded.

To date there have been only one or two nights of uncomfortable degree. In fact, for those who have been forced to sleep under the blue skies the nights have been ideal. Hermiston apparently is not the hot spot of the northwest as numerous cities are reporting temperatures of 108 to 114.

Workers at the Umatilla Ordnance Depot are feeling the hot rays of Old Sol but very few are complaining. One worker expressed his view like this, "The harder the sun shines, the harder we work." And apparently he meant it. Several casualties, however, were reported Wednesday but without serious effects.

"Plenty of water in the Cold Springs reservoir," stated E. D. Martin, manager, Wednesday when asked as to the supply of irrigation water. "We have more water than at the same date last summer, and with the continued cooperation of the land owners and ditch riders, sufficient water will be available to assure maturity of all crops."

Locally beer parlors and soda fountains are extremely popular places these days. Cold soft drinks are available now at almost every service station, lunch rooms and Coca Cola machines are scattered here and there in the office buildings at the munitions site.

The weather report for the week, according to Chas. Taylor, weather man, follows:

	Max.	Min.
July 10	94	57
July 11	92	60
July 12	93	65
July 13	96	58
July 14	100	56
July 15	105	61
July 16	108	61
July 17	108	

BIBLE SCHOOL DATES ARE SET

The dates for the Union Vacation Days Bible School, which were postponed in June, have been definitely set for August 11 to 22. As a forerunner of the school, a religious census will be taken in Hermiston next Tuesday.

Anyone desirous of assisting with such a census is asked to report to any of the pastors of Hermiston. Help in this project will be greatly appreciated.

COUNTY FAIR IS AROUND CORNER

Action on the forthcoming Umatilla county fair to be held here August 28, 29 and 30 was launched this week with the entertainment committee holding its first meeting. Plans are underway for something outstanding in fair exhibitions this year to keep in step with the increased population here.

Several feature attractions are being investigated and will include drum and bugle corp drill teams, carnival and numerous other forms of entertainment.

Premium lists are now being checked by the committee in charge and will go to press soon. Further announcements will follow from time to time.

LOCAL BARBERS UP SHAVE PRICES

Due to advances of prices on supplies, higher wages and higher living conditions in Hermiston, the local barber shops voted Monday night to raise the price of shaves from 25c to 35c. The price of hair cuts, however, will remain the same.

The raise in price of shave was necessary in order to give good accommodations and to hold competent help in the shops.

The Oldtimer

