



Portland, Ore.—Not in the memory of many old-time politicians can they recall a political campaign that has been as lifeless and quiet as the present one. No one seems to be overly enthusiastic about the coming election or any of the candidates. With only a little more than a month to go until primary election day, the average citizen is in a complete state of lethargy. Over half of the voters couldn't tell you who the candidates are, and they seem to care less. However, it may be that the boys and girls will turn on the steam full blast during the closing days of the campaign, but to date there is no evidence of any such happening. The prognosticators are predicting less than 50 per cent of the registered voters will take the trouble to go to the polls election day.

The latest Columbia power administration bill, sponsored by Senators Bone and Wallgren and Representative Martin F. Smith, of Washington, consists of amendments to the organic Bonneville act, the chief purpose to permit the CPA to issue revenue bonds to acquire all the principal private utilities in the northwest and thereby avoid the necessity of erecting duplicating lines—the CPA taking the private systems instead of constructing lines in its competition with private enterprise. The bill (S2430) has been referred to the committee on commerce by Vice President Henry A. Wallace. It may be enacted, but not without a struggle.

Explaining the measure to the senate, Bone declared that the taking over of the private companies is necessary for the most complete wartime use of the vast power resources and facilities of the northwest and that the proposed revenue bonds will be supported by and repayable from revenues derived from operation of the system to be created under the proposed amendments. The revenue bonds will not add to the indebtedness of the United States. Senator Bone said that revenue bonds are a practical and safe way of financing public power enterprises. Private interests can take them at a lower interest rate than those secured for federal financing. Paul J. Raver, Bonneville administrator, has been negotiating with New York bankers over a period of several months to buy the revenue bonds proposed in the Bone bill.

Already a vast network of government lines stretch from south of Eugene, Ore., to north of Seattle and from the shores of the Pacific into Idaho, at Lewiston, says Bone. However, the picture of government ownership will not be complete in the northwest until the private companies are taken over by CPA. Under the Bonneville act the PDSs will take over pieces of the private companies unless the Bone bill is enacted. The bill would authorize CPA to acquire the complete systems of the various private utilities, retaining the generating facilities and disposing of that part of the private system which is within the area of a PUD. In New York Dr. Raver said he would give a 20-year lease to the PUDs not sell the facilities to the public utility districts.

The United States senate has at last attempted to solve the problem of the little fellow by setting up a corporation, within WPB, devoted exclusively to small business and authorizing \$100,000,000. If it works many little industries in Oregon will be saved from extinction.

Unlike RFC, which expects loans to be repaid and Jesse Jones asks for good security, the terms for small business will be liberal. It is conceded by the senators that many loans will never find their way back to the treasury. Considering the waste and excessive profits now going on in the war effort, the small losses to be incurred will be negligible, and hasn't Donald Nelson, WPB boss, said to produce and forget the cost?

The new corporation will act as a prime contractor and let sub-contracts to little industry and these small shops will be given the same attention as the big corporations; the corporation can buy land, expand plants, provide equipment.

This new set-up will be a benefit to hundreds of garages in Oregon and save them from going out of business because of the tire shortage. A survey discloses that there are many go-

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SOLDIERS MARCH WITH CIVILIANS IN ARMY DAY PARADE

BASEBALL GAME IS WON BY GUARDSMEN

Military forces quartered here turned out with the civilian population Monday afternoon and packed the sidewalks in observance of Army day. Visitors from several west end cities were present to view the parade and see the ball game at the park diamond between the Hermiston Red Sox and a team representing troops stationed here.

Armed troops, mechanized and on foot, led the procession followed by Col. Ralph Scott, Capt. Baliff and Mayor F. C. McKenzie. Next in line was the Hermiston high school band under the direction of G. C. Humphreys. Legionnaires, Home Nursing and First Aid classes, civilian defense police and firemen, air raid wardens, Boy Scouts, teams of horses drawing wagon loads of scrap iron piloted by Walter Mead and John Hamman, and a truck load by Wayne Mulkins. The troops were in charge of Capt. Adams.

Immediately following the parade, the crowd adjourned to the Hermiston ball park where the soldiers shelled the local Red Sox 9 to 3 in a 7-inning ball game. The Hermiston boys had considerable difficulty getting at the starting pitcher for the soldiers who mixed all sorts of deliveries to keep his opponents baffled.

Fred Rankin, L. C. Alford. Courtland Morehouse and Gerald Kelfer took turns on the mound for the Red Sox. Although very few errors were made in the field, erratic ball throwing accounted for several of the runs. The boys were playing without practice and clearly showed lack of condition.

A large crowd was in attendance.

DR. BELTON CALLED TO BENTON COUNTY

Dr. M. J. Belton, assistant state veterinarian, has been called to Harney county to vaccinate horses there for sleeping sickness immunization. He expects to be in Harney county for two to three weeks and will then return to west Umatilla county. When Belton returns he will spend whatever time is necessary in Umatilla county to vaccinate all horses that this service has been requested for.

Cards will be sent from the assistant county agent's office to notify all who have asked for vaccination when Dr. Belton will be at their place.

RATTLESNAKES ARE ATTRACTION CENTER

David Hamm and Richard Rainwater last week proved to some of the newcomers in Hermiston that there are really rattlesnakes in this territory. As evidence they captured four of the lowly tribe near the Hat Rock vicinity on the Columbia river and brought them to town. They were displayed for several days in the window of Hale's Confectionery and Sporting Goods store.

"Snakecharmer Hamm he was known as."

OLD TIMERS LEAD V GARDEN PARADE

Hermiston has two victory gardeners who will soon go into action with renewed enthusiasm. They are Geo. R. Mead, 83, and "Dad" Goodwin, 80. Their combined knowledge, 163 years of experience, will no doubt come in handy in their labors.

Mr. Mead cultivates about 1½ acres on the west side of town, raising sweet corn and beans, selling his products about town. "Dad" now has an unlimited garden area at Irrigon on the Ora Thompson ranch, where he expects to spend most of his time this summer.

KENNISON OWNS VICTORY COW

Now comes a member of the bovine species to aid in the Victory program. C. A. Kennison, employed with the Umatilla Electric Cooperative, reported today (Thursday) that the family cow had just presented him with a pair of heifer calves.

Veteran To Run Again.



Walter M. Pierce, veteran congressman from the second district, will again seek election this year. In a recent statement, Congressman Pierce stated in his platform that he would do everything within his power to strengthen our armed forces, that we may speedily win decisive victories over nations which have declared war upon us.

Because everything we hold dear is at stake in the present crisis, continues Mr. Pierce, all must temporarily yield whatever is necessary for the war effort. Gains made under this administration for farmers, labor and underprivileged must not be permanently lost.

Mr. Pierce's slogan reads: Always voted preparedness. Let's win, backing our soldiers, forgetting profits, privileges, politics."

ALL-SCHOOL PLAY TO BE APRIL 17

One of the most exciting plays in recent years is in prospect Friday, April 17, when an all-school cast will present "Young April", a three-act comedy at the high school auditorium. The cast has been chosen from the entire school, using the best talent available.

The performance will be in charge of Miss Lavina May Lynch. An active advertising campaign is now underway with banners, dodgers and signs appearing in all parts of the city.

ALL TEACHERS AT HIGH SCHOOL SIGN

Unless Little Cupid plays havoc or Uncle Sam beckons, it now appears that the high school teaching personnel will remain intact. According to Superintendent W. G. Kersbergen, all instructors have signed new contracts for the coming year.

Although numerous vacancies among the teaching ranks are listed about the state, Hermiston high instructors apparently are satisfied with their positions.

LEGION POST OPPOSES FORMATION OF GUERRILLA BANDS

The American Legion Post No. 37 went on record last Thursday night as opposing the formation of guerilla bands in these communities, according to Lloyd Russell, local commander. The following resolution was passed at the meeting Thursday: the meeting Thursday:

"Inasmuch as guerilla bands are being organized throughout Oregon, and, inasmuch as these organizations are operating without civil or military authority, and

"Inasmuch as such organizations could be vicious if not properly supervised, and since this is a time of war and people in general are subject to mass hysteria, and that the present civilian defense and state guard units are sufficient and adequate to care for any emergency that might arise,

"Therefore, be it resolved that the Hermiston Post No. 37 of the American Legion go on record this 2nd day of April, 1942, as opposed to any organization not sponsored by civil or military authority."

HERMISTON MEN ON JURY VENIRE

With the April term of circuit court in Umatilla county scheduled to begin next Monday morning at 10 a. m., Circuit Judge C. L. Sweek this week drew a jury venire and heard several arraignments. A court calendar will be drawn up later in the week.

Hermiston men included in the list drawn for jury duty include: Vernon D. Daugherty, barber; Walter M. Pearson, service station operator; Charles Epperson, farmer; William R. Longhorn, carpenter; Miles C. Barager, farmer; Daniel F. McMillan, creamery worker; and John Ford, farmer.

ROD & GUN CLUB TO MEET FRIDAY

An important meeting of members of the Hermiston Rod & Gun club has been called for Friday night at 8:00 o'clock at the Legion hall, according to Dan Hutchison, president of the club.

Several matters of importance are slated for discussion, including changes in the game laws, magpie contest, trap shoot details and other incidentals pertaining to this group's activities.

BREEDER STOCK POOL PLANNED

A meeting of turkey growers is planned for Monday night at 8:00 o'clock at the office of Assistant County Agent Gene Lear, according to John Jendrzejewski, president of the Eastern Oregon Turkey Growers.

Anyone wishing to dispose of breeder hens is asked to attend the meeting as a date for a breeder pool will be discussed.

'Bundles for Japs'



"Hirohito's Mail Pouch" might be the name for this tinful of destruction being loaded by a gunnery student at Harlingen, Texas. Each "message" is a .30 caliber machine gun bullet.

DRAFT BOARD TO RECLASSIFY MEN NOW IN CLASS 3-A

Oregon's 57 local selective service boards have begun a wholesale reclassification of men who have been placed in Class 3-A, with the result that a large number of these men will be placed in Class 1-A, making them subject to immediate military service, it was announced Wednesday by Elmer V. Wooten, state selective service director.

If a man has a wife and no children, and if the wife is capable of earning her own living, into the army he must go. Or, if a man has a family, he might be placed in Class 1-A if there is enough outside income to support the family while he is away. Whatever the case, draft boards are going to bear down on many individual cases.

INLAND CO-OP. IS SCRAP IRON CENTER

The county U.S.D.A. war board last week published a list of centers where scrap iron is being collected for national defense. In this list the Farm Bureau Co-op was named in Hermiston. This should have stated the Inland Cooperative, according to information received from the board. Guy Shaw, manager, stated this week that returns are now in for scrap iron and steel shipped in recent weeks and farmers should call at the office for their money. Two carloads or approximately 80 tons of steel have been shipped by train and 36 tons of cast iron shipped by truck.

Stanfield Youth Enlists
William H. Gossage, 20, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse W. Gossage of Stanfield, also enlisted Monday through the Marine Corps recruiting office at Walla Walla in the marine reserve for general duty for the duration. He was transferred to the marine base at San Diego, Cal., for recruit training.

YAKIMA CONTRACTOR LOW BIDDER ON CITY SEWER-WATER WORK

PROJECT TO START WITHIN FEW WEEKS

J. M. Blasio of Yakima, Wash., was the successful bidder for the construction of the Hermiston sewer and water improvement projects when bids were opened Monday night by Mayor F. C. McKenzie and the city council. The bids must now be formally accepted by the regional Federal Works administration at Seattle before actual work is launched. This is expected to take a week to 10 days. Mr. Blasio stated Monday night that he planned to begin within three weeks.

The only other bidder on the scene was Leonard & Slate of Multnomah who entered figures for the sewer work. Only one bid was received for the water improvement job.

Mr. Blasio's bid on the sewer was \$43,032.80 and on the water project, \$31,157. In each case these figures do not contain the entire cost of the work contemplated. Approximately \$25,000 more will be spent on the sewer, most of this sum needed for the construction of a sewage disposal plant which was not entered in the original plans. In the water job, approximately \$7,500 will be used for the purchase of the artesian well and property surrounding, pump house, pumping equipment, transformer and other necessary details.

The greater portion of the cost of both projects will be met by direct grants by the government, the remainder to be paid by revenue bonds recently voted by the city of Hermiston. The first instalments of government money was recently received by city officials, \$14,427 for use on the sewer work and \$12,516 for the water improvement. Ensuing grants will be made as the work advances.

STANFIELD DEFENSE MEETING PLANNED

A civilian defense meeting has been called for Sunday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock in the Stanfield high school building. The meeting is primarily for the men who will discuss possibilities of organizing a state guard. Anyone interested is invited to attend.

The meeting has been called by Clyde Kenison, head of the Stanfield civilian defense organization.

U. S. O. SCHEDULES FRIDAY DANCES AND RECREATION MEETS

A dance has been scheduled at the U. S. O. building for Friday evening for all defense workers, their friends and families, according to Mary Lou Johnson, recreation leader. This affair will become a weekly feature of the entertainment program. A Pendleton orchestra will play this Friday featuring a vocalist.

A small admission charge of 25c will be made to cover expenses of the orchestra.

Monday at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon a meeting of all wives of employees at the Umatilla ordnance depot will be held to plan their own program for recreation at the U.S.O. building. The ladies are cordially invited to make use of the building during the coming months.

IRRIGATION WATER DELAYED BY BREAK

A small break in the K line Tuesday east of Hermiston caused a several days delay in irrigation water for the city. Repairs were made immediately but several days are needed for the concrete to set before water can be turned in.

According to Charles Taylor, water can be expected some time this week end.

Miss Jones Honor Student

Miss Lucile Jones, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. V. Jones of Irrigon, is listed among the winter quarter honor students at Marylhurst college, according to a statement issued April 2 by the registrar. Miss Jones was graduated last spring from the Irrigon high school. She is spending the Easter recess with her parents and will return to college for classes on April 13.

The Home Front



(WNU Service)