

A WEEK OF THE WAR

"A Week of the War" summarizes information on the important developments of the week made available by official sources.

President Roosevelt, in a radio address, said that "during the past two weeks we have had a great deal of good news and it would seem that the turning point of this war has at last been reached. But this is no time for exultation. There is no time now for anything but fighting and working to win."

Navy Secretary Knox reported the following total damage inflicted on Japan in the Battle of the Solomons November 12-15: sunk 2 battleships (1 may have been a heavy cruiser), 6 heavy cruisers, 2 light cruisers, 8 destroyers, 8 transports, 4 cargo transports; damaged 2 battleships, 1 cruiser, 7 destroyers. The Japanese lost between 20,000 and 40,000 troops, as well as large numbers of naval personnel. U. S. losses were 2 light cruisers and 6 destroyers sunk.

Mr. Knox said U. S. forces are in complete control of the area in and around Guadalcanal and "our hold on the island is very secure." The President said the battle is a major victory. War Secretary Stimson said Army aircraft from Australia and New Caledonia played an active and effective role in the battle.

Allied headquarters in North Africa reported that American, British, and French troops are driving into Tunisia from all sides, closing in a ring around the northeastern triangle of Bizerte and Tunis. The British first Army, reinforced by U. S. and French units, engaged Axis mechanized columns in Tunisia and drove them back, the War Department announced. Gen. MacArthur's headquarters reported November 21 that American and Australian forces are driving hard against the Japanese, who are pinned along the Northeastern coast of New Guinea between Buna and Gona on a narrow beachhead extending 20 miles along the coast and 6 miles inland.

The Armed Forces

Navy Surgeon General McIntire said Navy fatalities among the wounded at Guadalcanal are less than one per cent, compared with an average of seven per cent wounded in World War I, due principally to use of new medical discoveries in treatment of wounds. The President appointed Brig. Gen. Frederick H. Osborn, Chief of Special Services of the War Department, as chairman of a committee which will work out plans for post-war education of young men whose school years are interrupted by entrance into the armed services. The President increased the maximum size of the WAAC's from 25,000 to 150,000 women. More than 1,000,000 soldiers have applied for benefits on behalf of their families under the Servicemen's Dependents Allowance Act.

The Office of War Information announced 48,956 members of U. S. Armed forces have been officially reported as killed, wounded, missing or prisoners since the war began, exclusive of the African campaign.

The War and Navy Department organized the United States of America Typhus Commission, headed by Rear Admiral Charles S. Stephenson, to "function as a board of strategy against typhus, the common foe of all armies and of all people."

Production

War Production Chairman Nelson announced aircraft production in 1943 has been fixed at more than double the 1942 output. At the same time he appointed a new top board of aircraft production supervision under the chairmanship of WPB Vice Chairman Charles E. Wilson. Mr. Nelson issued a statement asking war workers to stay on their jobs Thanksgiving Day.

War Finances

To finance the war effort, the Treasury will borrow during December the unprecedented sum of approximately \$9 billion, Treasury Secretary Morgenthau announced. Twelve Victory Fund committees will launch an intensive sales campaign on November 30 on three series of offerings of new securities, with 44,000 volunteer workers soliciting subscriptions. At the same time the War Savings Staff, with its 300,000 volunteers, will intensify its drive to add at least 7 million more income-earners to those already investing regularly in war bonds through the payroll savings plan.

Production

Employment on farms November 1 totaled 10,879,000, a seasonal decline of about 1,000,000 persons during October and representing a much higher percentage of women, children and townspeople.

Rationing

To allow motorists extra time in which to dispose of idle tires in excess of five per passenger car, the OPA postponed the deadline for idle tire turn-ins until December 1. A total of 2,872,000 tires had been turned in by motorists at the close of business November 14.

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SELECTIVE SERVICE BOARD ISSUES NEW DRAFT INSTRUCTIONS

FARM WORKERS TO BE DEFERRED

Local Selective Service boards, under directives made public today by Major General Lewis B. Hershey, nation selective service director, are being instructed to carry out the "teen-age" draft act by the following actions:

1. Deferment of farm workers, of all ages 18 to 45 who are necessary to and regularly engaged in work in war-essential agriculture.

2. Distribution of questionnaires to 18 and 19 year old registrants, who will begin to be inducted as their order numbers are reached.

3. Deferment of high school students in the 18 and 19 year groups, if the students request it and if they are in the last half of the Autumn to Spring school year.

4. Deferment of all men who registered before age 45 who have passed their 45th birthday since, unless they file their written consent to induction into the armed forces.

General Hershey telegraphed state selective service headquarters setting in motion immediately the machinery leading to induction of the 18 and 19 year olds who had previously registered.

Three detailed directives were sent out on the new farm deferment policy, the postponement of high school students induction until the end of the school year, and exemption of those now past their 45th birthday.

The farm deferment directive makes it plain that department of agriculture and county agricultural war board advice may be sought in the local boards determination as to what farms are essential to the war, and what jobs on them are "necessary." But the actual deferment of any given man will still be up to the local selective service boards to decide.

The deferred farm workers are to be placed in two new classes, 11-C and 11-I. Those without dependent wives, children or other grounds for dependency deferment will go in 11-C, those with dependency to 11-I.

The new law does not define or limit "necessary" farming "occupations" and "endeavors", and is not necessarily limited to the same occupations and types of farms defined in the recent War Manpower Commission—Department of Agriculture administrative action, which was started last month in an effort to conserve and recruit manpower on the dairy, livestock and poultry farms.

General Hershey's directive advises the local boards that the department of agriculture will provide information to assist the local boards in determining which farm "occupation" and "endeavors" are essential. Meanwhile, until General Hershey has sent out this information, the local boards are asked to seek the aid of the department of agriculture's county war boards to determine which agricultural occupations and endeavors are essential to the war.

TURKEY GROWERS TO START POOL THIS FRIDAY

Approximately 30,000 turkeys will be spared Thanksgiving day but will meet their doom beginning Friday at the local point of the Eastern Oregon Turkey Growers, according to C. A. Flanagan, plant manager. Pickers and other personnel should be on hand on that day to start one of the largest pools of the season.

A crew of men has been busy the past few weeks installing new scalding equipment which will greatly speed up operations. Turkeys will now be hung on a revolving chain and will be drawn through a scalding vat, saving much hand power and making dipping operations more accurate.

Birds seem to be in fine shape and are bringing a fine price on the market.

Hale Graduates With Colors

Word has been received by Mr. and Mrs. Roy Hale from their son Charles who recently graduated from the torpedo school at Newport, R. I., with excellent grades, that he has been advanced to 3rd Class Petty Officer. He has been granted a 7-day furlough which he is spending in New York. He will then return to Newport for two months of advanced schooling.

EXAMINER HERE AGAIN DEC. 3

The traveling examiner of operators and chauffeurs is scheduled to arrive in Hermiston again Thursday, December 3, and will be on duty at the city library between the hours of 10 a. m. and 4 p. m., according to a recent announcement released from the secretary of state's office.

All those wishing permits or licenses to drive cars are asked to get in touch with the examiner during these hours.

HOUSING JOB IS PROGRESSING

The ten houses now under construction in Hermiston by the Tri-State Construction Co. are progressing nicely and are expected to be completed by Christmas unless "complications set in." To date only one house has been affected by the recent freezing order and this is expected to be released after December 1. The houses are being built by the Hermiston Housing Corporation.

The units are all for sale with several still available to any person employed at the U.O.D. or other defense work. Anyone interested in purchasing one of these houses is asked to get in touch with Lee Quiring at his home any night after five o'clock. The financing is under F.H.A. arrangement, with small down payment and monthly installments.

STORES CLOSE THANKSGIVING

Due to a custom of long-standing, all stores and business houses will be closed Thanksgiving day to allow owners and employees occasion to enjoy a day of relaxation and to enjoy family gatherings. Many residents are taking advantage of the holiday to make short jaunts to homes of relatives in other cities.

Grocery stores did a tremendous business early in the week, customers buying for several days to last over the holiday.

Feed Store Has New Hours

Pete Berg, manager of the Hermiston Grain & Feed Co., announces that effective immediately the concern will close at 5:00 p. m. Due to the approaching winter months, the new schedule has been put into effect.

TOP THAT 10 BY NEW YEARS

BUY WAR BONDS

MAGPIE, MAGPIE, WHERE ART THOU

Button, button, who's got the magpie, is a game which was launched some time ago by the Hermiston Rod & Gun club but to date the contest has been very uninteresting. Several months ago Dan Hutchison, president of the club, and several members banded seven magpies and released them in this vicinity. The game was that any youngster bringing a magpie with a band (dead, of course) was to receive a substantial reward.

But to date nary a banded bird has been turned in. Mr. Hutchison has decided that the only way he has of proving to other members of the club that he actually banded the birds is to go out and shoot one himself.

SEAL CAMPAIGN NOW UNDERWAY

Umatilla county's annual Christmas seal sale campaign, under the auspices of the Umatilla County Public Health association, was off to an early start this year with letters containing sheets of seals mailed to hundreds of residents of the county this week. Locally the campaign is in charge of C. L. Hodge, who will conduct the work in Echo, Stanfield, Hermiston and Umatilla.

Stressing the point that war times and the post-war period always bring an increase in the tuberculosis death rate, a special effort is being made by the Oregon Tuberculosis association to speed the seal sale drive.

CARS WRECK IN HIGHWAY CRASH

Two automobiles, driven by Mrs. John Graves of the Columbia district and Jesse C. Fetters of Perry's camp, sideswiped each other Monday on the Heppner highway near the overhead bridge approximately four miles southwest of Hermiston.

Although the machines were badly damaged, the occupants escaped without serious injury.

HONEST PERSON RETURNS MONEY

There are still a few honest people left in this world—well, at least one. A short time ago a very dejected man came to L. A. Moore, proprietor of the local theatre, and stated that he had lost his billfold containing considerable money, a U.O.D. check and valuable papers in the theatre. After a thorough search of the premises no trace was found of the lost item.

However, a week later a lady came to the box office and returned the billfold and all its contents and refused to take an award. She had learned of the loss by an announcement flashed on the screen. The total result was—one honest person and one extremely happy Mr. Minch.

MISS ZELMA SALE IS RECENT BRIDE

Mr. and Mrs. George Sale announce the marriage on November 21 of their daughter, Miss Zelma Sale, to Sgt. George C. Tompkins of Gowen Field, Boise, Idaho. The ceremony was performed at the Methodist parsonage in that city with Rev. Atkinson reading the nuptials.

Mrs. Tompkins is well known in this community and her many friends wish her well.

RED CROSS ROLL CALL POSTPONED

According to Mrs. F. B. Belt, local Red Cross chairman, the annual roll call which is usually held in November, has been postponed until next March. The plan is to hold the sale in connection with a gigantic bond sale project.

Further announcements concerning the plan will be released later.

CHRISTMAS MAIL DEADLINE LISTED AS DECEMBER 1

HEAVY HOLIDAY LOAD EXPECTED

Christmas mail must be in the post offices by December 1 this year if deliveries by December 25 are to be assured, according to Smith W. Purdum, second assistant postmaster general. Mr. Purdum is responsible to Postmaster Frank C. Walker for smooth and efficient air and railway mail service.

Unprecedented wartime demands on the postal and transportation systems, plus a prospective record volume of Christmas mailings, were cited by Mr. Purdum as necessitating earlier mailings than ever before. "It is physically impossible for the railroads and air lines, burdened with vitally important war materials, to handle Christmas mailings as rapidly as in normal times," Mr. Purdum said. "If the bulk of parcels and greeting cards are held back until the usual time—the period of about December 15 to 23—they simply cannot be distributed in time, and thousands of gifts will reach their destination after Christmas."

In 1941, about 21,950 mail cars were required between December 12 and 24 to deliver Christmas mails—enough cars to make a train 270 miles long. This year, the extra cars needed to move holiday mails are largely being used by the armed services, and a severe shortage is in prospect.

The postal service usually borrows about 2,500 trucks from the Army and other government agencies, and rents about 10,000 from private owners, to handle the Christmas mails. This year, it will be extremely difficult to obtain enough of these vehicles to meet even a substantial part of the need. The Army needs its own trucks and private owners are reluctant to let someone else use their tires.

Railroads are cooperating by converting some hundreds of steel box cars and similar equipment for mail transportation, and Joseph B. Eastman, director of defense transportation, has ordered that unnecessary travel be curtailed to the limit during the holiday season. But these measures cannot assure deliveries of gifts on time unless the public cooperates by mailing early and thus spreading the transportation load over a longer period than usual.

Mr. Purdum called attention to the task of the Post Office Department in moving millions of pieces of mail every day to and from soldiers, sailors and marines throughout the world. This extraordinary job must be kept current, even while the holiday rush of mailings is handled. Also, he pointed out, the postal establishment is operating with many thousands of inexperienced personnel, employed to take the place of men called to the armed services. The new employees naturally cannot handle the holiday mail jam with the smoothness and speed of the postal veterans whom they replace.

In view of all these handicaps to the service, Mr. Purdum added, postal patrons should mail their gifts by December 1, if they wish to insure that their friends will not be disappointed at Christmas.

COURT SCHEDULE LISTS 13 TILTS

Superintendent W. G. Kersbergen this week announced that 13 games had been listed to date for Coach Lee Weber's maple court proteges, beginning Tuesday, December 1, at Boardman, with the first game at home coming on Thursday, December 3, with Umatilla. Invitations for six or seven more games have been extended but to date no further arrangements have been made.

The complete schedule follows: Tuesday, December 1, at Boardman; Thursday, December 3, Umatilla here; Friday, December 11 at Pendleton; Saturday, December 12, Pendleton here; Tuesday, December 22 at Irri-gon; Tuesday, December 29, Arlington here; Tuesday, January 5, at Umatilla; Tuesday, January 12, at Stanfield; Friday, January 15, at Milton; Saturday, January 16, Mac-Hi here; Friday, January 22, Boardman here; Thursday, January 28, Irri-gon here; Tuesday, February 9, Stanfield here. Kennewick, Pasco and Walla Walla have been contacted for possible games.

