

Six Employees Presented With Suggestion Awards

Monday afternoon at four o'clock, six employees of the Umatilla Ordnance Depot were presented with checks for having made suggestions of merit. The six persons receiving recognition were: Walter Smith, Milton Wolff, Dotsey Johnson, Paul W. Ellis, George Barden and Norman L. Pennock. Our congratulations to these persons, and our hopes that more employees will take advantage of the suggestion system at the depot.

There is just time to raise your bond investment or to take out a payroll deduction so that you can be counted as participating in the payroll deduction plan for your division. See the bond girls or the Personnel Branch.

The regular schedule for Ordnance U.S.O. activities will be held as usual this coming week. Gym and craft classes will meet on Tuesdays.

Keep your talents sharp for the amateur night at the U. S. O. A good time is anticipated by all.

Watch those absentee records. Remember that no soldier is allowed AWOP. We are soldiers of supply, and must keep the up the good work. You can't spell "Victory with an Absent T".

"Estie" Correa was absent with the flu for a short time this week. She can be assured that she was missed around the depot.

It is hard to face, but within the last ten minutes, another American boy died for us. This boy did not give 10 per cent of anything. He gave all of what each of us prizes most—life itself. And how he died—whether he bled to death in the dank stench of the tropics; or burned to death with his plane in the open sky; or sank to a nameless grave in the rest-less sea; was all one to him. He could not do more, and he was too brave and too loyal to do less.

There is a voice that speaks to us when we are alone. It reminds us of this boy; it reminds us that where he died, the only thing they ration is the hours that a man may live. And then it asks us how much we feel we should do for the same cause, how much extra, for example, we should contribute to the purchase of War Bonds through payroll deductions.

If you are one of the 86.1% of the employees on the depot who are purchasing bonds through the payroll deduction, you are helping the depot to do its share. If not, then you are one of the 13.9% who are not buying bonds through payroll deduction. Four dollars will buy a steel helmet—if you had bought one last week would it have saved a soldier's life? DO YOUR SHARE!

Many Ordnance employees spent the holidays at their homes.

Charlotte Nelson returned to Ordnance from St. Anthony's hospital in Pendleton on Tuesday. Mrs. Nelson is convalescing from an appendectomy. During her absence, her time-keeping duties at the Magazine Office are being done by Alice Frosh.

A Christmas party in three shifts was enjoyed by the Clerks and Supervisors at the Magazine Field Office on December 24 with Dave Mittleldorf playing Santa Claus for the combined swing and graveyard shifts and Chas. Cook wearing the white beard for the day shift. The Christmas spirit evidenced at the party was further shown in the near record handling of tonnage for the day.

"Mutt" and "Jeff" were donors of huge box of home made fudge enjoyed at the Christmas party. "Mutt" and "Jeff" are respectively Rose Tuffeland and Delia Roberts of the inventory crew.

Mrs. Adella Coulter spent last week in Portland visiting with relatives.

Miss Lois Hamer of Personnel at the U. O. D. is now writing automobile insurance with the State Farm Mutual Insurance Co. under the direction of W. A. Thompson of Hermiston.

AUTO CUTS OFF TELEPHONE POLE

An automobile, driven by Earl Pullar of Umatilla. Saturday night completely severed a telephone pole at the east end of Main street. Although the machine hit the pole a considerable wallop, none of the occupants were injured. Pullar was arrested for reckless driving by state officers.

Pullar was returning from the dance at the Townsend hall and stated that while attempting to pass a car the latter machine attempted to turn. He swerved off the road to avoid a collision.

R. H. PIERSOL PASSES SUDDENLY DEC. 29 FROM LARYNGITIS

BUSINESS HERE FOR EIGHT YEARS

Death struck quickly but surely Wednesday evening when R. H. Piersol, owner of the Hermiston Dry Cleaners, passed away quite suddenly at his home. Although he had been suffering from a throat ailment for several years, many time reducing his voice to a whisper, he had otherwise been in excellent health and worked until quitting time Wednesday evening.

Mr. Piersol suffered a slight attack about 9:00 o'clock in the evening and a physician was called. He appeared to receive some relief and attempted to go to bed a short time later. He immediately suffered another attack from a failing larynx making it impossible for him to breathe. A physician was again called and an emergency operation performed but it was to no avail.

Artificial respiration was attempted by Julius Gimbel, L. J. Michelli, Glenn Ripley, Sam Moore, Dick Belt and by the attending physicians, Dr. F. B. Belt and Dr. I. C. Bohlman until after midnight but this also did not prove successful.

Mr. and Mrs. Piersol and family moved to Hermiston about eight years ago from Meacham at which time they purchased the Hermiston Dry Cleaners. Mr. Piersol had at one time retired from the dry cleaning business but re-entered the profession when moving to Hermiston.

Mr. Piersol was popular among Hermiston business men because of his never failing sense of humor and his willingness to help on various community enterprises. He will be greatly missed among the official family.

He is survived by Mrs. Piersol, and three children: Mrs. Floyd Coxen of Weiser, Idaho; Russell H. Piersol, Electrician's Mate, U. S. Navy, now stationed somewhere in the Southwest Pacific; and Ann Piersol who is at home. Also surviving are two brothers, Bert of Walla Walla and Halley of Long Creek, and four sisters, Mrs. M. S. Kern and Mrs. A. J. Smith of Pendleton, Mrs. Asa Arbogast of Touchet, Wn., and Mrs. Audra Johnson of near Walla Walla.

Mr. Piersol was a World War I veteran, being active in Legion affairs. He is also a former Mason, being forced to retire from active participation some years ago because of his health.

Funeral arrangements were not completed by press time.

WEDDING RITES HELD THURSDAY IN HERMISTON

Of special interest to their many friends in Umatilla and Hermiston is the wedding held Thursday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock at the local Catholic church. Our Lady of Angels, of Miss Betty Geraldine Goff, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Goff, to Thomas E. Cooney, son of Mr. and Mrs. Emmett E. Cooney. Mr. Cooney was recently commissioned a First Lieutenant in the Army Air Forces, winning his Wings both as an aerial gunner and as a bombardier. He is home on a special furlough. Father Cornelius performed the ceremony before a small group of immediate relatives and friends.

Mrs. Cooney and Lt. Cooney are both graduates of Umatilla high school and have been very popular among the younger set both in that city and in Hermiston. Mrs. Cooney was valedictorian of her graduating class and later won high scholastic honors at Eastern Oregon College of Education from which she graduated in the School of Business Administration and Secretarial Science. Lt. Cooney is a graduate of Kinman Business College of Spokane. Mrs. Cooney was employed recently at the Pendleton Air Field following graduation from E. O. C. E.

Lt. Cooney and Mrs. Cooney plan to leave immediately for Salt Lake for assignment. Mrs. Cooney plans to remain with her husband as long as he remains in the States.

Farm Auxiliary To Meet

The Farm Bureau Auxiliary will meet Friday, January 7, at the home of Mrs. Otis Buell in the Columbia district. All are asked to come as Mrs. Foster's committee on the drive for old clothing will give a report.

The confidence with which Americans invoke a "Happy New Year" upon one another is an inspiring testimony of their unshaken faith in a better world to come.

Few of us continue to think of the "good old days." For we know that they were not truly good old days. They were days of unrest, of economic maladjustments, of intrigue—of all the unhappy things which paved the way to war.

We know, too, that the molding of the future is in the hands of ourselves and of those peoples aligned with us in the fight for freedom. We have confidence in America and in our allies. It is the confidence born of right. It is the courage born of strength and of belief in a holy cause.

America is our own community—multiplied thousands of times. Because of that, we know that the world will be a better place in which to live, for America's voice is a strong one. It is heard to the furthest reaches of the world.

With the coming of 1944, all of us find new and deep seated reasons for an inward happiness. We know that despite our sorrows, a greater world is rising from the ashes of the old.

It is with a spirit of joy, tempered with humility, that this newspaper asks for every one of you:

A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR!

1944

BUSINESS AGENT DISCUSSES PAST YEAR'S PROJECTS

By Roy White

It has been the pleasure of the little town of Hermiston to have lived in a long dream that the Umatilla dam will be constructed. The Umatilla dam question today is the heading of the list of post-war activities by the government. Today it is nearer to becoming a reality than ever before. Let us not sit idly by and continue this dream. Let us get busy and prepare for the incoming conditions that are bound to come after this war. Let the world know that we in our community, no matter how small, are alive and active—on our toes—ready for any changing conditions. When we do this, instead of seeking investments, investments will seek the community.

A year or so back, if you recall, housing conditions in Hermiston were bad. Some live spirited business men were called together by the Chamber of Commerce and the outcome of this meeting resulted in a great deal more spirit of action and along with it a gambling spirit, so to speak. They had planned to build houses, it required government approval, it required money. No individual was able to finance such a project. So these foresighted men dug down in their jeans and put up the money to start the project, guaranteeing the good faith of the future development of Hermiston. They had no assurance of their money ever being returned. (Continued on Last Page)

QUARTERS ARE BEING REBUILT

The offices of Dr. I. C. Bohlman and Dr. W. L. Morgan are undergoing a "major operation" this week. The rooms, which are located above the First National Bank, are being revamped in order to make better use of the available space. Walls are being removed and set over to give more space for use by the doctors and a new reception room arranged. The new rooms will be repainted and redecorated.

RUGGS OPERATE GROCERY STORE

Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Rugg have been named by members of the Hermiston Mercantile Cooperative grocery store to manage the concern effective immediately. Mr. Rugg is already employed at the store but Mrs. Rugg will not go to work there until she can be replaced as manager of the Cooperative Laundry & Cannery.

Jack McKay, who has been manager of the Hermiston Mercantile for some months, has resigned effective immediately. He took over management when Mr. and Mrs. Ben Gerking resigned to attend Bible school at Eugene. He stated this week that his plans were somewhat indefinite but would take a few days rest before going to work again. He did state, however, he planned to remain in Hermiston.

CARPENTERS TO PLAY HOSTS

The Hermiston carpenters union, Local 933, will entertain a number of guests Friday night at 7:00 o'clock in the union hall just north of the Union Club. Roy White, business agent, stated Thursday that the mayor, city recorder, councilmen, officers of the Chamber of Commerce and Rotary club and others were being extended invitations. The main dish of the evening will be turkey with all the trimmings. Following the dinner a short program of talks and informal discussions will be enjoyed.

FIRST WEEKLY AUCTION SLATED

The initial weekly auction being planned by the Hermiston Livestock Commission Co. will be held Friday, January 7, beginning at 12:30, according to present plans. The membership of the commission is composed of a group of farmers and business men of the west end of Umatilla county who will jointly sponsor the forthcoming auction sales. A complete writeup of the forthcoming sales and more about the commission will be published next week.

NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICES SLATED

From 9:00 p. m. to 12:01 a. m. Friday, December 31, services will be held at the Methodist church commemorating the year 1943, its joys and triumphs; and preparing for the New Year 1944, by acts of faith, prayer and self-dedication to service. A program of social activities is planned for the time between 9:00 p. m. and 11:00 p. m., including refreshments. This portion of the evening will be spent in the social hall of the church.

At 11 o'clock the group will adjourn to the sanctuary for the watch night worship service which will last until 12:01 a. m. A very effective and impressive service has been arranged for this hour and it is hoped a large number of the townspeople will avail themselves of this opportunity to begin the New Year in the spirit of consecration, that peace might come in 1944, because of changed attitudes and lives.

WARNER ILL IN ST. VINCENTS

W. J. Warner, Hermiston attorney, is still quite ill in St. Vincent's hospital in Portland, according to latest reports. Mr. Warner, who recently underwent an operation there, returned to Hermiston some weeks ago but was taken back to the Portland hospital when he failed to respond to treatments.

Word received Wednesday indicated that Mr. Warner was receiving blood transfusions in order to build up his strength. Mrs. Warner, who is in Portland with her husband, has been ill with the flu the past week.

ROBERT BENSEL SEES ACTION IN WAR THEATRES

Another Hermiston youth who has seen considerable action in the various war zones is Robert Bense, U. S. Navy, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. H. Bense. Bob has been in the service about 15 months and in that time has not only seen a lot of country but has had actual war fighting experiences—aboard ship. He is enjoying a furlough here with relatives and friends.

He received his early training at Camp Farragut, Idaho, going from there to Signal School, University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill. From there he went to a convoy school at Noroton, Conn. Following graduation from convoy school he was soon sent overseas.

Bob was present at much of the fighting in the Mediterranean area, including the landings at Sicily and Italy. Although reluctant to tell of much of his experiences, he did state that he now knew what it meant to be in battle.

He will report back to New York by January 11.

NORTH COLUMBIA NAMES OFFICERS

The North Columbia Telephone company met at the H. G. McCulley home Monday for the purpose of electing officers for the coming year. Apparently the work of this year's officers was satisfactory as they were all re-elected for another term as follows: President, Mrs. Duff Knight; vice president, Mrs. Mabel Weeks, and secretary, Mrs. H. G. McCulley.

It was decided to hold a pot luck dinner, when good weather comes, and clear the line of brush and do such other repairs as are thought necessary.

PHEASANT CAFE TO BE CLOSED

Ben Conner and Myrnie "Tiny" Caldwell, who have operated the Pheasant Cafe jointly for the past year are announcing that the cafe will be closed after the first of the year for some needed repair work. No definite time for reopening is being set but it is thought that it will be closed for at least a month. "Tiny" has received his draft call and expects to enter the armed forces in the near future.

AUCTION SALE IS SCHEDULED

The first auction sale in this area for several weeks will be held Tuesday, January 4, at the W. F. Cargill ranch one mile out on the Butter Creek highway. Mr. Cargill is selling quite an assortment of farm implements, some livestock, household furnishings, alfalfa hay and other items.

R. C. Peters will be the auctioneer and Pete Berg, clerk.

RATIONING BOARD CELEBRATES SECOND BIRTHDAY JANUARY 7

VOLUNTEERS ARE IMPORTANT COG

Wednesday, January 5, is the date of the second birthday of War Price and Rationing Boards. The federal government has designated the day on which to salute all of the Rationing Boards throughout the country. In Hermiston, although no special services are planned, timeout will be taken to give special recognition to those who have devoted many hours of time and much energy to this necessary, though oftentimes a very unpopular job.

The history of the Hermiston board has been very much like those of many others throughout the United States. Confronted with a gigantic task at the very beginning but with little knowledge of the rules and regulations and their many interpretations, some confusion resulted. However, little by little the various laws became more clear and proper forms appeared on the scene. Soon afterwards more office equipment arrived and with a little more experience the office force was able to meet all comers with intelligent answers.

However, at the very best the chores of office clerks of a War Price and Rationing Board are far from pleasant. They hear pleadings, rebukes and salty remarks to no end but they appear at work each morning with a smile on their faces.

Much of the early work of the local board was done by Mrs. Julia Penney with the cooperation of the board of unpaid members, headed by N. R. Mueller. Mrs. Penney worked several months without pay prior to receiving her first check. She served until several months ago when she was forced to resign from active participation due to press of personal business. F. C. McKenzie assumed the duties of Chief Clerk upon her resignation.

Paid members of the local force, other than Mr. McKenzie are: Mrs. Roy Hale, Mrs. Julius Gimble, Miss Jacqueline Mustard and Mrs. Wayne Casseday.

Board members of the organization who do not receive pay for their efforts are as follows: Chairman, N. R. Mueller; Mileage Panel, Claud Meyers, H. H. Gailey, Harry Lewis and L. C. Smith; Food Panel, Hattie H. Hamm, C. A. Ronen, Tom Tucker; Price Panel, F. B. Swayze, Thelma Harkenrider, William J. Warner; Miscellaneous Panel, W. W. Felt-house, Mrs. Harry Nelson, Curtis Simons; Fuel Panel, Harold Rankin, Leander Quiring, Sam Moore, George Harkenrider.

Other members of the group, also working without remuneration, are: Distribution Officer, Frances Ebert, Umatilla Ordnance Depot; Community Service Member, Leander Quiring; Chief of Volunteers, Mrs. W. E. Logan; Coordinator Inspection Stations, H. G. Rankin; Labor Representative, A. F. of L., Harry Lewis.

Much praise is due the number of volunteer workers who have given much of their time to assist the paid office force during rush periods. Included in this group are Mrs. John Dooley, Mrs. C. M. Best, Mrs. W. H. Bense, Mrs. Helen Conlon and Mrs. Bertha Cherry of Umatilla, Mrs. T. A. O'Grady, Mrs. Frank Bilderback and Mrs. Catherine Sherlock.

CARGILLS SELL HOME THIS WEEK

Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Cargill this week disposed of their home and five acres just west of town to Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Walls of Portland who will take possession January 16. The Cargills plan to go to Clarkston, Wash., to visit at the home of their children during the winter months.

Mr. Cargill stated Thursday that they hoped to return in the spring and live on another 10-acre tract which they own near their present home.

Siren Gives False Alarm

The Hermiston fire siren blew about 12:15 Tuesday noon and citizens anxiously scanned the streets looking for a fire. Many figured that the siren was late, forgetting that it had already blown the 12:00 noon lunch signal. However, upon checking up it was discovered that the siren did blow for the second time but not for a fire. The power was turned off for just a moment and when it was turned on, the siren was touched off.