

After visiting last week with friends at Umatilla Ordnance Depot, Mrs. F. H. McKnight left Pendleton on the Streamliner Saturday, February 19, to join Captain McKnight at Charlottesville, where he is attending the University of Virginia in preparation for duty with the Allied Military Government. Mrs. McKnight plans to remain in the East until Captain McKnight's departure for foreign service, which is more or less imminent.

T/4 Stanley Freiheit, on furlough from Great Bend Army Air Base, stopped by Ordnance February 20 to visit with friends on his way through from Kansas to his home in Seattle. Stanley is well known in this vicinity as a member of the old 330th Service Group at Pendleton Field.

Plans are now proceeding toward the completion of a new day room for the enlisted Medical Detachment assigned to the Post Hospital. The boys are renovating the old PX in the civilian dormitory area, and while they have sufficient furniture to equip the room, there is urgent need for "all the comforts of home", draperies, magazines, ash trays, and most of all a radio-phonograph combination. Organizations and individuals who are interested in donating articles or their services toward the furnishing of this day room will find that their contributions will be much appreciated, and can contact Lt. F. L. Graves, the Medical Administrative Officer at U.O.D., for further details.

Lloyd Waid, 2/c Seaman, spent Saturday afternoon visiting in the West Area.

Miss Frances Culver spent the week end with her mother, Mrs. Zelma Culver.

Magazine Area Field Office received a card from Charles Cook in Fort Lewis, Washington. It seems all he has done so far is march and march.

Magazine Field Office has a new addition, Linda Mary Neary.

The radio program broadcast from the Hermiston U. S. O. by the U.O.D. Employees' Association was enjoyed by every one who was a part of the audience and also by those who listened over their radios. Russell McCoy of the Magazine Area was the lucky winner of the door prize, a War Bond.

## UMATILLA DAM CHANGE OK'D

The house rivers and harbors committee Wednesday adopted several amendments, some of which are in line with suggestions by President Roosevelt, which will be offered on the floor of the house when the omnibus rivers and harbors bill (HR 3961) comes up for consideration.

The committee adopted a suggestion by the president that the proposed Umatilla dam on the Columbia river between Oregon and Washington—estimated to cost \$50,000,000 including power installations—should be 30 feet higher than previously approved.

This would raise the pool above the dam to 340 feet above sea level instead of the originally contemplated 310 feet. Mr. Roosevelt had said this would aid navigation and power development.

The committee also approved an amendment to the section authorizing construction of four dams on the Snake river in Idaho—estimated to cost \$30,200,000—which would provide that construction of the dams could be modified as deemed advisable by the secretary of war after consultation with the secretary of the interior and other affected federal agencies.

President Roosevelt had suggested that final approval of the four dams on the Snake be withheld until a joint investigation could be undertaken by the army engineers and the interior department.

## JAP DIARY IS OF INTEREST

Garland Elkin of Hermiston is the proud possessor of a diary of a dead Jap officer given to Mr. Elkin by his cousin, Neil Elkin, Chief Petty Officer, U. S. Navy. The latter, who is visiting in Hermiston with his cousin, got the diary while in service at Attu. The document has been translated from Japanese into the American language and is quite interesting reading matter.

Chief Petty Officer Elkin is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Elkin. He has been in the service about 18 months and has seen considerable action during that time.

The diary is at The Herald office and anyone wishing to look at it is quite welcome.

## IRRIGATION DISTRICT ACTIVITIES MANY AS SYSTEM IS REVIEWED

### SPENCER LISTS NEEDED WORK

J. M. Spencer, manager of the Hermiston Irrigation District, has furnished the Herald with a synopsis of maintenance activities about the project during 1943. An interview with Mr. Spencer brought out many facts which show him to be well fitted, both by training and experience, for the position he now holds.

He is a native Oregonian, having been born in Ashland. During his earlier years he did much engineering work in connection with exploration, surveys and construction on mining and lumbering properties in five western states, was with the National Copper Co. in Idaho, was assistant engineer in charge of construction for the Bunker Hill and Sullivan Mining Co. in the same state, and has made mineral surveys for the government in Washington and Idaho. Later he made surveys for an irrigation project in the Rogue River valley.

In World War I he enlisted with the U. S. Engineers and served overseas until the end of the war. After his return the Eagle Point Irrigation district in southern Oregon was built under his supervision, and at its completion he was chosen to be manager.

Before coming to Hermiston to take over the operation of the Hermiston Irrigation District, Mr. Spencer was for some years watermaster of district 5 of the Water Resources department of the State of Oregon, working out of Pendleton, his territory covering all waters of the Umatilla and Walla Walla rivers within that district. Through this branch of his work he is conversant with the use of water in this end of the county and with irrigation practices and laws in general.

The Hermiston Irrigation District, originally designed to irrigate some 22,000 acres of land, is at present serving only about 9,000 acres. The original canal system was very well planned and constructed with capacity enough to take care of considerably more land than is now being farmed. This condition allowed for some deterioration of the canal system without threatening the success of the smaller acreage now served. There comes a time, however, when the canals can not be allowed to deteriorate further. This condition has now arrived. It is unfortunate that the canals were not kept in better condition in recent years so that their rehabilitation could have been postponed until after the war when labor and material costs might be lower or at least more available.

We must frankly admit that the system is in rather a dilapidated condition at present, and further delay in repairing some of the worst conditions is dangerous and should not be permitted.

The Feed Canal, even when first constructed, had not too great a capacity as the time in which water can be run to the reservoir is limited by several factors. The irrigation season on the Umatilla river extends from March 15th to November 1st, during which time only excess water may be used for storage. After November 1st, there is rarely enough water to much more than prime the canal until well into the winter months. During the deep winter there is usually one month or more in which water may not be safely carried on account of freezing conditions. With a capacity of 300 second feet the canal could fill the reservoir in about three months. If the capacity is allowed to drop down to around 200 second feet as it is at present it will require full five months to complete the required storage and there are only five months between November 1st and April 1st when irrigation must begin.

It is therefore imperative that the feed canal be brought back to near its original capacity as soon as possible. This is a problem, as the time when the canal can be worked is short and the cost is too great to be attempted in any one year. The worst section of the canal is directly under the lands of the Stanfield Irrigation District and is filled with waste and sub-water from their irrigation well into the fall. This water causes grass and willows to grow luxuriously during the summer and presents a most irritating problem of maintenance.

Complete cleaning of the canal would require from \$10,000 to \$15,000 and the work must therefore be spread over five or six years. We have attempted to make some headway to-

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**Corp. Felthouse On Furlough**  
Corp. Gale Felthouse, son of Mr. and Mrs. Willard Felthouse, arrived here Thursday from Buckingham Flexible Gunnery School, Ft. Meyers, Fla., on a 10-day furlough. Mr. Felthouse, who has been baling hay near Ontario, met Gale there and they continued on to Hermiston by automobile. Corp. Felthouse has been in the service about 13 months.

## PVT. JOHN NYE IN ROI BATTLE

Now it can be told. No word had been received from Pvt. John H. Nye for some time until early this week when a letter arrived from him, written February 10. The letter stated that he had been with the 4th Division, U. S. Marines, in the attack on the Marshall Islands, particularly the island of Roi. Pvt. Nye stated that he came through the battle without a scratch—well, just a little one, on the back of his neck.

Pvt. Nye, one of Hermiston's youngest business men, made some type of record recently when he entered actual combat duty after only 2½ months of training. Apparently he was in condition to "take it" as the Marines of the 4th Division made short work of the attack at Roi.

Needless to say, Pvt. Nye's wife and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Nye, were glad to hear that he was safe.

## FOUR AIR SCOUTS ADVANCE IN RANK

Four members of the newly organized Air Scout Squadron of Hermiston were advanced in their rank to that of Apprentice Air Scout at the recent court of honor held at the U. S. O. recently. Those receiving these awards were Gordon Shown, James Rugg, Virgil Logan and W. A. MacArthur, squadron leader.

The air scout program is a new one designed by the Boy Scouts of America to train the boys of 15 years and over in the basic fundamentals of aeronautics, air-ology, airplane structure and aero-dynamics. With the coming universal use of the airplane, it is recognized that those with special training will be needed to promote this mode of transportation following the war.

Any boy, whether he has had scout experience before or not, and is now 15 years of age, is urged to join this squadron. Meetings are held each Wednesday evening at 7:30 p. m. in the social halls of the Methodist church.

## TOWNSEND CLUB TO HEAR SPEAKER

A change has been made of the Townsend club meeting originally set for Tuesday, February 29. It has been postponed to Thursday, March 2, at 8:00 p. m. in order to hear A. O. Soholm, national representative of the Townsend movement. The meeting will be held at the U.S.O., according to Mrs. Joe Udey, who was informed of the forthcoming visit.

Mr. Soholm will explain the state Townsend bill which is now under discussion by the various Townsend organizations. Those wishing to hear first hand information concerning the proposed bill are urged to be on hand.



On the beaches of Italy, in the jungles of the Pacific—planes, tanks, artillery must move—and fast; no waiting to build roads or airfields. That's when our soldiers must unroll these "steel mattresses," as you see them in this photo. Your War Bonds pay for them.

U. S. Treasury Department

## RED CROSS GOAL TO BE HIGHER

Mrs. Roy E. Tiller has been named chairman of the local War Fund Red Cross drive which is expected to get underway here after March 1. Mrs. Tiller stated that the usual house-to-house canvass will be augmented again this year by a booth on the street.

Although no quota has been set as yet for Hermiston, it has been announced that the Umatilla county quota will be approximately three times that of last year or around \$31,000. Consequently everyone is expected to give more this year than last. More information concerning the subscription will be printed next week.

## INLAND CO-OP TO HAVE MEETING

The fifth anniversary of the Inland Cooperative will be celebrated at the annual meeting of that concern Saturday, February 26, in the banquet room of the Methodist church, according to Guy Shaw, manager. Other business will include the election of directors from three districts now being held by F. L. Huntington, J. D. Christley and P. J. Quinn.

The business meeting will commence at 11:00 o'clock with a free lunch to be served at 12:00. Entertainment will also be enjoyed during the lunch hour. Mr. Shaw stated Thursday that anyone doing business with the concern in 1943 automatically becomes a member of the concern and is cordially invited to attend.

## USED CLOTHING IS ASKED HERE

Mrs. Walter Hamm has received a belated request from the County Salvage Committee for used clothing to be sent to war stricken countries. The drive must close Tuesday, February 29, so very little time is allowed for the collection of these articles here.

Mrs. Hamm asks that anyone wishing to donate clothing to this worthy cause please leave the articles at the Hermiston Drug Co. or at the office of the assistant county agent. Any type of clothing except the following articles is wanted: hats, shoes, caps, belts, rubbers, galoshes, girdles or party dresses. However, suits, sweaters, shirts or other clothing is earnestly desired.

## MRS. TILLER IS HONORED GUEST

The American Legion Auxiliary held its regular meeting Thursday, February 10. After the business meeting, a social evening was enjoyed, honoring Mrs. Roy Tiller, rummage sale chairman. In appreciation of her efforts, a valentine gift was presented to her. Refreshments were served later in the evening.

The March meeting will be postponed a week and will be held March 16. It will be in the nature of a pot luck dinner, celebrating the birthday of the American Legion. Mrs. Grace Logan and Mrs. Laura Kelley will serve on the social committee. All members and prospective members are cordially invited to attend.

## CREAMERY SETS ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Umatilla Cooperative Creamery will be held Tuesday, February 29, in the banquet room of the Methodist church, according to Herman Plass, manager. Activities will get underway at 10:00 a.m. with E. L. Jackson as program chairman. A turkey dinner will be served at 12:30.

Mr. Plass stated this week that anyone interested in dairying, even though he is not a member of the creamery, is cordially invited to attend the meeting. Prominent men of the dairy industry will be present to discuss present day operations and possible future developments.

An advertisement telling of the coming meeting will be found on Page 4 of this issue.

### Local Girls On Committee

The annual Colonial Ball will be held in the college auditorium of Eastern Oregon College Friday, February 18th. This formal dance highlights the social calendar for the winter term and is sponsored by the Women's Athletic Association. The 354th Air Force dance band will furnish the music for the ball. Mary Perry and Mary Margaret Kennedy of Hermiston are in charge of the Decoration and Entertainment committees, respectively.

**Double Trial Date Set**  
The trials of E. E. Pulley and Jim Shearer on charges of driving while under the influence of liquor have been set for Friday, March 3, beginning at 10:00, in the Labor Temple hall. The cases have been postponed several times due to various confusions.

## AUTO HITS POLE AT INTERSECTION

Loren Van Buskirk of Portland, who with his family is visiting a sister in Pendleton, was the driver of the car which soundly crashed into the stop sign near the Hermiston railroad depot Monday evening. Mr. Van Buskirk, who is a driver for the Arrow Transportation Co., had come alone from Pendleton to Umatilla and was returning to Pendleton when the crash came.

He stated Tuesday that another car was crossing the tracks in the opposite direction, going west on Hermiston avenue. He swerved his car in order to avoid a collision but came in contact with the stop sign. The automobile, a '37 Chrysler, was a complete loss but the driver was uninjured.

## SATER ATTENDS STATE CONFAB

Ermo Sater, buttermaker at the local plant of Umatilla Cooperative Creamery, attended two conventions in Portland last Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. The Oregon Dairy-men Manufacturing Association met Thursday and the Buttermakers Association met Friday and Saturday.

Mr. Sater, whose record in making butter is quite enviable, won third prize in a quiz sponsored during the session. He represented the local organization at both meetings.

### HAROLD HAMLIN WESTON

Harold Hamlin Weston was born at Amet, Michigan, on May 8, 1860. His early youth was spent working in the woods of northern Michigan. When a young man he came west and helped build the first trails and roads through Yellowstone Park. In 1891 he came on west to Oregon and settled near Cascade Locks, where he farmed for several years, moving to Morrow county in 1901. For several years he operated a ferry across the Columbia river at Castlerock, moving to the Boardman project proper, in the early spring of 1918, where he lived continuously until his death, on February 19, 1944.

He leaves no known blood relatives, but three step-daughters, Mrs. Addie Broyles of Sandy, Oregon, Mrs. A. W. Bleakney of Mabton, Wash., and Mrs. Breta Morgan of Boardman. Mr. Weston was affectionately called "Dad" by all who knew him. He held an honorary membership in Greenfield Grange.

## WATER IS HIGHER AT COLD SPRINGS

Citizens who are always prone to worry about the slowness of Old Jupe Pluvius to fill the Cold Springs reservoir are beginning to breathe a little easier. Although the water level is still behind schedule the outlook is quite promising. The reading February 20, 1944, was 35,800 acre feet, while the reading on the same date in 1943 was 43,650 acre feet. However, at present the feed canal is working overtime and unless something drastic happens, there will be water for all during the hot summer months.

The reading for the week, according to Chas. Taylor, follows:

Date	Max.	Min.
February 16	50	37
February 17	52	22
February 18	47	34
February 19	48	30
February 20	47	19
February 21	47	25
February 22	48	23

### KORTGE-SMITH

Mr. and Mrs. V. C. Smith of Vancouver, Wash., are announcing the marriage of their son, Bob, U. S. Army, to Miss Winifred Kortge, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Kortge of Portland, on Saturday, February 19, at Vancouver, Wash. The bride was given in marriage by her father and the couple was attended by Miss Ul-dine Kortge, sister of the bride, and Francis Hollinger, U. S. Army.

Members of the immediate families were present and a reception was held after the ceremony at the home of the bride's parents.

The Smiths formerly resided in Hermiston and Bob is well known here.

## EMERGENCY CROP AND FEED LOANS SIGNUP DATES SCHEDULED

### FOOD PRODUCTION TO BE INCREASED

C. A. Riley, field supervisor for the Emergency Crop and Feed Loan Office, stated that farmers of Umatilla county are now applying for loans to finance the production of their 1944 crops. Applications for loans can be written on afternoons of February 23, March 7 and 28, and April 4 and 8 in the assistant county agent's office in Hermiston.

Mr. Riley stated that, in addition to financing the production of regular crops such as grain and hay, loans were also being made for the production of those crops declared essential to and so vitally needed in the war effort this year. Plans for 1944 call for increased production of many food crops. The production goals for these crops, which can be successfully planted and grown in Umatilla county should be met, and the need for funds necessary for their production will be given special consideration with the view that credit will be extended, wherever needed, so that no farm family will be denied an opportunity to make its maximum contributions to the Food Production Program.

Emergency crop loans are available to farmers, either owners or tenants, who own or can make arrangements for land to farm, who own or have the use of necessary workstock and equipment with which to farm, and who can give as security a first lien on the crops to be financed. These loans will be made to farmers whose cash requirements are relatively small and who are unable to obtain loans from other sources, including local banks and production credit associations.

Loans are also available for the purchase or production of feed for livestock whose products will be marketed, for livestock to be fed for the market, or for breeding animals with the increase to be marketed, but, as security, a first lien on such livestock is required.

Mr. Riley emphasized that these loans are not restricted to selected applicants but are available to all farmers who can establish eligibility, according to the terms of the loan regulations and the authorizing Act of Congress.

Harold Ewalt, Dairy Husbandry specialist from Oregon State College, will talk on dairy and dairy feeding problems Friday, February 25th at 8:30 p. m. at the Westland Grange hall. George Penrose of the Union Pacific railroad will show two pictures along dairy improvement.

## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FRIDAY

The churches of the community unite tomorrow (Friday) evening with churches all over the world in a mass prayer service beginning at 7:45 p. m. at the Central Church of Christ.

Prayer moves the hand of God, and such movement was never so sorely needed as now. Everyone is asked to come and worship and unite in this prayer service, that the people might be led by God to a new experience and thus to a new and better world order.

## LOCKER PLANT IS PLANNED

Frank P. Sargent of Hermiston is contemplating the construction of a frozen food locker plant in Hermiston. Considerable "business" is essential prior to actual construction of such a plant, according to Mr. Sargent. It is necessary, in order to obtain proper priorities to obtain building materials, that a prospective renter to deposit his first year's rent in escrow to be held until the plant is ready to use.

Mr. Sargent states that the rate will be one dollar per annum per cubic foot of storage space with eight cubic feet as the minimum. The locker boxes will vary in size from eight to 15 cubic feet. Mr. Sargent has made arrangements with the Hermiston First National Bank where prospective renters may place reservations in escrow with proper receipts. He urges that those interested make the proper arrangements as soon as possible.

### Auxiliary Meeting Is Planned

The Farm Bureau Auxiliary will meet Friday, March 3, at the home of Mrs. Lester Hammer. An interesting program is being planned and all members are urged to be on hand.