

Herald and News

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Today's Roundup

By MALCOLM EPLEY

PROBABLY a good many people, like this scribe, have been wondering what a \$92,000 rifle range is like, since it was disclosed the other day that such was the low bid for the 25-target range to be constructed at the Marine Barracks.

So today we ambled across Esplanade street to the office of Lt. John M. Babcock, the officer in charge of construction. A rifleman, which we are not, or an engineer, which we are not, could probably have gotten a lot more out of a look at the blueprints for this elaborate range, but we'll tell a little about it.

The range will be located to the east of the water tanks, which stand on the hill to the east of the Marine Barracks. The 500-yard firing apron, in fact, will be right at the tanks, and the men will shoot across to the targets on a hillside.

There will be three firing aprons—500 yards from the targets, 300 yards from the targets, and 200 yards from the targets. Identical concrete aprons will be constructed at these firing points.

Back of the 500-yard pit will be a rifle storage building, featuring work benches and facilities for repair and cleaning the weapons. This building, as well as most other structures at the range, will be constructed of reinforced concrete. Other buildings will include target storage facilities at the target pits, and two ready magazines.

The most elaborate construction will take place on the hillside where the targets will be concrete lined pits, in which the men will work who pull the targets up on pulleys. These elevator devices will be worked by hand, and when one target comes down, another will raise. Paper targets will go up, lifted into pine frames 6 feet 2 inches by 5 feet 8 inches in dimensions.

A small road or big path will be constructed along one side of the range to facilitate travel to the various firing points and to the target pits.

A close look at the plans reveals many construction details, such as benches for the target men to sit on and a canopy or shield to keep rocks or chips, which might be loosened by the firing at the hillside, from rolling down into the pits and "conking" their heads.

The \$92,000, of course, is an investment in marine marksmanship, a vitally important training feature.

What will happen to such a layout after the war can be only a guess, but it doesn't appear likely to lend itself to any purpose but rifle practice. This amateur hunter, who has stood in a glade in the Gearhart country and fired ineffectually at a deer in plain sight, can find where some of the local deer seekers might do themselves some good with rifle practice. But maybe a tin can on a fence post would serve the purpose just as well for them. Their shooting business isn't so important to the nation's welfare.

What Of It?

WHILE we're on the subject of the Marine Barracks, let's take note momentarily of the occasional discussion here as to whether there is a possibility of any of the civilian population contracting malaria or filariasis because of the location in this area of men who have a history of one or the other of these maladies.

The best medical advice on the subject is that such danger is very slight, and that there is virtually no chance of any serious spread of the tropical diseases under local conditions. Both maladies must be spread by mosquitoes, and cannot be transmitted by personal contact.

But it occurs to us that any expression of serious public concern on this question is in poor taste. What of it if you or I, who haven't had to face bullets, who haven't had to lie in wet swamps or foxholes in South Pacific tropics, who haven't had to give up our civilian freedoms for hard military discipline, should happen to pick up a little malaria because it was necessary to locate, somewhere, a place for training and treatment of marines who contracted these maladies? That's a long and in-

Jap Exclusion Asked by Grange

PORTLAND, Ore., Aug. 25—Exclusion of persons of Japanese ancestry from U. S. citizenship and deportation at the war's close was demanded Thursday by the masters of granges in five western states.

A statement ratified by grange executive committees in the five states, claimed that persons of Japanese ancestry are incapable of becoming assimilated in American communities. The masters, who said they represent 125,000 farm people of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana and California, said the resolution would be sent to their congressional delegations.

Classified Ads Bring Results.

A Gem of Thought From Idella's

There were two sisters named Kreck
Clad only in barrels from knees to neck,
Said one, "You know Dell,
For something phony we fell,
I'll bet them sailors had a marked Deck."

Playing Cards 39c

AT IDELLA'S
What a Gall!

volved sentence, but if you'll read it again, we believe you'll get what we mean and will agree with us.

News Behind the News

By PAUL MALLON

WASHINGTON, Aug. 25—Business economists are brooding again about a post-war depression, laying a tear-stained emphasis upon the millions of unemployed to be expected when the boys come home—and people generally believe this.

They are not up on their figures. The boys will not be coming home very fast after the war is done.

Plans for a gradual demobilization to require perhaps two or more years already have been made by the armed services. While these have not been advertised, they have been told verbally to the senate post-war committee.

The war department (undersecretary) estimated 200,000 to 250,000 men each month is the maximum possible for discharge after Europe—and then only in case the British can furnish the shipping in the north Atlantic.

Policing obligations in Germany, France, Italy, the Lowlands will require a considerable force for an indefinite period. After the peace with Japan, 11 or 12 months more will be required to get army men back from the rest of the world (just considering technical and shipping requirements, without a view to policing policy.)

Navy Less Optimistic

THE navy is even less optimistic. No navy forces can be demobilized until Japan is defeated (the present navy secretary says). Then probably 2,000,000 can be let go within 18 to 24 months.

This means demobilization is likely to be limited to 200,000 to 250,000 for a year after the war in Europe ends and continue as seepage, not a flood, for another two or three years.

Industry certainly can reconvert fully to peace in a year. Thus the picture of millions of service men being dumped out upon the world for a year or so after the war, waiting for industry to get started seems wholly unreal. A depression springing from this phase of the matter seems extraordinarily imaginative.

The war labor board is still pursuing its sweet manpower ways of making a man in a labor union immune to practically every law of man or nature. Its latest is a decision holding, in the Firestone Tire and Rubber case, that "all employees including employees who have been discharged for dishonesty or insubordination shall be entitled to receive vacation benefits."

In short, thieves who have looted the company safe must be given vacation pay when discharged, merely because they belong to a union. The unioner may be sent to jail for his theft, but he will get his extra two or three weeks vacation pay, or whatever an honest, good worker is entitled to, under the contract, not even being required to use it to make restitution for the money or goods he has stolen.

It is a wonder the board did not order him to be paid overtime while robbing the safe. Thus proceedeth justice under WLB in this year of our Lord, 1944.

The decision was rendered as a brief order July 10, and escaped public notice, as do so many minor, intricately-worded orders issued from that mighty tribunal, which now apparently is working on a revision of the Ten Commandments.

Now what they need next in their process of repealing Moses is to make adultery a subject for special compensation to members of unions only.

Novel Resolution

MONTANA'S New Dealing Senator Murray who seems to sponsor peculiar legislation desired by the administration or CIO (he espoused the Murray-Kilgore bill to give war workers a bigger unemployment compensation than soldiers) introduced a novel resolution in the senate.

Although a senate commerce subcommittee had been working on post-war air policy for many months, Murray proposed that the subject be taken out of its hands and given to a commission to be appointed by the president at a cost of \$100,000. The commission would be lined up to contain only one senator and one representative, but four from the administration executive branch, and six air industrialists.

Prying senators think the real author of the resolution is State Undersecretary Berle, who dickered in London with Lord Beaverbrook for a time on post-war air policy, with both claiming nothing done. Berle leans more toward sharing the air with the world, rather than pressing existing American supremacy (as the senators want).

Apparently the administration sought slyly through Murray to sidetrack the senate, but the plan will not work. The Murray resolution has no chance of adoption.

ton, who has been in charge of civilian USO work at the new town of Ordnance for several months, will be paid supervisor of the center, while Raymond Ramming, Pendleton business man, will be chairman of the advisory council, Carter reported.

Pendleton Youth Center to Open

PENDLETON, Aug. 25 (P)—Pendleton's new \$40,000 youth recreation center for junior and senior high school students and alumni will open September 1, Mayor Sprague Carter announced today.

The center will occupy the former USO clubrooms here and utilize the USO equipment.

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