

Comments of the Week

SAVE YOUR WASTE PAPER

A recent bulletin from the Oregon State Defense Council headed by Jerrold Owen gives information on the anticipated greater shortage of paper and urges that conservation become the order of the day for that material and other materials which are ordinarily wasted but which can often be returned to usefulness.

According to the bulletin "County Defense Councils are asked to lend their assistance to local drives for the accumulation of waste paper and to initiate such campaigns where none already are under way. Conservation of waste of all kinds is of vast importance today and local defense groups may find it advisable to appoint a conservation committee to which can be deferred all such projects."

The bulletin continues: "Investigation discloses that there is an active market in Oregon today for paper waste and prices being paid are the highest in years. Waste paper dealers are making arrangements to handle accumulations in every community. By 'waste paper' is meant old newspapers and magazines, old corrugated boxes and waste basket scraps.

"One of the important commodity shortages with which the nation is faced is in paperboard, fabricated from waste paper. This paperboard is used to manufacture the corrugated and paper shipping containers so greatly in demand for defense shipments.

"There exists today no reason for a shortage in paperboard. The mills have much greater capacity than is being used and their raw material, namely, waste paper, exists in abundance. Department of Commerce figures show that only about one-fourth of the paper produced in the U. S. each year is conserved. This means that almost three-fourths of this valuable raw material is burned by municipalities, business establishments, and by hundreds of thousands of apartment and home owners.

"The waste paper conservation campaign need not be of the highly altruistic nature of the aluminum scrap project of some months back. The money from the sale of the waste can be put to community benefit. In many cities, charitable, patriotic, civic and school organizations are sponsoring such drives. There is nothing to prevent a County Defense Council from initiating such a drive to raise funds for carrying on its operations."

COMMENDABLE COOPERATION

Vernonia has participated with other Oregon coast towns and cities west of the Cascades in the nightly blackouts since Monday. The cooperation of the residents of Vernonia is commendable when one considers the small amount of trouble which has been experienced in making the blackout here a success. Some people occasionally forget to turn out lights but readily cooperate when the matter is brought to their attention indicating that they are willing to help in that way. It cannot be definitely said how much longer blackouts will be demanded but the general opinion by officials indicates that the procedure will be continued for some time. It is hoped that what little difficulty has been experienced may be entirely overcome so with the sounding of the siren warning lights will be immediately concealed.

WHY NOT A BOY SCOUT PROJECT?

At St. Helens members of the Boy Scout troops are stocking Christmas trees which are in turn offered for sale to residents of that vicinity. It would seem that that idea would be a good one for the scout troop in Vernonia. Scouts would know what trees to select in preventing waste, would have them available for home owners, thereby saving the latter the trouble and time of cutting their own and possibly causing some waste of young trees. The idea merits some thought anyway.

COUNTY NEWS--

St. Helens

COUNTY SELLS 242-ACRE MILL SITE--

Sale of the former Reid mill site of 242 acres a short distance this side of Rainier was announced last week by the county court and the news raised hope that a mill would be established at the location within a comparatively short time. Purchaser of the site was George Halleck, Kelso, but it is understood that several other men are also involved in the deal.

Mr. Halleck has held an option on the acreage for the last two years and has been paying \$100 a month to the county to hold this option. The court, however, asked that he pay remainder of the \$10,000 purchase price agreed upon or else give up his option and Mr. Halleck decided last week to buy the site outright. Remainder of the \$7,600 due on the land and buildings was paid in cash, Judge Ray Tarbell said.

YULE LIGHTING CONTEST ON SLATE--

Under sponsorship of the Kiwanis club, the residential lighting contest held last year will be staged again this Christmas season. Plans call for the Garden club to do the judging and decide which homes are to be winners of the three cups which will be awarded.

Although all details of the contest have not been worked out, R. W. Fimeral, chairman in charge of the affair, announced last week

The Vernonia Eagle

MARVIN KAMHOLZ
Editor and Publisher

Entered as second class mail matter, August 4, 1922, at the post office in Vernonia, Oregon, under the act of March 3, 1879.

Official newspaper of Vernonia, Ore

OREGON NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

that residences taking part would have to be illuminated by December 18, a week prior to Christmas and that decorations would have to stay up through New Years. Homes contesting must have their decorations lighted up until at least 10 o'clock each night.

TEACHERS STUDY CREDIT UNION PLAN--

Endorsement of the so-called "Clatsop plan" for uniform teacher salaries and the outlining of plans for a teachers credit union were among actions taken last Wednesday evening when Scappoose area school men and women met at Yankton. The projected credit union, a new idea as far as rural teachers of the county are concerned, would create a fund to be invested on behalf of members of the association and from which they could borrow. Before the union is set up, details on operation of similar associations elsewhere will be obtained.

Clatskanie

PUD PLAN FOR SALE ANNOUNCED--

Progress is being made in the completion of the Clatskanie PUD system whereby the properties of the West Coast Power Co. may be secured for the local division.

Preliminary memorandum agreement has been made as a basis of which it is proposed to work out contract details undertaking to acquire all West Coast Power properties in the Clatskanie division. This will include all operative systems for distribution and generating all power within and without this district. In reality all places now served by the West Coast from this local office will be served under the new system.

Roughly speaking the Clatskanie division will include all area now served, including a portion of the Nehalem valley and a part of Clatsop county, roughly speaking, all the area served from the Northwestern system to Wauna. The estimate for the purchase price from the West Coast at Clatskanie

THE POCKET BOOK of KNOWLEDGE BY TOPPS



ALL THE PAPER PRODUCED IN ENGLAND DURING THE 17th CENTURY WOULD NOT BE ENOUGH FOR ONE SUNDAY EDITION OF A MODERN DAILY

THROUGH RESEARCH ONE COMPANY HAS DEVELOPED A \$20,000,000 A YEAR BUSINESS IN BY-PRODUCTS THAT USED TO BE WASTED

2000 YEARS B.C. THE EGYPTIANS USED CARPENTER TOOLS FAMILIAR IN THE TRADE TODAY. SAWS, DRILLS, PLANES, CHISELS, HAMMERS, SANDPAPER, GLUE AND WOOD FILLER

IN ENGLAND BEFORE THE ERA OF LAUNDRIES, PEOPLE SENT THEIR CLOTHES TO BE DYE'D DARKER SHADE WHEN THEY BECAME SOILED

MODERN AUTOMOBILES USE MORE THAN 1,500 DIFFERENT INVENTIONS

has been made at \$150,000 and must be according to the details of the contract.

LIGHT CONTEST IS ANNOUNCED--

The plans for the annual Christmas illumination contest are causing local citizens to get out the old decorations and try to figure out new ideas.

The contest is an annual project of the Clatskanie Garden club. The date, Monday, December 21st, has been set for the evening when the judging of the contest will be held.

ANDY WARIS AGAIN SWEEPS AWARDS--

Andrew Waris dominated the mink division at the Oregon Fox and Mink show held last week at Gresham. Exhibitors were from Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Utah, and California.

Waris won the grand championship, the first two places in the male class and the first three places in the female class.

BOY SCOUTS TO DECORATE STREETS--

At a special meeting of the Clatskanie Boy Scout troop 241 held at the Mallory home Wednesday night of last week plans were completed for the Scouts to prepare the fir-bough stringers to be suspended across the city streets with proceeds for their work to go into a troop fund to provide for Scout uniforms.

Plans were also made for their usual program of selling Christmas trees to the local merchants and townspeople.

Washington Snapshots by JAMES PRESTON

The priorities system is on its way out. It is being superseded by a new arrangement designed to correct the shortcomings of priorities and to allocate strategic materials more effectively.

The priorities system is based on the simple proposition that first things come first. Certain defense projects and foreign orders which the government deemed most important are given preference ratings. These serve as notices to the supplier of raw materials that such orders are to be filled first. This is to be done by withholding or deferring deliveries on other contracts and orders. The trouble is that soon everyone was holding preference orders, and that jammed up the works. Under the allocations system—now being whipped into shape—all the emphasis is placed on actual delivery of goods where they are most needed. SPAB is working out a 1942 production program for each industry. When that is done, the OPM will have to devise a system for handling raw materials so that the industries can fulfill these programs.

In line with this change, another reorganization of SPAB is due shortly. This will mean more centralized authority in the hands of Executive Director Donald Nelson. Those who have been working with Mr. Nelson feel that if anyone can make the new allocations work, he can. For the most part, Washington business men are cooperating, to further allocations for it is the

best solution of the problem. Many, however, are reserving judgment, aware that allocations raise new problems not met under the priorities system.

There is a general feeling that the allocations system, once the emergency need for it is over, offers a back door to planned economy. No one speaks of it that way yet, but both the Administration and business recognize the possibility of danger. Senators and Representatives are warning of the major alterations to the economic system that are looming. It is said, privately, that the United States Government is embarking, via the allocations system, upon its boldest venture in the field of Government-controlled economy.

Although there is no indication that government officials intend to use the allocations system in this manner, it is admitted that such a possibility is not too remote in view of the published thoughts of New Deal leaders and the endorsement which the Philip Murray plan for industrial councils has received from some of the Administration men. It would certainly be in keeping with New Deal philosophy.

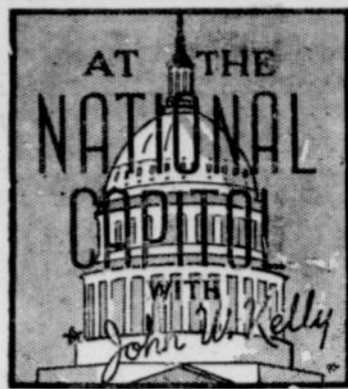
In some quarters it is predicted that consumer rationing is the next step. Under the allocations program Government officials are able to determine what industries may operate; what industries must curtail operation; and, when necessary, what industries must cease to operate. Under the guise of conserving materials, the Government will be able to undertake studies of consumer needs and through allocations shape a policy for industrial production, and, directly or indirectly, for civilian consumption designed to meet what Washington officials think the country should have.

Much suspicion is directed at the change in status of the Army and Navy Munitions Board. Up to the present, this Board has been able to determine its own priorities and thus regulate the size and production speed of its own program. Now it must appear before SPAB and, in the same manner as any industrial group, apply for its materials. Many Army and Navy men have expressed their displeasure with the new arrangement in private. No public statement has been made.

Questions as yet unanswered are whether allocations will be given to an industry as a whole or whether, as now appears to be the plan, they will be based on the requirements of individual units; whether a yardstick will be established at the outset; what the position of the Industry Advisory Committees will be in the new arrangement; whether there is any degree of assurance that the promised materials will be delivered; and how long it will take to decide a particular allocation problem once an industrial branch has developed a program.

TRAINING STRESSED

Uncle Sam lays great stress on the training of his sailor men. The American Navy seamen and seamen in the Naval Reserve probably get more and better training than is given in any other Navy in the world. These men are trained at Navy Trade Schools to which qualified enlisted men are assigned for instruction in Navy Training Courses.



Washington, D. C., December 10

—Klamath Indians having made a clean-up of millions of dollars in their claim against the government.

The Indians on the Colwell reservation in Washington wish to present a claim. President Grant, during his term, lopped off from the treaty lands of these Indians, 1,238,144 acres; threw them open to settlement, as Washington was still a territory and needing population. Treaties in those days were disregarded; the Black Hills, pledged to be immune from the white men, were thrown open when gold was found in Deadwood and this the Sioux resented and they wiped out General Custer's cavalry on the Little Big Horn in retaliation. Ancestors of the Indians on the Colwell reservation bided their time instead of going on the warpath; now they want the payoff. Nine Indians from Colwell are in the national capital seeking the right to sue the government in the court of claims. They consider the land worth \$1.25 an acre; want \$1,647,680 in lieu of the land. Plutes of Harney county are also asking money for the lands taken from them by the government and sold to the cattle barons. The Plutes have been struggling for this for several years; managed to gain senate approval and have been held up in the house. So far Klamath Indians are the only ones to ring the bell; second richest tribe in the country. Colwell tribe also wants compensation for fishing rights on the Columbia destroyed by Grand Coulee dam.

Every member of the house of representatives has been given a printed list of communists with criminal records in the labor unions by Martin Dies, chairman of the committee on un-American activities. The west coast is well represented.

Senator Robert LaFollette (he has been ill with an infected leg) has offered an amendment to the fair labor standards act by defining oppressive child labor employed in agriculture away from their homes. The senator proposes to make allowance for the generally accepted practice of having children perform daily chores on their home farm and his amendment declares that this practice is not "oppressive child labor." It is proposed to permit the children's bureau of the department of labor to supervise agricultural employment without interfering with the agriculture is now placed with local school authorities, who are subject to local pressure and prejudice. This led to a situation which LaFollette hopes to cure. The amendment is of more than passing importance to thousands of farm homes in Oregon.

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States hit by the anti-Okie decision of the supreme court (refusal to assist refugees from other states) can expect federal legislation. Key-representative Tolan, who has been heading a committee making a study of migration since last year, is expected to offer a bill which is calculated to bring the states to time. Apparently the plan will be that when states fail to revise their laws with respect to help they will be cut off from federal assistance. The Tolan committee is concerned over the post-war depression and wants some protection ready for the hundreds of thousands who will be in destitute condition when that time comes. Until the supreme court made its decision several western states had laws withholding relief from outsiders.

New being drafted is legislation which will permit the navy to award regional contracts to firms, notwithstanding that lower bids may be received from contractors outside the region. The measure also reduces the bonding requirements of the little fellows. This bill is intended to spread defense work and remove some limitations. The contract distribution division of OPM says that unless some changes in the present law are made there is not much it can do for small business, despite the demand to use the bits-and-pieces system in vogue in England. If, it is urged, congress is anxious to save small business the legislation must be enacted.

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