

Comments of the Week

A GOOD FINANCIAL CONDITION HERE

The good, in fact excellent, financial condition of Vernonia in regard to the two grade schools and the city merit mention again this week due to the publication last week and this week of the city budget and the appearance of the budget for School District No. 47 Jt., this week. As has been mentioned previously, the city cost sheet does not carry an item for direct tax for city property holders. That in itself is a very healthy condition financially.

In regard to the grade school district, a recent report by the school board clerk gives information that the total bonded indebtedness unpaid as of May 13, 1942, is \$4,000 and that \$1,000 of that amount will be paid off when a bond is retired on July 1st leaving only \$3,000 of that indebtedness for the district.

Although the budget for the high school district has not been published yet, that district, too, is in excellent financial condition on the question of indebtedness.

Although Vernonia has been accused by those who are not informed of being in poor financial condition, those accusations do not hold true when the facts are known.

REASON FOR CASTING A SMALL NUMBER OF BALLOTS?

The election here Friday in one respect, if in no other, was like the election throughout the state in that a much smaller number of ballots were cast than is true when compared with other years. There is a reason for that small casting. To advance one, it might be said that the war was occupying the attention of the majority of people so that they were not devoting time to thoughts of who would be the proper candidates to select.

County News

St. Helens

SESSION EXTENDED TO AID DRAFTEE-TO-BE

Because Joseph Henderson of Mist, plaintiff in a circuit court case heard last Monday, was slated for induction into the army Wednesday with the 80-man Columbia county draft contingent, the court continued hearings on his case until 11:30 p. m. in order to clean it up and allow Henderson to prepare for his induction. Incidentally, Judge Howard K. Zimmerman decided in favor of the Mist man and allowed him the \$535 he sought in a suit against L. C. Cotner and Jane Doe Cotner.

The action was brought for collection of a mechanic's lien of \$535 which Henderson alleged he had coming for attaching a bulldozer to a tractor belonging to the Cedarwood Timber Co., Vernonia, of which the defendants were owners. The defendants, who asserted they suffered damages because of faulty workmanship on the part of Henderson, advanced a counter claim of \$1,200, but this claim was not allowed by the judge in bringing in his verdict for Henderson.

MEN PLAN COAST GUARD AUXILIARY HERE

Formation of a coast guard auxiliary to aid in protecting the waterfront in this area from sabotage or attack is planned by a number of St. Helens men and formal organization of the unit was scheduled for Tuesday evening of this week at the council chambers when coast guard representatives will be on hand.

Temporary commander of the group is E. I. Ballagh, while Butler Clevinger is second officer and Harry Higgs is third in command. At present the group has approximately 21 boats lined up. Ten boats are the minimum number of craft in a squadron.

COUNTY MEN GO CONTINGENT OF 76

Last Wednesday, for the first time in the history of the present war, Columbia county draftees departed for the induction center in Portland with a free meal in their stomachs and an impromptu community send-off ringing in their ears. The meal was served by nine women who are students in a local canteen class and the coffee and doughnuts they had available in the courthouse plaza were considerably appreciated by 76 army-bound selectees.

The Vernonia Eagle

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Editor and Publisher

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Out of the Woods

by Jim Stevens

If It's a Ten Year War . . .

The longer the war goes on, the more it will become a war of wood, at least as far as the U.S.A. is concerned. That's the opinion stated in high places of war production and it's backed up by many facts in the news. You've seen the pictures of the newest in wood plastic planes, the latest in wood mosquito boats, heavy timber construction replacing steel in new production factories and so on.

This is only a starter, with a long war in view. The concoctions and contraptions of the wood chemists and other scientists in forest products laboratories, which in peacetime were considered mainly as experiments, are now being tried out in a big way for actual use. Wood wool, wood sugar, wood livestock feed, wood gas for automobiles, tractors and trucks in wood as a source of explosives—such items are already standard in the Germany of Butch Hitler. We'll soon be away ahead of him, from the cellulose part of the tree. The second major part of every kind of tree in lignin. It can

Practically all these items come most simply be described as a glue of nature that holds the cellulose fibres of wood together. Lignin washes out in the pulping of cellulose. From their experiments the wood scientists can see wonderful uses ahead for lignin, as in plastics.

If we have to hack'er out through ten years of war, as most experts predict, it's a good bet that a lot of new products will rapidly be worked up from the forest tree. Products that will be as valuable in peace as in war, proving that even from bloody war some dew of good may fall.

Saw Log vs. Pulp Log . . .

We're going to win the war and we're not going to the dogs doing it even if it does take ten years. All but the oldest men of the woods and mills can look beyond

1952 with bright hope for themselves and for their children. Here's the reason: the saw log is still the main source of forest wages and forest business. It takes from 50 to 100 years to grow a crop of saw logs on Douglas Fir land, depending on its site quality, while a pulp log crop can be grown in roughly half the time. Most of the new forest products in view start with pulping and this will be true of things made from wood lignin.

We've got the best timber-cropping area in the world, considering climate, soil, timber species, and other factors all in a bunch. Hemlock is tops among pulp woods. A process for pulping Douglas Fir is being perfected. Anytime time now we may expect some timber chemist to announce a new brand of snoose—with a lignin base. In any event, we can be sure that the war will breed new industries for this forest region, all using timber as a raw material and most of them calling for pulp logs instead of saw logs. To my mind, the timber business in this neck of the woods has only started. The dawn of a new age of wood is a real bright spot in the clouds of war.

Charcoal Gas in Australia . . .

For a year and more farm wood-lot owners in Australia have been making charcoal in small burners designed by their forest service. Charcoal gas is now the main fuel for civilian trucks and cars on the Paul Bunyan of the world's islands. You can safely bet that General MacArthur won't miss application of that example to his own country and its forests. I'm prophesying we'll soon be hearing much more about it, probably with orders. And ten years from now—well, maybe the war won't last that long after all. Just to make us feel better, let's call it five. That's 60 months and we're through six of them already.

are trying to figure out how come Wallace defeated Latourette, who was favored to win. One of the answers is the ridiculously small vote cast by Democrats. In Multnomah county about 30 per cent of the registered Democrats took the trouble to vote. In the Third District (Multnomah county) race for congress the three Democratic candidates polled a total of 35,482 votes. In the same district the three gubernatorial candidates polled only 32,428 votes, which means that 3,054 Democrats who took the trouble to vote for congressional candidates didn't vote their choice for governor at all. The Democratic leaders point out that many of their best workers are now in the army. Also that shipyard workers, labor, are predominantly Democratic, were too busy drawing \$10 or \$12 a day to vote. So, they claim, therein lies the tale.

A deal is now in the making to trot out an independent candidate for congress in Multnomah county. The powers that be on both sides of the political fence want none of either Anzell or Mahoney. If Mr. Griffith had been nominated by the Democrats the

story would have been different. As we predicted in this column last week, the young aggressive Charles Mack of Klamath Falls came within an ace of defeating the veteran Walter Pierce. Less than 500 votes separated the two—the closest call the Mr. Pierce has had in his very long political career.

All of the ballots had not yet been counted on both tickets for legislative seats before the battle house, Wm. McAllister of Medford, who was nosed out of the speaker's seat by Bob Farrell last session, is again a candidate. Mr. McAllister was busy all last week-end signing up pledges. He doesn't intend to let this time. So much for politics.

Army in the market for hundreds of horses for the cavalry to be used on the Oregon coast. Contrary to popular impression, the horse has not been eliminated from the cavalry, which is not all mechanized. Cavalry is needed in the Oregon coast range, on cut-over timberlands and in the forests. Horses can maneuver in that country with greater expedition than tanks and trucks; they can go where it would be impossible for the machines to operate. From Curry to Clatsop counties detachments of horse cavalry will be spread, supplementing existing forces.

Gold Beach, at the mouth of Rogue river, has asked for an army air base, but for the present at least, nothing will be done.

War products board is interested in the lime deposits of Wallowa and Baker counties (lime plays an important part in a number of materials needed for war). There is talk of locating a war industry in Grant county adjacent to the chrome deposits in the John Day country, and transporting lime to the site. Nothing definite as to this but it is in the conversation stage.

If the powder plant discussed by the war department is located in the northwest it may be in the vicinity of Ontario or the Snake river near Lewiston. There are only a few places where sufficient water is available, say the army men, and the best of all is at The Dalles. However, they add, The Dalles is too close to the ocean and the policy is to push all new industries inland at least 200 miles, if possible. No powder plant will be built, however, unless WPB decides that existing plants are insufficient. One story is that the plants now operating have capacity to provide all the propellants required for a global war.

For several years growers of bent grass in Clatsop county have been urging an appropriation which would permit the department of agriculture scientists to study grasses to determine which are best for certain localities. Always the request has been kicked out the window because bent grass is used on golf courses and was regarded as recreational. In the new appropriation a substantial sum is allowed for grass experimentation as a war measure. New diversion air fields require a grass that will stand up where runways are not paved. Bent grass will hold the soil from blowing and afford a cushion for landing planes. As air fields are scattered all over Oregon, different grasses are required and to find out which is the best for each climate the experiments will be made.

But I Was Rough

I had no part in being born into this world; I just arrived. My parents saw to all that. Nor did I have any part in being born in God's family—I, e. as to the act itself. God saw to that. It was done of him, all in an instant. Up to then I belonged to the fallen sons of Adams. A sinner by birth, choice and practice I was. Then, on an instant, God breathed himself into my soul and I was born again.—Ye must be born again, said Christ, as I was. First I had a human father who gave me his human nature and now I had the Heavenly Father, who gave me his God-nature.

What led up to it? Daily Bible reading and family prayers in the old home, laid the foundation. On Sunday afternoons, in the winter, we cracked nuts and ate popcorn beside the old coal stove—New York State it was—while father told us Bible stories. I learned about God and that we were here to do his will. But down inside I was heavy. I had not done His will; I saw myself a sinner lost. Then I was told that God had a Son who died for my sins and I laid hold on Him.

What part had I? By Godgiven faith, I laid hold on Him. By that spark of faith I

took Christ as my Savior and God that instant breathed his life into me. Eight years old was I, and from that day I have had peace as to my standing with God.—'Being therefore JUSTIFIED by faith, we have peace with God, though our Lord Jesus Christ.' JUSTIFIED—in God's sight JUST-AS-IF-WE-HAD-NEVER-SINNED.

But I was rough— All these years since, the Holy Spirit has been showing me my many sins. The old Adam in me is like Johnson grass—it keeps sending up shoots. Looking toward the century mark and after more than half a century of service under the banner of the cross, John the Apostle said the same—"I we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us." And he gave the rule for getting back into step—"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:8-9. God wanted me. By Christ's death he cleared the record that in righteousness, he might pour in the new life. And he wants you. May Christ become your Savior and then your Cheer-Hope-Joy-Peace-Wisdom-Strength all the day all the way.

Dean Taylor.

Cloverdale, Oregon

This space paid for by an Oregon businessman.

Washington Snapshots

by JAMES PRESTON

How much money John Doe will pay for the things he needs during the war is still a favorite topic of discussion here. Opinion in most quarters seems to be that while prices may be frozen for a time by the present ceilings they will slowly creep upwards after a short period at their current levels.

One reason is that labor is expected to continue its demands for wage increases. A check of labor leaders and key New Dealers reveals that they do not regard President Roosevelt's reference to wages as placing a ceiling on existing pay levels.

The major showdown on whether there will be a ceiling on union labor will succeed in obtaining wage boosts is expected to come in the "Little Steel" and General now pending before the War Labor Board, the unions are demanding a dollar a day increase.

Should the increase be granted, legislation is expected to be introduced in Congress immediately to establish wage ceilings. Supporters of such legislation will cite the fact that Price Administrator Leon Henderson has opposed the "Little Steel" wage increases because they would induce an inflationary spiral.

Now that the nation has been registered for sugar rationing, officials here are turning their attention to the procedure that will be followed in the rationing of other articles.

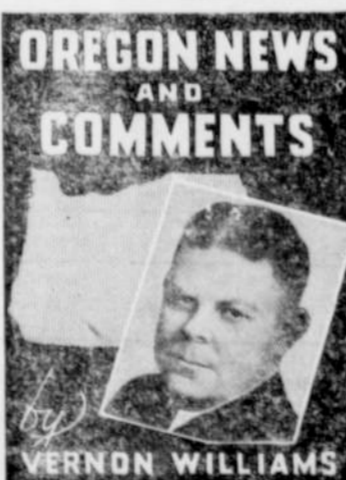
Present plan is to set up a group rationing system, as contrasted with the present procedure of individual rationing of such products as autos, tires and sugar. This means that instead of having one ration card and quota for coffee, another for sugar, another for tea and so on for each item that is rationed, similar items will be lumped together and cards issued for the whole group. Consumers will then have a choice of using all their points on one item or of dividing them among the group.

Patent authorities here are calling attention to the fact that the government has long had the power to have goods produced for it, regardless of patents on them.

This is a fact which has been ignored by the Senate Patents Committee. It has been holding hearings on a new bill, ostensibly drafted to make inventions available for use in the war emergency.

An act passed in 1910, and amended in 1918, makes it possible now for anyone to make anything for the government, without considering whether any patents may apply. This is true whether the country is at war or at peace.

Regardless of laws governing the situation, industry generally has made its patents fully available many feel that the present attack on the patent practices of industry is paving the way for far-reaching legislation which has little or no connection with the immediate job of winning the war.



Portland, Ore., May 20—Now that the tumult and shouting has died down from the recent primary election, the boys and girls are holding the usual post mortem that always follow every political battle. While Snell was favored to defeat Sprague, not even the most sanguine thought he could romp home a winner by close to 30,000 votes. Astute political observers had it all figured out that Snell couldn't win by much more than 8,000 votes but he did. In another post mortem huddle the wise men

Mrs. Donald Tower