

TACOMA HOURS  
APPEALS STUDIED

TACOMA, April 22.—(P)—Appeals of 59 Tacoma-area retail and commercial firms for exemption from the 48-hour week order are being considered by the War Manpower Commission, and A. F. Hardy, regional director, indicated they may be given conditional exemptions.

Firms continuing to operate on present schedules of less than 48 hours would be restricted from hiring any additional employees except through the adoption of a maximum five-day work week for each employee, Hardy stated in a letter to the companies involved.

## 4-H Leaders to Meet

A district meeting of the King County 4-H Leaders' Council will be held at 7:30 o'clock tomorrow evening in the Burien Log Hall. Members from the northeast section of the county will meet at 10:30 o'clock Saturday forenoon, May 1, in Snoqualmie.

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## 'Handsome'



Fred Spiegelberg of Omak, Okanogan County, who recently was elected Washington State College's "handsomest man" at the Junior Prom. But nobody kids him about it—he's also boxing coach.—A. P. photo.

Ballard High  
Bond Campaign  
Nets \$12,964

The mere mention of war bonds these days brings a rightful thrill of accomplishment to all Ballard High School pupils, who have aided the Second War Loan campaign by the purchase of \$12,775 in bonds and \$189 in stamps this week, it was disclosed yesterday.

Main impetus to the sale came Tuesday when a pupil committee, headed by Betty Atwood, a senior, staged the school's own version of Seattle's Victory Square with a colorful outdoor program. After the performance, many hundreds of pupils lined up to buy bonds and, receipts in hand, took rides in eight jeeps furnished by the Coast Guard and the Army.

The student body committee lauded the cooperation in handling details of bond sales received from W. E. Kiekenapp and Miss Elsie Snedburg of the staff of the Ballard branch of the Seattle-First National Bank.

Ballard High School had a previous bond show on March 17, when bonds and stamps totaling \$4,443.75 were purchased. Still another school Victory Square is planned for next month.

## Anthropologist Is Dead

WATERTOWN, Mass., April 22.—(P)—Charles C. Willoughby, 85 years old, outstanding anthropologist and director-emeritus of the Peabody Museum at Harvard University since 1928, died yesterday. He was a native of Winchendon, Mass.

ENEMY SHIPPING  
BLASTED IN HALF

—Says Patterson

WASHINGTON, April 22.—(P)—The spectacular successes of Allied airmen in North Africa are destroying at least 50 per cent of Axis shipping—both air and sea, Robert P. Patterson, undersecretary of war, reported today.

Reviewing the progress of the war at a press conference, Patterson said reports from Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, Allied commander in North Africa, indicate that the number of ships sunk by Allied air forces and naval units has dislocated the Axis supply system seriously and that the enemy is trying to make up the loss by concentration of transport planes. "At least 50 per cent of Axis shipping—both air and water—is being destroyed by our air attacks," Patterson said.

Tunisia 'Satisfactory'

In the Tunisian ground fighting, satisfactory progress has been made, Patterson added, although the recently launched heavy attacks on Axis positions still are in the early stages.

In other theatres, Patterson reported that heavy destruction of hostile military and industrial installations and of enemy shipping and aircraft have resulted from continued attacks by American air forces in the South Pacific, Southwest Pacific, Aleutians and Europe. A marked increase in the number of enemy fighter planes encountered by American bombers over Germany recently, Patterson said, indicates the success of these operations in diverting German military aircraft from the Russian and Tunisian fronts.

Aircraft Engines Up

The undersecretary reported that the United States now has a backlog of aircraft engines but cautioned against any assumption that the supply is excessive.

Patterson said any idea that the job of equipping the Army is nearing completion "is totally unfounded."

"The job of furnishing the armed forces with their requirements in a war of the proportions of this war is a job that will grow until peace comes," he added.

Returning Japs To  
Coast Discussed

WASHINGTON, April 22.—(P)—Leonard Read, general manager of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, said today he had discussed with Assistant Secretary of War McCloy the question of returning Japanese in relocation camps to West Coast cities.

Read told reporters the discussion was an informative one and did "not necessarily mean that we are protesting such action." No commitments were made, he added. Frank P. Doherty, president of the Los Angeles chamber, is expected to join Read here next week in further conferences.

AIR EPIC Round-World Raiders Full of Heroes;  
Famous Planes Still Are in Action

(This is the fourth and final installment of Capt. Rowan T. Thomas' dramatic letter about the battles of an American round-the-world bombing squadron. The squadron fought from the Philippines to Tunisia, and only now, for the first time in 16 months, have most of its members returned to the United States. Captain Thomas, from Boyle, Miss., wrote the squadron's story a short time ago in Algeria.)

By CAPT. ROWAN T. THOMAS  
By Associated Press.

SOMEWHERE IN ALGERIA—There is no better way to conclude this story of world-wide adventures than by citing the fact that it holds the record for continuous combat record overseas without replacements. At this writing, each man has put in from a year to 16 months of combat flying and the combat members have between 17 and 42 missions each to their credit, many with over 300 hours of action. This is a record in so far as pure combat missions count.

No one challenges the statement that this is the most traveled squadron of the war. Our first flight was 15,000 miles and since that time we have fought against all Axis partners. Only our superb maintenance men are responsible for the fact that we still have nine of our planes in commission. This has been so even though for months there has been only one crew chief an airplane.

Many times our men have run missions after loading the bombs themselves. It has been cooperative spirit like this that has led to good service. Our personnel strength is greatly depleted now, largely through transfers, and there are scarcely 110 men left of the between 300 and 400 originally comprising the unit.

## 500 Decorations

The men of the squadron have won well over 500 major decorations of honor including 75 Silver Stars, 73 Distinguished Flying Crosses, 90 Air Medals with over 200 Clusters and over 100 Defense medals and a few Purple Hearts and Soldier's Medals. Many recommendations for further awards are now pending. This computation does not include veterans who were transferred to other squadrons or have been killed.

Some of our ships are such old combat queens that they are traditions in the service. For example, our old Liberator bomber, "Minnie From Trinidad," is the mother of scores of Liberator and B-24 pilots. She weathered the worst campaigns America has fought in this war—the Philippines, Java, India and China. She evacuated Lieutenant General Bretton, Lieutenant General Brett and Brigadier General Brady from the Philippines. She carried Bretton and his "Baby" (a cloth in which was wrapped a quarter of a million dollars) to India after the fall of the Philippines. Minnie is probably the oldest nationally publicized bomber in the world. She is still in service. Other planes still in our possession include "Baby Me," "Double

Trouble," "Mormon Meteor," "Seabreeze," "The Jerk From Albuquerque," "Suzy Q," "Yankee Rebel," "Slinko, Watchout There Now," "Geechee," and "Judges Jury."

They have bombed Rangoon, Mandalay, Moumein, Akyab, Lashio, Myitkyina, Peking, Rhodes, Crete, Bardia, Sollum, Tobruk, Bengasi, Sardinia, Corsica, Southern Italy, Sicily, Tunis, Bizerte, Gabes and Sfax. They have paid for themselves in the toll of enemy men and materials many times.

If our ships could talk they could tell about battles that would dwarf the imagination. They have flown over some of the most amazing sights of the world—the Suez Canal, the Pyramids, the land of the Nile, the Taj Mahal, the Great Wall of China, the Burma Road, the walled city of Kano, the site of the Hanging Garden of Babylon, Damascus, the mosque of Omar, Baghdad, the Holy Land, the road to Mandalay, the Lighthouse of Alexandria, the Garden of Allah, the Colossus of Rhodes, Mecca, Mount Olympus, Mount Everest, Khyber Pass.

Before concluding this "squib," we'd like to add that this squadron has not failed to produce its share of swell fellows who have made names for themselves as executives and leaders of other units. We particularly pay tribute to the memory

of Colonel Don Keiser, Bucyrus, Ohio, who began as a second lieutenant in our squadron and in 13 months rose to full colonel. He was respected and admired by all who knew him. Although he was thought to be in perfect health, a sudden illness caused his death a few months ago in the Middle East. At 26, he was believed to be the youngest colonel in the United States Army.

Our officers here tonight (including former school teachers, preachers, lawyers, radio operators, technicians and linguists) say I should thank all of you for the fine support and equipment you have provided.

Lieut. Charley Kimball of Atlanta, Ga., my navigator who has kept me on course on every mission I have ever flown, just came in and he tells me that Captain Murphree is putting us on the battle order for tomorrow morning. That means an early take-off so I know I must end this letter.

Yours for victory,  
ROWAN T. THOMAS,  
Captain, Bombardment  
Squadron, Group.

The End

The Japanese adopted western games such as track and field, baseball, basketball and tennis as early as 1883.

HAY-INSPECTION  
FEES CRITICIZED

OLYMPIA, April 22.—(P)—Referring particularly to fees for inspection of hay and grain, State Auditor Cliff Yelle yesterday recommended that the State Department of Agriculture adjust its inspection rates to "conform with actual costs of operation."

Hay and grain inspection receipts for the year ending March 31, 1942, totaled \$139,532, against expenditures of \$118,433.

"It is apparent receipts exceed expenditures by almost 20 per cent, which amounts to placing a tax on the grain growers of the state to that extent," Yelle said.

Claire Windsor Asks  
Name Be Legalized

LOS ANGELES, April 22.—(P)—Claire Windsor, film actress, has petitioned Superior Court to legalize her professional name. Her petition gives her legal name as Viola Cronk Bowes Lytell and states she is divorced from both David Willis Bowes and Bert Lytell, actor. It adds that David Willis Bowes, Jr., her son, has changed his name to William Willis Windsor.

Idaho Normals Expanded  
BOISE, Idaho, April 22.—Lewis-ton and Albion Normal Schools have been expanded into four-year institutions for the purpose of training more high-school teachers, C. E. Roberts, state superintendent of public instruction, announced Tuesday. Approval for the expansion, which will allow students to obtain a bachelor of arts degree in education, was given by the State Board of Education.

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