1

The Hood River News: Jan. 19-1945 Page 10

Public Opinion

on

The Honor Roll controversy

How "It Seems" to me.

To the Editor: In last week's issue of the Hood River News, I noticed the quarter page ad. of Hood River Post No. 22, American Legion, and as it requested therein, I have saved it. Also, as predicted therein, I want, right here and now, to refer to certain parts of it.

To begin with, I don't like to have anyone try to put something over on me.

If Hood River Post No. 22 and its members are going to set themselves up as the oracle to enlighten the citizenry of our community, I for one want them to know what they are talking about. If they know that class 4-C was set up by the war department to "accommodate Disloyal Registrants" born in America, why don't they say so? If they don't know it, why don't they keep still until they do know the facts, instead of trying to pull a smear by saying "It seems." thus and so. Who is this loyal diviner of the war department, as well as that department's special confident? "It seems" to some of us that Post No. 22 wanted to find someone on whom they could cast aspersions and accusations

in order to justify their recent action, and these 19 Japs looked like a possible answer. Maybe they are right. Maybe these 19 are disloyal, but their's are not the names which were removed from the Honor Roll. You will find those names in Class 1-C - Now in Military Service. "It seems" to the writer that several other things are quite apparent. For many years back, Hood River has been widely known, well known and highly spoken of. Since Pearl Harbor, Hood River has been well out in front in respect to its War Bond purchases and all other war activities.

Hood River was on the map. Now there are black pins, representing Hood River, stuck all over the maps of the world, and Hood River is out in front - in verse. "It seems" also, to some of us, that there are a few radicals in Post No. 22 who have not much to do and don't do even that very well - and who have not been at the front in Hood River activities for quite some time - who felt that they wanted, in some way, to get into the line light. They wanted to start something, and looking around for a suitable vehicle in which to ride the skyways, their eyes chanced to rest upon a Japanese Pipe-line, and they immediately climbed aboard. Yes, they did start something. They would circulate petitions to the effect