

## Letter Comes From South Pacific

A letter from the South Pacific from Bill Melcher son of Ira Melcher, of Fruitland tells of the hard jungle fight necessitated in the taking of the Marianas. He reports that there are still some Japs on the islands but are considered more of a nuisance rather than a hazard but could cause some trouble if they were so inclined. He states that most of the fellows in that war zone agree that conditions are much better than they had anticipated. Most of the food is of the dehydrated variety and fresh water is being rationed.

## Farmer Sign Up For Extra Labor

Farmers have been busy the past two weeks signing up for transported labor at the county agent's office. March 15th has been set as the final date to sign up and no new members will be taken in after that date.

Several new members have signed up this year and it appears at this time that there will be 200 or more farmers requesting workers for the coming season.

Present plans are to locate the labor camp near the Ontario Junction. Five hundred Mexican Nationals have been requested for the peak harvest season.

## Youngsters Take "French Leave"

Mark Nations, young son of Mrs. Ray Nations and Dwayne Daudt, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Daudt, caused considerable excitement last Monday morning when they could not be located by their parents. The two youngsters were gone for approximately two hours before they were finally located playing on the railroad tracks near the plant of the Farmers Co-operative Creamery. When warned about the danger of passing trains young Nations remarked, "Oh we didn't get run over, the trains came along we just got off the track and on the cinder pile."

## Parsons And West Dissolve Partnership

Bryan West and Ed Parsons have dissolved a partnership which has existed in this city for the past several years and Ed Parsons has taken over the ownership of the Parsons Fruit company. Parsons plans on operating the concern as usual in the future and will handle the packing of prunes, apples, potatoes and onions again this year. Some improvements are planned for the buildings now occupied by the concern. Bryan West has as yet made no announcement as to his future plans.

## Payette Youth Gains Recognition

Robert W. Graham, former resident of Payette county, has gained considerable prominence in Seattle, Washington, having recently been chosen as the "Outstanding Young Man of 1944," of that city. The following is taken from a recent issue of a Seattle newspaper concerning Graham:

A small town boy who worked his way through college, Robert Weston Graham, 29, was yesterday named Seattle's "Outstanding Young Man" for 1944.

The award, bestowed annually, was announced at a joint luncheon of the Junior and Senior Chambers of Commerce. The event is sponsored by the junior chamber.

Mayor William F. Devin made the presentation, 13th in the history of the "Seattle First Junior Citizen" series. Graham, an attorney with the firm Bogle, Bogle & Gates since 1939, received the distinguished service key in the presence of many past winners.

Surprised and shy, Graham pointed to the chamber's service flag and said:

"The fellows represented by these stars are really Seattle's outstanding young men."

A native of Payette, Idaho, Graham attended elementary schools in Ontario, Ore., and was graduated from Walla Walla's Whitman College in 1936, valedictorian of his class. A Phi Beta Kappa, he received his law degree at Columbia University. He worked his way through college as a waiter and fraternity house manager.

A letter winner in four major college sports, Graham holds Whitman and Northwest Conference records in two track events. He married Margaret Jane Trzinski in 1941 and they have two children, Robert, Jr. and Douglas.

The board of judges naming Graham included Mayor Devin, the Very Rev. Francis E. Corkery, S. J., Samuel E. Fleming, Dave Beck, Charles F. Clise and Paul R. Green. Civic service, character and ability formed the basis of the award, the judges said.

A tireless worker in many Seattle civic programs, Graham is also national director of the National Junior Chamber. He was chairman of the state committee which successfully campaigned to make Mearns T. Gates, principal of the Pomeroy high school, president of the national chamber.

Gates traveled from his Chicago headquarters to deliver the principal address at yesterday's meeting, but fell ill and was ordered by his physician to remain in bed. Stephen F. Chadwick, attorney, spoke on "America Tomorrow Depends Upon Her Young Men of Today," the topic originally scheduled for Gates.

## TROMLY'S UNIT EARNS SPECIAL COMMENDATION

A special release from the Philippines brings the news that the 143rd artillery of which Pfc. Geo. D. Tromly, Payette, is a member, received special commendation from its commanding officer, during the

first month of fighting on Luzon, which ended Feb. 9.

The commendation in part said, "The performance of this battalion during the past 30 days has been very gratifying. It has been clearly demonstrated that you are a part of a well trained, efficient fighting team."

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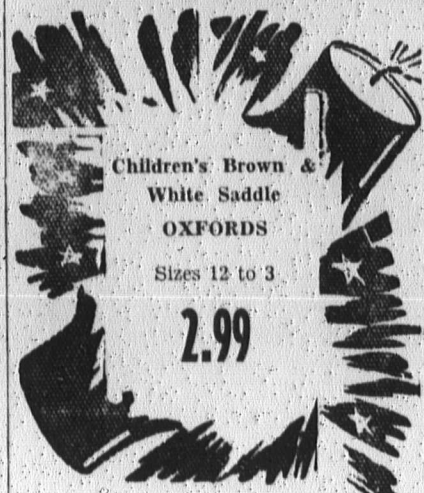
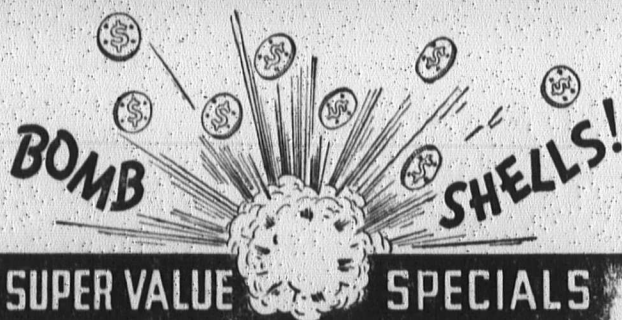


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