

THE WEATHER

By U. S. Weather Bureau
Rain tonight and Sunday; little change in temperature.
See page 4 for statistics.

Roseburg News-Review
THE DOUGLAS COUNTY DAILY

REFUGE SHIPS

Will the U. S. turn them over to Britain, as requested, and thereby commit an assertedly warlike act offensive to Germany? This is the latest momentous question posed in war developments. The answer will appear in the NEWS-REVIEW, when given.

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ROSEBURG, OREGON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1940.

WOL. XXIXNO. 118 OF THE EVENING NEWS

BRITAIN'S SHIP BID STIRS NAZI WARNING

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS
THE statisticians tell us that in this great country 1800 people die each year from falls on streets and sidewalks.

HALF A MILLION are injured annually in such accidents.
Intoxication, the statistical department of the Metropolitan Life Insurance company announces, "causes one-fifth of these fatal falls—an unexpectedly large proportion. This may come as a distinct shock to those who hold the view that in some mysterious manner intoxicated persons are able to protect themselves from falls. Quite to the contrary, the unsteady gait of the inebriated person is apt to cause his death."

In this country one of our cherished beliefs is that a drunk falls relaxed and so escapes the bumps that come to the sober person who supposedly tightens his muscles as he falls and so hits hard.

One by one, those hallowed delusions are being taken from us by the cold-blooded researchers who are interested only in facts. The time may come when we won't be handicapped by knowing so much that isn't true.

CYNICAL thought intruding at this point:
Even more rapidly than the scientists blast these ancient errors of thought the propagandists plant NEW ERRORS among us.

Accurate knowledge of all things among all people is still a distant goal.

THE news just now is full of dire predictions of what is coming in Europe this winter and early in the spring.

As to what is GOING TO HAPPEN, it is wise to doubt everything you read and hear. The sources aren't sure. With censorship universal throughout the world (in greater or less degree) we hear only what somebody is willing for us to hear.

What the censors are willing for us to hear is governed by policy.

DON'T forget that SURPRISE is still important in warfare. The British say the most important.

(Continued on page 4.)

Four Killed In 2 Wrecks In Marion

SALEM, Ore., Dec. 21.—(AP)—Two automobile collisions, one involving an ambulance carrying persons injured in the first crash, killed four and gravely injured three others last night on the Hazel Green-Silverton highway, 11 miles east of here.

The dead are: Mr. and Mrs. Ted Crites of Scotts Mills; Arch Clayton Winn, 37, of Turner, and a woman tentatively identified as Mrs. Tilly Vallet of Scotts Mills.

William Winn of Turner, Mrs. Champ C. Shepherd of Salem and Darline Crites, 2, of Scotts Mills, were injured.

State Police Sergeant Farley Mogan said automobiles believed to have been driven by Crites and Arch Winn collided, killing Winn outright. Crites died a short time after reaching a Silverton hospital.

Mogan said an ambulance bearing Mrs. Crites and Mrs. Vallet crashed with a car driven by Champ Shepherd, knocking the Shepherd car into a ditch, where it caught fire. The women were rushed to a hospital in a first aid car but were pronounced dead upon arrival.

The officer said investigation did not show whether the women were dead before the second accident. Shepherd was severely burned in the fire, he reported.

Heavy Storm Trails Quake In California

Rain, Wind Lash Eureka Region, Disrupting Telephone, Rail Services, Halting Work on Shasta Dam; Rivers Rise.

EUREKA, Calif., Dec. 21.—(AP)—Communication facilities into Eureka were restored early today after a rain and wind storm, preceded by an earthquake, had swept over this northwestern California area last night.

No damage was reported as the result of the quake which was felt here at 3:30 p. m. yesterday. The shock lasted 15 minutes. The rain, driven by a 45-mile-an-hour wind, came from over the Pacific and deluged the Eureka coastal district, which usually is subjected to heavy rains this time of the year.

An earth slide near South Fork disrupted telephone and telegraph service and delayed Northwestern Pacific train service.

No severe storm conditions were reported, although the upper Eel river was rising rapidly, and the weather bureau station warned ranchers of the lower Eel river valley that there might be some danger from rising water today.

The same storm swept inland to the upper Sacramento river valley where Redding recorded four and one-half inches of rain in 24 hours.

Work on Shasta dam, north of Redding, was halted and 1,600 men rendered idle when the Sacramento river rose five feet in eight hours and flooded over the powerhouse at the dam, for the second time this week. Construction continued on page 6.

Sheriff Killed By Automobile Blow

SEATTLE, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Kitsap County Sheriff Rued Blankenship, of Bremerton, died today in a hospital of injuries received in an automobile accident last night six miles south of Port Orchard, on the Gig Harbor highway. Two other brothers, one of them Daniel L., his brother-in-law, died in the same accident, one of them in an automobile accident.

He was struck by an automobile driven by William G. Byl, 24, a navy yard pipefitter's helper, of Manette, last night as he stepped out of his car onto the highway. Underdriver Fred Vetters of Bremerton said, Vetters and Blankenship had been investigating a minor accident and the rear bumper of their machine got caught in another car's bumper at the scene.

As Blankenship stepped out, Byl's machine came by, Vetters said. He was knocked down and received a broken leg and arm and severe shock.

Blankenship, a world war veteran, was elected sheriff two days after the death of his brother Daniel, on Nov. 4, 1934. Rush had been injured in an altercation while at his duties as deputy sheriff and Daniel and another deputy were rushing him to Seattle for treatment when their car left the road and hit a tree. Daniel was killed instantly.

Rush was immediately selected by the democratic county central committee to take his brother's place on the ballot at the election two days later and was elected.

Another brother, Herbert, was found dead a number of years ago near Olympia near the scene of a mysterious blast.

Britain Has Abundant Shipping, CIO Asserts

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Great Britain has more merchant shipping under her control today than ever before in her long maritime history, according to a survey by the national maritime union (CIO), which placed the figure at nearly 17,000,000 tons. The survey was described today by National Organizer Howard McKenzie, who conducted it, as proof that "the cry 'all aid to Britain' is little less than outright hypocrisy."

Anti-Nazi Films Stir Mexican Hitlerites' Ire

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Police assigned special guards today to all theaters showing anti-Nazi films and to all meetings of an anti-Nazi nature in an effort to halt a series of organized disturbances by groups crying "heil Hitler" and throwing stench bombs, tear gas and itch powder.

Roosevelt Appoints 'High Command' to Direct United States Arming Program; Board Is Headed by Wm. S. Knudsen

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Four men personally selected by President Roosevelt as a defense "high command" shouldered the concentrated responsibility today of arming America.

To the new organization—to be known as the office for production management for defense—the president late yesterday named William S. Knudsen and Sidney Hillman of the present defense commission, War Secretary Stimson and Navy Secretary Knox. Knudsen will be director.

Although the present defense advisory commission will be retained, it was expected that the new board would take over most of its duties, leaving the seven defense commissioners to coordinate the civil life of the nation with the activities of the new board.

Mr. Roosevelt's decision to create the new office, under authority of the 1939 government reorganization act, followed widely-voiced demands for a greater centralization of authority in defense matters.

Prospects were that the new set-up would be functioning by January 1. The board, Mr. Roosevelt said, will represent all three of the elements involved in every process of production—labor, management, and the buyer-user.

Danish-born Knudsen, one of the nation's outstanding production experts, will represent management. Hillman, a union man for 30 years, will handle labor problems, and will be assistant director of the board.

Secretaries Knox and Stimson will present the viewpoint of the buyer-user—the army and navy. The new four-man board will be given full responsibility to make decisions of policy, without conferring with the president. But, said Mr. Roosevelt, if one of the decisions went wrong, he would call in the four and talk it over with them.

The board, he indicated, will have all the powers which the president constitutionally can turn over to subordinates. Under the constitution, he said, there can be no second president.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Former President Herbert Hoover, commenting on President Roosevelt's appointment of a four-man national defense council, said today: "The president has taken a wise step in the organization of arms and munitions production."

U. S. Naval Plans Stolen From Engineer's Auto

DEANESBURG, N. Y., Dec. 21.—(AP)—State police said today their criminal investigation bureau is investigating theft of plans they "understand" are for construction of naval vessels from Rufell Keefer, production engineer of the New York Shipbuilding corporation, Camden, N. J.

They stated the prints were stolen from Keefer's car while he was dining Thursday night at Hixview Inn, near Schenectady, N. Y. Keefer, they added, had been on a business visit to the General Electric company at Schenectady, and stopped for dinner with a friend, proceeding to Camden after reporting the theft.

Four Slightly Hurt in Wreck at Coos Junction

Mr. and Mrs. Warren Cloake and their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Langhoff, suffered cuts and bruises but no serious injuries Friday in an automobile accident near Coos Junction. The car in which they were returning from a trip to Handon skidded off the highway and overturned. The vehicle was a truck covered into a house trailer, and considerable damage resulted to the furnishings and equipment. Members of the party were able to return home after receiving treatment.

Orchestra Leader Kemp Dies After Auto Crash

MADERA, Calif., Dec. 21.—(AP)—Hal Kemp, 35, the orchestra leader, died here today from complications that developed from injuries he received in an automobile accident Wednesday.

One of Kemp's lungs was punctured and several ribs were broken when his car and another collided near here. Yesterday pneumonia developed in the injured lung, and spread to the other.

Bardia Siege Tightened By British Ring

Warships, Artillery, Bombers Unite in Battering East Libyan Base of Italians, Defended by 20,000 Men.

CAIRO, Egypt, Dec. 21.—(AP)—While British bombers, artillery and warships were reported battering beleaguered Bardia today in an effort to smash a path through the Italian defenses, a general headquarters communiqué announced British troops had captured an additional 900 prisoners and were "clearing" the areas to the northwest and west of the eastern Libyan base.

The British forces in the western desert, "which continue to be reinforced," also have taken four guns in their mopping-up operations, the communiqué reported.

In addition, patrols along the Sudan frontier were said to be carrying on "their aggressive activity."

As the British closed in on Bardia, large units of the trapped fascist forces were said to be trying desperately to slip through the ring of steel under cover of darkness and the pall of smoke and dust hanging over the town after five days of bombardment.

It was believed in some British circles that such a slip—if any got through—would try to join Marshal Graziani at Tobruk for a new stand 75 miles west of the Libyan-Egyptian frontier.

The coastal road to Tobruk and Derpa has been reported, like Bardia, under almost constant RAF and naval bombardment.

Siege Tightened: Reports from the battlefield said the British, bringing up infantry to reinforce their advance tank columns, completed a semicircle of men and guns around the landward side of Bardia last night while a line of warships off the coast finished the encirclement.

Immediately, it was said, the battle of Bardia became a siege. From all sides British guns were thundering at the 15-mile Italian defense front of tank traps, gun emplacements and pill boxes manned by some 20,000 troops—many of them survivors of the fascist fight from Egypt.

The British commander-in-chief said today: "The British are confident of a complete victory."

Dock Strike Settled by Two Years' Agreement

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Pacific coast stevedore labor problems apparently have been solved for a critical period of the national defense program by the signing of a new two-year working agreement. Representatives of the Waterfront Employers' association and the CIO longshoremen yesterday put their names to a contract covering 13,000 men.

Specifically, the new contract, which extends until September 30, 1942, granted provisional wage increases effective next February 20 with semi-annual wage reviews provided thereafter; tightened the arbitration procedure; set up a new coast joint labor relations committee, and allowed the use of labor-saving devices.

The union hiring hall and preferential hiring were continued.

Woman Love Slayer Faces Murder Charge

PORTLAND, Dec. 21.—(AP)—A first-degree murder charge was filed against Mrs. Julia Antwerp, 40, an unemployed widow, yesterday in the slaying of her admitted lover, Paul Notzold, 52.

Mrs. Carlson confessed killing Notzold with an axe and a razor, Detective John Abbott, who signed the complaint, said. Notzold's slashed and battered body was found in a bed at the widow's home.

Attempt to Incite U. S. to Commit Warlike Act Seen

RAF Bombs Ruhr Region, Nazi Bases

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Secretary Hull said today that the state department would comply with the request of the German government and withdraw two officers and an employee of the American embassy in Paris.

Two secretaries of the embassy, Cecil M. P. Cross and Evelyn Hunt, and the receptionist, Mrs. Elizabeth Deegan, will be assigned elsewhere.

Hull emphasized that any government has the right to demand the withdrawal of officials or employees of another government without substituting any reason.

The state department will investigate the charges against Cross, Hunt and Mrs. Deegan, Hull said, but a preliminary examination of the facts had not disclosed that they were guilty of assisting a British officer to escape, as charged by the Germans.

At the same time the admiralty announced "fires were seen to have been started in a raid by planes of the fleet air arm on three cities in the Italian Dodecanese islands off the Turkish coast Dec. 17.

The ministry said the RAF, employing large forces of bombers in "successful and extensive operations," scored hits on the Berlin engine factory and "other parts of the target area" and that the fires, which resulted were "stimulated" by a subsequent attack which also started new blazes.

Invasion Ports Blasted: In operations by the coastal command yesterday, a "direct hit" was registered on a German supply ship.

Particularly good results were obtained from the raids on invasion ports of Ostend, Antwerp, both in Belgium, Le Havre (France) and Flushing (the Netherlands), said the information ministry's statement.

It reported daylight attacks yesterday as follows: "Yesterday several attacks on enemy gun positions, airdromes and harbors were made by aircraft of the coastal command.

"We suffered no losses from any of our operations."

Greeks, British Deal New Blows

ATHENS, Dec. 21.—(AP)—British royal air force bombers based on Greek soil were reported today to have carried out "successful attacks" on oil tanks and railways at Brindisi, across the Adriatic Strait of Otranto on the heel of the Italian boot.

"Poor visibility and intense anti-aircraft fire made observation difficult," said the RAF communiqué, "but all bombs exploded in the target area. Large fires were started and subsequently there were several explosions."

While the RAF reported this and other assaults to support the Greek offensive into Italian-held Albania, dispatches from the fighting front said Greek forces had captured an Italian colonel and two battalions in fierce fighting around Tepeleni, Greek infantrymen, battling cold and a stubborn fascist force, were said to have occupied two villages and two strategically important heights in the Tepeleni area.

Heights taken in the Tepeleni area were described as "strongly guarded with barbed wire. After mentioning the gains in that sector, one report said: "Our artillery successfully shelled the retreating Italians. Guns and much material have fallen into our hands.

Further Drift 'Unbearable' Berlin Says

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Secretary Hull declined today to comment on statements made in Berlin to the effect that Germany would consider it an unfriendly act if the United States requisitioned foreign flag ships now in American ports and sold them to the British government.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—(AP)—The German foreign office spokesman declared today that the British suggestion that the United States turn over to Britain "enemy" ships now in refuge is "nothing other than inciting America to commit a warlike act" and American reaction to the suggestion is "being awaited by Germany with extraordinary interest."

He asserted that Germany had "shown restraint to the point of self-encumbrance, while on the other side there has been a systematic policy of pin-pricks, humiliations and even moral aggression."

Now, the spokesman added in comment on British-American discussions of assistance to Britain, it is unbearable for Germany to let things drift further.

"The statements came in a press conference. (Ronald H. Cross, British minister of shipping, said yesterday in London that the assignment of "a certain number of enemy ships in the United States" and addition of United States ships to the British service "are the only ways I can see for replenishment of any consequence."

Cross was speaking, the spokesman said, at the moment when "Great Britain is in a death struggle."

Limit Reached, Assertion: The German government for some time has become accustomed to formulations by American officialdom which "are guided by certain rabid characteristics," the spokesman said.

"Demands and interpretations are launched as though actions contemplated did not fall within the scope of practices defined by international law."

Another informed commentator volunteered the opinion that the cross proposal shows in what difficulty the British find themselves. "The British position is catastrophic," he said.

(By the Associated Press) There are two German vessels, 27 Italian ships and 37 of Danish (Continued on page 6)

Spring-Like Weather Marks Winter's Debut

PORTLAND, Dec. 21.—(AP)—The almanac has it as the first day of winter, but you'd never know it otherwise.

Spring-like weather prevailed over all Oregon today. Rain fell in every section and no where did the necessary dip below freezing.

North Bend on the coast was deluged with 3.53 inches of rain in the last 24 hours. Newport, Roseburg and Eugene each had more than an inch, but other cities experienced more gentle rainfall.

Minimum temperatures ranged from 22 degrees at Burns to 51 at North Bend.

Pilot Hussey Missing on Way to Deliver Plane

INGLEWOOD, Calif., Dec. 21.—(AP)—Pilot Bud Hussey was still unreported today after taking off early Thursday to deliver a single-engine combat training plane from the North American Aircraft company to the Canadian government at Montreal. Fourteen airplanes searched desert and mountain areas between Palmdale, Calif., and Las Vegas, Nev., without sighting him.

Douglas Turkey Given to Crew of British Ship

PORTLAND, Dec. 21.—(AP)—By way of helping "ease the lives of the men who are fighting for Britain," the Allied Merchants Navy club of Portland gave the crew of the British motorship Silverview a 40-pound champion Oregon turkey today for Yule dinner.

U. S. to Withdraw Three From Embassy To Appease Germany

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"While the enemy was being chased, Italian planes attempted to halt our advance but our fighters took off and shot down four enemy aircraft."

General Italian retreat from the mountain strongholds of Tepeleni and Kilsura in southern Albania was reported imminent as the Greek advance forces sought methodically to make the towns untenable by endangering the routes of supply and retreat.

That has been the pattern of Greek operations against all of the fascist defense positions captured so far.



William S. Knudsen

MORE DAYS to SHOP need to BUY THE CHRISTMAS SEALS
Strict guards against tuberculosis must be thrown up around babies. Parents and nurses can unknowingly be carriers of tuberculosis.