

THE WEATHER
By U. S. Weather Bureau
Partly cloudy tonight and Thursday. Morning fog. Little change in temperature.
See Page 3 for statistics.

Roseburg News-Review

THE DOUGLAS COUNTY DAILY

SOUTH PACIFIC
It may soon be added to the world war theater, according to latest events pointing to an armed clash between Japan and Britain. Deeply concerned will be the west coast area of the U. S. Keep abreast by reading the NEWS-REVIEW.

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DEMOCRACIES NEED U. S. AID, SENATE TOLD

Battle Over Bigger Trucks Stirs Solons

Vote on Committee O. K. Of Bill May Be Taken Late This Afternoon

By PAUL R. HARVEY, JR.
SALEM, Feb. 19.—(AP)—In the first major battle of the session, the senate began debate today on the administration-approved bill to permit the increase of truck weight and length limits on state highways from 54,000 to 68,000 pounds and from 50 to 60 feet.

After arguing for an hour and a half, the senate recessed until 2 p. m., with indications it would reach a vote about 3 p. m.

In a spirited debate between Sen. C. H. Zurcher (R., Walla Walla) and Sen. Douglas McKay (R., Marion), chairman of the senate roads and highways committee, the old dispute between the railroads and truckers was renewed.

The vote was on the committee's 6 to 1 report recommending passage of the bill. Zurcher being the only committee member opposing it.

Arguments Presented
Deny he is a railroad lobbyist, Zurcher opposed the bill on grounds it would deny justice to the railroads, give the highway commission too much authority in granting permits for large trucks, break down the roads, create traffic hazards and penalize small trucks.

McKay said the bill would reduce freight rates, protect the highways through scientific formulas regulating the weights permitted on each axle, and would provide competition between railroads and trucks.

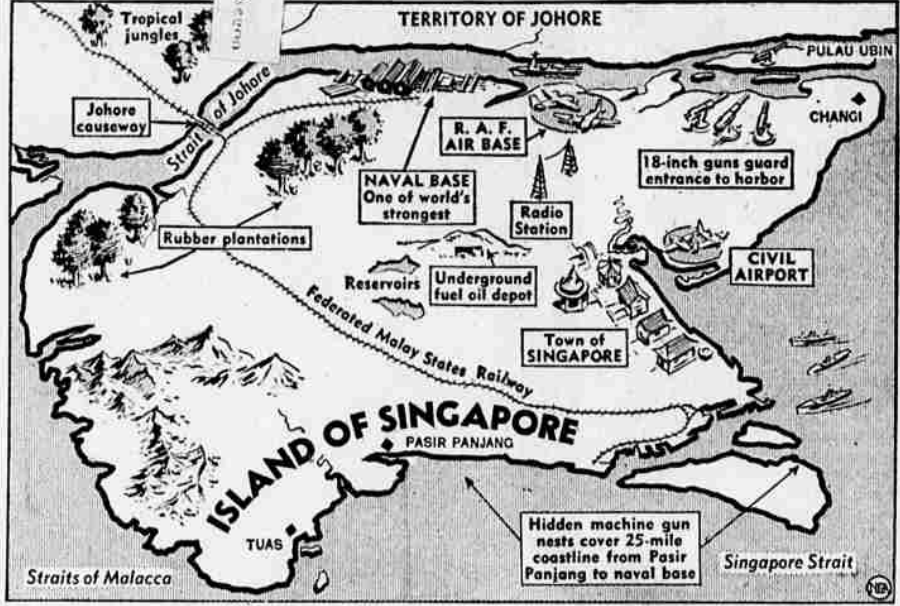
Roads Held Inadequate.
Zurcher denied the truckers' statement that the bill would provide uniformity with California and Washington, asserting there is not a single cross-state road that could safely carry the larger trucks.

McKay, however, denied this. "There could be no uniformity even if this bill passed," Zurcher said, "because Oregon roads could not carry these big trucks."

"Regarding the argument that this bill would abolish trade barriers,"

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British Reinforcement of Singapore Base Branded by Japan as "Belligerent Act"



Map shows position of big coastal defense guns that guard only navigable entrance to naval base on Singapore Island, and spots civil and military features of the British stronghold.

By the Associated Press
Japan today accused Britain of committing "a belligerent act" as thousands of newly-arrived Australian troops filed into defense posts on the Malay peninsula to reinforce the empire's naval base at Singapore. The Australians, who disembarked yesterday at Singapore after a 3,000-mile trip which Britain's China fleet commander termed a demonstration "of the power given by British command of the sea," reinforced an already formidable concentration of British, Indian and Malay troops guarding Singapore.

In Shanghai, Major Akiyama, official spokesman of the Japanese military forces in China, asserted the arrival of Australian troops at Singapore "cannot be interpreted as a gesture contributing to peace in the far east," but other quarters declared this was Britain's answer to increasing Japanese pressure in the south Pacific.

Across the adjacent Gulf of Siam in French Indo-China, the Japanese are reported to have more than 13,000 troops—far beyond the quota France formally permitted. Unconfirmed reports reaching Saigon said two Japanese fleets were in the Gulf of Siam between southern Indo-China and Malaya—one of them anchored off Bangkok, Thailand. A Dutch authority there forecast land and sea blows at Singapore and at The Netherlands East Indies in the "very near future."

Icy Blast Chills Midwest and East

By the Associated Press
Arctic blasts again kept the mercury at sub-zero levels in sections of the midwest today and brought freezing temperatures to most of the northeastern quarter of the nation.

Sub-zero cold was felt in seven midwestern states, with Minnesota and North Dakota reporting the lowest readings. Continued cold and snow flurries were forecast for most of the northern states.

Before dawn the temperature was 27 below zero at Bemidji, Minn., 25 below at Roseau, Minn., and Devils Lake, N. D., -17 at Watertown, S. D., -10 at La Crosse, Wis., -9 at Charles City, Ia., and zero at Moline, Ill. Upper Michigan also had sub-zero readings.

Maryland looked forward to its coldest weather of the winter as forecasters predicted a 10 degree drop today.

Highway crews battled drifts in western New York, which suffered its worst snowstorm of the season yesterday. Because of drifts and poor visibility, Fuhrmann boulevard, the main highway along Lake Erie south of Buffalo, was closed. Many country schools suspended classes because of the 12-inch snowfall.

In Wisconsin, too, some rural schools were closed because of drifted side roads. Snow drifts, packed hard by high winds, made some secondary roads impassable in western, central and southeastern Wisconsin.

An early morning temperature of 2 above zero was reported at Chicago and a low minus of eight was forecast. The mercury touched 11 degrees at Detroit, 10 at Pittsburgh and 9 at Cleveland before dawn.

Wife, 12, Presents Mate, 17, With Son of 6 Pounds

UNION, Miss., Feb. 19.—(AP)—A normal six-pound boy was born Monday to 12-year-old Mrs. Wilmer Munn of Union.

Her 17-year-old husband was so happy over becoming a father that he refused to leave the hospital except to go to his meals.

The couple, members of well-known families in this section, quit high school last year after a childhood courtship and were married in April.

Kiwanis-Grange Programs Listed

The Kiwanis-Grange programs, an annual activity of the Roseburg Kiwanis club, will get under way Tuesday, February 25, when the Kiwanis entertainers meet with Riversdale grange. It was announced at the regular Tuesday Kiwanis luncheon meeting. The Kiwanis club for several years has organized an entertainment for production in grange halls. The meetings are opened to the public, usually without charge, but it has been the custom of granges to sell refreshments and proceeds have been used toward 4-H club scholarships.

The activity is in charge of a committee composed of L. W. Josse, Roy Bellows and Jack Wharton. Other dates have been arranged, the committee reports, as follows: March 4 Gilde, March 11 Azalea, March 18 Days Creek, March 25 Melrose, April 1 Sutherland, April 8 Lookingglass, April 15 Umpqua, April 22 South Deer Creek, April 29 Kellogg, May 6 Camas Valley.

The Kiwanians, at their regular meeting Tuesday, heard an inspirational talk by F. L. Crittenden, who presented a topic in keeping with the birthdays commemoration of Lincoln and Washington. A brief talk also was made by Dr. J. C. Curran, director of the Curran school of business of New York.

Community Club Fire Kills Four

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 19.—(AP)—Four agencies pursued the grim job today of trying to fix cause and blame for the disastrous fire in the Mission community center which took four lives yesterday and injured several persons besides.

Starting at the investigators—the fire and police departments, coroner's office and the community chest—was this list of dead: Mrs. Linda Zacharias, 50, craft work teacher at the girls' club housed in the center; Mrs. Emma Herzog, 64, volunteer worker; Mrs. Louise McCray, 35, also a volunteer; Archie Colon, 8, found suffocated in a first floor lavatory some time after other victims had been removed.

Most seriously injured was Kenneth Ellsworth, who was repairing a sewing machine in the wooden, two-story building when it caught fire and blazed up like pasteboard. He was near death today in a hospital, with second and third degree burns.

Less severely injured were two firemen, overcome by smoke, and two children who jumped out of a second story window.

U. S. Charge Hits Makers Of Surgical Instruments

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 19.—(AP)—Twenty-four surgical instrument manufacturing companies, the American Surgical Trade association and 12 individuals were indicted by a federal grand jury today on charges of conspiring to fix prices in violation of the anti-trust act.

The indictments charged that those named, through membership in the association, controlled the sale of approximately 95 per cent of all surgical supplies, both from manufacturer to dealer and from dealer to hospitals and physicians.

The defendants are charged specifically with conspiring to limit and prevent the production and sale of surgical supplies which were imitations or copies.

The indictments also charge that the association boycotted any articles produced elsewhere, thus giving the association a five-year monopoly.

Japan Would Mediate In World Strife

Second Offer to Britain Concurrent With Plea Against "War" Moves

LONDON, Feb. 19.—(AP)—The government informed the house of commons today that it had received "a special message" from Japan offering to mediate in the war and also accusing the United States and Britain of "warlike preparations" in the Pacific ocean.

Undersecretary for Foreign Affairs Butler said that Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden has received this message, couched in "courteous terms," and following the same general lines as the statement issued in Tokyo yesterday by Ishii, government spokesman.

That Tokyo statement expressed Japan's readiness to "act as mediator or take whatever action is calculated to recover normal conditions, not only in greater east Asia, but anywhere in the world."

Authoritative London quarters said Britain would refuse to entertain any peace offers "until a complete victory has been gained," and Germany previously had dismissed the Japanese suggestion as insignificant.

Qualified neutral observers said the gesture was made chiefly for Japanese home consumption to quiet fears Japan may become involved in war against both the United States and Britain.

TOKYO, Feb. 19.—(AP)—Unofficial Japanese observers today interpreted the arrival of Australian troops at Singapore as another indication that Britain is attempting to create a crisis in the far east, but official quarters declined comment pending fuller information.

"If only a few thousand troops were landed, it is not worth comment," the cabinet information bureau said. "However, a statement may be made, if any considerable force was sent there."

SINGAPORE, Feb. 19.—(AP)—The fighting strength of Britain's Singapore base was reinforced today by thousands of Australians and by such great numbers of bombers and fighting planes that neutral observers believed the

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Knudsen Not Favorable To Strikes Curb

Law Might Bring Crash In Industry, Production Chief Tells Committee

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—(AP)—William S. Knudsen expressed the belief today that attempts to prevent work stoppages in defense industries by "overall" legislation might precipitate an industrial breakdown such as occurred in France.

At the same time, the director of the office of production management gave partial approval to a proposal by Representative Smith (D., Va.) to require a "cooling off" period in employer disputes before a strike could be called.

Knudsen made the statements in response to questions at a house judiciary committee hearing on labor difficulties in defense plants.

Knudsen told the committee he based his opposition to "overall" legislation on his own observation of what happened in France when the Blum government fixed wages and maximum working hours by decree. The United States has established minimum wages in some industries and does not limit the number of hours that can be worked.

"Asked whether he foresaw any 'substantial stoppages' for the future, as a result of conditions now developing, Knudsen replied in the negative.

"We can only judge the future by what has happened in the past," he said, "and there has been nothing very serious in the past six months or so."

Strike Accord Expected
Knudsen said he expected settlement of the Allis-Chalmers strike at Milwaukee by tomorrow.

He did not give the reasons for his belief. Representatives of the management and the CIO-UAW at Milwaukee went back to conferences to settle the month-old deadlock.

The dispute, which has kept 9,000 workmen away from their machines and choked off production on \$45,000,000 worth of defense orders, had seemed on the verge of settlement two days ago.

But union men and company officials placed different interpretations on the situation.

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Will Spur U. S. Help to Britain



WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—(AP)—President Roosevelt announced yesterday that Averill Harriman would go to England in 10 days or two weeks as a defense expediter.

Harriman, wealthy banker and railroad executive, who now is with the materials division of the office of production management, will be sent over as soon as the program under the lend-lease bill is perfected.

Mr. Roosevelt indicated that the new appointee would handle such questions as contracts, British defense estimates and priorities.

Connally Of Texas Argues For Proposal

Plan of Axis to Dominate World Threatens Safety Of America, Declaration

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—(AP)—Senator Connally (D., Tex.), pleading for national unity in support of the administration's British aid bill, told the senate today that the democracies of the world "must all hang together or they shall hang separately."

The Texan opened the third day of senate debate on the legislation with the assertion that opponents of the bill had engaged in "specious" arguments with the charge that the so-called lend-lease measure would make President Roosevelt a "dictator."

Describing the European war as "this death struggle of democracy against ruthless tyranny," Connally said the United States could not afford to be indifferent to the fate of those nations fighting the axis powers.

"In foreign affairs," Connally declared, "America should face the world as a united people. In these high and important transactions we ought to prepare a solid front. The democracies must all hang together or they shall hang separately."

"Our own material interests, our prestige before the world and our own domestic tranquility require that we meet this titanic issue with a single voice and a single purpose. America must play the part of America. It must not fail."

Axis Plan Foreseen
Citing Nazi statements about establishment of a new world order, Connally said it was his belief that the axis powers of Germany, Italy and Japan hoped to dominate the world.

"This compact of aggression and conquest," he declared, "is an armed threat to the security of the United States. Great Britain, with superb gallantry, is a solemn pledge with fate, is pouring out the blood, not alone of her soldiers, but of her civilian population in stemming the tide of world dominion."

To help Britain, he said, the "lend-lease bill proposes to furnish supplies and munitions, but not men."

President Defended
Connally said opponents had charged the British aid measure was a "war" bill under which the president might commit some act which would involve this country in war.

He called that charge "an attack upon the sincerity of the president and upon his oft-declared intention to keep America out of war," and said "it implies that he is less patriotic than those who bring the charge."

"No president needs such a bill as this if he should desire to embroil us in war," Connally added. "Any president as sole commander of the army and navy of the United States, may at any time so employ either the army or the navy as to bring about an international situation which might prove war."

"The constitution and laws of the United States will exercise their lofty duties with a view to the interest, the safety and the security of the United States."

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I SAW
By Paul Jenkins

News-Review Photo and Engraving.
anything goes wrong, the devil is a mighty handy fellow to blame it on. We find it that way down here at the News-Review.

Jimmy and Jeanne are about eleven years old, I think, and attend Fullerton school what time they aren't editing their newspaper, which is most of the time. Their plant is upstairs in the big Carter home in West Roseburg. The rest of the house is rented out to Harlan's father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Harlan Carter, Sr., as a residence.

The Round-about News has a circulation list of thirty subscribers, and this is growing by leaps and bounds. They don't know it yet, but they have thirty-one subscribers—I'm going to take it, if they'll send their solicitor around to me.

Dogs, Cats Reported Sold To Feed Needy Belgians

BRUSSELS, Belgium (via Berlin) (Feb. 19.—(AP)—The sale of dogs and cats for food in the Brussels region has been reported by independent investigators and the government food control bureau is investigating.

Meat from these animals has been reported prepared in various forms, one method being to grind and mix it with lard oil. Some also has been canned.

Food control bureau agents have arrested a merchant accused of adulterating flour with gypsum.

TODAY'S TOP ODDITY

By the Associated Press
CUMBERLAND, Md.—Prospectin was good while it lasted at Cumberland's "diamond mine"—but the rush is over.

A group of boys, clawing in rubbish at the city dumping ground, turned up a box containing \$14,000 worth of diamonds. When the boys tried to sell the gems on the street, an investigation followed.

The stones, owned by an attorney's wife, had been left at a jeweler's for cleaning. The box was brushed off the counter by accident, fell into a waste basket and was hauled away with the rubbish.