

THE WEATHER

By U. S. Weather Bureau

Partly cloudy with occasional showers tonight and Wednesday. Little change in temperature.

See page 4 for statistics.

Roseburg News-Review

THE DOUGLAS COUNTY DAILY

CONVOYS

Will President Roosevelt announce a decision on this vital question in his international broadcast tonight? The world awaits his talk, expected to be a statement of U. S. policy in relation to the war. Details in tomorrow's NEWS-REVIEW.

VOL. XLVI NO. 43 OF ROSEBURG REVIEW

ROSEBURG, OREGON, TUESDAY, MAY 27, 1941.

VOL. XXIX NO. 241 OF THE EVENING NEWS

BRITISH SINK NAZI WARSHIP BISMARCK IN RETALIATION FOR HOOD'S DESTRUCTION

Lumber Strikers Reject Proposal of Mediation Board to Resume Work

CIO Unions Won't Budge On Demands

Paralysis of 52 Puget Sound Plants Continues; 60,000 Men Affected

OLYMPIA, May 27.—(AP)—Striking CIO unions in the Pacific northwest lumber and logging industry turned down a defense mediation board's proposal yesterday for full resumption of work pending settlement of the various two-week-old walkouts.

The board recommended that operations be resumed pending a study of the situation by a commission which would then attempt a settlement. O. M. Orton, president of the International Woodworkers of America, said representatives at yesterday's conference flatly turned down the proposals which had been made at a meeting in Washington, D. C., recently with union leaders.

The board said the strike involved 12,000 workers in an industry employing 60,000 to 75,000. There are strikes in progress against 52 Puget sound operations.

The union demands include a full union shop, a flat wage increase of 7 1/2 cents an hour to a minimum of 75 cents a week's vacation with pay for full year employees, and the elimination of piece work.

Counter Offers Made.

Operators countered with these offers: A union "maintenance of membership agreement" for all employees now members of the IWA, and an agreement to recommend membership to all new employees; a wage increase of 7 1/2 cents on the basic wage with certain variations in the brackets which had a five per cent increase in wages last fall and an adjustment to make a 12 1/2 per cent increase for all workers over the scale of last September.

Employers also asked continuance of piece work with the suggestion that a study be instituted of the relation between it and safety standards; one week's vacation with pay for sawmill employees of a full year who have worked 1,400 hours of straight time, and a vacation allowance of two cents for each hour worked by logging employees.

The board proposed the industry-wide survey to clear up any discrepancies on reports it received.

"The fir industry is of great importance to our national defense and any stoppage of work

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Douglas County Soil Slated For Federal Survey

CORVALLIS, May 27.—(AP)—Soil survey work sought for six years in Douglas county will commence this season, despite reduction of state funds, Dr. W. L. Powers, head of the OSC soils department, announced today.

Assignment of A. C. Anderson, federal specialist just completing work in Baker county, to the Douglas area immediately has been authorized by Dr. Charles E. Kellogg, chief of the U. S. division of soil surveys. Dr. Powers has been notified. Rearrangement of budgets between the areas and promise of local support of the work next year makes possible starting the Douglas work, said Powers. His office will furnish an assistant and obtain some WPA labor.

Netmen Given Title Awards



Plaques, emblematic of the state high school tennis doubles championship, were awarded today by Homer Grow, tennis coach, left, to Clyde Carstens, center, and Paul Gacy, right, who last weekend won the state title for the second successive year. The Roseburg high school duo has been undefeated in matched play for two years. The title was won in competition in state matches played on Reed college courts in Portland last Friday and Saturday.

25 Loaded Freight Cars Fire's Prey; Watchman Killed

JERSEY CITY, N. J., May 27.—(AP)—One man lost his life while three car floats and 25 loaded freight cars burned in a New York harbor pier fire today.

The blaze occurred at the harbor edge of the Greenville terminal, giant Pennsylvania railroad yard for transshipment of freight across the harbor. The cars burned bore merchandise intended for export or New York City.

Station Inspector H. E. Curran of Bayonne, who started an investigation for the customs service, said that as far as he knew no war materials were destroyed.

Flames started on or under flat cars laden with creosoted piling and swept over some 300 feet of the 2,240-foot pier, longest in New York harbor, but the fast work of nearly 500 railroaders and firemen saved a vast fortune in freight.

Engineers and brakemen coupled onto even burning cars and pulled them into the yard; tugboat skippers hastily hauled barges to safety; nearly 30 fire companies responded to three alarms; two fireboats from New York, four coast guard cutters and 14 tugs joined them.

The dead man was identified as William J. Minnock, watchman on the Adrian R., one of the barges which was burned.

There was no immediate estimate of property loss. Police suggested a locomotive spark might have started the fire.

Death Summons Two Oregon College Teachers

PORTLAND, May 27.—(AP)—Assistant Professor J. Walter Erickson, 32, of the secretarial science department at Oregon State college, died here yesterday of a three months' illness.

Born in Cascade Locks, he was graduated from Oregon State and taught at Baker high school before going to the college six years ago.

EUGENE, Ore., May 27.—(AP)—Lance W. Hart, 49, assistant drawing and painting professor at the University of Oregon since 1930, died yesterday after a long illness. He was a native of Aberdeen, Wash., and a world war veteran.

His widow and two children survive him.

New Strike Threats Hit Industries

Wage Demands Made On Chrysler, Packard Firms, N. American Aviation

(By the Associated Press)

The CIO's United Auto Workers Union today served notice at Detroit it would seek a wage raise of 10 cents an hour at Chrysler and other Detroit automobile plants, such as was won from General Motors recently.

Meanwhile, labor difficulties persisted at the Packard Motor Car company at Detroit, and at the North American Aviation, Inc., plant at Inglewood, Calif., accompanied in each case by threats to strike.

CIO United Automobile workers at the North American plant were reported ready to strike tomorrow to enforce their demand for a blanket 10-cent hourly raise for all the concern's 11,000 employees, together with a boost in the minimum rate from 50 to 75 cents an hour.

The company has \$109,000,000 in national defense orders.

Another strike threat was at the Packard plant in Detroit, where some of the 9,500 employees are working on airplane engines for the British and the United States army. CIO-UAW members there also asked a 10-cent hourly wage hike.

Hillman Accused.

An American Federation of Labor official charged before a senate defense investigating committee today that Sidney Hillman, associate director of the office of production management, had a part in "stimulating" a strike in the Vultee Aircraft manufacturing plant in California.

Harvey Brown, president of the International Machinists union, testifying in Washington on the San Francisco shipyard strike, commented that a government representative, who he said was sent by Hillman, had interfered with the union's attempt

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Drivers Join Strike of Bakers in Portland

PORTLAND, May 27.—(AP)—Other Oregon cities reported a lowered bread supply today as a Portland bakery workers' strike entered its third day.

The baker drivers union entered the strike yesterday, further cutting into the supply of bread which had been leaving Portland for other towns.

Both unions sought more pay, the bakery workers asking an increase from \$1 to \$1.10 an hour, plus 20 cents an hour bonus for night work. The strike closed all but 75 small bakeries, cutting off 80 per cent of the city's bread production.

Grocery clerk workers voted today on a proposed wage scale of \$29 for a week of 50 hours to September 1, and 49 hours after that. Current scale is \$25 for 51 hours.

Road Foreman Killed as Bridge Pier Collapses

ONTARIO, Ore., May 27.—(AP)—A concrete bridge pier fatally crushed William Homer Utley, 61, Malheur county road crew foreman, at Willow creek, five miles west of here yesterday.

The pier was under construction at the time of its collapse.

6 Naval Ships Sunk By Nazis In Crete Area

Other Vessels Damaged, British Admit; Struggle For Island Seesaws

LONDON, May 27.—(AP)—The British navy has lost two cruisers and four destroyers, while two battleships and "several other cruisers" have been damaged in the battle of Crete, it was learned in authoritative circles today.

No sea-borne German forces have landed on Crete, but reinforcements are reaching the allied garrison, it was said.

The allied forces were said to have inflicted "very heavy losses on the Germans since the airborne Nazi invasion started a week ago today.

"The fighting has been most bitter and severe and enemy losses up to the present have been much heavier than ours," official quarters announced.

"The battle of Crete now has lasted for a week and during this whole time our troops have been subjected to an intense and continuous scale of air attacks to which, owing to geographical conditions, our air force has only been able to make a very limited but gallant counterpoint.

"We have not, however, been able to prevent other descents of air-borne troops to reinforce the enemy and the weight of this attack has grown from day to day.

"The battle has swayed backwards and forwards with indescribable fury at Canea and equally fiercely, although on a smaller scale, at Retimo and Herakleion (Candia).

"Reinforcements of men and reaching general Freyberg's (allied) forces and at this moment the issue of magnificent resist-

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France Renews Vow Not to Give Nazis Navy, Land

WASHINGTON, May 27.—(AP)—The French government gave renewed assurances in writing today to the United States that the French fleet and colonies would not be surrendered to Germany or any other power.

A note containing specific guarantees was delivered by the French ambassador, Henry-Haye, to Sumner Welles, under-secretary of state.

The note, the ambassador told reporters, was drafted by him on instructions from the Vichy government. It was intended to remove misgivings here on the scope of French-German collaboration.

The French acted apparently in conformity with a request last week by Secretary of State Hull that the Vichy government should define its position clearly in writing if it wished to convince the world that pro-Filiter elements were not in supreme control at Vichy.

Henry-Haye declined to disclose full details of the note but he told reporters:

"We hope that it will be a disappointment to those people who are trying to disturb Franco-American relations."

Millions for Housing Plan Approved by F. R.

WASHINGTON, May 27.—(AP)—Defense housing projects, costing between \$35,000,000 and \$40,000,000, were approved yesterday by President Roosevelt.

Included was: Pendleton, Ore., \$5 dwelling units to rent at \$28 for army families and \$21 to \$45 for civilians.

No estimate was made of cost of individual units, but C. F. Palmer, housing coordinator, said each would have to come within a \$3500 limitation set by law.

Fire-Trapped Youth Perishes in Automobile

ASTORIA, May 27.—(AP)—

The youth trapped in a burning car on the Wolf creek highway yesterday has been identified as Arden Learned, 19, of Elsie, Coroner Ginn of Clatsop county said today.

U. S.-Made Plane Spots Nazi Craft for Pursuers, Aerial Torpedoes Send Her to Bottom

LONDON, May 27.—(AP)—Germany's proud new battleship Bismarck, crippled and staggering in wild circles under the blows of aerial torpedoes, was sunk today by the combined might of the British navy and its air force in full revenge for destruction of the battle cruiser Hood.

At 11 o'clock this morning, three days after the Hood had been blown to bits by a hit in the magazine from one of the Bismarck's 16-inch shells, the 35,000-ton Bismarck herself settled under the surface of the Atlantic.

Down with her went some 1,300 men, a great German admiral, Guenther Luetjens, and about one-fourth of Germany's known capital ship strength.

Participating in the kill were the torpedo planes of the fleet air arm, based on the aircraft carrier Ark Royal, and the new 35,000-ton battleship Prince of Wales.

But it was an American-made Catalina that hunted down the quarry Monday and led the killers to her, so torpedo after torpedo might beset into her vitals from the air.

Prime Minister Churchill and First Lord of the Admiralty A. V. Alexander gave the nation the story of the Bismarck's destruction—but they disclosed, too, the loss of two cruisers, the Gloucester and Fiji; the sinking of four destroyers and the damaging of two battleships and several other cruisers of the Mediterranean fleet in the raging battle for Crete.

Yet they were able to say that the fleet, even so pounded, has thus far prevented sea-borne German forces from reaching Crete and has covered the safe arrival of reinforcements for the British-Greek defenders of the island.

For the nation the sinking of the Bismarck, however, was the real news.

Churchill's statement that the Bismarck was beyond the range of German convoy bombers, based on French airdromes, was taken to indicate that the Nazi battleship was at least 1,500 miles out or approximately half way to the United States when it was sunk.

German commerce raiding aircraft like the big four-motored Focke-Wulfs have an effective bombing range of at least 3,000 miles.

It was just three days after the 42,100-ton Hood was blasted to pieces between Iceland and Greenland that the units of the royal navy, including the new 35,000-ton battleship Prince of Wales, caught up with her as she tried to make a French port, Brest or St. Nazaire.

She had been deserted by the escorting cruiser Prince Eugen, one of Germany's three cruisers of the 10,000-ton hipper class, the British asserted.

"Measures are being taken with respect" to the Eugen, one of Germany's most powerful cruisers, an official statement said.

Spotted by U. S.-Made Plane.

The British disclosed that the Bismarck eluded her pursuers once Saturday night in bad weather, but that a United States-built Catalina plane picked up her trail again Sunday before mid-day.

Planes launched from the Ark Royal then pounced on her time and again "in a succession of attacks," it was related. It was not claimed that the torpedo-carrying aircraft alone accounted for the Bismarck.

But if they did it was perhaps the first time in military history, that a battleship has been sunk from the air. At any rate, the planes were given credit for slowing up the Bismarck and making possible her final destruction.

The Catalina, the only American-made plane mentioned, is a long-range scout and patrol flying boat and is not used for torpedo carrying.

One aerial torpedo hit the Bismarck astern, crippling her steering gear, the official account related, and after that she was observed operating at very reduced speed and making "uncontrollable circles."

Then the Prince of Wales, sister

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I SAW

By Paul Jenkins



A RIDGE in the upper South Deer creek section which had been slashed many years ago.

You may observe in the accompanying picture the large trunks of trees which the slash fire failed to consume, still lying nakedly in skeleton windrows on the hillside.

Slashings aren't seen as frequently now as used to be the case when land prices were booming and the brushland found a ready sale. In still earlier times, of course, most of it wasn't brushland, the Indians having aided nature in keeping the grass burned over, thus killing possible growth of brush.

Another reason for the practice becoming rarer, I suspect, is the growing scarcity of farm labor, and the increasing cost of that which there now is. It takes

real money nowadays to hire slash work done.

A favorite practice of seed-trunk slashings is to broadcast the seed (often a mixture of rib and rye grasses) in the ashes. This has even been accomplished, on large scale operations where logged-off areas have been involved, through the use of airplanes as broadcasters.

I had it in mind, when I snapped the picture above, to give you a regular treatise on the practice of slashing, together with a report of various opinions as to its general advisability. But I just heard of the sinking of the German battleship Bismarck, and doggone it I can't seem to get my mind on slashing fires any more.

There's one raider that won't do any more B's!