

AMERICANS SMASH AXIS IN DRIVE TO SEA

Our Job Is to Save
Dollars
Buy War Bonds
Every Pay Day

Roseburg News-Review

THE DOUGLAS COUNTY DAILY

Control Won
Of Last Chain
Of Mountains

VOL. XLVII NO. 299 OF ROSEBURG REVIEW ROSEBURG, OREGON, THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 1943. VOL. XXXI NO. 179 OF THE EVENING NEWS

In The
Day's
News

CANNED FOOD VALUE POINTS TO DROP, ROOSEVELT NAMES NEW FOOD CZAR

Minimum Prices Set for Cabbage, Carrots, Beets for Canning; Wood Rationing in Western Oregon Unlikely

Himitsu Ven as April Ramp Buying Opens

New Table of Points to Be Issued Will Show Slashes on Many Items

WASHINGTON, March 25.—(AP)—April's canned goods ration stamps became valid today, but housewives are expected to hold them for another week because of strong hints from OPA that their value will be increased next month.

Future plans were kept secret, but top officials who refused to be quoted by name implied that some reduction in the point values of many types of processed fruits and vegetables could be expected, effective April 1.

A further indication of this came from a statement of the American Institute of Food Distribution at New York that movement to market of important canned vegetables had dropped 60 to 95 per cent under point rationing.

(Blaming newness of the system and "unnecessarily high point values," the institute said in its canners' market report that "this fault (high point values) will be righted—partly by reduction of several point values by April 1, and later by wholesale revision of these values on May 1.")

April coupons were made valid on March 25 to help persons who come to the end of the month with insufficient March stamps to meet essential needs, or with

WASHINGTON, March 25.—(AP)—Three more Oregon vegetables came under the minimum price regulations today when the state USDA war board announced support prices for beets, cabbage and carrots for processing. Support prices for peas, corn, tomatoes and snap beans had previously been announced.

Prices—Beets, \$28, \$21 and \$12 per ton for grades 1, 2 and 3, respectively; cabbage, \$12 a ton, field run with culls out; carrots, \$22 field run with culls out.

Processors who pay at least these prices to growers will be eligible to participate in the government purchase program aimed at keeping consumer prices in check while returning a fair price to growers, said R. B. Taylor, state war board head.

Quotas Cancelled.

County quotas on cream separators, power spray pumps, and rod weeders were cancelled today under the machinery rationing rules. A. L. Girod, chairman of the USDA war board machinery committee, announced. Farmers will need purchase certificates, but machinery rationing committees may issue these without regard to previous quotas. Farmers must locate the equipment before obtaining the certificate, however.

Increased amounts of irrigation equipment, farm pumps, windmills and domestic water systems are expected in Oregon following release of 70 to 100 per cent of 1943 production, Girod said. These are rationed but not under quotas.

WOOD RATIONING NOT NEEDED IN WEST OREGON

EUGENE, Ore., March 25.—(AP)—No rationing of wood for fuel will be undertaken in the fourth Oregon congressional district until a survey of the need

Mine Cave-In Deals Damage To City Area

School Building, Nearly Ninety Homes, Streets Torn at Pittston, Pa.

PITTSSTON, Pa., March 25.—(AP)—The main movement of a destructive earth cracking mine subsidence stopped today after damaging between 80 and 90 homes, a \$400,000 high school building and streets, and causing damage running into the thousands of dollars in this eastern Pennsylvania anthracite city of 18,000.

Mine Inspector Daniel Connolly informed Mayor John J. Reilly of the stoppage after touring the four-block affected area, where sections of earth had sunk throughout the night in one of the worst cave-ins in the hard coal fields in years. The inspector warned, however, that further "pulls" could be expected.

Mayor Reilly promptly summoned city officials to a conference later in the day to launch an investigation.

Panic spread among many residents when the earth began to rumble and crack about 7:30 last night over the No. 9 mine of the Pagnottoli enterprises in the heart of the residential area. Yawning crevices opened in pavements and lawns. Holes 20 to 25 feet deep appeared in some sections. Homes were twisted, plaster cracked and windows broken.

Approximately 50 school youngsters had just assembled in the three story, 49-room high school in the midst of the affected area. They fled hurriedly when the floors began to crack. The interior of the building was twisted and officials feared one se-

C. C. Davis to Direct All Distribution

Action Follows Plea of OPA Head to Congress To Reject Farm Bills

WASHINGTON, March 25.—(AP)—President Roosevelt announced today the creation in the agriculture department of an administration of food production and distribution to be headed by Chester C. Davis, president of the Federal Reserve bank at St. Louis and former director of the agricultural adjustment administration.

A White House statement said that "the administrator will have charge of what may be called the food production and distribution activities of the department, including the agricultural adjustment administration, the food distribution activities that were transferred to the department of agriculture by the war production board last December, and the recruitment of farm labor recently transferred to the department by the war manpower commission."

WASHINGTON, March 25.—(AP)—Price Administrator Brown urged congress today to reject the strongly-backed Bankhead and Pace farm bills, saying they would add more than \$3,750,000,000 to consumers' budgets and destroy the anti-inflation program.

Both bills have as their ultimate end the increase of farm income, but Brown wrote congressional leaders, they call for "so radical a change in the price of food" as to mean "the end of stabilization of prices" and the end of "the stabilization of wages as well."

The price administrator's letter went to Senator Lucas (D., Ill.), president pro tempore of the senate who promised "the stiffest kind of a fight" if farm blue leaders insist on calling for a senate vote today on the Pace bill to add farm labor costs to the crop parity formula.

The house has approved the Pace bill and both branches have approved the Bankhead bill, although in somewhat different versions, to stipulate that government benefit payments shall not be included in computing farm parity price ceilings.

Taken together, Brown said, they would raise the retail price of food between 17 and 18 per cent, increase the annual food budget of consumers by three and three quarters billion dollars and cost of government an additional

Reds Gain in 3 Areas, Halt Nazis In Donets Battle

MOSCOW, March 25.—(AP)—The red army's dogged drive through slush, ice and mud toward Smolensk has made fresh headway in three directions and German attacks in an effort to control the northern Donets river valley are slackening after their setbacks at the hands of the soviet defenders, the Russians said today.

The midday communique announced that additional villages were taken on the Smolensk front as soviet troops broke through the outlying defenses of the city.

The soviet's sharpest thrust appeared to be north of Dukhovshino, which is 32 miles northeast of the big German garrison city. The war bulletin said that in this sector the red army troops battled hand-to-hand with the Germans in an unidentified settlement which had been heavily fortified, after hurling grenades to clear their path.

South of this sector a Russian column was reported moving toward the district center of Dorogobuzh, 13 miles below the Moscow-Viazma-Smolensk railway and 50 miles east of Smolensk. The battle to take the city, which lies in a swampy area cut by the Dnieper river and many small streams, was considered now only a part of a large-scale offensive to control the upper Dnieper.

Fierce counter attacks, with heavy concentrations of heavy artillery to back up their infantry, were being mounted by the Germans, a dispatch to Red Star, the army newspaper, said.

In the battle for the upper Donets river valley, the Germans have been beaten back in every effort to establish bases on the eastern bank from Belgorod to Chuguev, and, smarting under blows which have caused terrific destruction to materiel and manpower, have relaxed the intensity of their assaults.

Commission Fees "Shocking," Naval Sales Quiz Told

WASHINGTON, March 25.—(AP)—Robert E. Kline, counsel for the house naval committee, said today that "in spite of all the fanfare, there still flourished in Washington and throughout the country many sales agents" who are receiving amounts "so excessive that they will shock the conscience, not only of this committee, but of congress and the American public."

As the committee opened a new inquiry into methods for curbing profits of commission agents, Kline presented as his first witness, W. Lester Baker and his wife, Catherine. Kline said they operated as a partnership on a commission fee basis and that their gross earnings amounted to \$266,276 in 1942.

Outlining the evidence he said he would develop during the hearings, the committee counsel asserted:

"Perhaps there would be no need for legislation if the numerous Washington representatives had taken fair warning from the previous hearings before this committee. Unfortunately, the contrary is true."

"The appalling thing is—and this demonstrates the need for the legislation—so few of them have seen the handwriting on the wall. They have done little or nothing of their own volition to adjust the situation."

Allied Bombers Give Japanese No Respite in Raids

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN AUSTRALIA, March 25.—(AP) General MacArthur's "flying artillery" made 44 bombing and strafing runs over Japanese lines at Mubo yesterday, firing 30,000 rounds from cannons and machineguns into enemy positions guarding the approaches to the Japanese New Guinea base at Salamaua, allied headquarters announced today.

Other allied planes carried out day and night attacks on far-flung enemy bases in the islands above Australia, scoring hits on shipping and airdrome areas, and one bomber on a reconnaissance mission shot two Japanese fighter planes out of the air in a duel over Wawak, New Guinea, a communique declared.

The enemy's planes also were in the sky before daylight yesterday, raiding allied bases at Oro bay and Milne bay in New Guinea with little effect, it was said.

In the air duel over Wawak three Japanese fighter planes challenged a Flying Fortress which within five minutes shot the tail off one, causing it to crash into the side of a mountain; sent the second into a smoking dive; and forced the third to quit the combat, dispatches from the allies base said.

NEW YORK, March 25.—(AP)—The Japanese have selected a motion picture of their sneak attack on Pearl Harbor as the best film of 1942, the Tokyo radio said today in a broadcast reported by the OWL.

"This piece of work," the broadcast was quoted as saying "has been chosen for its merits in revealing to the people the defined reason which lies behind the successes of the warriors who have gone through an unending and constant training which has brought them to be one and incomparable."

British Less Fortunate On Mareth Line, Losing Ground to Rommel

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA, March 25.—(AP)—United States troops repulsed heavy naz attacks in the Gafsa sector and made local gains in the Maknassy area of the central Tunisian front while the battle of the Mareth line dwindled to artillery duelling after four days of bitter fighting, it was announced today.

Military quarters said strong resistance and rigorous counterattacks by Marshal Rommel's forces prevented further major allied gains for the time being and, in some cases, wiped out advances achieved a few days earlier.

Advices from the southern Tunisian front late last night were that German counterattacks had largely wiped out the advances made by the British eighth army in driving a wedge into the upper end of the Mareth line.

In sight of the battling ground troops, British and American light bombers hammered important axis armored positions near the town of Mareth.

In the communique today there was no mention of the task force which flanked Rommel's positions and was last reported eight miles from El Hamma, axis air base at the rear of the fortifications and 20 miles west of Gabes.

Air Forces Strafe Axis

Field dispatches said United States troops won control of the last mountain chain overlooking the coastal plain and axis supply routes between Maknassy and the gulf of Gabes after beating back axis armored forces in the region of El Guetar, itself 12 miles southeast of Gafsa on the road to Gabes.

American air forces bombed axis troops and installations almost continuously in support of the forces of both Lieut. Gen. Patton in the Gafsa sector and Gen. Montgomery in the south.

Flying fortresses launched a heavy attack on Ferryville, near Bizerte, which is now one of the main Tunisian ports of entry for axis supplies. Observers said heavy damage was done to the docks and bomb-set fires sent flames 500 feet into the air.

Three merchant vessels were believed to have been hit. An RAF pilot, one of the escort made up of British Spitfires and American Lightning fighters, said the bombing was the most accurate he had ever seen.

Allied bombers knocked out ten axis tanks in forays over the Mareth line positions at the other end of the front, dispatches from Cairo said.

Planes attacked Rommel's formations south of El Hamma, hitting tanks, armored cars, gun carriers and trucks. (Presumably these had been marshaled to challenge the allied threat to El Hamma from the south).

In the Gafsa area German

PREDICTIONS are unsafe—especially when made by rank outsiders (such as this writer) who don't know all the facts.

But at least we know that Montgomery, after preparing long and carefully, seems to be hitting with everything he has. Every time he has done that in the past, something has had to give way.

Until what has been started in Tunisia is finished, the news will be exciting.

Explosion at Ordnance Depot Kills Ten Men

RAVENNA, O., March 25.—(AP)—An ammunition explosion yesterday at the government's \$7,000,000 portage ordnance depot killed ten workers and seriously injured two others, Col. Raymond A. Brown, commanding officer of the project, announced.

Col. Brown said no information would be made public until an investigation has been conducted. He said the depot was continuing operations with the normal complement of workers.

Portland Compelled To Import Sawdust

PORTLAND, March 25.—(AP)—A sawdust "pool" arrangement under which the fuel will be imported to Portland from mills as distant as Eugene and Lebanon was announced today by Roscoe Day, state fuel coordinator.

Prices have been worked out with OPA that are high enough to permit the mills to ship the sawdust here, he said. It will be sold here at \$6.50 a unit. This is higher than the Portland market, but will not change present retail price ceilings of local dealers, Day said.

Sawdust remains the most critical point in Portland's fuel problem, he said.

Roseburg Man on Ship That Sank Jap U-Boat

Charles Dusseau, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul R. Dusseau, Roseburg, is a member of the crew of the Portland-built Liberty ship, Edgar Allen Poe, which occupied a prominent place in the week's news as a result of its gallant and successful battle with a Japanese submarine. The ship, struck and badly damaged by a torpedo, fought back and sank the submarine. Although the freighter's engine room was flooded and lower decks lifted by the torpedo explosion, the ship was towed to port. The cargo was undamaged. Two crew members, the engineer and fireman, were killed. Mr. and Mrs. Dusseau have as yet received no word from their son concerning the exciting action.

Nazis Fire on Italian Soldiers for Giving Up

WITH THE UNITED STATES FORCES IN CENTRAL TUNISIA, March 25.—(AP)—Forty Italian soldiers who came forward to surrender to an American force near Maknassy yesterday were fired upon immediately by a German unit on their right.

"I am unable to tell you the result of this action or the number of prisoners taken by us from this group," an American officer said, "but I can say we regard this firing on Italian troops by Germans as highly significant."

In the past three days in the Maknassy-El Guetar area, more than 1,000 Italians and only a few Germans have been captured in heavy fighting.

Kaiser Workers Give \$180,000 to Red Cross

PORTLAND, Ore., March 25.—(AP)—Red Cross officials here announced today that so far the Kaiser shipyard employees here and at Vancouver had contributed more than \$180,000 to the 1943 fund.

Carnival Dated to Help Red Cross

An indoor carnival will be sponsored by the B. P. W. C. Saturday night, March 27, at 8 o'clock at the I. O. O. F. hall, to promote the sale of war bonds and stamps in the current monthly drive. The public has been invited to attend and admission charges will be a 25c defense stamp, which the purchaser may keep.

The Roseburg Municipal band will play and a large number of special, surprise features, concessions, sideshows and a cabaret will be offered. Mrs. Gene Mills, Mrs. E. High and Mrs. Mary Moore, assisted by B. P. W. C. members, are in charge. Organizations assisting with the affair include: Beta Sigma Phi sorority, Rotary, Odd Fellows, Rebekahs, Riversdale grange, Junior Woman's club, Eagles and auxiliary and American Legion and auxiliary.

"Proselyting" Creates Strike at Shipyards

BALTIMORE, March 25.—(AP)—Officials of the Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America (CIO) reported today that several thousand workers walked off their jobs at the big key highway ship repair yard of the Bethlehem Steel corporation.

The union officials said the strike occurred after the company refused to discharge three men whom the CIO Organization charged were "proselyting" for an independent union.

The MSWA holds a contract with Bethlehem for exclusive collective bargaining rights.

I SAW

By Paul Jenkins

HENRY ADAMS, well known Myrtle Creek merchant, as he gazed admiringly at a passing parade. From his expression you might be justified in the assumption that he was at some popular bathing beach, but not so; he was right in Myrtle Creek.

Henry's father was the first white settler in southern Douglas county, and the old Adams place never has made any abstract company rich. I suspect that there are other old "donationists" in the county which never have changed hands—if so, I would like to hear of them.

Although it couldn't possibly be construed as being to his credit, I never pass through Myrtle Creek without stopping to see Henry. He has a vast fund of early reminiscences, a greater fund than ever of good nature and, best of all perhaps, a continuing capacity for friendliness.

While in Myrtle Creek I dropped in to see Guy Bates, at his Citizens State bank, to say hello. I was perfectly safe in doing so. He's never too busy to say "hello" to anyone.

Mrs. Bates was busy on a Red Cross assignment, but I saw her also for a few minutes—long enough to discover the whereabouts and the latest travellings of the Bates daughters, Marjorie and Dorothy.

Dorothy now is Mrs. George Schweiger, and her husband is an officer in an anti-aircraft unit of the U. S. army, stationed at Camp Davis, North Carolina.



Marjorie is married to Wm. Berg, a captain in the MP's now stationed at Camp Riley, Kansas. I assume many of you remember that while in the university, Marjorie could do things with a Springfield rifle which would cause any old contender at the national rifle shoots at Camp Perry to turn green with envy.

I have in reserve a few more rambling remarks concerning Myrtle Creek which I will inflict on you at a later date—you see, with no more gas available than most of us have, when we do light in a spot we try to make the most of it. So I hope to tell you of a short (very short) trip Joe Ledger and I took the other day, and what we learned in the progress of our journey.

Forger Fined \$50 for Cruelty to Animals

A fine of \$50 and a jail sentence of 30 days was the penalty imposed in the local justice court today by Judge Thomas Hartley on Stitche Forquer, Edenbower resident, arrested Tuesday at Bridge, Coos county, on a Douglas county warrant charging cruelty to animals. Forquer entered a plea of guilty to the complaint. The jail sentence was ordered suspended in the event of payment of the fine and he was today endeavoring to secure the amount of money necessary to obtain his release from the county jail.

Ex-Mayor, in Prison for Murder, Asks for Pardon

BOISE, March 25.—(AP)—Duncan McD. Johnson, former mayor of Twin Falls serving life for murder, yesterday asked the Idaho pardon board for clemency.

Johnson was convicted of slaying George L. Olson, Salt Lake City jewelry salesman, in 1938.

Levity Fact Rant

By L. F. Reizenstein

Advocates of a longer work week to cure absenteeism, as an alternative to enforced military service, from which fur-loughs are few and far between, probably subscribe to the philosophy that "half a loaf is better than none."