

SOUTH RUSSIA TRAP CLOSING ON GERMANS



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Food Subsidy, Security Tax Rate, Vote Of Soldiers Face Reconvened Congress

Muster-Out Pay Also Up For Decision

Ailing President Will Send Message Instead Of Personal Delivery

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—(AP)—President Roosevelt on the advice of his physician will send his annual message to congress at noon tomorrow rather than deliver it in person, but will broadcast a shortened version to the country tomorrow night.

After formalities of the noon meeting of the 78th's second session, the president was expected to discuss with the new session, which is confronted with a pair of legislative deadlines and a number of other provocative issues.

By Feb. 17, the lawmakers must decide what to do about food subsidies and the Commodity Credit Corporation, which administers them. Stongon legislation enacted just before the holiday recess extended the life of CCC until that date.

Less than two weeks later, by March, a decision must be reached on the social security payroll tax rates, frozen by emergency legislation at their present level of 1 per cent each on employers and employees for the first two months of this year. Without the legislation, the tax would have advanced automatically to 2 per cent on Jan. 1.

The senate finance committee adopted an amendment to the pending \$2,275,000,000 tax increase bill extending the freeze throughout 1944, and Chairman George (D-Ga.) announced it.

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In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

THE Russians take Kirovograd (in the Dnieper bend, about 170 miles east of the Rumanian border), knife deeper into Old Poland, and edge closer to the all-important Odessa railroad at Zherinka.

In the west, our (American and British) air forces flatten German cities and increasingly bomb the channel invasion coast.

In a bloody fight, we take another village in the mountains of southern Italy.

THE European war, you see, is following substantially the pattern of recent days.

THE Chinese open a new offensive to clear the Japs from the path of the NEW Burma road we're building from India.

It's called the Ledo road and crosses the northern tip of Burma to intersect the old Burma road about where it turns south in far southwestern China to enter Burma. We've been working on it a long time and recent reports indicate that we have it well over half completed.

The Japs are evidently getting worried and have probably been sending in considerable forces to head it off, if possible. The purpose of the new Chinese offensive is to stop these attacks.

IN the waters adjacent to New Guinea and New Britain, our airmen sink 30 Jap barges and nick a couple of cargo ships. There also the recent pattern is unchanged.

FROM Bern (Switzerland) come interesting reports of fright in Rumania as the Russians approach the Dniester river (present Rumanian-Russian border).

According to these reports, factories in Bessarabia and Bucovina, the Rumanian provinces nearest Russia, are being dismantled and moved westward.

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New OPA Ration Point Tokens



(NEA Telephoto)

Here are the new OPA tokens to be used in point rationing after February 27th. Made of plastic, the tokens are about the size of dimes. Ration buying power will be kept on an even keel by adjusting point values when the token plan goes into effect. The result will be that the housewife's monthly allotment of about 60 points of ration stamps to each member of the family for buying meats and fats will buy the same amount that she gets with her present approximate 64 points a month. Likewise, the 50 points she will receive monthly for processed foods purchases will buy an amount about equal to the 48 points she has had to spend.

False Impressions of Labor Unions Erased by Understanding, Confidence Imparted by Convention of CIO

By C. A. BRAND
(News-Reporter)

The state CIO convention in Roseburg will be long remembered as one of the organization's most important and most successful meetings. It was held here in the Umpqua valley, which has been a quiet, farming and fruit growing community, and here in Roseburg, a much loved home town, schools, children, music, laughter, yes, and lodges and churches, a newspaper and a courthouse but little in the way of industries. So labor unions and their activities are new and strange to some, and just a little terrifying.

But suddenly there has come to this valley a great awakening—logging, sawmills, lumber business and all that goes with it. People are coming in by the thousands and business is booming. And with them are coming the working men's organizations, the labor unions. Perhaps we are a little afraid of them knowing only what we hear and see in the papers. Then along comes the CIO convention to turn on the light, which is good for two reasons. First, in planning its activities all over the state and getting acquainted it finds out that we aren't such bad people. And second, as we get acquainted with them and their work we find that they aren't such bad folks either. The convention is helping to bring mutual understanding and confidence.

The Saturday session opened with reading of greetings from Sidney Hillman, national political director CIO, Morton Tompkins head of the Oregon Grange, and Henry Morganthau, Jr., secretary of the treasury.

The date for the next state convention was changed by amendment of the constitution to the first week in October, 1944.

Part of American Life
An inspiring address was made by Mr. Stanley Douglas, who brought greetings from the National CIO. He said that some of the public loat at labor unions "as a monster, out for personal gains only." But really, he said, "unions are interested in every phase of American life. We are part of it, not simply in the background. We must show the country what we are doing, for we are a wonderful job, and the \$22,000,000 we have contributed to the War Fund is only a small part of it."

He added his voice against the Smith-Connally bill which he considers a vicious measure and which would never have been passed if the unions had been functioning as they should. "It is

our mistake," he said, "but Mr. and Mrs. Public are getting better acquainted with us and are trusting our patriotism."

The CIO now has a powerful political organization, adequately financed," he observed, "and this year it is going to take up its political responsibilities. Soldiers are doing their job and we must protect the home front, keeping industry going and keeping America what it should be and ready for the boys coming back from the war."

OPA Chief Appreciative

One of the best addresses of the whole convention was by Richard G. Montgomery, district director of OPA. He frankly stated that neither OPA nor CIO have always been right but said that both groups have suffered much criticism because they have not been understood. Mr. Montgomery said: "You have a right to be proud of the fact that here in Oregon there hasn't been a single working day lost in a war industry because of a strike." The delegates were "ankled for their cooperation with OPA and reminded that while paces have risen, the rise has been nothing like that in the last war. "During the first nineteen months of that war the cost of living increased 29.5 per cent compared with only 12 per cent from December 1, 1941 to July 1, 1943," he said.

Paul Gurske of the State In-

Draft Law Violation Charged to 5 Persons

NEW YORK, Jan. 10.—(AP)—Gert Hans von Contard, 37, identified by federal officials as a grandson of the late Adolphus Busch, St. Louis brewer, was indicted today with four other persons on charges of conspiring to violate the selective service law.

The indictment returned by the federal grand jury charged that the five men conspired "to the making of false statements as to the unfitness and non-liability" of von Contard for selective service and "to unlawfully, wilfully and knowingly counsel, aid and abet" von Contard to evade service.

Indicted with von Contard, also known as George Grant, were: John Edward Wilson, former chief clerk of local draft board 20; Dr. Arnold Aaron Hutschnecker, 45, a German refugee physician, Army Lieutenant Francis X. Grotano, a former New York city detective, and Michael Mangano, secretary of the G. M. Uniform company of Brooklyn.

Politics Get Attention at Meet of CIO

Oregon Program Leader Demanded; No-Strike Pledge May Be Revoked

A program of participation in state political affairs was adopted by the Oregon State Industrial Council, C. I. O., at the state convention which closed here Saturday. Determination to use political methods to gain representation in congress was emphatically endorsed by the convention which centered its attack on Senator Rufus Holman, whose defeat was the subject of resolutions unanimously adopted.

The national C. I. O. organization was severely criticized for alleged failure to provide cooperation in the political action program for Oregon and the convention voted to withhold a \$100,000 political fund, produced from an assessment on the membership, unless a political director for the state is appointed by Jan. 15.

No-Strike Vow In Balance

The convention also voted to repudiate the no-strike pledge unless the administration and congress get together on wage adjustments, price rollbacks and subsidies. Charging that cost of living is advancing and that satisfactory wage adjustments are unobtainable and that congress and the administration are failing to provide safeguards against increasing living costs, the convention held that labor's only protection is through strike threat. It was contended in the resolution that the no-strike pledge was given after promises had been made labor would be protected and that because these promises have not been fulfilled labor should not be required to maintain its pledge. The resolutions committee voted non-concurrence in the resolution, but the recommendation was overruled following heated debate on the convention floor.

Political Guide Demanded

Strong condemnation of the national C. I. O. was expressed by speakers concerned with the political action program of the council. It was charged that a promise had been made to furnish a national officer to direct the political program of the council in Oregon, but that no appointment had been made. Repeated requests have been submitted, it was stated, for appointment of John Glenn, organizer for aluminum workers, to serve in this capacity but that requests had been refused.

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Heads Boy Scouts Of United States



Dr. George J. Fisher, above, of Scarsdale, N. Y., is the Boy Scouts of America's new national commissioner. A native of Cincinnati, he has been chief scout executive since 1919, and succeeds the late "Uncle Dan" Beard. Dr. Fisher will be installed at the annual national Scout council meeting in New York on May 17.

Draft Heads Ban 18-21 Deferments

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—(AP)—Selective service has banned occupational deferments for draft registrants 18 through 21 years old, effective Feb. 1.

The action, announced by Maj. Gen. Hershey, national selective service director, is designed to make at least 115,000 more non-fathers eligible for military duty. Hershey warned, however, that the move will not long postpone the drafting of pre-war fathers.

Exceptions to the new regulation include the 405,680 farm workers in the 18-21 age group and registrants with industrial deferments. The latter group must have the approval of state draft directors in order to retain their deferment status. Student deferments likewise are curtailed.

Hershey said that aside from the principal exceptions occupational deferments will not be granted to registrants under 22 even if they have war jobs or are fathers.

Shipyard Dormitory's Fire Kills Five Men

RICHMOND, Calif., Jan. 10.—(AP)—Fire in a shipyard worker's dormitory here early today killed five men and injured an undetermined number, the Contra Costa county coroner's office reported.

Cause of the fire was not learned immediately.

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GOP Leader Hails Party's Foreign Plans

Takes Credit for "Only Concrete" Policy; Party "Locusts" Denounced

CHICAGO, Jan. 10.—(AP)—The Mackinac declaration is "the only concrete and comprehensive" statement on American foreign policy by leaders of any party, Chairman Harrison E. Spangler of the republican national committee said today.

In an address prepared for delivery to a conference of national committeemen and state chairmen, Spangler asserted the Mackinac declaration, which stated the United States must assume its full responsibility in world affairs and cooperate with other nations in securing world peace. "Is today the only concrete and comprehensive statement of the American foreign policy formulated by the leaders of any party. * * *

"This declaration * * * made possible the adoption of the non-partisan Connally resolution. We see its influence in the terms arranged by Secretary Hull at the Moscow conference.

"To this time the present administration has not offered to the people any such declaration. The foreign policy of the administration has not been declared in direct and simple terms. * * * From the statements of the vice president and others it would appear that there are influences in the administration which would establish a world-wide WPA at our expense."

Obnoxious Label Sticks

Spangler sharply challenged President Roosevelt's attempt to label democrats as the "win the war" party, contending "today this country is republican rather than democratic. But our army and navy are neither republican nor democratic. They are Americans. 'Win the War' is a slogan that belongs to all of us. * * *

"The term new deal is now an embarrassment. Some other catch-phrase is to be devised in an effort to hold together that strange combination of federal office holders, corrupt municipal bosses, and revolutionary radicals which now comprise the remnants of the new deal party. It is too late. Catch-phrases will not delude a people who see mismanagement in time of war. The new deal will not die. It will live on as a description of the kind of government the people of this country will not again tolerate."

Soldiers Favor GOP

The chairman's formal assessment of the political situation followed by less than 24 hours his disclosure at a press conference that an informal sampling of sentiment among some members of four battalions of American soldiers in England had lead him

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Exiled President Perishes in Fire



Antanas Smetona

CLEVELAND, Jan. 10.—(AP)—Antanas Smetona, Lithuania's exiled president who successfully withstood German diplomatic pressure only to flee Russian occupation of the tiny republic, died of suffocation yesterday in a residence fire.

Artificial respiration failed to revive the 69-year-old president after he sought to recover a fur coat in an attic apartment where he resided since 1942 with his wife Sofie, 58. He came to America in March, 1941.

Upon creation of the Lithuanian republic Smetona became its first president in 1920-21. Later, he was replaced but returned to office in 1926, 1932 and 1938.

Special Steelhead Season Abolished

PORTLAND, Jan. 10.—(AP)—The state game commission has set the 1944 trout fishing season from April 15 through October 31 and has removed bag limits on jack salmon under 20 inches.

While anglers can catch as many jacks as they wish, they are restricted to three steelhead and salmon a day and nine in a week compared to five daily and 10 weekly last year.

Again the trout limit will be 15 fish or 15 pounds and one fish in any one day but not to exceed 30 fish or 30 pounds and two fish in any seven consecutive days or in possession at any one time.

The commission eliminated the special steelhead season on the North Umpqua river, which opens the water to winter fishing for steelheads.

The trout season at Diamond lake was fixed from May 20 to Sept. 20 and the minimum size for trout changed from six to 10 inches.

Little Mill creek in Douglas county was closed above the feeding ponds.

Paste Tube Turn-in Not Required After March 1

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—(AP)—Remember that empty tooth paste tube you're always forgetting when you need a new supply? Well, after March 1, you can get a new tube even when you forget to bring in the old one.

Announcing the March 1 termination of the requirement that purchasers of tooth paste, shaving cream and other goods packed in collapsible metal tubes must yield up a used tube in order to buy a full one, WPB urged continued turn-ins, even though most tubes now in circulation contain less tin and therefore have less salvage value. Tubes more than a year old are especially wanted.

Murder Charged in Death Of Camp Adair Officer

ANDERSON, S. C., Jan. 10.—(AP)—Weldon Purguson, 30, Anderson, was held here under a murder charge today following the fatal shooting of Staff Sgt. Flint S. Savage, 29, a military policeman from Camp Adair, Ore.

Savage, a native of this region, was shot as he drank coffee in a cafe while waiting for a bus. Deputy Sheriff Cleve Saylor's quoted Purguson as saying he pulled out his pistol to show it to a man with whom he was talking and it discharged accidentally.

Half Million Troops Verge On Collapse

Retreat Nears "Chaos," Report; Sofia, Bulgars' Capital, Again Bombed

(By the Associated Press)
The thundering tanks and Cossacks of Gen. Vatutin's first Ukrainian army have struck within 33 miles of the Odessa-Warsaw railway, last remaining major supply and escape route from Southern Russia. They killed 2,300 Germans, destroyed 105 tanks and 78 planes and captured enormous stores of booty. Half a dozen important junctions such as Sarny, 35 miles inside prewar Poland, and Krivoli Rog, were prominently in the path of the Russian avalanche.

A great trap was curling around Smela in the upper part of the Dnieper bend and the jaws of this narrowing trap contracted to less than a 75-mile gap. Capturing Zhornische among the 110 Ukrainian towns which fell Sunday, the Russians came within 24 miles of the Bug river, the last Russian province before Bessarabia was entered. The Germans were reported lacking sufficient oil and air support to keep their flight from becoming disaster.

Berlin said gloomily that "the outcome of the whole war depends" on the battles in southern Russia and Stockholm dispatches said the Nazi flight had become "almost chaotic." Moscow asserted that the collapse of 500,000 to 700,000 enemy troops in the Ukraine might be imminent.

Nazi Plight Emphasized

As the Russians swept swiftly closer to Rumania, Premier Antonescu was reported to have ordered refugees from Bessarabia to clear all roads and railways leading into interior Rumania from the province which both Russia and the puppet Balkan kingdom claim. The German minister was said to have angrily protested that the panicked peasants were clogging the communication lines interfering with German military movements. The same Turkish report added that Rumanian opposition parties had petitioned King Mihai against further prosecution of the war.

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Japs Offering Harder Resistance In South Pacific

(By the Associated Press)
Reports from allied headquarters today indicated that the Japanese have rallied their forces and apparently don't intend giving up strategic territory in the southwest Pacific without a stubborn fight.

Contrasting with the comparative ease in establishing the original beachheads, American troops encountered stiffened enemy lines at both invasion points on New Britain. And an upsurge of Japanese resistance slowed the Australian advance up the north coast of New Guinea.

In the air, too, the Nipponese threw in heavy interception forces in an attempt to beat off the knockout blows aimed at their positions, but allied fliers more than held their own in fierce sky battles.

These developments provided timely emphasis for the words of Col. Warren J. Clear, army general staff expert on Japan, who told a Pacific Coast war conference at Los Angeles that Japan's army is stronger than ever and that, despite heavy losses, it has more planes than at the outbreak of the war.

Chinese-manned Mitchell bombers sank a 1200-ton enemy cargo ship off the southeast coast of China yesterday, Lt. Gen. Stillwell's headquarters announced, while United States fighters strafed Japanese river shipping on the Yangtze. Fighter-bombers carried out assaults on enemy positions in Burma and French Indo-China as well.

Levity Fact Rant

By L. F. Reizenstein

The most surprising thing about Argentina's recognition of the new, rebel-born Bolivian regime is that it should surprise anybody. The anti-American influence that permeates both countries is ill-concealed by the veneer of "prudent neutrality" maintained to wangle U. S. dollars.