

# SIEGE OF LENINGRAD LIFTED BY RUSSIANS

Invasion Is Costly fighting Your Boy Gives 100 per cent How about your bond buying?

## Roseburg News-Review

THE DOUGLAS COUNTY DAILY

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ROSEBURG, OREGON, FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 1944.

VOL. XXXII NO. 252 OF THE EVENING NEWS

### Routed Nazis Panic-Hit, Reds Report

44,000 Germans Killed Or Captured, War Booty Take Said Enormous

LONDON, Jan. 21.—(AP)—Russia's northern armies, engaged in two tremendous drives which in six days have lifted the two-year siege of Leningrad, captured the ancient bastion of Novgorod and slain 40,000 Germans, rolled on today in an effort to complete the entrapment of upwards of 250,000 other Germans remaining in the Leningrad sector.

Dispatches from Moscow indicated the Germans were facing one of their worst disasters since Stalingrad and the Moscow radio declared jubilantly: "The Germans have been driven far away from Leningrad. German forces are bleeding profusely. They are panic-stricken under the threatening tentacle of a mighty army of retribution." Great stores of supplies and arms were captured both at Leningrad and Novgorod. The greatest satisfaction came from the seizure of 265 cannon outside Leningrad, 85 of them heavy siege guns which had shelled the city cruelly for two years.

The successes to the north had grave implications for Finland because as German lines were pushed back, Finland's isolation became more complete and the hour of her inevitable capitulation drew nearer. The Russian Baltic fleet, locked in port by the German siege ring for two years was free again.

To the south of the Baltic shore the Russians are driving deep into the German positions, capturing thousands of nazis cut off from their commands and communication lines, and are speedily closing in on the railway and highway junctions that are the key to the entire Baltic front.

Far to the south on the 1,200-mile front, Gen. Vatutin's First Ukrainian army pushed back German attacks of Kristinovka, where the Russians have been stalled in their drive toward the Odessa-Warsaw railway and Rumania. Two thousand Germans were killed and 32 tanks destroyed in the day's fighting on this salient, the Moscow communique reported.

ADVANCED ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, New Guinea, Jan. 21.—(AP)—American plane raids on the Japanese airbase at Wak, New Guinea, have destroyed at least 12 enemy planes and churned the area with 133 tons of bombs.

American loss was three raiders. Navy Catalina patrol planes prowling in the Admiralty Islands area northwest of New Britain Tuesday night blew up a 5,000-ton enemy ammunition ship and sank a 2,000-ton freighter. The vessels were in a small convoy.

The enemy plane and shipping base at Rabaul, New Britain, was attacked again Tuesday when bombers knocked down 21 Japanese intercepting planes. A 3,000-ton Japanese cargo vessel was sunk Wednesday morning off Manam Islu, near Hansa Bay, Northeast New Guinea, by a navy Catalina's direct bomb hit.

Slayer of Wife of U. S. Diplomat Still Sought

CHICAGO, Jan. 21.—(AP)—Confronted with many puzzling aspects but lacking tangible clues, police intensified their hunt today for the slayer of Mrs. Frank Starr Williams, 55-year-old wife of an American diplomat.

B. F. Negley Suffers Broken Hip in Fall

B. F. Negley, 89, father of Clayton Negley, local meat dealer, and Mrs. E. E. Applewhite, is reported in critical condition at Mercy hospital, where he was taken Wednesday night when he suffered a broken hip in a fall.

One front the Japanese could open full scale with United Nations' hope of its complete success is their waistlines via harami.

### Stand-In for McNary As Minority Leader



Wallace H. White, Jr., above, U. S. senator from Maine, has been chosen by senate republicans as temporary minority leader during the illness of Senator C. L. McNary of Oregon.

### British Sub Sinks Japanese Cruiser In Indian Ocean

LONDON, Jan. 21.—(AP)—A 31-year-old British submarine commander famed for his exploits in the Mediterranean was credited by the admiralty today with sinking a Japanese cruiser in the Indian ocean at the northern approaches to narrow Malacca strait which threads between Malaya and the Dutch East Indies island of Sumatra.

The submarine, skippered by Lt. Commander L. W. A. Bennington, approached to within the "suicidal range" of one mile to score the first sinking of a Japanese cruiser by a British submarine in the Indian ocean.

The cruiser, identified as one of the 5,100-ton Kuma class, went down at about the same time that three large Japanese supply ships were sent to the bottom by the same submarine.

Bennington formerly commanded the Porpoise which made naval history by carrying supplies to Malta during the darkest days of that British island stronghold in the Mediterranean. In one single attack the Porpoise survived more than 100 depth charges, one of the heaviest assaults ever made on a British submarine.

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## INCREASED DEVASTATION DEALT BERLIN BY RAF BOMBERS

### Large Fires Started In Nazi Capital

Explosives Set Record For Concentration; 35 Raiding Bombers Lost

LONDON, Jan. 21.—(AP)—The massed weight of probably 700 RAF bombers smashed down on Berlin with about 2,000 long tons of bombs at dusk last night in a 20-minute rending of the reich capital which set a new record for concentration.

Explosives tumbled from the bombers at the rate of 100 tons a minute.

A large force of bombers crossed the southeast coast today to continue in daylight the new aerial offensive.

A total of around 16,000 tons of explosives now has been hurled upon Berlin since the start of sustained effort to eliminate the German capital.

The air ministry communique said "large fires were left burning, smoke rising to a great height."

Mosquitos at the same time laid down a faint bombardment of targets in northwestern Germany, and fleets of minelayers again visited German waters.

From the joint operations the British lost 35 bombers.

It was the 105th attack of the war on Berlin.

The RAF fleet hit Berlin after plowing through one of the heaviest flak barrages ever thrown up over the capital.

In another of the night's forays, Canadian Albacores swooped.

(Continued on page 5)

### In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

WHEN the hour struck in California, there was some fighting—not very bloody. Fremont and his nondescript but TOUGH American party, composed of mountain men, adventurers and what have you (it wouldn't have done for him to come into California with a body of troops) moved slowly down the valley, conferring with the California leaders who were reviling against Mexico.

In time, they reached San Francisco, then a sleepy Spanish village clustered around a mission, and raised the American flag in a dramatic ceremony at what is now Portsmouth square.

FREMONT didn't take over northern California alone. By one of these historical coincidences that are too pat to have just HAPPENED, there was an American naval vessel at Monterey, and its commander cooperated.

It was all over quickly, and rather easily. California took leave of Mexico and joined the United States.

## Hopkins 'Forgery' Boost For Willkie Under Jury Inquiry

### Ickes' Assistant, Reported Involved, Draws Suspension

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21.—(AP)—Harry Hopkins, White House confidante who has charged that his name was forged to a letter relating to Wendell Willkie's possible renomination for the presidency by the republicans this year, today made a voluntary appearance before the grand jury investigating the letter.

The "Hopkins letter thriller," current Washington cause celebre, blossomed into a maze of charges and countercharges but a special assistant to the attorney general announced that the case is "very simple."

Known facts are these: That an anti-Wendell L. Willkie book was published last fall containing a letter over the name of President Roosevelt's personal adviser, Harry Hopkins, predicting that Willkie would be the 1944 republican presidential nominee and that "good cooperation" could be promised from that quarter.

That the letter, denounced as a forgery by Hopkins who demanded and got a grand jury investigation, was addressed to Dr. Humphrey Lee of Southern Methodist university, Texas.

That the author of the book, C. Nelson Sparks, said he got the letter from George M. Briggs, aide to Interior Secretary Ickes, "and through Briggs from Ickes."

That Ickes has denied any connection with the case and has suspended Briggs who is in seclusion, but, according to federal officials, available for questioning "at any time."

Briggs was named by Senator Langer (R-N. D.) as the man who turned up the letter signed with the name of Harry Hopkins. Until his suspension without pay on Tuesday, Briggs had the job of reviewing correspondence in Ickes' office. Handwriting experts have testified at the grand jury hearings on Hopkins' forgery charge, and two typewriters were removed from Briggs' office for examination.

New Rector Named for Episcopal Church Here

Rev. William L. Blaker, rector of St. Peter's Episcopal church at Denver, has been appointed rector of St. George's Episcopal church in Roseburg, according to word received here today. The appointment was made by the Rev. B. D. Dagwell, bishop for the Oregon diocese.

The Rev. Mr. Blaker will leave the Denver church February 6 and will take over the pulpit at Roseburg February 20.

The local church was served for many years by the Rev. Perry Smith, now a chaplain in the U. S. army and stationed in New York.

Sex Attacks in Seattle "Tremendous," Chief Says

SEATTLE, Jan. 21.—(AP)—Sheriff Callahan said today his office has received a "tremendous" number of calls since the rape slaying Monday night of Mrs. Evelyn Alma Pritchard, from persons reporting attacks and attempted attacks during the past six months.

"This case," he declared, "has brought to light a tremendous number of unreported attacks and attempted assaults on women—yes and even youngsters—both boys and girls. The situation is more serious than we realized."

### Suspended in Hopkins 'Forged' Letter Case



George N. Briggs, above, 55,000-a-year assistant to Secretary of Interior Ickes, suspended by Ickes after Justice department officials branded as "definite forgery" the so-called Hopkins letter with which both Briggs and Ickes have been linked.

### Compromise On Soldier Vote Bill Gets Senate O. K.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21.—(AP)—The congressional log jam on soldier voting showed signs of breaking up today after the senate elections committee came out with a compromise bill providing for a uniform federal ballot but leaving vote-counting authority under state control.

Several staunch senate defenders of states' rights swung quickly behind the compromise measure, and its co-sponsor, Senator Lucas (D.-Ill.), predicted it would be passed by the senate, which earlier rejected another federal ballot plan and substituted a requirement that service personnel cast state absentee ballots or none at all.

As re-drafted the bill omits controversial section voiding state poll tax and registration requirements. In addition, it specifically provides that duly constituted state and local election officials shall have full authority to determine whether individual service men or women are qualified to vote.

Senator Tydings (D.-Md.) hailed the latter provision as a "great victory" for states' rights advocates. He said the local control amendment would give state and precinct officials all the authority they need to enforce state election statutes.

The bill directs the army and navy to distribute where practicable post card forms on which application could be made for state absentee ballots for voting and local candidates.

A four-member bipartisan federal ballot commission would be appointed by the president.

Jail Term Handed to Obscene Scribbler

Edwin Davis, 49, arrested two months ago on a charge of exhibiting indecent and obscene writing in a public place, was sentenced in circuit court here Thursday to a jail term of three months. Davis had pleaded innocent and was continued in custody in lieu of bail, pending grand jury investigation. He changed his plea Thursday from innocent to guilty. Judge Carl E. Wimberly ordered that he be given credit for the two months already spent in confinement.

### 4th Term Clamor Gets No Response From Roosevelt

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21.—(AP)—President Roosevelt probably will ignore the fourth terms draft noise being created by members of the democratic national committee so completely that he may not even send an official message to the committee's meeting here tomorrow.

Although the president will receive committee members, their wives and husbands at the White House today, party leaders said there was no indication that Mr. Roosevelt planned either to address them by radio, as he did last year, or to send the party faithful a message of cheer at tomorrow night's banquet.

The president, explained Chairman Frank C. Walker, is nine days behind on his appointments because of a bout with the "flu." And, Walker added, there is a war on his statement implying that situation left little time for politics now.

In spite of this seeming cold shoulder, the chorus of fourth term demands grew louder today as additional delegates arrived for tomorrow's session to select Robert E. Hannegan as national chairman to succeed Walker and to fix Chicago as the site for the party's nominating convention. The date of the convention may be left to the new chairman, although July 24 is considered a likely starting time.

Theme of fourth term advocates was that their state delegations would support Roosevelt, that with the president at the head of the ticket the democrats would win, and that without him they were sunk.

Fast Freight Permit Stands Against Protest

SALEM, Ore., Jan. 21.—(AP)—Oregon-Nevada-California Fast Freight's permit to operate its truck for Portland-Ashland hauls still stands.

Circuit Judge Duncan declined a complaint of the Pierce Auto Freight line and other trucking companies which contested the permit issued recently by State Public Utilities Commissioner Flagg.

Pierce and the other plaintiffs contended that Oregon-Nevada-California has not now the facilities to expand and still maintain efficient service. Duncan said the complaint did not show sufficient cause.

Bomber's Crash Kills Eight Men, Injures Three

POCATELLO, Idaho, Jan. 21.—(AP)—Seven crewmen were killed and three injured yesterday in the crash of a bomber about 10 miles southwest of the Pocatello army air base. No Oregon men are included in the dead.

Mill Worker Killed in Fall Under Logging Train

MEDFORD, Ore., Jan. 21.—(AP)—David Davis, 34, sawmill employee, fell under a logging train here today and was killed instantly.

## Plan to Lay Aside Taxes Voted Down

Senate Denies Permit To Firms, Individuals For Postwar Reserves

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21.—(AP)—The senate today rejected a proposed amendment to the \$2,275,600,000 added tax bill which would have permitted corporations and individuals to lay aside up to 20 per cent of their taxes as a postwar reserve.

The amendment, offered by Senators Truman and Hatch, was defeated by a standing vote.

Under the plan, the taxpayer-beneficiary would have been required to invest the reserved moneys in non-negotiable, non-interest bearing government bonds, redeemable after the war, and taxable as income at that time.

Finance Committee Chairman George and Senators Taft and Danaher expressed sympathy for the motive of the amendment but declared it would cause actual tax collections in war years to drop too sharply.

George commented that present tax rates will have to be reduced materially after the war or "the country will be busted."

### Indians, Lithians Open Two-Game Bill Here Tonight

The Roseburg high school Indians and the Ashland Lithians meet tonight and Saturday night in a two-game series in the Southern Oregon basketball conference. The games will be played at the senior high school gymnasium, starting each night at 8 o'clock.

Ashland has won two games from Grants Pass and has lost to Klamath Falls and Medford. It will be the first meeting with Roseburg.

The Ashland team was expected to be the toughest in the league, having more returning lettermen than any other squad in the district. Sparkplug of the team is Barney Riggs, 3-year letterman in basketball and football and a southern Oregon football all-star.

The Indian squad has been working diligently for the games this week end, Coach Turner states. The starting lineup for tonight's game is expected to include Loomis and Young, forwards; Anderson, center, and Cummings and Krell, guards.

### Overloaded Trucks Must Quit Highway, Cut Loads, Edict of State Commission

SALEM, Ore., Jan. 21.—(AP)—The state highway commission announced today that state police would require overloaded logging and commercial trucks to pull off the highways and that the overloads be removed.

Furthermore, the commission will report violations to the OPA, which will subject the violators to reduced gasoline allotments and might prevent them from getting new tires.

## Timber Deal Followed By Charge Here

B. J. Howser, Former County Cruiser, Faces "Rake-Off" Accusation

A complaint charging B. J. Howser, former timber cruiser for the Douglas county court, with "acceptance by a county employee of consideration in connection with the sale of county-owned lands," was filed in circuit court today. The complaint, which involves a law never before known to have been exercised in Oregon, charges, District Attorney J. V. Long reports, that Howser, while in the county's employ, represented to the county court a tract of land, on which an offer to purchase had been made by Mrs. Helen Neal of Roseburg, did not contain merchantable timber of a value in excess of \$500, and that through negotiations which followed he received money for his services.

According to a statement by the district attorney, Howser is alleged to have advanced \$500 to Mrs. Neal to purchase the tract of land, informing the county court that the timber was not of greater value than the price offered by the prospective purchaser, and that after a deed had been given Mrs. Neal, the timber from the land was sold to the firm of Catching and Randall of Drain on a contract calling for total purchase price of \$9,321.50.

Alleged Deal Related. Mrs. Neal appeared before the court August 21, 1943, the district attorney related, and offered to purchase a tract of county-owned land located on Billy creek near Drain, stating that she wanted the property for use after her husband returned from military service. It was represented to the county court that the property consisted of pasture land, which is usually sold at a price of \$2.50 per acre, Long said. The county court, the district attorney reported, called in Howser and asked for information on the tract and allegedly was told that it was burned over and contained no merchantable timber in (Continued on page 3.)

### Hatchet Murder of 3 Persons Confessed

SPOKANE, Jan. 21.—(AP)—Prosecutor Leslie M. Carroll said today Woodrow Clark, 27, had confessed he killed three persons and critically injured another Saturday at living quarters attached to an east side sign shop.

He has previously quoted Clark as admitting he was at the party Jan. 14 at the apartment of T. P. Dillon in which the hatchet-mutilated victims were found the next day.

Dillon, his wife and Mrs. Jane Staples have died as a result of the hatchet attacks. Frank S. Winnett, the only survivor, is still in critical condition.

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Furthermore, the commission will report violations to the OPA, which will subject the violators to reduced gasoline allotments and might prevent them from getting new tires.

The new policy was decided at a conference Tuesday of representatives of the highway commission, state police, public utilities commissioner, Governor Snell, and the OPA and defense transportation.

In the past, the commission has reported violations to the public utilities commissioner for cancella-

tion of permits, while small fines were imposed by justices of the peace.

Fines No Deterrent. The fines, the commission said, are no deterrent, while cancellation of permits has imposed penalties which are too severe. The commission cited cases where an entire fleet of trucks was suspended merely because one of the trucks had been overloaded.

Some truckers are persistent and chronic violators of the weight limits, but 85 per cent of them are cooperating, the commission said.

The commission, pointing out that the legislature boosted weight limits from 54,000 to 71,600 pounds and the length limits from 50 to 60 feet, for the duration of the war, said: "The commission feels that in

granting this additional privilege, the commercial haulers must stay within the limits set forth and will likewise insist that overloaded commercial trucks be stopped and required to take off the overload."

"The commission feels that the overload problem must be solved if the state's highways are to last for the duration of the war and, after conferring with Washington authorities, knows it is giving as much or more cooperation with the truck operators as its neighboring state is. The commission wants to do all in its power, in this wartime emergency affecting transportation, to expedite the movement of goods and services but cannot be unmindful of its duty to the citizens of this state in protecting the public's large investment in highways."

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