

Editorials on News

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man theory is fully accepted. They know they couldn't get along without Stalin.

For one thing, Stalin isn't going to LET them get along without him.

THIS indispensable man complex is a thread that runs more or less through all recorded history.

The Athenians got it—in Pericles' time. Pericles was a shrewd and able demagogue who specialized in giving the Athenians what they wanted, no matter what it

cost. It cost a lot, but the Athenians LIKED it.

It worked, too—for a LONG time. The early decades of Pericles' rule are known historically as the "golden age" of Athens.

EVENTUALLY, the "golden age" began to peter out. The time came when Pericles could pull no more rabbits out of hats. Athens started down hill, and kept going.

This was the trouble:

The pleasure-loving Athenians had got just too LAZY to bother with the annoying details of getting good men into office and going on with the job of providing and MAINTAINING good government and wise public policies.

It was so easy to leave it all to Pericles. And Pericles never seemed to mind. As the citizens of Athens LAID DOWN their powers and their rights and responsibilities, Pericles PICKED THEM UP and went on from there.

He always seemed to have the answer.

IN the course of time, the magic of Pericles (great public works,

WPA projects, spending and still more spending) began to wane and Athens began to SLIP.

But by that time the citizens of Athens had LOST THEIR ABILITY to govern themselves. They were helpless to check the decline.

The outcome of it was that the glory of Athens came to an end—a quite tragic end.

History tells us all about it.

THAT is the trouble with indispensable men. When they pass on, or their magic begins to fade, it is so hard to find another man of the same sort.

And MEANWHILE we have lost our ability to do things for ourselves. Leaving things to the indispensable man is fine while it lasts, but it never seems to last indefinitely.

We're left in such a mess when the indispensable man is with us no more.

OUR brass hats keep worrying about us home-fronters.

Their communique are all cheerful. Through them runs constantly the note of "the marines have landed and the situation is well in hand." We get all the good news at once, and the bad news is withheld from us. (Pearl Harbor, the first Tokyo raid, the little Pearl Harbor at Bari, in Italy, etc.)

We learn in the past couple of days that since the beginning of the summer offensives 200,000 Germans have surrendered to the allies—35,000 in Italy, 54,000 in Normandy (46,819 to the Americans alone) and 110,000 in Russia.

Reading (or hearing) all this, our intelligence tells us that our side really IS beginning to get the upper hand and IN TIME is almost certain to lick Hitler.

WHEREUPON our leaders jump to the conclusion that we are going to DESERT the war and go right back to the soft and easy ways of peace.

They are mistaken. We aren't going to. The home-fronters have their faults, but as a whole they are going to see this war through. The y know it isn't over yet.

Canyonville and Myrtle Creek Hit by Fires

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fortunate time, as the Myrtle Creek equipment had broken down a few minutes earlier and the volume of water had been greatly reduced.

The fire was fought away from the two business buildings, but sparks started a vigorous roof fire at the John Hamlin home, located some distance away, the blaze being undetected until it had obtained a good start. The timely arrival of the Roseburg department permitted a diversion of effort and the second fire was brought under control quickly, being kept confined to the roof, although the interior of the residence suffered water damage.

The major part of the furnishings of both the Farmer and Hamlin homes was saved.

Owners of the damaged buildings at Canyonville reported losses partially covered by insurance. Insurance also is carried by the mill company at Myrtle Creek.

German Tanks Hit Lines Hard in Normandy

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ing around Caen was estimated at 80.

The American offensive against St. Lo launched yesterday had reached within two miles of that communications hub. The allied commander said, "fighting in the vicinity of St. Lo has been heavy and we now have Pont Hebert."

Americans Hit St. Lo

The Americans renewed the assault against St. Lo shortly after dawn today. AP War Correspondent Hal Boyle said in a battle-front dispatch that GI's fought within sight of the battered spires of the departmental capital.

Lt. Gen. Omar N. Bradley's forces scored limited gains west of the Vire river and south of Carentan, compelling German withdrawal south of La Haye Du Puits toward Lessay.

On the Italian front, the Germans also were resisting bitterly. Nevertheless, American light armoured elements captured Castiglione on the west coast, bringing the fifth army to within eight miles of Livorno (Leghorn).

"Supreme Test" On

The Berlin radio made no attempt to minimize Russian advances. A German commentator declared "the supreme test" now has come, since "the distance between us and the battlefield has almost vanished."

Ankara reported conversations took place which may lead to Turkish participation in the war before the summer's end. In Madrid, it was reported that Germany has made at least six attempts since February to gain a negotiated peace. Berlin radio said "terrorists" set fire to the house of Marcel Deat, Vichy minister of labor, at Arbouse in central France.

U. S. warplanes made strategic attacks on Germany and tactical assaults in Normandy today. Around 1,200 four-engine bombers escorted by 750 fighters pounded the industrial Munich area in south Germany for the second straight day. Medium and light bombers smashed at field dumps of Rommel's tanks behind the battle lines.

A scattering of winged bombs hit the London area today. The Germans called it "heavy retaliatory" fire.

Japs Pounded From Ceram to the Kuriles

(Continued from page 1)

boats and two bridges. Brig. Gen. Clinton Vincent told his eastern China composite wing that their attacks had blunted "the enemy drive on Hongyang, making the offensive 'so unbearably costly that the enemy has no recourse but retreat.'"

In Yunnan Chinese troops were set to assault Tengchung, Lungling and Mangshim, enemy bases controlling a section of the Burma road.

British troops continued chasing the bewildered remnants of two Japanese divisions which had tried to conquer northeast India. A strong enemy force was routed after a two-day battle near Chepu.

Eric Johnston Party Tours Russian Plants

MOSCOW, July 12 (AP)—A two-week flying tour of the vast Russian interior beyond the Urals has given a group of Americans a first-hand view of the Red army's central Asia arsenal and all said they were impressed by the tremendous energies unleashed in the Soviet war effort.

The group included Eric Johnston, president of the U. S. chamber of commerce, who is now en route back to America; Bland Calder, first secretary of the U. S. embassy, and four correspondents.

The tour covered more than 5,000 miles. The group inspected

factories and farms and talked with leaders of many enterprises. A slogan "everything for the front" was displayed widely.

Oregon News Notes

A Portland shipyard worker, Thomas J. Malloy, 18, was fatally crushed in an accident at Oregon Shipbuilding corporation yard. . . . George H. Harvey, Portland, suffered a broken leg when struck by an automobile that had been sideswiped by a railroad locomotive.

Mrs. W. A. Jensen, former Oregon State college faculty member, was buried at Corvallis Wednesday. . . . The Portland Port commission announced a hanger and service shops will be constructed at the Troutdale airport under a lease to a private airline company. . . . Portland shipyard launched the troopship U. S. S. Laurens and the tanker Fort Matanzas, named for a Florida fort built by Spanish explorers.

Reedsport Officers Have Trouble Arresting Girl

Juanita Delores, 17, was in the Douglas county jail today under a sentence of 30 days, while State Policeman Dick Miles and Deputy Sheriff Harry McCabe, both of Reedsport, are nursing sundry wounds received in process of arresting the protesting young lady. Sheriff Bud Carter reported today. Called to investigate a disturbance in a cafe at Reedsport, the two officers found the young lady most unwilling to submit to arrest, the sheriff said. McCabe was bitten on the arm and Miles kicked in the abdomen during the scuffle.

Appearing before Justice of the Peace Fred Wright, Miss Delores pleaded guilty to vagrancy and resisting arrest, the sheriff said, and was sentenced to 30 days in jail. She was brought to Roseburg by Agnes Pitchford, county police matron, and Deputy Sheriff Dick Baker.

Three Fined on Charge Being Drunk on Highway

Charged with being drunk on a public highway, James D. Martindale, Henry M. LaBlue and Walter A. Galloway were fined \$25 each in the Roseburg justice court today. Judge Thomas C. Hartfel reported. Martindale, who the judge stated previously had been similarly charged in the city court, was given an extra sentence of 10 days in the county jail. La Blue was continued in custody in lieu of payment of the fine. Galloway paid his fine and was released. Traffic fines paid included Floyd R. Brown, \$10, no PUC license; V. O. Hayes, \$10, driving a motor vehicle without muffler.

Sailor Held Here on Car Theft Investigation

Jack Floed January, 21, was returned to Roseburg Tuesday from Grants Pass, where he was arrested upon a complaint from Douglas county. January, a sailor, was reported to city police to have been riding in a car owned by a soldier en route south through Roseburg. Chief of Police Erwin Shore stated. The pair stopped at a Roseburg restaurant, but the sailor allegedly slipped out and departed with the automobile. State Police brought about his arrest at Grants Pass. An investigation is being conducted pending filing of formal charges.

Ben Baldrige Retires.

REEDSPORT, July 11—(AP)—Ben Baldrige retired from the lumber industry today after a quarter century in the lower Douglas valley. His leaving dispositions have been sold to the E. K. Wood Lumber company.

Ladies—Watch out for

"Woman of the Town"

Oregon Far Over Quota
PORTLAND, July 12—(AP)—Latest figures for Oregon's Fifth war loan drive today showed total sales at \$157,951,699. "E" bond purchases reached \$24,046,819.

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