

Yanks Invade Kume Island

See Columns 7 and 8

A Community Newspaper For Every Member of the Family

La Grande Evening Observer

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FIVE CENTS

Eastern Oregon College Gets Priority In State Educational Development

Plans for erection of a new \$125,000 classroom and library building at Eastern Oregon college as soon as labor and materials are made available by the federal government, were announced today in Portland by Chancellor Frederick M. Hunter.

Hunter said the erection of this badly needed unit and others at various centers of the state system of higher education are made possible by approval of Oregon voters of the \$10,000,000 state building fund at last week's special election.

World Security Board Paves Way For Peace Body

SAN FRANCISCO, June 27 (UP)—The "preparatory commission" of the United Nations formally came into existence today with the promise that it may be able to begin conducting business in London about Aug. 1.

The commission was set up by the United Nations conference to make arrangements for the first meeting of the new security organization after the necessary ratification of the peace charter. Each of the 50 member nations are represented on the commission. Dr. Leo Pasvolosky of the state department represented the United States today.

The meeting was a formality "to bring the commission into existence." It was decided that because the commission will have headquarters in London, the British government would name an interim officer to prepare for the first meeting of the commission and its subordinate executive committee of 14 nations.

Most of the top name delegates had departed this morning, but several of the heads of delegations were still here and attended the meeting. The proceedings were said to have been extremely cordial.

The next step will be an executive committee meeting in London. The executive committee then will call a meeting of the full commission, probably after ratification of the charter. The commission then will issue the formal call for the first meeting of the general assembly and security council—the step which will signal the beginning of the new organization set up here.

The meeting came after final approval and signing of the United Nations charter and a colorful closing meeting in the San Francisco opera house with President Truman the principal speaker.

Monty Suggested As Ruhr Coal Czar

WASHINGTON, June 27 (UP)—President Truman has asked Prime Minister Winston Churchill to make Field Marshal Sir Bernard L. Montgomery coal czar of the Ruhr, highly placed sources said today.

These sources said successful handling of this assignment is of as crucial importance to reconstruction as was Montgomery's war job to the victory in Europe. Europe is desperate for coal. C. J. Potter, deputy solid fuels administrator who has just returned from the continent said the present European deficit was estimated at about 50,000,000 tons. He said France, Denmark, Norway, Belgium, Holland, Italy, Sweden, Switzerland, Spain and Portugal along with north Africa were almost entirely without coal.

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New Succession Plan Approved

WASHINGTON, June 27 (UP)—The house judiciary committee today approved legislation embodying President Truman's proposal to make the speaker of the house next in line by presidential succession.

The committee acted at the end of a one-hour session without holding hearings on the bill. The vote was 10 to 9.

Committee Chairman Hatten Sumners, D., Tex., introduced the bill two days ago in response to a recommendation of Mr. Truman. The measure provided that the speaker and the president pro tem of the senate should be next in line for the presidency if both the president and vice president should be removed through death or disqualification.

Big Sales of E Bonds Needed to Complete Quota

\$56,201 Needed To Reach Goal Set For County

Purchases of war bonds in denominations of \$25 to \$100 are urgently needed if Union county is to reach its 7th war loan quota of \$741,000 in sales to individuals.

This was the announcement today of W. C. Perkins, county war finance chairman, who said the county remains \$56,201, sale value, short of the quota. He said this includes \$36,000 of the quota of \$1,000 bond sales as the drive went into its final phase, and anticipates receipt of \$75,000 in E bond credits from purchases through payroll savings purchases by Union county employees of corporations with headquarters outside the county.

He said while complete reports have not been received on purchases of bonds by corporations, the committee believes the quota of \$223,000 in that time of bond sales has been reached.

Volunteers who have been soliciting prospective purchasers of the \$1,000 bonds have nearly exhausted their lists of prospects, indicating that a larger margin of purchases of bonds of smaller denominations must be achieved to make up the deficit if the county is to reach its goal by June 30, the closing date of the campaign.

Lowering of Army Discharge Points Is Expected Soon

WASHINGTON, June 27 (UP)—The army is expected to lower the number of points required for discharge from 85 to between 78 and 80 in the next few weeks, it was reliably reported today.

At the same time members of the house military affairs committee said they anticipate no change in the army regulations qualifying men for automatic discharge on reaching 40 years of age.

They also said that the army will stand on its demands for 7,000,000 men to whip Japan.

However, the army itself has made it clear that some time soon the number of points needed for discharge will be further reduced.

It was pointed out that field commanders sent in reports on the number of points held by all men up to today.

The new "critical" discharge score will be determined from these reports and will be based on the number of points that will release 1,300,000 men. The present critical score of 85 was intentionally set too high to release the 1,300,000 since until all scores were in the army did not know what total would serve to release exactly the right number.

Committee members said they do not believe the new score would be much below 85, that it probably would be fixed at 80 and not less than 78. They emphasized that point values would not be changed.

Senate Approves Postal Pay Boost

WASHINGTON, June 27 (UP)—The senate has passed by voice vote a bill giving a pay increase to postoffice department employees.

The bill now goes to conference with the house on senate amendments. It provides an increase of 20 per cent of base salary or \$400 a year, whichever is smaller, but in no event to be less than \$300 a year.

Veterans Administration Will Establish La Grande Office to Aid Discharged Service Men

Establishment of a unit of the veterans' administration in La Grande to assist in the administration of the affairs of discharged members of the armed services was announced today by United States Senator Guy Cordon in a telegram from Washington.

He said the office will be established as soon as suitable space can be obtained and personnel obtained and trained, and that it will be expanded through the assignment of additional personnel as requirements demand.

The initial staff will consist of a contact representative of the veterans' administration and a stenographer-clerk.

The office will be a contact unit, the purpose of which is to serve veterans in connection with the rights and privileges provided under the so-called GI bill of rights, providing them with assistance in the transition from military to civilian life and advice concerning loans, educational opportunities and other advantages accruing through the government's program for aiding them in resuming their places in the civilian activity of the community.

Summer School Band Group Will Present Concert

The third annual summer concert of the summer band students of La Grande public schools will be presented at 8 o'clock Friday night in the high school auditorium.

The group includes approximately 80 members and is composed of children chiefly of elementary school age, all of whom are students of the summer music course provided by the school system. The band, which was created and has been directed by Leroy Darling, high school band director, has been divided into three groups: beginning class, intermediate class, and junior band.

Beginners will play with demonstration and selections by the beginners, followed by selections by the intermediate group. Highlights of the program will be selections by the clarinet quartette, Barbara Detrick, Mary Ratliff, Delpha Morehead and Dale Vaught; cornet solos by Franklin Seward; selections by Frank quartet, Duane Hamlin, Bobby Quinn, Charles Brackett and Dick Johnston; flute solos by Maurice Gerards and baritone horn solos by Dick Johnston. The program will conclude with selections by the junior band.

Pupils taking part in the concert in addition to the above are: Beginners—Billy Williamson, Robin Williamson, Fae Williamson, James Marshall, John Bennett, Jerry Stoddard, Lynn Bennett, Eddie Johnson, Laughton. See SUMMER . . . Page 5

Oregon Livestock Is Near Record

PORTLAND, June 27 (UP)—Oregon livestock producers have more beef cattle on farms and ranches than they have had at any one time in 15 years and only ask that government regulations give them a chance to sell the meat, state director of agriculture E. L. Peterson told a special directors meeting of the Oregon Food Merchants association.

Peterson said Oregon is producing a heavy surplus of meat for its population.

There are 746,000 head of beef cattle, 436,000 dairy cows, 194,000 hogs, and 1,022,000 lambs and sheep on farms in the state, Peterson explained.

PORTLAND, June 27 (UP)—The 1945 Oregon pig crop amounts to 264,000 head, 23 per cent less than the 1944 crop and 35 per cent below the 10-year average annual production of 409,000 head, the U. S. bureau of agricultural economics reported.

Four Held in Probe Of Bootleg Fatalities

SEATTLE, June 27 (UP)—Police today held four men as suspected members of a bootleg ring handling denatured alcohol that killed three men and blinded a fourth within the past month.

The suspects were arrested on a tip from a man who drank some of the alcohol and survived its effects. One of the suspects was pouring the alcohol into bottles as he was arrested.

Rousing Welcome Given President By Home Town Crowd

Truman To Rest Briefly at Home In Independence

INDEPENDENCE, Mo., June 27 (UP)—President Truman came home today to a rousing welcome from the flag-bedecked town where he got his political start to make one of the most important news announcements of his career.

As the presidential special plane landed at Kansas City, Kan., at 1:30 p. m. (CWT) the president stepped out to receive home town greetings from Mayor Roger T. Sermon, a life-long friend, and a delegation of Independence civic and business leaders.

Greeted by Daughter
As the plane taxied to a stop, Miss Margaret Truman, wearing a pink dress and yellow straw hat, climbed the steps to kiss her smiling father. Then, arm in arm, they stepped down to the runway as photographers snapped their pictures.

Old friends ganged around him and for five minutes it was a fast and furious exchange of greetings, everybody calling everybody by their first names.

President Truman climbed into an open car to lead a short caravan of motor cars, behind police escort, through downtown Kansas City, Mo., and the 10 miles to the redecorated summer White House here where Mrs. Truman was awaiting him.

The president was home to celebrate his 26th wedding anniversary tomorrow with the first lady in the big rambling 14-room home to which he took her after their marriage here.

Stops in Salt Lake City
President Truman spent the night in Salt Lake City, where he was welcomed yesterday by Governor Herbert B. Maw, who See ROUSING . . . Page 5

Army Reveals 13 Divisions Slated For Redeployment

PARIS, June 27 (UP)—Two more redeployed divisions, the 28th infantry and the 10th armored, are due to reach the assembly area on their way home early in July, the army's communications zone headquarters announced today.

The 28th is scheduled to reach Camp Pittsburgh on July 5th and the 10th armored to arrive at Camp Oklahoma City on July 3th. Both camps are in the Rheims assembly area.

The announcement brought to 13 the number of divisions scheduled for redeployment. The status of the others was announced as follows:

Fourth division: Now assembled at Le Havre for embarkation July 1.
44th division: Will move to Le Havre staging area to embark July 3rd.
8th division: Moving to Le Havre June 28.
13th armored division: Scheduled to reach camp June 28.

Other divisions presently in various stages along the line are the eighth, second, fifth and 104th infantry divisions. The 88th, 97th and 94th already have sailed.

Green-Eyed Monster May Have Something to do in This Case

PARIS, June 27 (UP)—Frenchwomen say the Yanks are lousy lovers and considerably less well-behaved than Hollywood movies had led them to expect, according to the Parisian Weekly, Samedi Soir.



LADDER OF ISLANDS TO JAPAN—The maps above show the strategic position of captured Okinawa, and tiny Kume island, which is reported today by Tokyo to have been invaded by American forces. Kume lies 50 miles west of Okinawa and would provide the U. S. forces with another springboard to the China coast or Japan.

Japanese Move to Convert Homeland Into Field of Battle

GUAM, June 27 (UP)—Tokyo said today American forces landed on Kume island, 50 miles west of Okinawa, and the Japanese government seized control of all communications systems as a prelude to converting the homeland into a battle field.

Enemy broadcasts reported without confirmation that heavy fighting was under way on Kume between American amphibious forces and the Japanese garrison. Japanese speculated the U. S. Pacific command was enlarging its Ryukyus springboard for landings in Japan and possibly China.

Using its new authoritarian decree powers for the first time, Premier Baron Kantaro Suzuki's government took direct control over all postal, telegraph, telephone and radio communications throughout Japan. The new control measure, Tokyo said, envisages "urgent" steps to provide "facilities to suppress hostile radio broadcasts. Japan's communication system, in effect, will become an integral part of the invasion defense system.

Japanese civilians again were exhorted by Home Minister Genpei to give their lives to repel American invaders.

There was no immediate confirmation of the landing report from American sources, but Tokyo said yesterday that 200 American warships and landing craft were assembled in the American-held Kerama islands, half way between Okinawa and Kume, for new landings in the Ryukyu island chain or possibly in Japan itself.

The Tokyo newspaper Yomiuri Hoichi saw a "great possibility" that American forces would land in China before invading Japan. Such a thrust would be decisive. See INVASION . . . Page 5

Spanish Border Closed to French

PARIS, June 27 (UP)—A French foreign office source said today that Spain has cancelled all imports, exports and transit licenses affecting France in reprisal for a French mob attack on Spaniards at Chambrey 10 days ago.

Spain also notified France that the time was "inopportune" to attempt to open commercial negotiations, the informant said.

A number of Spanish diplomats and laborers were killed or injured at Chambrey by a French mob who attacked their train in the belief they were members of the infamous Spanish Blue Legion which fought beside the Germans against Russia. The Spaniards were being repatriated from Germany.

State Purchase of Liquor Held "Clean"

PORTLAND, June 27 (UP)—A joint Oregon legislative committee investigating the purchase of the Waterfall-Frazier and Shawhan distilleries by the Oregon and Washington liquor control commission in 1943 today was in recess until the auditors make final reports.

Ray H. Leshner, auditor employed by the Oregon liquor commission, testified at Tuesday's hearing that the transaction was "perfectly clean all the way through."

Weather
Data for 24 hours to 7 a.m.
Temperature:
Maximum 71
Minimum 42
Forecast: Clearing tonight and Thursday.