La Grande Evening Observer

HUB OF NORTHEASTERN OREGON
Union and Wallowa Counties

A Community Newspaper For Every Member of the Family

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Fleet, Planes Pound Tokyo

All Time High Seen In Wheat

An average yield of 35 bushels an acre is expected from Union county's 48,000 acres of wheat, with some few farms bringing in 50 to 60 bushels an acre, the county agent's office announced today.

The condition of the wheat, owing to heavy spring rains, is good, with a loan value of $1.283 per bushel for No. 1 wheat.

WASHINGTON, July 10 (UP) — The agriculture department today forecast a 1945 corn crop of 2,685,328,000 bushels. This would compare with 1944 production of 3,228,361,000 bushels and the 1934-43 average of 2,433,060,000 bushels.

This first estimate of corn production this year was based on conditions as of July 1.

The crop reporting board estimated land planted in corn at 92,229,000 acres, compared with the 1945 goal of 99,098,000 acres.

An average yield of 29.1 bushels an acre was indicated compared with last year's average of 33.2 bushels.

The wheat crop was estimated at another all-time record of 1,128,690,000 bushels. Report last month forecast 1,084,652,000 bushels of wheat, compared with 1944 production of 1,078,647,000 bushels.

The winter wheat crop was indicated at 834,189,000 bushels against the June estimate of 797,255,000 bushels and a 1944 output of 764,073,000 bushels.

The spring wheat crop was set at 294,501,000 bushels. This compares with a June estimate of 287,397,000 bushels and the 1944 crop of 314,574,000 bushels.

Two Killed, Eight Missing in Flood

EASTON, Pa., July 10 (UP)—At least two persons were killed and four others were missing today as the result of a torrential storm which lashed a 30-mile area in Pennsylvania and New Jersey along the Delaware river.

A series of flash floods followed in the wake of the two-hour rain and hail storm last night causing thousands of dollars damage to dwellings and crops through the area.

At Phillipsburg, N. J., four or more persons were reported missing when a four family frame dwelling was crushed by a retaining wall which tumbled from a 30-foot high embankment during the downpour.

At Coplay, Pa., John Horbow, 60, of nearby Egypt, was electrocuted when lightning struck a transformer at a plant where he was a night watchman.

Robert A. Florey, 38, Bethlehem, Pa., was killed when he came in contact with a power line as he attempted to clear a highway of a fallen tree.

The storm, most severe on record in the area, washed out a number of streets and highways. Electrical service was interrupted and several communities were in darkness for hours at a time.

Qualified Personnel Will Go Overseas

WASHINGTON, July 10 (UP) —All qualified army personnel in this country who have not served at least six months overseas will be replaced by next May 1 so they may be given foreign assignments.

Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson said the replacements will be made by returning veterans and others in special categories. The changes will affect about 400,000 men under 35 who are now in this country.

The army for several months has adhered to a policy of giving overseas assignments to personnel in this country and replacing them with veterans. The new order, however, sets May 1 as the deadline for the changes.

The order applies with special emphasis, it was said, to men under 35.

Trace Found of Missing Youth

BILLINGS, Mont., July 10 (UP) — Sheriff Herbert Bailey believed today Montana authorities may be on the trail of 16-year-old Leland Owings of Sheridan, Wyo., circus worker who has been missing since June 28 when the Arthur Bros. circus played in Helena.

A letter from Mrs. Mary Frey of Craig received yesterday by Bailey reported she and her son had picked up a boy answering Leland's description near Helena, June 28.

According to Mrs. Frey, the boy gave his name as Bill Fisher and said he had been working with a circus. He stayed at the Frey home until June 30, she said, and then took a bus to Great Falls.

Voice Cracked

LONDON, July 10 (UP) — Frank Sinatra took an editorial pounding from "Stars and Stripes" yesterday for raising his voice against camp shows put on by the USO and the army special services. The voice, quoth the army newspaper, "is hardly an authority on either military or workaday show business."

"It is possible Frankie was distraught and tired when he made his statement," it added. "He had just finished seven gruelling weeks overseas during which he sang several times every day, and in addition he had granted an audience to the pope and wised up his holiness on the crooning racket, and that taxes one."

State Will Build North Powder Road Shortly

Rejection by the state highway commissioners of a $7,560 bid for construction of 4.65 miles of road from North Powder to the Baker county lines does not mean the road construction will be passed up, it was announced here this afternoon.

The state will complete the patch and oiling project by force account, that is, using its own equipment and employes, rather than by giving the job to a contractor. The only bid received was too much higher than the estimate of $5,996.

The road is an important federal-state secondary highway which the county maintains, although the federal-state setup builds the road, County Engineer S. B. Morgan said. It follows the North Powder river and connects with the Anthony lake road. Log hauling has been one of the principal uses of the road, with the Oregon Trail Lumber company at Union as one of the main users.

Highway commissioners are studying bids on the Carlton timber access road project in Yamhill county, opened yesterday in Portland. Of seven bidders, E. R. Hutchman, Mill City, was lowest with a bid of $52,792, on the 1.96 mile project. The engineer's estimate was $56,016.

Unidentified Woman Held in Kidnaping Of Baby in Ohio

MARION, O., July 10 (UP)—Twenty-nine-year-old Phylis Lanmen, Marion, today confessed the abduction of Jean Eileen Creviston.

MARION, O., July 10 (UP)—Roscoe D. Mezger, grandfather of kidnaped baby Jean Eileen Creviston, said today the family has received no word of the infant's whereabouts despite predictions solution of the case was imminent.

Mezger, wholesale grocery executive, wearily told a newsman "there just isn't anything new." His daughter, the baby's mother, was taken to her parents' home immediately after the kidnaping Sunday night.

An unidentified woman was picked up for questioning in Columbus today after Sheriff Leroy Reterrer had promised an arrest "before noon" and the FBI had said it understood the case had been solved.

Mrs. Wilbur Snyder Dies in Portland; Formerly Lived Here

Mrs. Wilbur Snyder, formerly of La Grande now of Portland died at 6:10 a.m. today in a Portland hospital following a long illness.

She leaves her husband, Wilbur Snyder of Portland; a son, Tom Kinzer of La Grande; a daughter, Mrs. Mary Richter of Vicksburg, Miss., and a son-in-law, Lt. Col. Eugene Richter.

Mr. and Mrs. Snyder were in the auto business in La Grande, having the Pontiac agency before the war.

Funeral services will be at 2:30 p. m. Thursday, July 12, at Snodgrass Funeral Home. The body will be brought to La Grande tonight and burial will be in the Masonic cemetery.

Lt. Col. and Mrs. Richter, recently returned from the south Pacific, are at the Kinzer home in La Grande.

Smother Capital's Defenses

GUAM, July 10 (UP) — More than 1,200 American army and navy planes, backed by the greatest naval armada afloat, are smashing at Tokyo and a broad stretch of the Japanese coast late today after eight hours of sustained bombardment that smothered enemy defenses.

Counting some 500 to 550 Superfortresses that set five Honshu war centers ablaze before dawn, almost 1,800 American warplanes were over the Japanese homeland.

Near Capital

Standing perhaps 200 miles off Tokyo bay throughout the assault were scores of American carriers, battleships, cruisers and the lesser craft of Vice-Admiral John S. McCain's task force 38—the fighting spearhead of Admiral William F. (Bull) Halsey's U. S. third fleet.

Tokyo said the American fleet was southeast of the capital and included 10 aircraft carriers.

They broke radio silence continually in a bold challenge to the remnants of Japan's air and sea forces to come out and fight. But fleet dispatches said thus far not a single enemy plane or ship had been sighted.

Up and Down

Racing westward under forced draft, the carriers pulled within striking distance of Tokyo before daybreak and sent the first of their 1,000 bombers and fighters roaring over the capital a few minutes after 5 a.m.

Alarmed Japanese broadcasts said the navy fliers were ranging up and down the east coast of Honshu on all sides of Tokyo.

The Japanese said a third American striking force comprising 30 Liberators, 30 Mitchell medium bombers and about 70 fighters struck from Okinawa at Targets in western Kyushu.

Fire Guides

Around mid-day, the enemy reported another 100 army Mustang fighters, accompanied by "several" B-29s joined in the navy strike by attacking shipping and shore installations in the Osaka-Kobe area southwest of Tokyo.

They were guided into the enemy shores by the light of huge fires claping through five Japanese cities, where a force of 500 to 550 B-29 Superfortresses had unloaded 3,500 tons of demolition and incendiary bombs shortly before daybreak.

McGee Gets Six Months in Jail

FORT DEVENS, Mass., July 10 (UP) — Pvt. Joseph V. McGee, 25, of Worcester, who served a jail sentence for slapping nine nazi prisoners, was sentenced today to six months in jail at hard labor for being AWOL the third time in six weeks.

Maj. Frank Reeder, president of the special court martial, an only 10 minutes. It ruled also only 10 minutes. It ruled also that during the six months McGee must forfeit $35 a month out of his pay.

McGee received national attention as a "bemedaled hero" who was jailed because he slapped nine German prisoners of war in France. His two-year jail sentence was commuted recently.

MARINES HOLD FIRE AS JAPS SURRENDER—Marine rifleman signals his companions to hold their fire as a Japanese soldier emerges from a cave on Okinawa. Persuaded by a smoke grenade, the occupants of the hideout surrender to the leathernecks, adding to the large bag of prisoners taken in this island campaign.

County Officially Over Quota in War Loan Campaign

Although Union county was 'over the top' in the seventh war bond drive more than a week ago, the official announcement of the standing of the county was not announced until today when E. C. Sammons, state war fund committee chairman, declared E bonds sold here and reported by the treasury banks to state headquarters now total $771,266. E bond quota was $741,000.

Union is one of only eight counties in the state which have thus far exceeded their quota of E bonds in official reports, although unofficially and actually others have reached their goal.

The other seven counties over are Harney, Clackamas, Klamath, Baker, Hood River, Wasco and Washington.

Quotas were exceeded in every phase of the drive here including corporation and prsonal sales. Although further corporation sales were not officially reported they had brought total purchases up to more than $1,150,000. County quota was $964,000.

"I want to compliment W. C. Perkins (county chairman) and all the volunteers of Union county for having done such an outstanding job on the campaign," Mr. Sammons telephoned the Evening Observer from Portland this morning.

Truman Enroute to Historic Meeting

ON THE ATLANTIC WITH PRESIDENT TRUMAN, July 10 (UP) — President Truman today was aboard an American warship in mid-Atlantic bound for Europe and his meeting at Potsdam, Germany, next week with Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Generalissimo Josef Stalin.

As his powerful fighting ship drove through unusually placid Atlantic waters, the president held continuous conferences with two of his top international advisers—Secretary of State James F. Byrnes and Fleet Adm. William D. Leahy, chief of staff to the president.

Chickens Hop On No Feet On This Road

PORTLAND, July 10 (UP)—State highway commissioners agree perfectly with Bend farmers chickens stuck in road oil can't scratch a living for themselves and can't help much in the war effort.

So, at their meeting here late Monday, they agreed to join with the city of Bend in cleaning up spilled road oil which leaked from a tank car and flooded private property.

Cherry Growers To Seek Raise In Wage Ceiling

At a meeting of cherry grower's associations last night, it was decided to apply to the war food administration for an increase in the wage ceiling for picking. The Pumpkin Ridge Cooperative Cherry Growers' association will apply for a ceiling price of 3½ cents a pound, an increase of ½ cent over the rate last year. Prices asked on applications from other associations are not yet known.

While it is still too early to determine accurately, picking on Royal Annes is tentatively scheduled for the last week of July. Picking on Bings will start approximately 10 days later.

About 500 tons of cherries are expected to go through the association this year, while Cove's association estimates a harvest of from 350 to 400 tons.

Police Free Girl; Shot Boy Friend

LOS ANGELES, July 10 (UP) —Police today released 27-year-old Rita Powers Clements, red-haired Detroit war worker exonerated by a coroner's jury for the "accidental" killing of her truck driver sweetheart, Thomas Gibbons, 39.

Miss Clements, who came here from Detroit to marry Gibbons, was carried from the inquest chamber by detectives after fainting during early testimony that she accidently shot him with an "unloaded" gun when he teased her by biting her neck.

Grew Warns of Listening to Peace Feelers

Says Japan Has Not Offered To Quit

WASHINGTON, July 10 (UP) —Acting Secretary of State Joseph C. Grew, denying Japan has offered to surrender, said today the enemy is attempting to split the allies by provoking public discussion of Pacific surrender terms.

He denied for the third time in recent weeks Japan has made conditional surrender offers "either through official or unofficial channels."

Feelers, However

But in a surprise statement warning against a relaxation of the allies' unconditional surrender demand, Grew acknowledged many "alleged peace feelers" on the part of the Japanese have been reported to this government through indirect channels.

Itemizing some of these "feelers," Grew said they are "familiar weapons of psychological warfare" being tossed into the battle now the enemy's military position is deteriorating and the plight of Japanese civilians is becoming more critical.

He said "conversations relating to peace" have been reported to the state department from various parts of the world.

No Offer

"But," he emphasized, "in no case has an approach been made to this government, directly or indirectly, by a person who could establish his authority to speak for the Japanese government, and in no case has an offer of surrender been made.

"In no case has this government been presented with a statement purporting to define the basis upon which the Japanese government would be prepared to conclude peace."

Grew cited one occasion when "leading Japanese industrialists" —and he emphasized the quotation marks around this phrase—were reported as eager to know "the best possible conditions."

"Intimated"

Grew cited an instance in which a member of a Japanese mission to a neutral country "intimated" to an American citizen, through a German newspaperman, "that real American interests in the Far East should lead the United States to abandon unconditional surrender and propose terms."

"Finally," he said, "an unidentified person approached an American mission in a neutral country, claiming he had been authorized (by whom was not indicated) to approach the government of the neutral country with a view to persuading the allies to drop unconditional surrender and to propose terms."

Big Three Chiefs Of Staff Agree On Governing Reich

BERLIN, July 10 (UP)—Chiefs of the American, Russian and British occupation forces met today and agreed upon the immediate establishment of an inter-allied governing authority to direct the joint administration of Berlin.

An official announcement of the agreement was issued after a conference of big three leaders.

Marshal Gregory K. Zhukov of Russia, Lt. Gen. Lucius Clay of the United States and Lt. Gen. Sir Ronald Weeks of Britain were the conferees. Zhukov presided.

They decided to establish at once the mixed governing authority "to direct jointly the administration of greater Berlin under the interallied agreement on control machinery in Germany."

"A satisfactory arrangement was made to meet the immediate problems of food supply for the civil population of Berlin on the basis of contribution from all the zones of occupation," the official anouncement said.

SPECIALISTS ARRIVE

BERLIN, July 10 (UP)—An unusually large number of transport planes swarmed through the skies over Berlin today, giving rise to the assumption the vanguard of specialist and important personalities were arriving for the Big Three meeting.

Follet Family Has Quota of Accidents

The Jesse Follet family of Elgin shouldn't have any accidents for a long time, if the law of averages can be depended on to work, because at the rate of Sunday and Monday they have their share.

Sunday, while Jesse Follet was driving a team, until that time placid enough, the horses became terrified and got out of control. They crashed the wagon into the fence, into the corner of the barn, then into a hay rake, circled the area several times and finally tore into the timber, throwing Follet from the wagon, severely bruising him and dislocating his right shoulder.

Yesterday his son, George Follet, received a broken collar bone when thrown from a bucking horse, and is now in Grande Ronde hospital receiving treatment.

There was a bright spot in the weekend however, that being the arrival at the parental home of Warren Follet with his new bride. He was recently discharged from the navy because of injuries.

Laws of Arrest Explained to Police School

FBI Agent Talks On Telephone Courtesy

Circuit Court Judge R. J. Green, principal speaker yesterday at the first day of La Grande's five-day FBI police school, lectured on the Oregon laws of arrest, dealing with arrests with and without warrants in misdemeanors and felonies.

"An officer," he stated, "may make misdemeanor arrests Sundays in only three cases: when a warrant has been issued, when the offense has been committed in the officer's presence, or when a telegram has been received from officers in another county instructing the arrest of a specific individual. Arrests for felonies may be made at any time."

Must Help

Judge Green defined a misdemeanor as an offense punishable by either fine or imprisonment in the county jail, and a felony as an offense punishable by imprisonment in the state penitentiary.

"When an officer requests aid of a citizen in making an arrest," he continued, "it is a misdemeanor for the citizen to refuse to give the requested aid."

Customers

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Customers

Resident Agent Marshall I. Barnes preceded Judge Green yesterday, explaining the school schedule and introducing instructors. He lectured on police courtesy and telephone courtesy, comparing taxpayer-police relations not as an employer to employe, but as a customer to a store-owner.

Session today was opened with lectures on interviews and report writing, given by Special Agent Howard B. Patterson, followed by a class in defense tactics given by Special Agent Max E. Taylor.

Drilling to Start Aug. 1 On Oil Well

Drilling on the as yet un-named oil well, located two miles north of Hot Lake, will start about the first part of August, Hugh Berry, vice-president of the Grande Ronde Oil and Gas company, announced today.

Financing of the well, started sometime last year, should be completed by then, Berry stated, and the rotary drill equipment, now being checked at Union, will have been transferred to the well-site.

294 Crewmen Lost On Brazil Vessel

RIO DE JANEIRO, July 10 (UP) — The ministry of marine said today at least 294 out of 427 Brazilian crewmen perished in the sinking of the cruiser Bahia which apparently struck a mine.

The death toll was at first released as 395, but a ministry of marine communique last night said 33 survivors had been picked up by the British freighter Balfe and that 100 more had landed in the island of Fernando Noronha.

Six Districts Vote On Consolidation With Imbler

Consolidation of six elementary school districts with the Imbler district was voted upon at a special election at 2 p. m. today.

The election, the results of which may not be known for two days, was held in the following school districts: Summerville, Pleasant Grove, Dry Creek, Pumpkin Ridge, Alicel, Willow Creek, and Imbler.

If the measure is passed, the six districts will be incorporated in the Imbler district, meeting in the school house there.

Ford Asks Respect For Restricted Parking Districts

Unless motorists cooperate in the future in respect of observation of the city's restricted districts, strict enforcement of the one hour parking limit will be started, Ed Ford, city manager, announced today.

Owing to the shortage of help, Ford said, the city has not been enforcing the one hour parking limit on Adams avenue. Numerous complaints have been received about employes of business houses parking all day in the restricted district. There has also been abuse of the loading zone areas, he stated. The workers are asked to park their cars on side streets during business hours.

"We also wish to notify the children that it is very dangerous to ride two on a bicycle and also that riding on the viaduct and city sidewalks is prohibited," he stated.

State Judges Fund Increases $10,000

SALEM, July 10 (UP) — The state judges retirement fund has increased nearly $10,000 during the past year, State Treasurer Leslie M. Scott reported here Monday.

The fund, created by the 1943 legislature, now has $28,010.54, compared to $18,604.33 last year, and the original $10,000 appropriation. The fund is maintained by transfers from the general fund, withholdings from judges salaries and income from investments.

All but a small portion, $885.35, is invested in U. S. government securities, Scott said.

Dr. Gage Resigns As OPA Director

PORTLAND, July 10 (UP)—Resignation of Dr. Daniel D. Gage, Portland district OPA cent director, said Gage is to leave Aug. 1 to return to his post at Eugene, where for 13 years he was connected with the teaching staff of the University of Oregon school of business administration.

No successor to Gage has been named.

Weather

Data for 24 hours to 7 a.m.
Temperature:
Maximum 97
Minimum 60
Forecast: Clear tonight and Wednesday. Not much change in temperature.

Water Still Seems Plentiful

But Soap Goes Way Of Sugar, Steak.

By United Press

If the corner grocer is looking more harried than usual of late, it's safe to assume a shortage of soap, latest item on the list of wartime unobtainables, is to blame.

In virtually every city in the country, supplies of package soaps and the better-known bar soaps have virtually disappeared, a United Press survey discloses. Less popular brands, however, usually are available.

Many felt deceased production because of a scarcity of fats and oils was a factor. Others said rumors of rationing actually had created the shortage.

A Washington soap maker attributed the situation to "a shortage of fats and oils and an oversupply of government regulations."

Cake sales were estimated at one-fourth and those of granulated and flake soaps at one half of last year in Detroit, where a swollen population put an additional strain on existing supplies. Laundries reported some increased business, because washwomen were telling their customers, "No soap, no clothes."

Dealers in Denver, Cleveland, Atlanta, Columbus and Kansas City all reported a stampede to the soap counters. The soap-run eased, they added, when the office of price administration announced it had no immediate plans for rationing.

Representatives of the two largest soap-producers said they are maintaining normal operations. They deplored the well-known "vicious circle" which they said starts with rumors of rationing, followed by hoarding, and finally the need for rationing.

Liquid soaps were appearing on the market for the first time in many cities and dealers did a record business in tie-in sales, frowned on by the OPA.

The Lincoln Neb. Journal printed a standard recipe for home-made soap on its women's page. In Omaha the wife of a chain store manager postponed her washing a week because she didn't have laundry soap. Other housewives began using less-scarce toilet soap for laundry and dishes.