

**Weather**  
Data for 24 hours to 7 a.m.  
Temperature:  
Minimum 79  
Maximum 42  
Forecast: Clear, warmer to-  
night, Wednesday.

# La Grande Evening Observer

HUB OF NORTHEASTERN OREGON  
Union and Wallowa Counties

A Community  
Newspaper  
For Every  
Member of the  
Family

ESTABLISHED 1896

LA GRANDE, OREGON TUESDAY EVENING, JULY 31, 1945

FIVE CENTS



**THROWS RATION RARE BEEF TO FISH**—Perry Lee Miller, 49, troopship steward, charged with throwing ton and half of beef overboard on trip between San Francisco and Seattle, in Seattle with District Attorney John E. Belcher. Miller didn't want to dock with so much poor-cut beef aboard.

## No Forgiveness On State Income Tax This Year

SALEM, July 31 (UP)—About \$24,372,335.17 in estimated state revenue for the current fiscal year is shown in the state levy of taxes, published today by the state tax commission.

This amount will go to offset property taxes, which are in balance with the figure of \$24,372,335.17. These property taxes are derived from requirements of \$16,372,335.17 for state governmental purposes, and \$8,000,000 which will go to the state school support fund.

Included in the requirements are \$5,992,926.64 inside the constitutional 6 percent limitation on taxes, \$8,210,292.19 outside the limitation, and the \$2,169,116.34 two-mill state elementary school tax.

Funds outside the 6 percent limitation include the \$5,000,000 state building fund, voted at the June 22 election, and about \$3,000,000 in war veterans' funds, allocated by the 1945 legislature.

No state property tax levy will have to be made, the figures show, as income tax revenues are sufficient to offset the requirements.

However, with the publication of the levy, it was revealed Oregon income taxpayers must pay the full amount of income taxes in the ensuing year, with no forgiveness rebate on payments as in previous years.

Money now on hand cannot meet all the necessary expenses of state government and still permit the forgiveness feature. The state and county school fund also will not be paid, as the commission announced last week. It would have amounted to approximately \$3,000,000 on the basis of \$10 a pupil.

Addition of \$5,000,000 to the state's obligations, for the recently voted building fund, was principal cause of the cut.

**Girl Pleads Guilty To Getting Money With 'Baby' Story**

PORTLAND, July 31 (UP)—Probation officials today studied the guilty plea in federal court of Rose Marie Moore, who was indicted for posing as an expectant mother and getting money from families of service men overseas.

She was arrested in Dallas, Tex., evidence showed she would get the names and addresses of men going overseas, then write their families and ask for funds on grounds she was going to have a baby. She secured \$225 from one family and \$80 from another. She used several aliases.

**Suit Filed in Death Of John Turner**

Maude Turner Parent, administratrix of the estate of John Robert Turner, has filed in circuit court here petition asking for the Eastern Oregon Light and Power company \$10,000 for the death of John Turner.

The petition sets forth that Turner died Aug. 14, 1944 as result of burns received Aug. 1 when the boom pole and cable of the derrick he was moving on his farm south of Union came in contact with the transmission lines of the defendant.

## Soldier Asking For Widow, 3 Children Gets Prompt Action

DUNN, N. C., July 31 (UP)—A soldier who wrote the editor of the Dunn Dispatch last week seeking the acquaintance of a young widow with three children, today became the object of a wide-spread search.

L. B. Pope, the editor of the Dispatch, said today that his mail box was being flooded with letters from north, south, east and west, all from young widows. Each applicant, their letters say, meet the specified requirements of the young soldier whose object is 85 points.

It all started last Tuesday night when the soldier's request went out over the wires of the United Press.

## Wrecked Plane Spotted From Air Near Medford

MEDFORD, July 31 (UP)—A wrecked plane, believed to be the missing craft carrying three Portland persons and a Los Angeles pilot from Red Bluff, Calif., to Eugene, Ore., was spotted from the air today in northern California, 40 miles south of Medford.

The missing plane, last heard from Saturday, was occupied by Sylvan L. Gosliner; his wife, Ruby, and his sister-in-law, Mrs. Alma Finley Pratt, all of Portland, and civilian pilot from Los Angeles, believed to be named Armstrong.

The Rogue river national forest headquarters reported that a pilot from the Redwood ranger station had sighted the wreckage of a plane along Butte fork in northern California about 11 a. m. today. The flier reported the wrecked plane to be standing on its nose, with no sign of life visible but no indications of fire having broken out.

The nearest forest service installation is at the Strugis guard station, from which a man has been dispatched on foot. He must traverse an 8 mile trail and was not expected to bring word back until early this evening.

## Boy, 7, Recovers Loot From Bank

BURBANK, Calif., July 31 (UP)—A 7-year-old boy who went into a garage to recover a baseball, found \$2,294 of the \$111,300 loot taken yesterday by two bandits from two Hollywood bank messengers.

Gilbert Abelar located the money in a west Los Angeles garage his mother, Mrs. Esther Abelar, rented to a soldier three months ago.

Although Mrs. Abelar did not know the name of the soldier, her description of him tallied with that of one of the bandits who was dressed in the uniform of a military policeman, officers said.

Also dumped in the garage were a soldier's blouse, an MP arm band, and a brown sports coat with a Lockheed aircraft badge. The clothes were identified as those worn by one of the bandits.

The bank messengers, Thurston M. Patterson and Victor H. Lohn, were held up as they were en route to deliver the funds to a currency exchange near the Lockheed plant.

# Ickes Sees Coldest Winter Expects 37 Million Ton Lack in Output

## Weygand Defends Marshal

PARIS, July 31 (UP)—Gen. Maxime Weygand defended Marshal Henri Philippe Petain today as a faithful guardian of France's interests and negotiator of an inevitable armistice which made possible the relatively bloodless American invasion of north Africa.

Weygand, generatissimo of French forces in the debacle of 1940, told a tense and eager high court jury Petain in November, 1942, sent repeated messages to Admiral Jean Darlan ordering the cessation of French hostilities against the Americans.

**Didn't Know**  
The old and ailing general, fresh from long imprisonment in Germany, testified at Petain's treason trial Pierre Laval ordered the French to resist the American invasion without the knowledge of the old marshal.

The defense fired its heavy artillery in calling Weygand for an impassioned appeal on behalf of Petain, for whom he said he had only "veneration and admiration."

For hours Weygand decried the cause of France. He unwound a dramatic story of the crumbling of the French defenses, France's helplessness against the onrushing tide of nazism, and the armistice which he said was dictated by dire military necessity.

**Downfall**  
Weygand, leaning heavily on his cane and brusquely refusing permission to testify from a chair, told a story of France's downfall that was studied with these highlights:

1. The Americans would have "paid dearly" for the invasion of north Africa without the French cooperation.

2. Petain, using the armistice terms as an argument, refused a Nazi ultimatum June 16, 1940, demanding that France had over certain bases.

3. Weygand himself was solely responsible for declaring Paris an open city.

**To Limit**  
4. Petain's first step in connection with the armistice was to say France never would surrender her fleet.

5. The French fought bravely and to the limit of human endurance against insurmountable odds in their last big battle—the "calvary" leading to the crucifix which was the armistice. Everyone was at his post.

6. By June 12, 1940, when the French no longer were able to coordinate their movements, Weygand decided they must ask for an armistice, and told the government so.

## Capehart Sees End Of War in 60 Days

INDIANAPOLIS, July 31 (UP)—Sen. Homer R. Capehart, R. Ind., today predicted the end of the war with Japan within 60 days. He said Russia will "join us in the Pacific by Sept. 1 if the Japanese haven't surrendered by that time."

Home on senate vacation, Capehart said his predictions are only "personal observations."

## '288 Square Ft. of Historic Items' Van Wormer Started Antique Collection 30 Years Ago

Probably the best, if not the most informative, way to describe B. A. Van Wormer's collection of antiques would be to call it "288 square feet of history."—"History" because most of the antiques are concerned with such personages as Sir Walter Scott and Robert Burns — and "288 square feet" because a 12 by 24 foot knotty pine room is reserved for the collection.

Thirty years ago Van Wormer started his collection, which eventually reached the size where additional space was needed. The problem was solved in 1935, when he built the room in the basement of his home at 2104 North Fir street.

**Willow Ware**  
His collection includes family heirlooms, Indian relics, and antiques, which he stumbled across in second hand stores and antique shops. The majesty, however,

are from Scotland, brought back by Van Wormer after a trip to that country in 1924.

One of his antiques, for example, is from Spottswood, Scotland, a piece of wood from the gate post where "Annie Laurie" was written. He also had a sampler, worked in cross-stitch, with the initials G. S. F. and the figures 1809 in it.

One little old Scotch lady gave him, during his trip, several pieces of willow ware, more than 300 years old. Genuine willow ware bears no trade mark, but has three triangles, where the pieces were dried.

**Dueling Pistols**  
Van Wormer has several canes, one of which belonged to Sir Walter Scott. It has been slightly damaged by termites, but is still in handling condition. Another cane, this one of Chinese origin, has been made from layers of shells ground down to uniform size, with a metal rod through the middle keeping the cane firm.

One of the most interesting objects of the collection is a solid black walnut floor-clock dating from 1807, made of wood, with the single exception of the escapement wheel.

Van Wormer also has two black walnut dueling pistols with fill-gree brasswork, which he acquired from "a drunken sailor in New Orleans."

**Old Coin**  
The oldest single object in the collection, he stated, is either an old Roman coin, made sometime before Christ, or a piece of tile from a Roman camp, found at Newsted, Scotland.

Van Wormer has two small crossed oars hung upon the wall, which he carved in 1900 from the deck planks of a ship sunk by the rebels in the Civil War. He gave the oars to a young lady named Sargent, and the only way to get them back was to marry her—he says.

**Rarest**  
The rarest of all his antiques is undoubtedly a picture of Rob-See VAN WORMER. Page 5

**Tillamook Burn Under Control; Light Rain Helps**

PORTLAND, July 31 (UP)—Cool and overcast skies helped western Oregon firefighters keep the Tillamook burn under control today.

The three-county fire will have been burning three weeks tomorrow, but state forestry officials are hopeful the weather will hold long enough to finish strengthening of bulldozer fire lines and bottle up the fire in its present 200,000 acre area. There are green "islands" within the area which weary crews hope to save.

**Watersheds Safe**  
The watersheds of Forest Grove and Hillsboro, largest cities in Washington county, appeared safe after being threatened over the weekend. Light rains and reduced wind stopped the fires long enough to rush protective trails in front of the flames.

With luck, crews hope by tonight to finish the remaining four miles of a 12-mile fire trail on the east side of the fire, and three remaining miles on a 10-mile break on the south. The area to the north from round top to Cedar creek was under control.

The Consolidated Timber company camp at Glenwood and the Stimson Lumber company camp were saved after virtually being surrounded by flames.

**Send Troops**  
Fort Lewis continued to send replacement troops to the fire lines to relieve worn out men who had been on the fire lines steadily for more than a week. Two Negro soldiers in one military convoy were killed when a truck overturned last week, and one civilian fire fighter has been killed.

## WPB Worker Fined For Building House

PORTLAND, July 31 (UP)—When WPB employe Edward L. Kropp persisted in building an \$8,000 home with critical war material, he was warned twice by the WPB and then indicted.

Today he was under sentence of eight months in prison and \$1,000 fine, the imprisonment to be suspended if he pays the fine.

**Elliott Roosevelt Will Leave Army Service Aug. 15**

WASHINGTON, July 31 (UP)—Brig. Gen. Elliott Roosevelt will doff his uniform Aug. 15 and return to civilian status with the army's thanks for his "efficient" service.

The date of his discharge was announced by the war department last night in a statement denying any connection between his release and recent publicity over certain loans which he reportedly negotiated while his father was in the White House.

The department said the 34-year-old officer's application for discharge, and the decision to grant it, were made before the loan controversy began.

Young Roosevelt's financial affairs have been under congressional study for several weeks as result of reports he had negotiated several large loans which were later settled for fraction of the money involved.

**Mrs. Ellsworth Christens Boat**

PORTLAND, July 31 (UP)—Mrs. Harris Ellsworth of Roseburg, wife of Oregon representative in congress, christens the tanker Silver Creek being launched at the Swan Island shipyard here today.

The couple's daughters, Mary Margaret and Jane Ellsworth, are maids of honor and Miss Susie Jenner of Portland is flower girl. Rev. William Coughlan, St. Joseph's Catholic church, Roseburg, will say the invocation.

**Bulletin**

PARIS, July 31 (UP)—Expelled from Spain, Pierre Laval flew today to Linz, Austria, with \$10,500 in U. S. \$500 bills, 14 pieces of baggage and four wooden cases, two of each contained Vichy water, it was announced tonight.

## 12 More Japanese Cities Warned Of Destruction 1,023 Ships, 1,247 Planes Destroyed By Third Fleet

WASHINGTON, July 31 (UP)—Secretary of Interior Harold L. Ickes told the senate war investigating committee today next winter will be "the coldest of the war" unless sufficient miners are quickly released from military service to increase coal production.

"This would be true," Ickes said, "even if we did not send a pound of bituminous coal to Europe."

He has urged that we send 6,000,000 tons of bituminous coal to Europe — about one percent of a year normal output.

**No Magician**  
The United States, he continues, has done "prodigious things" to provide fuel to run the war.

"But I am not a presiditator and neither are any of the members of the solid fuels administration staff," he said. "We have no magic wands, and we can not produce coal with out coal miners. No one else can."

"If they are not forthcoming, the public must be prepared to scrape the bottom of the fuel bin as never before, and even burn the bottom of the bin itself."

**37,000,000 Tons**  
The war department had declined so far to give special consideration to release of coal miners.

Ickes told the committee present manpower in the mines produce this "fuel year," which began last April 1, 575,000,000 tons of the estimated need of 600,000,000 tons of soft coal and 43,000,000 tons of the estimated requirement of 55,000,000 tons of hard coal.

"These figures point definitely to a worrisome deficit of 37,000,000 ton between what we can produce and what we shall need," Ickes said.

**Even Worse**  
If the United States sends coal to Europe without the release of necessary miners, he added, the country faces "an ever greater emergency at home than is indicated by the 37,000,000 ton deficit."

"The only answer to our production problem is more miners," Ickes asserted. "There has been a steady deterioration of mine labor force since 1941, when the average number of mine employees totaled over 545,000. Preliminary statistics for 1944 show the average number to be 461,000, and in 1945, we expect to sustain a net loss of 19,000 more men."

Ickes told the committee that he had repeatedly begged the military services to stop drafting coal miners but that he had consistently lost his arguments.

**Mills Too**  
C. J. Potter, deputy solid fuels administrator, predicted if present coal shortages continue much American industry will be forced on a four-day week next winter. He said the industries likely to be affected include steel mills.

The only "complete" solution, Potter said, would be the early surrender of Japan. Potter asserted "the greatest shortages" will hit New England, New York and Virginia, with acute shortages also in the Great Lakes region.

**Truman, Stalin, Attlee Confer For Three Hours**

POTSDAM, July 31 (UP)—President Truman, Prime Minister Attlee and Premier Stalin met for three and a half hours today after a two day delay caused by slight illness of the Soviet generalissimo.

The Potsdam conference is believed to be drawing to a close, but a spokesman said the big three plenary consultation is not yet finished.

The spokesman said the delegations were substantially intact, although some early arrivals such as Secretary of War Henry Stimson and Gen. H. H. Arnold had departed.

**Truman Will Ask More News Freedom**

ST. LOUIS, July 31 (UP)—President Truman will ask Russia at the Potsdam conference to give American correspondents more freedom of news coverage, Stephen T. Early, press secretary to the late President Roosevelt said yesterday.

Although he did not refer directly to Russia, Early said, "before the president leaves Potsdam, he will appeal if he has not already done so by now, to the governments represented there to admit the American press to a coverage of all news events in their countries."

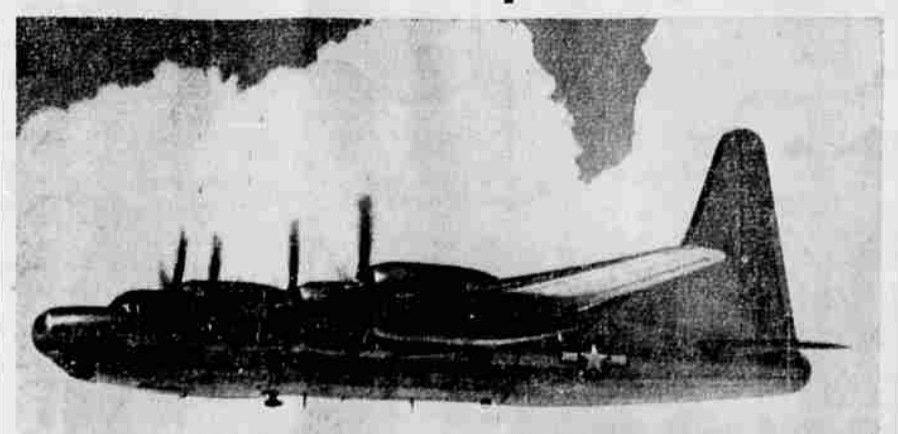
# B-32 Tailor Made for Japanese War

FORT WORTH, Tex., July 31 (NEA)—The Jap home islands, already rocked by repeated blows of B-29 Superfortresses, have now felt the sting of what might be called the army air forces' Sunday punch, the new B-32 bomber.

The B-32 is slightly smaller than the Superfortress, its companion in the heavyweight class, but it carries a comparable load. It has a wing spread of 135 feet and a length of 83 feet. The most distinguishing feature is a towering single tail surface, 32 feet and 2 inches high, of almost twice the height of the B-24 twin rudders.

Carrying a crew of eight, the bomber lifts a normal gross weight of 100,000 pounds and alternate gross weights of more than 124,000 pounds. It is powered by four 18-cylinder, 2200-

Distinguishing feature of B-32 is huge tail. The giant bomber is the first land plane to be equipped with reversible pitch propellers.



Distinguishing feature of B-32 is huge tail. The giant bomber is the first land plane to be equipped with reversible pitch propellers.

**JUDGE NOT ACTIVE**

PENDLETON, July 31 (UP)—County Judge Carl W. Chambers of Umatilla county today indicated he was not an active candidate for the state tax commission vacancy.