

Weather
Data for 24 hours to 7 a.m.
Temperature:
Maximum 94
Minimum 53
Forecast: Partly cloudy tonight
and Saturday. Scattered thun-
der showers east portion Satur-
day.

La Grande Evening Observer

HUB OF NORTHEASTERN OREGON
Ulin and Wallowa Counties

Reason Tells Some
Details of Conference
Held at Potsdam

ESTABLISHED 1896

LA GRANDE, OREGON, FRIDAY EVENING, AUGUST 10, 1945

FIVE CENTS

JAPS OFFER TO QUIT

Russians 110 Miles into Manchuria

Japanese Defenses "Meager"

LONDON, Aug. 10 (UP)—The Red banner armies of the far east tonight were reported deep within Manchuria, rolling up an advance of nearly 110 miles and capturing the vital northwest Manchuria rail center of Hailar in less than 48 hours combat.

The rapidity of the Soviet advance across northwest Manchuria suggested the Japanese are putting up meager opposition. Japanese radio reported Soviet troops had invaded Korea and the southern half of Sakhalin island in a broadening offensive.

Cross River
Soviet communique reported the Red army had driven straight down the Chinese eastern railroad from the border town of Manchouli to Hailar, nearly 110 miles.

Other troops crossed the Amur river boundary at another point and captured two towns in an advance of nearly 10 miles. In the Lake Dalai region advances up to 13 miles were registered and south of Khabarovsk two towns on the south bank of the Amur and one on the west bank of the Ussuri were seized in advances up to nearly 15 miles.

Fighting northwest from Vladivostok the Red army captured the towns of Pogranichny, Tungning and Tangchagou, just across the maritime provinces frontier. South and southwest of Khabarovsk the towns of Lopel, Tungkiang and Lahasutu were captured.

Japanese Imperial headquarters reported these developments in its communique broadcast by the Tokyo radio:

1.—Red army forces crossed into Korea near the Korean border town of Keiko, 80 miles southwest of Vladivostok and 18 miles inland, yesterday afternoon.

Invade Karafuto
2.—Soviet troops on Sakhalin invaded Karafuto, Japanese-occupied southern-half of the island. The southern tip of Karafuto lies only 30 miles north of the Japanese home island of Hokkaido.

3.—A Red army column yesterday afternoon crossed into northern Manchuria near Chihco, 500 miles north of the Japanese headquarters city of Harbin.

4.—Another Soviet column thrust into Manchuria from outer Mongolia 250 miles southeast of Manchouli.

5.—A Japanese convoy east of northern Korea shot down 14 of 80 Red air force planes.

Rescue Crews Try To Get Bodies Out Of Shattered Car

MICHIGAN, N. D., Aug. 10 (UP)—Rescue crews with acetylene torches cut through the tangled and twisted steel wreckage of a railroad coach today in an effort to remove the bodies of an estimated 40 servicemen killed in the crash of two sections of the Empire Builder, crack messenger train.

The bodies were enmeshed in the buckled steel plates of an observation car and the locomotive of the train's second section which smashed into the car, telescoped and then exploded.

Ten persons were known to have been injured seriously. Scores of others were bruised, cut and shaken. Some were burned.

The accident occurred about 7:30 p. m. (CWT) last night when the first section of the train stopped about a half mile from the small Michigan depot because of a "hot box" on the locomotive.

Before flames could be put out to warn the second section, it plowed into the rear coach, a combination Pullman-observation car. It split the coach down the middle.

The engine's boiler exploded on impact and searing steam scalded those already dying.

Surrender of Japs Not Signal For Mass Releases

WASHINGTON, Aug. 10 (UP)—The surrender of Japan would not be a signal for mass release of men from the army and navy. Nor would it mean an immediate end of redeployment of forces to the Pacific.

A selective service spokesman pointed out today under the draft law registrants are taken into service for the duration of the present war and six months after the "date of termination of hostilities."

The "termination of hostilities" does not mean when the shooting stops.

That date is defined by law as "the date proclaimed by the president, or the date specified in a concurrent resolution of congress, whichever is earlier."

A house military affairs committee spokesman noted President Truman has not yet proclaimed the end of hostilities in the European war. He said it was possible the surrender of Japan might not bring a prompt proclamation of the end of hostilities in the Pacific.

Truman Reveals Agreements At Potsdam Talks

By ROBERT J. MANNING
WASHINGTON, Aug. 10 (UP)—President Truman left bruised and battered Japan with the grim promise today of more atomic bombs and more military surprises.

The Japanese have felt only part of the crushing fate in store for them if they choose to fight on, the chief executive declared last night.

Truman vowed the atomic bomb will continue to be turned on the enemy until the minute of surrender, and he warned Japanese civilians to vacate war industrial centers and "save themselves from destruction."

The president, at the same time, said he was fully aware of the horrible potentialities of the new weapon posed a threat to all mankind.

Therefore, he said, the United States, Canada and Britain, who hold the secret, will keep it from the world — apparently even from the Russians — "until means have been found to control the bomb so as to protect ourselves and the rest of the world from the danger of total destruction."

Wheat Crop to Reach Record

WASHINGTON, Aug. 10 (UP)—The department of agriculture said today prospects for the 1945 corn crop have improved during the past month. The department also reported wheat is expected to reach an all-time peak of 1,146,283,000 bushels.

Corn last year reached a record high of 3,228,361,000 bushels. The average annual yield from 1934 through 1943 was 2,433,060,000 bushels. July wheat forecasts indicated 1,128,690,000 bushels. The annual average from 1934 through 1943 was 789,080,000 bushels.

Churches of Town Plan For Services

Because many of the ministers of La Grande are out of town, the Ministerial association was not able to plan any joint action. In any event, the individual churches of the city will have services.

First Christian church committee was meeting today to plan a meeting, and Rev. Logan Pruitt, pastor of First Methodist, said his church will have services at 8 p. m. on V-J day.



CHIEF SIGNS CHARTER—President Truman formally ratifies the United States membership in united nations world security organization by affixing his signature to the ratification, as Secretary of State James Byrnes (right) looks on.

Merchants Prepare to Observe V-J Day with Parade, Dance

With announcement of conclusion of current hostilities expected momentarily, La Grande merchants committee yesterday afternoon planned for V-J day.

It was decided that all places of business will close immediately upon receipt of the news, if it comes before 8 a. m., with a parade held at 1 o'clock that day, and a street dance at 9 p. m.

In the event the news should come any time after 8 a. m., all stores will immediately close, except grocery stores which will remain open until 11 a. m., and the parade and dance will be held on the following day.

Ed Ford presided at the meeting. La Grande junior chamber of commerce will be in charge of the street dance; Sam Hill and Harley Smith will be in charge of the parade; Fred J. Patton will make arrangement for music for the parade; Ray Snider will be in charge of the VFW and George Tiss of the American Legion.

All business houses are asked to put out their flags immediately upon receipt of the news of victory.

A union church service was suggested, but will be left entirely to the Ministerial association to decide.

Original U. S. Land Patent Filed Here Contains Title to Hindman Homestead

Recently there was filed in the office of the county clerk of Union county for recording an ancient United States patent or government deed, by which the government conveyed to William B. Hindman 160 acres of land in Sections 21 and 22, Township 1 North of Range 40 E. W. M., located on the North Fork of Clark's creek in the Elk Flat country east of Elgin. The patent was signed by President Rutherford B. Hayes and dated March 20, 1877, a few days after Hayes succeeded to the office of president following the Tilden-Hayes presidential contest. Because government patents are necessary in order to show good title in the sale of land, most government patents to Union county land have been recorded for many years.

Because this land has never been sold or mortgaged is the probable reason the patent had never been heretofore recorded. The land passed to Luther B. Hindman in 1927 by inheritance, and was in turn inherited by the children of Luther B. Hindman on his death in October, 1944, when he was crushed by an overturning tractor.

William B. Hindman was a pioneer freighter and schoolteacher. Born in 1846 in Mount Vernon, Ia., he crossed the plains by wagon to Baker in 1864, and then engaged in freighting between Umatilla landing and the mines in eastern Oregon and Boise basin. He taught school at Summerville and other Grande Ronde locations until 1871, when he filed on the homestead, which he tended in the summer, and continued to engage in teaching and freighting in the winter. Homesteaders were then required to live five years on the homestead before making final proof.

Historically the William B. Hindman homestead and patent have significance in that the Hindman homestead filing was the first one made east of Elgin, and it is family legend that the reason he moved to the Elk flat country was to harvest hay growing naturally on a large meadow on Clark's creek.

Large Farm
Another historical fact of interest is that the flat, or low land of that valley, was so named because a large herd of elk ranged there throughout one summer in the early 70s, and left only when driven out by the storms of a very severe winter.

The Hindman homestead is now included in the large farming operations of the Hindman family, conducted by Luther Hindman's widow, Mrs. Irma Hindman, and his son, Billy Hindman.

Attacks On Japan Continue

GUAM, Aug. 10 (UP)—More than 1,200 allied carrier planes struck Japanese military targets on northern Honshu today for the second straight day in support of the Red army's Manchurian offensive.

While the carrier planes swarmed over the Honshu targets blasting at centers from which the Japanese supply its Kwangtung forces opposing the Russians, 70 Superfortresses dropped demolition bombs on the sprawling Tokyo arsenal area.

Continue Attack
The Superfortress raid on Tokyo followed a pre-dawn Superfortress assault in which 90 B-29s dropped demolition bombs on the Nippon oil refinery company at Amagasaki in the Osaka area.

Radio Tokyo indicated the carrier planes still were continuing their bombing and strafing attacks against the Japanese military installations on Honshu.

The Japanese broadcast said following the carrier planes' morning strike against the Kanto district, which includes the greater Tokyo-Yokohama area, about 35 allied aircraft raided airfields and military installations at 1 p. m. (Tokyo time) in the Chiba district, east of Tokyo.

Ask Emperor
The Japanese government formally protested to the United States through Switzerland on use of the atomic bomb against Hiroshima, radio Tokyo said. The broadcast failed to mention the Nagasaki attack.

Leaflets dropped called on the Japanese people to "petition the emperor to end the war."

On Okinawa, two army Mustang pilots told how they watched the blast of the atomic bomb on Nagasaki.

Even from that distance, Lt. Cl. Edward F. Rhoddy of Cleveland and Maj. Howard Tuman of Venice, Calif., said they saw a huge ball of yellow and orange fire shoot 8,000 feet in to the sky.

Steer Clear
(Robert Shaplen, Newsweek correspondent broadcasting over NBC, said a Liberator bomber on which he was flying approached within 10 miles of the city.)

"It was like looking over the rim of a volcano in the process of erupting, even though it was 12 hours after that bomb had been dropped," Shaplen said.

(The pall of smoke and flames was visible 100 miles away, Shaplen said. All night long, pilots radioed in reports of the smoke as far as 200 miles from the city. American planes have been ordered to steer clear of Nagasaki.)

Soil Conservation Talks Discussed At Wallowa

Proposals to establish soil conservation districts in Wallowa county will be discussed at public hearings to be held today and tomorrow at Enterprise, Wallowa and Flora.

Petitions signed by 31 landowners have been filed with the state soil conservation committee at Corvallis pursuant to the provisions of the statute authorizing the formation of soil conservation districts.

The proposed district will embrace all of Wallowa county, but the determination of the boundaries of the district will be decided upon at the hearings, and the determination of whether the soil conservation district shall be established will be made at a subsequent election in which every land owner is entitled to one vote.

NO FATALITIES
SALEM, Aug. 10 (UP)—There were no fatalities reported among the 916 accidents reported to the state industrial accident commission for the week ending Aug. 9.



HIROHITO: He'll either go or stay.

Senators Declare Jap Peace Offer 'Looks Good'

WASHINGTON, Aug. 10 (UP)—Chairman Elbert D. Thomas, D., Utah, of the senate military affairs committee said today the Japanese peace offer "looks all to the good to me."

Thomas, one-time Mormon missionary to Japan, said the Japanese condition that the emperor retain his throne "should encourage us in accepting the offer."

"The emperor is the key to the constitutional government of Japan," Thomas said. "If he is retained, our problem of administration in Japan will be much simplified."

"We don't want to destroy the only constitutional form of government in Asia," he said. "We want to throw out the present government but we don't want to knock down their constitution."

Sen. Warren G. Magnuson, D., Washington, disagreed with Thomas.

"Certainly there could be no greater obstacle to democratic government in Japan than retention of the emperor," he said.

"Unless there is some good military reason for accepting the reservation, we can still win in a few days if we keep up warfare with unabated force."

"I think we can get truly unconditional surrender that way," Sen. Harold H. Burton, R., O., said the Japanese offer "marks substantial progress in ending the war."

"And for the emperor, the conference at Berlin left the way open for some such offer. The Potsdam declaration reveals that even if he were allowed to continue, he would be deprived of all control over the policies of Japan which might continue it as an aggressive nation."

Policeman 'Vags' Porcupine Found Near Residence

An errant porcupine at 906 G avenue called out city police at 10:30 a. m., according to the following report of Patrolman A. C. Meyers.

"Called to 906 G avenue, and captured 'porkey' after a game of hide and seek in the back yard, where flowers, roses, thorns and other foliage were so thick 'porkey' had the advantage.

"Bored him into a box with the help of Pat Fitzgerald, a shovel, rags, and hot, 'porkey' didn't look like he wanted a trial, and we weren't sorry—so 'vagged' him out of town on a one-way ticket."

Ask Hirohito Safety; Big Four Conferring

By United Press
Japan offered today to surrender provided assurances can be made regarding the status of Emperor Hirohito. The allies went into immediate consultation on the Tokyo proposal. The Japanese said they accepted the Potsdam surrender ultimatum provided the sovereign prerogatives of Hirohito are maintained.

A White House announcement at 3:28 p. m. confirmed the offer had been made and added the United States, Britain, Russia and China are now conferring regarding it.

White House Secretary Charles G. Ross said there will be no further White House statement on the Japanese offer today or tonight and Secretary of State James F. Byrnes revealed by agreement any and all news about the surrender will come from Truman.

Unconditional Surrender of Japan Urged

Opinion here concerning Japan's proposal of peace appeared to be almost uniform in La Grande this morning when citizens were quizzed on their views.

Mrs. June McManus, business woman, when queried as to "What do you think of the war news today," answered, "It is the best news I've ever heard, but we must have unconditional surrender. It has to be that ultimatum because we have given too much and can't take chances on any slips. Regarding Hirohito, we can't dictate their religion, after all we are fighting for freedom, religious as well as any other, but on the other hand, how much power does he have, and how much will he retain? He sanctioned these acts and that automatically makes him a war criminal."

Stockholm reported the Japanese note has arrived there and is being turned over immediately to the British and Russians. The note through the Swiss was directed to the United States and China. It was understood the texts of the notes are identical.

The Swiss radio reported the Japanese note had been received there and promptly turned over to the Americans and Chinese.

The speed with which the Japanese offer was being transmitted indicated before nightfall President Truman, Prime Minister Attlee, Gen. Josef Stalin and Gen. Chiang Kai-shek will be able to exchange their views.

Consults Byrnes
The test of the Japanese offer was first made public by the Tokyo radi and was reported by the United Press in San Francisco.

On the basis of this unofficial text Truman consulted with Secretary of State James F. Byrnes and it was believed the American position may have been already formulated.

As quickly as the four allies agree on their attitude toward the Japanese proposal, a reply will be forwarded.

If the allied answer satisfies the Japanese regarding the position of their emperor, it was presumed arrangements quickly will be made for the formal surrender—a procedure which is very complicated due to the widespread dispersal of Japanese forces.

Follow U. S.
British opinion, it was understood, was favorable toward acceptance of the Japanese proposals. However, the British and it was presumed the Russians and Chinese, will be guided largely by the United States which has born the brunt of the more than three and a half years of conflict with Japan.

In any event it was estimated it will require some time to work out a formal surrender—possibly as long as a week or 10 days provided the matter of the emperor is settled.

Conditions
The Potsdam declaration called for:

1. Unconditional surrender of all Japanese armed forces, accompanied by adequate assurances of good faith.
 2. Occupation by allied forces of such portions of Japanese territory as the allies regard as necessary for the fulfillment of their objectives.
 3. Elimination "for all time of the authority and influence of those who have deceived and misled the people of Japan."
 4. Punishment of all war criminals.
 5. Elimination of Japan's war making capacity and elimination of all bars to establishment of a free, democratic regime in Japan.
 6. Application of the terms of the Cairo declaration, limiting Japanese sovereignty to the four islands of Honshu, Hokkaido, Kyushu and Shikoku.
 7. Stripping Japan of all her possessions in the Pacific and Asia won by aggression.
- The position of the emperor in See ASKS SAFETY... Page 3