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The Oregon Statesman

FOUNDED 1851

Weather
Cloudy today and Friday with occasional rain; snow over mountains. Max. temp. Wednesday 58. River 2.8 ft. South wind.

EIGHTY-NINTH YEAR

Salem, Oregon, Thursday Morning, December 14, 1939

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No. 225

British Drive Nazi Battleship to Refuge

Russ Steamer Wrecked; Over 700 Are Lost

Many Women, Children Listed in Dead off Coast of Japan

American-Built Vessel Runs Aground in Heavy Storm

WAKKANAI, Hokkaido, Japan, Dec. 13.—(AP)—The Blizzard-blinded wrecking of the Russian steamer Indigirka off Hokkaido, northernmost of Japan's main islands, was feared today to have cost the lives of more than 700 Russians, many of them women and children.

Tonight 180 bodies washed ashore across a four-mile area of Hokkaido while surging waves prevented efforts to reach the half-sunken Indigirka.

The heavily laden vessel, built in the United States 19 years ago and sold to Russia in 1928, was operating in the Soviet fishing service when she went aground yesterday off the perilous Hokkaido coast.

Aboard were about 1,100 persons, fishermen with their wives and children and a crew of 19. The Japanese ship Karafuto Maru reached port today with 395 survivors who knew nothing of the fate of their missing comrades.

It was feared the rest had drowned or frozen to death. Survivors suffering from exposure (Report received in Tokyo said 87 were known to have perished.)

The survivors were suffering from exposure when the Karafuto Maru brought them to safety from the stormy scene of the wreck.

One SOS was sent out by the Indigirka before a huge wave smashed her radio room, but even in that message she was prevented by blinding snow from giving her position accurately.

Possible rescue ships were held in port all day yesterday by the storm.

Though the Indigirka was a ship of only 2,500 tons, she was carrying a large passenger list as well as mail.

The wreck occurred on one of the sea routes between Vladivostok and the Kamchatka peninsula.

Formerly named the Commercial Quaker, the ship was operated by the Moorebank Gulf line in coastal trade between New York and Gulf ports. She was sold to Russia in January, 1928. Previously the ship was operated as the Malisah by the C. D. Malory company.

She was built in 1920 at Manitowoc, Wis.

Warren Appointed Enforcement Head

PORTLAND, Dec. 13.—(AP)—State Police Capt. Clyde Warren was appointed head of the Oregon liquor control commission's enforcement division today, succeeding Walter Winters, who resigned.

Administrator Joseph J. Hague said Warren, a member of the state police force since its inception in 1931, would take command January 2. Winters' resignation became effective immediately, he said.

"Enforcement of the state liquor law and regulations will be much more strict in the future," Hague said. "That is the main reason why the change in command has been made."

Winters was appointed May 1, 1937, after serving five years with the state police.

Dog House for Santa Claus, Unless Long Drought Ended

(By the Associated Press)
Santa Claus will be in the dog house if he doesn't pack along a big rain or snow to break a severe plains drought.

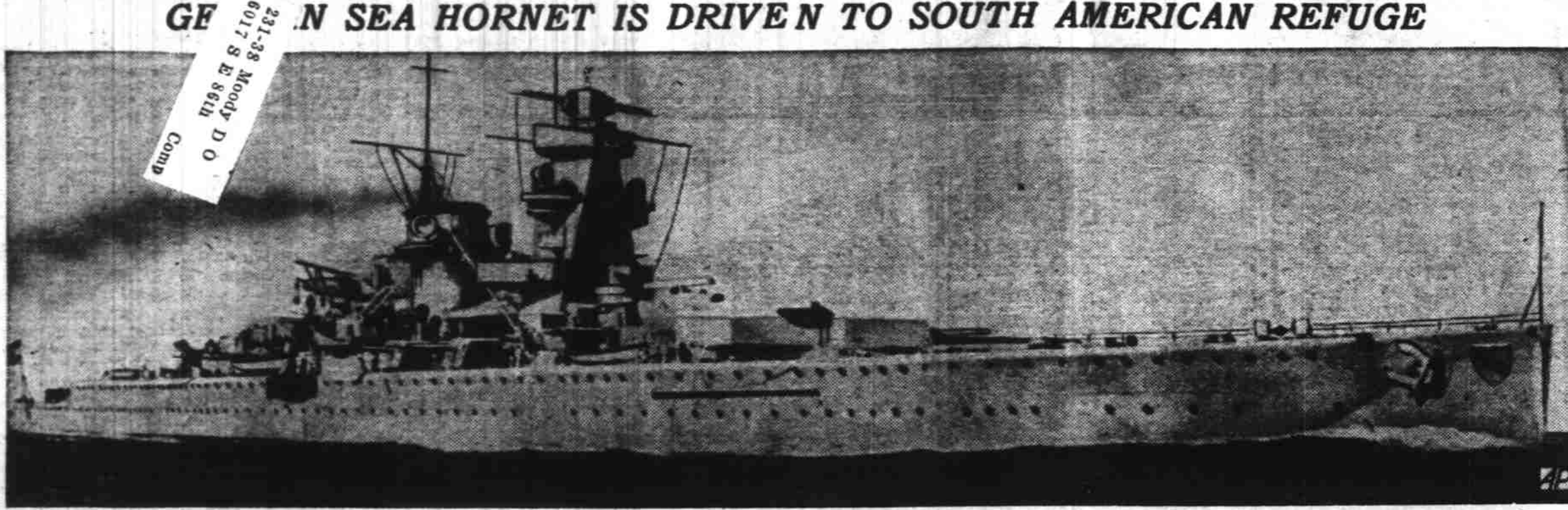
Most of the area needs moisture for stock and the coming crop season.

The fall season has been almost rainless in the old dust bowl of western Kansas, eastern Colorado and the Oklahoma panhandle where the dry spell is most severe.

Most seriously threatened are the winter wheat belt and the stock country. Much winter wheat in western Kansas and western Nebraska failed to germinate in the dry soil. The grain which sprouted is dying from lack of moisture.

Timely showers in eastern Kansas have kept wheat growing but dry creeks and ponds force farmers to haul water to keep stock alive.

In southwestern Nebraska, McCook has had no rain for more



After a running sea battle that lasted 14 hours off the coast of Uruguay yesterday afternoon and last night, the German "pocket battleship" Admiral Graf Spee was forced to refuge in the port of Montevideo. Others of identical specifications are the Deutschland and the Admiral Scheer (above).

In One Ear..

—Paul Hauser's Column

Once upon a time there was a Christmas tree merchant who had a bad cold and was taking something for it. The Christmas tree merchant was busier than a cranberry merchant and every time he would take something for his cold out of a little bottle he carried in his pocket for just that purpose.

Pretty soon the Christmas tree merchant was all lit up like a Christmas tree. All he needed was a neon star on his noggin and he could have illuminated the courthouse square.

So he stood there brightening the corner where he was, selling Christmas trees and listening to his arteries harden until he had only one Christmas tree left.

He was just about ready to sell the last Christmas tree to a fat lady with a wart when

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AFL Man Charges NLRB Conspiracy

Preference for CIO Mine Workers Is Claimed at Hearing

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—(AP)—Joe Ozanic, aggressive young leader of the Progressive Mine Workers (AFL), charged before a house investigating committee today that the national labor relations board had conspired "to give the United Mine Workers (CIO) a way out" in the desperate rivalry between the two unions.

The "plan," as he described it, was embodied in a controlling decision, which curbed the CIO union's bargaining agent for all the local mines in a specific geographic area. This was done, he said, despite provable majorities for the progressives in individual mines affected.

As a result, he asserted, the United Mine Workers and employers in the field had forced thousands of progressive members to switch to the CIO union, and pay its dues, regardless of their own desires in the matter.

In one instance, which he cited late in the day, that of the Acme Semi-Anthracite Coal company, of Williams, Okla., members of the progressive union were unemployed, he said, because their jobs had been taken by miners imported by the United Mine Workers.

All the accumulated bitterness of the fierce battle between the CIO and the American Federation of Labor was epitomized for the

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Food Stamp Plan Sought for Salem

Coupon Books Would Be Used Instead of Cash Requisitions Here

The Marion county public welfare commission called on the state public welfare commission yesterday to put the food stamp plan of distributing surplus food commodities into effect here as soon as possible.

The stamp plan may eventually do away with the commodities commissaries maintained by local welfare commissions. It provides for issuance of books of orange-colored stamps to welfare recipients in lieu of cash or requisitions.

With each \$2 book of orange stamps is given a \$1 book of blue stamps. The orange stamps are good at any grocery store for any commodity excepting tobacco or intoxicants. The blue stamps may be changed for such commodities as the federal surplus commodities corporation may brand as a surplus foodstuff.

The stamps may be redeemed by merchants at banks and the banks in turn are repaid by governmental agencies.

The plan will be tried in Multnomah county beginning January 1. Local welfare officials believe it may be extended to Marion county soon thereafter.

Frank L. Ballard Approved at OSC

CORVALLIS, Dec. 13.—(AP)—Dr. George W. Peavy, retiring president of Oregon State college, said today \$0 per cent of the college leadership approved of the appointment of Frank L. Ballard as his successor.

He said he knew nothing of "political gangster methods" mentioned in Portland yesterday by E. C. Bammon, member of the board of higher education in connection with Ballard's selection.

"I am not worried over a healthy difference of opinion," Dr. Peavy added. He said he believed faculty and students would cooperate with the new president.

"I have known Ballard since his college days; I know his ability and experience insure that Oregon State college has in years ahead a period of success and enlarged activity," he said.

The higher education split, five to four on Ballard's election yesterday. Later the vote was made unanimous.

5 Persons Hurt As Cars Collide

SEATTLE, Dec. 13.—(AP)—A mother and daughter from Chehalis were injured critically and three other persons were hurt less severely today in the collision of two automobiles on the Pacific highway at the south edge of Seattle.

Mrs. Elsie Lewis, 45, and her daughter, Elva, 15, were taken to Charles Bismarck hospital with critical head injuries.

Mrs. Helen Melendy, 25, of Cascade Locks, Ore., received a fractured collarbone and Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Young of Craig, Neb., suffered brain concussions.

Portland Man On Promotion List

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—(AP)—President Roosevelt approved today an official board's selection of 12 future rear admirals, including the navy's No. 1 flier, Rear Admiral John Henry Towers.

Towers, naval aviator for 28 years, already holds the rank temporarily as chief of the bureau of aeronautics. The others will be advanced from their present rank of captains as vacancies occur.

Daniel E. Barbey, Portland, was promoted from commander to captain, without change of residence.

Forest Fire Control Is Timbermen's Plea

Congressional Committeemen Hear Oregon Men on Plan for Extension of Forest Fire Fighting on Private Timber

By PAUL F. EWING
PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 13.—(AP) Control of forest fires will end serious worries about future Pacific northwest timber crops, a former chief forester of the United States told a congressional committee today.

Reforestation programs cannot succeed, said Col. W. B. Greeley, secretary-manager of the West Coast Lumbermen's association and former chief forester of the national forest service, until fires have been stamped out.

Col. Greeley testified before a joint congressional committee seeking a new basis for a nationwide forestry policy that private timber owners were spending \$1,250,000 annually to prevent fires in Oregon and Washington. The federal government provides another \$170,000 and the two states \$280,000. More money, he said, is urgently needed.

Trade agreements have reversed the situation under which the United States formerly shipped twice as many timber products to the British empire as it imported from Canada, Greeley asserted. He said Canadian imports now totaled three times the United States export to the United Kingdom.

Greeley, speaking for a large group of western lumbermen, asked passage of the McNary-Dorsey bill allowing the secretary of agriculture to waive competitive bidding on forest service timbered areas where sustained yield operations were instituted under agreements with private lumbermen.

The bill, he said, would provide economic security.

In areas where private owners fail to keep lands producing, Greeley suggested the state, county or federal government should take over.

The committee approved Idaho timber-protection laws as outlined by State Forester Franklin Girard, Boise, and praised a federal, state and private operator council on cutting practices.

Greeley declared the West Coast Lumbermen's association, and not the Western Pine association, as Rep. Fulmer asserted yesterday, issued price lists to members.

However, he said they were intended to serve as price bases and not as mandatory prices to be obtained.

Full facts, he said, have been submitted to Thurmond Arnold, assistant attorney general in charge of monopoly prosecutions.

The joint committeemen left here tonight to conduct hearings at Madison, Wis., December 18 and 19.

C. W. Barrick, Tillamook, asked that the forest service be permitted to extend fire prevention and suppression activities deeper into adjoining lands than the present three miles. The huge Tillamook fire of 1939 could have been stopped at the outset if Siuslaw national forest fire-fighters, stationed 15 to 20 miles south of the point where the fire originated, had been allowed to help, he asserted.

Such action might prevent future conflagrations, "which could run 50 miles to the ocean," in menaced forests of Lincoln and Clatsop counties as well as the Siuslaw national forest, Barrick said.

The physical examination is rigid, applicants must be between 26 and 27 years old and must have had at least two years of college work or its equivalent.

Army Wants 400 Volunteer Pilots

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—(AP)—The war department appealed today for 400 volunteers to become air corps pilots.

The appeal was issued because applications have dropped off since the start of fall and winter college terms. Last summer thousands of youths wanted to take the army's nine-month training looking to service as pilots.

Secretary Woodring noted that the physical examination is rigid, applicants must be between 26 and 27 years old and must have had at least two years of college work or its equivalent.

League Expected To Oust Russia

13 Nations Urge Help for Finland; Britain Is Winner at Sea

(By The Associated Press)
The war at sea sprang to life in a burst of fury last night with British warships after a running fight interning the German pocket battleship Admiral Graf Spee at Montevideo and a second British naval victory reported against the nazis in the North sea.

In the North sea attack, the admiralty said a British submarine sank a Nazi U-boat and torpedoed an enemy cruiser. The attacking submarine was said to be the same which Tuesday sighted the German liner Bremen but failed to attack her.

The air ministry also announced two British coastal defense planes attacked and damaged two German Dornier flying boats over the North sea Wednesday.

This announcement said both enemy rear runners were hit and both enemy aircraft were damaged by machine gun fire before disappearing in the clouds.

A committee of 13 nations, including Britain and France, approved and submitted to the league assembly for final action today a blistering resolution which:

1. Condemned Russia as an "aggressor."

2. Recommended that the league council immediately consider her banishment from Geneva.

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Klamath Banker To Seek Office

A republican contest for the office of state treasurer appeared in the offering yesterday when it was reported here that A. H. Collier, Klamath Falls banker and ex-legislator, would seek the party's nomination for the position at the 1940 May primaries.

Collier has been prominent in Klamath county financial circles for many years and served as state representative from Klamath, Lake Jefferson, Deschutes and Crook counties at the 1925, 1927 and 1929 legislative sessions. He is a graduate of the University of Oregon.

The present state treasurer, Walter E. Pearson, is a democrat, the appointee of former Governor Charles H. Martin to fill the unexpired term of Rufus C. Holman, now US senator.

While rumors were voiced that Don J. Fry was about to be replaced as secretary to the state board of control, close friends expressed doubt the rumors would materialize. They pointed out his long-standing friendship with Secretary of State Earl Snell and that State Treasurer Pearson has indicated he would support Fry for reappointment. The position carries a salary of \$5,400.

Reindeer Driver Passed as Juror

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 13.—(AP)—Christmas spirit prevailed in the courtroom of District Judge J. H. Hendrickson today.

"Have you ever driven an automobile?" an attorney asked Fred Edmunds, prospective juror in a damage action.

"No, but I've driven a lot of reindeer," Edmunds answered. He was given a place on the jury.

Blast Destroys Cellulose Plant

BUCHAREST, Dec. 14.—(AP)—An explosion early today destroyed a cellulose factory, which was engaged in producing explosives for military use, at Atzarnesti, near Brasov, in Transylvania. At least 15 persons were killed.

14-Hour Tiff Ends In Internship for Admiral Graf Spee

One of Trio of Troublesome 'Pocket' Vessels Runs to Montevideo as Climax to Running Fight

36 of Crew Are Killed by Heavy Shelling From Three English Cruisers; 1st Appearance in South Atlantic

MONTEVIDEO, Uruguay, Dec. 14.—(Thursday)—(AP)—A 14-hour running sea fight between three British cruisers and a German pocket battleship ended shortly before midnight when the badly battered German warship took refuge in neutral Montevideo harbor with 36 of her crew killed and 60 injured.

Early today the German minister to Uruguay, Otto Lanemann, announced that the stricken battleship was the Admiral Graf Spee—not the Admiral Scheer as previously reported.

Returning from a visit aboard the ship, the envoy said the dead included a lieutenant and the wounded the commander of the ship. The commander's injuries, however, were said not to be serious.

The disclosure of the battleship's identity was the first definite word that the Graf Spee had been operating in the Atlantic. She, the Admiral Scheer and the Deutschland all are pocket battleships. The specifications of the three ships are identical.

(The only European war dispatches in which the Admiral Graf Spee had figured were those which followed the British air raid on Kiel, Germany, Sept. 4, the second day of the war. Germans Deny Damage By British Plane)

(On Sept. 19 the British airman who dropped the first bomb of the war declared in an authorized interview given out in London that the Admiral Graf Spee was the principal target of the raid. Germany denied that the Graf Spee was hit.)

The British victory was not without its casualties, however, for the British admiralty in London admitted one of its three cruisers, the last 8,300-ton cruiser Exeter, had been put out of action after four hours of the fight.

But the other two British warships, the 7,030-ton cruiser Achilles and the 6,885-ton Ajax, trailed the Admiral Graf Spee to her refuge and took up positions just outside the harbor.

Their grim guns, hardly cooled from the furious battle, were still trained on the little battleship which earlier in the day had attacked one of them off the coast. Vessel To Be Held for Duration of War

(A little after midnight the German minister to Uruguay, Otto Lanemann, arrived at the port of Montevideo to intern the Admiral Graf Spee for the duration of the European war.)

The battle was fought within the Americas' neutrality belt, and much of it was within sight of the Uruguayan shore where the reverberating roar of the great guns was heard and the flashes of gunfire observed.

(Officials at Washington said, however, that probably no issue would be raised on this question.)

(They said the Admiral Graf Spee was within her rights under international law in taking refuge for repairs, but that she would have to leave within 24 hours after repairs are completed.)

Uruguayan port authorities, nervous because their shore had been exposed all day to the booming six and eight-inch guns of the British men-of-war, and the 11-inch mouthpieces of the German, (Turn to page 2, column 6)

Mother Victim Of Gun Accident

ROSEBURG, Dec. 13.—(AP)—A youth was in such a hurry to bring down a hawk last night he accidentally discharged a shotgun and struck his mother in the leg. The shot first passed through a wall.

Physicians said the mother, Mrs. Charles Insley, would recover.

Landon Tells Rally Love of Democracy Is Finest Weapon

NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—(AP)—Former Governor Alfred M. Landon of Kansas told a giant anti-totalitarian rally tonight that the Americas' "real weapon of defense was a common love for democracy, a common passion for liberty, a common will to mutual acceptance."

A near capacity crowd jammed Madison Square Garden—which seats about 20,000, to hear Landon, who spoke from Topeka, Kan., American Federation of Labor President William Green and Jewish leaders denounce the treatment of minorities by European totalitarian powers.

Green declared the "free people of America" would "never acquiesce in or accept the triumph of Stalinism and Hitlerism in Poland, Finland, Austria or the Balkan states," and added:

"We favor a resort to the use of all means at our command, short of war, in order to prevent these brutal dictators from accomplishing their dastardly purpose."

The mass meeting was sponsored by the American Jewish congress, the AFL, the church peace union and other labor and religious groups of "America's challenge to Nazi torture of Jews and others in Poland and other conquered areas."

The audience, silent as black-clad cantors standing under a flag-draped balcony chanted an ancient Yiddish memorial prayer for the victims of war and oppression, cheered adoption of a resolution calling on President Roosevelt to extend aid to the Jews of Poland and to convey to the German government America's abhorrence of the Nazi regime. (Turn to page 2, column 5)

SHOPPING DAYS TILL Christmas