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The Oregon Statesman

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Weather
Partly cloudy today and
Friday; little change in
temperature. Max. temp.
Wednesday 47, min. 25.
River 1 ft. Northwest wind.

EIGHTY-NINTH YEAR

Salem, Oregon, Thursday Morning, January 18, 1940

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No. 255

General Retreat From Salla Reported

Italian Warns War May Come At Any Moment

New Fascist Secretary Urges Preparedness for Emergency

Muti's Tone Indicates Little Faith in Allied Aims

By RICHARD G. MASSOCK
ROME, Jan. 17.—(AP)—The new secretary of the fascist party, Ettore Muti, told Italians today that "Italy may face the necessity and duty at any moment of picking up arms."

"There is no need," Muti told a conference of provincial party leaders, "to dull oneself with the illusion that Italy's present situation with regard to war may last forever."

Muti did not indicate whom Italy might have to fight and this left unchanged the general impression in foreign circles that she would remain out of the war as long as possible. However, one passage of his speech was interpreted as a rebuff to British and French gestures of conciliation, such as frequent press commendations of Italy's remaining on the sidelines.

Dangerous Is Held
As stating that Italy might have to fight "at any moment," Muti continued:
"It must therefore be prepared in its resources and above all in its spirit. It is well to add that it (Turn to page 2, col. 8.)"

In One Ear...

—Paul Hauser's Column
A man in Lodi, Calif., recently wrote to the editor of The Saturday Review of Literature seeking a poem entitled "The Florida Flea." He said it was recited at Lodi some 10 years ago in a program given by some people from Salem, Oregon. He could only remember the last lines, which went:

"Were I an Indian
Or a Chimpanzee,
What a feast I'd have
On the Florida Flea."

Well, we have an interest in Lodi because we were a resident of that wine center of the world for a brief period and we did a bit of research.
We looked up fleas from the Odyssey and the Florida Flea. The Odyssey doesn't have much to say about the rapacity of the fleas inhabiting the Aegean. It stretches in those days, except "There lay the old dog, Argos, full of fleas!"
Hilaire Belloc told about "the fleas that tease in the High Pyrenees," but failed to mention Florida.
Old Dean Jonathan Swift, whose current work, Gulliver's Travels in Technicolor, is doing fine, sums up the flea situation pretty well, we found. He wrote: "So, naturalists observe, a flea Hath smaller fleas that on him prey; And these have smaller still to bite 'em And so proceed ad infinitum."
But still nothing about Florida fleas. We got to thinking it over and decided the Florida flea couldn't be as bad as the stanza indicates. Our experiences with fleas are limited to the Pacific coast regions, but we do not believe any flea, no matter what the climate, could equal in downright bloodthirstiness the San Francisco flea. The San Francisco flea takes a back seat for nobody, preferring the choicer cuts. He is strictly out for blood.
We gave up hunting for the rest of the Florida flea poem then and decided to write our own stanza. So:

Your Florida Flea
May be a big flea,
But he bends his knee
To the Frisco Flea.

For the Frisco Flea
Is the biggest flea,
And I know that he
Got his growth from me.

Blaze Destroys Silvertown House

SILVERTOWN, Jan. 17.—Fire burned to the ground the Bert Rue home on the Marquam road Wednesday afternoon. Only a few small items were saved. The home and furnishings were partially covered by insurance.
Members of the family were working beneath the house when the fire broke out. The Silvertown fire truck was called out but was unable to save the house.
Mr. and Mrs. Rue bought the house only a short while ago.

Patriotic Orders Select President



HERMAN LAFKY

Lafky Is Elected Societies Leader

Un-Americans Opposed by Guest Speaker at Argo Session

Herman Lafky was elected president of Salem Federated Patriotic Societies at the annual banquet meeting of the federation at the Argo hotel last night. He succeeds Glenn Adams, who has held the position the last two years.

Other officers elected are A. T. Woolpert, vice-president; Mrs. C. C. Ray, secretary; and Mrs. Earl Andressen, treasurer.

Rev. P. W. Eriksen, guest speaker, told the representatives of 15 Salem patriotic organizations present that it is their duty to take a strong hand in preventing the organization of "men like Browder and Bridges, who have come into our nation like gangsters, undermining our homes and our country."

Patriotic orders should exercise more fully their powers to form public opinion, Rev. Eriksen said. R. Stover, who was a leader of the organization of the federation in 1929 and served as its first president, also spoke briefly.

Swede Neutrality Policy Criticized

Ex-Foreign Minister Given Parliamentary Support for Stand on War

STOCKHOLM, Jan. 17.—(AP)—Former Foreign Minister Richard Sandler, was applauded by parliamentary colleagues today when he criticized Sweden's policy of neutrality in the Finnish war, and expressed the fear that Russia might not halt at the Swedish frontier if Finland were conquered.

Sandler spoke in parliament during budget debate in which Premier Per Albin Hansson and Foreign Minister Christian Gunner also discussed the question of neutrality.

"Nobody wants war with the Soviet Union but nobody knows if the victorious bolshevik army would halt at the Swedish-Finnish border," he asserted.
Hansson declared firmly that Sweden was using her "own free judgment as to what best serves 'the northern countries' and Finland's cause."

"We have been exposed neither to pressure of the western powers nor to German threats and warnings," he added at the Swedish parliament.
"Responsible governments know we will refuse any proposal of (Turn to page 2, col. 4.)"

Defense Force Consolidates Position for War Maneuvers

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 17.—(AP)—The main attacking force of a substantial fleet and naval air patrol lay some 300 miles offshore tonight while defense units of air, craft and land divisions consolidated their positions in the west coast military maneuvers.

Scouting planes of the defending "blue" army were said to have ascertained the general position of the attacking forces as off the coast of Monterey bay. Twenty-four patrol flying boats of the "blues" were covering a "great area," defense agencies said, and flew many miles to sea, from Catalina north, on reconnaissance ventures.

There was no word whether the blue forces had launched any attack on the "black" invaders, in retaliation for bomber raids over the San Francisco bay area shortly after dawn.

An undetermined number of black bombing planes dived in from sea, and were engaged over San Francisco by 24 or more defense pursuit planes, in two patrols. It appeared to some observers the enemy ships had been repulsed by hypothetical anti-air-

Blockade Held Starving Nazi To Submission

Britain Looks Forward to Day When Germany Must Stop War

Economic Minister, in Commons, Tells of Nazi Privation

By EDWIN STOUT
LONDON, Jan. 17.—(AP)—Britain's government informed the nation today that its wartime stranglehold on Germany's food and commerce already had reduced the reich to the gnawing want of 1916.

Sharp-faced Ronald Homocross, 43-year-old minister of economic warfare, before the house of commons drew a grim picture of German privation as a result of four and a half months of British economic blitzkrieg. Then, in matter-of-fact tones, he said:
"We look forward to the day when she shall so strangle Germany's economic life that she can no longer sustain her war effort."

Simultaneously, the spiritual head of the Church of England, Dr. Cosmo Gordon Lang, archbishop of Canterbury, rejected a high churchman's plea, "if thine enemy hunger, feed him."

The bishop of Birmingham, Dr. Ernest William Barnes, had presented a motion in the house of bishops of the church, urging that free importation of foodstuffs into Germany be permitted by the British blockade.

The archbishop sternly replied that members of the government had informed him there was no way to distinguish raw foodstuffs would be used exclusively for feeding of the hungry and (Turn to page 2, col. 5.)

Youth Bound Over To Juvenile Court

16-Year-Old Seattle Boy Picked Up for Theft of Automobiles

Daniel Jene Sinclair, 16, Seattle, told police yesterday how he and a friend, Patrick Kelly, 16, and also of Seattle, "borrowed" Sinclair's father's car, drove it to Portland, stole a car there and another in Salem.

Sinclair was arrested by West Salem Patrolman Tony Ramik only six minutes after the car he stole here was reported stolen. Ramik was following the stolen car through West Salem at the time Salem police broadcast the report.

Kelly, who Sinclair said left Salem in the car the pair stole in Portland, has not been apprehended. The two split up at Salem, he said, and stole the second car because Kelly wanted to drive.

When planned, Sinclair said, to go to California to get a job and intended sending Sinclair's father money to cover having his car returned from Portland.

Sinclair will be turned over to juvenile court.

1 Dead, 3 Injured In Logging Mishap

ASTORIA, Ore., Jan. 17.—(AP)—A giant fir tree bowled four loggers against a stump today, killing one and injuring the others.

Walter John Neiml, 26, employee of the Crown Zellerbach camp near Seaside, died almost instantly. The injured were Arthur Uman, Steve Holmes and Milton Armstrong.

The climax of the games is expected to be reached later this week when the black force attempts landings of troops from transports on the Monterey coastline.

Imaginary black troops who made a surprise hypothetical landing yesterday advanced along Monterey bay today as they prepared the way for the invasion of the major force when real soldiers will land with real tanks and real artillery.

Headquarters reported the phantom force had reached Seaside, just outside Monterey, on Monterey bay while making a 2,000 yard advance at Avila.

SUPPLY TRAIN CHAOS FORERUNNER OF ROUT



Caption on this photograph from Finland describes it as a broken-down Russian supply train somewhere in the region about the Arctic circle in Finland. It was the breakdown of Russian supply lines, similar to this one, which aided the Finns in the routs they claimed over the Reds in the Salla region.

Browder Counsel Confesses Alias

Attorney Claims Use of Assumed Name Only Reasonable Move

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—(AP)—Counsel for Earl Browder acknowledged late today that the US communist leader used an assumed name in obtaining a passport he carried on a European trip which presumably was climaxed by a visit with Soviet officials in Moscow.

"We do not deny," said George Gordon Battle of defense counsel at the outset of Browder's trial for passport misuse, "that he obtained the 'Richards' passport in 1931 under that name."

"It is in evidence that he is an official of the communist party and certainly a man in his position in that party could not be blamed for traveling under an assumed name through the countries of Europe at that time."

Battle's effort to justify Browder's use of an alias was made in answer to the prosecution statement before a federal court jury (Turn to page 2, col. 1.)

Explosive Hinted Stolen From Army

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—(AP)—A national guard official hinted today that explosive cordite powder seized during the arrest of 17 "Christian Front" members on charges of seditious conspiracy had been taken from a regular US army base.

A second development was a charge by the non-sectarian anti-racial league that it possessed evidence that 27 New York City policemen were enrolled in the "Christian Front" movement.

Police Commissioner Lewis J. Valentine announced yesterday a departmental investigation had disclosed a suspended police lieutenant had belonged for a "short period," but had withdrawn.

When Valentine was advised today that a morning newspaper had received a letter stating that 3,423 members of the police department were Christian Front members and was asked concerning the known membership and plans for investigation, he made this written reply:
"The membership of members of the police department is unknown, but I doubt very much if it is as high as the figure stated. The matter is under investigation by appropriate officials."

The New York Times, which received the letter, said it was on a letterhead of the Christian Front but carried no return address.

Cattleman Named As State Senator

BURNS, Jan. 17.—(AP)—John W. Porter, Grant county cattleman, was named today to complete Robert M. Duncan's unfinished term as state senator from Harney, Grant and Malheur counties.

Duncan recently resigned to become circuit judge. He was president of the senate at the last session of the legislature.

Airport Approved

LA GRANDE, Ore., Jan. 17.—(AP)—Paul Morris, Seattle, Civil Aeronautics authority engineer, said today the CAA and the Works Progress Administration would sponsor an airport project for La Grande if city officials proved.

Who Takes Care Of Judge's Job, If Judge Judged?

State police were trying to contact Justice of the Peace Miller B. Hayden yesterday morning. They wanted him at his court where he was scheduled to hear the pleas of several offenders on traffic violations. They couldn't locate him.

Reason: Justice of the Peace Hayden was receiving justice in the court of Municipal Judge A. Warren Jones where he paid a \$2.50 fine for failure to observe a stop sign.

"Reform" Forces Jubilant on Vote

Ouster of Long Machine in Louisiana Hope of Opponents

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 17.—(AP)—Jubilant at partial victory in yesterday's democratic primary, Louisiana "reform" forces looked today to a runoff test to wrest the governorship from Earl Long and break the 12-year rule of Huey Long and his political heirs.

The hefty brother of the slain "kingfish" held a plurality of slightly over 50,000 with only about 150,000 still unaccounted but apparently had failed of the clear majority necessary to win the nomination, which is tantamount to election in one-party Louisiana.

It marked the first time since '28 that the Long machine had not swept its objectives easily in the first vote.

Long refused to admit tonight that he would be forced into a runoff but Sam Jones, Lake Charles attorney leading the field of four anti-administrators, announced he would take the nomination this week in preparation for the second primary February 20.

With 1,060 of 1,703 precincts reported, Long had 149,920 votes; Jones 99,743; State Senator James A. Noe of Monroe, 77,867; James H. Morrison of Hammond, 24,152; Vincent Moseley, Opelousas, 5,442. Total included virtually complete returns from New Orleans where Long ran strongly with the support of Mayor Robert Maestri.

Maintenance of these ratios would leave the balance of power in the hands of those who voted today for Noe, Morrison and Moseley.

Cudahy Sees No Cause of Alarm

BRUSSELS, Jan. 17.—(AP)—John Cudahy, new United States ambassador to Belgium, delivered a message from President Roosevelt to King Leopold today as Belgium continued her precautions against possible invasion.

Cudahy said he could not disclose the nature of the president's message, delivered in an hour's audience in which he also presented his credentials.

"After talking to a number of people it seems to me there is no cause for any immediate alarm in Belgium," the ambassador declared following the audience.

Late Sports

SEATTLE, Jan. 17.—(AP)—Seattle climbed to a second place tie with Vancouver in the Pacific Coast Hockey league tonight by defeating the Canadians, 2 to 1, in a tight defensive contest in which all the scoring came in less than five minutes of the second period.

Cold, Finn Tactics Cause Rout 40,000 Invading Russians

Soviet Apparently Gives Up Hope of Holding Frigid Sector Against Stubborn Resistance

Temperature so Low Touching Metal With Bare Hand Raises Blister; Red Air Force Restrained

COPENHAGEN, Jan. 18.—(Thursday)—(AP)—A general Russian retreat from the Salla sector of Finland, involving 40,000 troops, was reported early today in dispatches to the Copenhagen newspaper Berlingske Tidende.

The dispatches, from the newspaper's correspondent on the northern front, said the Russians apparently had given up hopes of holding the frigid Salla front for the winter.

Earlier Scandinavian reports said the red army was planning a major offensive from that sector, which is in the lower Arctic circle, but last night a dispatch from the Finnish army in Lapland said a small-scale attack by 400 Russian troops had been repulsed.

The 40,000 retreating Russians today were reported closely pursued by Finnish units which hoped to inflict heavy rear-guard punishment.

Temperature Drops to 54 Degrees Below Zero
HELSINKI, Jan. 17.—(AP)—Pitiless, death-dealing cold laid a glacial hand on Russia's war machine tonight but the Finns reported their troops were driving toward a new victory near Salla above the Arctic circle.

Phenomenal 54-degree below zero temperatures (Fahrenheit) restrained the Russian air force, which has been raining death and destruction on Finnish towns, and apparently immobilized Russian ground forces which have been attacking on the Karelian isthmus.

Temperatures were so low that touching a piece of metal with a bare hand raised immediate blisters. Movement of tanks and armored cars was hazardous even if no shots were fired.

Front line trips by correspondents were called off by the Finns because of the danger of freezing to death.
Unusual Resistance of Finns Held Advantage
Earl Leslie Harrison, 30, Clayton, N.J., was the warmest Arctic clothing and calling upon his (Turn to page 2, col. 6.)

Retired Officer Called by Death

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—(AP)—Brig.-Gen. Palmer E. Pierce, 74, retired, assistant chief of staff of the American expeditionary forces in France during the World War and one-time president of the National Collegiate Athletic association, died tonight several hours after suffering a stroke.

He was stricken at a luncheon of the Pan-American society, collapsing in the speaker's dais. He was an honorary vice president of the society.

A native of Illinois, he was graduated from Grinnell college, Iowa, and from the US military academy at West Point in 1911. He was one of the first athletic directors at the academy and later saw active army service in the Philippines and on the Mexican border.

As a colonel, he commanded the 54th Infantry in France, served on the general staff for two years, and was awarded the distinguished service medal. He retired at his own request in 1930.

China to Regain Old Capital, Prediction of Noted Chinese

That the Chinese will be in their old capital at Nanking within a year was stated as military opinion by Dr. T. Z. Koo, religious leader and statesman from China, Wednesday when he appeared at the present mission of far east student relief. He said that the Japanese are trying to hold territory the size of eastern United States with 1,000,000 men.

Speaking at chapel and in a later interview, the secretary of the World Student Christian Federation said money is the biggest help America can now furnish China, because our dollar is worth 12 in the orient. He told the situation of the 50,000 Chinese college students in approximately 120 schools, 60 of which have been occupied by Japan. The government of China insists, though, that these students continue their education so that they may be preserved for future leadership of the nation. About 25 colleges have moved 1500 miles inland.

In reviewing the general war situation, Dr. Koo stated that approximately 800,000 Chinese troops are operating behind the enemy lines, while 80 new divisions are being trained to strike simultaneously in all sectors.

For finances, China can draw from liberal credit extended by the United States, Great Britain and Russia, Dr. Koo quoted the finance minister.
Internally the revenue has declined because of the capture by the enemy of seaports, which furnished half of the income. Taxes are still collected from 98 per cent of the captured provinces. The Chinese do not regard the war as their main occupation, but the building of their nation is primary. Their slogan is "Resist, Fight, Build Nation."

In answer to the question of whether trade routes to Indo-China could be cut off by the invaders, Dr. Koo said that they have cut the highway east of a high range of mountains, but on the west there is still an excellent route, which will not be lost.
Immediately following the address Dr. Koo left for Corvallis. He will remain in this country until May, when he will continue to Australia and New Zealand, and from there to India in behalf of China.

Two Killed in Du Pont Blast

State, US to Investigate Sabotage Possibility in Huge Explosion

GIBBSTOWN, N.J., Jan. 17.—(AP)—Three tons of nitro-glycerine exploded in a warehouse here, heard 20 miles, killing two men and injuring five at the Repauno plant of the DuPont powder works.

The possibility of sabotage drew the immediate attention of state police and federal bureau of investigation. The plant had been heavily guarded.

So great was the mid-morning shock that it was felt in Lakewood, N.J., 65 miles away. It left only a smoke-blackened crater where the little isolated dynamite mixing building stood.

Windows were shattered for miles. Thousands in the vast New Jersey-Pennsylvania-Delaware industrial section fled homes and business houses. They feared an earthquake.

The dead, with little left for identification, were:
Earl Leslie Harrison, 30, Clayton, N.J.
Edward M. Bundens, Jr., 31, Paulsboro, N.J.

The injured are Raymond Sheehand, 53, of Woodbury and Thomas Hicks, 33, Gibbstown, cut by broken glass; Samuel Hartshorn, 69, and Michael Getz, 43, both of Woodbury, hurt when the roof of another building collapsed; and Joseph Meyers, 40, of Paulsboro, a nitro-glycerine foreman, struck by a piece of wood hurled 500 feet by the blast.

Three of the men returned to work after treatment at a hospital.
Townsppeople, some of them women with babies in their arms, stood for hours in a light snow outside the main gate of the plant awaiting word of friends or relatives employed there.

Democrat Enters Presidential Race

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.—(AP)—Senator Vic Donahey of Ohio said tonight he had filed in his home state a declaration of his candidacy for the democratic presidential nomination, thus becoming the second candidate formally in the field. Vice President Garner announced last month that he would accept the nomination.

The same, Donahey said he was "completely surprised" at the statement by Arthur L. Limbach, democratic state chairman, that the Ohio delegation, although nominally for him, would support President Roosevelt for a third term, and that he had not been consulted.

SP Ticket Agent Dies Unexpectedly

A. F. Noth, for the last several years Southern Pacific ticket agent in Salem, died suddenly last night at his home, 1575 State street.

Survivors are the widow, Alice W. Noth; daughter, Vivian Noth, both of Salem; and brother, Herman Noth of Aberdeen, Idaho. Announcements of funeral arrangements will be made by the W. T. Rigdon company.

Hotel Man Fined
PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 17.—(AP)—Ross Enyart, hotel owner, was fined \$50 in district court today on a charge of employing two waitresses at inadequate wages. The state labor commissioner's office investigated the prosecution.