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The Oregon Statesman

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Salem, Oregon, Tuesday Morning, November 19, 1940

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No. 202

Weather
Fair today and Wednesday;
morning frosts, probably
freezing. Max. Temp.
Monday, 51. Min. 51. North-
east wind. River 6.

NINETEENTH YEAR

Capture of Koritza by Greeks Is Reported

First Soldiers For Selective Army Inducted

Boston Youth Is Listed as Initial "Draftee" but Is Volunteer

Five From Salem Are to Depart on Wednesday; Ceremony Planned

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18.—(AP)—In scattered communities from New England to the Pacific coast, little groups of men raised their right hands today, swore to bear "true faith and allegiance" to the United States, and became soldiers under the nation's first peacetime conscription program.

The historic ceremony, to be repeated day after day in hundreds of draft centers until 800,000 men have entered service by next June 30, was believed to have taken place first in Boston.

There, John Edward Lawton, 21-year-old unemployed plumber's helper, and single, was credited with being the first to qualify for service of the nearly 17,000,000 men from 21 to 35 years of age inclusive, who registered under the draft law last October 16.

"You are the first man in the United States to be inducted under this program," Capt. Harold E. Linderson told him. "You've got a whole lot to live up to and we're expecting a whole lot from you."

The first inductions were limited to three army corps areas—the first, embracing the six New England states, which had a first quota of 954; the 6th, where 100 men were called in Chicago, and the 9th, which called 1520 men from a group of far western states.

Number Summoned Now Reduced to 19,700
It was expected to be the end of the week before all these men would be in uniform and, meantime, the army will begin receiving draftees for a year's training from most other corps areas.

Because of a sharp rise in regular three-year enlistments for the army, officials at these centers of draftees to be called by December 1 was reduced from 30,000 to 19,700. Draft officials said most of these would be volunteers who asked to have their names moved up to the top of the draft board's list of prospective trainees. About 71,000 of those registered made this request.

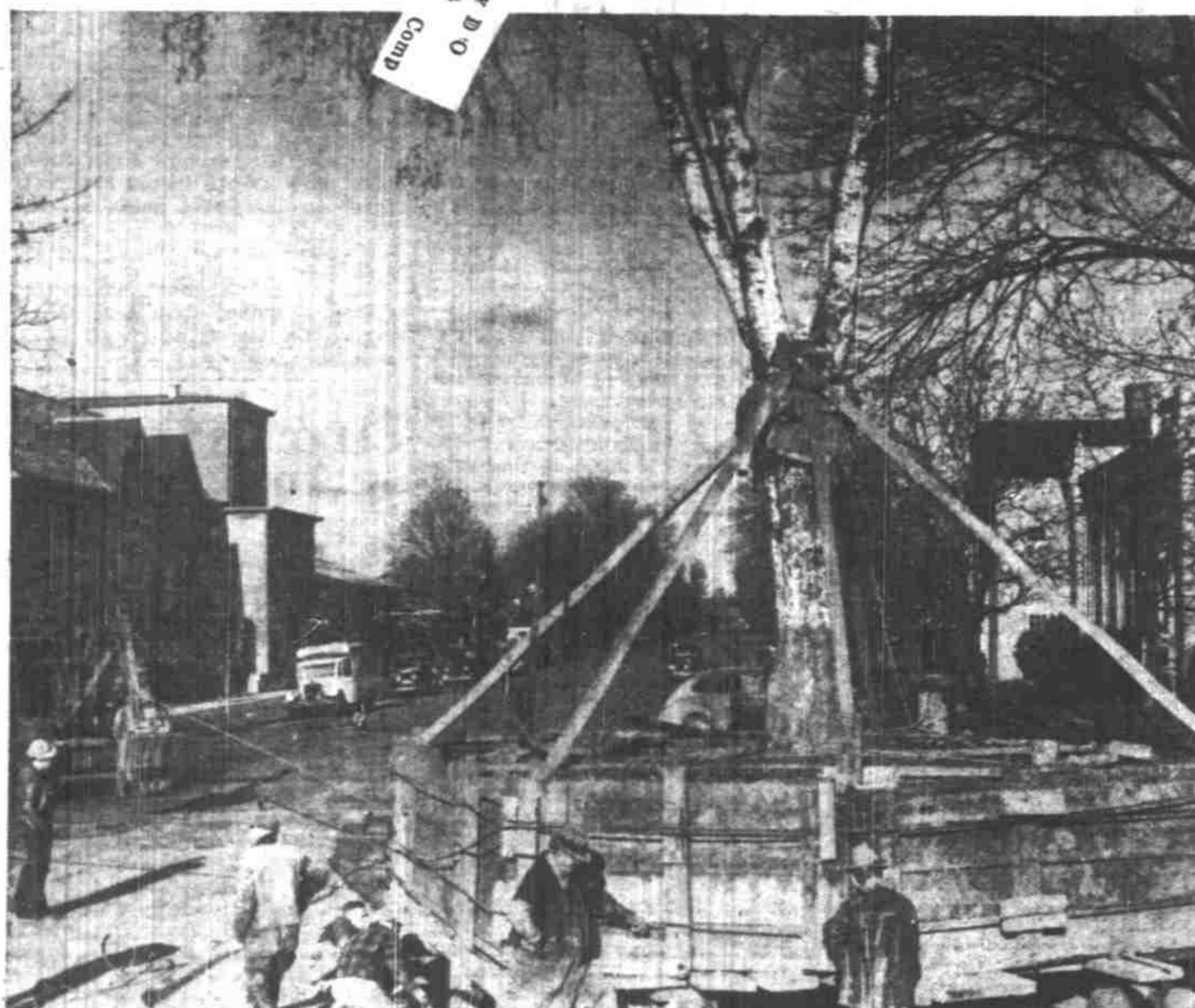
At the induction centers today, the procedure was for each man to receive a physical examination, be fingerprinted and be given an army serial number. Then, after the man was administered the military oath which includes a promise to obey orders of the president and appointed officers, and to serve the United States "honestly and faithfully against all enemies."
From induction centers, the men were sent to army reception centers to receive uniforms. They (Turn to Page 12, Col. 3)

Airport Program Backed by Legion

Capital Post No. 9, American Legion, meeting last night, adopted resolutions supporting further development of the Salem municipal airport and in appreciation of the Armistice day observance of Salem businessmen.

The former resolution stated that the post was one of the original sponsors of the airport and, since it "would be of great benefit to Salem and it would undoubtedly mean a permanent establishment of important units of our army air force in Salem," it urged the mayor and council to "take all steps necessary to secure this development, and to assure them of our undivided support toward that end."

BIRCH TREE C TRAVELING ON STREETS



Intent on making two trees grow where but one grew before, this crew of WPA workers yesterday began the snail's pace task of moving a mature birch tree from the rear of the state library building to the front of the structure, where it will flank the main entrance sidewalk, balancing a tree already growing on the other side. Note men kneeling, tending rollers under the tree, and power shovel, at left, used to pull it along the street.—Statesman photo.

Two Trees Saved by Moving One; Transporting Birch Ticklish Job

Mature Tree Takes Along 70 Tons of Earth for Its New Home; Task of Preparing It for Travel Takes Weeks; Has Good Chance to Live

WPA workers Monday were busy on what is expected to be the next to the last day in the task of moving the mature birch tree, formerly west of the state library building, to the east front of the structure, George Otten, landscape architect for the state highway department, said yesterday.

Close to two months were needed to move the tree which, barring "unexpected accidents," will be in its new resting place Wednesday night, Otten said. Over 200 yards of dirt were moved in the two excavations needed and nearly 70 tons of earth was left around the base of the tree.

The 10 men on the moving crew, none of whom has ever done this type of work before, must be exceedingly careful, Otten said, as a slight jar might spell doom for the tree.

"As it is, the birch has about a 90 per cent chance of living," he added. "So far, I don't believe it knows it has been moved."

Moving of the tree, Otten remarked, really saves two trees as the one was being placed in front of the building will match another birch already there. The only alternative would have been to destroy the tree already standing.

Proof of the difficulty confronted in the task, Otten said, can be seen when one realizes that the weight of the tree and boxed in dirt sometimes crushes the eight-inch diameter rollers used to transport the birch.

Grand Jury Resumes Probe of Pamphlets

PORTLAND, Nov. 18.—(AP)—A grand jury resumed investigation today of a pre-election pamphlet which opposed R. E. Riley, successful candidate for mayor of Portland.

Heralded protest of proposed elimination of the city incinerator as an airport obstruction failed to develop as the city council sped through a routine session in near record time last night.

Gestapo Agent Seized by Dies Tribunal Aides

Nazi, Fascist Quarters in Chicago Raided, Records Taken

Governments' Agents in US Are Involved in Chairman's Word

CHICAGO, Nov. 18.—(AP)—Chairman Martin Dies of the house committee investigating un-American activities announced tonight that his agents had raided the quarters of "Italian and German organizations" in Chicago, New York and other cities and had seized a man who was in the Nazi secret service.

He reported that the raiders here had been given ten subpoenas to appear and had brought in letters, card files, pamphlets, documents and ledgers. Translators were assigned to the task of studying them.

The man taken into custody identified himself as Heinrich Peter Fassbender, 23, alias Harry Smith, of Dusseldorf, Germany. He told newsmen that he had been working for the gestapo since 1935, and that he had been in Belgium and finally in the United States.

One of Dies' aides said Fassbender had been picked up on the coast while "operating out of Los Angeles and the New York here today from Washington."

After Fassbender had testified before the committee here, Dies stated:

"Fassbender's testimony checks up with evidence we have received from the files of German organizations. He was in the secret service. His specialty was espionage."

Dies declined to answer a reporter's query concerning whether Fassbender had asked the committee's "protection," but said:

"What he's told us links up certain of the republic with the governments with his activities. Fassbender has been operating in all parts of the United States for over a year."

"If the committee authorizes the release of the 'white paper' that would be authority to make public this man's testimony. Until that authority is given, I can't tell you any more."

Dies said the other members of the committee were being polled on the question of making public the "white paper," which, he explained, was based on the activities of German agents, chiefly in New York.

He defined the objective of the raiders as the seizure of records, membership lists, press releases and any communications with foreign governments. He said records had been seized in Chicago and New York but that he could not divulge developments in other cities until he had received reports from his agents. He had received one, he added, from New Orleans, but did not disclose its contents.

Dies did not make public the names of the organizations visited by the committee's agents.

Employers' Offer Not yet Accepted

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 18.—(AP)—Harry Lundeberg, secretary of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, announced tonight that union members in four west coast cities had refused to accept a contract offer of the steam schooner operators.

The union locals in Seattle, Portland, San Diego and San Francisco, after communicating with one another, all voted to send the union committee back to the operators "for further negotiations," Lundeberg said.

"They did not reject the offer outright," he added, "but they were not satisfied with some of the working rules. They want concessions on these. Wages is just a side issue."

Eichelberger now West Point Chief

WEST POINT, N.Y., Nov. 18.—(AP)—One of the youngest brigadier generals in the army, 64-year-old Eichelberger today became the 18th superintendent of the US military academy.

President Seeks Labor Peace; John Lewis out But Effect Not Certain

Green Skeptical; Urges Consolidation Move; Stimson Is Heard

Tears Mark Appearance of CIO Founder as He Declines Job

NEW ORLEANS, Nov. 18.—(AP)—President Roosevelt's desire for a labor peace move, to begin in the White House, was communicated today to the American Federation of Labor convention which was informed by Secretary of War Stimson that workers will have to make sacrifices under the defense program.

AFL President William Green, deeply skeptical that a labor settlement was brooding in the White House, announced intention of resigning the CIO presidency, told the applauding convention of the president's desire for unity in labor ranks.

Green said:

"The president of the United States is willing to help us and assist us and he has asked if committees (AFL and CIO) can be assembled and put to work, that they meet with him first of all and explore with him the situation at the White House, there to receive his assurances of good will and cooperation."

At the same time Green outlined a settlement plan which he admitted was not new and which he charged—without using his name—that Lewis had already blocked by refusing to let committees from the Congress of Industrial Organizations treat with AFL representatives.

Urging industrial peace as an absolute need for rearming America, Secretary Stimson, who flew here to address the convention, stressed the effort needed for the defense program and said:

"Today our production, hopeful as it has been thus far, is as yet very far from adequate. Sacrifices will undoubtedly be called for from labor, as they will be called for from the other citizens of the republic, but such sacrifices I believe will be willingly contributed and not compelled."

A resolution urging the convention to vote its officials the power to drive racketeers and labor exploiters out of AFL unions was introduced by delegates of the International Ladies Garment Workers union.

Another resolution suggested that AFL members provide information, in cooperation with the federal bureau of investigation, against fifth column efforts in America.

Green, informed that Lewis at (Turn to Page 12, Col. 7)

Tokyo Denies any Peace Overtures

TOKYO, Nov. 19.—(Tuesday)—Anti-American posters, signed by the National Patriotic Party, appeared near the United States embassy today.

"The crisis approaches. Listen to the alarm bell on the eve of the World War. Prepare against the United States."

Town of Gates Cut in Two; Bridge Closure Is Deplored

SERIOUS consideration of the problem created by recent closing of the Gates bridge across the North Santiam river was urged yesterday upon the Marion county court by a delegation headed by J. H. Irvin, Gates high school principal.

"The loss of the bridge cut our town in two," Irvin told the court, with the result that virtually all connection between the north and the south sides of the town is via Mill City, where a bridge across the river is located.

Irvin placed most of his emphasis on inconvenience caused to school authorities, school children and parents in the Gates school district.

These, he said, are penalized because the school bus, which collects 42 pupils for the Gates school on the north, or Marion county, side of the North Santiam, is forced to reach Gates via Mill City instead of crossing directly across the bridge.

Visit of Boris To Berlin Has Significance

Double Drive to Greece and Gibraltar May Be Latest Axis Plot

Base in Albania Seized Shortly After Duce Beats His Chest

(By The Associated Press)
Greek troops fighting to trap more than 30,000 Italians ten miles inside Albania were reported unofficially to have captured the important Italian base of Koritza early today.

A Reuters (British news agency) dispatch from neighboring Yugoslavia said the city fell to the Greeks after bitter fighting.

Adolf Hitler's conversations in Berchtesgaden, Germany, with the foreign ministers of Italy and Spain gained new significance by two German broadcasts announcing that Adolf Hitler had announced to the Reichstag that he had talked with the Fuehrer.

Many European observers have speculated on the possibility of a double axis drive to aid Italy—through Bulgaria to attack eastern Greece and across Spain to besiege British Gibraltar.

The Italians were completely on the defensive and gave up their attempts to storm Greek positions, the spokesmen said. Fascist airplanes bombed Greek troops in an effort to cover the withdrawal of Italian ground forces and their equipment along a single road of escape, the Greeks said.

Mussolini insists Greece will fall. The Greek high command said nine fascist planes were shot down to two Greek losses in yesterday's fighting along a 100-mile battlefront.

The reports of new reverses for the Italians who invaded Greece three weeks ago yesterday came shortly after Premier Mussolini in Rome told the world that he would "break Greece's back" whether it takes two months or a year.

It was Mussolini's first public utterance since June 10, when he announced that Italy was at war against England and France. He spoke on the fifth anniversary of the imposition of sanctions on Italy's war against Ethiopia.

The Greeks said their troops hurled back wave after wave of fascist reinforcements were being rushed to Koritza were said to indicate the Italians were putting everything they had into that struggle.

Also, the Greeks said their men stood up under heavy dive bombing attacks and their own planes retaliated by bombing Italian positions behind the lines.

Mussolini, speaking directly to an audience of fascist party leaders, declared he would make no peace until "the modern Carthage—England" is annihilated; said the British lied when they reported the crippling of three Italian battleships and four other war vessels in Taranto harbor a week ago, and scoffed at Greek claims of Italian reverses.

The premier said the true version of the Taranto raid by British planes was that only one warship was damaged enough to require extensive repairs and that two others were hit.

Mussolini's axis partner, Adolf Hitler, received the Italian and Spanish foreign ministers at his Berchtesgaden headquarters where there were no guesses from the German press or official sources as to the ground covered.

Swiss reports, however, said the three were believed to have talked of axis drives to Rome, through Bulgaria to Greece and through Spain to Britain's Gibraltar.

The British-German aerial exchange continued despite a gale on the English channel. British bombers raided German long-range batteries on the French coast as big guns on both sides of the channel fought a duel.

British bombers Sunday night and Monday morning carried out the night hawk attacks on Germany, reporting bomb attacks on German industries in the Ruhr valley.

In East Africa, the admiralty said, British High naval forces bombarded and reported hits on oil tanks, coastal batteries and port facilities in Dante, Italian Somaliland. That attack followed Sunday's admiralty report that naval units had routed Mogadishu, principal port of Somaliland well down the Indian ocean coast from Dante.

Banks and Troutdale Postoffice Burglaries Admitted by De Buse

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 18.—(AP)—Detective Lieut. J. R. Stevens said today Charles D. De Buse, 33, had surrendered and confessed three postoffice burglaries, explaining:

"I was cold, hungry and broke, and decided to give myself up." The burglar, who said Stevens, were at Placerville, Calif., and Troutdale and Banks, Ore.