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GOP Bloc Charges 'War Bill'

Aid Measure Hit by Opposition in Senate

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18—(AP)—Senator Vandenberg of Michigan and Senator Clark of Missouri, the one a republican and the other a democrat, Tuesday appealed to a grimly earnest senate to reject the lease-lend bill because, they said, it would place the United States upon the brink of full involvement in the European war.

Senator Nye (R-ND) followed them with a demand that President Roosevelt disclose whether he is "entertaining the notion of a permanent alliance with Great Britain."

Nye, too, charged that the measure was a "war bill" and one which would put the United States "fully into the bloody business of licking Adolf Hitler."

To their entreaties Senator Johnson (R-Calif.), submitting a minority report from the committee on foreign relations, added a call for the measure's defeat. He asserted that it makes the president "a dictator or worse, a dictator with power to take us into war."

Roosevelt Discloses Plan For Home Defense System
While the debate progressed, President Roosevelt disclosed to his press conference that he was sending W. Averell Harriman, financier and defense official, to England to act as what Mr. Roosevelt termed as a defense expediter.

Mr. Roosevelt also said he hoped to have ready in a week or two a home defense system under which women and men outside the draft age could assist in the defense program. He emphasized, however, that there was no intention of diverting large numbers of people from their normal occupations.

Clark, bulky and red-faced, usually one of the senate's most rapid speakers, slowly delivered a prepared address. Departing from his text at one point, he said:

"This is not a defense bill. This is a war bill. It is a bill to implement and put in motion processes which almost certainly will result in war. And if it results in war, we know that we are likely to emerge with a totalitarian form of government ourselves."

Vandenberg, holding his manuscript with his left hand and gesticulating energetically with his right, asserted the bill was "a potential and needless threat to peace and security of the United States." The measure would make President Roosevelt "power politician number one of the world," he said, and "the White House would become the GHQ (general headquarters) for the second world war."

Clark Heads off Debate For Opposition to Measure
Clark had been delegated to lead off the opposition. He quickly got to the point of his address with an assertion that "far-reaching and calamitous effects" were to be expected from the measure.

"The title claims," he said, "that it is a measure to 'promote the defense of the United States.' It has no such purpose and no such effect. It is in fact a bill to authorize the denuding of American defenses; to authorize the suspension of any American law inconsistent with the dictatorial powers conferred in the act; to authorize the arming and feeding and plying of any country in the world at the expense of American taxpayers in the sole dis- (Turn to Page 2, Col. 7)

Huge Anzac Force Masses at Singapore



RAF bombings preceded the massing of British forces for an assault on Cheren (1), on the route to Asmara and Massawa. The British claimed they cleaned out an Italian outpost at Kurmuk (2), paving the way for a new British thrust toward Gondar. The Italian high command said their forces had beaten back British on the Kenya border (3). The British reported they had pushed beyond the Giuba river toward Mogadiscio (4).

German War Materials Poured Into Bulgaria

Diplomatic Circles Report Hitler Prepares to Crack Down on Greece to Make Peace on II Ruce Terms

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia, Feb. 18—(Wednesday)—German war material has begun passing into Bulgaria over Yugoslav railways, it was reported reliably today as diplomatic circles heard accounts of redoubled German efforts to make Greece come to terms with Italy.

Long lines of sealed railway cars were said to have rolled over the German-Yugoslav frontier en route to Bulgaria as a part of the agreement reached in the interview at Berchtesgaden, Germany, last week between Adolf Hitler and Yugoslav Premier Dragisa Cvetkovic.

This passage of materials was one of the terms mentioned by Ziga Sol, a member of the Croat peasant party.

That Yugoslavia would maintain a strict hands-off policy regarding German action in Bulgaria was evidenced by reports from Sofia, that Premier Cvetkovic or some other high Yugoslav official was expected in Sofia soon to draft a reaffirmation of the Yugoslav-Bulgarian pact of eternal friendship.

Acting under the new Turkish-Bulgarian non-aggression pact—which diplomatic circles interpreted as immobilizing Turkey should the Germans move against Greece—the German minister to Athens was understood to have told the Greeks that the Germans wanted the Albanian war to end.

The implication was that the peace would have to be on Mussolini's terms and that if it did not (Turn to Page 2, Col. 8)

PGE Leads County Taxpayers In One Ear..

Marion county's largest single tax payer in 1941 will be the Portland General Electric company, which will contribute \$76,642.20 as tax on property appraised at \$1,823,810, County Assessor R. "Ted" Shelton revealed Tuesday.

Close behind the electric company will be the Southern Pacific railway company, he indicated, which will pay a tax of \$73,277.89 in spite of the fact that the assessed value of its property within the county is greater than that of the electric company, being \$1,968,451.

In sharp contrast the assessor reported that the smallest tax paid by any utility in the county is 23 cents, paid by line number 16 of the Marquam telephone company. Its assessed valuation is four dollars worth of line and transmitter. Telephone Firm to Pay Third Largest Levy

The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph company, the utility which serves Salem and much of the surrounding county, will pay a tax of \$45,077.88. The telephone company's total property is assessed at \$910,968 in Marion county.

The Portland Gas and Coke company, the only gas utility operating in the county, will pay \$16,299.50 on \$315,588 worth of taxable property, Shelton reported, and the Oregon Electric company will pay \$9592.39 on property valued at \$279,960.

The Mountain States Power company, only other major utility in addition to the PGE company, will pay \$6043.99 on \$148,142.

The Butte Light and Power company, which operates locally, will pay \$383.08, the Mill City Light and Water company, \$194.48, to bring the total of taxes paid by electrical utilities to \$83,346.84.

Tax augmented of \$2,813.31 is levied against railroad tank car companies and other utilities, which operate rolling stock on railroad lines through Marion county.

Of these the Pacific Fruit Express company is the largest, paying \$1128.64 on property assessed at \$32,155, and the Pullman com-

Congressional District Plan Splits at Linn

Benton, too, Goes to Southern Oregon in Committee Report

By PAUL W. HARVEY, JR.
Bitter fights are on the schedule for the Oregon legislature today, when the house engages in a scrap over how to form a fourth congressional district and the senate battles over an administration-supported bill to permit bigger trucks to operate on the state highways.

The house reapportionment committee voted 7 to 3 Tuesday

LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR
3rd Readings Today
House: HB 89, 227, 228, 229, 230, 232, 233, 252, 253; 315, 331, 365, 442, 460, 466, 469, 470, 471; SB 40, 57, 65, 66, 71, 107, 114, 116, 140, 187, 260.

Senate: SB 119, 121, 210, 229, 242, 243, 244, 272, 89, 90, 118, 122, 123; SJR 9; HB 101, 135, 145, 250, 270, 329, 363, 435, 8, 27, 31, 91, 159, 163, 231, 369.

Special Order
Senate: SB 7, divided report on big truck bill, 10:30 a.m.

Public Hearings
Senate: Assessment and taxation on HB 107 on tax exemptions, 1 p.m. today, room 302.

to create a fourth district including Benton, Coos, Curry, Douglas, Jackson, Josephine, Lane and Linn counties, all of which now are in the first (Western Oregon) district. The plan would leave Clackamas, Clatsop, Columbia, Lincoln, Marion, Polk, Tillamook, Washington and Yamhill counties in the first district.

The approved plan is the same as that proposed by the Lane county delegation, except that Lincoln county is placed in the (Turn to Page 2, Col. 5)

Aged Persons Attend Meeting

More Than 200 Pack Room at Hearing on Pension Bill

The social security sub-committee saw 200 or more persons, mostly aged, pack their hearing room last night and heard some of them produce arguments in favor of a bill to provide pensions up to \$40 a month.

Theodore S. Nelson, secretary of the Oregon Pension federation, urged the legislature to "do something right now."

"Ninety per cent of Oregon citizens would be willing to pay a tax of one per cent on their gross incomes to pay these pensions," he said.

Nelson criticized the administration plan to provide a retirement system for public employees, arguing that his bill would effect the same result, and also would include every one over 60 years of age if they are in need. He estimated the one per cent tax would raise \$574,000 a month.

Rep. Warren Erwin (D-Mult.) said, "I don't like the idea of piling up any more taxes, because the government's defense proposals (Turn to Page 2, Col. 3)

Nazi Request Radio Program Raps, Praise

NEW YORK, Feb. 18—(AP)—The Nazi wireless, which last week asked for—and got—suggestions as to what Americans would like to hear on German radio programs, Tuesday night asked for more.

CBS reported that the wireless, not content with a flood of "special requests" including some for descriptions of Hitler's funeral or the bombing of the Berlin chancellery, repeated its appeal for Americans to cable their wishes—with charges collected.

"Don't spare any criticism that you may have," the announcer was reported as saying, "and of course if you have any praise, we are only too glad to receive it."

Farmers Hear Chief's Talk

State President Tells of Difficulties in Annual Message

Farmers who are dispossessed of their property by tax foreclosure drop into a lower scale of labor and create further social and economic confusion, Harry E. Libby, state president, told 500 delegates to the state Farmers union convention Tuesday.

Libby, giving his annual message, said farmers faced serious and increasing difficulties in competing with imported products.

Delegates were welcomed by Mayor W. W. Chadwick of Salem and Ernest Werner, Central Howell, president of the Marion county Farmers union, convention host.

National President James Patton and Jack Sutherland, vice president of the United Farmers of Canada, were present at the opening session.

Farmer Leader, Governor Will Be Chief Speakers
Patton and Governor Charles A. Sprague will be principal speakers at the convention banquet Wednesday night.

Winners of the Junior Farmers (Turn to Page 2, Col. 1)

Japan Blames US-Britain For Tension

Nippon Acts to Allay Fears of Own People They're Near War

(Editor's note: Glenn Babb, who sums up the Japanese position and its repercussions over the world in the following dispatch, spent a dozen years in the orient as a far eastern correspondent of The Associated Press and as chief of bureau for the AP in Tokyo. Presently he is day cable editor in New York.)

By GLENN BABB
Associated Press Cable Staff
Japan attempted Tuesday to allay the fears of her own people that they are near war with the United States or Britain and to lessen the distrust with which her actions are regarded in many foreign capitals.

In the latter purpose she apparently failed as far as Washington and London were concerned.

A declaration by the Tokyo government insisting on its Pacific intentions and readiness to mediate in any trouble "anywhere in the world" met with comment in those two capitals that they were interested in deeds, not words.

From Tokyo came word today (Wednesday) that the declaration was considered there an attempt to place responsibility for future developments in the Pacific on the United States and Britain, to show them lacking in the "wise and generous statesmanship which is willing to listen to others' claims and contentions" for which the declaration called.

There was no indication from Tokyo that Japan was ready to (Turn to Page 2, Col. 3)

Freight Train Leaves Tracks

MADRAS, Ore., Feb. 18—(AP)—A southbound freight train, thrown off the tracks by a faulty rail, piled up near here Tuesday, but no one was injured.

Officials said the rail threw 14 empty cars into a ditch, but the locomotive remained upright. A passenger train had passed over the spot 35 minutes earlier.

Lobby Hobnobber

Ex-Governor Charles H. Martin was a visitor at the capitol on Tuesday, looking in on the session and calling upon Governor Charles A. Sprague and other officials.

Tom Carlon, fire chief at Bend for approximately 20 years, and John Berning, fire chief at Redmond, were here on Tuesday in the interests of the firemen's measure.

Rand Meservey of Wedderburn and Larry Lucas of Agnes, both communities near the mouth of Rogue river, were on hand to oppose the measure which would reopen that stream to commercial fishing. That region attracts large numbers of sport fishermen from afar, they pointed out.

The bill which would require applicants for barbers' licenses to be high school graduates, passed Tuesday by the house, had the support of Rep. J. F. Hoesch (D-Deschutes).

"It might improve the lingo we have to listen to," Hoesch said.

At present, newly-licensed barbers must be eighth grade graduates.

Arrest Clears Salem Holdup

Two juveniles were arrested Tuesday by city police and held in jail, clearing the robbery last Friday morning of W. H. Henderson, Salem publisher, at his home, 1134 Madison street. The name of another 16-year-old boy, admittedly involved in the case but not held, was not disclosed by police.

Earl Junior Bonney, 16, Fairhaven avenue, and LaVerne DuMond, 18, 910 Wilbur street, were arrested on justice court warrants charging assault and battery. Bonney was in the county jail and DuMond in the city jail.

Young Burbons to Meet

THE DALLES, Feb. 18—(AP)—State officials of the Young Democrats of Oregon, have set the annual convention for The Dalles on April 25, 26 and 27.

Italian Troops on March



Fascist soldiers march through snow and ice to the front fighting line in Albania. If the Hitler proposed truce becomes effective these men will be sent to Africa, it is reported.

Asiatic Naval Base Reinforced as War Tension Increases

Japan Makes Offer to Mediate but Sends New Navy Units to Siam Gulf; Greece Faces Decision

SINGAPORE, Feb. 18—(AP)—An Australian imperial force many thousands strong reached Singapore late Tuesday.

Thus was brought to this eastern bastion of the British empire the largest and most powerful reinforcement of men, guns and machines ever to arrive in a single convoy.

A few hours after disembarking at the Singapore naval base from great liners which had transported them 3000 miles under Australian and British naval escort, the Australian troops entrained for already-prepared defense stations of the Malayan peninsula.

The ordered calm of this great naval base was broken by a great uproar as gray vessels came alongside the docks. Bronzed Australians, jamming the rails and portholes, shouted down a band of a famous British regiment until it struck up "Roll Out the Barrel."

The troops landed amid fears that Britain might have to face a Japanese thrust in the far east timed to coincide with a German push in Europe.

News of War At a Glance

By the Associated Press
Australian troops, thousands strong, reach Singapore as that vital British base prepares for eventualities.

Japan sends up trial balloon on willingness to mediate any conflict; axis partner Germany says offer is without significance; Washington suggests "deeds, not words"; Japanese warships off Siam reported strengthened.

Greece reported facing alternatives of suing Italy for peace or combining with British to meet expected German attack.

Greece claims new advances in Albania which Italians deny although acknowledging heavy casualties on both sides.

Italians say pro-fascist Ethiopians are aiding them; British report Ethiopian patriots forcing Italians out of Golljam province.

British admiralty says naval planes sink German supply ship in Mediterranean; Germans report successful bombing of Malta.

London reports fourth American member of RAF lost in action against Germany.

War News Briefs

SAIGON, French Indo-China, Feb. 19—(AP)—Reports from sources considered reliable, but which the Associated Press was unable to confirm, said today two Japanese fleets were in the Gulf of Siam, between the Malay Peninsula and southern Indo-China.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18—(AP)—Jesse Jones told a congressional committee Tuesday that "we're nearly in the war," but immediately had the remark stricken from the record. President Roosevelt commented later that it did not mean anything.

ISTANBUL, Feb. 18—(AP)—Turkish newspapers lauded the Turkish-Bulgarian declaration of non-aggression Tuesday as an assurance of peace in the Balkans. They emphasized that the declaration in no wise conflicts with agreements with other countries—meaning Turkey's alliance with Britain.

LONDON, Feb. 18—(AP)—Two flights from the American eagle squadron have joined the RAF "in action" against Germany. It was reported officially Tuesday and Eagle Pilot Officer Vernon Charles "Shorty" Keogh of Brooklyn was lost on patrol.

ROME, Feb. 18—(AP)—Italians declared Tuesday that pro-fascist Ethiopians were organizing to help them fight the British and claimed to be holding their lines generally both in Albania (Turn to Page 2, Col. 4)