

Bringing you "the news," the latest reports of events in your home community, your state, the nation and the world at large is the first goal of YOUR Oregon Statesman.

Fair today, increasing cloudiness Friday. Max. temperature Wednesday 67, Min. 39. Southwest wind. River -2.3 ft. Partly cloudy.

Japan Offers 'Last Chance' Peace Parley

Nazis, Reds Exhausted; London Sees Stalemate

City Host To Fliers Tonight

Army Visitors to Be Dance Guests; Banquet Slated

By ISABEL CHILDS
Salem swings out tonight on the arm (or should we say wing?) of the army! Two hundred forty air corps men, for whom most of the coming fortnight in the capital city is to be a period of strenuous work, have been bidden as guests for a dance opening at 9 at the armory. To guarantee presence of enough partners for the city's visitors, women are to be admitted free of charge.

Salem Ready For Blackout Halloween

Eight hundred fifty-nine Salem men are to comprise the city's first ARP (air raid protection) service when the lights-out signal is given the night of October 31, members of the county civilian defense council's executive committee were told Wednesday night. Every block within the corporate limits is to be the responsibility of some resident on that block, named by Homer Smith, jr., or one of his subordinates for the protection of life and property. That man is to check closely for visible lights, learn the reason for non-compliance with the request for voluntary blackout participation and report to headquarters.

Army Bombers Will "Attack"

Flight of 18 Planes To Zoom Over Towns Observing 'Blackout'

A flight of 18 army bombing planes including several "flying fortresses" from Medford to Portland and westward to northwest Oregon's coastal counties will zoom over virtually all cities conducting blackouts on the night of October 31, Jerrold Owen, state civilian defense coordinator, was informed late Wednesday by Gen. Carlyle H. Wash, Seattle, chief of the second interceptor command. Bent on a special "mission," the flight will start from near Medford shortly after nightfall. Flares will be dropped over such cities as the bomber crews are able to spot in spite of blackout precautions. In addition, unannounced "raids" will be conducted by "enemy" planes up and down western Oregon to test the effectiveness of the army's network of civilian air raid warning observation posts.

Wharton Gets New Naval Press Post

WASHINGTON, Oct. 22-(AP)—Commander Robert W. Berry became assistant director of the navy's bureau of public relations Wednesday in a series of changes in the organization. Lieutenant Commander Hal O'Flaherty, naval reserve, was ordered to inactive duty and will return to his position as managing editor of the Chicago Daily News. O'Flaherty, assistant to Rear Admiral A. J. Hepburn, chief of the bureau, came here in April at the invitation of Secretary Knox, publisher of the News. Recently it had been reported that he was anxious to get back to his editorial duties. Lieutenant Commander Wallace S. Wharton, a reserve officer on leave from his civilian position as tax commissioner of Oregon, succeeds Berry as press relations officer for the navy department. Wharton was for many years an active newspaperman in Oregon.

Suspect Is Released

Roy R. Hamery, 840 Trade street, was released from the city jail early Wednesday night on his own recognizance by order of Circuit Judge L. H. McMahan. Hamery was arrested in the late afternoon on a Salem justice court warrant charging issuing a check with insufficient funds.

Three Planes Crash

PANAMA, Panama, Oct. 22-(AP)—Three US army pursuit planes crashed simultaneously into Ceremeno hill and killed their pilots during a night training maneuver last night, army authorities disclosed tonight.

Salem FFA Wins Award

KANSAS CITY, Oct. 22-(AP)—Among four Future Farmer of America chapters awarded top rating for the year Tuesday was the Salem, Ore., chapter. Others were Norman, Okla., Hamilton, Mo., and Hanford, Calif. Gold plaques were awarded them. Emblems also went to the state associations of Oregon, Virginia, Texas, Wyoming and Montana for outstanding work.

American Tanker Sunk

NEW YORK, Oct. 22-(AP)—The New York Times tonight quoted marine circles as saying that the 952-ton American-owned tanker W. C. Teagle was sunk late last week while bound for the United Kingdom.

Red Aid Via Boston

WASHINGTON, Oct. 22-(AP)—Commencing next Tuesday, all aid-to-Russia cargoes will be moved through the port of Boston, the maritime commission said Wednesday.

German Drives Stymied

Weather Hinders Invaders Before Moscow, in South

By The Associated Press
Hitler's supreme offensives upon Moscow have been beaten down to a halt well short of the city, a high military authority in London declared late Wednesday night, and German striking power is diminishing both there and before Leningrad. This summary came from a quarter where conservatism as to Russian prospects has always been maintained, and it was emphatically qualified with the declaration that Russian exhaustion was no less than that of the invaders and thus that some small factor might yet decide the great issue.

It was accompanied by an estimate that the major German drive in the Ukraine was less strong than previously, and this was somewhat supported by an official soviet claim that all nazl efforts to extend their advance toward Rostov on the river Don, the gateway to the Caucasus, had been broken and that the invaders had been thrown upon the defensive at several points. The soviet communique for Thursday morning acknowledged the abandonment of Taganrog, 30 miles to the west of Rostov, but this had been discounted in advance by the fact that the nazis had claimed the town since last week-end and by an earlier unofficial Russian concession that it had been evacuated. Moreover, the red command reported (Turn to Page 2, Col. 3)

Group Asks War Stand

CHICAGO, Oct. 22-(AP)—The America First committee asked President Roosevelt Wednesday night to settle the issue of peace or war by submitting to congress "a resolution for the declaration of a state of war between the United States and the German reich." The organization, in an open letter to the White House, served notice that it would vigorously oppose adoption of such a resolution, but maintained that "the integrity of this nation and loyalty to the constitution demand that the decision between peace or war now be made by congress."

Worm Digger Jailed

BERLIN, Oct. 22-(AP)—Digging for worms in the garden with a flashlight during an air raid alarm resulted in a nine-day jail sentence for a resident of Saarbruecken, the Strasburg Neueste Nachrichten reported Wednesday.

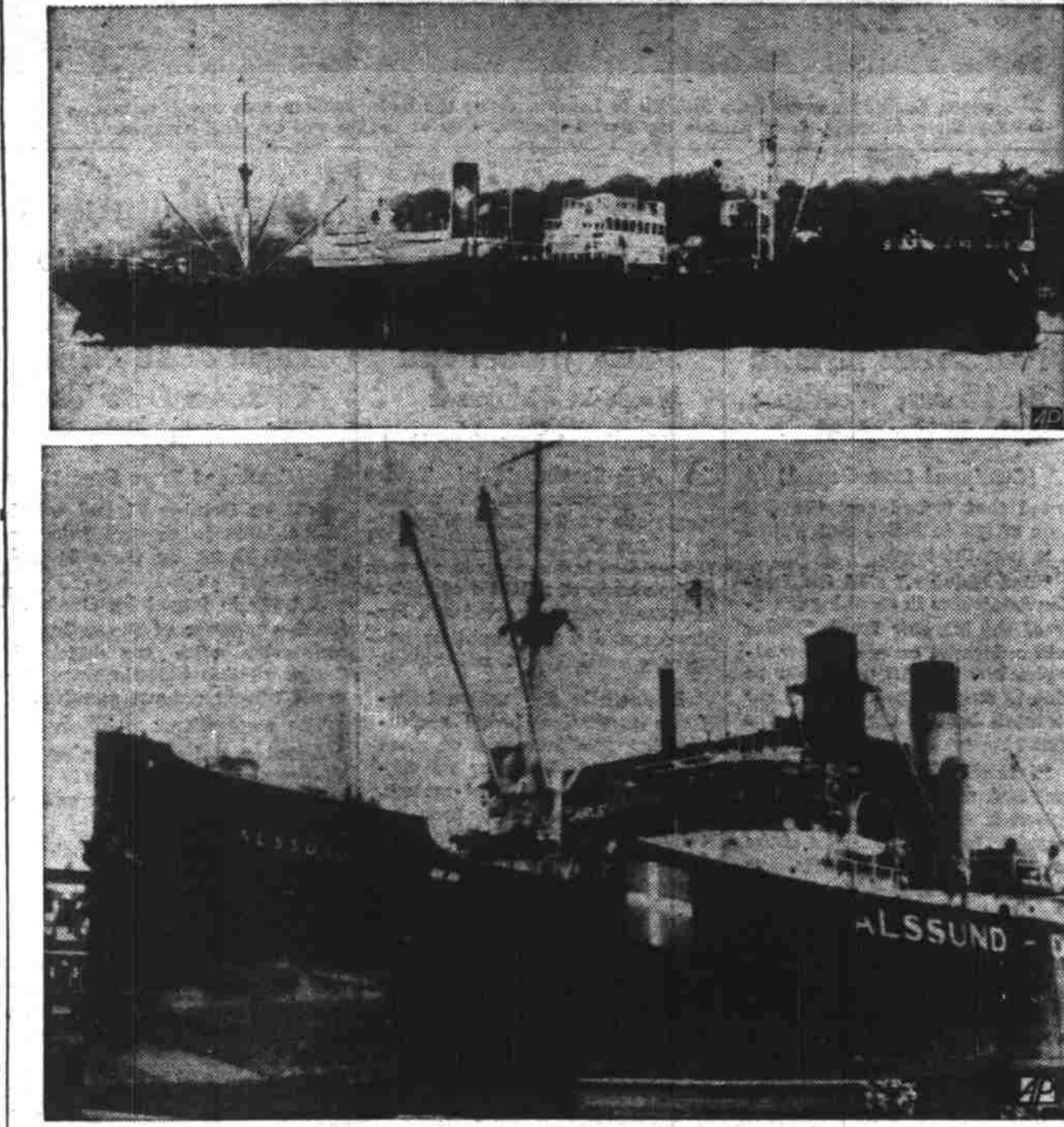
Auto Mishap Hurts Women

Mrs. S. J. Kendall, 68, 895 South 21st street, and her daughter, Mrs. Jack Mull, 350 Elma avenue, were reported in "good" condition late Wednesday night after suffering injuries in an auto accident at 19th and Mill streets about 4 o'clock. Mrs. Kendall suffered possible rib fractures, and Mrs. Mull suffered shock. They were both at the Salem General hospital. Orville G. Mull, son of the latter woman, and Mildred I. Brown, 2361 Fillmore street, were drivers of the cars.

County Secession Threat Receives Setback

Consent of congress and of both Oregon and California legislatures would be required before Curry county could secede from Oregon and become part of California, Attorney General I. H. Van Winkle said Wednesday. Residents of the state's southwestern county, indignant at what they declare has been deliberate oversight in conducting mineral surveys elsewhere and skipping Curry, have discussed possibility of such a move recently.

Two American Ships Sunk by Germans



President Roosevelt personally announced that the American merchant vessel Lehigh (top) had been torpedoed just north of the equator near the southern end of the bulge of Africa. The president blamed a German U-boat for the sinking. The Panamanian freighter Bold Venture, formerly the Allsund of Danish registry, (bottom) was reported to have been sunk off Iceland October 16. She is shown here tied up at a Baltimore pier last spring shortly before being seized and placed in operation by the US maritime commission.

Labor Strife Spots Nation

OPM Appeals for Unity; Seattle Welders Halt Work in Shipyards

By The Associated Press
Industrial strife and threats of more to come spotted the nation Wednesday as the office of production management appealed to worker and management alike to stop strikes—"the greatest help the aggressors can get." The OPM statement, forecast last week by President Roosevelt, said the defense program, growing larger daily, "depends for its success on the patriotic support of labor and management." "Uninterrupted production," it said, "is the pressing need. The interruption of work by strikes or slowdowns is the greatest help the aggressors can get in these days when material on the battlefield is everything."

Art Building Sites Muled By Group

The Salem Art Center association board of directors Wednesday night voted to continue with tentative plans for construction of a permanent Art Center building. Several locations were considered, with the Pringle creek auto park site most prominently mentioned. Mrs. W. E. Anderson was named to head a committee to further investigate the problem and to make an estimate of the approximate cost of the project. Other members appointed to the committee include Percy Cupper, Y. E. Kuhn, Bart Brown, Barker of Portland, Charles Val Clear, state art director, and Mrs. J. M. Devers, president of the association. Representatives of various local organizations, including the Garden club and the Federation of Music clubs expressed approval of the project.

Worker Loses Fingers

Sidney Smith, 1963 S. Church street, was treated at the Deaconess hospital Wednesday night after losing the ends of two fingers while operating a joiner at his Salem finishing shop.

City Decides Taxis Unneed Horses Now

ORANGE, N.J., Oct. 22-(AP)—The city commission held a weekly conference with taxi men and then announced Wednesday its decision to rewrite the present taxi ordinance. This requires every cab to have:

- A good horse or horses.
 - Two lighted lamps with plain glass front and sides.
 - A driver who must refrain from snapping or flourishing his whip.
- The ordinance is of the 1889 variety.

Removal Seen On Ship Bans

WASHINGTON, Oct. 22-(AP)—Indications were multiplying Wednesday night that administration senate forces would take the lead in an effort to expand the armed ship bill so as to permit American merchant vessels to sail anywhere on the high seas. After the senate foreign relations committee had spent the day hearing opposition witnesses contend that the house-approved measure authorizing ship arming would push the country closer to war, Chairman Connally (D-Tex) told reporters he was "having some amendments prepared for possible use later on." Connally reiterated previous statements that he favors elimination of the neutrality act provisions which prevent American-flag ships from entering belligerent ports or combat areas. He said, too, that "hooking up the armed ship and the belligerent port questions in one bill probably would take less debate in the aggregate than passing the ship arming now and considering the other problem later."

Late Sports

CLEVELAND, Oct. 22-(AP)—Bob Feller, ace pitcher with the Cleveland Indians, Wednesday night was placed in class 1-A by his local selective service board. Wayne L. Thompson, secretary of board No. 28, said Feller's order number is 2857 and that it "will be a long time before he will have to go."

Shreveport, La., Oct. 22

—(AP)—Gus Schrader, 46, nationally known automobile race driver and claimant to the auto dirt track driving championship of the world, died Wednesday after he was injured in a crash at the Louisiana State fair.

Enemies of Axis Warned Choose Mediation, War Ready To Fight US If Necessary; Says Desires No Favors

Claims Ability to Influence Germany and Italy; Softens Tone in Pointing Out Good

TOKYO, Thursday, Oct. 23—(AP)—The Japanese Times and Advertiser controlled by the foreign office, warned anti-axis powers today they had a "last chance" to use Japan as a mediator in the European war or risk chaos in the Pacific.

The newspaper asserted anew Tokyo's readiness to mediate the conflict, but said the United States government had consistently pushed Japan away from neutrality and peace.

It added that if it were necessary to fight the United States to safeguard Japanese interests—"awful though even the thought of such a holocaust"—Japan would not hesitate.

The editorial concluded with this assertion: "It is the last chance to use the only vehicle for exploration of the ways of world harmony—Japan, the balancing power, whose decision could plunge the only pacific ocean into a chaos not its making."

The paper said, "Japan is the

Petain Cries 'Stop Killing'

Second Nazi Officer Assassinated; More Hostages Face Death

VICHY, Unoccupied France, Oct. 22-(AP)—The second assassination of a German officer within 48 hours prompted an anguished appeal Wednesday night from old Marshal Petain for Frenchmen to "put a stop to these killings" and deliver up the culprits to save the lives of at least 150 more hostages now facing speedy execution by German reprisal squads. This morning, 50 persons including a number from the Paris region, were executed at undisclosed places for the killing on Monday of the German commandant at Nantes; 50 more await execution unless the Nantes killers are arrested by Thursday midnight and announced (Turn to Page 2, Col. 8)

Russians Counter-Attacking



Official sources reported Russians counter-attacking on the Moscow front (1) with fiercest fighting at Kalinin, Moshalsk, Maloyaroslavets and Orel. On the southern front, Germans claimed their battle flags flew over Stalingo (2), presenting a new pincher action in the Donets basin area. Meanwhile the United States embassy in Russia was moved from Moscow to Kuibyshev (arrow), new war time capital of Russia.