

## Crimea Battle Still in Doubt

### Showdown for Control At Kerch Rages; Reds Hit Hard in North

(Continued from Page 1)

that the Russian defensive position was relatively good. The Germans themselves spoke of it as withstanding attack more successfully than was Kerch.

Of the Moscow front Thursday the only detailed news came from the Russian side, the Germans dismissing that theatre with the single report that heavy Russian counter-attacks had been halted.

Soviet informants reported, however, that all along the central front the nazis were attacking in exploratory thrusts apparently designed to feel out the soft spots for another all-out offensive on the capital—and, if it comes, most likely the last before spring.

About Tula, 100 miles below Moscow, soviet dispatches reported that the Germans had driven back an additional one to two miles.

Some 95 miles above the capital, about Kalinin, the Germans were declared to be falling back from the northeastern sections of the city against a strong Russian push.

Southwest of Kalinin, Russian forces were reported to have raided the German rear after crossing the Volga river.

All this, however, was subsidiary to the story of the south—and this story was intimately connected with an attack on the Churchill government in the British house of commons for not having opened up that second front for which the Russians have strongly appealed.

In the debate Laborite Emanuel Shinwell accused the prime minister's administration of having thus far refused to accept the opportunity of softening German pressure on the soviet by moving in North Africa.

"Why has the offensive in (Italian) Libya been delayed?" he demanded. "It has been expected many months. . . it would certainly have distracted the nazis and created difficulties for them. . . next week or next month an offensive in Libya may not be as effective."

The Churchill government's reply, made by A. V. Alexander, the first lord of the admiralty, was that Shinwell had become merely "a self-appointed critic who receives the applause of the less informed among the multitude rather than to work in self-imposed discipline and silence."

## Marion Women Set for Meet

(Continued from page 1)

Just when Oregon women will be needed in defense industries or to replace men who have been called to service depends on the general progress of the defense program. The listing of women will be held in reserve for emergencies and will not be used until actually necessary, officials declare.

Because Oregon is the first state to organize for the inventory, federal officials are watching methods being used here in preparation for continuation of the plan.



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## These Democrats Fought Neutrality Bill Changes



Studying senate amendments to the neutrality law, four democratic members of the house held a corridor strategy conference in Washington after taking up the cudgels against senate-approved administration proposals that American ships be allowed to enter belligerent ports. Left to right are Reps. Walter A. Lynch (D-NY), James P. Richards (D-SC), Charles L. South (D-Tex.), and Howard W. Smith (D-Va.).

## More Jumbos Meet Death; Fight Told

CHARLESTON, SC, Nov. 13.—

(P)—The pachyderms at the circus grounds trumpeted Thursday night—dolefully or wrathfully, as the case might be—after death touched their ranks for the 11th time in a week.

Three of them fought on the grounds and the clash of the giants resulted in the serious injury of a teamster, 28-year-old Philip Coaker, of Hartford, Conn., who had several bones in his face crushed.

Death came this morning to Peggy, a lead elephant in the performance. She, like the rest of the elephants who have been mysteriously dying, presumably from arsenic poisoning, had responsible places in the routine.

The death of the 11 pachyderms represents a loss of \$100,000 to the Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey circus. The circus put on its regular performances here today, but the atmosphere was tense with excitement and nervousness.

Teamsters, trainers and keepers as well seemed in a nervous state and on many occasions screamed menacingly at circusgoers who approached the elephants with peanuts.

Four workers under Walter McClain, trainer for the herd of 36 survivors, reported that apples which were fed to the animals possibly contained the fatal doses of arsenic.

## Aged Sublimity Woman Succumbs

SUBLIMITY—Mrs. Anna Doerfler, 84, died at a Salem hospital Thursday. She has been a resident of Sublimity for many years.

She is survived by four daughters and four sons, Mrs. Mary Smith of Stayton, Mrs. Ida Susbauer and Mrs. Clara Neal of Sublimity and Mrs. Lizzie Russell of Marion; Lou of Sublimity, Ed of Aumville, Leo of Salem, George of Portland, and several grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held Saturday at 9 a. m. here. Weddle funeral home, Stayton, is in charge of arrangements.

## Today's War Summary

By The Associated Press

House passes neutrality amendments by 18-vote margin; US merchant ships can now be armed and enter belligerent ports; British appear relieved but some London quarters are disappointed at close vote.

Showdown is approaching for the Crimea and Caucasian bridgeheads; Germans claim to be storming Kerch's outer fortifications but admit a more effective Russian resistance before Sevastopol; Russians declare that defenses are holding before both cities and picture Black sea fleet as in effective action. Germans before Moscow are feeling for soft spots in apparent preparation for another major offensive.

Laborite accuses Churchill government of missing opportunity to open a second front in Africa.

## Two Soldiers Held in Death Of Iclander

REYKJAVIK, Iceland, Nov. 13.—(P)—Privates Everett L. Farmer of Huntington, W. Va., and Charles H. Cox of McKee, Ky., were charged with manslaughter Thursday and will be tried by a court-martial Monday for the fatal shooting of an Icelandic fisherman in a fight outside a cafe.

Thorur Sigurdsson died Tuesday of a wound suffered Saturday night in the fight at Hafnar Jorder, 10 miles from Reykjavik. A report by the judge advocate's staff said death was due to a bullet wound in the stomach but there was "no evidence of premeditation."

## Couple Married At Vancouver Church Rites

INDEPENDENCE—A wedding of interest to Independence people was solemnized November 6 at the Methodist parsonage in Vancouver, when Miss Mary E. Hayward, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Herbert Hayward of Hamilton, Mont., was united in marriage to Dorman Newton, son of Mrs. W. W. Newton. Rev. Paul L. Kunzmann, Methodist pastor, officiated. The romance began in 1937 when Miss Hayward and Mr. Newton were both attending Southern Oregon normal school, Ashland.

Miss Hayward graduated from the Hamilton schools and from business college at Spokane.

Dorman, popular member of the younger set in Independence, graduated from the city schools. He is employed with the Standard Oil company.

Mr. and Mrs. Newton will make their new home in Independence.

## Capital Rents Frozen?

WASHINGTON, Nov. 13.—(P)—The senate passed Thursday a house-approved measure freezing rents in the District of Columbia at the Jan. 1, 1941, level. The bill now goes back to the house for consideration of minor senate amendments.

## Reds Bomb Towns

MOSCOW, Nov. 13.—(P)—Soviet bombers successfully attacked military targets Thursday at Riga, Latvia, and Koenigsberg, Germany, the Moscow radio announced Thursday night. Large fires were observed by Russian pilots who showered explosives and incendiaries on the two cities, the broadcast said.

## Return to Washington

UNIONVILLE—Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Williamson, Lytle, Wash., who came to assist in the care of their sister, Mrs. L. C. Marley, returned home Tuesday. Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Williamson, Hubbard, attended the funeral of their aunt, Mrs. Marley, Monday at 4:30 p. m. at the funeral home.

## Army Pursuit Ship Crashes; Pilot Killed

PALM SPRINGS, Calif., Nov. 13.—(P)—With a terrific explosion that rattled windows three miles distant, a March Field army interceptor pursuit plane crashed and burned Thursday on the desert near here, killing its pilot, Lieut. Ellery Gross, 25, of Greenville, Tex.

Lieut. Gross was making a routine flight with another pilot of the headquarters squadron, 51st pursuit group. Both planes went into power dives. The pilot of the other zoomed out of the roaring descent and sped on, apparently unaware that Lieut. Gross' P-38 had crashed into a sandy wash of the Whitewater river, three miles northeast of Palm Springs.

Lieut. Gross was an experienced pilot and had returned not long ago from England, where he was an observer for the army air corps.

TUCSON, Ariz., Nov. 13.—(P)—Four bombers from the Tucson air base and five trainer planes from Luke Field near Phoenix flew over a vast expanse of rugged southwestern Arizona today in a futile effort to locate a DBT bombing plane which disappeared during a storm last night.

Lawrence Barrett, Jr., whose address has not been made known, was pilot of the ship, on a ferry flight from Long Beach, Calif., to England.

## Broadcasters Quit Germany

NEW YORK, Nov. 13.—(P)—The National Broadcasting company and the Mutual Broadcasting system today discontinued broadcasts from their correspondents in Berlin because of censorship difficulties.

NBC announced its decision after being informed by Alex Dreier, its Berlin commentator, that a ban placed on his broadcast last Wednesday had been lifted.

## Fox Valley Man Taken by Death

FOX VALLEY—Ernest Thayer, 64, died at a Salem hospital, Wednesday.

He is survived by his mother, Anna Thayer, Stayton; two sisters, Bertha Uptograph and Mae Bock, both of Idaho; brother Ed Thayer, Loon Lake and several nieces and nephews. Funeral arrangements will be made later. Interment is to be in the family plot in the Fox Valley cemetery.

## Water Board Slates Routine Business

Routine business only is on schedule for tonight's meeting of the Salem Water commission, Manager-Secretary C. E. Guenther said Thursday night. The session, first on the winter schedule, opens at 7:30 o'clock, he said.

## Watch Firms Indicated

NEW YORK, Nov. 13.—(P)—Three American watch companies were charged in a federal indictment Thursday with having violated the Sherman anti-trust act by allegedly restricting sale of their products and boycotting and blacklisting certain dealers.

## Wins Prizes for Mums

K. S. Wilbur was winner of both first and third prizes Thursday night in the informal chrysanthemum show of the Salem Men's Garden club. Dr. Kenneth Waters won the second of the prizes, which were chrysanthemum plants.

## Finns Honor Astorian

ASTORIA, Nov. 13.—(P)—The Finnish government has awarded the late Paul Thompson, Astoria business man, the white rose decoration for his work in Finnish relief activities. It arrived just a week after his death.

## House Okehs US Ships Bill

### Air and Sea Bases to Be Used in England; To Extend Convoys

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2—Establishment of United States bases on the British Isles, or joint US-British use, as necessary, of the bases already there.

3—Operation of American convoys through Gibraltar to Britain's Mediterranean ports, thereby cutting the time of deliveries for Egypt which now are routed around Africa to Red sea ports.

4—US army delivery of bombers across the Atlantic to Britain. This would be merely an extension (which some air officers have long expected and which others describe as unnecessary) of the army's present inland ferry command that now flies planes from factories to Atlantic coast departure points.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 13.—(P)—

Responding to a dramatic last-minute appeal from President Roosevelt, the house voted 212 to 194 Thursday to let armed American merchant ships carry cargoes through zones of battle directly into the harbors of belligerent nations.

By that 18 vote margin, it sent to the White House legislation repealing the remaining major provisions of the neutrality law, and saved the administration from a disastrous and prestige-shattering defeat.

The final tabulation showed 189 democrats, 22 republicans, and the one American-labor party member voting for the measure. A total of 53 democrats, 137 republicans, one farmer-labor and three progressives voted against it.

Of the 53 democrats voting "no" only 11 were southerners, so that the southern bolt was not so large as the administration leadership had feared. Slender though the majority was, it was more than large enough to surprise and delight the administration leadership in the house. For two days, it had fought to avert what looked at times like certain defeat.

Largely because of displeasure at the strike situation and dissatisfaction with President Roosevelt's handling of it, a large segment of the southern democratic membership—hitherto solidly behind the government's foreign policy—was threatening to oppose the legislation.

Personal persuasion proved

insufficient. Speaker Rayburn and Rep. McCormack of Massachusetts, the majority floor leader, asked Mr. Roosevelt to tell the membership what effect, in his opinion, an adverse vote would have upon the foreign and domestic situations.

Mr. Roosevelt complied in a letter which Rayburn read to a tense, stilled and packed chamber, a moment before the vote was taken.

The failure of congress to repeal the sections of the neutrality act in question, he said, "would be definitely discouraging" to Great Britain, to China and to Russia, all "fighting a defensive war against invasion."

Further, he said, it would "cause rejoicing in the axis nations," would "bolster aggressive steps and intentions in Germany" and other countries under the leadership of Adolf Hitler.

"Judging by all recent experience," he said, "we could, all of us, look forward to enthusiastic applause in those three nations based on the claim that the United States is disinclined as they have so often prophesied."

"Our own position in the struggle against aggression would be definitely weakened not only in Europe and in Asia but also among our sister republics in the Americas. Foreign nations, friends and enemies, would misinterpret our own mind and purpose."

He turned next to the domestic labor situation and the threatened strike in coal mines owned by the steel industry.

"I am holding a conference tomorrow in the hope that certain essential coal mines can remain in continuous operation," he said. "This may prove successful."

"But if it is not successful, it is obvious that this coal must be mined in order to keep the essential steel mills at work. The government of the United States has the backing of the overwhelming majority of the people of the United States including the workers."

"The government proposes to see this thing through."

Rayburn emphasized the last sentence, and the house which had interrupted sporadically with short bursts of applause broke into an ovation, which was only increased when Rayburn himself shouted a declaration that:

"I am willing to follow or to lead in any movement that will keep defense production going."

The vote was taken immediately with leaders of both sides anxiously keeping a tally. Half way through the list the trend of the voting was plainly discernible, and leading proponents of the legislation were smiling at each other in obvious relief.

The legislation was requested by the president on October 9.

## Phone Strike Truce Agreed

### Signal Corps Chief Asks Halt in Plans As Defense Measure

(Continued from page 1)

officer: Rear Admiral S. C. Hooper, chief US naval signal officer, and Donald H. Connelly, administrator of civil aeronautics, to arrange for the maintenance of sufficient forces to man the army, navy and civil aeronautics administration's communications systems, all of which will take at least a week of preparatory effort.

"The union is still determined to obtain certification of its dispute to the national defense mediation board. If there is certification the union will agree in advance to accept any decision the board might make."

Earlier, the union cancelled plans to interfere with the transmission of news and newspapers by wire, deciding "to maintain a sufficient force to keep open all news channels . . . particularly during the national emergency." It also had assured the civil aeronautics authority, the army and navy signal corps and communications branches that transmission for national defense and safety in flying would be maintained by a force of 1000 men.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 13.—(P)—

President Roosevelt, with a labor crisis obviously at hand, expressed belief Thursday that the government had the backing of an overwhelming majority of the public, including workers, and declared:

"The government proposes to see this thing through."

The chief executive's assertion was made in a letter to the house where, in the midst of a bitter debate over foreign policy, some members were bluntly expressing unwillingness to vote far-reaching amendments of the neutrality act until the government took stronger measures against strikes.

To many, the communication seemed to carry a broadly-stated

The house complied to the extent of approving legislation which would repeal only the neutrality act's clause forbidding the arming of merchant ships. To this the senate added language rescinding the prohibition on sailings into combat zones or to the ports of belligerent ports.

The measure came back to the house Wednesday on a question of concurring in the senate amendment.

promise, although the only specific assurance it contained was that Mr. Roosevelt did not propose to permit a shut-down of the captive coal mines which supply fuel for steel mills.

This impression was strengthened when, in response to demands in the house that a date be set for considering labor legislation, democratic Majority Leader McCormack said:

"If the gentlemen will wait until Monday, there may be something I can say."

The White House conference is set for 8:15 a. m. (PST). At 7 a. m., the 200 members of the United Mine Workers' policy committee are to meet at union headquarters here to consider the refusal of the defense mediation board to recommend a union shop in the coal mines owned by steel companies.

DETROIT, Nov. 13.—(P)—Concluding a whirlwind tour of Detroit defense plants, Sidney Hillman, associate director of the office of production management, Thursday night declared that in labor rests "the fate of free men everywhere."

"Whether the world shall move forward into a new area of peace and plenty, or whether it shall turn backward toward a new-old barbarism, is going to be decided in the Detroit of America," he said.

He told officers of the congress of industrial organizations meeting here preliminary to their national convention that labor, however, "must recognize that whatever helps defense, helps labor; whatever hurts defense, hurts labor."

## Flaxmen Seek McNary Aid

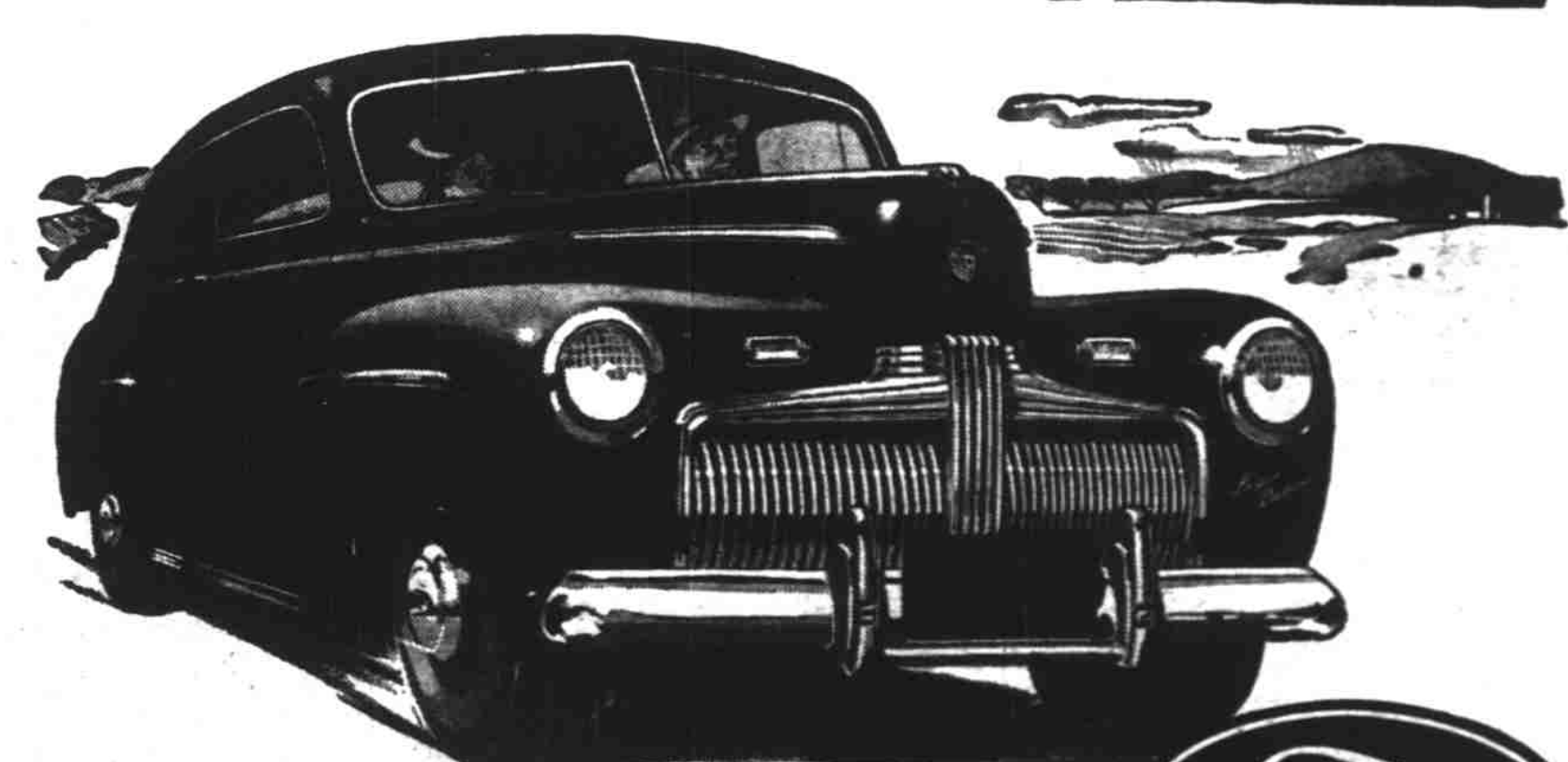
### Funds for Processing Plants in Willamette Valley Are Sought

(Continued from page 1)

cessing of flax was a necessary defense step as the government needs the material. He asked Libby to present his problem to E. J. Griffith, state WPA administrator, who the senator said had been instrumental in aiding communities in getting plants started.

McNary told Libby the government flax acreage program for the 1942 year contemplated about the same acreage as 1941 when a little less than 9000 acres were planted and subject to benefit payments.

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