

Battered Singapore Under Siege

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For Tokyo
INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 31 (AP)—When civilian defense chiefs were asked to drop a bomb to wake up the people they wrote back "bombs are being saved for Tokyo."

Curb Plan On Prices Told Bloc

Wickard Reveals Program to Slow Farm Inflation

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31 (AP)—The senate farm bloc heard from Secretary of Agriculture Wickard Saturday that the administration could and would apply powerful curbs to farm prices should wartime forces start them soaring.

Senators attending the senate agriculture committee's four-hour questioning of the cabinet member said they learned that the administration proposed to use its power to buy and sell commodities to hold farm prices down.

They admitted that this power, conferred in the price control bill, was such that farm prices probably could be held to parity and their victory in the legislative fight over the price control act nullified.

The farm bloc succeeded in writing into the price control bill a prohibition against price ceilings on farm commodities lower than 110 per cent of parity. Parity is the price at which a farm product has the same purchasing power in terms of non-farm products that it had in a base period, usually 1909-14.

President Roosevelt, in signing the price control bill, said that "most farmers realize that when prices go much above parity danger is ahead."

Some senators obviously were angered by what they learned from Wickard.

Senator Smith (D-SC) asserted that the "new deal" is taking it out on the farmer while permitting other prices "to soar to the moon."

Senator Thomas (D-Okla.) said it was clear from Wickard's report that the administration intended to place government-owned surplus commodities on the market or dispose of them in such other manner that the prices could never rise to the ceiling position.

"They are circumventing the price control law," said the Oklahoma man. "They are not proposing to let farm products even reach parity."

At the agriculture department, aides said Wickard explained price policies as follows:

Cotton, wheat and tobacco, the major surplus crops, will be stabilized at parity.

Corn and other feed crops, in (Turn to Page 2, Col. 4)

Doughton to Seek Salem Mayor Job

I. M. Doughton, Salem water commissioner and hardware merchant, announced definitely Saturday that he would be a candidate for mayor at the city election in May.

He did not outline a campaign statement of policy other than to say that he had always believed in the businesslike conduct of city business and in strict law enforcement.

Born in North Carolina, Doughton became a resident of Oregon, at Albany, in 1884. He entered a partnership hardware business in Salem in 1920 after having served as manager of a large hardware firm at Astoria and has since bought out his partner to become sole proprietor of his business.

Candidate



EARL SNELL

Snell to Run For Governor

Outlines Program in Seeking Nomination On GOP Ballot

Earl Snell, Oregon's two-term secretary of state, announced late Saturday that he was a candidate for governor, a probability reported in The Statesman and other newspapers late last summer.

He said in a formal statement that his campaign for the republican nomination for the position now held by Charles A. Sprague would be "simple, inexpensive and informal."

A state constitutional provision precludes Snell's seeking a third term in his present position.

Pledging his "continued faithful service to the people of Oregon," Snell's announcement outlined a three-point objective: Win the war, cushion post-war readjustment (Turn to Page 2, Col. 6)

Whoa, Thar! Brand Tires Like Horses?

PORTLAND, Jan. 31 (AP)—Detective Captain J. J. Keegan suggested Saturday that motorists adopt an old western cattle country custom and brand their automobile tires.

Branding of tires with the same numbers of license plates might be feasible, Keegan said, pointing out there was a possibility that this year's plates might be used next year.

Keegan's branding suggestion was made after conferring with B. H. German of the National Auto Theft association on ways to curb the expected increase of stolen tires.

Smokers Lose As Court Mulls Fag Tax Petition

Ruling Either Way by State Tribunal on Referendum Adds to Gain of Sellers and Commission; Decision Expected Soon

By STEPHEN C. MERGLER

Payment of an estimated \$100,000 into Oregon's cigarette tax funds hinges today on the probabilities of a decision by the state supreme court on the validity of petitions for a referendum vote on the new revenue act.

Cigarette dealers, wholesale and retail, are awaiting the court's ruling, at issue under mandamus proceedings, able under an amended tax commission regulation to delay payments of levies due today until February 10.

The court has not indicated whether or not an opinion in the case may be handed down Tuesday of this week or Tuesday of next, regular days for issuance of its findings.

Should the court give its opinion on or before February 10, and declare the referendum petitions valid, the tax commission would postpone enforcement of the act until after the November election, and the cigarette dealers could keep the tax money they today have to hold ready for payment next week.

If the court should decide against the referendum by that date, the dealers would still have (Turn to Page 2, Col. 7)

Welders Walkout On Jobs

Dispute Within Ranks of Labor Held as Cause

TACOMA, Wash., Jan. 31 (AP)—A walkout of welders disputing with AFL unions took 1654 men off their jobs in the face of a flat refusal by the war production board to recognize their independent organization.

The walkout left 1180 welders idle in the Tacoma yard of the Seattle-Tacoma Shipbuilding corporation, 454 at the Seattle yard of the same company, and 20 at the Associated Shipbuilders at Seattle.

Several other yards in Seattle and the huge Boeing aircraft plant reported that all their welders were working, although welders' independent union officials there had predicted 1300 would be off the job by Saturday night.

The welders said all their members at the Tacoma plant, which employs 6500 persons and holds \$100,000,000 in defense contracts, had walked off the job.

The war production board ultimatum was in the form of a telegram from Paul R. Porter, chairman of the shipbuilding stabilization committee, to Dave Basor, Seattle welders' official.

The wire declared that the board "expects all shipyard welders to serve their country by remaining at their jobs. A strike in the shipyards where our lives are at stake is intolerable."

It added that the national labor relations board had dismissed Friday a welders' plea for an election to determine whether the (Turn to Page 2, Col. 2)

Norway, Nazi War is Over

NEW YORK, Jan. 31 (AP)—The British radio said that the state of war between Germany and Norway will be declared officially ended when Vidkun Quisling is elevated to "prime minister of state" Saturday at Oslo.

The broadcast, heard by CBS, also said that "all leaves for German soldiers have been cancelled."

British Withdraw To Huge Island Fort; Nippon Opens Fifth Major Indies Front

Batan Troops Capture Japs Reports Chief

Invaders Make Ready For New Assaults on MacArthur's Lines

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31 (AP)—General MacArthur reported Saturday that in addition to holding off the Japanese, his forces have been taking some prisoners.

After a 48 hours lull, during which the enemy made ready for another large scale assault, there has been "sporadic fighting," he advised the war department.

Determined efforts to infiltrate the Batan peninsula defense line were rebuffed, and in the course of these actions the prisoners were taken. As for a number of days past, there was virtually no enemy activity in the air, he said.

It was MacArthur's first report of prisoners captured, and some thought the effect might be to restrain the Japanese from such brutal treatment of American prisoners as the general complained of a week ago.

On January 23, he informed the war department of "several instances" of Japanese violation of the international convention relating to captured prisoners of war. Japan had announced her intention to abide by that agreement.

MacArthur said that on January 12, the body of a Filipino scout, Fernando Tan, had been found face down in a stream. His hands had been bound behind his back and he had been bayoneted several times, and he had obviously been "thrown into the stream to die."

In reporting the mistreatment of Private Tan, the department said: "However foully the enemy may act, the general states that he will abide by decent concepts of humanity and civilization."

Centennial Gift Asked

CITY COUNCIL MAY JOIN IN PUBLICIZING OLD SCHOOL'S ANNIVERSARY

A resolution authorizing payment of \$500 into the centennial fund as the city's part in helping publicize the Willamette university observance of its 100th anniversary is slated to come before the Salem city council at Monday night's session.

The resolution, coming out of the ways and means committee, is said to provide for payment from the emergency fund and is the outgrowth of a presentation of the university's plan for financing before the entire council by R. Franklin Thompson, vice-president.

Funds to pay for installation of steam and compressed air whistles to be used in conjunction with the already-approved sirens as air-raid warnings are to be asked of the council Monday night, it is understood. Their cost is said to be (Turn to Page 2, Col. 8)

American Nurses Accompany Ireland AEF



Making the perilous voyage to northern Ireland with the AEF were 24 nurses from Fort Knox, Ky. Seventeen of them, all second lieutenants, are shown here just before leaving Fort Knox. Left to right: Mary Armstrong, Beverly O.; Katherine Wellman, Defiance, O.; Margaret Broderick, Nashua, NH; Vera Eberly, Toledo, O.; Janet Harrington, Lyndhurst, O.; Agnes R. Casserly, Columbus, O.; Dorothy Dibble, Youngstown, O.; Maureen Martin, Bellefontaine, O.; Lois Frey, New Richmond, Ind.; Florence McBride, Youngstown, O.; Agnes Wheatley, Shepherdsville, Ky.; Elma Rinehart, Richmond, Ind.; Elizabeth Akin, Louisville, Ky.; Letha Glunt, Richmond, Ind.; Frances Crone, Ashland, O., and Stella Dabrowski, East Chicago, Ind. Seated is Antonette D'Orlo, Canton, O.

US Navy Plans Great Air Training Program

Four Large Universities Will Be Leased To Turn Out 30,000 Pilots Yearly; Knox Reveals Rigorous Toughening Process

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31 (AP)—The navy department announced plans Saturday night to turn out 30,000 pilots a year in what it called "the greatest aviation training program in naval history."

Facilities of four large universities will be leased, each university to become an "Annapolis of the air." The names of the four universities were not announced. One is located in the east, one in the west, one in the south and the fourth in the midwest.

The facilities of these universities will be rented by the navy for the duration of the war.

The announcement said that the new expanded naval aviation training program will be in operation by May 1 or sooner, and applications for training already are being accepted.

The plan involves the induction of more than 2500 aviation cadets a month.

Each candidate will undergo "an extremely rigorous toughening process deliberately aimed at making our sea hawks the strongest, most daring and most determined type of airman in the world," the announcement said.

Secretary Knox said that the (Turn to Page 2, Col. 3)

Polio Victim Walks After Seeing FDR

NEW YORK, Jan. 31 (AP)—Flinging aside his tiny crutches, four-year-old Gerry King took a few faltering steps Saturday in the kitchen of his home following his return from a luncheon date with President Roosevelt Friday at the White House.

Victim of infantile paralysis, the low-headed youngster had spent two and a half years on a hospital bed. In the excitement of meeting the president, his mother said, he walked a few steps then—something he had never done before.

His performance Saturday was a duplication of his White House feat.

Defenders Confident Of Success

Dutch Navy Base Raided; Burma City Evacuated

By BILL BONI
Associated Press War Editor

Singapore is under siege. Japan's invasion armies, sweeping almost without check through 350 miles of steaming jungle, swamps and mountains, have driven to the very tip of the Malay peninsula. And late Saturday night, from Britain's commander in Malaya, came the announcement that:

"Today we stand beleaguered in our island fortress... Our task is to hold this fortress until help can come, as assuredly it will come."

Thus the battle of Malaya became the battle of Singapore and the battered imperial troops, outnumbered from the start in men and machines, abandoned hope of stemming the Japanese advance on the mainland and withdrew to man the defenses of Singapore island itself.

Still weary, still looking for reinforcement, from some where they now must marshal fresh strength to withstand a concentrated assault by forces which have held superiority in planes, in tanks and in ships.

How Singapore will stand up against siege no one can predict. The heaviest weapons of this \$400,000,000 British empire defense base were designed to guard the sea approaches to south, east and west, rather than for defense (Turn to Page 2, Col. 5)

Axis Libya Drive Slows Say British

CAIRO, Jan. 31 (AP)—Temporarily at least, Field Marshal Gen. Erwin Rommel's sudden Libyan counter offensive seemed Saturday night to have lost impetus after fanning out into a 70-mile front from the Msus region to recapture Bengasi.

Reports reaching here indicated that there had been no axis advance much beyond the twice-won and twice-lost port, and the British high command said axis patrols withdrew after contact with British mobile forces near Msus.

Military observers said the British probably did not lose any large quantity of guns and equipment in the withdrawal from Bengasi.

Some sources estimated that the two columns of the seventh Indian brigade which won free from the port represented about a two-thirds of the brigade's full strength. Normally that would be about 1000 men.

The RAF kept strafing Rommel's lengthened supply lines all the way back to Tripoli in addition to continuing what a communication termed a "protective patrol over our forward forces."

The night before, British bombers smashed at axis motorized concentrations around Agedabia, south of Bengasi, touching off fires which returning fliers said were visible 100 miles away.

Blimp Patrol Started on West Coast

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 31 (AP)—A blimp patrol was established over the central California coastline Saturday, augmenting the alert watch of attack and bombing planes and surface craft.

In making the announcement the navy's 12th district commandant observed "it has been demonstrated that the blimp can not only spot for and direct other fighting craft, but has a definite fighting power of its own with both bombs and gunfire."

Especially effective against undersea boats, the non-rigid aircraft are referred to by navy men as the dread of submarine commanders. They can hover, drift and spot the enemy, and in spite of severe weather they can maintain flight for long hours.

Those based here are 24-footers, driven by two engines. Depending on the task assigned, they carry a crew of from seven to nine men, the navy said, and they bear depth bombs as well as other weapons.

By the end of this year, the navy said, it is expected that the entire Pacific coast will be under blimp control as an aid to bombing planes and destroyers.

Friday's Weather

Weather forecasts withheld and temperature data delayed by army request. Rivet Saturday, 51. Feet. Max. temperature Friday, 43. min., 34.

Willamette Starts Centennial Celebration Today

One hundred years ago today Willamette university was founded by Oregon pioneers, and today the school begins a series of programs observing the centennial. The Methodist-sponsored institution is the oldest for higher education in the west.

(Additional feature of its history are on today's Statesman feature page.)

In addition to the church services this morning, Dr. Carl S. Knopf will be inaugurated as president Monday at 10 a. m. in Waller hall on the campus.

Dr. Knopf and Bishop Bruce R. Baxter, former president, will speak over station KEX on a Founders' day broadcast originating from Waller hall. A double quartet from the student a capella choir will sing.

Knopf and Baxter will share the pulpit of Salem First Methodist church at 10:30 this morning, speaking on "Willamette—a Glorious Past" and "Willamette—Tomorrow." Dr. J. C. Harrison, pastor, will preside, and district superintendents of the

Oregon conference will participate. Arrangements are being made to seat many additional persons.

The convocation Monday, to which the public is invited, includes the processional, by Maurice W. Brennan at the organ; invocation by Bishop Baxter; "Paraphrase on Tchaikowski's Flower Waltz" by Grainger, played by Clara Eness at the piano.

Students who will speak in the ceremony are Wade Bettis on "The Cloak of Jason Lee," Glenn

Olds on "The Key of Character," William Thomas on "The Torch of Truth" and Ralph May on "The Hand of Fellowship."

Dr. Helen Pearce is to represent the faculty and alumni in speaking on "The Pledge of Loyalty." Gov. Charles A. Sprague on "Education and the State," Justice James T. Brand on "Education and the Justice," Tinkham Gilbert, secretary of the board of trustees, will give the charge to the president, who will preside.

Other musical numbers will be "Romance," Wieniawski, by Mary Schultz Duncan, violin, and Clara Eness, piano, and "Clorinda," Morgan, by Keith Sherman, baritone, and Margaret Hood, piano.

Dr. Harrison will pronounce the benediction.

Other centennial events will follow during the spring semester, in charge of Dean Daniel H. Schulz, faculty committee chairman, and Bob Hamilton, student committee head.