

Garden Time
Victory gardener, or flower gardener, you'll be paying increasing attention to that little plot of ground in coming weeks. Read Lillie Madson's advice to gardeners, in The Sunday Statesman.

Relax!
Sports help you relax from the worries of war. Follow the events daily on the Statesman sport page, with comments by Al Lightner.

NINETY-FIRST YEAR

Salem, Oregon, Thursday Morning, February 26, 1942

Price 3c Newsstands 5c

No. 288

Yank, Allied Pilots Blast Japs From Skies

Jap Doom Foretold By Knox

Naval Reports Reveal 53 Nip Vessels Sunk

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—Such tremendous blows have been dealt to Japan's navy and merchant marine that if the rate of destruction continues for one year, her eventual doom will be sealed, United States naval officials indicated Wednesday night.

This authoritative word was given to reporters after the navy disclosed officially that it had sent 53 Nipponese naval and merchant vessels to the bottom since Dec. 10.

(It also said in passing that it has good reason to believe that three more enemy submarines have been sunk by US naval action in the Atlantic theatre, and four damaged. This brings the total of subs sunk or damaged by the navy in that ocean since the war began to 21, inasmuch as Secretary Knox had declared on Dec. 21 that 14 had either been sent to the bottom or hit.)

Knox, in mentioning the figure of 53 Jap ships sunk since December 10, added that the navy believed it had sunk seven more and damaged five. Nor was this the whole picture. If blows dealt to Japan's oceanic might by the United States army and its air forces are reckoned in, the score stands:

Sunk	Believed Sunk	Damaged
73	7	33
Broken down into combatant ships and non-combatant craft this summary reads:		
Combatant vessels		
Sunk	Believed Sunk	Damaged
18	3	18
Non-combatant vessels		
Sunk	Believed Sunk	Damaged
55	4	15

In addition, terrific blows have been dealt by the Dutch although the figures on their deeds were not up-to-date enough tonight to include in the grand total, they have been sinking or damaging Nipponese vessels at the approximate rate of one a day.

Looking at this picture as a whole, authorized navy spokesmen declared "they (the Japs) can't keep these losses up over a year with their building program." To win under these conditions (Turn to Page 2, Col. 2)

Tuesday's Weather

Weather forecasts withheld and temperature data delayed by army request. River Wednesday, 1.2 feet. Max. temperature Tuesday 51, Min. 37.

Battle for the Burma Road



Nearing a climax, the battle for the Burma road will decide the fate of China's chief supply line, with British troops fighting desperately to hold positions on the western shore of the Billa river. The Japs all-out drive on Rangoon is reported to be within ten miles of the city and the British have burned the capital practically to the ground. The heavy arrow indicates where the Chinese are exerting pressure and the probable last battle front. The British are reported endeavoring to join the Chinese.

Cha...es Mind



IRL S. MCSHERRY

Race Quitted By McSherry

Cancels Plans to Run For State Secretary; May Be Sprague Aide

By STEPHEN C. MERGLER

Irl S. McSherry, deputy state parole director, wrote himself out of the race for secretary of state Wednesday with the announcement that he believed that in war time "we should be without too many contests unless there are issues involved which might be harmful to the best interests of our state and nation."

It was understood that McSherry was about to submit his resignation to the parole board, effective March 1, to head up Gov. Charles A. Sprague's re-election campaign in the Willamette valley area.

McSherry's withdrawal left only Robert S. Farrell, jr., Portland, speaker of the house of representatives, as an avowed, if unofficially declared, candidate for the republican nomination to succeed Secretary Earl Snell, who is seeking the governorship. It pointed attention to the question of whether or not one or more of Snell's staff might compete with Farrell.

George Flagg, deputy secretary (Turn to Page 2, Col. 6)

Oil Stations Favor Night Closing Plan

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 25.—(AP) Nightly closing of service stations on the Pacific coast to conserve oil supplies for the armed forces may come soon, Ford Sammis, public relations director for the coast petroleum industry, warned Wednesday.

He told members of the Portland Advertising Federation it was becoming increasingly difficult for the industry to supply growing military demands for petroleum products without restricting civilian consumption. A majority of service station operators on the coast favor closing from 7 p. m. to 7 a. m., he said.

New Cantonment To Be Nation's Largest, 4-County Council Told

Record Speed In Building Army's Goal

Wage Rates Are Set; Reservation Takes Form; Budget Voted

Speed!

That little word is going into action in the mid-Willamette valley next week and out of it will come the largest army cantonment in the nation, in terms of temporary training bases, a horde of 8000 workmen and their families, a monthly payroll expenditure in surrounding towns and cities of approximately \$2,000,000 and, later in the year, undisclosed battalions of soldiers

Cantonment Summarized

Construction — Workmen expected to pour into four-county area next week.

Size—Largest in the United States.

Transportation—Running of labor trains from Salem, Albany and Corvallis proposed.

Highways—Relocation through Monmouth studied.

Wages—Laborers 75 cents an hour, carpenters \$1.37½, plumbers \$1.50.

Payroll — \$2,000,000 per month may be spent in nearby towns, cities.

Cantonment council—\$5500 budget adopted, subject to approval by city council, county courts.

Schools—No serious overcrowding anticipated until fall term.

Housing — Temporary types required for construction workers, families, government-built houses to come last.

USO — Cherrians advised Salem denied grant for USO building, decide to try again.

and officers to drill and practice maneuvers and look for homes and places to spend time on leave. "Costs are forgotten, speed is the order, for we are at war," Major R. E. M. Des Isles, on-the-ground builder of Bonneville dam and now of the Albany-Corvallis cantonment, in effect told Salem civic and business leaders Wednesday afternoon and the four-county cantonment council and visitors at its meeting at Corvallis Wednesday night.

Court action to give the army prompt possession of some 60 square miles of land for the cantonment is to be instituted in federal court yet this week, it is understood, to permit thousands of workmen to start building roads and prefabricating buildings next week.

Pleading for all-out cooperation on the part of the four counties and seven cities most directly affected by the cantonment, Major Des Isles said at the Corvallis meeting that "we've got to do the (Turn to Page 2, Col. 1)

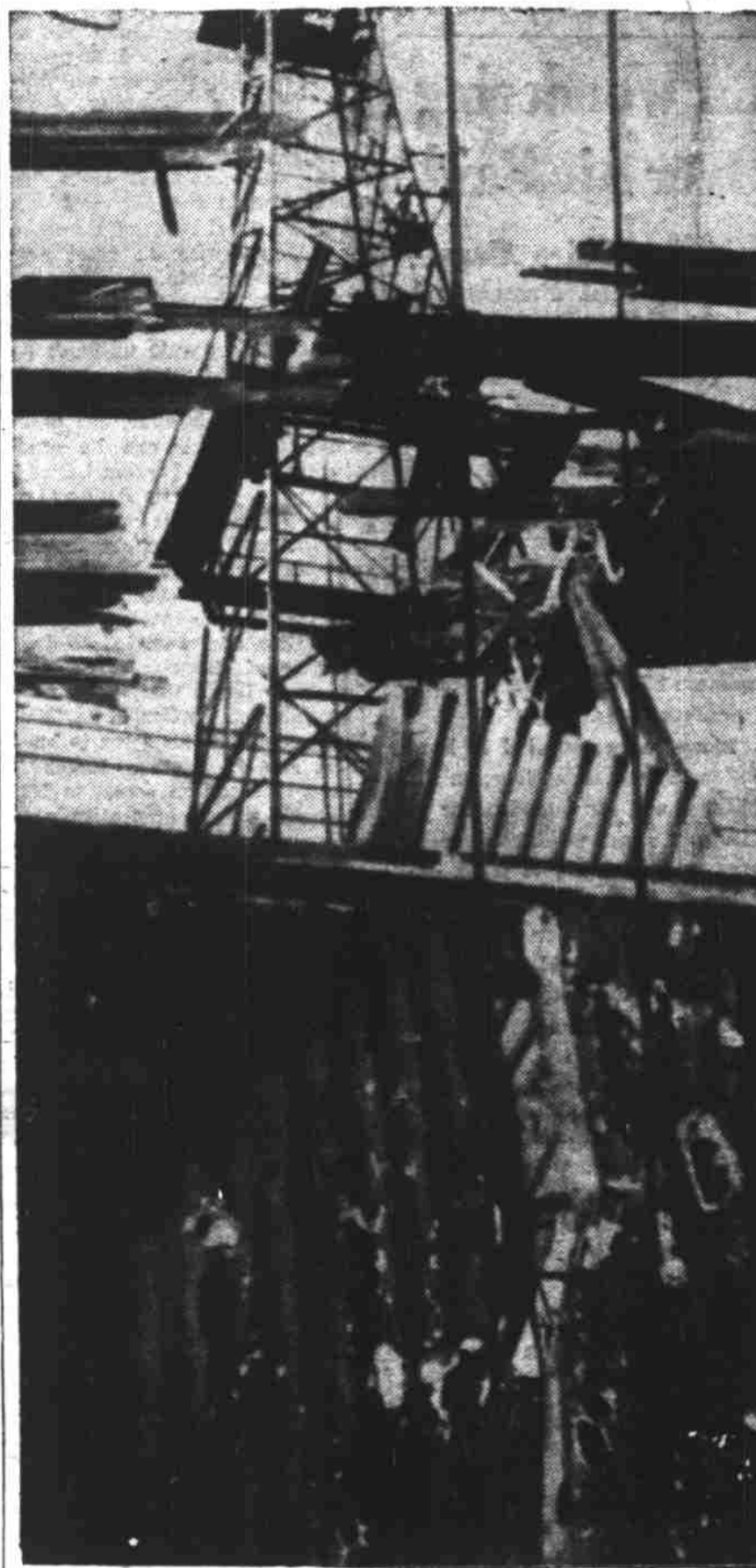
British Ship Sunk by Sub

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico, Feb. 25.—(AP)—The 5,685-ton British tanker La Carriere was sunk early Wednesday by a submarine attack 75 miles south of Puerto Rico, survivors reaching the Port of Guantánamo reported Wednesday afternoon.

Two boat loads of crewmen, one carrying 20 persons and the other three survivors and a body, reached the beach, and two other boats were reported still adrift at sea.

The ship, first described from Ponce as an American freighter, was torpedoed late Tuesday night and sank four hours later, the survivors said. She was unable to send an SOS.

First Photo of Sub Shelling



Splintered wreckage of an oil well in the Elwood oil field, 12 miles north of Santa Barbara is shown in the above International Illustrated News Soundphoto, result of a shell fired from a Japanese submarine. The five-inch shell splintered the catwalk above the shed housing pumping machinery and pierced the shed's wall. Another shell tore a gaping hole in the refinery's pier. In the air and on the sea, vengeful American warcraft swept the seas off Santa Barbara and Goleta in ever widening circles for the huge enemy submarine. Reports of flashing lights offshore and in the hills behind Montecito indicated possible fifth column cooperation with the marauding submarine.

County GOP Told People Want to Know War Facts

Chief of Party's Woman's Division Says Nation Confused by Washington Bureaus; Lauds Nelson, Hopes for OCD Betterment

By ISABEL CHILDS

"People of the United States are aware we are at war! "They do not want to know army secrets nor would they give comfort and aid to the enemy, but they do want to know what the situation is and what we can do about it!"

Thus Marion E. Martin, assistant chairman of the Republican national committee and head of its woman's division, spoke of her findings on a recent cross-country trip as she addressed Marion county republicans in Salem on Wednesday night.

Confusion, she declared, has swept the country along with a willingness to sacrifice. That confusion, the speaker said, had its birth in Washington. The office of fact and figures she termed an outstanding misnomer, called in the nation's capital "the office of facts and fancies," and pointed to MacLeish's statement of January 14 that the maritime commission "is now launching one ship every 24 hours" and to the commission's report on February 12 that it had produced 17 ships during January.

Army encampments are costing \$628 per man and the army statisticians with budget board workers had estimated fairly a cost of \$650 per man but testimony has revealed that on the advice of the budget bureau only \$400 was asked with the express plan of securing the rest later as a deficiency allocation, she said.

The claim that republicans were (Turn to Page 2, Col. 5)

3000 Expected To Start Work By Next Week

Citizens Warned not To Gouge; Transport Plans Are Urged

ALBANY, Feb. 25.—(Special) Albany must be prepared within the next week or ten days to accommodate an influx of 3000 or more men, many of them bringing their families, Major R. E. M. Des Isles, commanding officer of the Albany-Corvallis cantonment project, told a luncheon meeting of the Albany chamber of commerce Wednesday.

The major gave the figure as his estimate of the number of cantonment workers who would live in Albany because of its proximity to the cantonment area, highways and railroads. The remainder of the workers probably will distribute themselves among Airrie, Monmouth, Independence, Corvallis, Dallas and Salem, he said.

Major Des Isles warned merchants and owners of accommodations against seeking excessive profits from the cantonment workers.

"You're not going to hurt anyone but yourselves if you try to gouge these people," he declared. "Gouging practices lead inevitably to dissatisfaction, labor unrest, strikes, damage to business, higher wages, higher prices and eventually higher taxes," he added.

Based on his estimate of 3000 or more construction workers locating here, Major Des Isles said Albany would benefit from about \$500,000 a month out of a monthly construction payroll of about \$2,000,000 giving ample chance to sell more goods at a fair profit.

The major told his audience he was not trying to dictate what they should do but merely advising them as to some of the problems the cantonment would bring. As to the building of the cantonment itself, "which is my business," he declared it his job to see that everything be done as it should be done, "let the chips fall where they may."

Provision of ample transportation facilities to carry the camp workers between their jobs and their homes was urged by the major so that as few cars as necessary be parked on the cantonment grounds.

He also warned that housing projects in the vicinity of the cantonment can not be launched now because the cantonment construction will absorb all available labor. Home building may follow the peak of the rush at the camp.

Tire Quotas For March Announced

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 25.—(AP) March quotas for new tires and tubes for passenger cars, trucks, motorcycles and buses in the six western states, quotas which are generally higher than last month, were announced Wednesday by the office of price administration.

Oregon: New tires for passenger cars, motorcycles and light trucks, 1,313; new tubes, 1,099; new tires for trucks and buses, 3,036; new tubes, 3,414; truck re-treads, 1,308.

PORTLAND, Feb. 25.—(AP)—Retreads and recaps will not be available during March to Oregon motorists with passenger automobiles, the state tire rationing administrator said Wednesday.

Camelback, used for retreading and recapping, would be released by the government only for 1308 truck and bus tires in the state, the office said.

Meanwhile, clergymen were informed they must prove their need for new tires and tubes to obtain certificates from local rationing boards.

Tokyo Trip Advertised By US Navy

PORTLAND, Feb. 25.—(AP)—Taking a page from the book used by travel agencies, the Portland navy recruiting district staff Wednesday issued a new poster to bolster its five-month record as the nation's leader in number of enlistments. "Go west, young man," the poster read. "Personally conducted tours leaving daily for Tokyo. You'll want to be there when the band starts playing. Tour sponsored by the US navy, federal building, Portland."

LA Wondering Over Air Raid

Knox "False Alarm" Statement Puzzles; CD Officials Riled

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 25.—(AP) Thousands of sleepy citizens, who had thrills and chills early Wednesday watching what they thought was an enemy air raid, were wondering Wednesday night what it was all about.

Navy Secretary Knox' statement in Washington that, from information reaching him, the incident was "a false alarm" echoed the already expressed opinions of many southern Californians. (Los Angeles civil defense authorities rapped Knox' statement as detrimental to civilian morale.)

But it brought no immediate relaxation in the tight-lipped silence of the army's western defense command. That silence was broken just once during the day, to admit that there was a blackout and shooting, and to add that no bombs were dropped and no planes shot down.

At 3:45 o'clock Wednesday afternoon fourth army headquarters issued this statement, without elaboration:

"The aircraft which caused the blackout in the Los Angeles area for several hours this morning have not been identified."

If it was a false alarm, however, it was an impressive and spectacular one. Anti-aircraft guns pumped thousands of rounds of ammunition toward an objective presumed fixed in the piercing beams of uncounted searchlights. Southern California from the San Joaquin valley to the Mexican border was blacked out from 2:25 a.m. (PWT) to 7:21 a.m.

(An alert against enemy attack, involving all of western Oregon, was ordered at 5:07 a.m. Wednesday, but the all-clear signal was given at 7:45 a.m. There was no explanation for the alert, ordered by the fourth interceptor command, Jerrold Owen, state civilian defense coordinator, said.)

The screeching wails of sirens awakened most of the area's three million sleepers and within a few minutes they saw a slow-moving object, which many thought was a blimp, caught in an intensely bright patch of light where scores of searchlights converged. The "poom, poom, poom" of anti-aircraft guns rattled windows in some of the beach areas and there were brilliant bursts of fire, somewhat like the spreading of Fourth of July skyrockets, around the sky craft.

In some areas Ack Ack shells exploded in residential districts, but no one was injured. Fragments crashed into a bed which a woman and a girl had left moments before to look at the raid. The "flak" as gunners call it, also shattered a window.

One official source, which declined to be quoted directly, told The Associated Press that army planes went into action as soon as (Turn to Page 2, Col. 4)

Phony Bills Circulated

SEATTLE, Feb. 25.—(AP)—If anyone tries to slip you a \$20 bill for change, better take a good look at it.

Capt. W. R. Jarrell of the secret service warned Wednesday that counterfeit \$20 banknotes were in circulation in the Pacific northwest. He said four of them were recovered here Wednesday. The counterfeiters resemble notes of the Federal Reserve bank of San Francisco, series of 1934. Captain Jarrell said that they were "smudged" on the backside, with crossbars on the White House windows incomplete.

30 Planes Crash In Victories

More Transports Sunk; Invaders Rest in Burma

By WILLIAM SMITH WHITE

American and allied pilots triumphantly rode the skies Wednesday in a series of local victories from Rangoon to the Bismarck archipelago while the Japanese invader lay resting on the Burma front and strengthened his forces upon the approaches to Java and Australia.

Thirty or more enemy planes were shot down over the Burma area and two enemy river boats were smashed by the American volunteer group and the RAF, and there was no mention of allied loss.

Seven American pursuit planes over Java tore into a formation of nine Japanese bombers protected by 14 fighters, shot down two enemy planes and damaged six others without a single American casualty.

Three more enemy transports were sent to the bottom by allied bombs off Macassar.

A late afternoon US war department communique reporting that two Japanese transports had been sunk by heavy American bombers in those waters apparently referred to this, thus indicating that the Dutch got the third ship.

US army pursuit planes, this communique disclosed, also had the better of it in a second encounter over Java—this time specifically located as having been over the great Dutch naval base of Soerabaja. There an American formation engaged an enemy swarm—52 bombers and 40 fighters—and shot down at least one enemy craft for certain and most likely several others. Again, there was no American loss.

The strongest formation of Australian bombers yet to take the air smashed at Japanese marshalling points, Rabaul on New Britain and on the part Portu (Turn to Page 2, Col. 7)

Russian Ring Moves Closer

Plan to Trap German Troops Progresses on Staraya Russ Front

MOSCOW, Thursday, Feb. 26 (AP)—The red army's "ring around the 16th Nazi army on the Staraya Russa front is tightening," a dispatch direct from that front said today, "and several more enemy garrisons have been surrounded and are being annihilated."

Russia's heavy blow at the German troops appeared to be only the first part of a maneuver aimed at trapping all Nazi troops in that bloody northwestern corner of Russia, and some red units were reported striking westward toward the Estonian frontier, less than 100 miles away.

(A Stockholm report received in London said 100,000 German (Turn to Page 2, Col. 5)

Think What it Means to Him!

Keep Him Posted About News From Home. Send Him

The Statesman FOR ONLY 50c Per Mo. by Mail