

## ON THE INSIDE— in Washington!

By KIRKE L. SIMPSON

Wide World War Analyst For The Statesman

Lunging Russian stabs at nazi defense lines north of the Smolensk area represent another race against time—the time when spring thaws inevitably immobilize both armies on most of the fronts.

Mud and overflowing streams make a vast quagmire of the Russian steppes for weeks as the winter breaks up. They impose greater obstacles to major military operations than did the terrible Russian winter which wrecked Hitler's eastern "crusade."

The record books are full of Russian weather data indicating that not before late April or May at the earliest can a major German offensive be renewed.

Over the wide and confused front below the Smolensk pivot to the Leningrad area where the Russians are striking their most effective blows it seems unlikely that the nazi high command can count upon favorable ground and weather conditions before June.

Hitler's forces are trying to cling to their present positions, but new break-throughs at various points are reported from Moscow and London, unofficially. There are also indications that with the Leningrad siege line cracked, the garrison of that city has been strongly reinforced and has joined in a Russian offensive both along the coast of the Gulf of Finland and southwestward down the Leningrad-Pskov rail and road system.

On the Volkhov river front north of Lake Ilmen and above Novgorod, another Russian thrust westward is indicated. It seems aimed at Luga junction on the Leningrad-Pskov system, far in rear of nazi lines southwest of Leningrad.

Still farther south a critical junction in the Lake Ilmen sector is claimed by the Russians, further closing the trap about nazi armies surrounded in the vicinity of Staraya Russa just south of the lake. Rupture of German communication lines at the vital Pskov crossroads appears to be the main red objective on all the front north of the Valdai hills. If that can be done before winter breaks, the whole northern flank of the German line would be undermined and perhaps driven out of Russia proper.

South of the Valdai plateau the German hold on Rjhev and Vyazma junctions is threatened. Heavy nazi forces occupying those advance posts seem to be completely encircled.

The Russians are reported astride the Rjhev-Vyazma railroad at many points and also across the Vyazma-Smolensk railroad at an undisclosed point, possibly in the Dorogobuzh vicinity. They also have cracked the Ugra river line to menace Vyazma from the south as well as from the west, north and east.

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## Mt. Angel Fete To Go Ahead

Businessmen Decide  
1942 Flax Festival  
Shall Be Held

MT. ANGEL — It was unanimously agreed by the members of the Business men's club at their meeting at the Mt. Angel hotel Tuesday noon to hold the flax festival this year despite the war.

The secretary of the festival committee, Sylvester C. Schmidt, read a report on the committee's findings and Jim Fournier stated the war department ordered that crowds be kept down to 5000 people. The committee was instructed to write to the proper authorities for confirmation of the order.

Dr. E. J. Corcoran introduced a movement to have the names of all men in the service posted on a billboard at some advantageous place in downtown Mt. Angel. The president appointed Dr. Corcoran, Otto Oswald and Leonard Fisher on a committee to investigate the cost of such a board and find where it could be placed.

Reporting for the sick committee, Otto Oswald stated that Mrs. J. Penner was in the Silverton hospital, getting along nicely, and that Fred Schwab, sr., is confined to his bed at his home.

Peter Gores and Otto Oswald are ticket sellers for the next meeting Tuesday, March 24.

## Two Firemen Are Added

TURNER—At the regular meeting of the volunteer fire department held in the fire station with Chief Archie Rankin, presiding, two new firemen were taken in as active members, Homer Haggard and Vernon Van Osdel. The old hose was laid on the trailer, transferring from the reels. The trailer was recently donated to the department by Chief Rankin. Later the firemen were served lunch in the new recreation room.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Williams have left by motor for Kitsap Springs to be gone several months, in hopes the change will be beneficial to Mr. Williams' health. Mrs. Williams recently resigned as grade school principal and upper grades teacher in the Turner school after eight years service, and Mrs. Ruth Riches was hired to complete the school term.

Darryl Lee, young son of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Whitehead, is ill this week at the home of his parents. His grandmother, Mrs. J. E. Whitehead, jr., has been helping care for him.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Sterling attended the wedding of Miss Betty Stevens to Elmer Morgan in Salem Friday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Merle Frantz of Salem visited Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Lyday.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry McKee of Perrydale visited this weekend with Mrs. Jesse Walker. Mr. McKee is Mrs. Walker's brother.

Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Layton of Jennings Lodge visited Tuesday with Mr. and Mrs. Rollan Layton.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Penter of Salem and Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Haley and family of Valselt were Sunday guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dave Haley.

## Mrs. Parr Feted On Birthday

TURNER—Mrs. A. E. Spencer entertained at her home with a birthday dinner honoring Mrs. Frank Parr. Covers were placed for Mr. and Mrs. Frank Parr, Rev. Orville Mick of Albany, Mrs. Vina Moore and Orle, Mrs. Fern Kannapp and children of Salem, Mrs. Ray Gillispie, Mrs. Anna Windom, Mrs. A. E. Spencer, Richard and Duane.

Mrs. Ed Collins, who was taken seriously ill in the night a week ago, is now convalescing at her home here. Prior to the illness Mrs. Collins was caring for Mrs. Ada Mathias, who has been ill for several months. Mrs. Earl Standley is now staying at the Mathias home.

## Amity Group Has Meeting Thursday

AMITY—Mrs. Otho Shields and Mrs. Harry O. Riley were joint hostesses Thursday to the East Side Sewing club at the Shields home.

After a short business meeting the afternoon was spent in needlework for the Red Cross and the hostesses. Refreshments were served.

Members present included Mesdames E. M. Johnson, Etta Day, W. A. Williams, Tom Smith, Lloyd Schaeffer, Al Derenave, Lloyd Fresham, Lottie Tallman, Fred Hahn, John Freshorn, Clara Hahn, Mary Sprual, John Spitzer, and A. B. Watt. Mrs. Lela Buss and two children of Burbank, Calif., were guests.

## Wednesday Club Holds Meeting

INDEPENDENCE—Mrs. Clarence Charboneau entertained the Wednesday Bridge club at her home Wednesday evening. High score in contract went to Mrs. Walter Smith. Guests were Mrs. W. B. Merriam, Mrs. Ralph Kietzing and Mrs. Walter Smith.

Members present were Mrs. Thelma Talant, Mrs. M. C. Williams, Mr. and Mrs. K. L. Williams, Mrs. Clarence Harwood, Mrs. E. E. Addison, Mrs. G. G. Walker, Mrs. John Black, Mrs. J. H. Hart, Mrs. A. L. Thomas, Mrs. R. M. Walker and the hostess, Mrs. Charboneau.

## Silverton Seniors Dance

SILVERTON — The high school senior class will have a social night Friday at the little auditorium and the cafeteria at the school. Dancing will be featured and there will be games and cards. The admission price is one-half dozen either buns or wieners, the committee reports.

## Service Men

GERVAIS — Virgil Scherette is here at the home of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bruno, on a 16 days leave. He is in the US navy and was at Pearl Harbor during the attack on December 7.

GATES — Friends here have received word from Albert Decker that he is stationed at Camp Roberts, Calif. S. A. Ball has received word from his son, Carl J. Ball, who is in the field artillery at Camp Roberts.

HAYESVILLE — First Sgt. Leonard Greig was called from the reserves to report to Fort Lewis Thursday.

Attempt to land his heavy bomber at an airport in the East Indies proved dangerous recently to Lt. Clarence McPherson of the US army air corps, according to a letter received by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Benner, 525 North Capitol street.

McPherson is a nephew of the Benners, and the letter was from his wife, who resides in McCall, Ida. The flyer did not know the airport had been captured by the Japanese until ground guns and fighter planes attacked him as he landed. He immediately took off and landed at a friendly airport.

SCIO — Pvt. Lowell Yeager, Pendleton air base, was on furlough this week at the Scio home of his mother, Mrs. Dollie Yeager. His brother, Jack, is at sea aboard a US navy vessel.

SCIO — Mrs. Vannie Shores and daughter, Mrs. Max Weesly, visited their son and brother, Sgt. Leonard Ira, at Fort Lewis, Wash. Another son, Ed Ira, is a sergeant at a Minnesota fort.

SCIO — Eugene Boucher, Scio February selectee, is in army training at a Maryland camp.

SCIO — Willie Dobrovsky, aboard the cruiser USS Memphis somewhere in the war zone, writes to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dobrovsky, here, thanking them for home-town publications.

Candidates for marine corps officers' school will be selected at Willamette university by Lieut. Maurice J. Kelly, March 19, 20, 21. In his traveling board will be a medical officer, pharmacist mate and first sergeant to conduct the physical examinations. Prof. Lestle Sparks of Willamette is the university representative.

Undergraduates attending a n y college or university in the state are eligible to make application. Age limit requires applicants to be under 25 when commissioned. Seniors accepted will be sent to Quantico, Va., for six months of training upon completion of this school year. Juniors, sophomores and freshmen will be called for training upon receiving their college degrees. All will be deferred from selective service upon acceptance by the marine corps.

Word has been received by The Statesman that Staff Sgt. Pete H. Geiser is on his way back to Fort Stevens from his three-month training period in Fort Monroe, Va. Sgt. Geiser is driving his car through Washington, DC, NYC, and then straight across the northern states. He will arrive in Salem Sunday. Sgt. Bob Brady, who began his training

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## Where They Are What They're Doing

one week following Geiser, will return via bomber to marry Jean Anunsen. Sgt. Geiser is to be best man at Sgt. Brady's wedding.

PORTLAND, March 12 —(AP)—The Portland district navy recruiting office Thursday announced enlistments including: Lee H. Utely and Elbert H. Enyart, both Lebanon; Russell N. McPherson, Newberg; and Thomas B. Ritchey, Independence.

Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Bright have received word that their son, LeRoy Bright, has arrived safely at a Caribbean port. He has been stationed at Sheppard field, Tex.

Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Gies, Salem motorcourt owners, have received

## Garden Club Plans Show

Woodburn Committees  
To Direct Work  
Of Displays

WOODBURN—The Woodburn Garden club met Tuesday night in the city library with 22 members and the following guests present, John Henry, Gervais; Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Siegmund;

word from their son, Carl Parker Gies, who is stationed somewhere in the Pacific with the army air corps. The message contained birthday greetings to Mrs. Gies. There was no date or place of origin on the message.

Brooks; Mrs. O. Tange and Mrs. E. Evenson of Woodburn and Mrs. Evenson's mother, Mrs. Seiberlich, Minneapolis, Minn.

N. F. West was introduced as a new member. Mrs. George Timm won the vase of the month with the best arrangement of flowering shrubs and plants. Mrs. L. C. Austin will act as flower chairman for the month.

Plans were discussed for the spring flower show, although no definite date was set due to the uncertainty of the weather and growth of blooms. The following committees were appointed to make plans for the show:

Publicity — Mrs. Ray Glatt; rules and premiums—Carl Huber and Frank Covey; judges—George Timm; receiving and classification—Mrs. Fred Frenz, Mrs. N. F. West, Mrs. H. Beaman,

Mrs. H. Ticknor and Mrs. O. Butler.

Arrangements—Mrs. Carl Huber, Mrs. Joe Bohn, Mrs. George Jones, Mrs. L. Walling, Mrs. K. McGrath and Mrs. Roy Kuns; housing and property—Mrs. H. Haroldson, Mrs. Frank Covey, Mrs. H. Jones, James Livesay and George Jones.

Shrub and plant sale—Miss Mabel Jackson, Mrs. N. Zimmerle, Mrs. John Ramage and Mrs. A. Doud; hospitality—Mrs. Walter Miller; cleanup—J. J. Hall, A. Klamp, Walter Miller, Mrs. Vickers and Mrs. George Timm.

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