

Register!
War hasn't declared a moratorium on elections. Mr. Citizen Today is your last chance to register for the May primaries—at the Marion county courthouse until 5 p.m.

The Oregon Statesman

FOUNDED 1854

Whoal

ONE April 13-(P)—So many ranchers' wives have abandoned automobiles for saddle horses that the city council is receiving many requests to erect hitching racks.

NINETY-FIRST YEAR

Salem, Oregon, Tuesday Morning, April 14, 1942

Price 5c

No. 325

9 Merchant Ships Of United Nations Announced as Sunk

Losses Occur in Most of Oceans; Survivors Many

By The Associated Press
Nine United Nations vessels were reported Monday as sunk in the bitter war at sea while from the war department in Washington came the encouraging word that the heroic defenders on Corregidor island in the Philippines had accounted for several small Japanese ships and a medium-sized one.

Two of the allied ships were the American army transports Meigs, 7358 tons, and Liberty, 6211 tons. The former sank under Jap bombs on February 19 in the harbor of Port Darwin, Australia, with the loss of two men, including the master, and the latter was torpedoed twice by a Japanese U-boat then beached without loss of life near Ball on January 12.

Dispatches from Fort Ales, Brazil, told of sinkings by axis submarines last week of the American tankers T. C. McCobb, 7452 tons, and Eugene V. E. Thayer, 7138 tons; the 7890-ton British merchantman Empire Pergrine and the 2161-ton Norwegian cargo vessel Balkia.

No word was received about the McCobb or Pergrine survivors, but reports said that 26 of the Thayer's crew had been landed and that nine were missing, possibly having died in lifeboats. Twenty four of the Balkia's complement were rescued by a Swedish vessel and the Norwegian consul at Fort Ales reported that seven of the crew, including a stewardess and the ship's captain, had been killed as the attacking submarine machine-gunned the lifeboats.

Two more sinkings in the Caribbean were revealed. Advice from Lisbon reported the submarine sinking of the British tanker Peder Bogen, 9741 tons, on March 23 with 21 of its 43 crew members missing. The 21 known survivors reached Lisbon on a Spanish vessel.

The other newly reported Caribbean torpedoing was that of a ship of unnamed nationality sent to the bottom on April 6 with two killed. Ten of those aboard the ship are missing and 38 reached Nassau on Saturday.

A large British passenger liner was sunk off the United States Atlantic coast on Saturday, it was revealed, as it carried refugees from the far east. The 290 survivors brought to Charleston, S.C., said that there was no loss of life. The war department in Washington furnished the brightest allied news with the announcement of the Corregidor sinkings of Japanese ships, and from Melbourne it was learned that allied bombers had set a large enemy vessel afire at Rabaul, New Britain.

\$2,500,000 Blaze Hits Illinois Town

KEWANEE, Ill., April 13-(P)—A roaring fire swept through the heart of Kewanee's business district Monday, leaving two square blocks looking like bombing wreckage and causing losses which Fire Chief Al Stuhlsatz said might total \$2,500,000.

Convoy Flight Over Atlantic Is Described

Trip in Naval Bomber Discloses Hulks Of Sunken Ships

(Editor's Note: John A. Moroso, 3rd, is in his element—with the Atlantic fleet. This 32-year-old Associated Press and Wide World reporter, a native of Charleston, S.C., has been a seaman as well as a ship news editor. Here's his latest first-hand report on the war at sea.)

By JOHN A. MOROSO, 3rd.

ABOARD A NAVAL BOMBER OVER THE ATLANTIC, April 8 (Delayed)—(Wide World)—Like a shepherd tending his flocks, this powerful plane is mothering some merchant ships through one of the most dangerous submarine zones in the world.

As we roar along with every man scanning the sea for sign of an axis submarine, I am writing this in the waist of the throbbing ship, seated in the starboard blister—a bulging window with a machine gun for trimming.

I am surrounded with bombs, machine guns, bullets, very pistols and other tools of war. We left our base shortly after dawn for a rendezvous with the plodding, heavily-laden merchantmen, and like an arrow speeding true to its target, Lieut. H. E. McNeely, of Detroit, led us straight to the spot many miles away.

Naval rules prevent publication of certain defense features but I am allowed to say that progress is being made in combating the (Turn to Page 2, Col. 6)

'All Efforts' Urges Martin

Navy Flier Describes Pacific War; VFW Elects Officers

There's no room in America now for "politics... class warfare... social uplift," former Gov. Charles H. Martin declared here Monday night in an address before the members and auxiliary of Post 661, Veterans of Foreign Wars, at Veterans' hall.

"We're going to be pretty groggy when we start bearing the brunt of it," the retired major general said of the war. "We've got to bend all our efforts for just one thing—war. We are going to come out of this war... but we can't win with our soldiers sleeping in the mud while we sleep in feather beds."

How the fight is going in the southwest Pacific was described vividly by another speaker, Navy Lt. Elwyn Christmas, who is visiting his mother near Mt. Angel. Christmas told of piloting his patrol plane on bombing expeditions, first from the Philippines and later from Java, ending finally after successful attacks on Japanese vessels, in a crash landing at sea and an 11-day struggle to get back to his base. He is soon to continue east to Florida to serve (Turn to Page 2, Col. 6)

City Will Appeal On Tax Suit

Clarifies

Liable for Water Bureau in 1936, Court Decision

The city of Salem will appeal to the state supreme court from a decision by Circuit Judge James W. Crawford of Multnomah county holding the city liable for \$27,000 in 1936 taxes on the properties owned by the municipal water department, W. C. Winslow, one of the city's attorneys, said Monday night.

Notice of Judge Crawford's memorandum opinion was received Monday morning by District Attorney Miller E. Hayden. The suit, with the city as plaintiff and Marion county as defendant, arose more than a year ago when the water department properties were included in a foreclosure list being prepared by the county.

The city asked for a decree enjoining the county from selling the water department properties for taxes and for a declaratory judgment holding the taxes to be void.

In an eight-page opinion, Judge Crawford came to the conclusion that a statute enacted by the 1935 legislature worked to subject the water properties to 1935 taxes payable in 1936 despite the fact the city bought the system from the Oregon-Washington Water Service company on August 1, 1935.

Judge Crawford also held, however, that the county could not take over city-owned property in lieu of the taxes.

The result of the two opinions, if sustained by the supreme court, probably would be an attempt by the county by a mandamus action to force city officials to pay the long-time. (Turn to Page 2, Col. 1)

Chamber Picks Extension Man

His Problems to Be On Cantonment And Industry

Clay C. Cochran, secretary-manager of the Corvallis chamber of commerce and a former railway, timber and investment company official, was disclosed Monday noon as the man selected for the new position of business and extension manager for the Salem chamber of commerce.

The new manager was introduced to the membership at the chamber's weekly luncheon meeting by Dr. Henry E. Morris, chairman of the committee which selected him from among a list of 19 applicants. Fred D. Thielsen will continue as executive secretary of the chamber.

Pres. Carl W. Hogg of the chamber expressed the belief that Cochran, because of his many years of business and commercial club activities in Oregon and the Willamette valley and his part in paving the way for the war department's selection of the Camp Adair cantonment site, was "ideally equipped" to fill the new position.

The business and extension manager is to work out business problems arising from construction of the cantonment and to carry on a program of adding to Salem's payrolls, according to plans made by the board of directors.

A native of Council Bluffs, Ia., Cochran came to Oregon in 1911. For eight years he served as traveling freight agent for the Canadian Pacific Railway company, a position which placed him in touch with many of Salem's industries. Later he was for seven years auditor and superintendent of the Kerry Timber company and Columbia and Nehalem River railroad, one of the largest operations of its kind, with headquarters in the city.

Sprague Hits Rifle Return

PORTLAND, Ore., April 13-(P)—Gov. Charles A. Sprague of Oregon Monday protested a war department order that he said would mean the return of all rifles at state armories to government arsenals.

A telegram to the war department stated the edict is "harmful to states in the exposed western military zone." The governor asked that the 12 Oregon state guard rifle companies be allowed to keep their guns.

FDR Studies On Inflation

Admiral Land Suggests National Policy of Labor 'Freezing'

WASHINGTON, April 13-(P)—President Roosevelt Monday began intensive study of means of dealing with inflation amid mounting indications that a number of high officials within the administration were leaning strongly toward drastic, all-out measures to cope with wartime economic problems.

At the White House, where Mr. Roosevelt held down his engagement list to afford time for his studies, it was emphasized that no decisions had been reached.

Possibly indicative of sentiment in high places, however, was an assertion from Rear Admiral Emory S. Land, chairman of the maritime commission, that labor-employer relations should be "frozen" for the duration.

Less than four weeks ago, on March 18, the head of the huge wartime shipbuilding effort had told a senate committee that no labor legislation was advisable or needed. "Our labor leaders are playing ball," he said.

But Monday, Land, testifying before the house naval committee, said he thought open shop agreements, closed shop agreements and all other agreements between labor and management ought to be frozen in their present status until the war is over.

Declaring there was need for a "national labor policy," he added: "If we can get it voluntarily, so much the better; failing that, by statute."

Freezing of wages and virtually all prices but with provision for their adjustment in individual (Turn to Page 2, Col. 4)

Labor Record Here Praised

PORTLAND, April 13-(P)—Governor Sprague Monday complimented Oregon labor unions "on their excellent record in having no loss of time because of strikes in war industries."

In a letter to D. E. Nickerson, executive secretary of the Oregon State Federation of Labor, the governor praised a resolution by the organization's executive board pledging "continued and limitless support for war activities."

Sprague said Oregon's strikeless record is getting national recognition.

Clarifies



SUMNER WELLES

Friendly Policy To French Told

State Department Has Reply to Protest Of Vichy Envoy

WASHINGTON, April 13-(P)—The policy of the United States toward Frenchmen everywhere is the friendly policy of helping them to maintain, or regain, control of their own territory, the state department has informed Vichy.

The department disclosed Monday night that Sumner Welles, acting secretary of state, had outlined this policy in a note to the French ambassador replying to the latter's formal protest against establishment of a United States consulate general at Brazzaville, in French Equatorial Africa.

Free French forces are in control of French Equatorial Africa and the Cameroons, Welles pointed out, and the United States therefore is dealing with the Free French authorities there. But if the Vichy government had been in control there the United States would, as a matter of course, have dealt with Vichy in the consulate matter.

In his reply to Ambassador Gaston Henry-Haye's protest, Welles took occasion to clarify once again, the policy of the United States toward France and French possessions.

Welles pointed out that "more than ordinary friendship and confidence" have characterized the relations between the people of France and of the United States since the earliest days of this country's independence.

"The government of France and many citizens of France," Welles asserted, "assisted the people of the United States in achieving their freedom. The great principles of liberty, equality and fraternity proclaimed by the French revolution have been an inspiration throughout their national existence, and the traditional understanding between our two nations has in no small part been due to their common faith in democratic institutions and in their like devotion to the cause of human freedom."

True to its basic policy of (Turn to Page 2, Col. 1)

Bulgar Army Warned to Be Ready

NEW YORK, April 13-(P)—The new Bulgarian war minister has issued an order of the day telling the Bulgarian army "to be ready to fulfill its duty at any moment," the BBC said Monday night in quoting the Sofia radio. CBS heard the relayed BBC report.

The Bulgarian cabinet resigned Saturday to make way for Premier Bogdan Philov's new cabinet, which retained only two of his former ministers. Gen. Theodosy Daskalov, the war minister, was succeeded by Gen. Michov, former commander of the Sofia army corps.

Diplomatic quarters in Switzerland at the time said that the resigning ministers had refused to approve Adolf Hitler's program—believed to call for active Bulgarian participation in the war against Russia or Turkey or both.

Sunday's Weather

Weather forecasts withheld and temperature data delayed by army request. River Monday, -1 feet. Max. temperature Sunday 68, min., 44.

Philippine Forces Crush Enemy Ships and Stores; Jap Fleet in Bengal Bay

Larceny From PUC Charged To Cashier

Holten Released on Bail, to Enter Plea April 21

Arraigned Monday afternoon on a charge of larceny of funds from the public utilities commission, for which he had been cashier the past seven years, Edward Knute Holten was given until April 21 to enter his plea and was released under \$3000 bail.

Holten was arrested early Sunday morning following a three-hour conference with Commissioner Ormond E. Bean, State Police Capt. Walter Lansing, District Attorney Miller E. Hayden and Sephus W. Starr, head of the state auditing division. He was held in the county jail here until his arraignment before Justice of the Peace Al O. Nelson in Silverton, from whom the original warrant had been secured in the absence from Salem of Justice Joseph B. Felton.

The hearing a week from today has been scheduled for 2 p. m. No accurate check of moneys alleged to be missing is or will be available until thousands of accounts handled in the office have been investigated, officers said, but the reported shortage which brought Holten's arrest was said to be approximately \$2000.

Discovery of the alleged discrepancy in accounts was made when an employee, noting lack of a receipt sent a routine notice to Union-Pacific Stages, Inc., called attention to its failure to pay February fees amounting to \$1885.45, and the company responded with a photostatic copy of its canceled check for the payment. Three of the receipts were in the office; the missing pink duplicate was that earmarked for the auditor's records.

An attempt to locate a missing duplicate office record of the payment which should have gone to the auditor's office brought discovery that the concern's record card, too, was missing, it was said. Holten, 33, came to the public utilities commission office here April 8, 1935, from Portland.

Court Upholds Libel Law

Says False Accusation Of Racial Intolerance Is Libelous 'Per Se'

WASHINGTON, April 13-(P)—The supreme court upheld Monday a lower court decision declaring that under New York state law a false accusation of racial intolerance against a public official is libelous "per se"—that is, without any necessity of proving specific damages.

The decision was rendered last July by the federal circuit court of appeals in New York in connection with a libel suit brought by Rep. Sweeney (D-Ohio) against the Schenectady (NY) Union Star because of a published statement that he opposed the appointment of a man to a judgeship because the man was a Jew. (Neither the circuit court or supreme court passed upon the truth or falsity of the published statement; their decision merely means that the suit is to be tried on the merits.) (Turn to Page 2, Col. 3)

Many Ships Ready To Support Invasion And Harry Sealanes

Allies Continue Australian Successes In Air; Soviet Warns Japanese About 'Ideas'; RAF, Reds Continue Raids

By WILLIAM SMITH WHITE
Associated Press War Editor

The Japanese, still strongly engaged in the Philippines by Corregidor's guns and idle before Australia, stood Monday night in apparently overwhelming naval force in the Bay of Bengal in a position to support a major invasion of India and to harry the allied lines in the Arabian sea.

This westward movement to the Bay of Bengal of a substantial proportion of the enemy's total fleet—three battleships, five airplane carriers, numbers of heavy and light cruisers and several destroyer flotillas—was disclosed by Prime Minister Churchill in such terms as to make plain that the center of crisis had moved to those far waters.

Sugar Ration Blanks Out

Dealers' Regulations On Inventories Described

WASHINGTON, April 13-(P)—The forms on which more than one million sugar retailers and wholesalers will register at high schools throughout the country on April 28 and 29 were released by the office of price administration.

The registration will take place on the first two days of the seven-day period in which household consumers will register at public schools for war ration books. Sugar sales will be halted at midnight April 27 for about one week to resume on about May 5 for sales under the ration system.

Distribution of the wholesalers' and retailers' forms will begin at once. They are expected to be available in every locality through local rationing boards, several days before the registration. Different forms will be used for registering institutions and industrial firms on the same dates and at the same places.

The aim of the retailers' and wholesalers' form is to assure equitable distribution of sugar by fixing an "allowable" inventory for each dealer. The "allowable" inventory is intended to be a reasonable working supply.

If the "allowable" inventory is greater than the supply a dealer has on hand, he will obtain sugar purchase certificates to make up the difference. If it is smaller than the amount on hand, the dealer will be required to surrender stamps obtained through the sale of sugar to householders (Turn to Page 2, Col. 2)

Death Brought By Collision

GERVAIS—Lawrence Binder, about 25, an employe of Carter Keene, St. Louis farmer, was instantly killed about noon Monday when he drove his car in front of a freight train.

Considerable trouble was experienced in freeing his body from the car, which was carried approximately 300 feet by the train.

Two Pioneers Die at Homes Here

Winsford Taylor Rigdon, 93, and Douglas C. Minto, 80, two of Salem's oldest and best known pioneers, died within a 24-hour period Sunday night and Monday morning, the former at 7:30 p. m. Sunday and Minto at 9:15 a. m. Monday.

Funeral services for Rigdon, who died at his home, 809 North Winter street, are to be held from the Rigdon mortuary Wednesday at 10:30 a. m. with Dr. J. C. Harrison of the First Methodist church officiating.

Christian Science services for Minto, who died at his home, 821 Saginaw street, will be held Wednesday at 1:30 p. m. from the Clough-Barwick

chapel with the Elks lodge assisting. He was a charter member of Salem lodge, No. 236, BPOE.

Born in Iowa, February 16, 1849, W. T. Rigdon came to Oregon with his parents at the age of one year. They settled on a donation land claim east of Woodburn. His father died two years after the family arrived in Oregon and as a boy he helped his mother in farming in various parts of Marion county. He attended Willamette university for a year in his early twenties, supporting himself by odd jobs. In addition to teaching school in different parts of Marion county, he was at various times engaged

in the drug business in Jefferson, operated a sawmill there and was manager of the farmers' warehouse.

He married Mattie Jane Smith, Jefferson, on August 28, 1878. In 1882 he served in the house of representatives from Marion county, and was with the United States customs service in Portland from 1884 to 1886.

In 1889 he moved to Salem and was for a time associated with Edward Bellinger in the hardware business and later engaged in real estate activities. He started in the undertaking business in 1893, and was at the time of his death as (Turn to Page 2, Col. 4)

'Repulse' and 'Wales' in Losing Fight



T.L. picture, radioed from Moscow to New York, is described as having been made by a Jap flier during the December 10 air attack which sank the British capital ships Repulse (left) and Prince of Wales (right). Japs said photo shows latter burning while bombs fall at her stern. Photo indicates both ships traveling fast, Repulse making sharp turn. Japs said Repulse was heeled on her side.