

Your Service Men column means a lot to us fellows away from home. writes a Salem man in naval training. He echoes many such notes received by The Statesman.

Sunday sunset 6:25 p. m. Monday sunrise 6:24 a. m. Weather: Fri. max. temp. 59, min. 46. Fri. rain .11 in. Sat. river 12.5 ft. Weather data restricted by army request.

Message Slated By Snell

Taxation Problems To Be Discussed Further Monday

By RALPH C. CURTIS

Gov. Earl Snell will transmit to the legislature, when its members reconvene on Monday, a special message.

"The message," Gov. Snell said Saturday, "will be a further amplification of my views and recommendations in connection with the important problem of taxation."

There was no further revelation as to the message's content.

Beyond curiosity as to the nature of the impending recommendations, on the surface there is nothing about such an announcement to set tongues wagging. Other governors have sent special

LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR

Third readings Monday: In Senate: SB 36, 116, 121. HB 62, 232. In House: HB 30, 85, 27, 99, 91, 142, 146, 165, 170, 204, 297, 299, 302.

messages to other legislatures. Yet tongues were set wagging, and in this wise:

Obviously, Gov. Snell is going to advocate a taxation program. The questions are, what program, and how?

As food for speculation upon these questions, the wagging tongues found available this background:

Taxation is not merely "an important problem" at this session; it is "the important problem." In recognition, the legislature's presiding officers appointed highly capable taxation committees, composed of men who not only know about taxes, but have confidence in what they know. Yet not content with what they already know, these committees have dug deep into all phases of the taxation problem since receiving their appointments.

They have had, in addition, the assistance of Guy Gordon, whose "splendid services... in connection with matters of taxation" Gov. Snell acknowledged in his inaugural message.

On the basis of what they knew and what they learned and with Mr. Gordon's assistance, these able committees have worked out, without fanfare, a taxation program. Through there have been hints and shrewd guesses, its details have not been announced. This is for the reason that they are still subject to change; but the impression is that the program has rather solidly "jelled."

Why then, a special message on taxation?

Oddly enough, the cry has been raised that there is "no leadership" and no program. There is bound to be suspicion that the cry emanates from those who know there is a program, and don't pretty well what it is, and don't like it.

The republican party is now responsible for Oregon's government. From republicans sensitive to this responsibility and concerned over the "no leadership" cry has come an appeal to Gov. Snell to assume leadership. The special message is the result.

Still—what program, and whose? Though the final score is not yet in, Gov. Snell's recommendations on other subjects have not, in the main, fared well in the legislature to date. Is he planning to challenge the judgment and decisions of these quite independent-minded tax committees, "stick his neck out" further? (Turn to Page 2—Story A)

Eisenhower Heads NW Africa; Giraud Arranges Unity Step; Allies Pushed

By EDWARD D. BALL

LONDON, Feb. 6.—(AP)—The allies set the stage for the impending showdown in Tunisia Saturday by naming Lt. Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower commander-in-chief of a new north African theatre of operations shortly after the Africa took a hopeful turn in the actual fighting, ho

K. Bayne Joins Applicants for Postmastership

List Closes Tuesday; Some of Former Seekers Undecided

By STEPHEN C. MERGLER

The second civil service list of applicants for the Salem postmastership is to be closed Tuesday with at least one new man entering the competition.

Kenneth Bayne, long-time worker on the Marion county democratic central committee and frequent candidate for county office, is adding his name to the list, friends have been advised.

The complete list is obtainable only from commission offices at Washington, DC, at the close of the filing period.

Joseph J. Gallagher, benefits supervisor for the state unemployment commission, who was the only one of eight applicants to be certified for appointment following the original examinations late last year, is again in the running. He didn't have to file a new application.

Paul Lynch, deputy collector of internal revenue, whose office is in the postoffice building, has filed a new application, and so (Turn to Page 2—Story C)

Salem High's Speakers Win At Linfield

McMINNVILLE, Ore., Feb. 6.—(AP)—Salem dominated the 11th annual high school speech tournament Saturday at Linfield college, winning four events and placing in numerous others.

Senior oratory—Won by Jane Huston, Salem; Nevitt Smith, Salem, second; David Dawson, Medford, third.

Radio speaking—Won by Jacques Autrey, Hillsboro; Lloyd Bomachopky, Dallas, second; Alice Rose, Salem, and John Poo, Sheridan, third.

Senior extemporaneous—Won by Laroy Dillan, Hillsboro; John Brown, Salem, second.

Junior extemporaneous—Won by Don Pollack, Forest Grove; Dick Stanton, Grants Pass, second.

Poetry—Won by Betty Lou Morris, Sheridan; Patty Lou Stockhoff, Sheridan, second; Jean Driggs, Salem, third.

Junior oratory—Won by Nancy Brown, Salem; Jean Driggs, Phyllis Graham and Erna Wolverson, all Salem, second.

Humorous declamation—Won by Bill Burns, Salem; Pat Leary, Salem, second; Jack Horn, Roseburg, third.

Senior declamation—Won by Patricia Lutrup, Sheridan; Alice Rose, Salem, second; Jean Barham, Salem, and Betty Lou Morris, Sheridan, third.

Senior debate—Won by Robert Meyers and Richard Smirhwaite, both Beaverton; Jack Horn and Varney Baker, Roseburg, second. After dinner speaking—Won by John Brown, Salem; Bill Burns, Salem, second; Nevitt Smith, Salem, third.

the allies suffered a setback when the Germans captured a strategic mountain from the British First army 20 miles south of Pont-du-Faha. But the British announced success with submarines sinking three more axis supply ships and a tanker in the Mediterranean.

The Algiers radio broadcast a report that British Eighth army troops were "a good 60 miles inside Tunisia," after crossing the border from Libya but this lacked official confirmation.

Gen. Henri Giraud established a new war committee in French North and West Africa, supplanting the old imperial council

formed by the late Adm. Jean Darlan.

Giraud's step apparently left the way open for the Fighting French under Gen. Charles De Gaulle to be represented, and North African dispatches reported that Gen. Georges Catroux of the Fighting French national committee conferred with Giraud in Algiers Saturday on taking a post in the French African government.

Later dispatches, however, said it was reported that Catroux would not take a place in the Giraud government, and Fighting French spokesmen in London said there was no question of his accepting such a post.

Both Giraud's new committee and the separation of the US North African theatre of operations from the European theatre were seen as direct results of the Roosevelt-Churchill Casablanca conference.

The full meaning of Eisenhower's appointment was not immediately clear, but London military circles did not interpret it as a complete and final answer as to who would direct the US, British and French forces in the showdown battle for Tunisia.

(In Washington the war department said the new theatre of operations would include the northwestern section of North Africa

(Turn to Page 2—Story B)

Dogfights Down 26 Of Enemy

No Allied Fighters Lost Over Guinea; Bombers Attack

By TOM YARBROUGH

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN AUSTRALIA, Sunday, Feb. 7.—(AP)—In the biggest single day's air battle to date in the southwest Pacific 26 Japanese planes were destroyed and 15 damaged over Wau, New Guinea Saturday. Not a single allied fighter was lost in the fierce dogfighting which lasted all day.

The allied fighters were Lightnings, Alacobras and Kittyhawks; their victims were Zeros and medium bombers.

It was an all-out attempt by the Japs to ruin the Wau airfield around which ground fighting has been continuing on a small scale for several days. There was no ground push synchronized with Saturday's big air attack and fighting was limited to patrol activity.

The total bag of enemy planes consisted of: Twenty one fighters and three medium bombers shot down by planes and two by anti-aircraft guns; Damaged or probably destroyed—12 fighters and three medium bombers.

Fighting occurred over a wide area around Wau, which is 35 miles southwest of Salamaua. The planes battled at altitudes as high as 18,000 and as low as 2000 feet, with planes swirling and rolling like gargantuan tumbleweed.

This air battle was surpassed in size only by the great three-day allied attack on a Jap convoy off Lae, New Guinea, January 6 through January 9 when 133 enemy planes were downed or damaged.

American pilots had a stroke of (Turn to Page 2—Story G)

Committee to Investigate 'Subversives'

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6.—(AP)—President Roosevelt established an official committee Saturday to handle "complaints of subversive activity" by federal employees but this action came far from satisfying congressmen who have been pressing for a housecleaning.

"What we need is fewer investigations and more action on investigations already made," commented Rep. Hendricks (D-Fla.).

"Congress expects to press this fight until real action is taken and we are not going to accept a whitewash by any board."

Chairman Dies (D-Tex.) of the house committee on un-American activities expressed the view that instead of a committee of departmental officials which the president appointed, the public would have "more confidence" in a board composed of representatives of the American legion, the CIO and AFL and business groups.

Mr. Roosevelt set up the committee in an executive order which directed it to "serve as an advisory and coordinating agency in all matters pertaining to the investigation and disposition of complaints of subversive activity on the part of employees of the executive branch of the federal government," except the war and navy departments.

The committee will act in cases involving those departments upon request of their secretaries.

The committee, set up within the justice department, consists of Herbert Gaston, assistant secretary of the treasury; Oscar L. Chapman, assistant secretary of interior; Rudolph M. Evans, member of the federal reserve board of governors; Francis C. Brown, solicitor of the federal deposit insurance corporation, and John Q. Cannon, jr., legal adviser to the civil service commission.

Ed Saul, 47, resident of 70 Liberty road, was able to crawl to the porch of the house at 1815 South Liberty to call for help after a fall had resulted in a compound fracture of his left leg between the knee and the ankle. City first aiders, called at 11 p. m., took him to Salem General hospital.

Two Men Hurt In Accidents

Howard Rose, 50, Capitol cabins, West Salem, was in the surgery at Salem General hospital this morning after catching his wrist in a roll as he worked at Kay Woolen mills shortly before midnight Saturday. City first aid men, who were called to the scene of the accident, said they could not judge the extent of the injury although fellow workmen believed the hand was almost severed from the wrist.

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Pendleton Plane Crashes in Field

PENDLETON, Ore., Feb. 6.—(AP)—A pursuit plane from Pendleton army air base failed to come out of a power dive Saturday and crashed in a farm field three miles northwest of here.

The pilot was killed instantly as the plane scattered wreckage over a wide area and burst into flame. Witnesses said the plane had made an inside loop but failed to straighten out after going into the dive.

Air base officers said the pilot's name would be withheld until the next of kin had been notified.

'Singing Will Continue'

MIAMI BEACH, Fla., Feb. 6.—(AP)—Several residents of Miami Beach have filed written complaints recently about the early morning singing of the troops in trains here.

Saturday they received their answer from Col. Ralph M. Parker, commanding the Miami Beach air base command.

Said Colonel Parker in an open letter:

"The singing will continue. "Moreover—please arise at the first sound of military activity each morning and get down on your knees with all the members of your household who are disturbed thereby, and offer thanks to God Almighty, with me and all the rest of us, that these are Americans singing American songs, and not Germans or Japanese singing victory songs in American streets."

OSC and OCE Train for War

Engineers, WAACS To Be Sent for Special Work

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6.—(AP)—The war manpower commission announced Saturday approval of 281 non-federal schools, colleges and universities for utilization by the war and navy departments for specialized training of men and women needed in the armed forces.

Located throughout the country, the institutions were first to be selected by a joint committee of the army, navy and manpower commission for the new war training program. Many others will be designated later. Every institution in the country is being considered for possible use.

The commission emphasized that actual contracts will be let only to institutions whose facilities prove acceptable to the interested branch of the services.

Contracts for training made before creation of the committee remain in force. There are between 600 and 700 of these. Renewals will clear through the committee:

Among the 281 approved are: To the war department for training engineers.

Alaska: University of Alaska. Idaho: University of Idaho. Montana: Montana State college. Oregon: Oregon State college.

Washington: State college of Washington, University of Washington.

To the war department for the training of army aviation cadets. Idaho: College of Idaho.

Montana: Billings Polytechnic Institute, Montana State college, Montana State university, Northern Montana college.

Washington: Central Washington college, St. Martin's college, State College of Washington.

To the navy department for training centers for WAAC trainees. Oregon: Oregon College of Education.

To the navy department for training engineers. Montana: Montana School of Mines. Washington: University of Washington.

Reds Storm Nazi Lines South of Rostov; Noose May Deny 'Dunkerque'

Soviet Drives Roll On



Russian forces continued early today to push closer to Kursk (1) as additional railway junctions were captured on the way to Kharkov (2). Columns drove into the outskirts of Rostov (3) and westward in the Caucasus (4) to trap German troops, threatened with a "Dunkerque" at the Kerch straits. Berlin admitted Russian troops were in Novorossisk, port on the red-controlled Black sea.—Associated Press Telegram.

Both Navies Lose Ships In Pacific; Knox Says War With Subs Grows

By WILLIAM T. PEACOCK

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6.—(AP)—American and Japanese naval forces sparring in the southwest Pacific have each knocked out some warships on the other side, Secretary Knox said Saturday, although no major clash has yet developed.

Discussing the situation at a press conference, the navy secretary first said the losses were "minor in everything—surface and air." Then he added that they might be called "moderate, if you want to change the word," but emphasized that they included "nothing significant—nothing of a major character."

He did not amplify but his statement seemed to mean neither side had lost any large vessel, such as an aircraft carrier or battleship, and that Japanese claims of having sunk two American battleships are pure fabrication.

Knox also told reporters:

(1) The Germans now have more submarines at sea than last June, the month of heaviest allied losses, with large concentrations south of Iceland, on the route to Britain, and in the mid-Atlantic on the routes to north Africa.

The navy is "straining every effort" to produce sufficient anti-submarine vessels to combat this menace upon which Hitler undoubtedly is counting heavily.

Although Knox referred to last June's ship losses in speaking of the large number of Nazi U-boats now operating, he did not imply that current losses were at the same rate. In fact, he commented, as Secretary of War Stimson previously had said, losses on the north Atlantic route to Russia had been reduced.

He also said that Brazil was making good progress in combating submarine activities off the South American coast.

(2) He did not believe the Japanese had increased their strength in the Aleutians. This was in response to a question from a reporter who remarked that recent navy communications had reported considerable Japanese air activity in that area.

A communique read at the conference related that five enemy planes bombed American positions in the Aleutians February 4, but inflicted no damage. That night a US force of Liberator heavy and Mitchell medium bombers, with fighter escort, bombed the Jap base at Kiska and shot down three of five enemy planes which engaged them. The Japanese also lost another plane to an American reconnaissance aircraft.

Covering also attacks by forces on Guadalcanal in the Solomon, the communique said American patrols had advanced (Turn to Page 2—Story E)

Columns Surge Within 10 Miles of City

200,000 Nazis Said In Caucasus; Reds Approach Kharkov

By The Associated Press

LONDON, Sunday, Feb. 7.—(AP)—The Red army stormed forward at the last German defenses of Rostov south of the Don Sunday and sent flying columns southward toward the Kerch straits to cut off the seaward escape of a large Nazi Caucasian army already virtually caught in a Russian noose by a lightning thrust to the Sea of Azov.

A special Russian communique recorded Saturday night by the Soviet Monitor said the Russian forces reached the Sea of Azov south of Rostov, cutting the Germans off in the Caucasus, and the regular communique early Sunday said columns were turning south toward the Kerch straits.

Adolf Hitler thus was presented with the task of extricating his entire Caucasus force, estimated up to 200,000 men, in his first "Dunkerque"—and after his disaster of Stalingrad.

At the same time, the communique announced, the Red army surged to within 10 miles of Rostov from the south by the capture of Bataisk and burst across the Donets river in a sweep which threatened not only the encirclement of Rostov and the Donets mining basin but also the approaches to the Crimea.

In the latter thrust they came within 43 miles of Kharkov, industrial capital of the Ukraine, with the capture of Balakleya, on one of the railways radiating southeast of Kharkov.

The Russians, in their drive to the Sea of Azov south of Rostov, announced that they had captured the town and port of Yeisk, 65 miles southwest of Rostov and the terminal of a branch railway from the main Rostov-Baku line.

With all railways and roads in their possession the Russians thus had cut off the large German force still holding Krasnodar and the Black sea naval base of Novorossisk in the Caucasus after a retreat of 375 miles from the highwater mark of their invasion.

Escape by sea from Novorossisk or across the Kerch straits into the Crimea were the only exits left to the Germans, and with the Russian fleet still in being in the Black sea it was a question whether the German high command had the naval facilities to attempt an evacuation such as saved the British army at Dunkerque in 1940.

(By German account, the Black sea naval base of Novorossisk already was invested by Russian troops which landed under the Taman peninsula leading to the Kerch strait, the Berlin radio admitted.)

Planes Wreck Burma Enemy

BOMBAY, Feb. 6.—(AP)—US heavy bombers have wrecked Japanese communications between north and south Burma so completely that the enemy has been compelled to rearrange his defensive forces while an effort is made to repair.

Two weeks ago Maj. Earl L. Tash, of Walla Walla, Wash., led an attack on the Myittha railway bridge across the Irrawaddy, just south of Mandalay—sole connection for north-south traffic—and dropped at least one thousand-pound bomb on a span in mid-stream. Photographs show the span dropped into the river.

Since then the Japanese have been working frantically to repair the bridge. Before their evacuation the British had destroyed the foot bridge at Myittha, but the rail span remained.

The Japanese had built runways on the railway bridge and used it both as a highway and rail crossing. Thus the American bombs cut both road and rail traffic.

Willamette and Creeks Rise

Snow which fell in fair quantity but did not cling in downtown Salem late Saturday night indicated removal, temporarily at least, of the threat of a second 1943 flood, unofficial weather observers declared as the Willamette hovered close to the 14-foot mark.

Silverton on Saturday was experiencing the worst flood of the winter there to date. Silver creek rose more than two feet from 11 a. m. to 7:30 p. m. and was higher than it had been even during the disastrous November high water.

Basements and lawns in the Geiser addition were flooded. The Salem-Silverton lower road was under water from the Pud-

ding river and was not in use early Saturday night.

The Abies was out of its banks and over the highway on the Mt. Angel road although traffic was still getting through at 8 p. m.

Salem felt the flood threat as overburdened sewers backed up at the city's edge, where new residential connections, some of them allowed when installation of new mains seemed imminent, had combined with high streams and heavy rainfall to flood basements.

PORTLAND, Feb. 6.—(AP)—Meteorologist E. L. Wells predicted the Santiam river will rise one foot above the 14-foot flood level at Jefferson Saturday night, but will cause little damage.

He said the Willamette river rose slightly above flood stage at Harrisburg Friday, but receded during the night.

The ice bridge across the Columbia river at The Dalles went out Saturday and port officials guarded against ice piling up against wharves. Ferry service was resumed after nearly two weeks' lapse.

A wind and rainstorm occurred here Friday night. Tree surgeons were called to bind up a large shade tree that split 30 feet above the ground and threatened to fall on an apartment building.

The Portland weather bureau predicted a moderate rise in the Willamette river above Oregon City throughout the next 24 hours.