(Every Day on Page 1)

Sat. sunset 6:44

Sun. sunrise 8:04

Showdown Near Yanks Halt Rommel, Form Line On Passage Of Big Truck' Bill

Report Expected Monday; Leaders Aver 'No Change'; Gas, Oil Shortage Stressed

By STEPHEN C. MERGLER

The 1943 legislature's "big truck" bill, HB220, appeared headed for an early and violent showdown in the house Friday night following a joint house-senate hearing at which army, navy and interstate commerce commission representatives urged removal by statue of normal length and weight restrictions in

House to Make

Of Cut in Tax

Minority Report to

Be Included; Small

Loans Charge Holds

By RALPH CURTIS

tatives through introduction of

majority and minority reports, it

The majority report signed by

vould be no reduction in 1945.

The minority report will rec-

ommend passage of a bill intro-

duced by Rep. John Hall early

in the session, amended so as

to provide for a 25 per cent re-

duction without change in rates,

for income tax payments due

this year; and a rate reduction

of 1 per cent in each bracket.

effective in 1944 and thereafter.

This would reduce total re-

ceipts, it was estimated, 20.81

(Turn to Page 2-Story D)

CHUNGKING, Feb. 19-A Chin-

ese high command said Friday

that all the Japanese drives in

central, southern and southwest-

ern China had been slowed won

or thrown into reverse, although

costly fighting continued in some

Bloody battles were being

fought in northern Kiansu prov-

ince, north of Shanghai, as the

Japanese tried to compress a 45-

through the lake country from

Paoying to Fowning near the sea.

The fighting in western Yun-

nan, where the Japanese were

trying to extend their grip along

more intense. But one column

which moved up to the Salween

withdrew after an artillery ex-

change across the stream, and

north of Tengyueh, also on the

attempting new expeditions from

their Ichang and Shasi bases on

were in pursuit of one column after killing 400 of the invaders.

out to the south from the Yangtze

Arraignment Next

ALBANY, Feb. 19 - (AP) - Linn

Robert E. Lee Folkes next week

with first degree murder in the

Week for Folkes

port of Hosueh was unable to

west side of the river.

make any progress.

thrusts had been halted.

revenue committee.

"Size of the bite" in income tax

It is not satisfactory that these restrictions remain lifted only by the present temporary order which was put into effect last year after the governor had conferred with army and navy officials as to their requirements, F. Decision, Size E. Landsburg, principal spokesman at the hearing, declared.

Under the existing condition, with only a temporary relaxation of length-weight limitations in effect, Oregon operators decline to make the expenditure required to increase to maximum the capacity of their trucks and trailers, Landsburg asserted. They would convert their equipment to greater carrying capacity if expanded weight-length regulations were made "permanent" by adoption of HB220, he

Declaring they were not inter- was determined Friday through ested in the political side of the action taken by the taxation and state's perennial argument between the truckers and the railroads, the army and navy spokes- six members of the committee will men urged that by one means or support a bill which was being another the way be cleared for drafted Friday, providing for 10 to help eliminate increasingly dif- in rates, upon income taxes payficult tieups in transportation.

Probability of an acute shortage of gasoline, fuel oil and other petroleum products in the Pacific northwest due to switching of railroad tank cars to the Atlantic seaboard and the likelihood that Pacific coast ocean tanker service may be sharply curtailed was em-

Speaker William M. McAllister said the disputed bill probably would be reported out of committee a second time today in the house and put up for

While the hearing was closed to all but members of the legislature and of the press, few of the witnesses' remarks were requested to Chinese Slow. be withheld from publication and be withheld from publication and these dealt with military informa-

Obvious opponents of the truck bill and other questioners directed Jap Drives most of their attention at Landsburg, who, it was brought out, formerly was an NRA truck industry officer in the state of Washington and prior to that service was at various times employed by truck agencies and motor car com-

"If I had it in my power, I'd change things over immediately," Landsburg said in answer to one question, and, to another, he dened that any bottlenecks in shipping were being created by federal regulations.

The ICC officer, who is also mile semi-circular line running district allocation officer for the office of defense transportation, said Oregon truck line operators The Chinese said all the Japanese would order and could obtain 30 oil trucks and 35 trailers under a special war production authorization just made, if the legislature passed the truck bill. Other- the Burma road and were moving wise, he said, the allocation would in several columns west of the go elsewhere. No new trucks that Salween river, also was growing meet Oregon's peacetime regulations are available, he added.

The state's present emergency order allows truck and trailer combinations up to 60 feet long and 17,000 pounds gross weight, approximately the specifications that would be authorized by the bill in dispute. The present statutory limits are 50 feet and 54,000

Leaders in both houses expressed the opinion after the hearing that "no votes have been changed." Speaker Willbare majority last Tuesday when he asked that the bill be referred back to committee for Friday night's hearing. He said at that time that he had just received a telephone call from the Los Angeles office of the war saying that that agency and

The army plea Friday night was keynoted by Col. Clarence P. Fourth air force, San Francisco, on an indictment charging him can carry bombs, it was decided who said all the army asked was that the legislature guarantee "to make necessary transportation and F. James.

"If you will assure us of the an indictment yesterday against



grocery shelves for one week after

Saturday midnight in preparation

not serious enough, however, to

interfere with the canned goods

rationing, and they proceeded

with the program. The point

values of the rationed articles

will be announced Sunday and

published in the Monday morn-

ing newspapers. The public will

register for the new ration books

The Saturday midnight sales

suspension will affect all canned

In the following eight days, peo-

fresh fruits and vegetables, cer-

lima beans, peas, tomatoes, egg-

Coupled with the fact that ra-

ed to shift considerable consumer

(Turn to Page 2-Story A)

LONDON, Feb. 19 -(A)- The

RAF delivered a heavy cargo of

Thursday night while other Brit-

coasts and inland communications

The Wilhelmshaven raid was a

repeat performance of the heavy

assault a week earlier and the

72nd attack of the war on the

sprawling port which has pro-

across France and Belgium.

RAF Slashes

Coast, Ships

citrus fruits except grapefruit.

starting Monday.

and canned soups.

rationed canned supplies.

Canned Goods off Shelf Tonight; Florida Freeze Hits Fresh Food Supply Group to Find eduction will be put squarely up to the Oregon house of represen-

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19-(AP)-Housewives, confronted by twin freeze, have their last chance Saturday to stock up on canned fruits and vegetables in advance of rationing. Officials said Friday that stocking up is approved so long as it stays within reasonable family needs.

A government "freeze" will take these canned goods off the

able in 1943 and 1944. Barring Soldier Help further legislative action, there In Crops Said Agreed by FR

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19-(AP)-President Roosevelt was reported Friday to have agreed that soldiers should help harvest crops in regions where there is a shortage

Chairman Fulmer (D-SC) of the house agriculture committee said Mr. Roosevelt endorsed this idea in principle in a discussion with him at the White House, but suggested there was no need for legislation since the matter could be handled by executive order.

Mr. Roosevelt himself had indicated at his press conference earlier that he was backing the army firmly in its controversy with some congressional elements over the question of limiting the size of the armed forces, and suggested that older school children plus the unrationed foods which must shoulder a large share of the will remain on sale, including food production job.

He told reporters that the size the army should be at the end of 1943 was decided last August by present may be sold without rethe dictates of military necessity, and the decision had not been

Food production was understood to have figured in a conference which the chief executive's top economic advisers held during the day, but if any decisions were reached they were not disclosed. Some members of this group, the economic stabilization board headed by James F. Byrnes, hinted that protracted discussion of the 48-hour week had prevented them from going deeply into the

The house defeated by a tie vote, 109 to 109, a motion by Rep. there was no change in positions Dirkson (R-III) to instruct the agriculture committee to draft a measure scrapping the administra-In Hupeh province in central tion's entire farm program and China, where the Japanese were substituting a new one.

the Yangtze, the Chinese said they Lone Enemy Another enemy column which set Over Sydney

SYDNEY, Australia, Saturday Feb. 20 - (AP) - An enemy plane which, the government said, apparently came from a submarine was fired on Friday night by

A blackout was ordered in Sydney. The plane first flew over the County District Attorney Harlow Rembla area. "As planes from submarine

"lower 13" slaying of Mrs. Rich- later hour," said Maj. Gen. A. C. The county grand jury returned South Wales lines of commu

When Russian troops swarmed into the Ukraine steel center of Kharkov last Tuesday, they ended the nazi hold that had lasted since the fall of 1941. This photo shows German tanks entering Kharkov in 1941.-IIN

Own Tax Plan

Pay-as-You-Go Gets Committee Favor; Skip Disliked

for the start of point rationing WASHINGTON, Feb. 19-(A)-All proposed pay-as-you-go tax plans, including one that would have At the same time a freeze of nature was reported by the agriculcanceled out one income tax year ture department Friday to have completely, were rejected by the damaged severely the Florida winhouse ways and means committer crops of fresh vegetables counttee Friday, and a subcommittee ed upon heavily to supplement the appointed to draft an acceptable ompromise. Officials said the situation was

The plans voted down included modified form of one submitted by Beardsley Ruml, chairman of the Federal Reserve bank of New York, which would by-pass

However, the Ruml plan supporters were not downcast, and privately expressed confidence because of the support it received in the committee. The ways and means members were pledged to secrecy as to the number of votes and frozen fruits and vegetables, each plan received. dried fruits, canned baby foods

(Turn to Page 2-Story B)

ple are expected to live on their Toulon Placed accumulated stocks of these foods **Under Siege** eals, bread, milk and meat. Meat

is to be rationed later but for the The cold spell in Florida was re- naval base city of Toulon on the ported to have virtually wiped Mediterranean coast, the Russian out the crop of snap beans and to agency Tass said Friday night in have caused varying degrees of a Moscow broadcast heard by the damage to celery, cabbage, lettuce, FCC.

The Dakar radio was quoted by the FCC as saying earlier that 700 plant, early potatoes, berries and Catalina bombers were over the persons had been arrested by the gestapo and Vichy police during raids Thursday night, and that tioning of canned goods is expectraid which started fires that leap-"German authorities are preparing ed 500 feet high and could be the civil evacuation of the town

The Berlin radio in a broadcast recorded by the Associated Press said that reports of clashes in Toulon where the French navy scuttled its ships last November were

The Germans presumably were taking measures at Toulon simiblockbusters on the Wilhelmshav- lar to those taken at Marseille en U-boat base and shipyards recently.

Leave Air

were lost. The Germans conceded broadcast their first program as casualties were suffered "particularly in the surrounding localities" Freeman F. Go and claimed nine planes were Charles J. Correll, 52, have ap-Strong intruder squadrons five nights a week.

bombed railways and shipping in Correll, a one-time bricklayer, the Dunkerque area and hit a wrote all their sketches on his convey between Calais and Cap typewriter. Gosden formerly was you didn't take a look yourself. gas we need some other way, I'll the Los Angeles dining car cook be satisfied," the colonel added. Warning that coastwise tanker (Turn to Page 2—Story C) the colonel added. (Turn to Page 2—Story C) the colonel satisfied of the prominent when an enemy submarine shelled to return.

Gris Nez, where results were differed in that a tobacco and later an automobile the first in Sydney since last June ficult to observe. Two fighters and submarine shelled a coastal command plane failed to return.

Any report of whether or not the first in Sydney since last June when a fireman was asphyxiated resistance was planned in that salesman. Their radio audiences when a fireman was asphyxiated resistance was planned in that salesman. Their radio audiences while fighting a fresh outbreak area. The nazis said Montgomery when an enemy submarine shelled to return.

The last January 23.

Any report of whether or not the first in Sydney since last June while fighting a fresh outbreak area. The nazis said Montgomery when an enemy submarine shelled to return.

Bombers Drift 81 Days RECIFE, Brazil, Feb. 19-(P)

Smash

Four Ships Struck;

Two Left Blazing;

By MURLIN SPENCER

IN AUSTRALIA, Saturday,

Feb. 20-(AP)-Striking at Japan's.

vital merchant marine off Buin

in the Solomon islands, Gen.

Douglas MacArthur's heavy

bombers Friday damaged four

cargo ships aggregating 27,000

Two of the vessels, one of 9000

tons and the other of 7000 tons,

were left blazing from the shat-

tering force of 500-pound bombs.

troop transport, were attacked off

Gasmata and Cape Gloucester,

New Britain, in the face of a Jap-

anese fighter escort and the re-

sults of the attack were not ob-

The Fortresses dropped down to

a low altitude despite heavy fire

A Consolidated B-25 heavy

bomber stirred up a hornet's

nest in the attack on Gasmata,

but returned without getting

stung. It found a 5000-ton mer-

chantman in the harbor and at-

ack-ack fire from the ship.

on it and a vicious fight ensued

were seen falling in flames into

the sea and a third was claimed

downed. The bomber returned

"Our heavy and medium bomb

attack on enemy shipping and

airdromes," said the noon com-

nunique from General MacArth-

"Attacking from extremely low

anti-aircraft fire, our heavy units

scored direct hits with 500-pound

combs on four enemy cargo ships

aggregating 27,000 tons. One ves-

sel of 9000 tons received two di-

rect hits and was left burning

from bow to stern; another of

7000 tons was struck twice, result-

ing in fire and heavy smoke pour-

ing from the side; a third of 8000

dispersal bays at Kahili and the

balance of the island and the sea-

plane base, causing heavy explo-

sions and fires visible for 30 miles.

Lack of aerial opposition possi-

bly could be explained by the fact

Kahili airdrome on Thursday for

more than two hours in a heavy

seen from 50 miles away.

to carry through their daring at-

tack on the ships.

Two other Japanese ships, a

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS

Airdrome Raided

Ships

-One American and two Dutch survivors of an allied ship have reached here, weak and thin, after 81 days in a lifeboat from which two of their shipmates were washed to their deaths by

The boat contained a few rusted fish-hooks they had used with strips of their clothing as lines to catch enough fish to prevent starvation.

When rescued by a warship they had gone five days without water. One of the Dutchmen had lost 70 pounds in weight.

The amazing story of the survival of this trio for 81 days in an open lifeboat surpasses that of two British seamen who were rescued in the Bahamas in November, 1940, after being adrift for 70 days.

Soviets Sweep 5000-ton merchantman and a small troop transport, were attacked off

Obovan Surrounded; Reds Take Towns In Orel Sector

By The Associated Press

LONDON, Feb. 19 - The red army has cleared the last German soldier from the Kursk-Kharkov railroad and highway with the seizure of Oboyan, and has pushed on 12 miles due west of Kharkov in its continuing sweep toward the Dnieper river, a special tacked in the face of heavy Moscow communique recorded by Then 12 Zeros suddenly jumped with the result that two Zeros

Oboyan, 35 miles south Kursk, was surrounded and its nazi garrison either wiped out or taken prisoner. Thus "the Kursk- tains as high as 4000 feet which Kharkov railway and highroad flank the pass leading from Feritaken prisoner. Thus "the Kurskhave been completely cleared of ana to Tebessa, the latter in Althe enemy," the communique said. geria. ers struck in a coordinated night

Lubotin, 12 miles west of Kharkov, and Merefa, 15 miles southwest of Kharkov, also fell to the Russians as they cleaned out an entire north-south serles of springboards to facilitate ltitudes in the face of strong their push toward the Dnieper river, considered the next best German defensive line in southern Russia.

Oboyan had been by-passed by Russian units driving to the west. One soviet column already had captured Lgov, 40 miles west of Kursk, and 50 miles northwest of Oboyan. Another red army group had taken Graivoron, 60 miles (Turn to Page 2-Story E)

Death Toll 29 hull. In addition, ships and In Bomber's Crash, Fire

probable death toll in the Pacific northwest's worst aerial disaster There was no attempt at inter- rose Friday to 29-possibly 30ception. All our planes returned." Boeing field officials told of the tragic suspense that gripped the tower control room Thursday as that prior to Friday night's raid, a burning Boeing four-motored bomber tried desperately to reach munique continued, "operations the field for an emergency land-

> after the bomber radio operator front indicated that earlier estimfirst coolly reported trouble with fire in one motor.

Then came a final, crytic warning of impending disaster: "We're coming in with a wing

As that last sentence of doom fought its way back. went through the air, the faltering aerial giant was dropping toward housetop level over Seattle's

Suddenly the tower's radio went dead in a mute warning that the worst had happened. The big ship had sheared through two high ten-

A moment later the tenselyawaiting field attendants heard the distant explosion as the bomb & company packing house to shower flaming death and destruc-

Twenty six bodies have been recovered at the scene late Friday, most of them burned beyond rec-Iwenty three of them had been

Ship Survivors 8th Army Advances In South

60-Mile Loss Ends In Light Skirmish; Losses Diminished

By DANIEL DE LUCE

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA, Feb. 19-(AP)-American armored forces stabilized their new line on the Tunisian mountains near the Algerian frontier Friday while the violent drive by Marshal Erwin Rommel that had carried him more than 60 miles slacked off to mere skirmishing.

The announced withdrawal of French troops from Pichon, about 40 miles north of the Faid pass area where Rommel began his thrust on Sunday, indicated that the central section of the allied front was being moved back to stronger defensive positions on the west side of the Ousseltia valley. This would deprive Rommel of opportunity for a quick thrust northwest behind the allied forward units.

LONDON, Feb. 26-(A)-The Vichy radio said Saturday that German and Italian troops had resumed offensive operations after clearing the Gafsa and Faid areas of Tunisia and had breached allied positions between the western outskirts of Atlas mountains southwest of

The new line runs along moun-

The allied communique reported no action of consequence during the day. The French high command, speaking of an action well to the north of the Ferians area, announced that French Moroccan troops southwest e Pont du Fahs had taken 45 axis prisoners in a local attack and northern Tunisian sector British and French troops had "inflicted serious losses on the enemy and captured prisoners and arms."

A later supplemental French communique said "Our Moroccam mounted troops, with the fiereeness which is characteristic of them, made a successful attack in a valley west of Kebir" and took 50 prisoners, including officers.

In connection with their "voluntary withdrawal" from Gafsa last Tuesday, the French high command disclosed "our troops at the same time received an order to a general line on dominating heights west of Ousseltia, Sheitla, Kasserine and Feriana." The communique said French troops are now installed in these new posi-

In southern Tunisia, this comare related to the approaching arrival of the British Eighth army."

Additional information from the ates of American equipment losses in the heavy fighting now ended might be reduced as much as a third. For example, it developed that one unit of American tanks previously believed lost had in fact

suspended his drive toward the Algerian plateau in part because of the threat being offered by the British Eighth army of Gen. Sir Bernard L. Montgomery which, moving up from south-eastern Tunisia, was disclosed during the day to have captured Foum Tatahouine on the Matmata range along the southern flank of the Mareth line.

Dispatches from Cairo indicated that this point had fallen without much fighting. Thirty miles to resistance was being encountered; Montgomery's artillery batteries were exchanging fire with the lowed the crash. Eleven of the Germans in the Medenine outpost bodies were those of the ship's of the Mareth line. It was berew members on the test flight, lieved that a heavy attack on

(The German radio reported An army air force board of in- that axis troops had withdrawn uiry opened an inquiry into the from the mountain area near the lisaster Friday at the scene. southern end of the Mareth line, Another casualty was added perhaps indicating that no all-out

tons was attacked twice, a bomb One committee source said "the entering the side and another exploding 10 feet away; a fourth of 3000 tons had a direct hit and was damaged by other bomb explosions within ten feet of the searchlight positions were heavily strafed. Our medium units bombed the airdrome supply dumps and

NEW YORK, Feb. 19-(AP)-A state of siege has been proclaimed in the German-occupied French

and port." "devoid of any foundation."

ish squadrons shot up shipping along the Dutch and French Amos, Andy

Amos and Andy quit the air Friday night after 16 years of conduced a great number of Atlantic tichous broadcasting with the raiders. Good weather favored the partial be back again later this year tack, officially designated as in the same characters.

heavy one in which four bombers. Since March, 1928, when they

Camelback Ration To Close Today CLEVELAND, Feb. 19-(AP)-Rationing of grade E camelback for

recapping passenger car and light truck tires will be discontinued Saturday, the regional office of south end. price administration announced Friday night.

Clifford J. Houser, regional OPA executive, said elimination of rationing, originally scheduled for March, would not permit motorists to exchange a recappable tire for one already recapped, except on a certificate issued by a er crashed into the five-story Frye national board.

Eclipse of Moon Slated-Well?

SEATTLE, Feb. 19 - (A) Astronomers said an eclipse of the moon over the Pacific Northwest Friday night was to blot out 77 per cent of its face,