

195 Navy Men Will Train, WU

Basic, Pre-Medical Courses to Begin Here About July 1

Willamette university has been accepted for the training of 195 young men enlisted in the US navy. Dr. G. Herbert Smith, president, announced late Wednesday afternoon.

The president said he had received word from the bureau of personnel of the navy department that the university would be asked to provide basic schooling for 135 students and pre-medical courses for 60 more beginning about July 1.

"We are delighted," Dr. Smith declared. "This is what we have been looking forward to. There has been an outstanding interest in the naval program here. We have 90 of our students in the naval reserve right now."

The university campus was inspected by a naval board a few weeks ago after the war manpower commission had announced that Willamette was one of a large number of institutions eligible for assignment to military training programs.

The basic training students, rated as apprentice seamen, will receive four 16-week semesters, the equivalent of 1 1/2 years, of broad college training, with emphasis on mathematics and the sciences. Dr. Smith understands. On the basis of their records they may then qualify for further college training, for officers' school, or go on active duty as seamen. The navy pre-medical courses will be similar to the usual medical school preparatory studies.

The navy students will be in uniform, subject to naval discipline, presumably supervised by a commandant assigned by the navy, and will receive the usual pay and allowances for men of their grade. Plans have been made to house them in Lausanne hall and in the Salem YMCA. The women students who would normally live at Lausanne probably will be housed in the homes now occupied by the off-campus men's fraternities.

The university has the equipment and personnel to train even a larger number of naval students, since its enrollment is now down to 495 from a pre-war peak of 500. Members of the inspection board indicated Willamette would train as many as 400 at one time.

The regular university educational program for students not associated with the armed forces will be carried on with no change other than a possible rearrangement of semester schedules, Dr. Smith said.

Italy Moves To Combat Invasion

BERN, Switzerland, March 31 (AP)—Italy took definite steps Wednesday in preparation against an anticipated allied invasion from an African springboard, with disclosure of a new mobilization law and with Sicily singled out as "the first bastion of Italy."

The new law would, in the event of, or threat of, invasion, place the entire nation under military rule, sending all men and women of 17 years or older into military detachments.

Propaganda Minister Alessandro Pavolini, preparing his people for looming axis defeat in Tunisia, warned in the newspaper *Il Messaggero* that the allies are fighting for a springboard for a continental attack and to safeguard the Mediterranean for shipping, and asserted that "Sicily therefore becomes a fortified outpost of the European continent itself against and all attacks coming from the Mediterranean."

(Perhaps heightening Italian apprehension in official circles was the statement in Washington Wednesday by Elmer Davis, office of war information director, that he believed the battle in Tunisia could be finished in time to permit a continental invasion this year. (See story on page 2)

Japan Softens China Policy

WASHINGTON, March 31 (AP)—Japan has inaugurated a "softer policy" toward occupied China, Chinese Foreign Minister T. V. Soong said Wednesday, in an apparent effort to keep the Chinese quiet while new Japanese thrusts are prepared against British and American forces.

The Chinese statesman told reporters of this development after attending earlier in the day a meeting of the Pacific war council with President Roosevelt at the White House.

Soong said the Japanese are resorting to various methods of mollifying the previously ruthlessly handled inhabitants of Japanese-occupied areas.

The Oregon Statesman

FOUNDED 1851

Salem, Oregon, Thursday Morning, April 1, 1943

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Thur. sunset 7:39
Fri. sunrise 6:49
(Weather on Page 5)

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No. 4

Santiam To Reach 16 Feet

No Willamette Points Threatened; Sewer Use Gets Blame

PORTLAND, March 31 (AP)—The Santiam river will reach the 16-foot mark—three feet over flood stage—at Jefferson Thursday morning, the Portland weather bureau predicted Wednesday night, and minor flooding will occur along the Luckiamute and Yamhill rivers.

Weatherman E. L. Wells said the Santiam stood at 14 feet late Wednesday at Jefferson but increased flow in both the south and north forks Wednesday caused an upward revision of flood estimates for that stream. Wednesday's prediction was for a 14-foot peak.

The Yamhill was up to 26.6 feet Wednesday night at Suver Station, a rise of 3 feet during the day, compared to an expected crest of 25 feet.

The Luckiamute, which has a 38-foot flood mark at Whiteson, was up to 36.7, a gain of 3.5 feet.

No Willamette river points were threatened, the weather bureau said. The river was expected to rise slowly during the next 24 hours. The Willamette measured 12.5 feet at Portland Wednesday, up 8 1/2 feet since Friday.

Johnson creek left its banks at several low points south and southeast of here but did no damage. Rainfall in Portland for the five-day period ending Tuesday morning totaled 3.75 inches. Storm warnings continued offshore.

March went out like a sealion, residents of the mid-Willamette valley agreed. Although army regulations forbade use of details as to Wednesday's weather, rainfall up to 11:30 Tuesday night had totaled 5.40 inches, of which 4.76 had fallen in four days, creating another period of threatened floods.

Slow rises only were predicted on the Willamette, but its swollen tributaries coursed over roads and made lakes of lowlands. Rains and not melting snow were cause of the floods, authorities said. It snowed Wednesday in Detroit, state police said.

The Willamette had mounted to 15 feet at Salem but the rise during the first half of the night was almost immeasurable.

Use of sanitary sewers for storm drainage may be blamed for much of the "high water" that backed into basements and gardens in low areas of Salem on Wednesday, at least one member of the city's sewerage and drainage committee believes. (Turn to Page 2—Story C)

Oregon Speed Average Low

WASHINGTON, March 31 (AP)—Fifty three per cent of all passenger automobiles still exceed the 35-mile speed limit on rural roads, the public roads administration reported Wednesday, but a year ago 91 per cent were over the limit.

The study showed that 22 per cent travel faster than 40 miles an hour, compared with 78 per cent last year. Trucks' average speed dropped from 39 to 35 miles an hour, and buses from 48 to 37.

New Mexico had the highest average passenger car speed—44 miles an hour—followed by Missouri with 43. North Dakota had the lowest average—30 miles an hour. Other averages: Oregon, 37; Washington 40.

Bean Asks PGE Rate Cut, Ban on Discrimination

Portland General Electric company was asked to reduce its rates and to set aside in a reserve fund money allegedly earned in 1942 beyond a fair return, in a complaint filed Tuesday by Ormond R. Bean, state public utilities commissioner.

Bean said a hearing before his department would be called after the company filed its answer.

In an accompanying statement the commissioner asserted the company's excess earnings in 1942 amounted to approximately \$700,000. State law provides for recapture of earnings of a utility above a fair return and for their disposition for the benefit of the concern's customers by rate reductions or other means.

The complaint charges that

British Armies Gain in Tunisia

Crevasse Swallows Newport Home



Reich Favors More Children

Catholic Leaders Hit Marriages by Force, Immorality Growth

BERN, Switzerland, March 31 (AP)—In an editorial coinciding neatly with an Easter letter by important German Catholic leaders denouncing forced marriages and immorality, the newspaper voice of Heinrich Himmler's SS proclaimed Wednesday that "we have need of children."

Discussion of the question in the columns of "Das Schwarze Korps" hinged upon a letter from a German woman to the effect that her acquaintances "declare openly they prefer to have a child to working in armament factories" and all hoped their husbands would return soon from the front to facilitate the venture.

Women married for a number of years and hitherto childless especially want children now to avoid labor service, the writer declared.

The woman complained that the motives of these women were un-patriotic, but Das Schwarze Korps replied that children are important in the war effort and that a child "when grown will serve his people."

The Catholic international press agency said Wednesday that German Catholic bishops have spoken "foudly and emphatically against the introduction of force" to bring about marriages and immorality, especially among young women.

The agency published a Lenten pastoral letter by bishops of Cologne and Paderborne which was the second protest this month against sexual immorality in the Reich. (Turn to Page 2—Story D)

'Dunkerque' Fleet Said Nazi-Ordered

LONDON, Thursday, April 1 (AP)—The Daily Mail reported from Madrid Thursday that the Germans had ordered French ships lying in Mediterranean ports to be refitted quickly and sent to Genoa, Spezia, Sardinia and Sicilian ports.

"The obvious inference is that a Dunkerque fleet is being collected for Rommel," the Mail said.

Emergency crews of Italians would man the ships, the paper said. The vessels, totaling 350,000 tons, have been immobilized since the German occupation of Vichy, France.

Lebanon Man War Prisoner

WASHINGTON, March 31 (AP)—The war department Wednesday announced the names of 118 United States soldiers held prisoners of war by the Japanese. The name of their prison camp was not stated.

The names included for Oregon: Pvt. Charles A. Bruner; mother, Mrs. Katherine Bruner, Ontario.

Pvt. Charles J. Bryant; mother, Mrs. Mary Bryant, Leslie three, Lebanon.

Pvt. Alvin E. Craine; father, John Roy Craine, Cottage Grove.

The Trick Of the Day

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA, March 31 (AP)—It was amateur night at an RAF station, and comedians, crooners and pianists were waiting for the jury of airmen to award the grand prize.

In walked a pilot. "Gentlemen," interrupted the master of ceremonies, "I have the honor to introduce Squadron Leader Desmond Hughes, DFC and bar, of Belfast. He just shot down two Junkers 88s."

Amid cheers the jury teleically awarded the prize—a bottle of whiskey—to Hughes for "the best turn of the evening."

Hughes had gone up to have a look at the weather for other members of the squadron who were scheduled for operations that night and within 20 minutes he intercepted and destroyed the two German bombers.

Davies Avers Russians Will Keep Promise

PHILADELPHIA, March 31 (AP)—Joseph E. Davies, former ambassador to Russia, declared Wednesday night "the Russians' word is good" and they will keep their promise not to make a separate peace with Hitler and not to interfere "with our form of government in any way."

"Some well-meaning people," Davies said, "... express fears that because she (Russia) is winning she might not stop until she gets into Berlin, and she might, therefore, dominate the peace (table) and project communism throughout Europe."

The Soviet union, Davies said, "has earned and undoubtedly will have a powerful place at the peace table" but "it would neither be their policy nor their disposition to seek dominance at any such conference."

In a two-column statement under his byline in the Philadelphia Record, written at the newspaper's request to discuss the political effect upon Europe and the world of a Russian victory over Germany, the former ambassador added:

"As a matter of fact, anyone who knows his Europe knows that Scandinavia, the Baltic states, Rumania, Hungary and other countries of Europe would never accept communism, anyhow, no matter what happened."

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Ocean Floor Crack Blamed

Homes Threatened by 50-Foot Wide Hole; Sand Thought Washed

NEWPORT, Ore., March 31 (AP)—Army engineers theorized Wednesday that a crack in the ocean floor offshore was responsible for an earth cavein which dropped a Newport home into a 25-foot crevasse and threatened others.

They believe tides may be washing away sand from beneath the beach. The theory was supported by reports that sand bubbles up in the sea close inshore when heavy tides are running, and by a test drill which showed a shifting sand formation at a depth of 30 to 40 feet.

The crevasse Wednesday measured 50 feet in width and about 25 feet in depth. A house owned by Ben Cleland rolled into the crack and was buried in debris. The homes of Hattie Smiley and H. W. Iler were moved to safety. The homes of Roy Halverson and Mrs. Kate Cook rested on the edge of the chasm.

The ground started sinking several weeks ago.

Pay-as-Go Tax Lies Dormant

WASHINGTON, March 31 (AP)—Democratic leaders, victorious in their battle against the Ruml skip-a-tax-year plan, showed no enthusiasm Wednesday for a republican suggestion that the house devote itself immediately to a compromise pay-as-you-go system that would abate a large portion, but not all, of one year's taxes.

The indications were that the pay-as-you-go issue might lie dormant in the ways and means committee, perhaps for several months.

Speaker Rayburn, who took part in a conference of legislative leaders at the White House Wednesday, said President Roosevelt seemed happy over the defeat of the Ruml plan.

Allied Parachutists Said Ready, Norway

LONDON, Thursday, April 1 (AP)—Stockholm dispatches to London morning newspapers said Thursday that allied parachute troops have set up headquarters in the mountains of western Norway.

Quoting a Berlin radio report, the Daily Express identified them as British and Norwegian.

The dispatches said they had established an elaborate base, complete with meteorological station, among the snow covered heights and have already begun to make raids on industrial plants in the valleys.

Income Taxes High

LONDON, March 31 (AP)—Britain's income tax alone brought in more than £1,000,000,000 (approximately \$4,000,000,000) during the financial year ended Wednesday night. The chancellor of the exchequer budgeted for £913,000,000, but the taxpayers came through with £933,000,000 more.

Russians Take City, Caucasus

Anastasevskaya Falls; Soviets Hurl Back Donets Attempt

By The Associated Press
LONDON, Thursday, April 1—Russian troops captured the "important German defense point" of Anastasevskaya in the western Caucasus Wednesday in a renewed drive to eject the enemy from his last major foothold at Novorossisk, 33 miles to the south, Moscow announced early Thursday.

Anastasevskaya is on the road running 55 miles westward to the Kerch strait opposite the Crimea, and is only 10 miles from a high-way junction leading south to Novorossisk. Another ten-mile advance by the Russians would cut off sizable German troops anchored in Novorossisk, former soviet port for the Russian Black sea fleet.

A tank-supported German infantry battalion also was hurled back in trying to break the red army's defensive line along the northern Donets in the Ukraine, said the midnight communique recorded by the Soviet Monitor. The enemy left 150 dead and two burning tanks on the battlefield in this sally, it said.

On the Smolensk front in central Russia there was little change in an area where flooding rivers and clinging mud has hampered military operations, but the communique said another Nazi defense point was knocked out and 100 Germans killed.

West of Rostov along the northern shore of the Sea of Azov, the communique said the Germans had attacked Russian positions but were forced into "a hurried retreat" by soviet artillery and mortar fire. This was the first time in weeks that fighting had been reported in this area between Rostov and Taganrog.

Plane Wrecks Jap Bridge In Guinea

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN AUSTRALIA, Thursday, April 1 (AP)—Striking at the important Madang-Wewak highway running 200 miles along the New Guinea northeast coast, allied planes Wednesday hit a large new bridge and bombed the road at various points in blows to disrupt this strategic Japanese artery of supply.

A heavy bomber scored a direct hit upon the bridge recently thrown across the Timper river by the enemy, leaving a 30-foot gap in the structure, the noon communique of the allied command reported. The bridge is in the Madang area.

Allied attack planes and long-range bombers also gave the Salamaua area to the south one of the most thorough poundings yet attempted.

Reconnaissance in the area of Finschhafen, on New Guinea's Huon peninsula established that the allied planes which raided that town Tuesday started water-front fires which burned for eight hours.

US Merchant Fleet May Exceed Britain's in Year

WASHINGTON, March 31 (AP)—The United States merchant fleet, for the first time in history, may exceed Great Britain's before the end of the year.

It's smaller now, but officials here believe the vast American shipbuilding program will reverse the situation sometime in 1943.

This was disclosed officially Wednesday by the combined shipping adjustment board, formed in January, 1942, to effect maximum utilization of United Nations tonnage.

While the prospective tonnage totals for the two fleets at the year's end were not disclosed, the report revealed for the first time the exact 1943 goal of the United States in new construction of merchant ships—18,890,000 deadweight tons. This compared with 3,690,000 tons completed in 1942.

This year's goal heretofore had been listed officially as about 16,000,000 tons, but with predictions it might be increased to as much as 20,000,000.

(As of January 1, 1941, the British merchant marine was more than twice as large as that of the United States. These were the last figures published before statistics became secret because of the war. On that date, the British Empire had 26,844 merchant vessels aggregating 16,806,378 gross tons, counting only vessels of 2000 gross tons or more. The United States had 1150 vessels of 7,078,909 gross tons and Japan 898 vessels of 4,754,699 gross tons.)

Army Changes



LT. GEN. BEN LEAR



MAJ. GEN. L. R. FREDENDALL

'Yoo Hoo' Lear To Be Retired

Fredendall Leaves Africa to Head Second Army

MEMPHIS, March 31 (AP)—Lt. Gen. Ben Lear, commander of the Second Army, told the Commercial Appeal Wednesday night that he would leave active army service May 31.

Lear will be 64 years old May 12, the age at which retirement is compulsory under statutory law. The announcement followed by a few hours the disclosure that Maj. Gen. Lloyd R. Fredendall, hero of the American landing at Oran and until recently in command of the American forces in central Tunisia, had arrived in Memphis to become deputy commander of the Second Army.

There was no official announcement of General Lear's successor but speculation pointed strongly to Fredendall.

Lear said Fredendall were in conference throughout the day.

Lear has been a soldier 45 years, rising from a private in the Colorado national guard.

Lear has won distinction as a great trainer of men—a strict disciplinarian, a stickler for perfection who often has asserted "no mistake should go uncorrected."

In World War I Lear rose from captain to major and finally to temporary rank of lieutenant colonel.

Lear gained national publicity in a "yoo hoo" incident in 1941, touched off when members of (Turn to Page 2—Story B)

Sedjenane Captured In North

Americans Advance Within 45 Miles Of 8th Army

By EDWARD KENNEDY
ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA, March 31 (AP)—The British Eighth army fanned out over the coastal plains more than 12 miles above Gabes Wednesday in a steady pursuit of Marshal Rommel's bomb-ridden troops, while the British First army in the north recaptured Sedjenane and pressed on to a point only 35 miles southwest of the big axis-held naval base of Bizerte.

An allied communique also said that the American army of the

LONDON, March 31 (AP)—The Algiers radio said Wednesday night that fighting of "extraordinary violence" was in progress north of captured Gabes in the Gafsa and Maknassy sectors of Tunisia and that American troops there made a further advance against stiff enemy resistance. The broadcast was recorded by the Associated Press.

center had bored farther into the flank of Rommel's coastal belt. The southern wing of the troops under Lt. Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., was believed to be only 45 miles from a coastal junction with the Eighth army.

Rommel's main forces appeared to be making a hurried flight in open country northward toward Sfax, 70 miles above the onrushing British vanguards, and the coastal road was reported strewn with many enemy bodies and wrecked machines—victims of a ceaseless shuttle-bombing by American and British airmen.

The Eighth army captured Metouia and Oudref, the latter 12 miles north of Gabes, early Tuesday morning and advanced units swept on to contact "hastily prepared enemy defenses," the communique said.

Oudref is a junction of the road leading northwest about 45 miles to connect with General Patton's southern American wing moving down from El Guejar. Italian rear guards left by Rommel in between these two allied armies appear to be cut off unless they make a precipitate withdrawal through mountain trails leading northeastward out of the pocket.

The progress of the US troops was hampered by extensive minefields laid in the mountain passes. The Americans were reported to have bagged another 200 prisoners in their sector, however.

Lt. Gen. K. A. N. Anderson's First Army on the offensive in north Tunisia captured Sedjenane, 40 miles southwest of Bizerte, and Moroccan Goumiers had penetrated a farther six miles to the east.

(The German radio in a broadcast recorded by the Associated Press said General Anderson's right wing, in the Medjez-El-Bab sector 35 miles below Sedjenane, also had begun an offensive.)

Even the axis positions at Sfax and Sousse farther north are menaced by American and French troops now within 20 miles of Kairouan. Kairouan, an axis air base, is only about 35 miles east of Sousse, another coastal point through which Rommel must withdraw to join Von Arnim's northern forces.

(German broadcasts recorded by the Associated Press stressed the numerical superiority of the allied forces, and one said that American troops strength was "significant" in its flanking threat to Rommel. The Berlin radio said Rommel meanwhile had erected new coastal positions above Gabes. It spoke of positions between the Fredjed salt marsh and the coast, an area which the British Eighth army reached early Tuesday.)

A dozen axis planes were declared destroyed in battles throughout Tunisia, compared to allied losses of seven aircraft.

(The admiralty in London announced that four British submarines had sunk six more enemy ships and seriously damaged four others in the waters between Sicily and Tunisia.)