

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles F. Sprague

In a celebration of modest dimensions, made so by war conditions, Oregon State college will today celebrate its 75th anniversary.

Different people see Oregon State College in different lights, like the various blind men who saw the elephant: to one it was a wall, to another a tree-trunk, etc.

The state college of today follows the general pattern of land grant colleges. On its educational side it combines the theoretical with the practical.

Local Postage Boost, Luxury Tax Approved

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26 (AP)—An increase in postal rates, boosting local letter charges from 2 cents to 3, and stiffer excises on so-called luxuries...

Dependent Pay Boost Signed

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26 (AP)—Higher payments approved by Congress for the servicemen's dependents became effective today after President Roosevelt put his signature to the legislation.

Postwar School Building May Soon Be on Ballot

How do taxpayers of the Salem school district wish to finance the already-needed school accommodations in the postwar days when construction can be undertaken?

Reds Near Krivoi Rog; Nazi Disaster Mounts

10 Towns Captured By Allies

Nazis Withdraw To Yet Stronger Defense Line

By EDWARD KENNEDY ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Algiers, Oct. 26 (AP)—The American Fifth and British Eighth armies striking forward up to six miles have captured ten more towns, the allied command announced today...

The new line, running from Mondragone on the Tyrrhenian coast northeast to Venafro and then to Vasto on the Adriatic, apparently is where the Germans have decided to make their first "permanent" stand.

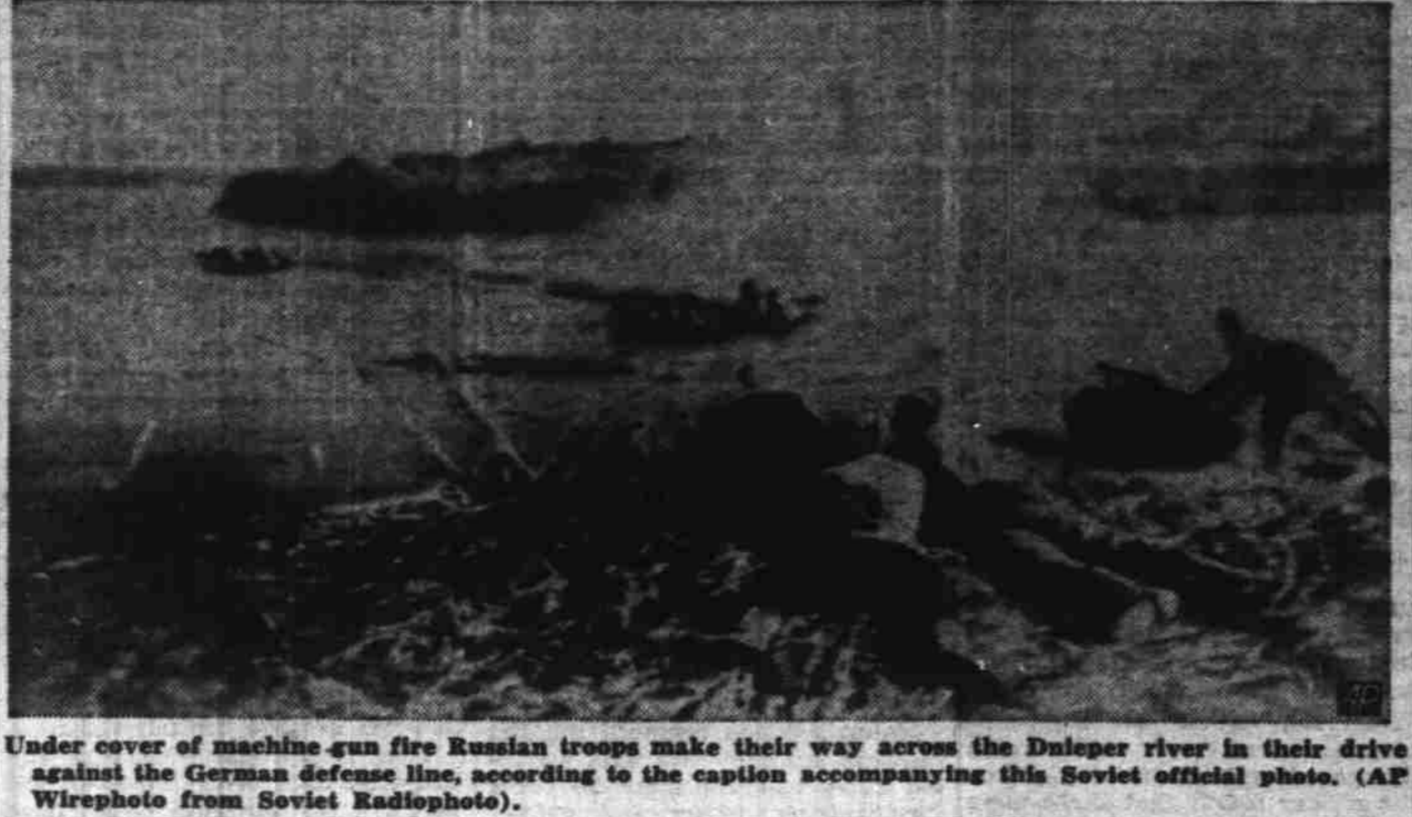
The allied armies, having conquered all of southern Italy in a 54-day campaign, now are confronted by a much more difficult task. In having crossed the Volturno and Trigno rivers, they might be said to have hurled the most of Hitler's fortress Europe, and they now stand before its first great wall.

The enemy's retirement to the shortest and best defensive line anywhere between Naples and Rome and reports that Field Marshal Erwin Rommel was bringing more troops into northern Italy were accepted as certain signs that the Germans are determined to hold Rome at least through the winter.

It was even regarded as possible that the nazis intend to launch a counteroffensive. Of the ten towns whose capture was announced today, four fell to the Fifth army, including the important road junction of Francolise, 2 1/2 miles west of Sparanise and six miles north of the Volturno river.

The Eighth army, whose Trigno river crossing was disclosed (Turn to Page 2—Story C)

Russians Cross Dnieper



Under cover of machine gun fire Russian troops make their way across the Dnieper river in their drive against the German defense line, according to the caption accompanying this Soviet official photo. (AP Wirephoto from Soviet Radiophoto).

Jap Air Bases In Solomons Put Out of Use

By OLEN CLEMENTS ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC, Wednesday, Oct. 27 (AP)—Constant bombings by hundreds of American planes apparently have compelled the Japanese to quit using their most important air bases in the northern Solomons.

(A spokesman at South Pacific headquarters of Adm. William F. Halsey said today the enemy's Bougainville fields of Kahill and Kara have not been used since Oct. 23 and that the Ballale island field in the Shortlands also is inoperative.)

In the latest two raids on Kahill, biggest airfield left to the Nipponese airforce in that sector, and on the nearby Kara field, today's communique reported that heavy bombers, torpedo bombers and dive bombers carried out their methodical destruction without a single Japanese fighter intercepting.

Two hundred and 30 American planes dropped 130 tons of bombs in those knockout assaults. Gaping bomb craters were left in the runways of Kahill and Kara.

The repletments, where planes are kept, and the supply areas were blackened by fires. The only Japanese opposition consisted of moderate anti-aircraft shelling.

These pulverized bases guard the approaches to Rabaul, New Britain, the air-sea fortress where four recent allied raids have destroyed more than 300 planes.

(Admiral Halsey's spokesman said the long series of heavy American air attacks on Kahill and Kara had made it impossible for the Japanese to repair the fields sufficiently for planes to take off.)

(He added that the Ballale fighter strip, even when it is useable, failed to provide fighter (Turn to Page 2—Story B)

Retreating Germans Lay Home Cities Open to Final Destruction From Skies

By JOHN M. HIGHTOWER WASHINGTON, Oct. 26 (AP)—German armies falling back in Russia and Italy toward an inner fortress of Europe actually are setting the trap for the final destruction of their homeland.

The more they retreat to shorten their lines and strengthen their positions for ground fighting the more they lay open Germany's cities and industrial resources to attack from the air.

This is one of the most important points to keep in mind about the European war today. According to the old standards of warfare, the German in shrinking his fronts, shortening his supply lines and generally strengthening his grip on his vital central position. This central position includes all that vast area from western France to the heart of conquered Poland and from northern Italy and the central Balkans to the North Sea which the Reich generals know they must hold to win even a chance to avoid complete defeat.

In so far as ground action alone is concerned it is conceded by some Allied leaders that once Germany has drawn her armies into that fortress she can offer powerful defense and may be able to muster occasional offensive strength.

These leaders confidently expect, therefore, that when the Germans have consolidated their final ground positions they will come forward with peace proposals on the argument that since the Allies cannot hope to win without enormous cost they should agree to an armistice on terms short of unconditional surrender.

However, with Allied air power in the ascendancy and German aerial defenses steadily weakening it is an open question whether the Germans ever will be able to stop and consolidate their ground lines for a war of position.

Even if they do succeed, they will not be able to stop Allied bombers from striking across their ground defenses at the supporting industrial elements without which (Turn to Page 2—Story D)

Ration Signup Opens Today

From 4:15 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. today, tomorrow and Friday, registration for ration book four will be carried on in the eight elementary school buildings of Salem.

Persons whose surnames begin with letters from A to G are expected to register today and may do so at any elementary school, although for their own convenience the nearest such building is suggested. Others in the alphabetical segregation (H to N on Thursday and O to Z on Friday) may register today if the specified dates would be inconvenient for them.

Three hundred eighty registrars, largely teachers, working two to six hours apiece throughout the week, expect to issue 38,000 books in this district. Registrars are required to take with them to the school building all ration books three for members of the family for which they are registering. Across the covers of those books will be written "R 4" at the time book four is issued so that no duplications may be made. Application blanks may be secured through school children or from ration board offices at Chesapeake and Liberty streets, Salem.

The navy reported the merchant vessel was damaged slightly.

Rail Vote On Strike Nov. 25

Non-Operating Unions Join Wage Pressure

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26 (AP)—Chiefs of the 15 non-operating railroad unions tonight ordered a strike ballot among their 1,500,000 members. The ballot was made returnable November 25.

The operating brotherhoods, meeting in Chicago last week also authorized a strike ballot. The non-operating chiefs, in a statement, said they saw no other way except through a strike ballot to secure a "satisfactory wage increase."

The non-operating brotherhoods asked last December for a 20-cents an hour wage increase, and subsequently an emergency board recommended a eight-cent increase. This was set aside, however, by Stabilization Director Fred M. Vinson on the grounds it conflicted with wage stabilization policies.

"It would be a neglect of our duty if, by failure to take concerted action and to allow growing dissatisfaction, we permitted the interest of the employees and the public interest to be injured by increasing individual discouragement which results in the drifting of large numbers of employees out of service of this essential war industry and also results in sporadic unauthorized strikes harmful alike to the employees, the carriers and the effective prosecution of the war," said the statement of the non-operating brotherhoods.

The board said its proposed settlement could be applied in principle to the other bituminous areas, subject to modification on variations in underground travel time of miners in the various districts.

The board also set a deadline of Thursday morning for the return of miners now on strike to their jobs and said that the president would be notified then of all mines that are idle, presumably as a prelude to seizure by the government.

The WLB's counter-offer was approved by a vote of 7 to 5, the four public members and three industry members voting in the majority. One industry member, Almon Roth, of San Francisco, joined the four labor members in dissenting.

WLB Rejects Illinois Soft Coal Proposal

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26 (AP)—The war labor board tonight rejected the wage schedule in proposed Illinois soft coal agreement and countered with a proposition which it said would increase the miners' earnings \$1.12 1/2 cents a day or about \$10 for a 6-day week.

The board said its proposed settlement could be applied in principle to the other bituminous areas, subject to modification on variations in underground travel time of miners in the various districts.

The board also set a deadline of Thursday morning for the return of miners now on strike to their jobs and said that the president would be notified then of all mines that are idle, presumably as a prelude to seizure by the government.

FDR Praises Men of Fleet On Navy Day

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26 (AP)—President Roosevelt declared tonight that with new ships and planes already on the way to add to the navy's 700 warships and 20,000 planes, still more will be ready "as they are needed in the battle to protect human life, to restore human decency and to preserve human liberty."

Germans Seek To Escape Trap In Dnieper Bend

South Arm of Giant Pincers Also Closes In; Berlin Tells White Russia Soviet Drive

LONDON, Tuesday, Oct. 27 (AP)—Soviet forces captured a railway station only two and a half miles from strategic Krivoi Rog yesterday as the Germans—retreating in disorder before the blows of three Russian armies—sought to extract themselves from the closing Dnieper bend trap.

The midnight Russian communique reported that Soviet units took Karnovka, two and a half miles northwest of Krivoi Rog, industrial, iron ore and rail center deep in the Dnieper river bend which the Germans said the Red army already is storming.

On the southern arm of the giant pincers, the war bulletin told of the capture of Veseloye, 24 miles northwest of Melitopol after "particularly fierce fighting." Hundreds of German dead "were left on the approaches to the town and in its streets," the communique added.

In their drive the three Soviet armies have taken nearly 100 towns and villages, 28 of these being in the Melitopol sector, where the Russians advance from four to 12 miles and are fanning out in three directions across the steppes and marshlands from the fallen gateway to the Crimea.

More than 3000 Germans were listed as killed in the bitter battle of the Nogaik steppes which the nazis are trying stubbornly to hold to protect their routes from the Crimea.

The Germans were said to have lost more than 7000 dead in the fighting for Dnepropetrovsk and Dneprodzhezhinsk, newly captured sister industrial cities on the Dnieper, while in the latest engagement in the Krivoi Rog area German casualties amounted to about two regiments (more than 2000 men.) This made a German death toll of 12,000.

Declaring that the Germans were offering stubborn resistance in the Krivoi Rog area—the point of the northern arm of the pincers—the communique said the nazis had thrown in fresh tank forces including the 24th tank division recently "transferred from Italy."

The Red air force followed up the ground attacks by bombing concentrations of German troops fleeing the Dnieper bend, wrecking three railway trains and smashing and burning more than 170 trucks and cars loaded with military supplies, the war bulletin said. The German retreat westward is toward the Bug river in southern Russia.

The large German armies half-trapped in the great Dnieper bend fell back in two main sectors before the victorious Russians, who advanced up to nine miles southwest of Dnepropetrovsk and continued to close in on the big iron and metal center of Krivoi Rog. (Turn to Page 2—Story G)

School Children to Open Tin Can Drive Nov. 10

School children of Marion county, who have made possible the shipping of approximately 80,000 pounds of tin cans for the war effort in previous collection campaigns, will conduct another county-wide tin can salvage drive Wednesday, November 10.

Rural schools of the county should start actual accumulations of the tin at schools on November 1, continuing to completion on November 9, County Supt. Agnes C. Booth declares in a letter directed to all principals.

In Salem the date has simply been set as November 10. Whether a concentrated one-day drive or a competitive and longer campaign will be conducted was not announced by Supt. Frank Bennett when he said Tuesday that Salem schools would use the date selected by beverage distributors.

Those distributors will again provide their trucks, picking up cans at Aurora, Brooks, Gervais, Jefferson, Mt. Angel, Salem, Stayton, Turner, Aumsville, St. Paul, Keizer, Hayesville, Salem Heights, Woodburn, Silverton and Hubbard schools.

Rural schools in areas tributary to these centers are to make arrangements in cooperation with local community salvage chairman

Resigns Post



DR. VERNON A. DOUGLAS

Dr. Douglas Resigns State Defense Post

Dr. Vernon A. Douglas, since June, 1942, director of the emergency medical service for the Oregon state defense council, and prior to that Marion county's first full-time health officer, Tuesday announced his resignation to enter private practice in Portland.

There he will be associated with Dr. E. W. St. Pierre. No appointment of a successor is reported by the defense council, which for the time being, will endeavor to coordinate emergency medical activities in the state through volunteer workers, Jerrold Owen, administrator, said last night.

Dr. Douglas, whose commission as a major in the US public health service terminated this month when OCD funds allocated to this service were curtailed by congress, has been desirous of returning to private practice for some time, he revealed Tuesday.

Prior to his appointment to the state defense post, he served briefly in the adjutant general's office as state medical officer, but his long period of service in Salem. (Turn to Page 2—Story A)

Merchant Vessel, Destroyer Collide

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26 (AP)—The navy reported today that the destroyer Murphy was damaged severely in a collision with a merchant vessel in the north Atlantic.

A part of the forward structure of the destroyer, a 1700-ton ship, was sheared off in the collision, but she was successfully towed into New York harbor.

Single Men's Draft Ahead Of Dads Voted

By WILLIAM F. ARBOGAST WASHINGTON, Oct. 26 (AP)—With an enthusiastic volley of "ayes" the house today passed legislation requiring selective service to take all available single men and childless married men in the entire nation before drafting fathers.

This rule would apply regardless of the fathers' occupation. Under the measure, which now goes to the senate, a father is defined as a man with children born prior to Sept. 15, 1942.

The bill is similar to one passed by the senate on Oct. 6, but differs in that it strengthens the authority of Major General Lewis B. Hershey, selective service director, by taking away much administrative power delegated to Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt. However, it removes much of the leeway the senate bill would give Hershey in determining whether some fathers should be drafted before some non-fathers.

There were no roll-calls on the bill passed by the House. Only one "no" was heard as it was put to a voice vote. It came from Representative Morrison (D-NC), who told the House he was "proud of it."

Before passing the measure in the near-record time of four hours, (Turn to Page 2—Story B)