

The Western Pine association is a trade organization for the producers of pine lumber in the three northwest states.

As a result of the experimental work in the Portland laboratory it is announced that the association will put up a pilot plant in Bend designed to produce resin, turpentine, fats and fatty acids from pine waste.

Thus the pine people are trying to utilize their waste by extracting valuable by-products from it, the same as the fir people are making a start toward producing alcohol from fir waste.

As time goes on we will come to look on the tree as a source of raw materials for chemical compounds and not just as timber, lumber and fuel.

(Continued on editorial page)

Royal Navy Seeks Enemy In Both Oceans

By RICHARD R. KASISCHKE LONDON, Dec. 30 (AP)—The victory-spurred royal navy sought more units of Hitler's shining surface fleet tonight after the Bay of Biscay battle in which the British reported the sinking of three Nazi destroyers.

The admiralty acknowledged only minor damage to the two light cruisers Glasgow and Enterprise and the loss of two planes in the running action against the German flotilla of 11 destroyers.

No mention has been made by the British that any of their destroyers participated in the Bay of Biscay action which followed the sinking by air action Monday of a laden Nazi blockade runner.

By LEO BRANHAM LONDON, Dec. 30 (AP)—The royal navy, which brought its most successful war year to a climax with the sinking of the German battleship Scharnhorst and three Nazi destroyers, is being employed in increasing force in the Pacific because of the heartening turn in the battle of the Atlantic.

The review reiterated that "Britain's worldwide commitments extend to the Pacific" and said that "the strength of the royal navy is being brought increasingly to bear on this theater as a result of the improving situation in European waters."

Despite the widening scope of its tasks, including participation in the record 3266-ship armada which carried the invasion forces to Sicily, the royal navy completed its fourth year of war without the loss of a single capital ship or aircraft carrier.

Weatherman Sees Dry New Year

By the Associated Press The weather bureau in a special forecast Thursday said "New Year's eve and January 1 will be dry, meteorologically at least, over all sections east of the continental divide" and that "unusually pleasant weather for this time of year prevails over the entire country" except in California.

In California, the bureau said, "rain, with snow in the mountains, has been falling intermittently for several days." The bureau said temperatures are seasonal in western sections and that the recent cold weather is moderating in the east.

Weather

Thursday maximum 48; minimum 24; river -1 foot. Partly cloudy Friday with snow flurries over mountains in southern part Saturday; cloudy with rain in west portion early Saturday with snow over mountains. Not much change in temperature.

FR Willing to Issue Rail Wage Ruling

Soviet Rout Nazis

22 Divisions Fall Back 1300 Towns Taken

By James M. Long LONDON, Friday, Dec. 31—(AP)—A routed German army of 22 divisions—perhaps 300,000 men—reeled back toward the Polish and Rumanian frontiers early today, abandoning thousands of vehicles and more than 100 big guns, as the Russian first Ukrainian army in the greatest Soviet offensive of the winter pushed through a 185-mile breach in the heart of the German east wall.

Over 300 communities were captured yesterday—making 550 in two days and 1300 in seven days—by the Russians who now were 43 miles from the pre-1939 Polish border and 90 miles from the Dniester river frontier of Rumania as they plunged forward in the Korosten-Berdichev area beyond Kiev, it was announced by Moscow.

One of the most important of the many towns taken was Kazatin, a rail junction 15 miles beyond Berdichev. Kazatin's capture dealt a major blow to German communications in the entire southern Ukraine.

Premier Marshal Joseph Stalin said the Germans were "routed" in a special order of the day yesterday triumphantly summarizing the first six days of the most successful Soviet action since the Dnieper line was broken. He announced that the red army had advanced from 30 to 60 miles to capture more than 1000 towns and hamlets through Wednesday.

Later information in the Moscow communique and its midnight supplement—recorded by the Soviet monitor—gave this picture of the long Russian drive (Turn to Page 2—Story C)

Canned Goods Point Free

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30 (AP)—The public will be able to buy canned green and wax beans and a number of frozen fruits and vegetables in January without surrendering any ration stamps. Canned peas and tomatoes have lower point values.

Rationed jams, preserves and marmalades, however, are hiked two points to a total of eight for a pound jar in the new processed food values announced today by the office of price administration. All of the changes are effective Sunday.

Al Smith Receives Birthday Honor

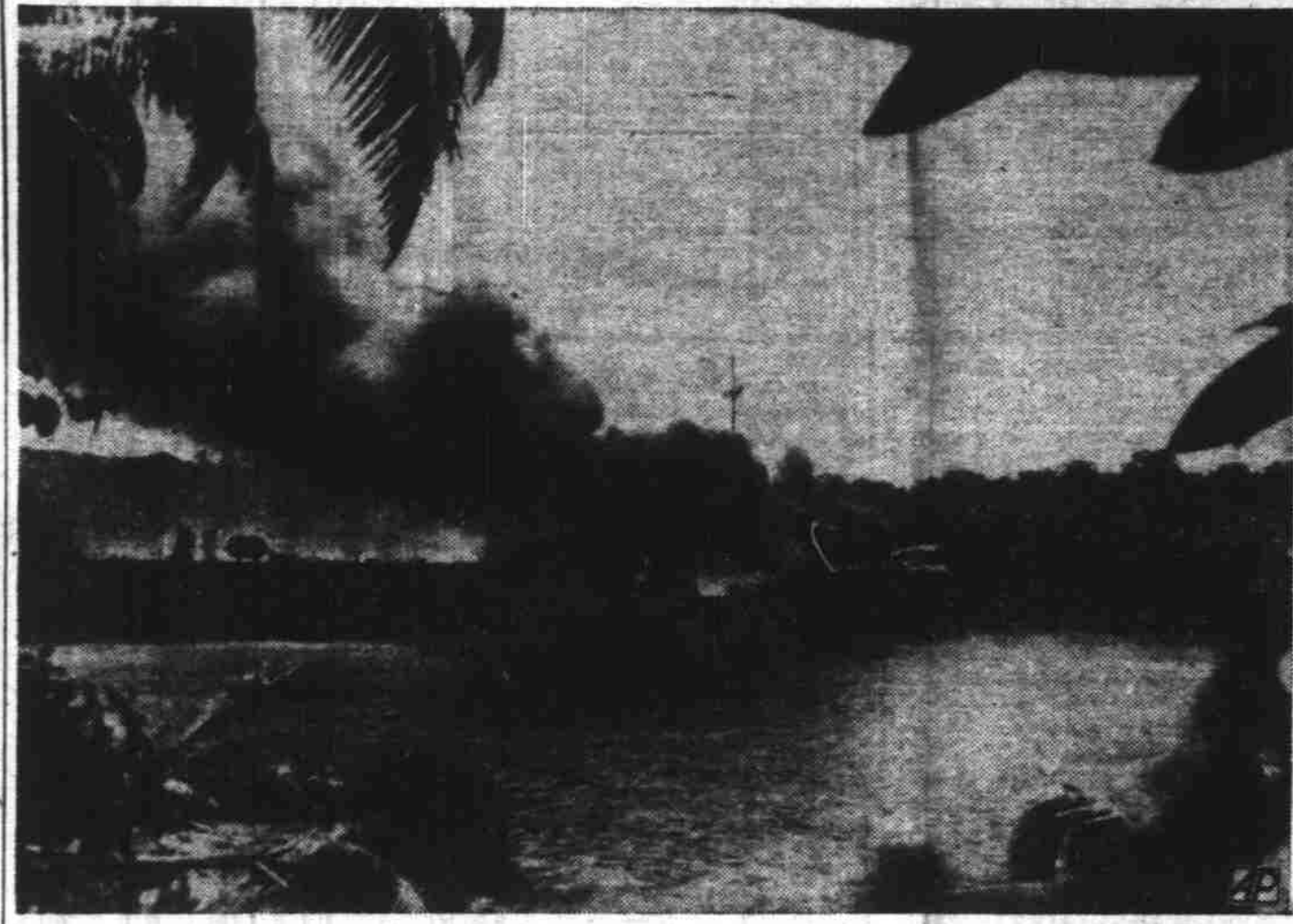
NEW YORK, Dec. 30 (AP)—Former Gov. Alfred E. Smith, 70 years old today, received a special apostolic benediction from Pope Pius XII and congratulations from President Roosevelt and Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York.

The benediction, conveyed to the 1928 democratic presidential nominee by Archbishop Francis J. Spellman, was imparted in a letter written by Archbishop Amleto G. Cicognani, apostolic delegate to the United States.

Fish Outlook Good

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30 (AP)—A 1944 fish production in the United States and Alaska of four billion or more pounds, exceeding 1942 and 1943 yields but below the approximate 4,400,000,000-pound normal production, was forecast today by Interior Secretary Ickes, fisheries coordinator.

US Landing Craft Burns From Hits by Japs



Smoke poured from an American (LST) landing ship tanks from a Jap hit in an air attack at a south Pacific island in the combat zone where the boat was unloading supplies. A sister ship stood by with its crew playing water on the burning vessel. (AP wirephoto from marine corps.)

Marines Crack Cape Gloucester Defense; Bougainville Belted

Airdrome Falls To Yanks; Flame Throwers Used

By DEAN SCHEDLER ADVANCED ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, New Guinea, Friday, Dec. 31.—(AP)—Hard-hitting United States marines have cracked stubborn Japanese defenses to capture the vital airdrome at Cape Gloucester, New Britain.

The leathernecks' final assault put them in full possession of the two air strips at noon yesterday, just four days and a few hours after their Sunday's invasion landing at Borgen Bay.

Details of the final hours of the battle were meager, but Gen. Douglas MacArthur's communique announcing the victory said that "following an intense air preparation our ground forces took the positions by assault."

A headquarters spokesman said an air assault on two successive days had softened up the line of Japanese pillboxes for the marines, who used flame throwers to clear out strong points which survived aerial bombing.

"Many hundreds of Japanese dead are in the area," the spokesman said, adding that American losses were "slight."

The airdrome area and its perimeter were plastered Wednesday morning by artillery and heavy and medium bombers and attack planes. By nightfall that day, the marines had taken the first air strip.

The airdrome contains two landing strips, one running east (Turn to Page 2—Story E)

Happy New Year, Boss

By the Associated Press "I have the honor to present the Gloucester airdrome to the commander in chief as a New Year's present," Lt. Gen. Walter Krueger, commander of the sixth army to which the marines are attached, messaged to MacArthur.

Continuing, he remarked, "I praise the gallantry of the marines, the splendid cooperation of the air and naval units."

Adm. King Says Pacific Thrust Planned Soon

By HAMILTON W. FARON WASHINGTON, Dec. 30 (AP)—A tremendous offensive against Japan is planned in 1944, it was made clear today by Adm. Ernest J. King who said the United Nations will begin shifting their power from the Atlantic to the Pacific theater even before the final defeat of Germany.

The tall, raw-boned naval commander-in-chief stood before a chart in his office, using a cigarette holder as a pointer, to give in an interview the frankest discussion of the Pacific war yet to come from a big naval figure.

These were his main points: (Turn to Page 2—Story H)

Last Big Island In Solomons Gets Pounding

By WERN HAUGLAND SOUTH PACIFIC ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Friday, Dec. 31.—(AP)—The Americans have begun to throw the military book at the hapless Japanese on Bougainville—including airplane belly tanks and paratroopers.

Headquarters reports today were crowded with actions intended to accelerate the Japanese retreat from the last big Solomon island barring the southwestern approach to Rabaul. Included was the spokesman's assertion that over Rabaul itself, Solomons based American planes have shot down 113 enemy fighters in daily strikes since December 23.

The belly tanks were dropped by Warhawk fighter planes flying along the enemy-held eastern coast of Bougainville, starting gasoline fires.

The paratroopers went into action to help clean out Japanese from a strong point at the upper end of the beachhead held by Americans on the west-central coast at Empress Augusta bay.

After most of the Japanese were ousted Tuesday from an area 600 yards east of the Tokokina river mouth, the paratroopers went in against the 30 remaining Nipponese soldiers. They killed half of these. The others fled. American casualties were listed as one dead, four wounded.

These were other highlights: (Turn to Page 2—Story F)

US Planes Bombard Germany Night Attack On Nazi Capital

By ROBERT N. STURDEVANT LONDON, Friday, Dec. 31 (AP) A record force of approximately 1500 American planes blasted targets in southwest Germany yesterday as its part in possibly the most sustained air assaults of the war which saw at least 3000 British and American war planes over Germany and occupied territory in the past 24 hours.

The American daylight attack yesterday, which also set a record for the deepest penetration by escorting fighter planes, some of which flew the entire 1100 mile round trip, came a few hours after RAF night raiders death Berlin a shattering new 2240-ton blow.

A joint US Eighth air force-air ministry communique issued early today said that 23 German fighters were destroyed while the American force lost 22 bombers and 12 fighters for a total of 34 planes, in fights raging across France in Germany.

RAF, dominion and allied fighters flew supporting sweeps for the giant American operation and accounted for four of the Nazi fighters shot out of the sky. The American fighter planes got eight while 11 were felled by the gunners of the US heavy bombers. The objective of the American bombing mission was not announced.

Blasting their targets through clouds, the American Fortress and Liberator airmen employed once more a remarkable new navigational instrument which permits the bombardiers to hit targets they can't see. The losses, while comparatively small for the forces involved, nevertheless accentuated the reports of returning crewmen of numerous fighter attacks and air engagements.

The American operation came only a few days after the announcement of the establishment of a high command for the allied (Turn to Page 2—Story B)

Allies Achieve Air Superiority

By W. W. HERCHER LONDON, Dec. 30 (AP)—The allies have achieved air superiority in every theatre of the war and sent planes on the offensive all around the world, the RAF announced today.

In a triumphant review of the aerial war of 1943 Britain's air arm said the year's fighting produced these victories and accomplishments in various fields of operation:

(1) Nine of Germany's 21 major industrial cities with populations of more than 250,000 each have been "so seriously devastated that in all probability they have been forced for some time to consume more than they produce."

(2) Many more U-boats have been destroyed by the coastal command in 1943 than in the three previous years together. The whole of the North Atlantic is now covered by shore-based aircraft, the report said.

(3) Magnificently complete air support was given allied ground forces in Africa, Sicily and southern Italy.

Lumber Output Drops

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30 (AP)—Lumber production this year estimated at 32,500,000,000 feet, will be 10 per cent below 1942 output, the lumber survey committee said tonight in a quarterly report describing the lumber economy as "tight."

Vichy Police Watchful

By the Associated Press Reorganization of the Vichy police to "Preserve France from the impending threat of civil war" was reported last Thursday night by radio Vichy which said unrest and alarm—probably stirred by the expected allied invasion—were spreading through France.

Refuses Union Limitations As Binding

Brotherhoods Expected To Stand Pat on Overtime; 10 o'clock Deadline Set

By Joseph A. Loftus WASHINGTON, Dec. 30—(AP)—President Roosevelt advised the 15 nonoperating railroad unions today he is prepared to issue a ruling on their wage demands but declines to be bound by the limitations they set forth in their acceptance of arbitration.

The president asked for an answer by 10 a.m. if his basis of procedure is not acceptable. The unions are expected to stand their ground and insist that overtime is the only issue inasmuch as they have accepted the 4 to 10-cent increases.

Overtime was not an issue when the 4 to 10 cents was approved by Stabilization Director Fred M. Vinson.

Americans Fight Through San Vittore

By WES GALLAGHER ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Algiers, Dec. 30.—(AP)—American troops fought through the streets of the demolished village of San Vittore today, blasting out a path to the strategic city of Cassino on the main inland highway to Rome, while victorious Canadian forces pressed on beyond Ortona on the Adriatic coast to within nine miles of Pescara.

(The German news agency DNB in a broadcast recorded by the Associated Press said that the allies had made a "leap frog" landing on the Italian west coast behind the German lines near the mouth of the Garigliano river. The broadcast said the action was localized before the allies could reach the Apennine way, the coastal road to Rome.)

San Vittore, on the southern base of Mt. Sammucro six miles from Cassino, was reduced to rubble by a terrific American artillery bombardment yesterday before Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark's infantry left its foxholes and charged into the village. An American patrol previously had penetrated into its streets, only to be driven out by fiercely resisting nazis.

Canadian troops in the two days since Ortona's fall had swept across a wide area west of the town and were reported approaching the valley of the little Testore river. Infantry was pushing along the coastal road to Pescara (Turn to Page 2—Story G)

Aluminum Plants Close, Not in West

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30 (AP)—Several small aluminum plants will be closed "within the near future," because of a surplus of the metal, a war production board official said tonight.

A. H. Bunker, in charge of WPB's aluminum and magnesium programs, said that "possibly 15" aluminum pot lines would be closed. Potlines produce aluminum from alumina.

Told of a report in congressional circles that most of the shutdowns would be in the west, Bunker said he would be "astonished" if many were in the west. He mentioned plants at Messina, N.Y., and Burlington, N.J., as possibilities. They use coal while the western plants are operated by hydroelectric power from government plants.

Irons, Bath Tubs To Be Produced

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30 (AP)—The nation's war economy passed a major milestone today when orders were issued for the manufacture of 2,000,000 electric irons and 50,000 bath tubs in 1944—the first important resumption of civilian manufacture since the war started.

Production of both items was halted early in 1942 to preserve short supplies of strategic metals.

Blood Donor Quota Needed

Blood donor registrants are needed in Salem today if the capital city is to meet its quota Tuesday when the mobile blood plasma unit calls here. Red Cross workers said Thursday.

With only 134 donors, Salem failed this week for the first time to meet its quota. Although it is expected to provide 140 pints each Tuesday, when everything works smoothly, 160 pints of blood can be taken here.

Approximately 30 of last Tuesday's donors came from Sweet Home and Lyons. "Without them we'd have been left far behind indeed," declares E. J. Scallars, Red Cross blood donor registrant. Persons willing to donate blood should call Red Cross offices, 9277, today to make appointments and to receive instruction for next Tuesday.