

I asked a local real estate man the other day how business was. He replied they were having a hard time getting enough farms to sell. I asked if purchasers were persons who were making small down payments expecting to pay the remainder out of income. , He replied that most of the sales were made for all cash or with large down payments. The person trying to buy on contract with small initial payment was crowded out by the person with means. At Albany I heard a similar comment, that purchases now are for cash. While this means that equities are not thin enough to be washed out with any recession it does not mean there is no speculation. For it is a mattter of common knowledge that farm prices have risen. Probably most purchasers now are not buying just for a quick resale but because they have faith in the land and regard its ownership as a sound investment, still the competitive purchasing helps shoot up the price of land, and if it goes too high losses are certain to accrue.

Back in the corn belt some folk are getting worried lest the land boom run away with itself. Some are even proposing government controls, like heavy taxes on profits in land sales. A. G. Black, who is retiring as governor of the farm credit administration, says that some lands in the midwest and south are selling at prices from 20 to 30 per cent above normal, and the rise is continuing at a rate of about one per cent a month.

Good old Iowa surely hasn't for- front cut the Cernauti - Baltsky body. gotten its experience back in 1920 when corn land went to \$600 an acre (generally on contract) which was followed by prolonged de- within 30 miles of the Prut rivpression and many foreclosures and multitudes of heartaches.

I do not put much stock in "controls." Why should you segregate quick gains in real estate from quick gains in the stock market? The public's memory goes back to the previous postwar deflation and that is a sufficient warning of dangers of overbidding on farm lands. And per- Soroki, west bank Dniester town haps they may not be dumb after all if they put their money in good land. Suppose inflation did come in full bloom then they might be the "smart guys."

The place for the controls is in prices to withstand Inflation and in (Continued on Editorial Page)



Reds Cut Plune's Nose

12 PAGES

stormed through 40 villages to nose by a 70-knot headwind cover, from which the nazis Mark C. Liddell of 13 Cambria launched their 1941 invasion, Mos-

NINETY-THIRD YEAR

cow announced today. Smashing German and Rumanian resistance on the approaches to the Prut, Moscow's communique announced the capture of Drokiya, 23 miles south of Mogilev Podolski, and 25 miles west of which fell to the Russians Sunday. Presumably the railway was cut in the Drokiya area.

By capturing Ketrosy, five miles es back to England. southeast of Drokiya, the Russians reached a point within 20 miles of



Airtroops

By RICHARD MASSOCK ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Naples, March 21-(AP)-Fanatic Ohio, found the bombardier's young nazi parachute troops perhaps the toughest young men

in the German army - have fought their way back into the ruins of the Continental hotel ered the pilot, Lt. James C. Reynolds of Coeymans, NY, and Lt. at Cassino's edge and continue to wage a desperate struggle Court, St. Davis, Pa, the co-pilot,. for vital heights behind the strong-Reynolds said "we had to pry hold, it was announced today. open our eyelids because they Only vesterday New Zealand were iced up and stuck together. troops and tanks blasted their way Our oxygen was out so we used into the extensive wreckage of the hotel on the southwestern out-

"It was the coldest ride I ever skirts and seized 180 prisoners, but last night the Germans struck The planes' instruments were back savagely under the exhortation of their commander, Lt. knocked out, but Reynolds man-Gen. Richard Heidrich, to throw aged to lead seven other Fortressthe allies out of Cassino.

New Zealand and Indian troops still held the railway station and Castle hill on the slope of Mt. Cas- the ground shook as from an sino, but the nazis were throw- earthquake. ing vicious counter attacks against The ammunition depot covers Indian Ghurkas clinging to Cas- an area of some 10 square miles. tle hill. Allied dive - bombers The igloos are placed 400 feet over homes and orchards and vineagain supplied isolated allied apart, almost buried in sandy soil, yards. troops by parachute. The ferocity of the nazi's defense was partly explained by the fense was partly explained by the disclosure that Heidrich's para- Japs Claim chute troops, to whom have been added units of a crack armored added units of a crack armored grenadier division, average about Advance From 20 years of age and are thoroughly imbued with the nazi doctrine. Most of them are fighting to the Burma Border death. An allied communique held no By CHARLES GRUMICH promise of an early decision, saying that "Fierce fighting continued NEW DELHI, March 21-(AP) for the fifth day for possession of Japanese troops are advancing in deep at points, sent up flames and Cassino and vicinity. Within the fierce fighting along the northruins of the town the enemy sucwest Burma-Assam border, the ceeded in bringing up reinforce- southeast Asia command announcments Sunday night, and mopping ed today. (The Japanese-controlled Singup has been slow." Writing from the battle site, apore radio said Japanese units Lynn Heinzerling of the Associated have crossed into India. It inter-

Destroys At Bomb Depot Villages PENDLETON, Ore., March 21. -(P)-An iglos containing bombs exploded at the Umatilia ammunition storage depot at 9:30 tonight and five or six persons **Biggest Eruption** are missing, Col. A. S. Buyers,

The Oregon Statesman

Salem, Oregon, Wednesday Morning, March 22, 1944

Russians Sweep Towards Danube;

Six Missing

In Explosion

commanding officer, announced at midnight, In 72 Years Casts He said names of the casual **Pall Over Naples** ties would be announced as spon as determined. Cause of the ex-ON THE SLOPES OF MT. plosion is unknown, he said, but "There is no knowledge of any VESUVIUS, March 21-(AP)-La-

sabotage." Col. Buyers said the explosion did not "Communicate with any other property" and that there was no fire.

He said damage might amount to \$75,000 to \$100,000.

The force of the blast was felt the volcano's base, after engulfhere, 30 miles southeast, and residents as far away as Lewiston, Idaho, reported feeling the shock, which they attributed to an earthquake.

Hermiston, Ore., six miles from the water to a boil and a geyser the depot, was rocked and farmleaped into the air. ers near the depot reported seeing great sheets of flame shoot into the sky. Damage at Hermiston was re-

hurled streams of the molten mass ported negligible considering the down the slopes. force of the explosion. First re-

In the van of the molten, gluey ports said only several store win- mass scrambled a tearful, pitiful dows were broken. Residents said army of bewildered villagers,

Vesuvius

va streams spilling from the

fiery crater of historic Mt. Ve-

suvius - swollen and multi-

plied by a recent new eruption

-swept on one town tonight

and threatened two others at

ing two villages during the day.

Two Italian boys were reported

killed by an explosion of a stone

cistern at Massa di Somma after

lava spreading above it brought

A violent eruption of Vesuvius

at 5:30 p. m. threw jets of lava

about 1000 feet skyward and

## Nazis Take Over Balkan Puppets Germans Move On

Weather

Price Sc

Ace Aldrich

.5 ft. Oregon: Partly

thwest portion y. Little change

No. 309

# Capitals

#### **Troops Occupy** Vital Points to **Stop Russians**

By WILLIAM SMITH WHITE LONDON, Wednesday, Mar. 22 -(AP)- German troops were reported today to have taken over vital communication facilities in Sofia and nazi armored columns were said to be moving swiftly on Bucharest, indicating that both Bulgaria and Rumania might soon share the fate of Hungary, now completely dominated by Hitler's

armed forces. The new German moves came amid indications that the nazis were maneuvering to set up a Quisling regime in Budapest under the protection of 100,000 German troops which had seized command of strategic centers within the past 36 hours.

Without immediate confirmation from other sources, the Ankara Turkish radio declared that the Germans had occupied the postal

and telegraph offices of Sofia. The broadcast was recorded in

The reported move perhaps

(Turn to Page 2-Story F)

### **County Tops Bond Quota by** Large Margin

Marion county topped its quota in the recent fourth war loan campaign with sales of \$5,764,000 representing 135.7 per cent of its \$4,246,100 quota, according to Jess J. Gard, county war finance committee chairman, following receipt of final statistics Tuesday from E. C. Sammons, state chairman.

"The real job," according to Gard, "was in sale of series E bonds, for which the county had a quota of \$1,604,000 and a final sales figure of \$2,027,500 or \$423,-500 over the goal, the highest dollar figure of any county in the state except Multnomah.

This is the first time in any one drive that series E bond sales here have exceeded \$2,000,000, and both Gard and Salem Chairman Arthur W. Smither are jubilant over the results.

With 153.7 per cent recorded on its quota of sales to individuals, Marion county was second only to Jefferson and Grant counties in that classification. Lane county sold 141.6 per cent of indiviuals' sales quota.

Total sales in Marion county once again exceeded those of its near rival, Lane. In Marion \$5,-764,000 worth were sold, while Lane sales totaled \$5,638,100.

Marion's record could never have been achieved without the

support of committee workers, all Smither, and the patriotic citizens who purchased the bonds, but these special bits of cooperation were pointed out Tuesday: Shows given by Salem theatres,

the carnival and appearance of war heroes and movie stars and prizes given by Salem merchants; (Turn to Page 2-Story C)

**Soldier** Attacks **Two in Albany** 

the day. ALBANY, March 21-(AP)-Police The 36-year-old former Minne-Chief Perry Stellmacher said tosota governor thus joins Wendell day that a Camp Adair soldier L. Willkie, Gov. John W. Bricker who attacked a 13-year-old girl of Ohio, and Rep. Everett M. and a woman here Saturday night Dirksen of Illinois in the publicly has been turned over to military receptive list of possible candi-

Stellmacher said he caught Pvt. Gov. Dewey of New York repeatedly has said he is not a can-Bailey Phillips leaving the home of Mrs. Roslyn Siebenthaler after didate, but his friends say he, like he was awakened by screams of Staasen, would not decline a nomher daughter, Marilyn. The girl ination. Gen. MacArthur also ccused Phillips of entering the would accept, his supporters say. Staasen will face his first test ng and dragging her to the front orch, Stellmacher said.

illips also was identified by Mrs. Seth T. French as the sol- with Willkie, Dewey and MacAr- meeting.

southern Russia, the Slobodzeva-Baltsy line, and were within 48 miles of the major escape road, the Odessa-Tiraspol-Iasi line. Thus the Russians, striking toward the Danube, were swiftly developing their threat to pocket scores of thousands of Germans in the Odessa bottleneck, 150 miles to the southeast.

one German escape railway from

As the sweep into pre-war Rumania tore through Rumanian divisions covering the flight of German troops, Moscow's communique said the red army attacking in old burn out the capital.

(Turn to Page 2-Story B)

### **River** Channel Job Awarded

PORTLAND, March 21-(AP)-A contract to straighten the Willamette river channel 12 miles north of Salem was awarded by the district army engineers office today to Kuckenberg Construction com-

pany, Portland, on a low bid of \$178,537. A total of 900,000 cubic yards of dirt and gravel will be removed

to eliminate two bends in the river near the Wheatland ferry. The new channel will be 8500 feet long and 110 feet wide at the bottom, with a maximum cut of 23 flares as the barrage swelled to a feet.

Nazi Airmen **Pour Bombs** On to London

our emergency bulbs.

had-40 degrees below zero."

LONDON, Wednesday, March 22-(AP)-The German air force poured incendiaries and high explosives upon London early this morning in a renewed attempt to The swooping raiders were met

by a terrific barrage. One was seen speedily to fall from the flare-lit sky. The barrage opened up a few moments after the alert was sounded and swelled to a sustained thunder. The barrage subsided after a hauf-hour.

(14 words censored.) The nazis used a pathfinder echnique, dropping target-light-

ing devices and scores of flares. The raid was somewhat briefer than the last big one on March

While the nazi air force had laid off the capital for several nights, the nazis last struck elsewhere in England Sunday, hitting coastal and midlands targets. The raiders drove in, dropping

sustained roar.

Willkie Blasts Chi-Trib; **Stassen Hurls in His Hat** 

WASHINGTON, March 21-(AP) GREEN BAY, Wis., March 21 of them, according to Gard and Lt. Com. Harold E. Steasen today (A)-Wendell L. Willkie gave the became the fourth openly recep- lie tonight to what he called "stortive prospect for the republican ies spread around that I am in presidential nomination, leaving league with President Roosevelt only Gov. Thomas E. Dewey and and agree with his foreign policy." Gen. Douglas MacArthur outside

that category. Staasen wrote Secretary of the

Navy Knox that he does not seek here at the close of his fourth day and will do nothing personally to of intensive Wisconsin campaignsecure the nomination, but if he were nominated he would consid-to him. "If Mr. Roosevelt is in er it his plain duty to accept and favor of some sort of international would request inactive status to cooperation to preserve the peace, permit him to discuss the issues of then we are in agreement - at

ment with me." At Appleton, earlier in the day, Willkie declared that any republican presidential candidate who does not repudiate America First or who is endorsed by the Chicago Tribune, cannot be elected.

"Any republican candidate who does not repudlate America First and its president, Gerald L. K. Smith, and all they represent, would accept, his supporters say. prior to the nomination, or who Staasen will face his first test does not repudiate them after before the voters in the Wisconsin nomination, cannot possibly be el-

Press wrote at 4:15 p. m. today that rupted its regular transmission to the Germans had firmly established themselves on a commanding ported by free Indian forces. height known as hill 165, which crossed from Burma into India they recaptured yesterday, and had and are fighting on Indian soil.")

planted a wide minefield in the path of any allied counterattack. With all roads up Monastery hill erating in northeast Burma scor-(Turn to Page 2-Story E)

**Willamette Student** Wins at Stanford

PALO ALTO, Calif., March 21 AP)- Miss Darlene Dickson of Wilamette university, Salem, Ore., Chindwin. last night won the Pacific regional finals of the national discussion contest on inter-American affairs, **Marines** Take

at Stanford university. Miss Dickson advocated inter-American trade and commerce as Emirau Island a basis for permanent cooperation. There were eight contestants from 11 eastern states.

"I have never had a political talk with Mr. Roosevelt in my Darlene Dickson, Willamette life," Willkie told an audience

least Mr. Roosevelt is in agree-

night program.

before the voters in the Wisconsin primary April 4 in a four-way contest for 24 republican delegates with Willkie, Dewey and MacAr-

loaded down with household goods. In its wake lay thousands upon thousands of tons of fiery red coals, piling higher and higher

The towns engulied by the mol-

ten rock were San Sebastiano and Massa Di Somma, both about a mile and a half from the top of the volcanic mountain. Faced with a similar fate was Cercola. At midafternoon the lava field was less than 150 feet from its town hall. Over Vesuvius, in its most fearsome eruption since 1872, hung a blackish pall, and the entire Naples area was in a strange twilight caused by a cloud of gray dust. The stream of lava, 90 feet sulphurous fumes.

An Italian scientist, Prof. Giuseppe Imbo of the royal Vesuvius

observatory, reported he was unable to detect any signs that the lava flow would cease soon. He has been on the mountain since Saturday noon, when the huge craannounce: "Japanese uuits, supter "blew off."

Rushing more than 200 big trucks to San Sebastiano and Massa Di Somma before the lava The allied communique assertreached them last night, the Amed that combined allied forces operican and British armies, the RAF and the allied military goved "unexpectedly sudden" victor-les in breaking through into the ernment played a major part in upper Mogaung valley, and in the (Turn to Page 2-Story D)

capture of Sumprabum, 70 miles west of China's Yunnan border. troops, vehicles and stores on the Hull Defines Foreign The Japanese had concentrated banks of the Chindwin river and were attempting to push up the Kabaw valley just west of the Policy; Blasts Vichy

> WASHINGTON, March 21-(AP)-Secretary of State Hull tonight laid down a 17-point program of American foreign policy aimed at a post-war world of international cooperation, and called on all liberty-loving peoples to show themselves worthy of freedom by fighting for it.

Issued as millions of allied troops poised for the coming invasion of Europe, Hull's remarks about liberty were regarded as a call to the peoples of occupied O-

lands to arise and aid the liberatcreasingly thicker.

ing armies when the time comes. In listing the Atlantic charter They appeared designed, too, to reply to criticism that the United as one point, Hull emphasized that mplies an obligation for each States has no clear foreign polination to demonstrate its capacity cy and to clarify some of the quesfor, stable and progressive govtions which have been raised in ernment, to fulfill scrupulously its established duties to other nations. connection with recent American moves in the diplomatic field. This stress on the two-way ap-

For example, the point on libplication of the Atlantic charter would seem a response to recent inquiries as to whether the charerty stating that "never did a plainer duty to fight against its (liberty's) foes devolve upon all peoples who prize liberty and all who aspire to it" fits closely with ter applies to Germany. "The paramount aim of our foreign policy is to defeat our ene-mies as quickly as possible," the secretary declared. the attitude adopted towards the

Hull has not commented on Finland's rejection of Soviet arm in range of American bombe tice terms, but he has warned the Finns in the past that they must "bear the consequences" of their association in the war with nt of Kavieng by bat-

bually destroyed the town, a head- liberty was also directed at the

Captain Denald N. Aldrich, U. S. M. A. C.

lefore he was 12 years old, Marine Captain Donald N. Aldrich, U. S. M. A. C., had 100 hours in the air! He learned to fly with his father, who was a commercial pilot. Captain Aldrich, Chicage's foremost ace of World war II, shot down 20 Jap planes in the Pacific in six months and holds the D. S. C. He is home on brief leave and was greeted on arrival by his wife, Marjorie,

and by their family pet. (International Soundphoto).

**Postmasters** May **Get Annual Salary** 

WASHINGTON, March 21-(AP) House passage sent to the White House today legislation putting fourth-class postmasters on an annual salary instead of basing their ncome on the volume of business transacted.

The legislation also provides allowances for office rent, fuel, lights and equipment.

The salary scale ranges from \$72 for offices having receipts of less than \$50 a year to \$1100 for evacuating the two doomed towns. those whose receipts exceed \$1100 but are less than \$1500 annually.

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Southwest Pacific, Wednesday, March 22 .- (AP)-Allied warplanes, striking day and night at Japanese shipping seeking to reinforce and supply blockaded forces in the Bismarck archipelago, are turning the waters off the northern coast

Bern, Switzerland.

**Allies Sink** 

27 Jap Ships

of New Guinea into a graveyard for the shrinking Nipponese merchant marine. A convoy of five enemy ships

was sent to the bottom with heavy loss of life in the latest reported action by American aircraft in that area off the coast between the enemy bases of Wewak and Hollandia. Gen. Douglas MacArthur reported the action Tuesday.

(The navy in Washington announced yesterday that United States submarines had sunk 15 more enemy ships in the Pacific and from London came official word that British submarines had accounted for seven more in far eastern waters.

**WFA Would Unfreeze 1943 Frozen Foods** 

WASHINGTON, March 21-(AP) Civilians can expect more frozen foods, particularly poultry, fruits and vegetables, in the next 30 days as a result of a war food administration (WFA) order today making available cold storage space for this year's perishable commodities.

The order, effective tomorrow, requires within 30 days a 20 per cent reduction of stocks of frozen poultry, frozen and cold-pack fruits and vegetables, and fruit and vegetable purees in cold storage warehouses of more than 10,000 cubic feet capacity. In addition, all products which have been in such storage 10 months or longer must be removed.

#### Salem Man Held on Stolen Check Charge

ELLENSBURG, March 21-(AP) Wind blew a minor crime wave right into the lap of the law by wafting stolen checks out of a pocketbook from a rooftop to the

"Beyond final victory, our fun-damental national interests are Sheriff Bob Dorsey said today Elmer E. Quinn, 27, was arrested the assuring of our national seand the fostering of the and social well being of ment burglaries and thefts of gascurity and the fostering of the our people." The state department also pledged unequivocally today the destruction of the Vichy regime of France and sharply questioned Salem, Ore.

senior and speech major, Tuesday day, March 22-(AP)-American manight telephoned long distance rines from the Solomon islands from Palo Alto, Calif., to her par- seized Emirau island Monday

the contest.

ents, Mr. and Mrs. Elbert E. Dickson, and informed them that she in their first action in the Bishad been awarded first place in marck sea area pounded the Japwestern representative to Wash-

ington, DC, where she will com-

It is expected that the finals will be held on the Town Meeting of the Air, a regular Thursday

Professor Herbert Rahe, of the Willamette speech department, said Tuesday night that in the

By ASAHEL BUSH ALLIED HEADQUARTERS SOUTHWEST PACIFIC, Wedneswhile United States battleships

Miss Dickson will now go as Ireland with 1000 tons of steel. The marines overcame light en-

emy resistance to put Emirau unpete with regional finalists from der allied control easily. Possesfive other sections of the country sion of Emirau, in the St. Matfor a government sponsored trip thias group 84 miles northwest of into Mexico this summer with Kavieng, "completes the isolation thias group 84 miles northwest of

\$500 to go toward study and tra-vel in that land. It is expected that the finals within bombing range of Truk." Truk, the big enemy naval and supply base which already is with-

based on recently - con Marshall islands airfields, is 600 statute miles north of Emirau The three and one-half hour

leships and other war craft vir-Clearly the urge to fight for

