

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles F. Sprague

The appointment of Senator Homer T. Bone to the vacancy on the ninth circuit court of appeals is regarded as reward for political support of the administration by the senator from Washington, although Bone has sometime deviated from the administration's line. He is without experience on the bench, and his reputation in Washington was built largely on his championship of public ownership of power rather than his professional attainments. Private power interests doubtless will prefer to have him on the bench rather than in the senate.

It seems to me the appointment is open to the criticism that the selection was apparently not based on superior qualifications for this judicial post. The federal circuit court of appeals ranks just under the United States supreme court. Very often it is the final court of appeal because the supreme court often refuses to consider cases, so the decision of the circuit court of appeals stands.

On this court in the several judicial districts are many men of the highest judicial attainments, like Judge Merrill E. Otis of Kansas City and Judge John J. Parker of North Carolina. Vacancies ought to be filled, it would seem, by selecting persons from state or federal district courts who had proven their quality, or from practicing attorneys of distinguished attainments, rather than by the route of political reward for party regularity.

It may be that as judge, Senator Bone will prove a capable judge—it is hardly to be expected that he will be a brilliant judge, like the late Frank Rudkin from his own state of Washington. Hugo Black, for example, has proven a far more industrious and able judge than was anticipated in his appointment. But it is guesswork (Continued on Editorial Page)

### Willkie Looks To Wisconsin For Test Vote

The vote-laden farm belt of the midwest became the No. 1 pre-convention political stage for republicans and democrats alike last night.

Wisconsin's voters were all set for Tuesday's preferential primary, called "vital" by Wendell L. Willkie and obviously significant to all republican presidential possibilities.

With an obvious eye on November farm votes, republican agricultural leaders — five governors and four congressmen—met elsewhere in Chicago to draft a GOP farm plank for the fall campaign. Gov. Bourke B. Hickenlooper of Iowa opened the meeting with the declaration: "Political exploitation of the farmer must stop."

Wisconsin's voters will pick 24 delegates to the republican national convention today in the first clear cut test of Willkie's campaign strength. However the election goes, the result may be a barometer to republican sentiment in other farm states.

There is a full Willkie slate on the ballot but supporters of other republicans — Lt. Com. Harold E. Stassen, Gov. Thomas E. Dewey and Gen. Douglas MacArthur—all have delegate candidates. Willkie, who stumped the state for his own ticket, went on to Nebraska yesterday where republican voters will choose between him and Stassen in a primary next week.

### Stassen Might Run in Oregon

PORTLAND, Ore., April 3-(P)—Lt. Com. Harold E. Stassen, former Minnesota governor, may be entered as a presidential candidate in Oregon's May 19 primary, the Oregonian said tonight.

The newspaper quoted Carl Moser, manager of state republican offices here, as saying Stassen headquarters in St. Paul telephoned him tonight for information on filing procedure in Oregon.

"They were not sure whether Stassen would be a candidate in Oregon," Moser said. "They indicated they would go into a huddle and come out with a decision late tonight or early tomorrow."

Stassen could file by declaration before the 5 p. m. deadline tomorrow. Wendell Willkie is the only republican presidential candidate who has filed.

Smuts Says South Africa Not to Disarm for Years

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### Weather

Monday maximum temperature 64, minimum 43. River 5 ft. Occasional light rains Tuesday and scattered showers Wednesday; cooler Tuesday.

## US Seizes 10 More Jap Atolls

### American Flag Flies Over 14 Marshall Isles

By LEONARD MILLIMAN  
Associated Press War Editor

United States forces have occupied ten more atolls in the central Pacific Marshall islands, Admiral Chester W. Nimitz announced last night.

The American flag now flies over 14 of these Japanese-mandated atolls. Four others—Jaluit, Mili, Maloelap and Wotje—are still held by the enemy and are under daily bombardment by army, navy and marine planes.

All of the Ralik or western chain of the Marshalls, except Jaluit, is now occupied by American forces. Little or no resistance was encountered by reconnoitering forces which landed and established sovereignty over the 10 new atolls—Ujae, Lae, Lib, Namu, Ailingiapalap, Namorik, Eban, Kill, Arno and Bikini.

Kwajalein, the first atoll to come under American rule, was invaded January 31 and since then the conquest of Eniwetok, Majuro and Wotho was previously announced.

Majuro and Arno are adjacent atolls in the eastern chain between Mili and Maloelap, the most important of that group.

Seizure of two more islands in the Admiralty group in the southwest Pacific was announced today by Gen. Douglas MacArthur. They are Korunat and Ndriilo, lying between American-held Los Negros and Hauloff off the northeast coast of Manus.

Two more raids on Truk, making 10 bombing attacks within 10 days, were announced. Nimitz reported all army Liberators returned to their central Pacific bases after a raid on Truk's Dublon island Sunday night (Saturday US time) and MacArthur told of a dawn attack by south Pacific bombers that started big fires. Other south Pacific aircraft carried out round-the-clock raids (Turn to Page 2—Story C)

## Salem to Get Mexican Help

PORTLAND, Ore., April 3-(P)—Thirty Japanese laborers from Colorado arrived at Walla Walla, Wash., today for seed work, the regional office of labor of the war food administration (WFA) announced.

A trainload of 850 Mexicans from California will arrive at Walla Walla about April 10 for the asparagus harvest, the agency said.

Another group of 850 from Mexico City are scheduled to arrive here about April 21, 140 for Wyoming, more than 100 for Idaho and 600 for Yakima, Wash., area. A day or two later 243 are due for Salem, 33 for Grants Pass and 140 for Dayton, Oregon.

## Supreme Court Rules Texas Negroes Can Vote

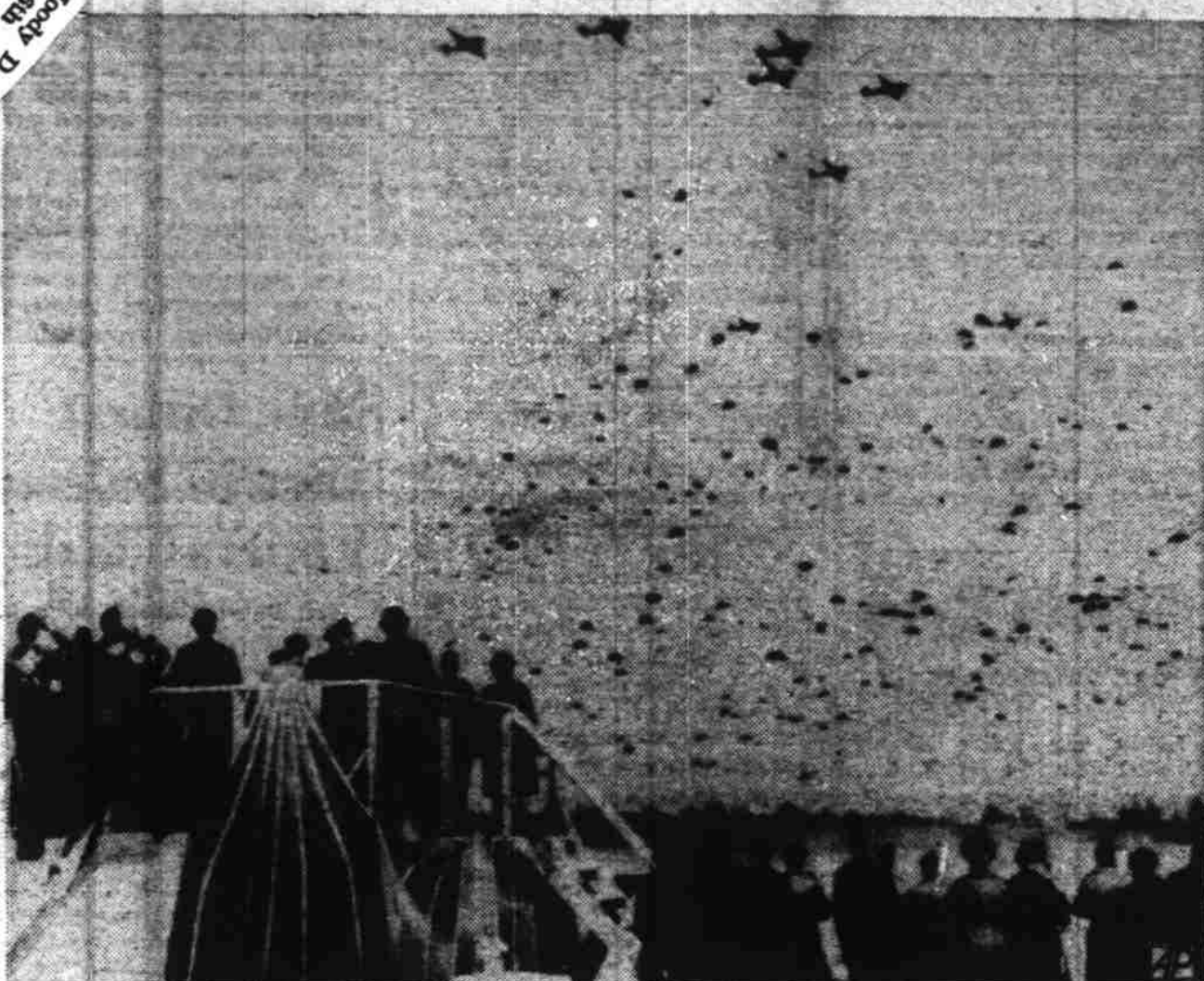
By EDWARD H. HIGGS  
WASHINGTON, April 3-(P)—The supreme court today upset a decision of nine years' standing and ruled that negroes have the right to vote in Texas democratic primary elections, prompting Justice Roberts to protest that the tribunal's opinions are getting to be like a railroad ticket, good only for one day in one train.

The eight-to-one decision, stating that "the great privilege of choosing his rulers may not be denied a man by the state because of his color," overturned the court's unanimous opinion in 1935 sustaining the exclusion of negroes from participation in a Texas democratic primary.

The decision has far-reaching implications for the south, where success in a primary usually is tantamount to election, but whether it will lead to any great increase immediately in the number of negro voters is considered doubtful. The decision does not touch upon other barriers existing in various parts of the south, such as poll taxes, educational tests, etc.

Specifically involved in today's litigation was Lonnie E. Smith, a negro who contended he was denied the right to vote in a 1940 primary by Houston, Tex., elec-

## Paratroops Fill Sky at Review in England



Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower watched this mass parachute descent during a recent inspection of paratroopers and gliders somewhere in England. (AP Wirephoto)

## Manager Plan Off Ballot; Firemen's Pension On

Salem voters won't cast their ballots for or against a council-manager form of government at the time of the May 19 primaries, although they will be faced with a charter amendment providing for a firemen's pension and retirement fund and a three-year three-mill tax levy for sewers, playgrounds and parks.

With four votes against presenting to the people the proposed change in the city's government and only 11 aldermen present, the measure was the only major matter considered in Monday night's 3 1/2-hour session which failed to pass. Eight votes are required for passage of an ordinance.

Howard Maple, Claude Jorgensen, J. E. LeGarie and R. O. Lewis, opposed the measure. David O'Hara, most ardent and eloquent spokesman against it, said he had promised to cast his vote to refer the bill to the voters.

LeGarie called for submission of several different plans to the voters. O'Hara maintained the council-manager plan was the "same old proposition referred twice during my term of office here . . . political and not practical," maintained the council would do well to care for the business at hand rather than "shadow boxing with city managers and all kinds of rainbows," and concluded his argument with a declaration that any major change should be held until the city's population is once more stationary.

The council bade farewell last night to two aldermen as it accepted the resignation of J. H. Nicholson, veteran from the first ward, and adopted a boundary change for the sixth ward which automatically makes Elmer O. Berg ineligible to serve that sector. Both positions will be filled at the May 19 elections, but interim appointments are expected from the council at its next regular meeting, April 17.

Praising Nicholson's long record of service to the city, Mayor I. M. Doughton declared that the alderman had made real sacrifices to attend council meetings during a period of ill health. Berg, who has been an active committee member, resides in new precinct 27 which the county court recently carved out of wards two and six. Voting with other council members to rebound the two wards so that the entire new precinct falls in the second, Alderman O'Hara said he had no choice, but challenged the right of the county court to "jerry-mander precinct lines in such a way that a member of the council is removed before his term of office expires."

The postwar financing bill, which was born in a planning commission meeting as a way of guaranteeing completion of the (Turn to Page 2—Story F)

## Hit, Run Driver Kills Silvertown Boy, 5

SILVERTOWN, April 3—Kenneth Joe Reiling, five years old, was killed by a hit and run driver in Portland Sunday. Funeral services will be held Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock from St. Paul's Catholic church with burial in Miller cemetery.

He was the son of Joe Reiling, who died as the result of an accident in the summer of 1942 at an Albany butcher shop. Survivors include his mother and a brother, Larry Norman, who will be two years old in May.

## Hungary Bombed By Night

### Raid Follows Daylight Blow On Budapest

LONDON, Tuesday, April 4 (P)—Allied bombers were reported in a Berlin broadcast early today to have made a night thrust into Hungary following up the heavy daylight raid upon Budapest yesterday by Italy-based US fleets.

Soon after midnight, the German station said "a small number of planes" was approaching the Hungarian capital.

Earlier it had warned of single enemy aircraft approaching southeast Germany, suggesting a foray by British Mosquitos, which lately have been dropping 4000-pound blockbusters.

## Supply Roads Into Imphal Cut by Japs

By CHARLES A. GRUMICH  
NEW DELHI, April 3-(P)—Japanese invasion forces have cut supply roads into the big allied base at Imphal, capital of Manipur state in eastern India, it was disclosed today as fighting raged in the wild hills of the Naga head-hunters east of Kohima, 60 miles north of Imphal.

An allied spokesman, while conceding that Imphal had been temporarily isolated by main road, declared the crisis would be overcome shortly and that there would be no necessity for supplying the great advance base by air.

A full-scale battle had been joined east of Kohima, where a Japanese column was driving determinedly toward Dimapur on the Assam-Burma railway lifeline to Lt. Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell's Chinese and American forces in northern Burma. Dimapur is 44 miles across the Naga hills from Kohima.

A second Japanese force, thrusting toward Imphal from the Chindwin river area to the east, was reported thrown back by defending British and Indian troops. Southeast of Imphal, near the lower end of the 200-mile invasion front, Japanese artillery continued to shell the Tamu-Palel road.

Dispatches from northern Burma reported that Stilwell's Chinese troops had broken through the Japanese defense line just south of Laban and had driven another (Turn to Page 2—Story E)

## Gas Still Low Says Ickes

WASHINGTON, April 3-(P)—Secretary Ickes said tonight that "contrary to the impression held in some quarters" there is no possibility at this time of increasing civilian gasoline rations in any section of the country.

"Despite any statements made by so-called informed sources, stocks of gasoline for civilian use are tight all over the country," said Ickes, who is petroleum administrator for war, in a statement.

"Stocks of total crude petroleum and products in the United States are at the lowest level they have been in the last 20 years. The allocations for the second quarter of 1944 have been made to the office of price administration. It is not expected that these will be changed."

Deputy PAW Chief Ralph K. Davies, in a supplemental statement, said east coast petroleum supplies are generally in a better position than last year but "this does not mean that there is an abundance of gasoline supplies."

## Two Willamette Valley Men Missing in Action

WASHINGTON, April 3-(P)—The war department today announced the names of 568 soldiers missing in action.

## Rumanians Fight Nazis; Desert to Reds

### Reds Ask Satellite Nation To Capitate as They Move 13 Miles in Country

NEW YORK, April 3-(P)—Rumanian soldiers are deserting "by the thousand" and skirmishes are occurring in many regions between these deserters and German troops, the Bulgarian home radio said tonight, quoting an Istanbul dispatch.

"Between Braila and Harsova in the Danube delta, 30,000 Rumanian soldiers are hidden, armed with rifles, machine-guns and mine throwers, and are successfully resisting the punitive detachments sent against them," said the broadcast, recorded by the FCC.

Harsova is 90 miles east of Bucharest and Braila 40 miles north of Harsova.

## Allied Troops Take Peak Near Cassino

By RICHARD G. MASSOCK  
ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Naples, April 3-(P)—Italian troops fighting with the allied fifth army have captured a third peak northeast of Cassino, it was announced today, and an attack by 150 German infantrymen against allied defenses on the Anzio beachhead was thrown back with losses.

The new hill seized by the Italians was identified as Point 1344. Previously this allied force was disclosed to have occupied 3600-foot Mt. Castelnuovo and Mt. Marone, about 15 miles northeast of Cassino, without opposition.

(The Rome radio, with no allied confirmation, broadcast Monday night that German troops had regained all of Cassino and its suburbs except the railway station south of the town. It said the Germans throughout Monday "continued to wipe out the last remaining Anglo-American pocket of resistance among the ruins of Cassino. Other groups of huns outside the town also have been incorporated into the German line of defense. Thus only the ruined railway station remains in allied hands.")

The Berlin radio also claimed Cassino success, reporting the recapture of "Height 435, where a garrison of Indian troops was killed to the last man."

Led by flame-throwers, the nazis launched their latest attack against the left flank of the beachhead just before dusk on Friday, today's announcement said. By midnight the attackers either were dead or routed, though mortar fire thundered through the night. Numerous patrol clashes were reported around the beachhead and a tentative nazis tank thrust west of Cisterna was discouraged by allied artillery.

There were indications the Germans had made their last major assault against the beachhead and had decided to try and seal it off. They were installing elaborate defenses around the perimeter, including fields of barbed wire entanglements, signs of a purely defensive attitude.

## 75 Trainees Due At Oregon State

CORVALLIS, April 3-(P)—Seventy-five 17-year-old induction trainees have been assigned to Oregon State college for the spring term under the new army specialized training program. Dean E. B. Leman, director of military programs, announced today.

They will study a basic course consisting of military classes and mathematics, physics, chemistry, English, geography and history. Col. Glen Webster, commandant said they will be in the reserve and not actually inducted, hence will wear ROTC uniforms.

## Cordon Will Speak On State Network

PORTLAND, April 3-(P)—Sen. Guy Cordon said today he has accepted an Astoria chamber of commerce invitation to make a report to the people of Oregon there Wednesday night.

The senator, appointed by Governor Snell to succeed the late Charles L. McNary, said he would give a non-political talk over a statewide radio network. He will be introduced by Merle R. Chessman, publisher of the Astoria Budget.

## Finns Stage Peace Plan

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, April 3-(P)—A decision on Finland's peace crisis appeared to have been postponed tonight until after Easter, while some pessimism prevailed in Helsinki on the country's chances of finding a way out of the war with Russia.

Finnish political quarters here said that while there were reports of some modification in the Russian armistice terms following Dr. Juhon K. Paasikivi's trip to Moscow, the belief now prevails that the terms are as harsh as ever and even more precise.

The earlier reports had said the Russians made some frontier concessions, but placed high reparations demands on the Finns.

In political circles in Helsinki, it was presumed the peace question hardly can be solved within the next few days.

Although some clarification of the situation had been expected tonight when parliament met, it was declared semi-officially that "nothing special happened" at the session.

A similar convocation is to be held tomorrow morning before the members adjourn for Easter.

## The Easter Story

As a modern reporter might have told it if he could have been in Jerusalem 1900 years ago.

Robert Geiger  
AP Features Writer

Has the first of a series of six stories leading up to Easter Sunday, written in modern language on page 5.