

Secretary Ickes hit on a novel idea when he suggested giving the war plants to the returning veterans. He draws on the example of homesteads following the Civil war, and he could have gone clear back to the Revolution when its soldiers shared in grant lands being opened up in the west.

But wouldn't the veterans of this war be tempted to cash in on their stock by selling it as quickly as they could, so that soon control would pass to speculators or competitors for a song? If the government attempted to operate the plants what assurance would the veterans have of success of the enterprise? If one veteran got 10 shares of stock in an aluminum plant that succeeded while another got shares in a synthetic rubber plant that fizzled, would there be a complaint of discrimination? Or if all the war plants are to be operated under one organization would there be any profits to divide?

I have a feeling that probably most veterans would follow that line in Omar Khayyam: "Take the cash and let the credit go." They would prefer the money to buy a home or a farm or a business—or a car or a tractor, or some of them just to squander.

The Ickes idea is original, however, and should not be discarded merely because some obstacles appear. They might be what Jevons in his "Logic" calls the "fallacy of objections." Certainly the men who have fought in the war are more deserving of the plants than the ones who stayed home and made money in operating them.

An important thing to keep in mind, however, is not merely ownership of the plants but employment in their (Continued on Editorial Page)

### Congress Gives Armed Forces' Plea Push-Off

WASHINGTON, April 21—(AP)—The house military committee stuck to its guns today in opposition to labor draft legislation in the face of a renewed drive by the army, the navy and the maritime commission for a law to conscript war plant workers.

If anything, the latest plea of the armed services as expressed in a joint statement by Navy Secretary Knox, Secretary Stimson and Maritime Chairman Land, solidified the oft-voiced position of the committee that national service legislation is not the answer to the manpower problem.

"We have spoken and we meant what we said," declared Representative May (D, Ky.), chairman of the committee without whose sanction service legislation cannot reach the house floor. National service legislation has been stalled for months in his committee and in the senate's military committee.

May referred to a committee report, issued yesterday five hours before the army-navy-maritime statement, asserting there is no need for legislation and pointing out that existing law permits selective service and other war agencies to control the job activities of draft-age men, especially 4-F's.

The report mildly criticized the army for what the committee said was a lack of full cooperation in efficiently using manpower under present laws.

### River Claims Two Victims

First 1944 spring victims of the Willamette river, a seven-year-old Salem boy and a fisherman in his early 20's, were drowned Friday.

The body of small Jerry Burke, second son of City Police Officer and Mrs. Edwin G. Burke, was taken from the river at the foot of Owens street at approximately 7 p.m., about an hour after the lad is believed to have fallen in the river from logs where he played with another child.

At an early hour this morning state police, rivermen and residents of the area four miles south of Independence were still grappling for a body reported to be that of Harold Kiern, young fisherman, who with his wife and small child and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ramage had fished the river during daylight hours.

Little was known of the child's drowning. His grandfather, Napoleon Rocque, 195 West Owens street, located the body shortly after he was notified of the accident. Resuscitation attempts were unsuccessful.

In addition to his mother, Jerry is survived by brothers, Jackie and Steven. He was a Bush school pupil. The body is at the Clough-Barrick mortuary.

## RAF Rips Cologne, Key Rails

### British Release 5000 Bomb Tons In Record Blow

LONDON, Saturday, April 22 (AP)—A German radio broadcast recorded by the British ministry of information warned early today of "enemy aircraft which approached western Germany," indicating the RAF might be extending the historic allied day-night devastation of Hitler's Europe into the fifth straight cycle.

By W. W. HERCHER  
LONDON, April 21—(AP)—The RAF in its strongest blow of the war poured more than 5000 tons of bombs last night on Cologne and three other key railway centers behind the nazis' invasion front, and today American heavy bombers were reported by Berlin to have carried out a "major attack" on Bucharest and other targets in southeastern Europe.

More than 1100 aircraft, the largest number of planes ever sent out by the British bomber command, ripped apart the enemy's four rail centers, presumably with last-minute preparations for strengthening the vaunted Atlantic wall against the forthcoming allied invasion. Sixteen of the bombers were lost.

Besides Cologne, described by the air ministry as being by far the most important railway center in western Germany, the RAF shattered and burned Lens, in the Pas-de-Calais "invasion coast" area, Ottignies in Belgium about 15 miles southeast of Brussels, and La Chapelle, on the outskirts of Paris.

In addition, RAF Mosquitoes capable of carrying two-ton blockbusters delivered a sharp night attack on Berlin. From Britain, American light and medium bombers hammered again at the Atlantic wall targets, Marauders and Havocs making repeated flights during the day. Five of the bombers were lost as the nazis sent up fighters for the first time in more than a month in this area.

The American heavyweight blow reported by Germany presumably (Turn to Page 2—Story E)

## Germans Say Invasion Near

LONDON, April 21—(AP)—The invasion-hitery nazis put out a report today that the allies were massing soldiers and ships at channel and southern England ports in preparation for the invasion of western Europe.

The German radio said allied soldiers were streaming from London to the ports while the United States and British navies were massing the greatest concentration of ships since Dunkerque.

London, said the nazis broadcast, was becoming "more and more deserted by British, United States and colonial troops."

The Vichy radio predicted that the western invasion would be timed with new allied thrusts in Italy and the Balkans.

## Soldier Voting Post Card Will Be Legal in Oregon

The postcard prescribed by congress for soldier voting may be accepted legally by any county clerk in Oregon as a request for an absentee ballot, and as registration in the county of the soldier applicant's residence under specified conditions, Attorney General George Neuner held Friday in a two-page opinion which may be used as a guide by county clerks and other election officials.

That opinion, requested by Secretary of State Robert S. Farrell, Jr., will be sent in mimeographed form to each county clerk in Oregon prior to the May 19 primaries, but clerks will be called to Salem after the primary election to discuss uniform procedure in handling the November soldier vote, Farrell said.

The postcard given congressional approval also may be legally accepted as an application

## Bomb Sabang



Units of the British eastern fleet, sweeping nearly 1000 miles across the Indian ocean from their base in Ceylon, bombarded Sabang, at the northern tip of Sumatra (ship symbols and pointer), the admiralty announced. (AP Wirephoto)

## Reds Slay Attackers

### Sevastopol Battle In Final Stages As Nazis Stagger

LONDON, Saturday, April 22—(AP)—The Soviet high command announced early today that Marshal Gregory K. Zhukov's First Ukraine army killed 1500 enemy troops and destroyed 80 tanks yesterday in a violent battle spreading through the Carpathian foothills south-east of Stanislawow in Old Poland, where the Germans apparently sought to disrupt a fresh Russian offensive timetable.

Moscow's midnight bulletin, which again did not mention besieged Sevastopol, where the enemy has been squeezed into a 50-square-mile tip of the Crimea, said the fighting near Stanislawow was precipitated by renewed German attacks. One Soviet unit alone repulsed seven consecutive nazis assaults in fighting that often was hand-to-hand, the bulletin said.

A Berlin broadcast, giving perhaps the clue to the current German counter-attacks, reported that huge red army reserves were flowing through the Ukraine into a 250-mile sector of the Polish front between the upper Dniestr and the Pripyat marshes as a prelude to fresh Russian assaults along the most direct invasion route to Berlin.

It was possible that these Russian reserves had been shifted from the Crimea where Sevastopol is the only foothold left to the enemy. Two Russian armies (Turn to Page 2—Story B)

## Badoglio Reports New Italy Cabinet

NAPLES, April 21—(AP)—Marshal Pietro Badoglio announced the formation of a new Italian cabinet today with himself as premier and foreign minister. He told a press conference tonight that the new government would begin functioning Monday.

"The allies wanted me to form a more representative government," Badoglio told correspondents. "All six of Italy's parties are represented in this one. Therefore, I feel the results could not have been better."

Asked if he thought the new cabinet would endure until the allies enter Rome, the marshal replied, "I'm no prophet."

## Nip Tanks Show Up In India

### Allies Continue To Drive Back Jap Invaders

SOUTHEAST ASIA HEADQUARTERS, Kandy, Ceylon, April 21—(AP)—The Japanese have thrown reinforcements, including tanks, into their invasion of India, but they still are being knocked back in hard fighting around the big allied bases of Imphal and Kohima, some 35 miles from the Burma border. Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten's headquarters announced today.

First appearance of enemy tanks in the fighting at the edge of the Imphal plain was reported from the Palel area, south-east of Imphal, where British and Indian troops repulsed a Japanese infantry attack supported by armor. The tanks apparently had been brought through the mountains and jungles from Burma at terrific expenditure of effort.

An influx of Japanese troops was noted in the area of Kohima, 60 miles north of Imphal, but Mountbatten's communique said allied forces made further progress in their counter-offensive against an invasion column that established road blocks along the supply highway between Kohima and Dimapur station on the Bengal-Assam railway.

Earlier in the week an allied force from Dimapur broke through to the relief of a third British and Indian garrison that had held Kohima against day (Turn to Page 2—Story K)

## Churchill Tells Empire States Tariff Secure

LONDON, April 21—(AP)—Prime Minister Churchill assured the states of the British empire today that they would emerge from the war with their imperial preference plan of mutually advantageous tariff rates unhampered by the Atlantic charter or by the 1942 Anglo-American lend-lease agreement.

He told an approving house of commons President Roosevelt had assured him that "we were no more committed to abolition of imperial preference than the American government was committed to abolition of their protective tariff."

The prime minister said there need be no clash between the unity of the commonwealth and the empire and their associations with the United States and Russia, and added:

"There must be a wholehearted endeavor begun in good time to promote the greatest interchange of goods and service for that process of betterment of the standards of living in every country without which expanding markets are impossible and without which prosperity is a dream (Turn to Page 2—Story J)

## Allied Aerial Fleet in Italy Pounds Nazis

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Naples, April 21—(AP)—The allied Mediterranean air forces hurled their power at nazi communications in Italy yesterday, hitting ports along the coasts and rail networks inland with more ports along the coasts and rail networks inland with more than 2000 sorties.

Targets at the head of the Adriatic sea caught the brunt of the assault, four-engined Liberators pouring explosives into Venice harbor and the Montefalcone shipyards near Trieste.

American fighter-bombers in 50 strafing runs across Trieste airfield northeast of Rome destroyed 10 rounded Focke-Wulf-190 fighters. Livorno harbor on the west coast also was showered with bombs. Eight allied planes were lost in all actions.

An American destroyer, patrolling the approaches to Anzio harbor, ran into a covey of German E-boats and a communique said one of the swift little vessels probably was sent to the bottom. Another was reported probably damaged by the destroyer's guns in the night skirmish.

## Toughening Up For Invasion



Members of a US infantry unit in northern Ireland go through contact work during an intensive ranger course designed to toughen them for the coming invasion of Europe. (AP Wirephoto)

## Nations Agree on Huge Fund To Stabilize World Finance

By DONALD KOVACIC  
WASHINGTON, April 21—(AP)—Treasury technicians of 34 nations announced tonight their agreement on broad outlines for a proposed \$8,000,000,000 gold-based stabilization fund designed to restore order to international finance and promote world prosperity.

Soviet Russia dramatically gave its approval at the last minute. Word of Russian concurrence with the money experts of other United Nations was received only a short time before the agreement was made public here and in other allied capitals.

Secretary Morgenthau earlier had told newsmen that the joint statement represented the views of all the nations except Russia, although he added that he was "very hopeful" of Russian adherence.

The fund, it was explained, would use such methods of buying and selling gold and currencies to prevent unhealthful gyrations in the relationships between currencies and to promote trade. It could provide one country with currency of (Turn to Page 2—Story C)

## Marion War Fund Close To \$100,000

Marion county's 1944 Red Cross war fund neared the \$100,000 mark Friday as contributions resulting from last month's campaign continued to dribble in.

"The \$99,321.67 recorded to date is the best testimony that can be offered for the careful planning and the continuous drive of Chairman Elton Thompson and his organization," Loyal Warner, campaign publicity chairman who released the report, said. The county's minimum quota was \$74,000.

The rural division of the county, that is the section lying outside of school district 24, raised \$35,430.74, largest divisional contribution. Salem residential section had raised \$11,422.38 by Friday, or 164 per cent of its quota. Governmental contributions had mounted to \$7483.45, or 166 per cent of the division's quota.

Every Salem division went over the top by amounts ranging from nine to the 66 per cent. Salem theaters raised \$2094.10; the 40 et 8 dance, \$650, and an estimated \$1500 came from Camp Adair to the Marion county chapter's credit.

## Kowitz of Salem In Speech Finals

ROSEBURG, Ore., April 21—(AP) Chris Kowitz, Salem; Elaine Budlong and Wayne Hembree, Portland, and Bob Powell, Eugene, went their way into finals of the state Christian Endeavor high school speech contest finals tonight.

They eliminated 13 other district champions and will vie for the state title tomorrow night. Registration for the 53rd annual Oregon Christian Endeavor convention passed 400 tonight. Tomorrow's program includes election of officers and a special recognition service for Miss Viola Ogden who recently retired as state secretary after 20 years' service.

Weather  
Maximum temperature 63 degree; minimum 36; no rainfall; river 4.5 ft.  
Partly cloudy Saturday with occasional light rain in northwestern part. Sunday partly cloudy with occasional snow flurries over mountains of northern part. Not much change in temperature.

## Japanese Encircle Rail City

### Chenghsien May Fall; Nationals Ordered to Flee

By SPENCER MOOSA  
CHUNGKING, April 21—(AP)—The Japanese, using a force of between 50,000 and 60,000 men, including crack reinforcements drawn from the Manchurian garrison, are swiftly encircling the North Honan railway junction of Chenghsien, Chinese advisers stated tonight. The American and British embassies were disclosed to have ordered their nationals to flee from the path of the enemy's gathering offensive.

The town of Chenghsien itself seemed likely to fall before the Japanese drive, declared by the Chinese to be aimed at closing the 160-mile Chinese-held section of the Peiping-Hankow railway and, it was suggested for foreign observers today, perhaps at capturing the great Honan wheat crop now ripening in the fields.

The Chinese command in its communique tonight indicated that the Japanese had narrowed to less than 30 miles an escape corridor through which the Chinese forces defending Chenghsien could flee to the southwest.

A Japanese column striking toward Chenghsien from the east brought the junction under shellfire, the Chinese bulletin stated, while two other columns from the east crossed the Peiping-Hankow railway at a point about 20 miles below Chenghsien and advanced 10 miles beyond toward the important highway town of Miehien.

Still another large Japanese force striking down from the northwest was engaged only a few miles outside Chenghsien by Chinese (Turn to Page 2—Story F)

## New Tax Plan Will Withhold Full Liability

WASHINGTON, April 21—(AP) Details of new withholding levies against wages and salaries, which may become effective next January 1 if congress approves the tax simplification bill now being shaped by the house ways and means committee, were disclosed tonight by a dependable tax source.

The new withholding levels, higher for most taxpayers, are designed to collect the full tax liability of persons earning up to \$5000 and make it unnecessary for some 30,000,000 persons to file formal returns after this year.

However, any of the 30,000,000 who desired to claim higher deductions, for other taxes, contributions and interest paid, than the average allowed for the withholding machinery, could file formal returns as usual, and make such claims.

There would be no change in amounts held out of pay envelopes and salary checks this year. The new withholdings would be designed to take the full tax for most persons, at about the levels of the new revenue law recently approved by congress.

The committee probably will decide tomorrow whether to accept the withholding tables prepared by its staff of experts.

Under the new withholding system, by which the government for the first time would attempt to collect exact tax liabilities by deduction from pay envelopes and (Turn to Page 2—Story G)

## Bing Names News Staff

Staff appointments for the newspaper tabloid style overseas news letter which Salem Cherrians will send to capital city servicemen were announced Friday night by King Bing Frank Chatas, and May 4 was set as copy deadline, with publication date to be sometime the second week in May.

Kenneth Perry, Harold Busick and Chatas will serve as editors in chief, while Douglas Mullarky is to be in charge of composition. Reporters are Paul Hale, local news; Ralph Campbell, sports and high school; Les Leserer, promotion display; Kenneth Perry, political news; and Dan Hay, club activities. Arthur Bates will edit a special column listing names of recent inductees and locations insofar as military censorship will permit.

## Liberator Sinks Nip Cargo Ship Near Hollandia

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, SOUTHWEST PACIFIC, Saturday, April 22—(AP)—Bombs from a Liberator sank a 1000-ton Japanese cargo ship west of the enemy base at Hollandia, Dutch New Guinea, Wednesday while medium bombers continued to pound nearby sections of the coast. Gen. Douglas MacArthur's communique said today.

The fifth army airforce Mitchells swept low to drop 45 tons of explosives on buildings at Vanimo, 30 miles east of Hollandia. Boston attack planes and fighters working over the Hansa bay-Madang area farther down the New Guinea coast hit supply and bivouac areas, started fires in warehouses and wrecked two barges.

Satawan airdrome in the Nomoi islands, Central Carolines, was blasted with 49 tons of bombs delivered by Solomon-based Liberators at Midway Wednesday, the fourth raid in a daily schedule started last Sunday.

Other heavy bombers from the Solomons whacked the Japanese airdrome at Woleai, in the western Carolines, with 52 tons of explosives. Four aircraft on the ground were destroyed. Woleai has been raided three times this week.

Heavy bombers struck two Japanese (Turn to Page 2—Story I)

## Olympia Man Injured In Auto Accident

DALLAS — Hallett Sifer, 50, Olympia, Wash., received severe lacerations and possible bone fractures but was not believed severely injured when his car crashed into a culvert who miles north of Rickreall on the west side highway early Friday afternoon. He was brought to the Dallas hospital.

## 2000 Boys, Girls Gather Here for 4H Club Events

By FLORENCE LYNDIS  
As nearly 2000 boys and girls stood at attention on the court-house grounds in Salem Friday morning and repeated the 4H club pledge—"I pledge my head to clearer thinking, my heart to greater loyalty, my hands to larger living, for my club, my community and my country"—one might well wonder where comes the talk of youth delinquency.

Club members from all over Marion county gathered for the third annual 4H parade and rally which was considered the best ever held. Amos W. Bierly, county 4H club agent, introduced the platform guests including Mayor I. M. Doughton of Salem, members of the county court, H. C. Seymour, state club leader; Miss Helen Cowgill, assistant club leader; Mrs. Agnes Booth, county school superintendent; and representa-

(Turn to Page 2—Story B)