

**IT SEEMS TO ME**  
By Charles F. Sprague

The Weyerhaeuser interests have purchased the Pillsbury block of 47,000 acres of timber lying on Coos river to the Umpqua divide. This is the largest block of timber left in private hands in the state, except that in the hands of operators. Two years ago I went through this timber on a magnificent stand of Douglas fir and ready for harvest. The country is mountainous but the drainage gives access by valleys to the timber on the densely wooded slopes.

There are some interesting stories in connection with this timber. When the Coos Bay wagon road company was formed it received as a grant the odd-numbered sections of lands adjacent to its right of way. The Pillsbury people who were flouting mill people in Minneapolis, bought up the even-numbered sections as an investment. After the wagon road grant lands reverted to the government the Pillsburys made an exchange with the government so that each got his holdings in solid blocks. Just a few years later occurred the Tioga burn which destroyed most of the timber on the lands which Pillsburys had traded to the government. The Pillsbury tracts escaped the fire. During the depression the owners who were heirs of the original holders were divided in their opinion on whether they should continue to pay taxes on the lands or not. Some were said to be in favor of throwing the lands up and letting the county take over. They decided to hold on however, and the sale to the Weyerhaeusers was made undoubtedly at a very good price in view of the present timber market.

This sale gives the Weyerhaeuser title to about 100,000 acres of timberland in the Coos area. They have purchased a millsite at North Bend, so the timber will flow down to Coos Bay for milling and shipping.

This deal makes Weyerhaeuser even more of a dominating factor in the Oregon lumbering industry than before. A few years ago they (continued on editorial page)

**Senate Group Hits Seizure Of Ward Plant**

WASHINGTON, May 26—(AP)—Every government agency concerned with the Montgomery Ward case was taken sharply to task today in a senate judiciary subcommittee report which held that President Roosevelt had "no constitutional or statutory authority" to order seizure of the company's Chicago plant.

The report, which attributed "erroneous, misleading, irrelevant and immaterial statements and allegations" to Attorney General Francis Biddle, was assailed by the latter in turn as containing "absurd conclusions."

Biddle, target of the subcommittee's severest criticism, declared he had been denied an opportunity to appear before the group and likened its investigation to "star chamber methods."

"No cases are cited in the report," Biddle asserted, "in concluding that the president did not have the constitutional powers to act in the Montgomery Ward case. The subcommittee makes no reference to the supreme court cases which clearly recognize such powers."

Biddle said he had referred the subcommittee to those cases since he had mentioned them in a brief filed in the Ward case.

The attorney general also cited an opinion of the US district court for the western district of Kentucky, which held that "without an act of congress there was sufficient authority by the terms of the constitution itself to justify the federal seizure of a Kentucky tube and lamp corporation." (Turn to Page 2—Story D)

**Roosevelt Speaks of Coming Action As Liberation Rather Than Invasion**

By WILLIAM T. PEACOCK

WASHINGTON, May 26—(AP)—President Roosevelt dropped a hint today that the allied offensive against Europe is not far off, saying the actions coming off this summer ought to be called the liberation rather than the invasion of Europe.

**Lumber Walkouts Increase**

**WLB Drops Case Until Men Go Back to Work**

PORTLAND, May 26—(AP)—Lumber walkouts increased over the northwest today, unchecked by a war labor board (WLB) warning that only resumption of work would enable further consideration of wage demands.

Simultaneously with the statement of William H. Davis, WLB chairman, that the board will resume handling cases on appeal "when the men have come back to work," 500 men walked out of six mills in the logging center of Lane county.

Both the CIO International Woodworkers of America and the AFL Lumber and Sawmill Workers have scheduled executive meetings here tomorrow morning, however, and will consider the WLB's stand at that time.

Indirectly, the WLB statement held out hope of a change in the wage increase denial which has sent from 30,000 to 40,000 lumber workers off the job.

Davis said the WLB decision, "made after painstaking consideration," was final, but emphasized that it was based only on lumber workers' contention that an emergency manpower situation existed in this area.

Wage increases, asked on other grounds, could still be made if they fell within the provisions of the wage stabilization act. The WLB still has pending 77 different cases and a general wage appeal for lumber workers. The AFL asked an increase from 90 cents an hour to a \$1.05 minimum, and the CIO to \$1.02½.

At McMillinville, Ore., where 135 AFL Sawmill Workers walked out today, General Manager Elmer E. Worth closed down his logging camp operations, charging union officials with responsibility for the walkout.

"Union officials term of an unofficial walkout is not accurate," he said. "Workers have been advised that a vote taken in the fall of 1942, when wage demands were first referred to the west coast lumber commission, was the basis for the present strike, and that a new strike vote is unnecessary." (Turn to Page 2—Story E)

**Allies Kill 8500 Japanese**

SOUTHEAST ASIA HEADQUARTERS, Kandy, Ceylon, May 26—(AP)—Japanese attempts to seize the Imphal plain in India have cost them 8500 men since March and are continuing to bleed them heavily, allied headquarters announced today, while on the monsoon-drenched North Burma front at Myitkya the enemy still was reported clinging desperately to all main positions in the stronghold.

The slaughter was going on in the Imphal area, with heavy casualties inflicted upon the 33rd and 15th Japanese divisions plus reinforcements which originally totalled about 30,000 men, a headquarters spokesman said.

In a recent attack on allied forward positions along the Paleit-Tamu road, the Japanese were thrown back in an attempt to penetrate positions on the south-west edge of the plain, and today's communique said they left 200 dead on the field.

It was not developed whether Mr. Roosevelt, by saying the late spring, meant this year or next year—which would be after the inauguration of the president elected next fall.

In a discussion of post-war planning, Mr. Roosevelt said ideas for a post-war plan for overall security have been reduced to a rough draft and, in response to a question, that he was finding Russia a satisfactory and cooperative collaborator.

**'Ike' Irnects Troop /isits Kir George**

MAY 26—(AP)—Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, whose work will hurl the full might of an allied invasion upon the Nazi-bound continent, returned to supreme headquarters today after a swift inspection tour of British land forces under his overall command, well pleased with the thorough training of this army Britain has assembled to wring vengeance for the Dunkerque of four years ago.

He pronounced the men fit and ready for their part in the job to come—and that probably was his word to their king, whom he visited briefly upon his return from the field.

In Moscow, declaring that this whole great fighting alliance was poised on the "threshold of new events which will be historic," the official soviet newspaper, Izvestia, said "the day is not far distant when the world will see Anglo-Soviet-American military might develop in all its power."

For their part, the Germans expect allied power to reach its climactic maximum by this summer, according to the Nazi news agency DNB.

Seeking to take the edge off German tension, drawn taut by 18 months of faltering defense topped by looming defeat in Italy and merciless battering by allied bombers, DNB in a long dispatch went back to its favorite hint that Germans would not wait forever for the invasion.

"There is no doubt," the dispatch said, "that the German tactics do not consist of waiting on the defensive for an unlimited time." It added that German forces were charging up "energies of which the enemy may have some idea, but which will surprise him when one day they let loose—invasion or no invasion."

**Mac's Planes Pound Biak In Schoutens**

ADVANCED ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, New Guinea, Saturday, May 27—(AP)—Gen. Douglas MacArthur's long-range Liberators are continuing their incessant pounding of Biak Island on the route to the Philippines, headquarters announced today.

In their 22nd successive raid on the major Schouten islands base, 280 miles northwest of captured Hollandia, the Liberators dumped heavy loads Thursday to bring their total tonnage to more than 700.

There was no report of the progress for ground troops on the Dutch New Guinea mainland in their battle for the partially completed Japanese air base at Maffin, 10 miles up the coast from Wakda Island, which was taken May 19.

Continuation of heavy air raids on the Schoutens, following the pre-invasion pattern of near-saturation bombardments, resulted in three large fires Thursday, the communique reported. Manokwari, on the head of New Guinea across Geplivink bay from the Schoutens, was hammered again.

Other bombers kept up extermination attacks on by-passed Japanese garrisons at Wewak, British New Guinea, and Rabaul, New Britain. The Wewak area received 75 tons Thursday and Rabaul 86 tons the day before.

MacArthur's communique made no mention of operations in the Maffin bay area, but headquarters spokesmen said meager reports filtering back from the front lines indicated the stubborn Japanese defenders were withdrawing under heavy American infantry and artillery fire.

**President Roosevelt Gets Health Checkup**

WASHINGTON, May 26—(AP)—President Roosevelt underwent a brief physical examination at the navy medical center in nearby Bethesda, Maryland, today to make certain that his recent month's rest in the south had erased the effects of a series of winter ailments.

The results of the examination probably will not be made public until next week.

During the winter the president was ill with the flu, colds, and bronchial trouble. One of the purposes of today's examination was to make certain all traces of any bronchial disorder have vanished.

**American Forces Pushing Nazis Out of Velletri on Road to Rome**

**Allies Merge on Two Fronts**



Arrows indicate allied drives in Italy, where the two battlefronts (black lines) were merged when American patrols from Anzio and the eastern front met at Borgo Grappa. Germans were reported retreating to positions (broken line) north of the Appian way. (AP Wirephoto)

**3-Power 'Super Cabinet' Might Soon Be Formed**

LONDON, May 26—(AP)—Formation of a tri-power "super cabinet" to deal with the international diplomatic problems of Britain, Russia and the United States may be the next development in plans to create, before victory, an international organization to keep the peace.

Just how far the idea has developed remains uncertain, but its necessity has been urged for some time and is likely membership would be on a high level—men of such position as Ambassador John G. Winant of the United States, Lord Halifax of Britain and Maxim Litvinoff of Russia.

(Secretary of State Hull said in Washington Friday that preparations made by the United States for organizing a post-war world organization probably were ahead of those made by any other government, but he said it was another matter whether they would result in formation of an organization before the end of the war.)

Supporting the possible creation of such an agency are these factors:

1. Information in high British quarters that the three nations are planning to get together soon to study the structure of a world organization.
2. Criticism in the press, congress and the house of commons over failure of the European advisory commission to handle efficiently such problems as the Italian political situation, relations with the French national committee and the Polish-Russian controversy.
3. Recommendations in some places that United Nations machinery must be established for quick coordinated action to deal with similar problems after the invasion.
4. Current consultations in Washington between President Roosevelt and Ambassadors Winant and W. Averell Harriman, which have been extended beyond original intentions—plus the refusal of presidential secretary Stephen Early to confirm or deny that Winant will be given another assignment.

3. Reports from neutral sources that a three-way diplomatic shift in the United States set-up is being planned, with Winant remaining in Washington, Harriman coming to London and possibly Sumner Welles taking over the Moscow post.

**China Admits Probable Fall Of Loyang**

CHUNGKING, May 26—(AP)—The Chinese command announced late tonight that contact with the ancient Chinese city of Loyang had been cut and an official army spokesman said it probably had fallen to strong Japanese forces which have been besieging it for days. Tokyo claimed capture of the city yesterday.

"Since the night of May 24 the enemy has been making continuous attacks on Loyang," said a Chinese communique. "Since yesterday morning the situation at Loyang has been obscure, as contact with the defenders has been cut."

Maj. Gen. C. C. Tseng, army spokesman, said that although the city probably had fallen he could not announce it formally until he had received confirmation. Loyang, six times capital of China, lies in northwestern Honan on the Lunghai railway, guarding an historic approach to interior China.

**FDR Sets Meet On Postwar Money Set-up**

WASHINGTON, May 26—(AP)—President Roosevelt sent out a call today for a conference of the united and associated nations on postwar money problems starting July 1.

He invited 42 governments, including the French committee of liberation, to send representatives to Bretton Woods, N.H., for consideration of proposals which include:

1. An international monetary plan, revolving around an \$8,000,000,000 gold-based stabilization fund, providing for a value in gold for each nation's currency and restricting fluctuations of any country's market transactions in money of other countries.
2. A \$10,000,000,000 international bank for reconstruction and development—a sort of world RFC.

**Salem Has Second Warmest Day at 84**

Second warmest day of the year to-date and lacking the extreme variety which featured the record-breaking May 3, Friday in Salem had a maximum temperature of 84 degrees, reached at 5:30 p.m. Not until afternoon did the mercury in the official weather bureau thermometer at the Salem airport commence to mount with market rapidity, topping 80 degrees at 2:30 p.m. Minimum temperature was 44 degrees.

**Veterans' Union Fees Will Be Cancelled**

Salem canneryworkers' union will accede to the request of AFL President William Green and cancel initial membership fees for honorably-discharged veterans of any of the United States services, members of the local voted this week.

**Budget \$500 Less Ceiling Gets Committee's Okeh**

Marion county budget committee Friday morning approved a budget approximately \$500 under the 6 per cent limitation of \$764,397.90.

Included in the new budget is approximately \$400 for 5 per cent increases in salaries for county employees, other than those holding elective offices. However, a \$195 monthly ceiling was placed on such increases after Commissioner Roy Rice expressed his feeling that a flat percentage increase would give the more highly paid deputies a greater benefit. Road employees will not come under the percentage increase since their wage negotiations are made separately.

However, in order to begin the

**Yanks Take German Strong-Hold of Cori In Companion Drive**

By EDWARD KENNEDY  
ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Naples, May 26—(AP)—Hard-driving veteran American tank and infantry forces tonight apparently were pushing the Germans steadily out of Velletri, strong-point of the nazis' new "last-ditch" defense line 16 miles below Rome.

The Americans in a companion drive today smashed six miles beyond newly-captured Cieterna and took the Germans' mountain strong-hold of Cori.

Late tonight Daniel De Luce, Associated Press correspondent with the fifth army south of Rome, reported that fires were raging in Velletri and that there were indications that the enemy had pulled his artillery back into the hills out of the city.

He said there still were some pockets of stubborn enemy resistance near Velletri, but indicated they were being cleared up, quoting the captain in charge of one tank force as reporting his men had killed 200 Germans in mopping up a single position.

The allied armies swept ahead on all fronts, headquarters announcing the capture of a total of nine towns and half a dozen important heights.

The plunge to Cori carried the beachhead forces nearly half way from Cieterna to the Via Cassilina, escape highway for tens of thousands of German troops hastily falling back toward Rome from the shattered Hitler line in the Liri valley and adjacent mountains. The imperilled enemy forces represented the bulk of the German 10th army.

There was evidence the nazis were aware of the danger and were withdrawing with all speed toward their new defense line. Today they abandoned lofty Monte Cairo, towering height just north of Cassino, and the town of Roccasecca, eight miles farther west. San Giovanni, at the southern edge of the Liri valley and four miles from the Via Cassilina, also was evacuated in the retreat. San Giovanni had been the scene of extremely bitter fighting in recent days.

Capture of Cori by the Americans brought under control a mountain pass from which German long-range guns battered the beachhead for nearly four months. The town is only nine miles from where the Via Cassilina crosses the Liri valley. (Turn to Page 2—Story C)

**Red Planes Sink 2 Nazi Transports**

LONDON, May 27—(AP)—The Russians reported early today that bombers of the red fleet air force had attacked German troopships in the Barents sea, north of Norway, early Friday morning, sinking two transports and a destroyer and damaging three others.

The soviet announcement in a midnight war bulletin did not specify whether the transports were carrying new German forces to Norway or withdrawing troops already there.

Earlier the Germans, in a communique, had reported the attack on their convoy and claimed to have shot down 69 of 80 attacking planes. The Russian bulletin said only seven bombers were lost in repeated "mass attacks" with bombs, gunfire and torpedoes.

**Yank Planes Pound Isles**

US PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, Pearl Harbor, May 26—(AP)—The navy announced tonight that army and navy planes had attacked Kusaie and Ponape islands, both in the Carolines, and also had bombed enemy positions in the Marshalls.

Text of the Pacific announcement: "Single search planes of fleet air wing 2 bombed Kusaie island during daylight on May 25 (west longitude—US date). Medium anti-aircraft fire was encountered. "Ponape island was attacked by 7th army airforce Mitchells on May 24. An airfield and dock areas were hit. Anti-aircraft fire was meager. One of our aircraft was damaged."

**Weather**  
Maximum temperature Friday 84 degrees; minimum 64; no precipitation; river -7 ft. Saturday and Sunday fair; continued warm.