

SEEMS TO ME

By Charles S. Squire

When election returns began coming in last week Dewey was leading in New Jersey, Michigan, Oregon. The final count however, showed they fell in the Roosevelt column. In each case it was the slower count of the vote in cities like Detroit, Jersey City, Portland which changed the result. In this state Multnomah county's majority of 27,674 swamped Dewey's up-state lead of around 4000.

As in 1940, it was the big cities which gave the election to Mr. Roosevelt. The 13 cities of the country with populations of 500,000 or over all went for Roosevelt, swinging their states with the exception of Bricker's home state of Ohio for him. Roosevelt's lead in these 13 cities was 2,283,228 in 1944 as compared with 1,913,934 in 1940 when he ran against Willkie.

What we are seeing is the political effect of a great population shift in this country. The following table shows the change in distribution of population in the United States taken from the reports of the census bureau:

Table with 3 columns: Year, Urban Per cent, Rural Per cent. Rows for 1860, 1890, 1920, 1930, 1940.

The slight reversal of the trend between 1930 and 1940 was due to the depression of the 1930's which drove people from cities.

Senators Cold About Sharing Treaty Powers. WASHINGTON, Nov. 15-(AP)-A revived proposal to permit ratification of treaties by a majority vote of house and senate ran into opposition today in the senate foreign relations committee.

British Make Fair Advance In Italy Push. ROME, Nov. 15-(AP)-The British Eighth army, advancing from small bridgeheads across the Montone river west of Forli, drove forward to a general line two miles north of a loop of the river and made good progress elsewhere along the eastern sector of the Italian front, the allied command announced today.

Pope Pius Denounces Nazis for Treatment Of Warsaw Citizens. Pope Pius XII denounced the Nazis for their brutal subjugation of Warsaw in a statement issued yesterday, the British radio reported in a broadcast recorded last night by NBC.

State Flax Industry Gets \$83,320 to Cover Fire. The state board of control Wednesday ordered the transfer of \$83,320 from the state restoration fund to the state flax industry to cover part of the loss resulting from fires which two years ago destroyed three flax sheds and a large quantity of flax straw.

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Weather: Maximum temperature Wednesday 55 degrees, minimum 24 degrees, no rain, river-1 ft. 4 in. Clear Thursday and Friday except morning valley fog west of Cascades. Slightly higher daytime temperatures.

WESTERN FRONT AFLAME

U. S. Rope On Japs Tightens

Fighting Rages On Leyte; Nips Resist Bitterly

By Merlin Spencer. GENERAL MacARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Philippines, Thursday, Nov. 14-(AP)-Two units of the American 24th division "practically severed the Ormoc road" behind a trapped Japanese regiment as the battle for Leyte island flamed with bitter fighting today.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced that the infantrymen in a double envelopment move thrust behind the Japanese near Limon, American-held village four miles south of Carigara bay, Conflict Rages

The main body of the 24th meanwhile engaged units of the Japanese first division in headlong combat on the road near Limon, which stands at the gateway to Ormoc corridor.

Some 30 miles south of the US 7th division "blockaded" repulsed a Japanese counterattack at Balogo, 10 miles south of Ormoc on the coastal road.

This means the 7th has advanced four miles northward in its drive to apply the southern lever of the American squeeze against Ormoc, Japan's last port on the island. These Yank forces smashed a Japanese landing attempt Tuesday at Damuluan, 14 miles south of Ormoc.

The third arm of the American pincers, pushing westward through the mountains, closed tighter as elements of the 21st cavalry division seized new hill positions and overran several enemy strong points.

Forward elements of the 24th division's two outflanking units were reported close to the vital Ormoc road late yesterday. One unit swung around to the west, then turned southeast toward the road. Another force moved in from the east and pushed west.

B-29 Workers To End Strike

PATERSON, N.J., Nov. 15-(AP) More than 1500 supervisory employees of the Wright Aeronautical corporation, whose three-day strike has shut out approximately 32,000 production workers in the five Paterson area plants, voted almost unanimously tonight to return to work on the 7:15 shift tomorrow morning.

The meeting, which lasted three turbulent hours with some members demanding a continuance of the strike, was addressed by Chairman William H. Davis of the war labor board, who promised the members of Wright Aircraft Supervision that, if they would return to their jobs tomorrow, a special regional WLB panel would be set up in New York to consider their grievances in the near future.

Major Earthquake Recorded In South. PASADENA, Calif., Nov. 15-(AP) An earthquake of major intensity was recorded at 2:02:25 p. m., today at the California Institute of Technology.

Seismologists said its center was about 7400 miles distant, but were unable to determine the direction. If in a populated area, they said, damage must have been heavy.

Salem Food Expenditure Totals \$205 for Each Person Annually

Special To The Oregon Statesman. NEW YORK, Nov. 10 - How does Salem spend its retail dollar? What quality of market is it? How does its business progress compare with that of other cities? These questions of interest to merchandisers and advertisers, are answered fully in the latest Sales Management survey.

Salem, it is found, contributes more than its quota toward producing America's largest retail market - food - which reached a volume of \$17 billion last year, equivalent to \$128 per person for the nation. The local food expenditures, which were \$7,273,000, represented \$205 per person.

The business growth of Salem since 1939, the last "normal" year, is indicated by the rapid expansion of its local retail business, which rose from \$20,279,000 in that year to \$30,207,000 in 1943, a gain of 50 per cent.

Improvement was shown by Salem in the period in all four major retail divisions. Sales of food grew from \$4,317,000 to \$7,273,000, general merchandise sales rose from \$2,642,000 to \$4,684,000, apparel from \$1,403,000 to \$2,693,000, and drug store sales from \$431,000 to \$742,000.

Further expansion of this market is expected after the war when the large local savings, resulting from greater incomes and from present inability to obtain many articles, will find an outlet.

Japanese Shells Land Close to Escort Carrier



Water spurts high in the air as a salvo of shells from a Nipponese warship land close to an American escort aircraft carrier in the Philippine sea battle. (AP photo from navy)

Latest Nazi Decree Orders Nazification of Reich Army for 'Never-Surrender' Fight

LONDON, Nov. 15-(AP)-A significant new step in the nazification of the backs-to-the-wall German army—with the apparent intent of making it a "never-surrender" force to fight on as guerrillas after defeat—was announced today by Berlin.

A new decree ordered all German officers and noncoms who are members of the nazi party to "educate their men in the nazi philosophy" both on duty and off.

In order to form a closer link-up between the armed force and the party. Previously members of the German army were required to leave the party during their period of armed service.

The new decree did not bear the signature of Heinrich Himmler. But an authority on German—a German—was quoted tonight by the British Press association as expressing conviction that the man behind this move was Himmler.

Close students of Germany here interpreted today's decree as the most important in a nazi campaign begun some months ago to adapt the German army to the nazi pattern of fanatic resistance which would continue, as Hitler put it, "past twelve o'clock"—in the hills and underground.

The army political decree as broadcast by the Transocean agency was called "valid from Oct. 1" and purportedly was signed by Adolf Hitler.

But the fuhrer himself still remained personally invisible and inaudible as the great "where's Hitler?" mystery spun along in this and other European capitals.

Salem Coldest Spot in Valley

Salem, which had a minimum temperature of 24 degrees, was the coldest spot in the Willamette valley Wednesday, according to the local weather bureau at the airport. The icy period was registered between 7:30 and 8:30 a. m.

Other low minimum temperatures in the valley were: Corvallis, 29 degrees; Roseburg, Eugene and Portland, each with 31 degrees.

RAF Mosquitos Blast Berlin During Night

LONDON, Thursday, Nov. 16-(AP)-A fleet of RAF Mosquito bombers blasted Berlin with 4000-pound blockbusters last night, the air ministry announced early today.

The night raid followed a daylight attack by RAF heavy bombers on a synthetic oil plant at Dortmund in the Ruhr.

Navy Job Will Keep Drager From Salem

PORTLAND, Nov. 15-(AP)-A job as guard at the navy depot here will keep Fred Drager away from this next session of the state house of representatives, where he has been chief clerk since the early 1900s.

DeGaulle Will Go To Moscow Soon; French Speculate

PARIS, Nov. 15-(AP)-French officials speculated tonight on the possibility that President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill and President Chiang Kai-shek might attend a major United Nations conference in Moscow soon, following announcement today that Gen. Charles De Gaulle would leave shortly for the soviet capital.

De Gaulle will be accompanied on this trip by his foreign minister, George Bidault. He accepted promptly the invitation from Premier Stalin, and French officialdom coupled this with a report here several days ago that Stalin had invited President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill to come to Moscow.

As a result, the whole front from Holland to Switzerland was alive except for the segment around Aachen held by the US First army.

Seventh In Fight. The American Seventh army, which is teamed with the French First army in the Sixth army group at the southeastern end of the front, had already swung into the attack.

Gen. Jean de Latre de Tassigny's French troops yesterday smashed forward on both sides of the river Doubs and a front dispatch said they captured several hundred prisoners as well as ten small towns, including the highway village of Arcy, 11 miles southwest of Belfort.

Metz was besieged from three sides and Patton's doughboys by-passed powerful Fort Driant in a direct thrust toward the city's suburbs from the west.

Both Fort Driant and Fort Jean D'Arc - two of the nine major bastions ringing Metz - were neutralized by Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's 9th division which captured two smaller forts, Hubert and Jussy, as it smashed toward the outskirts of the city from the west. Fort Illange, 14 miles north of Metz and just south of Thionville, also was stormed and its nazi garrison killed or captured.

Farrell Will Request Two-Year Extension For Driving Licenses. Secretary of State Robert S. Farrell, jr., will ask the legislature at its meeting here in January to extend for another two years the state's half million motor vehicle operators' licenses, he announced Wednesday at the Hollywood Lions club.

Originally set to expire in 1943, operators' licenses in Oregon now carry June 30, 1945, as uniform expiration date. (More about drivers' license extension plan on page 5.)

Hull Will Receive Humanitarian Award. WASHINGTON, Nov. 15-(AP) Secretary of State Hull was chosen today to receive the humanitarian award, conferred annually by the Variety clubs of America. It is given to the citizen whose "humanitarian efforts have contributed the most to the welfare of mankind."

Oregon Institution Budgets Await Visitation, Conference. Members of the state board of control will visit the various state institutions in this area and confer with superintendents before any of the 1945-46 biennial budgets are approved.

This procedure was agreed to at a special meeting of the board Wednesday afternoon. Only budget tentatively approved at this meeting was that of the state school for the blind.

Included in that budget is a school building for which the legislature two years ago appropriated monies but which has not been built because of lack of materials and manpower.

Both this and the similar building at the school for the deaf for which funds were appropriated at the same time may be built before other state construction programs are undertaken because they will not require materials of high priority and because they are considered necessary for full school operation, board members have indicated.

Under a proposal offered by Secretary of State Robert S. Farrell, jr., the state would borrow from some dormant state fund sufficient money to make a substantial start on new construction for the Oregon state hospital rather than continue patching up of old buildings there.

"I believe that most of the hospital should be reconstructed over a period of years rather than being remodeled from time to time," Farrell declared. Support money for hospital patients now received by the state would over a period of 20 years repay the borrowed funds, Farrell suggested.

Whether such a procedure is legal may be asked of the attorney general.

Man Admits Murdering 2 Women in L. A.

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 15-(AP)-Horribly mutilated, the nude bodies of two women, Lillian Johnson, about 35, and Virgie Lee Griffin, 25, were found in separate downtown hotels today and tonight police said they had obtained a confession from Otto Steve Wilson, 31, whom they arrested while sipping wine in a nearby bar.

Det. Lt. L. J. Hurst said Wilson at first denied any connection with the killings but later broke down and admitted he had ripped both women to death.

Police Inspector Bruce Clark, chief of detectives, said files revealed Miss Johnson had a long police record involving an arrest at Salem, Ore.

French, U. S. Push For Belfort Gap In New Offensive

Patton's Forces Almost in Metz; Fort Driant Neutralized; British Advance Five Miles in Holland

By HOWARD COWAN. LONDON, Thursday, Nov. 16-(AP)-The allies' November offensive against fortress Germany mounted toward all-out proportions today under the impetus of a new assault by the French First army on the approaches to Belfort gap at the southeastern end of the 400-mile western front.

This assault, which began yesterday on a 25-mile front and gained four to five miles in its first day, came as Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third army closed its steel grip on Metz to within little more than a mile of the great fortress city and the British Second army forced its way five miles through the boglands of eastern Holland to within 37 miles of the nazis' key industrial center of Duisburg.

As a result, the whole front from Holland to Switzerland was alive except for the segment around Aachen held by the US First army.

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Communities To Hear 6th Loan Details

Plans for the Sixth War Loan Campaign, worked out at a dinner meeting of committee and district chairmen here Wednesday night, will be taken into various communities of Marion county prior to or during the week of the opening of the drive next Monday, November 20.

First of the community sessions will be held at the Turner schoolhouse at 8 o'clock tonight. The second is scheduled for Sidney Talbot at 8 p.m. Friday, with a local talent show as a feature of the meeting, which is to be in the schoolhouse.

Dining at the Credit bureaus Wednesday, community and committee drive chairmen met two new Marion county divisional heads. Dr. Edward Boring, who served as a divisional chairman in Coos county and was general campaign chairman for the Fifth War Loan in Douglas county, will head the retail division, Robert Minton is new chairman of the industrial division.

With Roy Mills presiding, representatives of state offices met Wednesday afternoon to outline their own campaign. Roy Phillips explained plans for the drive.

John Hodgkins, assistant chairman of the state war finance committee, met with the state workers and the general committee, over which Chairman Douglas Yeater presided.

O'Connor Raps Charge Red Cross Sells Plasma. WASHINGTON, Nov. 15-(AP)-Red Cross Chairman Basil O'Connor tonight described as "vicious lies" rumors that blood plasma collected by the Red Cross is being sold to soldiers and sailors.

O'Connor said in a statement that the rumors "apparently are circulated by persons who wish to deprive our fighting men of life saving plasma." He suggested that such persons should be reported to the federal bureau of investigation.

Chinese Face Grave Crisis In Nippon War. CHUNGKING, Nov. 15-(AP)-The Japanese offensive in South China, now threatening to include invasion of the hinterland province of Kweichow, confronted the Chinese tonight with the gravest military crisis in more than seven years of war.

Cabinet Spokesman P. H. Chang admitted the seriousness of Chinese reverses, but declared "we shall fight on as determinedly as ever."

The Chinese high command said the Japanese, continuing their advance with reinforcements, now were only six miles from Ishan, station on the Kwangsi-Kweichow provincial railway 43 miles west of Liuchow.

This left the Japanese some 80 miles from the border of Kweichow province, which lies east of Yunnan and south of Szechwan, the provinces in which Kunning and Chungking itself are situated.