

Legion Groups Boost Marion 6th Loan Sales

Legion committees all over Marion county got away to a flying start Monday in their four-day clean-up drive to boost the total by a million dollars before the curtain falls on the big Pearl Harbor day celebration in Salem next Thursday night. In every community Legionnaires and others were combing the residence districts to make sure that every individual was reached in the appeal to get behind Uncle Sam's fighting forces with additional funds to push the final battles of the war.

In Salem a special committee was working under chairmanship of Jake Fuhrer to make arrangements for the December 7 celebration. The county committee was headed by Col. Carl Abrams with Irl McSherry as vice-chairman. Post commanders all over the county were in charge of the work in their respective communities.

Heightened interest was being shown in the gigantic outdoor show to be put on at Sweetland field early Thursday evening. Actual methods used in assaulting Japanese pillboxes were to be exhibited by a crack infantry squad of trained men. Most of the 40 men participating are fresh from battle action in the Pacific. Use of grenades, flame throwers and demolition charges will be demonstrated in a spectacular fashion. During the day these and other weapons will be on display at the armory.

In the armory show, to be presented later, actual preparations for battle will be shown by the same group of infantrymen. With complete equipment, the squads will be shown ready for action and explanation of the various steps will be made by those in charge.

Robber Dies In Gun Fight At Portland

PORTLAND, Dec. 4-(P)-William E. Bennett, 56, was fatally shot through the chest here today in what Joe Mezzina, tavern operator, told police was an attempted holdup.

Mezzina said that Bennett and John Fredericks, 47, tried to rob him after he had closed his tavern, so he drew his gun and the shooting began. Fredericks was shot in the leg, Mezzina in the neck.

W. E. Bennett, ex-convict, killed in a gun battle in Portland early Monday, had a long criminal record, state penitentiary records here disclosed.

Bennett was received at the Oregon prison from Multnomah county on June 12, 1941, to serve a three year term for burglary but on July 13, 1942, was turned over to California officials as a parole violator from Folsom penitentiary. He previously served terms in San Quentin prison in California and in federal penal institutions.

Up Oil Ceiling Urges Group

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4-(P)-Warning that oil reserves are rapidly dwindling, the house small business committee today urged consideration of higher price ceilings on crude oil.

The current price policy of the office of price administration, the committee asserted in a report to congress, "is driving the independent producer of petroleum out of business" and has developed "a trend toward monopoly."

"This nation," it said, "is using up its oil reserves faster than it is finding new reserves to replace them."

The report suggested that OPA undertake immediately a survey of costs in the producing and refining industry with a view to encouraging increased exploration to build up reserves.

Election Possibility Fading in Canada
OTTAWA, Dec. 4-(P)-The possibility of a general election in Canada before the end of the European war appeared to be fading today as parliament resumed its conscription debate.

The issue of conscription itself seemed resolved in its parliamentary phase, with Prime Minister W. L. Mackenzie King's government almost certainly assured of victory in a vote of confidence expected to be taken in midweek.

Thumbnail of War!

(By the Associated Press)

Western Europe—American troops drive to within 6 1/2 miles of Saarbrucken, great industrial city in the Saar, and to the north advance to within 500 yards of the Roer river and 22 miles of Cologne; more than 4000 allied planes drop nearly 12,000 tons of bombs on German rail centers in the Cologne area.

Russia—Reds hammer forward up to 17 miles on a 42-mile front in western Hungary facing Austria and move up the west bank of the Danube to within 37 miles of Budapest.

Italy—Yanks repulse two Nazi counter attacks south of Bologna and British maintain pressure on Faenza in the Po valley.

Pacific—American destroyers sneak into Leyte's Ormoc bay to sink one enemy warship and damage another at loss of one of our craft; American submarines sink 20 more Japanese ships, including a light cruiser and a destroyer.

China—Reinforced Japanese columns push to within 75 miles of Kweiyang, Kweichow province capital and junction point on the Burma road.

Jap Forces Smash Ahead

CHUNGKING, Dec. 4-(P)-Japanese forces driving westward through Kweichow province have forced a crossing of the Chialao river, about seven miles south of the railroad town of Tushan, 75 miles southeast of Kweiyang, Burma road junction, the Chinese high command said tonight.

The communique said that Chinese forces repulsed two enemy columns Saturday morning at a pass 17 miles south of Tushan and that more than 400 Japanese were killed and large quantities of supplies captured.

Sunday morning, the communique said, the Japanese, after being heavily reinforced, smashed through the Chinese defenses and across the Chialao river where heavy fighting still was in progress.

Lumbermen to Hear Greeley

PORTLAND, Dec. 4-(P)-Col. W. B. Greeley, secretary-manager of the West Coast Lumbermen's association, will address the 35th annual meeting of the Western Forestry and Conservation association here Thursday through Saturday.

Walter Horning, administrator of the Oregon and California restricted lands administration, and Carlton R. Patrie, U.S. Indian service, also are on the program, which will be opened by R. E. McCordie, U.S. forest service official.

War-time and post-war forest problems will be discussed. More than 200 northwest logging and forestry representatives will attend the meeting.

Nazi Attacks Knocked Back

ROME, Dec. 4-(P)-Fog-shrouded German counterattacks against American positions south of Bologna have been knocked back with heavy losses to the enemy, it was announced today simultaneously with the disclosure that the nazis' employment of Italian fascist troops on this front had proved a dismal failure.

The enemy's latest counter-thrusts were launched yesterday in the Bombin and Monte Belmonte areas in the central sector. Despite the fact that fog and rain grounded allied aircraft and enabled the Germans to press home their attacks, they were in each case hurled back before they reached the Yank lines.

Spaulding Is Boomed For District Attorney

PORTLAND, Dec. 4-(P)-Sen. Lew Wallace, democratic national committeeman, admitted here today that Bruce Spaulding, Salem attorney, was being boomed for appointment as US district attorney to succeed Carl C. Donaghy, incumbent, whose term expires next August.

E Bond Sales Straggle Behind in Oregon Drive
PORTLAND, Dec. 4-(P)-E bond sales straggled behind in the Sixth War Loan drive today, reaching only \$10,931,979—\$1 per cent of the quota.

Total sales, however, were improved. The \$50,988,268 figure attained is 47.4 per cent of the goal.

Loggers, Union Don't Agree On New Ruling

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 4-(P)-Union officials and logging operators disagreed today on whether a department to labor decision to allow travel pay would affect west coast lumber workers.

The decision is based on a recent US supreme court ruling involving workers of the Tennessee Coal, Iron & Railway company.

"Conditions in the lumber industry differ so radically from those found in mining that we believe no part of the decision is applicable to western lumbering and logging operations," declared William R. Morely, chairman of the travel time committee for the western lumber industry.

He said the release, which states that "under conditions identical with those in the coal mine, travel time will be paid", would not change the picture in this area.

But Worth Lowery, president of the International Woodworkers of America (CIO), asserted that about 40,000 Pacific coast loggers and sawmill workers would earn nearly \$1.85 a day more as a result of the decision. He called the ruling "one of the most important ever issued for the industry."

Approximately 75 per cent of the loggers working in the area will benefit, said Doyle Pearson, assistant secretary to the Northwestern Council of Lumber and Sawmill Workers (AFL).

L. Metcalf Walling, national administrator of the wage-hour division of the department of labor, announced the ruling yesterday.

Prosecution Ready to Quit Dorsey Trial

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 4-(P)-The prosecution tried to throw in the towel today in the trial of Bandleader Tommy Dorsey, his wife and their neighbor, Allen Smiley on charges of feloniously assaulting Screen Actor Jon Hall, but the court tossed it right back.

Although it had been anticipated that the defense would seek a dismissal, it was Prosecutor Edwin Myers who actually made the motion, on the ground that there was not proper evidence on which to proceed with the trial, now in its second week. Judge Arthur Crum denied the motion, without explanation.

This was one of two surprises that enlivened a confusing mass of testimony by a witness who not only advised the court repeatedly that he was confused but accused defense counsel of trying to confuse him further.

The other was the outburst from the same witness, Panamanian Actor Antonio Icaza, when he was asked if he had ever been convicted of a felony.

Allied Planes Hit Iwo Jima

US PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 4-(P)-Three new, heavy bomber strikes on Iwo Jima — making eight in seven days on that volcanic island base for enemy raids on Saipan's Superfortress airfields — were reported today by Adm. Chester W. Nimitz.

Big Liberators of the Seventh army air force smashed the island's airstrips Friday and twice the following day.

Navy search bombers joined the army aircraft in one strike on Iwo and in another raid on Haha Jima, farther north in the Bonins. A few enemy interceptors took the air from Iwo's hard hit airfields but none of the Yank bombers was lost.

Fort Lawton Court Martial In 3rd Week

SEATTLE, Dec. 4-(P)-One defendant was discharged and the prosecution rested its case today as the Fort Lawton court martial, largest for the army in the current war, entered its third week. The case was recessed until Friday, at the request of the defense.

Farm-Minded Veterans Will Get Free Advice

PORTLAND, Dec. 4-(P)-Farm-minded doughboys returning to Multnomah county can confer with specialists in dairying, poultry raising, truck gardening, greenhouse production, home-making, and other aspects of farming, County Agent S. B. Hall said today.

He announced formation of a veterans agricultural advisory committee like those set up throughout the state to help returning servicemen become successful farmers.

Town Explains Reasons for Banning Japs

HOOD RIVER, Dec. 4-(P)-Prevention of open violence against returning Japanese-Americans was the object of the Hood River American Legion post in banning former Nisei residents from the valley, the commander said today.

"We do not feel any national legislation will settle this question in time to prevent violence and bloodshed if the Japanese return to Hood River county, Jess Edington declared. He said the action was not pointedly aimed at Japanese in service, for whom the post "felt sorry."

Sentiment against the Japanese has flared with the recent announcement by Tokyo that allied aviators captured in Japan would be tortured and murdered, County Judge C. D. Nickelsen said. He described people here as "very much aroused over the proposed return of Japanese to this county."

Oregon Solons OK Crop Insurance

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4-(P)-Reps. Angell, Ellsworth, and Stockman all voted for the crop insurance bill in congress, a report on rollcalls during the two weeks ended 30 showed today.

Senator Cordon voted for the confirmation of Edward Stettinius, jr., as secretary of state but against the Bailey amendment to the flood control bill to permit the government to build power transmission lines only if 90 per cent of power developed by public dams had not been sold or claimed. Senator Hotman did not vote on either measure.

Portland City Jail Crammed to Rafters

PORTLAND, Dec. 4-(P)-Officials at the city jail here—still tired from serving 300 supper last night — rushed frantically about dishing out 275 breakfasts this morning.

The jail, which had more inmates than it has had in more than a year, usually has only 175-200 weekend prisoners, the jailer said.

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At Least 500 Gifts Will Go To Yank Vets

Legionnaires of Capital Post No. 9 Monday night heard reports indicating that Salem merchants, organizations and individuals would present at least 500 packages to be gifts for Yanks who gave and which will go to servicemen and servicewomen in Oregon hospitals. The gifts will be moved from Salem December 10, Commander B. E. "Kelly" Owens said.

A gift of \$100 toy wheelbarrows and 100 doll beds was presented to the post by R. W. Frost, a veteran, to be delivered to needy children of veterans. The post will fill the toys with Christmas confections and fruit. In addition the post also voted \$150 to be used for child welfare among the same group.

Post members were informed that veterans of World War II are returning at the rate of 90 each month. More than 200 veterans need work here now, the members were told. Cities, chambers of commerce and organizations will be asked to help place these returning and jobless veterans.

Smoker's Carelessness Believed Fire Cause

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 4-(P)-A smoker's carelessness was blamed today for a two-hour early Sunday blaze that razed the third floor lobby of the Vancouver Elks club.

Damage was estimated at between \$5000 and \$10,000 by an insurance company.

Oregon Cities To Get Funds For Airports

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4-(P)-The civil aeronautics administration has recommended a billion dollar postwar program of airport construction and improvement to congress of which \$6,570,000 is earmarked for such work in Oregon.

On airports designed for long range domestic and foreign operation, the CAA proposes spending \$304,000 at Astoria and \$40,000 at Redmond. On fields suitable for four-engine and larger planes, the CAA recommends \$25,000 for Arlington, \$5000 Burns, \$120,000 Eugene, \$33,000 McMinnville, \$294,000 North Bend. Baker and Grants Pass would each receive \$126,000 and Roseburg \$113,000 to make existing airports suitable for present-day twin-engine planes.

Financing of the undertaking by the federal and state governments on a matching funds basis over a period of five to 10 years is proposed.

Clothes for Russian Children Drive Starts

PORTLAND, Dec. 4-(P)-Oregonians purchasing Christmas presents were asked today to remember Russian children with gifts of warm clothing.

A campaign to send a shipment of clothing to Russia, where the mercury averages well below zero in the winter, by Christmas was announced by Robert H. Strong, Oregon chairman of Russian War Relief.

Marion County's Finances Found In Healthy State

Marion county's finances are in a healthy state, the monthly report for November of County Treasurer S. J. Butler indicates, total assets of finances totaled \$1,019,344.29, the largest items listed being \$216,236.76 in Ladd & Bush bank, \$123,174.20 in First National Bank of Portland, \$218,148.03 in the bond investment account and \$300,000 in the general road fund investment account.

Fund balances listed \$394,768.38 for the general fund, \$338,767.69 in the general road fund, \$96,508.63 in the market road maintenance fund, \$25,636.52 in the county school fund and \$68,265 in the trust funds due to cities, schools, etc.

Senate Passes Pension Bill

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4-(P)-The first pension bill for World War I widows and orphans ever to reach the floor of the senate passed that branch of congress today without debate.

Authorizing benefits ranging up to \$74 monthly, and estimated to cost \$37,000,000 in the first year of operation, the bill previously had passed the house but must return there for action on extensive amendments.

Limited to widows and children of Veterans of the first world war, the bill provides a basic rate of \$35 monthly for widows, and \$45 for a widow with one child. The house bill fixed a rate of \$30 for a childless widow, and \$35 for a widow with one child.

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