

British Batter Remnants of 3 Jap Divisions

CALCUTTA, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Remnants of three Japanese divisions fell back down the Myitkyna-Mandalay railway in Burma today, offering only slight opposition to pursuing British troops who occupied the rail town of Wuntho, 135 miles north of Mandalay.

The Japanese apparently were making a full withdrawal into southern Burma, it was stated in field dispatches received here at headquarters of the allied land forces of southeast Asia.

To the east near the China-Burma border the 30th Chinese division in an encircling movement captured three villages about 30 miles north of Namhkan, where the Japanese are expected to make their last stand in defense of the old Burma road, it was announced.

The Japanese defended the three-village area furiously for more than a week, and an American observer highly praised the Chinese for their victory. It was estimated that 200 Japanese were killed.

'Blue,' 'Yellow' Discharges Hit

SEATTLE, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Service men's "blue" and "yellow" discharges were condemned today by the Washington state Veterans of Foreign Wars.

John L. Stavenburg, state service officer, said thousands of service men are now receiving "blue" discharges from the army or "yellow" ones from the navy for minor infractions of military regulations or because they are unfit for military service.

"These men are finding it difficult to obtain employment when forced to display a discharge which fails to indicate honorable service," he said.

Chinese Told Raids Coming

CHUNGKING, Dec. 21.—(AP)—The Chungking radio broadcast insisted appeals to Chinese civilians today to evacuate Japanese-held cities along the China coast and elsewhere in advance of impending major blows by the American air force.

Maj. Gen. Robert B. McClure, U. S. chief of staff in the China theatre, accompanied the appeal with an announcement that American planes would bomb every Japanese-held supply port of the China mainland with "the maximum tonnage of bombs and the greatest number of planes which can be obtained."

Throngs View Valez Body

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif., Dec. 21.—(AP)—Hundreds of friends and admirers today thronged a mortuary for a final glimpse of the once-fiercy Lupe Valez, Mexican actress who last week took her own life for unrequited love.

Garbed in a white robe, the former star wore golden slippers and a diamond bracelet with gold links, the lone selection from her vast array of costly jewelry. Her head rested on a pillow of white gardenias and a gold crucifix entwined in her fingers.

Nazi Saboteurs Dress In Uniforms of Allies

PARIS, Dec. 21.—(AP)—French military authorities issued a warning today to the population against German fifth columnists and saboteurs dressed in allied uniforms and carrying allied identity cards.

The warning said infiltrations of such nazis already had occurred along the Luxembourg front and declared, "the French public is placed on guard against them."

Too Late to Classify

WTD: Fr. white skates size 1 1/2 or 2. Phone 7237.

Obituary

Trover
Anna Louise Trover, aged 82, at the residence, 122 N. Commercial, December 21. Survived by husband, H. D. Trover of Salem, and several nieces and nephews. Funeral announcements later by the W. T. Rigdon company.

Thumbnail of War!

(By the Associated Press)

Western Europe — The unchecked German offensive rolls ahead 32 miles through Belgium and slashes a vital allied highway 18 miles south of the fortress of Liege.

Russia — Berlin says 100,000 Russian troops hack out new gains in an effort to take the besieged capital from the rear.

Italy — Two crack Canadian regiments throw back 13 fierce German counterattacks in nine hours against their Naviglio canal bridgehead.

Pacific—Remnants of shattered Japanese units blasted from the Yamashita line on Leyte are futilely attempting to flee the Ormoc corridor.

Burma—Three Japanese divisions retreat down the Myitkyna-Mandalay railway, offering slight opposition to pursuing British troops, who occupied Wuntho, 135 miles north of Mandalay.

D-Day Prayer Of Roosevelt His Present

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—(AP)—A scroll of President Roosevelt's D-day prayers for victory over the "unholy forces of our enemy" was his Christmas gift today to White House employees.

More than 300 executive office employees, guards and servants were given their presents early so President and Mrs. Roosevelt might enjoy their own yuletide quietly with their only daughter and a few grandchildren. None of the four uniformed sons will be at the presidential fireside.

As workmen began putting in place the wreaths, mistletoe and poinsettias, for the holiday decorations, the president and first lady received first more than 250 members of the office staff.

Besides a handshake and oral greeting, each received a 21 by 14 inch scroll, engraved in black, gold, red and blue letters that began "D-day prayer by President Franklin D. Roosevelt from the White House, June 6, 1944," and ended "Christmas, 1944 -- from FDR."

AP Asks Suit Be Dismissed

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Outright dismissal of the government's anti-trust suit against the Associated Press was asked by the news cooperative today on the ground the case was based "on a theory not yet embraced in our law."

The dismissal request was made in a memorandum filed with the supreme court, which has the case under consideration.

In asking dismissal of the suit, the AP contended that "the egalitarian (equal sharing) philosophy espoused by the government has time and again been rejected by this court."

Court Dismisses Howell's Complaint

PORTLAND, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Judge Franklin C. Howell's complaint declaring the nomination and election of James R. Bain as circuit judge null and void was dismissed in circuit court here today.

District Attorney Bain, who defeated Howell for the post in the November election, was legally for the six-year term starting Jan. 2, decided Judge Charles H. Combs, Lakeview.

HOLLYWOOD Tonight

The East Side Kids in "Follow the Leader"

JAMES DUNN in "Leave It to The Irish" Buy More Bonds

Anna Trover, Salem Artist, Dies at Home

Anna Louise Trover, well known artist and photographer, died at her home, 122 North Commercial, late Thursday night. She had been ill for over a year.

Mrs. Trover was born in Peru, Ill., Jan. 28, 1862, and came to Salem to live with her brother, the late Thomas Jefferson Cronis, in 1890 and bought the old Caterlin photograph studio which stood at the corner of State and High streets.

She was married to H. D. Trover on Dec. 20, 1893, and they later added the Cherrington studio, at Chemeketa and Commercial streets, to their interests. Since then they have conducted their business in various locations in Salem, for the past 20 years at their home address, with Mrs. Trover doing china painting and oil water colors also. Last year they observed their golden wedding anniversary with a large celebration.

Survivors include the widower, and several nieces and nephews, including Harry Cronis of Salem, Ralph Cronis of Albany and Mrs. Louise Benjamin of Tillamook.

Funeral announcements will be made later from the W. T. Rigdon company.

Herman E. Lafky To Practice Law Part-time in Bend

Herman E. Lafky, Salem attorney, will take over the private law practice of City Attorney Ross Farnham of Bend, during a two-months absence of the latter, and will operate the Bend office in conjunction with his Salem practice, Lafky said Thursday.

In connection with a report from Bend that he planned to make his residence there, Lafky said "future plans with respect to that office have not yet been determined." He will visit Bend each Friday and Saturday.

A brother, Ray Lafky, attorney with the state industrial accident commission, plans to resume private practice with Herman E. Lafky, the latter said.

ON the HOME FRONT

By ISABEL CHILDS

You know the old trick of turning the watch ahead so that you will always be on time, or nearly so? I'm going to have to do something of the sort with the December calendar. Uh huh, it is being done.

—V—

Take the Max Alfords, for instance. They had their first Christmas a week or so ago. One of the nice things about such an observance, according to Capt. Alford, is that mistakes can always be rectified. December 25. He was going to give Mrs. Alford half the tractor, but seems she already owned a larger percentage than that. . . so . . . well, we can think of other fine gifts to make a garden grow.

—V—

Not having been as foresighted as the Alfords, I shall now proceed to convert my family to communism—so they will be willing to celebrate Russian Little Christmas in January.

'Dream House' Prize To Be Awarded Today

At 4 p.m. Victory center program today, the winner of the \$4000 Victory "dream house" offered as a prize in the recently-concluded successful Sixth War Loan campaign in Marion county will be selected. The winner need not be present at the program, but must report within seven days.

WELCOME 1945 AT THE GRAND CONT. DAILY FROM 1 P.M. NOW SHOWING! Hilarious Tale of a Sissy Spook!



MARGARET O'BRIEN CHARLES LAUGHTON ROBERT YOUNG

The Canterville GHOST

WILLIAM GARGAN - ROSEMARY OWEN RAGLAND - O'CONNOR

Red-Hot Co-Hit! "Night Club Girl"

WYVIAN AUSTIN BILLY DOWN JUDY CLARK EDWARD MORRIS MAXIE ROSENBLUM FRED SANDORN PAULA DRAKE BELLA RHYTHM BOYS

Latest News Flashest!

LIBERTY

Now Playing! A ROMANTIC BATTLE-ROYAL!

ADOLPH ANDERSON in "Double Life"

with MICKY ROONEY and ANN RUTHERFORD - ESTER WILLIAMS

THRILL CO-HIT! Gene Autry

WILLIAM POWELL in "The Phantom No. 8"

with SMILEY BURNETTE

MONTGOMERY WARDS

REPLY TO THE WAR LABOR BOARD

December 18, 1944

National War Labor Board,
Washington, D. C.

Your telegram of December 14, demanding that Wards comply with war labor board's order covering Wards four Detroit stores was obviously intended to give to the public the false impression that wages are the major issue.

The board knows very well that Wards has offered to adopt the minimum wage rates recommended by the board. The board knows very well that Wards policy is to pay wages as high or higher than those paid by other employers in the community for similar employment. The board did not base its wage recommendations upon the survey of competitive rates made by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Mr. Davis, chairman of the war labor board, deliberately attempted in his December 16 press release to mislead the public into believing otherwise. Wards only objection to any of the board's wage recommendations has been in those instances where the board has arbitrarily demanded that Wards substantially increase its rates above those of its competitors in the highly competitive retail field.

The board knows very well that the real issue arises from its attempt to impose upon Wards a closed shop in the form of maintenance of membership, together with the check-off of union dues from wages. Wards has refused to agree to any form of closed shop, or compulsory union membership, because the closed shop violates the American principles of liberty and freedom. The board is well informed as to Wards position.

Mr. Davis is quoted in the press as threatening the cancellation of Wards priorities. The denial of scarce materials to Wards, and the seizure of its business if Wards does not comply with the board's demands. These are the tactics by which the board has coerced innumerable employers into granting special privileges to labor unions.

The board knows very well that its orders cannot be legally enforced by such punishments. Congress, which is the sole law-making authority under our constitution, omitted from the war labor disputes act all provisions which would have given board orders the force of law. Congress included in the original draft of the law a section which would have made board orders enforceable in the courts. Congress later removed this provision upon the written request of Mr. Davis, who asked that board orders be left as "mere declarations" which no one could be compelled to accept. Mr. Davis' express reason for his request was that the board would then not be "subject to court review of its decisions."

The board knows very well that its orders are consequently unenforceable. The court of appeals of the District of Columbia has held, at the request of the attorney general, acting as counsel for the board, that orders of the war labor board are merely "advice" which no one has any legal duty to obey. The court held that anyone who refuses to comply with orders of the war labor board is not defying a command of the government, and that, since the orders are merely advisory, no government official has the right to impose punishments on those who do not comply. The supreme court has refused to alter this decision.

The board knows very well, since its orders are legally unenforceable, and since congress has not authorized any punishment for those who reject the advice of the board, that the reprisals with which it threatens Wards are necessarily illegal. The President of the United States knew this when he recently explained to Mr. Petrillo of the American Federation of Musicians why that union could not be compelled to obey a board order.

Wards has violated no law, nor denied to any union a privilege to which it is legally entitled. Wards has many times informed that board that its closed shop demands would require Wards to violate the national labor relations act. Wards cannot in good citizenship accept the board's advice, and give to the union special privileges which Wards believes to be not only unfair and uneconomic, but illegal.

The time has come for the board to cease its threats of reprisal upon those who reject its advice. The board's policy of granting special privileges to unions has led to a breakdown of collective bargaining and has encouraged strikes in time of war. The board's disregard of the facts and its pretense of an authority which it does not possess have destroyed the confidence of labor, industry and the public. The usefulness of the war labor board in the settlement of wartime labor disputes has been destroyed.

The best interest of the employes and employers and the welfare of the American people, demand that congress face the realities of the country's need. The great problem of wages and the closed shop in time of war should be governed by law and must be solved by congress.

If the board desires a further hearing, Wards, as always, will be happy to attend.

MONTGOMERY WARDS & CO.
SEWELL AVERY
Chairman

Now Showing! Two Top Hits!

BOB HOPE
PAULETTE GODDARD
"NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH"

Co-Feature!

CARY GRANT
JANET BLAIR
"ONCE UPON A TIME"

Now Showing!

TURNER

Co-Feature

MARRIAGE IS A PRIVATE AFFAIR

Now Showing!

THE PHANTOM NO. 8