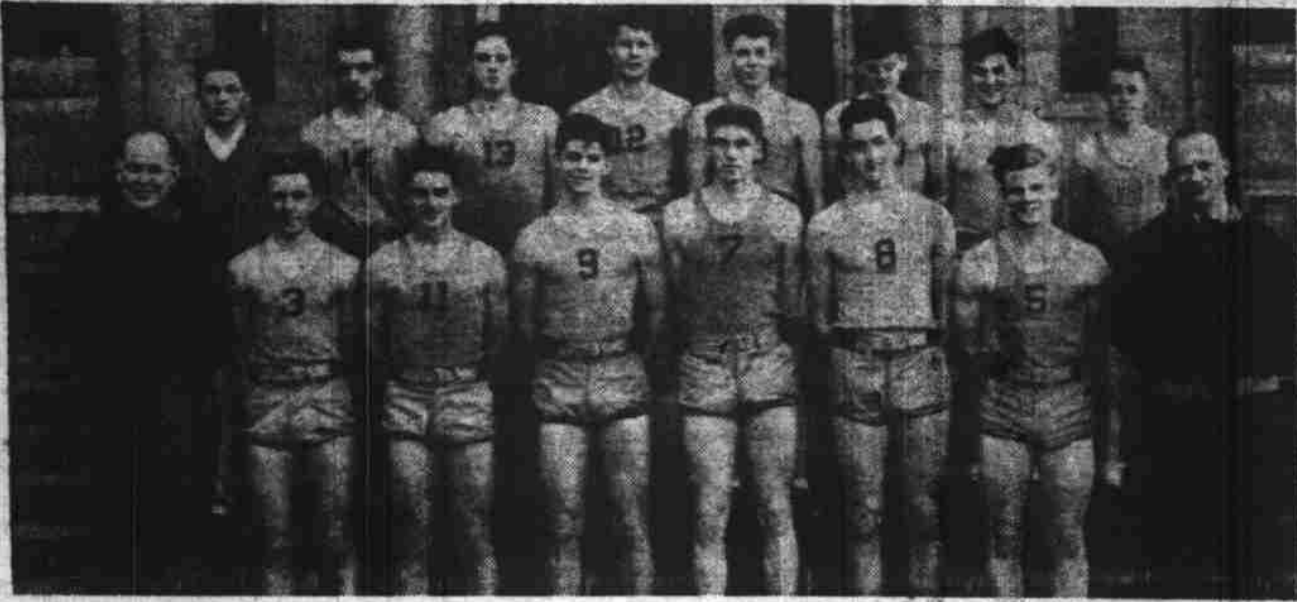


They're the State's Best



Washington High's 'A' Champions: Front row, left to right: Athletic Director Exley, Bob Laver, Jack Keller, Bruce Cowan, Jerry Kraffe, Willis Urban, Bob Maxwell and Coach Ted Schopf. Back row: Manager Goldman, Nick Sholian, Dar Johnson, Bob Taggesell, Chuck Strader, L. Urban, Boves and Belstad.



Clatskanie High's 'B' Champions: Front row, left to right, Allen Somfoth, Milton Philbrook, Alfred Goertzen, James Snyder, Robert Ryding, manager. Back row: Coach George Sindberg, Vernon La-Fontaine, Donald Parker, Allen Van, Wayne Erickson, Donald Erickson, Robert Norgren and Superintendent Howard F. Tong.

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Sprague

'A good night for a murder,' remarked the old time reporter in an aside to the cub police reporter as the OTR dropped a sheaf of copy in the basket. The night was foul, just the kind that the author of a who-done-it would pick for timing his fictional crime.

Wanted! 125 Blood Donors

One hundred twenty five more blood donors are needed in Salem on Tuesday! If this area is to provide the maximum contribution of blood for plasma to be used on battle-fronts of the world when the mobile Red Cross unit calls here Tuesday, at least 125 more persons must register.

Rain Falls in Detroit On Santiam Saturday

DETROIT, March 17.—While snow was reported falling in the mile high Cascades 50 miles east of here, rain was falling here at 9 o'clock tonight.

Weather table with columns for Max, Min, Rain, and locations including San Francisco, Eugene, Salem, Portland, Seattle, and Willamette river.

Washington Wins Prep Hoop Title With 51-41 Victory

Clatskanie Topples Reedsport, 29-26, for 'B' School Crown; Capacity Audience Sees Finale

Washington high's height-heavy Colonials of Portland, pegged by the prognosticators as one of the meet's toughiest at the beginning, took to the Rose City the first state high school basketball title in 17 years last night after defeating the hosting Oregon City Pioneers, 51-41, in the 26th annual tournament's final clash at Willamette university.

3 Valley Men Added to List Of War Dead

Names of three mid-valley men are added today to the list of war dead. Two, PFC. Edwin Eugene Powers and Pvt. Robert (Red) Miller, died on Iwo Jima.

1200 War Casualties Returning Every Day

WASHINGTON, March 17.—(AP)—Battle casualties are being returned from overseas at the rate of 1200 a day and there are approximately 50,000 more sick and wounded soldiers than there were three months ago.

Roseburg Youth Carries Off Majority of Speech Honors

Elliott Moteschenbacher of Roseburg, single-handed, carried off a majority of the honors for his school at the 11th annual high school speech contests which closed Saturday on the Willamette campus and proceeded on Saturday also to win the state American Legion oratorical contest.

The Oregon Statesman

FOUNDED 1851 NINETY-FOURTH YEAR 22 PAGES Salem, Oregon, Sunday Morning, March 18, 1945 Price 5c No. 311

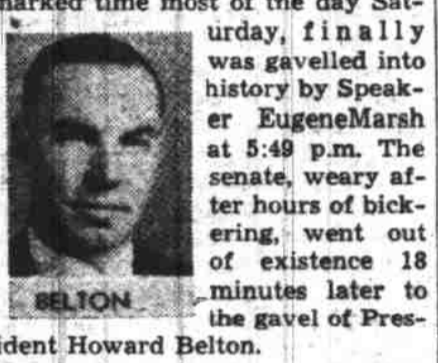
3rd Captures Coblenz

Stettin's Defenses Breached

Session Extends 69 Days

Senate Says No To Pension Bill, Governor Home

By Wendell Webb (Managing Editor, The Statesman) The longest legislative session (69 days) in Oregon's history was at end today after determined efforts to pass a firemen's retirement bill had failed.



Belton

The house, which relaxed and marked time most of the day Saturday, finally was gavelled into history by Speaker Eugene Marshall at 5:49 p.m.

Carrier Planes Hit Nip Homeland Says Tokyo Radio

SAN FRANCISCO, March 17 (AP)—Carrier planes of an American task force are making their third attack in little over a month on the Japanese homeland, an imperial headquarters communique of the enemy announced Sunday at an hour when the raid already had exceeded seven hours.

12 Per Cent Cut In Meat Supply Starts April 1

WASHINGTON, March 17.—(AP)—Civilian meat supplies will be cut 12 per cent next quarter and steps taken toward ironing out unequal distribution.

The home table allotment is reduced to "the lowest point in 10 years" for the three months starting April 1, the government said.

Deep Slash in Tire Quotas Set for April

WASHINGTON, March 17.—(AP)—The OPA today ordered a deep slash in passenger tire allocations for April because of an acute shortage of the vital tire ingredient carbon black.

Cargo Vessel Breaking Up; All Crew Safe

COOS BAY, Ore., March 17.—(AP)—All the officers and crew of the cargo vessel S.S. Alvarado stranded on the rocks offshore near here were safe tonight after 31 men, braving a 95-mile gale, fought their way to the beach on a life raft.

Council Will Get Gun Bill

An ordinance bill which would prohibit the purchasing of revolver or pistol in Salem without a permit from the chief of police and providing penalty for both purchaser and seller of such firearms will be introduced at Monday night's city council meeting.

Sgt. Applegate Missing

Notification that her son, Sgt. D. E. Applegate, was missing in action in Germany, was received Saturday by Gladys Jewell, 1945 Oxford st., Salem. (More on service page 12).

Small Fire Reported

Sparks from the sawdust conveyor at the Spaulding Lumber yard, Front and Ferry sts., were the cause of a small blaze there at 9 p.m., city firemen reported. Not much damage occurred.

Yanks Closing Great Pincers Around All Saar

Nazi Forces Appear in Collapse; U.S. Seventh Smashing Siegfried Defenses; Bridgehead Expanded

Stettin's Defenses Breached

PARIS, Sunday, March 18.—(AP)—Historic Coblenz—the biggest prize since Bonn—fell swiftly to the Third U.S. Army today as American armor and infantry plunged forward against German forces which appeared in collapse through all of the palatinate.

As Coblenz toppled before the flying columns of Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's army, the Seventh U.S. Army, operating on the southern end of the flaming Saar front, smashed into Siegfried line defenses for gains of six to eight miles.

B-29s Destroy 9 Out of 14 Kobe Factories

21ST BOMBER COMMAND HEADQUARTERS, Guam, Sunday, March 18.—(AP)—Great fires set in a 12 square mile vital area of Kobe, Japan's leading shipbuilding city, by more than 300 Superfortresses yesterday still cast too great a smoke pall for photographic checking but latest evidence on last Wednesday's raid on Osaka showed nine of its 14 vital war installations wiped out.

Finns Throng Polling Places

HELSINKI, March 17.—(AP)—The Finns jammed polling places in great numbers today and political observers predicted that at least 70 per cent of the qualified 2,200,000 persons would cast ballots in an election generally considered "crucial" for Finland's future.

Heavy Draft Of Men Over 30 Foreseen

WASHINGTON, March 17.—(AP)—Heavier drafting of men 30 and older from essential jobs was foreseen by selective service tonight as it authorized deferment of some 145,000 younger men in five vital war industries.

Snow, High Wind Closes Santiam Highways; Cars in Ditches All Along Willamette Pass

Snow and high wind left the Santiam highways closed today. Cars Saturday night were in the ditches all along the Willamette highway and the Greyhound buses were 12 hours late into Eugene from the south.

Council Will Get Gun Bill

Occasional Rain Showers today, except for brief periods of sunshine in the mid-Willamette valley area, predicts U. S. weather bureau, McMary field, Salem.

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SAN FRANCISCO, March 17 (AP)—Carrier planes of an American task force are making their third attack in little over a month on the Japanese homeland, an imperial headquarters communique of the enemy announced Sunday at an hour when the raid already had exceeded seven hours.

The official communique, varying from earlier unofficial accounts, said the target was Kyushu island, southernmost of the homeland group, and that it began at 6 a.m. Tokyo time (4:50 p.m. Saturday eastern war time).

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