

Senal Chief Says Gas ight Hasten Allied Victory

REUEL S. MOORE
GEWOOD ARSENAL, Md. warfare by all belligerents might

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bring a sudden end to the war, Gen. William N. Porter, chief of the chemical warfare service, told newspapermen visiting Edgewood arsenal.

"We still think something may happen that will end the war in a quick way," Porter said.

Germany has not yet employed gas. In Porter's opinion, because it has never been to Germany's advantage to do so. But if and when she does, he is confident of America's ability to counter it.

"The United States never signed the international agreement banning the use of gas," Porter said. "Japan never signed it. Hitler is not bound by it against non-signatories, although Germany signed it. Thus the United States, Japan, and Germany could engage in gas warfare without violating any international agreement."

Method Felt Barbaric

"Nevertheless, there is a feeling in the United States that this is a barbaric method of carrying on war. This can be demonstrated scientifically to be illogical. Why a layman would rather be blown to death than gassed to death is hard to understand. Still, it is the United States' policy to use gas only in retaliation."

Japan, he recalled, has used gas against the Chinese, the only belligerent to have done so in the current struggle. The Chinese reported use on 880 different occasions. Extensive use was made of gas at Ichang, which resulted in about 3500 deaths. Observers said the gas was America's own development—Lewisite.

It was noteworthy the Japanese desisted after President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill

warned that continued use would result in retaliation.

"If we get a good hard smack from an enemy employing gas we may change our minds about using it and gain tremendous advantages through our resources for waging chemical warfare," Porter said.

"We know Germany has large stocks of gas and in general know the location of their plants and capacity, and we believe we have them topped. During the last two years we have been denied nothing in the way of money. We have the best brains scientifically and industrially in the world. If gas warfare started we believe we would be able to spring a big surprise."

Porter said probably the Germans had not used gas because, with the exception of against Russia, they never really needed it. In Russia use of gas on both sides would have resulted in a disadvantage to the Germans, immeasurably increasing their difficulties in their 1000 mile march into Russia. Porter did not know why the Russians had not employed gas, but pointed out they were signatories of the international convention.

Had the British properly employed gas defensively in Malaya the Japanese would never have taken Singapore, in Porter's opinion, because of the advantage it would have given the defense.

Porter said he would not be surprised if the Germans used gas, should they attack Britain. He said it was surprising they had not in 1940.

"We think that they will use it whenever it is to their advantage," he added.

Police, Library Reports Released

COTTAGE GROVE—The following report of the police department for the month ending December 31 was presented to the city council this week by Chief of Police Myron A. Perry: four doors found open and unlocked; 5 accidents reported; 50 cases investigated; 26 persons arrested or detained; 12 citations issued to motorists for traffic violations; \$55 collected from traffic fines; \$85 from other fines, making a total of \$140 collected in fines during the month; \$30.95 the amount spent by the police department, this sum included meals for those detained, gas, oil, and repairs for the police car and office expenses. The police car traveled 800 miles during the month. There were 810 man hours worked by the department.

Jack McElanahan was arrested and charged with furnishing liquor to a minor. He was arraigned in justice court and pleaded not guilty. His trial has been set for this week. James Cattle Flynn was arrested and charged with giving liquor to a minor. He also pleaded not guilty in justice court and his trial will be held this week. Albert Fong, a Chinese, was detained and held for investigation. He was later released. Robert Edwin Taylor was held for investigation and released.

Library Active

The following report has been released by the city library. Mrs. Dan Hamant: 460 adult fiction books loaned during the month of December and 33 adult non-fiction, making a total of 493 adult books loaned; 56 children's fiction books and 33 children's non-fiction books, making a total of 89 children's books loaned. This makes a grand total of 582 books loaned by the library during the month. There was \$3.36 collected in fines and \$4.95 collected from the rental shelf, making a total of \$8.31 collected during the month. During the year there was \$74.70 collected from the rental shelf; 6 borrowers cards were issued in December and 10 canceled, leaving a total of 1637 borrowers cards still in use.

Births Reported

Mr. and Mrs. Willard Randall of Saginaw are the parents of an 8-pound son born Tuesday, December 29 at the McFarland Maternity home. The baby has been named Willard Oakley.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Jones of Culp Creek are the parents of a 5 1/4-pound daughter born Tuesday, December 31 at the McFarland Maternity Home. The baby has been named Sandra Kay.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence M. Stephen of Lorane announce the birth of a 7-pound son born Wednesday, December 30 at the McFarland Maternity Home. The baby has been named Montia Carl.

The Catholic Altar society met for a dessert Monday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Wilbur Wilson. Mrs. Merle Porter was the assisting hostess. Election of officers was held with the following being selected: President, Mrs. J. W. Tarr; vice president, Mrs. Lou Brissette; secretary, Mrs. Frank Gierau and treasurer, Mrs. Leo Waldo. Committees will be appointed at the next meeting which will be held February 1 at the home of Mrs. Francis McLaughlin.

FROM SHEDD

SHEDD—Mrs. Willard Brown taught the Greenbach school Monday, Mrs. W. P. Moore, the regular teacher was in Corvallis and was unable to get there on account of high water.

Rev. and Mrs. G. W. Rohrbough and son, Clayton, attended a Homecoming at the Albany United Presbyterian church on New Year's Day.

Mr. and Mrs. F. Giffie of Portland and Miss Maxine Smith of Oakland, Calif. were recent callers at the George Gardner home.

Mr. and Mrs. William Kibbey are making plans to leave soon for St. Louis, Missouri, where their daughter and two sons are living. They will make the trip by train.

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