

School Fund to Be Held at \$4,000,000

By PAUL W. HARVEY, JR., SALEM, Feb. 18. (AP)—The Oregon house of representatives leaped a major hurdle today when it voted 30 to 30 against increasing from \$4,000,000 to \$5,000,000 the amount of surplus income tax revenues that could be given in any one year to school districts to reduce property taxes.

The tie vote defeated a motion to send a bill back to committee to increase the amount to \$5,000,000.

The measure, as well as two companion bills, amends the initiative passed by the voters at the general election last November.

The three bills will be taken up in the house late today, when they probably will be passed and sent to the senate.

The bills provide that not more than \$4,000,000 be given school districts on any one year, this provision reducing Oregon's \$38,000,000 annual property tax total by more than 10 per cent. School interests, backed by Governor Snell, wanted the total boosted to \$5,000,000, and it was on this issue that the motion to send it back to committee was made.

Governor Snell estimated that about \$9,000,000 in surplus revenues would be available for the reserve fund that would be used after the war. This amount does not include the \$4,000,000 that would be given school districts this year.

Chairman Giles L. French, Moro, of the taxation and revenue committee, said the committee is drafting a bill to let the people vote in November, 1944, on a proposal to create a permanent reserve fund to make the state contribute a good share of the cost of school operation.

The committee is divided three ways over the question of how much the income tax should be reduced. French said he wants a small reduction, so that more money would be available for schools.

The house killed 56 to 4 a pro-

General Dunkel Tells Appreciation For Camp Furniture

Expression of appreciation to Eugene and Lane county for their work in gathering up furniture for 40 day rooms at Camp Adair are expressed in a letter sent by Brig. Gen. W. C. Dunkel of the Timberwolf (104th) division which shared in half of the furniture turned in. Parts of his letter to Ed G. Boehnke, chairman of the drive sponsored by the Elks lodge to collect the furniture, follows:

"... Please express to the people of Eugene, Lane county, Mr. Hatton, Mr. Wiper, and the members of lodge 357 the gratitude of the Timberwolves for all you have done for them.

"As for myself, I am delighted that I could be permitted to attend your luncheon and to become acquainted with the citizens of such an outstanding patriotic community as the Eugene area. So long as the spirit of Lane county exists we should never doubt the outcome of this war."

At the luncheon Brig. Gen. Dunkel represented Major General G. R. Cook, commanding general of the 104th division.

Deputy Commander In Alaska Is Selected

ANCHORAGE, Alaska, Feb. 18. (AP)—Col. Frank L. Whitaker was designated today as deputy commander of the Alaska defense command by Maj. Gen. Simon B. Buckner, Jr., commanding general. He was born in New Hampshire and graduated from Norwich University in Vermont in 1915. He was a member of the Massachusetts national guard before receiving a commission as a second lieutenant in the cavalry in 1916.

posited constitutional amendment to create the elective office of lieutenant governor. The president of the senate now acts as lieutenant governor. The resolution was endorsed by the senate.

New U. S. Field Army Set Up In Australia

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18. (AP)—The arrival of Lieutenant General Walter Krueger in Australia to take command of a new field army of American troops, the 8th army to be formed of units already in the southwest Pacific, was announced today by Secretary of War Stimson.

Krueger, formerly commander of the 3rd army with headquarters at San Antonio, Texas, went to Australia at the request of General Douglas MacArthur, Stimson said, because the strength of American forces in the southwest Pacific has reached such proportions that the organization of a field army there appeared desirable.

MacArthur retains his post as commander in chief of allied forces in the southwest Pacific, and Stimson said also that Krueger's new assignment would not affect the status of Major General Robert L. Eichelberger.

Eichelberger, the secretary said, is a corps commander.

Stimson added that he has had "a very gallant record" in the field command of troops during the Papuan campaign in New Guinea.

Krueger is succeeded in the 3rd army command by Major General Courtney H. Hodges, who becomes a lieutenant general by virtue of his new job.

Yanks Ousted—

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

German armored divisions which drove out of Faid pass in central Tunisia Sunday had carried them to within 12 miles of the Algerian border at Feriana and to within 18 miles at Kasserine.

Fighting yesterday was "on a reduced scale," despite the rapid advance of the enemy, the communiqué said.

May Relief Pressure (Allied spokesmen yesterday said the swift development of Montgomery's drive might relieve the allied situation in the central sector by forcing Rommel to call off his armored divisions from their drive through the American lines and regroup to meet the southern attack.

(That the Americans, in falling back before Rommel's onslaught, were fighting hard was indicated by the Italian high command's communiqué, which said counterattacks had been launched, but said these were repulsed.)

In reaching Feriana, the extreme point of their advance, the Germans had driven through Sidi Bouzid, just west of Faid pass, northwest to Sbeitla, where the heavy fighting was reported going on yesterday, and then turned southwest through Kasserine.

(Kasserine is on the eastern side of a range of mountains where the Americans may make a stand.)

Before the enemy reached Sbeitla or Feriana, the 12th air force announced yesterday, the Americans had evacuated personnel and most of the material from the three airfields in the vicinity of those two places.

The American and British air forces, however, continued to play a major role in the fighting.

Soap has a particular value in use as a road-building material. It is instrumental in producing a scale-resistant surface.

Giant Smoke Screen Blots Out Canal

U. S. ARMY HEADQUARTERS, Panama Canal Zone, Feb. 18. (AP)—Smoke—a billowing, blinding curtain of dense vapor that hides the Panama canal and its vital areas in a very few minutes—has become a primary line of defense in the protection of this strategic waterway linking the Atlantic and Pacific oceans.

The smoke screen has been under development for months and at present is reaching its maximum effectiveness.

Today, for the first time, correspondents were permitted to write about this new line of canal defense—although many important details naturally still must remain secret.

The smoke blots the canal from view far more quickly than one would imagine.

At the first sign of danger a siren sounds. The men assigned to the smoke generators rush from their alert huts with flaming torches in hand. They touch off the burners which are set out in patterns suited to the terrain and air currents. Smoke is generated at the instant of lighting and in almost no time the canal seems to disappear.

It is easy to imagine the plight of any enemy aviator who might, by some unusual combination of events, succeed in penetrating the canal's outer defenses.

Committee OKs Bill Not to Draft Fathers

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18. (AP)—By a 25 to 2 vote, the house military affairs committee approved today the Kilday bill to give men with children draft deferment priority and to put selective service quotas on a state wide instead of a local basis.

Representatives Andrews (R-NY) and Sheridan (D-Pa.) were listed as having voted against the action.

The committee wrote into the bill an amendment by representative Elston (R-Ohio) to make clear that men shall not be inducted by occupational groups. The purpose of the amendment, Elston said, was to prevent the carrying out of a WMC proposal to draft men in non-essential work regardless of dependency.

Bomber Crashes—

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

out of the craft a few moments before it struck the building. They said they were told by witnesses none of the parachutes opened.

An hour after the crash, four bodies, all with parachutes attached, had arrived at the county morgue. Coroner's deputies said the men were killed when their parachutes failed to open.

An ambulance company official said 12 of the packing company employees had been taken to hospitals. All were burned seriously. Two of them were William Sutgahan, Tacoma, and H. W. Beard, Seattle.

Firemen said at 1:20 p. m. they believed they had the plant fire "pretty well under control, but there's still plenty of fire." They said they believed that everyone "who is still alive" had been removed from the building at that time.

The plane struck the rear buildings of the plant, the section where hogs are slaughtered.

Screams of workmen trapped in the building and of animals whose escape was also cut off were heard above the roar of the flames.

Thousands of persons in office buildings in the central business district crowded to the windows to watch the flames, visible over a wide area.

Rents Not to Increase Says OPA Chief Brown

WASHINGTON, Fe. 18. (AP)—OPA Director Prentiss M. Brown says that rents cannot be increased "until price rises are translated into increases in the landlord's actual expenditures."

His statement was in reply to Portland area landlords who complained to Senator McNary and Representative Angell that federally regulated rents do not compensate for increased operation costs.

POWER TO BE CUT OFF

Power will be cut off on the El-mira road line west of highway 99 from 3 to 5 o'clock Saturday afternoon, the Eugene water board announces. Power will be resumed as soon as special work in the area is completed.

The dive bomber dives at an angle varying from 35 to 85 degrees, the latter being considered the practicable limit.

Help Kidneys If Back Aches

Do you feel older than you are or suffer from Back Pain, Dizziness, Swollen Ankles, Rheumatic Pains, Burning, Itching or Frequent passages? If so, remember that your kidneys are vital to your health and that they are the only organs in your body that are not replaced. Cystex is a powerful kidney and bladder treatment that gives prompt and lasting relief by helping the kidneys flush out everything to gain and nothing to lose in urine. Cystex, a powerful guarantee, assures a refund of your money on return of empty package unless fully satisfied. Don't delay. Get Cystex (100¢) from your druggist today.

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100¢

Red Cross Plans Lane County Drive

Plans to give every resident of the county the opportunity to contribute to Lane's 1943 Red Cross war fund campaign were made Thursday noon, at a meeting of chairmen at the Osburn hotel.

The campaign with a goal of \$41,400 will begin officially on Tuesday, March 2. This will be heralded on the preceding day, Monday, March 1, with a kick-off luncheon at the Osburn, which all workers will attend.

Stanley R. Stevenson, general chairman, said that the funds raised will go towards a 14-month budget of the Red Cross. Of it, \$21,400 will go to the local chapter budget, and \$20,000 for war relief aid, mainly overseas where the armed forces are fighting.

"This means," he said, "that an average of more than 50 cents of each dollar contributed will stay right here at home."

"The sum is the largest which the Red Cross has ever attempted to raise during an annual campaign. It is a real challenge to Lane county, but I believe the goal will be overreached if everybody does his part."

While the national budget calls for 2½ times its 1941 quota, Lane county's is only 1-3 more than in that last campaign, Mr. Stevenson said, pointing out that the proportional increase for the county is "far below" the national.

Committees are to complete their preparations within the next 10 days.

Gen. Halder Back as Chief of Nazi Armies

STOCKHOLM, Feb. 18. (AP)—Gen. Franz Halder has been restored to the position of chief of the German army general staff, displacing General Kurt Zeltler, who had succeeded him last fall, the newspaper Aftonbladet said today.

It is said that the difference in operations of the general staff under the new command was "as big as if one had turned a switch." Halder was described as no Nazi, but an officer who could forget personal prestige at a moment when the Reich was threatened.

(The dispatch did not report the new assignment of Zeltler, a 47-year-old "political general" who is a personal friend of Goebbels, Chief Heinrich Himmler. (Broadcast of a DNB dispatch by Berlin radio Dec. 10 announced the appointment of Zeltler to be Adolf Hitler's chief military aide, confirming reports that had been current several weeks.)

Condition of Gandhi Reported to Be Worse

BOMBAY, India, Feb. 18. (AP)—An India government communiqué reported today that there was deepening anxiety over the condition of Mohandas K. Gandhi, now in the second week of his projected 21-day fast.

The communiqué said: "Although Mr. Gandhi had a total of nine hours sleep he is not refreshed nor mentally alert. There is other evidence of uremia, which is progressive. His heart action is feeble. Anxiety as to his condition deepens."

The report, signed by six doctors, including the surgeon general of the government of Bombay, covers the period up to this afternoon. This is the ninth day of the fast.

U. S. Super-Battleship Almost Ready For Action

BROOKLYN NAVY YARD, Feb. 18. (AP)—The super-dreadnaught Iowa, first of the six 45,000 ton battleships which the United States navy is rushing to completion, will soon be engaged in action on one of the seven seas. Shipyard officials announced today the five sister ships of the Iowa generally are well ahead of construction schedules. The Iowa was launched seven months ahead of schedule.

The New Jersey, which is being outfitted in the Philadelphia navy yard, will be the second of the 45,000 ton battleships to put to sea. The Missouri, which is only a stone's throw from her sister ship, the Iowa, in the Brooklyn navy yard probably will be the third.

As the world's largest battleship, the Iowa will give the American navy terrific offensive power. It has more anti-aircraft guns and heavy artillery, including batteries of 16 inch guns, than ever was assembled on one ship.

NOTARIZATION SCRAPPED

SALEM, Feb. 18. (AP)—Governor Earl Snell signed into law today a bill abolishing the provision the state income tax returns must be notarized. The law becomes effective with returns filed in 1944.

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