

**Five Officials—**

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

canvas men; Edward Versteig, chief electrician, and David Blanchfield, chief wagon man. After having been detained throughout the night at police headquarters Haley and Smith were held in \$15,000 bail and the others in \$10,000 for a hearing July 19.

Meanwhile investigators seeking to establish a reason for the startlingly rapid spread of the blaze which all eye-witnesses agreed mushroomed with incredible speed from a tiny finger of flame near the main entrance to a gigantic inferno of smoke and fire.

Police Court Prosecutor James F. Kennedy announced that his preliminary investigation had established that the huge canvas

tent had been coated with a water-proof solution of gasoline and paraffine before the circus left its winter quarters at Sarasota, Fla., early in the year.

Many witnesses commented upon the thick, oily nature of the billowing flames and smoke.

Among other agencies investigating are the state attorney's office, the FBI and a special committee appointed by Mayor William Mortensen.

The fire, the greatest disaster in American circus history, reduced the show's main tent to ashes within less than an hour. State police on duty at the temporary morgue estimated that two-thirds of the dead were children and said most of the adult victims were women.

A chilling quiet prevailed at the morgue, broken only occasionally by the sudden sob of a mother

recognizing some whisp of her child's clothing on a twisted and blackened figure. But there was no hysteria as relatives walked silently from cot to cot. Many searched fruitly among the small bodies burned beyond recognition.

Survivors agreed that the circus staff tried valiantly to prevent panic. The first move toward the exits was orderly and many of the children making their way from the tiers of seats were seen laughing excitedly. But when the flames roared with terrifying speed to consume the entire canvas roof, the audience became a fighting screaming, terror-stricken mass.

Some children dropped to the ground and were trampled unconscious by others jumping behind them. Others were tangled in the blazing canvas.

The performing animals had been safely herded through the caged runway back to their trucks when the blaze was first seen and only five circus performers, the Flying Wallendas, were in the arena.

The circus' future remained doubtful today, although most of its staff agreed that it would return to its Sarasota, Fla., winter quarters as soon as authorities here would permit removal of the remaining equipment.

Herbert Duval, circus adjuster, declared, "we're out of business." But Roland Butler, general press representative, predicted that the show would return to the road later this summer, perhaps using last year's tent which he said "still is in pretty good shape."

Estimates of the fire loss ranged from \$75,000 to \$300,000 but no authoritative report had been issued by the management.

**Club Stag Scheduled; Pettigrove Vice-Prexy**

President Veri Smith announced Saturday the appointment of Bill Pettigrove as vice-president of the Eugene Country club during the absence of Winsor Calkins, now a lieutenant (j.g.) in the U.S.N.R. Carl Field has also been appointed as a member of the board to fill Pettigrove's advancement.

The club also announced the second stag party of the summer season, to be held at the clubhouse Thursday at 7 o'clock, following an 18-hole tournament starting at 1. Winners of the recent Palm Beach 72-hole handicap tournament will be announced at that time.

**Ellsworth—**

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materials now, but it will serve as a standard plant for future operations, Ellsworth pointed out.

**Pleased with Dewey**

"All republicans are thrilled with their ticket for president and vice-president," Ellsworth said in commenting on the republican national convention in Chicago, which he attended just before coming west.

"Everyone attending that meeting sensed the seriousness of the delegates to get to work to unite in combatting the 'problem of a fourth term' and every republican felt pride in the way those there dropped personal and selfish ambitions to put over a united program in support of Gov. Thomas E. Dewey and Gov. John W. Bricker as the nominees to win for the republicans," the congressman said.

**Here for Few Weeks**

Ellsworth hopes to be in his home district until Labor day, and will be unless congress is called back, he said.

"I have a briefcase full of items to be taken up through personal contact and interview throughout the district, things that cannot be handled properly by correspondence, and I expect to keep busy during the time I am here," he said.

Ellsworth will open an office in the post-office building at Roseburg, his home town, to receive mail, wires or visitations from people of this district.

He plans to be in Eugene next week again, being one of the officials invited to be at the annual convention of the United Spanish War Veterans to be held here.

"After Washington's climate and the heat in Chicago it is just plain heaven to be back here, and to be able to walk briskly down the street and breathe the air, and not be fagged out completely from intense heat and humidity," Ellsworth said.

While in Eugene over Thursday night and Friday he was guest at the home of his mother, Mrs. Eva C. Ellsworth, who lives here.

**BLAST DEATH TOLL RISES**

OIL CITY, Pa., July 7.—(AP)—The death toll in a series of explosions and fires that wrecked the \$1,500,000 100-octane gasoline plant of the Pennzoil company rose to eight today, and three others were in critical condition in Oil City hospital.

**Yanks Offer Safety To Saipan Civilians**

U. S. PACIFIC FLEET HEAD-QUARTERS, Pearl Harbor, July 7.—(AP)—United States forces closing in for the kill on Japanese troops pocketed on northern Saipan today offered the 10 to 15 thousand civilians trapped with them an avenue to life-saving surrender.

AP Correspondent Rembert James reported from the western Pacific island that American commanders decreed that a single highway could be used by the civilians to come into the U. S. lines.

Already some 7,000 Japanese civilians have been interned by the marine and army forces who have cornered the Nipponese on Saipan's northern tip. The enemy soldiers seemed determined on a desperate last stand, doomed though they were.

Among the civilians still hiding out were Japanese business owners, government officials and white collar workers and their families. James estimated their number at from 10 to 15 thousand.

"Meantime," James wrote, "marines and army forces pushed in to destroy the remnants of defending forces under circumstances in which no one could doubt that the end of military operations was in sight."

Elsewhere the western Pacific drive rolled on with a new invasion 800 miles from the Philippines and the sinking of five more enemy ships by carrier task force planes within 600 miles of Tokyo.

Covered by warships and planes, the Yanks swept unopposed on to tiny Manim islet and set up artillery to shell Namber airfield three miles away on Noemfoor's west coast. In a lightning operation, invaders from reef-climbing landing craft and sky transports previously had overrun the other two airfields on Noemfoor.

The five newly announced sinkings added to a debacle suffered by the Japanese when a task force moved between Saipan and Japan earlier this week to shell and bomb the Volcano and Bonin islands.

In a Thursday communique, Adm. Chester W. Nimitz disclosed that the two-day operation was extended to Chichi Jima in the Bonins, where two enemy destroyer escorts, an oiler, an ammunition ship and a cargo vessel were sunk. He also added to previously announced Japanese air losses nine more planes shot down and three damaged at Haha Jima.

**WALLACE TO SPEAK**

WASHINGTON, July 7.—(AP)—Vice President Wallace, now en route home from the Far East, plans to speak Sunday night at Seattle, presumably on impressions gained during his visits to Siberia and China.

**What Goes on at The Statehouse**

(Editor's Note—This one of a series of articles discussing the measures which will appear on the Oregon state ballot in the November election.)

By ERIC W. ALLEN, JR. SALEM, Ore.—(AP)—An Oregon state veterans educational aid bill was passed by the legislature last year, and will appear on the ballot in November for the approval of the people of the state.

One of the few states to pass such a measure for veterans of the present war, Oregon has provided through its legislature a measure which would insure to a certain extent the educational opportunity of returned veterans of World War II. It remains only for a majority of the voters of the state to approve it.

The principal provision of the bill is in the first section, which would grant \$75 to each veteran for the first month of college, university or other school attendance in a duly authorized institution, \$50 for each of the next eight months, and \$35 for each of the nine months succeeding during each of the three school years following. Such aid would be granted to no one for more than four years.

Financing of this plan would be through an additional property tax levy, amounting to two-tenths of a mill on the dollar of the total value of taxable property in the state according to the next previous assessment and equalization. The constitutional six per cent limitation would not apply to this levy.

Other provisions of the measure are secondary in nature, and provide for the administration of the program, the inspection of schools which would be used in the plan, and the eligibility of persons applying for aid under the program.

All bonafide American veterans, who are not conscientious objectors and who served more than 90 days, would be entitled to the benefits of the bill.

**Rent Control—**

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Eugene city council be requested without further delay to forestall federal rent control by any necessary ordinance for local control.

The entire board was appointed by Loyall Rugh, president, to appear before next Monday's meeting of the council to plead for quick action in the drafting of a city ordinance against federal rent control for here.

Copy of the resolution as drafted by Robert W. Prescott was released to the press Friday.

At the Thursday session of the board, James A. Rodman, Sr. stated Eugene now stands in regard to the rent control where Bend stood before rent control

was set up in that city, and it was possible for Bend to prevent federal rent control only by immediate action on the part of its city council.

OPA Gets Complaints Wilson, in representing the rent control office, said "There have been enough complaints from tenants in Eugene to warrant investigation here."

Tenants having complaints to make are asked to present them in writing, signed, to be filed with the local price and ration board. Wilson said the rent control office of OPA in Portland is checking and keeping informed through the ration board here. Many desk and telephone calls have gone into the OPA office, he said. A questionnaire is being prepared to be mailed out or given over the counter at the ration board to those wishing to file complaints, he added.

The Eugene Realty board discussed the subject many times and Mayor Elisha Large named a committee, headed by A. L. Barber, realtor, to study the problem and hear complaints.

If federal rent control is here, a freezing date will be the control to be as near to war normal as possible, explained Albany, Corvallis, Medford have had rent control since March 1 of 1942, but were affected by the two training camps. The investigation now is to determine, in similar situation that would rent setting up federal here.

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SUBMITTED TO THE  
COMPTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY  
AS OF JUNE 30, 1944

**RESOURCES**

Cash on Hand and Due from Banks.....	\$ 92,615,481.28
United States Government Bonds.....	279,852,554.67
Municipal and Other Bonds.....	6,342,768.81
Loans and Discounts.....	62,862,405.46
Stock in Federal Reserve Bank.....	420,000.00
Bank Premises (including Branches).....	3,230,385.36
Other Real Estate.....	1.00
Customers' Liability on Acceptances.....	15,483.00
Interest Earned.....	943,563.88
Other Resources.....	258,687.22
	<b>\$446,541,330.68</b>

**LIABILITIES**

Capital.....	\$6,000,000.00
Surplus.....	8,000,000.00
Undivided Profits.....	1,865,594.48
Reserves.....	1,316,814.69
	<b>\$ 17,182,409.17</b>
Reserves for Interest, Taxes, etc.....	1,007,657.85
Acceptances.....	15,483.00
Dividends Declared.....	120,000.00
Deposits.....	428,139,114.56
Other Liabilities.....	76,666.10
	<b>\$446,541,330.68</b>

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