

Capital Journal



Legislative News
To know what is going on in the legislature as it happens, you must read the Capital Journal.

Weather
Rain tonight and showers Wednesday, strong southeast winds. Monday max. 51, min. 33. Rain 0. River 10.6 ft. N.W. wind, cloudy.

53rd Year, No. 18 Entered as second class matter at Salem, Oregon Salem, Oregon Tuesday, January 21, 1941 Price Three Cents On Trains and News Stands—Five Cents

British Launch Major Attack Upon Tobruk

Sprague Forest Conservation Bills Offered

17 Measures in Program To Acquire Areas for Re-seeding; Pension Probe

Governor Charles A. Sprague's program for forestry conservation was submitted to the legislature today in 17 bills, including a measure to enable the state to obtain title to forest lands from any owner so that the state may develop these lands itself.

One of Six Bills

The program is one of the six points of Governor Sprague's message to the legislature, and the bills, placed on legislators' desks today, will be introduced late today or tomorrow.

The 1939 legislature gave the state authority to acquire forest lands from the counties, but this power would be extended to permit acquisition of private lands.

The state thus would acquire vast areas for re-seeding.

Other bills would impose severe restrictions on logging and mill operators to prevent them from using equipment likely to cause fires. The operators would be required to equip their crews for fire-fighting.

Objectives Sought

The Oregon economic council, which drafted the legislation, said the program has three objectives: The preservation of the forest resource against the time of harvest, the orderly harvest, and constant renewal of the resource.

The legislature, which during the first nine days of its session has been occupied almost exclusively with the introduction of bills, will begin late this week or early next week to pass measures, Speaker Robert S. Farrell, Jr., said.

Anti-Gambling Bills

Sen. Thomas R. Mahoney (D-Multnomah) introduced two bills which he said would "break up a gambling ring which has been going pretty strong in Portland for the last 20 years."

One of them would make it a felony instead of a misdemeanor to operate a gambling establishment and would remove guilt from the player. The supreme court recently held that the player shares guilt equally with the operator.

The second measure, similar to a bill which passed the senate last session but died in the house, would make the landlord of a gambling establishment a defendant in any suit to recover gambling losses.

Sen. Wallace (D-Multnomah) introduced a bill which would give to each old age pension applicant the maximum income less any monthly income the applicant has from other sources. Wallace said many needy persons were being denied pensions because they had a monthly income of a few dollars.

British Women Smother Fire Bombs

London, Jan. 21 (AP)—Housewives were reported to have dropped their kitchen work in a town on the outskirts of London today to smother fire bombs unloaded by a German raider.

Two alarms sounded in the capital after a raid-free night throughout the British Isles. British accounts said the incendiaries were extinguished as quickly as they fell.

Kennedy Says British Divided On U. S. Entrance

Retiring Envoy Says Britain in Crisis Since June; Nazis Don't Rule Air

Washington, Jan. 21 (AP)—Joseph P. Kennedy, the retiring ambassador to London, said flatly today that he was "against" the lend-lease bill for aid to Britain "in its present form."

After more than three hours testimony before the house foreign affairs committee, Kennedy was told by Rep. Chipperfield (R-Ill.) that Chipperfield had been unable to determine the ambassador's attitude toward the legislation.

"Are you for or against this bill in its present form?" he asked.

Against the Bill

"I'm against this bill in its present form," Kennedy replied. He added that he had no specific proposals for amendment.

Previously he had agreed with various suggestions for amendments put forward by members of the committee, including those which would limit the president's powers under the legislation.

On the other hand, Kennedy had expressed approval several times for all aid to Britain short of war and which would not inevitably lead to war, but he also had stressed his belief that re-armament was America's main problem and that aid to Britain should be considered solely in terms of "what's best for us."

Kennedy reported some high British officials believed the United States should go to war against Germany but that others disagreed.

Testifying before the house foreign affairs committee, Kennedy said, in response to questions, that some members of the British government felt that if the United States entered the war it would "find a way to carry it through."

Others, he said, believed that United States' entrance into the war would be a great detriment to Britain's war effort because it would slow down the flow of material aid from America.

"There was no unanimity on the question," he said.

The carefully dressed diplomat, who reported he went through more (Concluded on page 13, column 7)

Communist Paper Raided

London, Jan. 21 (AP)—Scotland Yard detectives today raided the offices of the Daily Worker, organ of the communist party in Great Britain, and stopped publication just as the paper was going to press.

The raid came shortly after the government had issued an order banning further publication and delivery of the Daily Worker and also of The Week, a weekly news letter of leftist tendencies.

The order was issued by the home secretary, who, it was said, was satisfied that in each paper there had been systematic publication of matter calculated to foment opposition to the successful prosecution of the war.

It directed that the presses and other apparatus of the two papers should not be used until permission of a high court is obtained.

The Week is published by Claud Cockburn, a leftist journalist.



Missing Girl — Carol Falk, 15, daughter of a prominent Boise, Idaho, physician, is being sought by city and state officers at Tacoma, Wash., where she had been attending exclusive Annie Wright academy until her disappearance. — Associated Press Photo.

Advertise for Missing Girl

Tacoma, Wash., Jan. 21 (AP)—Fifteen-year-old Carol Falk, who vanished from an exclusive seminary here Saturday, was urged through a newspaper advertisement today to communicate with her father, Dr. Ralph Falk.

Dr. Falk, prominent Boise, Idaho, physician who flew here to lead the search for his daughter, advertised in a Seattle paper:

"Carol, phone or telegraph your father collect, Winthrop hotel, Tacoma. He understands situation... and he will make any arrangements satisfactory to you."

For awhile last night the state patrol thought they had found Carol, a student at Annie Wright seminary. They reported a girl who appeared to fit the description had been found at Cle Elum, in central Washington.

Dr. Falk, after checking, however, said the girl was not his daughter.

The state patrol and other authorities resumed the search after Dr. Falk said he had asked Oregon and California authorities to watch for his daughter.

British Ship Losses For Week Decline

London, Jan. 21 (AP)—Britain lost nine merchant ships totalling 30,226 tons in the week ending January 12, the admiralty reported today.

Authoritative circles said the total was still "well below" the high averages which marked the intensification of the submarine campaign in July.

There were no losses of allied or neutral merchant shipping during the week, the announcement said.

The admiralty said that during the period covered by the announcement "the Germans claimed to have sunk a total of 42,700 tons of shipping."

Germans Victims In Widespread Rumanian Riots

Street Fighting and Bombings in Bucharest And Other Cities

Sofia, Bulgaria, Jan. 21 (AP)—Widespread disorders in Rumania, with street fighting and bombings injuring civilians, German soldiers and communists in the streets of Bucharest and other cities, were reported in diplomatic dispatches today to Sofia, Belgrade and Budapest.

Some sources in the other Balkan capitals attributed the Rumanian outbreaks to bitter rivalry between extremist and more conservative elements in Rumania's iron guard.

Resent Nazis

Others suggested that increasing resentment in many quarters over German military concentrations in Rumania and against the regime of Premier Ion Antonescu might have flared into a free-for-all with Nazi troops trying to restore order.

There were reports, too, the disorders might be part of an intended coup by leftists, followers of former King Carol, or others trying to wrest power from the German army and the pro-German iron guard.

Laid to Reds

London, Jan. 21 (AP)—Turkey's Ankara radio alleged today that reports had reached Sofia of an attempt by "Rumanian communists" to overthrow the Bucharest government.

According to the completely unconfirmed Ankara radio broadcast, the Sofia reports were that communists attempted yesterday to overthrow the Rumanian government.

"Many Germans were killed," it added. "Serious clashes are occurring and the rebellion is continuing."

According to the Ankara radio "communists battled iron guards and German occupation troops."

German Slain

It said that since yesterday communications between Bucharest and the outer world had been interrupted, but that nevertheless news of the uprising had reached Sofia.

The Berlin radio, in a broadcast picked up here early this afternoon, said:

"It is established that the murderer of a German officer in Bucharest was a Greek who went to Rumania with a Turkish passport. As a result of the murder Gen. Antonescu (the Rumanian premier) ordered the arrest of 10 members of the Greek colony."

According to the Berlin radio, the motive of the murderer showed a "certain trend." It said the populace of Bucharest blamed the British secret service.

Mattson Suspect Held at Windsor

Windsor, Ont., Jan. 21 (CP)—Windsor police said today they are holding a man for investigation by officers of the federal bureau of investigation in Detroit in connection with the unsolved kidnaping and murder of Charles Mattson in Tacoma, Wash., December, 1938.

Detective James R. Wilkinson, superintendent of the Windsor police identification bureau, said the description of the Mattson kidnaping and the man held here had "striking similarities" and FBI officers would come here to investigate.

The man was arrested on a disorderly conduct charge and was remanded by Magistrate D. M. Brodie Monday after Police Sergeant Bert Herod told the court he might be wanted in the United States.



President Takes Third Term Oath Of Office—Before a crowd of 75,000 persons, President Roosevelt took his third term oath of office from Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes (left) at the capitol in Washington, D. C. At the right stands the president's oldest son, James, in a marine uniform. Holding the Bible is Elmore Cropley, clerk of the supreme court. — Associated Press Photo.

Legislative Group Realignment Seen

Legislative organization alignments, particularly in the house, are in the process of readjustment these days as the lines of real division along which the law-making battle is to be fought out shape themselves to replace the arbitrary division along which the contest for the speakership was decided today.

The White House would not confirm this report.

Winant, here for the inauguration, said early today he had seen stories referring to him as the next likely ambassador to Britain "but I don't want to make any statement on them."

Mr. Roosevelt has announced plans to send the senator soon his nomination of a successor for Joseph P. Kennedy, retiring ambassador, who presented his resignation immediately after Mr. Roosevelt's election to a third term. The president told a press conference about a week ago that he had picked Kennedy's successor.

Winant, governor of New Hampshire in 1925 and 1926 and from 1931 to 1934, long has had an interest in labor problems and social legislation. He was first chairman of the social security board, headed the textile labor board of 1934, and since 1939 has been director of the international labor office, which serves the United States and member nations of the League of Nations.

To Draft Britons For War Work

London, Jan. 21 (AP)—Labor Minister Ernest Bevin informed the house of commons today that the government has decided to register Britain's working men and women for drafting into war factories.

Bevin reported steadily increasing production, despite air raids, but added that the country had "now reached a stage when it will be necessary to take industrial registration by age groups."

He said the registration was to "make a list of those who should be called upon to serve the state in the national industry."

The government risked a political storm from the left wing by its decision to draft labor, but observers predicted there would be little formal opposition.

Bevin's announcement launched a full-scale debate on manpower. Conservative Earl Winterton immediately applauded the decision.

Laborite Emanuel Shinwell complained that drafting of labor should not be ordered until the government had drafted "wealth, property and land in the national effort."

Malta Again Raided By Nazi Bombers

Berlin, Jan. 21 (AP)—Scattered German combat planes were reported today by the German high command to have attacked airports on the Mediterranean island of Malta yesterday for the second successive day.

The high command's communique said three planes failed to return from operations Sunday night. Armed reconnaissance flights over Britain as far north as the Orkney Islands were recorded yesterday "despite most unfavorable weather."

Some objectives were said to have been bombed.



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Winant Choice For St. James

Washington, Jan. 21 (AP)—John Gilbert Winant, liberal republican and former governor of New Hampshire, will be President Roosevelt's choice as ambassador to Great Britain, an excellent authority disclosed today.

The White House would not confirm this report.

Winant, here for the inauguration, said early today he had seen stories referring to him as the next likely ambassador to Britain "but I don't want to make any statement on them."

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Robert Paulus Heads National Canners

Chicago, Jan. 21 (AP)—Robert C. Paulus, Salem, Ore., yesterday was elected president of the National Canners' association at the opening session of the organization's 34th annual convention, in which all speakers stressed the industry's part in the defense program.

Paulus, who heads the Paulus Canning Co., said the industry's production had increased 100 percent since 1939.

The convention was held at the Waldorf-Astoria hotel in Chicago. Paulus said the industry's production had increased 100 percent since 1939.

Italians Admit Fall Of Kassala in Sudan

Rome, Jan. 21 (UP)—A high command communique admitted today that considerations of a strategic character had compelled Italian forces to evacuate Kassala, on the Sudan frontier, as newspapers hinted.

At joint Italian-German action to crush Britain in the near east, Italian detachments, supported by German aircraft, clashed with British mechanized forces on the Sudan frontier and inflicted heavy losses, the communique asserted.

It was admitted that British planes had raided Catania, Sicily, (German dive bomber base) during the night, causing "some" damage; that British and Greek planes had raided Valona, important Italian supply port on the Albanian coast, and that British planes had raided Tobruk, besieged Italian base in Libya, causing some material damage.

There were no casualties at Catania and Tobruk, the communique said, and the raid on Valona caused no damage.

Greeks Repulse Counter Attacks

Athens, Jan. 21 (AP)—The Greeks reported today their forces had repulsed what they described as the largest and most carefully planned Italian counter-attack yet attempted in the Tepeleni sector of the Albanian front.

As a result of this desperate attempt to halt the Greek advance, the Italians were declared to have lost their original positions along with great numbers of their attacking force.

On the front north of Kilsura the Greeks reported they also scored important gains in attacks launched in blinding snowstorms.

"Our troops advanced their lines to positions from where it will be easier to reach their objectives," said one dispatch.

This report said the Greeks seized a height from the fascists, captured more than 100 Italian prisoners, including three officers, three mounted guns, four machine-guns, mortars and several cases of cartridges.

The British RAF, supporting the Greek land forces, reported that Valona, a port vital for the supply of Italian forces in southern Albania, was subjected Sunday night and Monday "to the heaviest bombing attack so far carried out in that region."

A severe night raid was followed by further raids in daylight Monday, the communique said, and "large explosions occurred in the target area and a number of fires were caused."

"High explosive bombs fell on buildings south of the jetty and on the foreshore, causing considerable damage."

Two Italian bombers which attacked Piraeus, the port of Athens, were reported officially to have been shot down by British fighter planes in dogfights watched by cheering crowds in the capital's streets, five miles away.

Others in two bomber formations were said to have been driven away, but not until some bombs were dropped on the port in the mid-day raid yesterday.

Post Has Rehearsal
Ashland, Jan. 21 (AP)—The first dress rehearsal for the Ashland American Legion post's disaster relief organization was staged last night as Alfred P. Kelley, Oregon Legion commander, visited the city.

The communique reported normal activity of patrols and artillery on the Albanian front and increased artillery activity at Tobruk.

A meeting of the national directorate of the fascist party was summoned for 5 p. m. (10 a. m. EST) and German and Italian economic experts held the first of a series of trade conferences as the high command admitted the loss of Kassala.

The newspapers hailed the Mussolini-Hitler conference as having been held "under the sign of victory."

30,000 Italians In Besieged Libyan Base

"Operations Proceeding Satisfactorily;" British Advance in Kassala Area

Cairo, Egypt, Jan. 21 (AP)—British forces surrounding beleaguered Tobruk launched a major assault on the 30,000 Italian defenders of the Libyan stronghold today after the RAF had prepared the way with a series of night raids.

"Early this morning an attack was launched on Tobruk and the operations are proceeding satisfactorily," the British middle east command announced.

Tobruk, 80 miles inside Libya, has been under siege by land, sea and air since the British captured Bardia, 100 miles from the Egyptian frontier, on January 5.

The land assault was preceded by widespread air raids, in which the RAF announced Tobruk was attacked heavily, seven planes were destroyed in an attack on Catania, Sicilian base of axis fliers raiding British Mediterranean shipping, and Valona was made the target of the heaviest assault yet loosed on that major Italian port of entry into southern Albania.

In the attack on Tobruk, carried out the night of January 19-20, the RAF said direct hits were registered on the marine repair shops and military barracks. One artillery battery of four guns was silenced, the communique said, and "many bombs" fell on a camp of about 200 tents.

"Anti-aircraft fire was intense, but our aircraft pressed home the attack," the RAF communique said.

War in Eritrea
Elsewhere in the battle of Africa, the middle east command reported British troops were "vigorously pushing" into Eritrea the Italian forces which withdrew Sunday from the Kassala area, in the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan.

In the attack Monday night on Catania, the British reported that two of the seven axis planes destroyed on the ground were large twin-engine bombers which burst into flames.

Still other raids were reported on Asaba, in Italian east Africa, where several hits were reported on a supply depot. Neghelli, in Ethiopia, was said to have been bombed by the South African air force. There, the RAF reported, buildings surrounding a motor transport park were burned to the ground and several vehicles destroyed.

From all these operations, the British said every one of their planes returned safely.

Sprague Takes Issue With Raver

Governor Charles A. Sprague said today he has advised Dr. Paul J. Raver, Bonneville administrator, that he would not approve Dr. Raver's recommendation that peoples utility districts be exempted from taxation.

The governor, writing to Dr. Raver December 19, added that he would not approve his suggestion that the entire PUD law be rewritten.

The governor, however, did approve several of Dr. Raver's suggestions. These would make it easier for districts to consolidate or annex more territory, give districts more powers in condemning properties they wish to acquire, and permit districts to pledge revenues for payment of general obligation bonds.

The 1939 legislature passed an amendment that districts shall be taxed the same as private utilities. Dr. Raver objected to this, asking that districts merely be permitted to make "payments in lieu of taxes."

Dr. Raver, also said the machinery for creating districts is too complicated, but Governor Sprague disagreed.

Answering Dr. Raver's recommendation that the entire law be rewritten to clarify it, the governor wrote:

"Remembering the difficulty in working out this legislation two years ago, I am loathe to approve of that recommendation. I do not believe the legislature has any stomach to go through another prolonged battle over utility district legislation."

Counties to Share Cost of Gates Bridge

The county courts of Linn and Marion county discussed here today phases of work on the new Gates bridge not covered by the agreement with Contractor Johnson of Newberg.

Agreement was reached that the counties will bear the cost of the bridge and approaches as well as of tearing down the old bridge on a 50-50 basis. Marion county will have charge of the work including that of tearing down the old bridge and of the approaches on each side, but the engineers will agree among themselves with consent of the courts as to who will handle the work on each end, especially the matter of blasting on the Linn county side which it was stated should be done before work on the bridge starts so as not to take a chance on damaging the structure.

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