

Clackamas County News

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THIS WEEK IN DEFENSE

President Roosevelt in a special message to Congress said that Germany had tried to drive the U. S. off the high seas by the 'ruthless' sinking of the U. S. merchantman Robin Moor in the South Atlantic and proclaimed this country will not yield to such "outrageous and indefensible" acts of "an international outlaw." The President said if the U. S. yielded on the issue "we would inevitably submit to world domination".

The President froze all funds and other assets in the U. S. of Germany, Italy and all invaded or occupied European countries and the state department directed the German government to close all its consular establishments here not later than July 10.

The President said he froze German facilities here to prevent their use in ways harmful to the national defense. The state department said German consulates were ordered closed because their activities become contrary to the welfare of this country.

The justice department instructed custom officials and immigration officers to prevent Germans from evading the order freezing German assets by leaving the country. The state department ordered U. S. diplomatic officials "in certain countries in Europe" to deny American entry permits to persons likely to become agents here for foreign powers.

Sub-Contracting

Donald M. Nelson OPM director of purchases speaking in Pittsburgh said the problem of pins faced with a shutdown because of shortages of materials necessary for civilian goods can be met by the cooperation of local business, labor, government, civil groups and banks in seeking defense work.

"No manufacturer is likely to get many defense contracts unless he is willing to display the same ingenuity persistence and energy in going after

them he would be seeking normal business," Mr. Nelson said.

Priorities

The OPF priorities division announced establishment of regional offices throughout the country to advise businessmen on priority problems. Offices in Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Chicago were opened this week and others will follow.

The rationing of rubber was announced to cut down the amount going into civilian consumption in the form of auto tires, inner tubes, boots, garden hose, shoes and 30,000 other consumer items. The OPM said there is a large supply of rubber on hand but is wished to build a large reserve.

Prices

OPACS administrator Henderson announced he intends to hold bread prices "to the absolute minimum reflecting cost increases" and asked bakeries to consult his office before raising prices. Mr. Henderson also stated rumors of ceiling prices for scrap iron and steel have caused some hoarding and unless this practice is stopped the OPACS will take "vigorous action." The department of justice announced a federal grand jury in Chicago indicted 69 companies and individuals on charges of fixing prices in the pea canning industry. The department said the indictments were the first in a nation-wide investigation of food marketing and pricing.

Labor

The President said in a memorandum to OPM directors Knudson and Hillman stated that "industry must take the initiative in opening the doors of employment to all loyal and qualified workers regardless of race, national origin religion or color. Our government cannot countenance continued discrimination in defense production."

The OPM labor division announced a two year agreement by the Gulf shipbuilding industry to provide wage increases, a standard base rate of \$1.07 an hour for skilled mechanics, time and a half for overtime, double time on holidays, adjustment of wages at specified periods according to living costs, and no strikes or lockouts. The OPM has also submitted a similar agreement to 55 Atlantic shipyards.

Living Costs

Labor secretary Perkins reported average hourly earnings in manufacturing industry at a record of 70.8 cents, 7 cents more than a year ago. The secretary also reported cost of living in large cities rose 0.7 percent between mid-April and mid-May making an increase in living costs of moderate income families of 2.4 percent since June 1940 and 4.4 percent since August 1939 with food costs more than 5 percent higher than a year ago and 9 percent higher than two years ago.

Agriculture

Agriculture secretary Wickard issued a statement that "to date we have been able to buy only half the amount of cheese we wanted by the end of June (for lease-lend activities) and less than two-thirds of the amount of evaporated milk. The output has increased but we need more." Mr. Wickard said increased prices for milk going into cheese and evaporated milk supported by government purchases should yield farmers a high or return than any other dairy product.

Speaking at Syracuse, N. Y., Mr. Wickard said the food situation in Europe is such that if the war continues for a long time the issue may be "who can feed the people, the democracies or the dictatorships? Therefore the food reserves may be more important than munitions reserves."

Oil

President Roosevelt placed all petroleum products under export licensing control. Defense petroleum coordinator Ickes working to overcome the shortage of oil on the east coast due to shortage of transport facilities requested oil shippers not to sell petroleum products for foreign shipment without consultation with him. He also advised custom officials to halt the shipment of 240,000 gallons of oil from Philadelphia to Japan in order to conserve oil in that area.

The maritime commission announced no American owned or controlled

tankers are carrying oil to Germany, Italy or Japan. Price and civilian supply administrator Henderson asked petroleum refiners not to raise prices without prior consultation with his office.

The census bureau reported that if the 30,000,000 American motorists would reduce their driving speed 20 percent the annual saving in gasoline consumption would amount to 4,600,000,000 gallons.

Air

Assistant secretary of war Lovett in a radio address said, "within a year we shall be geared to turn out 50,000 planes a year for as long as the emergency lasts." Mr. Lovett said the air corps is increasing the number of pilots in training from 12,000 to 30,000 a year and the number of mechanics from 45,000 to more than 100,000. He said the air corps is already nearly one-fourth of the entire army and only the infantry is larger.

Army

The war department announced trainees will be permitted to volunteer as parachute troops. Heretofore only regular army soldiers were chosen. The department authorized construction of field houses at 25 army posts to provide facilities for basketball, boxing and wrestling and other indoor sports. Each field house will accommodate between 2750 and 3750 spectators and cost approximately \$77,000 each.

Beans in Navy Thing of Past

Blast the navy beans legend.

Once upon a time it may have been true that beans, the little, hard white kind, constituted the chief article of diet on Uncle Sam's fighting ships.

The point is that if it was once it isn't now. You may see a navy bean now and then in a navy enlisted man's mess and you may eat one. But you'll never find yourself getting them meal after meal as the legend implies or even day after day.

If you get 'em at all navy beans will be unobtrusive items on a menu sufficiently replete with other well cooked, well balanced, well seasoned and above all, well tasting food, that you'll hardly know they're there.

For proof take a week's menu for enlisted men at the receiving ship, Puget Sound navy yard, Bremerton. It's the same food the men get at sea aboard the navy's fighting ships expect that on a cruise the vegetables and milk are likely to come in cans after the first ten days than is the case ashore.

For breakfast on a typical Friday the 650 odd men at the receiving ship got dry cereal, fresh fruit, and fresh milk to start with. Then they had Philadelphia schappi with maple syrup, country sausages, and hot mince stolen. Plenty of butter of course and lots of navy coffee.

Or try to find a navy bean in the dinner served on Wednesday noon preceding. There was chicken noodle soup and crackers, southern fried chicken (about a pound per man) with sage dressing and plenty of giblet gravy. Candied sweet potatoes come next with green asparagus. Then hot water rolls with butter and as the crowning touch strawberry layer cake and coffee.

As for supper here's a typical one served on Tuesday, June 3.

On his stainless steel mess tray every bluejacket on the receiving ship was served breaded pork chops and creamed gravy with a side order of apple sauce. In the vegetable line there was mashed potatoes, buttered beets and pea and carrot succotash, all in addition to a lettuce and pepper salad. Bread, butter and the inevitable coffee of course, and a final order of marble layer cake.

Anyway that's how they eat in Uncle Sam's navy. The total cost of all this it might be added runs about 45 cents per day per man. Try to match it.

Baby Chick Association Reports Banner Season

Members of the Oregon Baby Chick association were so well satisfied with the progress being made by their organization and its increasing membership to nearly 50 that they reelected their entire group of officers at the annual meeting at Oregon state college last week.

Floyd Long of Portland was reelected president, L. E. McCabe of Mc Minnville was continued as vice president and Frank O. Erickson of Hillsboro was renamed secretary treasurer. Floyd Boyington, Lyons and Harry Wicks, McMinnville, were elected as new directors and the following directors were renamed as members of the executive committee: Mrs. A. H. Watzig, Roseburg; Joe I. Russell, Carvallis; and Paul Vanzerberg, Portland.

The association referred to its executive committee a resolution providing first that members of the group look with disfavor on approved lists of hatcheries compiled by fee companies, and second that the association advise their customers to use only feeds as may be approved by the association. The association also voted to assess each member 25 cents on each 100 boxes of chicks sold as a contribution toward the poultry and egg national board.

Sam Mallicoat son of Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Mallicoat, of Boing recently sent his parents a message from the Philippine Islands saying he had been promoted to the position of communications officer on the U. S. S. Tulsa. Sam taught at Clackamas a short time before taking his naval training.

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