

# JAPAN'S BIG GUNS START HAMMERING SUCHOW DEFENSES

### Invaders Claim Chinese Soldiers and Civilians in Wild Retreat—Say 'Pitiful Confusion' Reigns

SHANGHAI, May 17.—(AP)—Japanese artillery has begun bombardment of Suchow, the central China railway junction that has been the objective of five months of bloody fighting, a Japanese communique said tonight.

Big Japanese guns, brought up by a column approaching from the southwest, began pounding Suchow's defenses from the Pengchwang mountains, a few miles away.

Two other Japanese columns were reported within firing distance of Suchow, nerve center of China's desperate defense of the Lunghai railway corridor running east-west through central China.

The Japanese said Chinese soldiers as well as civilians—were in wild retreat to the southeast, the only avenue remaining for escape from the nearly encircled city.

**Pitiful Confusion.** Japanese declared that throughout the Suchow area their airplanes, tanks and guns were battering the Chinese into "a state of pitiful confusion."

Chinese reports, however, firmly denied Japanese accounts of victory. Foreign military experts expressed belief that the thinness of the encircling Japanese lines west and southwest of Suchow gave most of the Chinese forces a chance to escape.

The Japanese also reported 50,000 Chinese were in full retreat from Suchow, which had been the main resistance center on the Tientsin-Pukow railway south of Suchow. A force of 10,000 Chinese was reported "crushed" by low flying Japanese war-planes while fleeing eastward from Suchow.

The Japanese communique said artillery began bombarding Suchow's west wall in mid-afternoon and that by nightfall terrific damage already was apparent. Casualties among heavy troop concentrations inside the city were believed heavy.

**Infantry Ready.** Japanese infantry was said to be moving up steadily, prepared to attack as soon as the guns made a breach in the walls.

Japanese reports that four of the Chinese central army's best divisions retreated westward from the Suchow area before the Lunghai railway was cut, thus escaping the rapidly contracting Japanese net.

One column, the Japanese said, had occupied the village of Changchun, eight miles west of Suchow, while other forces, advancing from the northwest and the southwest, were within 11 miles of the strategic city.

The vanguard of the column approaching from the southwest reported it had occupied positions on a low mountain range within sight of Suchow. It was "only a matter of hours," he commanded said, until this force would unleash guns on the city.

**After Long Battle.** The Japanese called within striking distance of the Chinese stronghold after weeks of terrific fighting both north and south of the Lunghai railway, China's "lifeline."

They are now approaching from every side, hopeful of destroying Chinese resistance "with one blow."

The Chinese continued to deny the Lunghai had been severed and to insist that Suchow was not surrounded. They said they were holding the Japanese at bay throughout the whole Lunghai zone.

Chinese military messages from Hankow said 70 Japanese warships were concentrated off Fukien and Kwangtung provinces, indicating further attacks on the south China coast were planned similar to recent attacks at Amoy and Foochow. Twenty Japanese ships were reported off Canton.

The valiant Chinese forces which fought off the invaders for two months in the Talerchwang-Pihai sector were reported retreating toward Suchow. Pursuing Japanese troops were said to be attacking Pay-fai, only 28 miles east of the beleaguered rail junction.

## Club Leader



SADIE ORR DUNBAR

KANSAS CITY, Mo., May 17.—(UP)—Mrs. Sadie Orr Dunbar of Portland, Ore., last night was elected president of the General Federation of Women's club to succeed Mrs. Roberta Campbell Lawson of Tulsa, Okla.

Mrs. Dunbar was not opposed. Other officers elected were: first vice president, Mrs. John L. White-

lieutenant, Mrs. L. S. Sells; second vice president, Mrs. L. S. Sells; recording secretary, Mrs. H. B. Ritchie, Athens, Ga.; treasurer, Mrs. J. L. Blair, Buck, Richmond, Va.; and trustees, Mrs. Earl B. Padgett, Gallon, Ohio, Mrs. P. P. Bossuet, Havre, Mont., and Mrs. E. H. Heller, Louisville, Ky.

**NEW YORK FAIR COURIER COMING**

At 4 o'clock tomorrow afternoon a courier of the 1939 New York World's Fair is scheduled to arrive at the Hotel Medford.

The courier will be the bearer of a scroll of honor containing a message of good-will signed by the governor and bearing the signatures of various mayors. Mayer C. C. Furnas will add his name to the scroll.

The good-will scroll will be decorated with the official flag of the fair, replicas of the Trylon and Perisphere, theme structures of the World of Tomorrow, will be attached to the roof of the car.

This good-will courier and others like him, are on tour of every city and town in the United States.

## FRANCE IS SURPRISED BY MUSSOLINI'S TALK

PARIS, May 17.—(AP)—A source close to Premier Edouard Daladier said today that Jules Blondel, French chargé d'affaires in Rome, had been instructed to convey to the Italian government an expression of "French surprise" over Premier Mussolini's remarks at Genoa Saturday.

The Italian premier's references to Franco-Italian friendship negotiations which Frenchmen considered to lack cordiality, were discussed by the cabinet today, with President Albert Lebrun presiding.

(Mussolini at Genoa said "It is not known" whether Franco-Italian talks "will reach a conclusion, because in the present circumstances, those of the war in Spain, we are on opposite sides of the barricades.")

**Weather.** Northern California: Partly cloudy and mild tonight and Wednesday, overcast at times on coast; moderate temperature, moderate to fresh northwest wind off the coast.

Oregon: Unsettled and cool tonight and Wednesday, overcast west port; moderate to fresh northwest wind off the coast.

**Cat's Lives Extended.** SANTA CRUZ, Cal. (UP)—The customary nine lives of a cat have been increased to ten, thanks to the use of artificial respiration. Pifeman Al Hammond, properly equipped with a mask, dashed into a burning house here, and rescued a pet angora kitten that was overcome by the smoke and fumes.

## SPRING CONCERT AT HIGH SCHOOL WEDNESDAY NIGHT

The annual spring concert will be given at Medford high school Wednesday at 8 p. m. under supervision of Miss Floy Young and F. Wilson Wait, instructors.

The concert, which will be held in the school auditorium, will be open to the public and all are cordially invited.

The program follows: Ballet Egyptian.....Logini  
Lift Thine Eyes.....Mendelssohn  
Star Lullaby.....Polish Folk Song  
The Snow.....Elgar

Girls' Glee Club  
Drumadon.....Scott Melody  
Roadways.....Jack Denison  
Baritone Solo—Scott Melody  
Twilight.....Primi

String Trio  
The Sea Gypsy.....Clark  
Pilot Lan de Boat.....Allen  
Carry Me Back to Old Virginia.....Bland

Debantante.....Clarke  
Boys' Glee Club  
Trumpet Solo—Tod Marshall  
Dream of Love.....Liszt  
Girls' Vocal Trio  
I Love a Little Cottage.....O'Hara  
Boys' Vocal Trio

Dedication.....Franz  
Listen to the Lambs.....Negro-Ditt  
Mixed Chorus  
String Trio  
Nola Harwood  
Dorothy Jane Hester  
Mary Louise McElhose  
Girls' Vocal Trio  
Mary Louise McElhose  
Josephine Bullis  
Corrine Harwood

Accompanist—Dorothy Jane Hester  
Boys' Ensemble  
Jerry Sawyer, Wilson Church, Gerald  
son, Ray Huson, John Prentice, Mur-  
Fowler, John Childers, Jack Den-  
ried, Bill Holloway, Alden Hibbert,  
Raymond Rose.

Accompanist—Dorothy Jane Hester,  
Mary Louise McElhose, Dorothy  
Wildner.  
Directors—Floy Young, Wilson  
Wait.

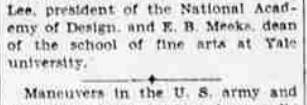
## FOSTER'S POSTER WINS IN CONTEST

A creation submitted by P. W. Foster, local commercial artist, in the nation-wide DeVoe Drive Safety poster contest, which closed April 29, was judged one of the 15 best out of 3000 posters entered. It was revealed by the artist today. A \$10 prize will be awarded him, Mr. Foster said.

The poster was a black and white silhouette of a moonlit scene, with a broad highway fading over a little hill. In the center of the highway was a white line, and lettered across the poster were the words, "Watch that line."

Judges in the contest were Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, W. H. Carron, managing director of the National Safety Council, Inc., C. B. Falls, famous poster artist designer, Jonas Lee, president of the National Academy of Design, and E. B. Weeks, dean of the school of fine arts at Yale university.

Maneuvers in the U. S. army and navy have been conducted annually since 1902.



**LUCKY LAGER**  
the DATED BEER  
General Brewing Corporation - San Francisco  
Los Angeles - Portland - Seattle



**RED** were some faces at University of Chicago after blond Joy Hawley of Northwestern university was chosen, by mistake, to reign over a Chicago U stage production. No one understands how Miss Hawley's photo was among those sent to judges.

## LOUIS BENNETT DIES IN LEBANON

Louis Bennett, native of Medford and son of a pioneer Oregon family, died last night at his home in Lebanon. He was about 50 years old.

He had been in failing health for some time. Funeral services are to be held in Lebanon at 2 o'clock Thursday afternoon.

He was the son of the late S. L. Bennett and Mrs. Marie Bennett, who resides at Trail.

Mr. Bennett was widely known in the Rogue river valley. For a number of years he was associated with the late H. E. Marsh in the grocery business here.

Survivors include his wife, two daughters, Mrs. Arthur Barnett and Mrs. Russell Humphrey of Eugene, a son, Woodson Bennett, student at the University of Oregon medical school in Portland, his mother, and two sisters, Mrs. H. F. Swingle of Trail and Mrs. Frank Loder of Willows, Cal.

Worshippers sat on the bare floors of churches until the 16th century when pews first came into use.

## ROGUE RIVER BOY ASSESSED \$25 ON GASOLINE THEFT

Woodrow Wilson Owings, 19, and Ike Vernon Orr, 18, Rogue River district youths, charged with theft of gasoline from the shed of a neighbor, last Saturday night, appeared in justice court yesterday. Owings was fined \$25 and costs, which was paid, after a short time in the county jail. Orr, on account of his youth was remanded to the juvenile court.

Testimony showed that the pair, on their way home from a dance stopped at the neighbor's shed, where they were discovered. A blast from an old shotgun, caused them to surrender. The shot was fired merely to frighten.

Elmo Homer Nunn, charged with drunkenness in a public place, was fined \$10 and costs.

William Arthur Peart of Seattle, charged with defacing public property, was sentenced to ten days in the county jail. Peart was found whittling on a Pacific highway marker, by state police.

James Knapp of Ruch, and Jack R. Sims of Sterling, charged with operating autos with but one white light, were each fined \$2.50 and costs, and given until June 1 to pay.

Thomas M. Grove, charged with passing another auto on the Pacific highway without proper clearance and a full view ahead, was assessed \$5 and costs.

## S. F. GAMBLING JOINT HELD UP BY BANDITS

SAN FRANCISCO, May 17.—(UP)—Three thugs, armed with a sawed-off shotgun and automatic pistols, held up the Gruenwald club, a card-playing establishment, late Monday and took money and jewelry estimated to total \$10,000 from 40 patrons.

The robbery was reported to police by William Ferriter, attorney for the club, to whom Charles Conn, the manager, had reported after the three bandits, who wore silk stockings, two of white silk and one of black, had fled.

**Plans Mail Development.** TOLEDO (UP)—Further steps to beautify Toledo's civic center with the development of a mall are under way. Two streets will be torn up to provide space.

## REPUBLICANS HERE TO DISCOURAGE MARTIN WRITE-IN

A large gathering of men and women interested in furthering activities of the Republican party was held at Valentine's Cafe at noon today with Frank VanDyke, Ashland attorney, as chairman. The session was called with the avowed purpose of taking steps in Jackson county to discourage the campaign recently launched here for Republican voters to write in the name of Governor Charles Martin on their primary ballots.

Prominent party leaders who addressed the meeting declared that to write in the name of Governor Charles Martin on a Republican ballot would not further his nomination on the Democratic ticket, and would lose a vote for one of their own party candidates. It was the consensus of those present that their contention should be made clear to voters.

So that publicity might be given to discourage the recently initiated write-in campaign, the following committee was appointed by Chairman VanDyke to function at once: H. S. Deuel, chairman; J. B. Coleman, Frank Van Dyke, Ben E. Harder, Gus Newbury, Mrs. H. S. Galey, William McAllister and Frank Newman.

Following the Republican meeting, a group of party leaders interested in furthering the candidacy of Charles A. Sprague for the Republican nomination for governor, met at Valentine's Cafe to perfect a final campaign designed to draw support to the Salem publisher.

Frank VanDyke also acted as chairman of this gathering and appointed the following committee to initiate an aggressive campaign for Sprague: Joe Wood, chairman; Ken Denman, Bud Deuel, Frank Hull, George Carter, Olen Arnsperger, Mrs. C. M. Hurd and Mrs. Leever. Charles Sprague recently visited this city and conferred with party followers here, addressing a Republican group at Valentine's Cafe.

**Trade and Win a FORD V-8 FREE**  
See Tomorrow's Mail Tribune

# MANN'S

MEDFORD'S OWN STORE

## "Mann's Week" Sales Now in Progress in All Dep'ts of This Popular Store!

### Sale of Spring Coats

This Early Summer Coat Sale includes all Rothmoors, Shagmoors and other nationally known coats from our complete spring stock. Coats from \$10.95 to \$39.95 in all sizes and all the newest woolsens. On sale tomorrow in the coat shop.

## ONE FOURTH OFF

### New Sheer and Print Frocks

Dresses bought especially for this early summer event! Cool sheers and smart prints in jacket types—full length sheer coat styles and clever wash silks in all the new colors and combinations. Half and regular sizes.

**\$8.98**

### \$1.00 Cotton Sheer Dresses

Extra special for Mann's Week! A group of floral pattern cotton sheer dress dresses for only 39c each. These are real \$1.00 values and come in lace and self trimmed styles. Sizes in this lot from 12 to 40.

**39c**

### Utility Zipper Bags

A Mann's Week special! 18 inch heavy quality tweed finish rubberized Utility Bags for only 79c. Colors are brown tweed with leatherette trim and gray tweed with black leatherette trim. Regular \$1.00 bags.

**79c**

### Four Thread Chiffon Hose

Extra special! Tomorrow in our popular Hosiery section 50c will buy a pair of our regular 79c four-thread Chiffon Silk Hose. Here are summer's newest hosiery shades at a saving of 20c on every pair. Buy several at

**59c**

### Antiseptic and Mouth Wash

Mann's Week Special from our popular toiletries section. A generous 16 oz. bottle of antiseptic for only 29c. This is a regular 49c value. Take home a bottle tomorrow as this antiseptic is ideal as a mouth wash and other household uses.

**29c**

### Cannon Towels... 3 for

Extra special! Our regular 49c Cannon Turkish Bath Towels at 3 for \$1.00. These are extra large closely woven double thread towels in snow white with a dainty colored border. On sale tomorrow as long as quantities last.

**\$1.00**

### Golden Gate Sheet Sale

Mann's Week Sale! 81x99-inch nationally advertised Golden Gate Sheets for only \$1.09 each. This price cannot be equalled when you consider the quality of Golden Gate Sheets. Buy at least a half dozen tomorrow.

**\$1.09**

### Sale of Girls' Spring Coats

Mothers, we call your attention to this Mann's Week Sale of Girls' light weight Spring coats. Dark and light shades of fine soft wools in sizes 5 to 14 at \$5.50. These are regular \$5.98 coats. Ideal for Summer wear.

**\$3.50**

### Women's Outing Boots

In the shoe dept. tomorrow a sale of Women's and Misses' Brown Elk Hiking Boots and Japhan Riding Boots at \$3.95 pair. These are regular up to \$5.50 boots. Each made from soft pliable leathers that will not blister the feet.

**\$3.95**

### Women's Wash Sandals

Another shoe dept. special for Mann's Week. Women's and Misses' Washable Sandals for Summer wear at 94c pair. Colored, all white and smart combinations. These sandals formerly sold for \$1.45 pair. Your choice while they last.

**94c**

## BIGGEST OF THE 3 LEADING LOWEST-PRICED CARS

★ The Plymouth "Roadking" is nearly 7 inches longer than one; More than 10 inches longer than the other, by actual measurement!

★ Plymouth has an amazing new ride that is the sensation of the lowest-price field...TRY IT!

★ All Plymouth models have the same big, 82-horsepower, "L-head" engine, which gives you full-powered, smooth performance and remarkable economy—BOTH!

★ Easy to own...your present car will probably represent a large proportion of Plymouth's slow delivered price...balance in surprisingly low monthly installments.



PLYMOUTH "Roadking" \$685 FIVE Passenger Sedan

# A Mann's Week Scoop In This Sale of DRESS LENGTHS

1000 Yards of This Season's Newest Silks and Celanese Dress Fabrics In 3½ to 4½ Yard Lengths

## \$1.95 Length

Bought especially for this big Early Summer Sale Event, 1000 yards of beautiful new Summer Silks, Celanese and Rayon dress lengths in glorious patterns and sparkling colors—Fabrics for sports, street, afternoon and evening wear... 39-in. Printed Shantung; 39 in. Printed Celanese Taffeta; 39 in. Printed Flat Crepes; 39 in. Printed Ruff Crepes and 39 inch plain colored Wash Silks and Rayons.

## Most for Low Price PLYMOUTH

## MANN'S BUTTERICK AND SIMPLICITY PATTERNS

## MANN'S THIS IS NATIONAL AIR MAIL WEEK