

The Weather

Forecast: Cloudy tonight and Tuesday with occasional rain, slightly warmer tonight. Temperature Highest yesterday 51 Lowest this morning 32

A Good Time

If you wish to buy, sell, trade or rent use the classified page of this newspaper. These Ads. are not expensive and they do produce splendid results. Now is a good time to start.

Thirty-fourth Year

MEDFORD, OREGON, MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1939.

No. 231.

GERMANY CLAIMS MAJOR AIR VICTORY



AT THE NATIONAL CAPITOL

Washington, D. C., Dec. 18.—In two weeks holders of social security cards, if they are 65 years, will begin drawing monthly benefits. Commencing January 1, 1940, each holder of a card will automatically receive monthly payments as he or she arrives at the 65th birthday. By an amendment to the act last August, the payments were advanced two years. The benefits will also flow monthly to widows, wives, minor children and orphans—dependents on the holder of a card.

34 British Bombers Downed in Fight Off Helgoland Is Report

Berlin, Dec. 18.—(AP)—Thirty-four British bombers were said by Germany to have been shot down in a terrific air battle off the north German coast in the vicinity of Helgoland this afternoon.

Forty-four British planes were said to have participated in the attack. Helgoland, a German naval base, is an island off the north coast of Germany.

The German fighters rose to attack as soon as the British flight, the biggest unit yet used against Germany, was sighted.

Reports said the German planes, led by a Captain Schumacher succeeded in scattering the British.

Two German planes were lost, it was said. Their crews took to parachutes.

The wreckage of many British planes was reported washing up on German shores.

First stories of the battle indicated it was the biggest air engagement of the war, with sharp fighting over the sea and an intensive anti-aircraft fire coming from land batteries.

"Several" of the British raiders broke through in the direction of Wilhelmshaven, Nazi naval base, and dropped three bombs, but the Germans reported they fell on barren land and caused no damage.

The crews of two British planes were taken prisoner, it was said.

Berlin, Dec. 18.—(AP)—The official German news agency, DNB, reported today German bombers sank four British merchantmen and damaged three warships yesterday in an air attack.

"The mere appearance of the German planes on the scene sufficed to cause the greatest disquietude on the British ships," DNB reported. "Numerous crews fled into the lifeboats although their ships were not attacked at all."

The possibility that Germany may claim damages from Uruguay for the scuttled pocket battleship Admiral Graf Spee arose today when authorized sources explained the basis of a German protest to the Uruguayan government.

They cited Article XVII of The Hague agreement of 1907 and said Uruguay had contravened international law in granting only 72 hours for repairs to the battle-damaged German warship.

They expressed belief Uruguay acted under British pressure.

State Fair Date Set Salem, Dec. 18.—(AP)—The Oregon State Fair will open next year on Labor Day and continue through Sunday, Sept. 8, the state board of agriculture decided Saturday. A policy of renting the fairground to the public for "reasonable use" was adopted.

Heywood Broun, Columnist And Guild Leader, Succumbs New York, Dec. 18.—(AP)—Heywood Broun, 51, columnist and president of the American Newspaper Guild, died today.

Broun died in the Harkness pavilion of the Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center, where he was taken last Thursday night when pneumonia developed from a heavy cold.

The illness induced a heart attack, but for a time he seemed to rally. Early today his condition became worse and as the hours passed he showed no signs of improving. At 8 a. m., his temperature was 105.2 degrees. He had been unconscious much of the time.

Optimist From the start, Broun, an incorrigible optimist, had treated his illness with his customary good nature, devoting one of his last columns to a whimsical discussion of the advice of a physician who had told him to seek rest in Florida.

He died at 9:50 a. m. (6:50 a. m. PST). Broun, a native of Brooklyn,

MANY INDICTED IN NORTH CALIFORNIA BUILDING TRADE

S. F. Electric Contractors In Unlawful Combination Is Grand Jury Finding.

San Francisco, Dec. 18.—(AP)—Indictments against 38 individuals, 10 companies and two unions charging conspiracy to violate the anti-trust laws were returned today by a federal grand jury investigating the northern California building industry.

The indictments, the first returned by the jury, involved members of the San Francisco electric contractors association.

The indictment charged that beginning in January, 1938, and up to the present time, the defendants carried out a "wretched and unlawful combination and conspiracy in restraint of interstate commerce in electrical equipment in violation of the Sherman anti-trust act."

Those indicted were accused of conspiring to "increase, regulate, dictate and control" the bids which small electrical contractors submit to general contractors for the installation and repair of electrical systems.

The alleged controlling of bids, the indictment charged, was for the purpose of establishing arbitrary, collusive and non-competitive bids, and "to eliminate electrical contractors who refused to participate in the bid control scheme" as prospective purchasers of electrical equipment.

London, Dec. 18.—(AP)—The air ministry announced today that 12 German Messerschmidt fighters were shot down and seven British bombers were "unaccounted for" after "fierce fighting" over Helgoland Bight.

The announcement said Royal air force bombers had reconnoitered over Helgoland Bight to attack any German warships found at sea.

No warships were encountered, the ministry said, but the bombers met a strong force of Nazi fighters and the air engagement ensued.

London, Dec. 18.—(AP)—Three British ships were lost and a fourth was abandoned in a sinking condition as the result of large-scale German air raids on North Sea shipping involving at least 13 ships last night and early today.

The trawler Pearl was abandoned after three of her crew had been wounded by the German raiders.

Two other trawlers, the New-Choice and the Campagnus, and the 487-ton steamer Serenity were sunk.

This new phase of warfare, pitting planes against small ships, also sent the Trawler Eileen Wray into port with a damaged hull.

Acknowledgement of the air raid losses followed a British admiralty announcement a submarine had penetrated German defenses at the mouth of the River Elbe and sunk a 6,000-ton German cruiser.

The survey, prepared by Alfred L. Ransome under the supervision of Olaf P. Jenkins, chief geologist of the division, disclosed that the state still is rich in unmined quicksilver—a strategic mineral which was among the first to feel the effects of war.

Quicksilver rose in price from \$78 to \$170 a flask in the first eight months of 1939.

The association furnished wholesalers heavy toms at 18 cents a pound, and hens at 21½ cents. Retailers said the birds went over the counter at an extreme range from 23 to 30 cents a pound. Most sales were at 25 cents for gobblers and 28 cents for hens.

K. F. AUTOIST HURT IN GREEN SPRINGS CRASH Klamath Falls, Dec. 18.—(AP)—Emmett Ernest "Pete" Fullerton, 23, is in a hospital here with a possible broken back received shortly after 3:30 a. m. today when his car skidded on a curve overlooking Klamath Falls on the Greensprings highway.

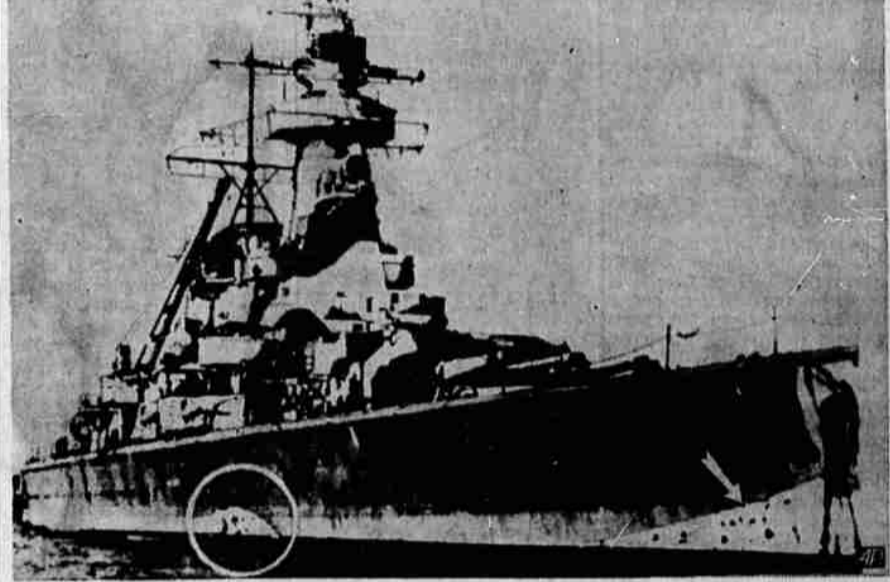
The car went through a guard rail, tumbled down a rocky embankment to a spur track of the Great Northern railroad, where it came to rest against a box-car.

Pair Chased Girls With Automobile Baker, Ore., Dec. 18.—(AP)—James G. Smith and Frank Irby have been placed in the county jail under \$2500 bond on a charge of assault with attempt to kill.

The men are alleged by District Attorney C. T. Godwin to have tried to run over Betty Thrasher and Dorothea Mae Maxwell with an automobile Saturday afternoon.

Paris, Dec. 18.—(AP)—A French high command communique tonight reported that "toward midday a sharp engagement took place in the Vosges mountains between one of our reconnoitering parties and German units."

Crew From Scuttled Graf Spee Will Be Interned by Argentina



This is how the German battleship Admiral Graf Spee appeared after her 14-hour battle with three British cruisers off the Uruguayan coast when she put into the neutral port of Montevideo. Note the hole in bow and holes near waterline indicated by arrow and circle. Forced to leave the port yesterday by a Uruguayan time limit, the battleship was blown up by its own crew, three miles off-shore, rather than face the waiting British warships outside the neutral zone.

36 Soviet Tanks Destroyed As Finns Repulse Invaders

Helsinki, Dec. 18.—(AP)—The Finnish high command reported today the repulse of heavy Russian attacks with destruction of 36 tanks. Attacks were made by the invaders in force at three points on the Karelian Isthmus, the Finns announced in a communique, without success.

Attacks between Moulajarvi and Valkjarvi on a 12-mile front, it said, "were repulsed and 36 tanks destroyed."

"At Taipale Lake the enemy twice tried to concentrate in force for an attack but were dispersed by artillery fire. Five tanks were destroyed."

"On the eastern front enemy attacks in the region of Koirioja (near the north shore of Lake Ladoga) and Syskyjarvi were repulsed."

"In the Loimila sector there was increased activity. Two tanks were destroyed."

"At Lake Agajarvi our success continues. At Suomussalmi three tanks were destroyed."

Copenhagen, Dec. 18.—(AP)—Norwegian reports from northern Finland today described forest fighting in which a patrol of nine Finnish soldiers was said to have killed 700 Russians in an exposed highway position.

Exhausted Finnish soldiers crossing into Norway told how small patrols equipped with light machine-guns and light field guns were harassing the Russian advance in the north.

They explained the tremendous loss in one engagement as due to the fact the Russians were massed on a road exposed directly to Finnish guns.

PROMINENT ROSEBURG RESIDENT SUCCUMBS

Roseburg, Ore., Dec. 18.—(AP)—Herman Marks, 75, one of Roseburg's best known residents, died suddenly Saturday night from a heart attack. Born in San Francisco, Mr. Marks came to Roseburg at the age of 61 years to take a position as bookkeeper in the pioneer firm of S. Marks and company, operated by two of his uncles.

He became an heir and administrator of the large Marks estate, following the deaths of his uncles. He was the owner of considerable farm and business property in Douglas county.

He was a charter member of the Elks lodge here.

Like Old Times Oregon City, Dec. 18.—(AP)—The calendar was turned back five years over the week-end as federal and state officers staged two raids resulting in the arrest of three persons on charges of distilling moonshine whisky.

MORE EXPLOSIONS TWIST WRECK OF NAZI BATTLESHIP

Uruguayan Gunboats Patrol Hulk of Pocket-Battleship Blown Up By Crew.

Buenos Aires, Dec. 18.—(AP)—A high Argentine official said the 1,039 crewmen of the sunken German pocket-battleship Graf Spee, who arrived here today, would be interned.

Officers of the 10,000-ton battleship, now a mass of tangled wreckage in the Plate River, the official said, probably will be released on their personal pledge not to participate in the European war.

The official recalled a similar case in 1914 when Argentina interned the crew of a German ship but released the officers.

A German embassy spokesman announced "more than 1,000" members of the Graf Spee's crew had arrived in port.

Previous reports indicated 600 had come to Buenos Aires but the embassy spokesman said several hundred others who were placed aboard the German tanker Tacoma before the Graf Spee was destroyed, also had arrived.

By Harold K. Milks Montevideo, Dec. 18.—(AP)—New explosions shook the twisted hulk of the German pocket battleship Admiral Graf Spee today even as a high Argentine official announced her crew of 1,039 would be interned.

At the same time, Uruguay sought to learn just how the Nazi crew sent the ship to the bottom of the Plate River estuary yesterday with blasts in her hull, by arresting four of the crew for questioning.

Most of the officers and crew went to Buenos Aires by tugboat and barge in the hope Argentina would treat them as shipwrecked sailors rather than as belligerents, but a high Argentine official said the crew would be interned.

The officers, the official said, may be granted their freedom on their personal pledges not to participate further in the war.

Patrol Wreck Site Uruguayan gunboats patrolled near the tangled wreckage of the Graf Spee which her officers destroyed on the personal order of Adolf Hitler in a compromise between a possible suicidal battle and floating.

Ironically, the floating oil which surrounds the smouldering battleship formed a rough swatika.

Although it took only three minutes to scuttle the battleship, once pride of the German navy, new explosions shook the wreckage throughout today.

The embittered captain Hans Langsdorff, who himself carried the cable firing the internal mines dropping his ship into the ooze of the river, left the scene last night with his crew for Buenos Aires.

Late in the morning the British cruiser Achilles, which was one of three ships that battered the Graf Spee last Wednesday, drew near the smoking wreck while British sailors peered over the rail at their one-time adversary.

Middle Course Destruction at German hands apparently was the middle course for the Graf Spee.

It spared the lives of more than 1,000 sailors who would have faced almost sure death had their commanders chosen to let their patched-up ship brave

(Continued on Page Eight)

Washington, Dec. 18.—(AP)—The Indian bureau notified Senator McNary (R-Ore.) today it would be unable to increase the enrollment of the Salem Indian school at Chemawa, Ore., from 450 to 550 pupils.

PROGRESSIVE LEAGUE MAY BE REVIVED TO SUPPORT THIRD TERM

Washington, Dec. 18.—(AP)—Amid capital discussion of Vice-president Garner's formal entrance into the Democratic presidential race, it was disclosed today that the National Progressive league may be revived to back President Roosevelt for a third term.

The league is composed of Democrats and independent Republicans who worked for Mr. Roosevelt's election in 1932 and 1936. Melvin D. Hildreth, executive secretary, told reporters:

"Quite a number of us hope to continue the league in 1940, and, we hope, for Mr. Roosevelt. We have a great deal of respect for Mr. Garner, but we've got to look at the situation from the world's angle—what's going to happen a year from now."

Meanwhile, the government newspaper Izvestia declared that expulsion of the U.S.S.R. from the League of Nations had given her a "free hand," and the communist party organ, Pravda, accused the United States of influencing Latin American states to support the ouster last Thursday.

WEATHER ON SIDE OF FINN DEFENSE

Moscow, Dec. 18.—(AP)—Inclement weather is sparing Finland attack by vast numbers of Soviet Russian planes, but land forces have driven more than 80 miles within central Finland, according to today's communique.

The weather and the low visibility of the Arctic twilight, Russians reported, are grounding airmen on nearly all of the front.

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Radio Highlights

By Associated Press (Pacific Standard Time) New York, Dec. 18.—(AP)—King George's Christmas morn message to the empire, which all networks plan to relay in this country, will be preceded by the British radio's hour-long exchange of greetings among the empire's various units. So far, only MBS has scheduled the full broadcast.

The Christmas Eve singing of "Silent Night, Holy Night," begun in 1931 by Mme. Schumann-Heink, who died in 1936, and resumed in 1937 and 1938 by Kirsten Flagstad, will be provided on NBC this year by Marjorie Lawrence, youthful Metropolitan Opera prima donna.

The brief broadcast will be at 8:57 p. m. and followed at 9 p. m. by the New York Trinity church chimes.

Tonight: Europe — WABC-CBS 3:55, 8; MBS 6, 8:15, 7:15; WFAE-NBC-East 8.

S. F. Turkey Prices San Francisco, Dec. 18.—(AP)—Nestlé prices paid producers for live poultry delivered San Francisco, Turkeys, young toms, under 18 lbs., 16-16½¢; 18 lbs. and over, 16¢; young hens, 19-20½¢.

ELIZABETH YOUNG WILL IN PROBATE

The will of the late Mrs. Elizabeth L. Young, killed in an auto accident on the Pacific highway, on the night of November 26, has been filed for probate. A daughter, Dorothy Roberta Young, named in the will as a beneficiary, was killed in the same crash. They were returning from a trip to San Francisco.

The will, made March 16, 1938, provides that the estate be divided between the two daughters, and that Patricia Young, receives the income from eight shares of California-Oregon Power company stock. It is further provided, that Eugene Thordike, of the First National Bank, act as guardian of Patricia Young, in the event of the death of her older sister, named as executrix in the original will.

SIDE GLANCES

by TRIBUNE REPORTERS

Arnel Butler being surprised at his own strength when he broke a living room window by pushing his hand through the glass.

Sylvester Stevens having tough luck while on a mission carrying out the true Christmas spirit.

Russler Clara Mortensen explaining to Promoter Mack Lillard how she takes care of fresh guys.

Franklyn Jones trying to get the attention of a friend by intermittently yelling and blowing his car horn.

Continued on Page Two.