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MEDFORD, OREGON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1942.

NO. 225.

TWO-FRONT DRIVE LOOMS IN AFRICA

Kelly's Comment

From Washington, D. C.

Good New Dealers Rap War Policies
New Ration Books Distributed Soon
Northwest Kicks About Gas Ration

By John W. Kelly

Washington, D. C., Dec. 10.—In these closing days of the 77th congress general criticism and dissatisfaction is being expressed by good new dealers at the way the war is being run—the civilian steps to regiment the people. The criticism ranges from censorship to rationing, all of which affect the burghers of Washington and Oregon. Republicans are saying little but are enjoying the new dealers carrying the ball. The house whip, Representative Ramspeck of Georgia, who is one of the three members selected to carry out administration policies, is blasting the rationing of gasoline and meat. Walter M. Pierce announces "there is paralysis among responsible agencies" in the national capital.

There are injustices in the rationing of meat, charges Ramspeck, and he has introduced a bill requiring commodities to be rationed on a geographic instead of a sectional basis. For instance, the best cuts of steaks and beef roasts under the meat rationing go to the restaurants and hotels and are available to anyone with the price who patronizes these establishments. Unless there is a change in the regulations a person can have a steak or beef roast every day by dining at a hotel or cafe. Housewives, however, are limited to 2.5 pounds of meat a week for each member of the family over 15 years. After the best cuts have been sold, whatever is left the housewife may buy. Better grades have always cost more in public eating places and these are given first call in allocations.

The lowly hamburger, a staple in hundreds of stands, coffee shops and wayside drive-ins, has become a luxury; the proprietors, in many instances, are unable to buy a pound of this chopped meat, but the fillet might

(Continued on Page Eight)

MEDFORD SOLDIER LOCATES MOTHER AFTER 28 YEARS

Atlantic City, N. J., Dec. 10.—(U.P.)—Pvt. John E. Lonch, 32, Medford, Ore., was en route to Hammond, Ind., today to meet his mother, whom he has not seen for 28 years.

Lonch learned her whereabouts after he was transferred from Gardner field, Cal., to Atlantic City on December 1.

He came to America in 1914 from Yugoslavia with his mother. They were separated shortly thereafter when he and his brother, Andrew, were placed in an orphanage at Des Moines, Ia.

Army air force authorities granted Lonch a 15-day furlough.

Pvt. John E. Lonch is not listed in available Medford directories, nor is anybody by that name. Major Carl Y. Tengwald said he had not been a member of the Medford National Guard unit which was called to active duty.

SIDE GLANCES

By

TRIBUNE REPORTER

E. H. Hedrick greeting an acquaintance across the street from the second floor of the city hall.

Anne Scriber being a good salesman in the high school war bond and stamp campaign.

Frank Perl putting feelers out for a newspaper job.

PINCER CLOSING AWAITS PASSING OF RAIN STORM

Gen. Anderson's Force Gaining Strength—El Agheila Move May Be First.

By Edward W. Beattie
United Press staff correspondent
London, Dec. 10.—(U.P.)—An allied communique today reported that action on the Tunisia front has been slowed by bad weather but there were mounting signs that the axis in Africa shortly will face a two-front assault.

Allied headquarters in north Africa reported that British and American planes attacked a small axis column in the southern fighting zone of Tunisia. However, in the main forward area around Tebourba "there was little activity apart from patrolling."

Rains Halt Activity
Rains made much of the terrain in the fighting zone impassable, the communique reported.

The lull on the Tunisian front was not expected to last long, however, as reports from the fighting zone indicated that Lieut. Gen. K. A. N. Anderson's strength is rapidly being built up to the point where a full scale attack will be possible.

At the other end of the allied pincers on the axis in Africa there were signs that the first of the twin fronts to blaze into action may be that of the British 8th army at El Agheila.

A communique issued at Cairo said that Gen. Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's 8th army Imperial forces were giving "no rest" to the remnants of the Axis Libyan armies at El Agheila. This appeared to support the impression that the tempo of the Libyan activities was increasing rapidly and that Montgomery would start his assault before Anderson.

Axis Claims Tebourba
The Allies held the vital positions in the Tebourba area, although Axis radios declared that the city still was in Axis hands. The British and Americans apparently were waiting until their tank and airplane strength had been built up sufficiently to start a decisive attack.

Radio Morocco said Allied air forces had scored hits on a destroyer, a fuel dump and railroad installations in a "violent" raid on Bizerte, and had bombed the Tunis-Gabes railroad again. Bomber and fighter reinforcements were reported to have arrived.

Pressure on Italy was heightening steadily as the Royal Air Force continued its systematic destruction of northern Italian industrial centers. Another heavy attack on Turin was admitted by Rome to have increased the destruction already inflicted on the city and was expected to disorganize further Italian industrial and civil life.

However, Ankara reports said that the Germans now have some 200,000 men in Italy and are rapidly increasing their garrisons, making it increasingly unlikely that any Italian sentiment to get out of the war would crystallize into concrete action.

HENDERSON QUILTS SUPPLY DIRECTION

Washington, Dec. 10.—(U.P.)—Leon Henderson, chief of the Office of Price Administration, resigned today from his additional job as director of the Office of Civilian Supply of the War Production Board.

Joseph L. Weiner, deputy director of the office, was named as Henderson's successor.

War Production Chief Donald M. Nelson made public an exchange of letters which showed that Henderson was withdrawing from the civilian supply post because of pressure of work in the OPA and for "personal reasons" which he had discussed with Nelson. The "personal reasons" were not disclosed.



Here's a typical war scene in the dark, dank jungles of New Guinea where U. S. and Australian forces now press the beleaguered Japs near Buna and Gona. Shown are scantily clad natives, who serve as runners, and guards with guns clustering in a small jungle clearing where an Allied radio station at the foot of a tree at left keeps the detachment in contact with headquarters.

FIRST REGISTRY OF 18-YEAR-OLDS STARTING FRIDAY

Registration of 18 year old male citizens of the United States and other male persons born between July 1, 1924 and August 31, 1924 will start tomorrow in the Selective Service offices of Jackson county in the Medford City Hall and in the Chamber of Commerce offices at Ashland.

On Tuesday, December 15, the following places of registration will be open all day for the benefit of those who must register living near these locations: Gold Hill, at the City Hall, Cleo Gilchrist, registrar; Rogue River, at Harry Hill's real estate office, Harry Hill, registrar; Eagle Point, Dale Ensminger, registrar; Butte Falls, Clyde Smith, registrar; Jacksonville, Ray Wilson, registrar; Applegate, the home of Ed Kubli; Trail, Dr. J. H. Mallory, registrar; Prospect, Prospect store, Heston Grieve, registrar; Talent, City Hall, Mrs. Bert Simmons, registrar; Phoenix, Phoenix Mercantile Store, Mrs. Addie Steadman, registrar. These places of registration will be open on December 15 only.

The selective service boards are particularly anxious that it be understood by the registrants that those who will register during the week of December 11 to 17 are only those born on or after July 1, 1924 but not after August 31, 1924 and that other registrants will be registered at a later date to be announced the following week. The Selective Service offices in Medford will remain open until 7 p. m. on Tuesday, December 15.

No registration will take place on Sunday, Dec. 13.

MEDFORD CONVICT MAKES GETAWAY

A United Press message today stated that James Hagler, 30, Medford man serving six years in the state penitentiary for grand larceny, escaped last night from the state hospital where he was on parole to the kitchen force. Three inmates of the hospital also escaped at the same time, the message disclosed.

Hagler, who was admitted to the penitentiary Aug. 20, 1939, was sent up from Medford after robbing the Diamond Cafe on Sixth street, where he was employed as a cook.

Later, police said, he was released from the penitentiary and paroled to Marshal Besonette. Employed by Besonette, he then robbed the Pine Cone and The Shack, both owned by his employer, and was returned to prison as a parole violator, police stated.

Ask Crimp In FSA and NYA For Promotion Of Economy

Washington, Dec. 10.—(U.P.)—Sen. Harry F. Byrd, D., Va., chairman of the joint congressional economy committee, recommended today that the housing activities of the Farm Security Administration and the war training work of the National Youth Administration be transferred to other government agencies.

Byrd, following an executive session of his committee, said the FSA housing projects should be transferred to the Farm Credit Administration "or some other appropriate agency," in the interest of economy. The NYA's war training programs probably could be handled more efficiently and economically by the U. S. Office of Education, he said.

He made the recommendations after Budget bureau officials gave the committee statistics on operation of the FSA housing projects and the NYA's efforts to furnish a reservoir of trained youths for war work.

The FSA still retains jurisdiction over 152 housing projects, and has suffered "serious losses" when it sold others to private companies or individuals, Byrd said. The net cost to the government of administering the "experiments" still alive is \$1,600,000, he said.

He said a project costing \$828,000 at Greendale, Ala., was disposed of for \$129,000. Another at Jasper, Ala., costing \$1,052,858, went for \$194,370, and "Duluth Farms," near Duluth, Minn., in which the government invested \$893,894, brought only \$225,742, he said.

Of NYA, Byrd said it supervised the war training of 53,000 young men, but employed about 15,000 supervisors to do it.

PRISON SENTENCE FOR CHECK PASSER

M. T. Moorhead, a middle-aged man, entered a plea of guilty to a district attorney's information to obtaining money under false pretenses, and was sentenced to serve an indeterminate term not to exceed one year in state prison by Circuit Judge H. K. Hanna yesterday.

Moorhead, a transient, admitted in court to passing a spurious check for \$40, as a payment on an auto last summer. He said he had no funds at the time, but expected to borrow enough from friends to start a bank account.

DINNER TO START ELKS YULE PARTY

The annual Elks' stag Christmas tree party will be held tonight in the Elks Temple beginning with a dinner at 5:30 o'clock in the basement banquet hall.

Dr. Stanley F. Phillips, exalted ruler of the lodge, urges every Elk in this community to attend this Christmas charity party whether they are affiliated with the local lodge or not.

CITY WILL SAVE BY REFUNDING OF DEBT ON WATER

The sale of a \$139,000 issue of City of Medford refunding water bonds to Blyth and company, Inc., Portland, was consummated by the city council at an adjourned meeting Tuesday night. There were two other bidders for the bonds.

Bearing interest at the rate of 1 1/4 per cent, the bonds are in denominations of \$1,000 and will mature serially by number over a period of seven years starting December 15, 1943.

Sale of the bonds at this low rate of interest will enable the city to save \$11,000 a year, as the issue replaces an issue of City of Medford water bonds, bearing interest of 5 per cent, which are callable January 1, 1943, it was pointed out. The city also is to receive a small premium of \$948 for each \$100 par value.

The Medford Water Commission's sinking fund accumulation now amounts to \$166,000, and on January 1 \$150,000 worth of City of Medford water bonds will be redeemed. Outstanding issues amount to \$305,000. The \$166,000 will be applied on the outstanding \$305,000 and leave a balance of \$139,000 to be refunded January 1.

The Rev. R. W. Coleman appeared before the council with the problem of how recreational facilities here are to be financed now that WPA funds have been withdrawn from communities by the federal government. The council voted to write the FSA and request that funds be allocated for the continuance of the recreational program in Medford.

A zone change was made by the council for an area north of the Jackson school, where a number of defense housing units are to be constructed.

WINDSORS ARRIVE TO SHOP IN MIAMI

Miami, Fla., Dec. 10.—(U.P.)—The Duke and Duchess of Windsor arrived today from the Bahamas for a "long weekend visit" so the Duchess can do some Christmas shopping for the boys in the service who are stationed in Nassau.

Allies Take Gona; Buna Next

FOOD FOR ALL IS PRESENT OUTLOOK WICKARD ASSURES

No One Will Need to Go Hungry Says New War Food Administrator at Confab.

Washington, Dec. 10.—(U.P.)—Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard, in his first press conference since becoming food administrator, said today that "prospects are good" for meeting 1943 food requirements and that "no one will need to go hungry."

Wickard said not all foods will be plentiful—"we may have to go hungry for some things"—but that if food is conserved there will be enough.

"We still will be the best fed nation in the world," he said. In making plans for feeding civilians, the military forces and our allies, he added, consideration is being given to the needs of all.

"In order to meet those needs we cannot afford to be wasteful," Wickard said. "We must use fully and economically our production facilities and our distribution system, and, equally important, we must be economical in our consumption of foods."

Soldiers Of 91st Heavy Buyers Of Bonds And Stamps

Camp White, Dec. 10.—(U.P.)—Members of the 91st Division purchased \$19,000 worth of war bonds and stamps during the period November 1 to December 5, it was revealed here today. The total does not include the reservations on the payrolls, but represents outright cash purchases.

It was pointed out that the amount would be sufficient to buy 10 2 1/2-ton trucks or one primary training plane for the army.

WARD CO. REJECTS DIRECTIVE BY WLB

Chicago, Dec. 10.—(U.P.)—President Sewell Avery of Montgomery Ward & Co. today rejected for the second time a War Labor Board order directing the company to sign a union collective bargaining agreement, but said it would sign if requested to do so by President Roosevelt.

Ban Many Canned Food Items To Conserve Tin and Steel

Washington, Dec. 10.—(U.P.)—The War Production Board, in an order designed to save large quantities of tin, steel and rubber for war purposes, today banned production of many items of canned foodstuffs and other canned articles for civilian purposes in 1943.

Canned foods henceforth banished from the civilian larder for the duration include apples and many other kinds of fruit and berries, vegetables, meats, fish, oils, cream and fats.

After December 31 such commodities are to be canned for government purposes only.

It was learned, however, that an order is being prepared for packing some foodstuffs in glass instead of tin containers.

The WPB also drastically slashed production of numerous other canned foods, including soup, for civilian consumption in 1943.



George B. Hollie, above, 13-year-old Eau Claire, Wis., boy, is a civilian once again. Before the Pearl Harbor attack, George, then 12, falsified his age, signed his guardian's name to the enlistment form and joined the Marine Corps. Now, still under age for military duty, he has been honorably discharged at San Francisco "for the convenience of the Government." He says he'll be right back in the Marines when his 17th birthday rolls around.

REDS MASSACRE 1,200 GERMANS IN 2-DAY FIGHT

Moscow, Dec. 10.—(U.P.)—Russian forces driving forward west of Rzhev have killed 1,200 German troops in two days' fighting while other units of the Red army made new advances in the Stalingrad area, a Soviet communique said today.

Fighting was heavy both at Stalingrad, where the Russians had smashed German attempts to reinforce their troops by air, and on the Rzhev front, 130 miles northwest of Moscow.

A total of 72 big German transport planes bringing reinforcements to the Stalingrad area had been shot down in the last two days. Reports from the Rzhev-Vyazma-Selki Luke triangle northwest of the capital said almost 7,500 Axis soldiers had been killed in recent fighting on that front.

The Russian noon communique disclosed that the Germans were losing heavily in casualties and prisoners on the Rzhev front, where the Red army was taking quantities of Axis equipment.

London, Dec. 10.—(U.P.)—British insurance firms soon will reduce their rates for cargoes destined to the Mediterranean, it was announced today.

JAPANESE PINNED IN NARROW STRIP ON GUINEA SHORE

Allies Maintain Continuous Bombing, Strafing—Australians Cheer Report

Gen. MacArthur's Headquarters, Australia, Dec. 10.—(U.P.)—Allied forces have completed occupation of the Gona area in New Guinea and are advancing, without menace to their rear, against the remaining Japanese forces in the Buna-Sanananda area, it was announced today.

The Japanese were pinned into a narrow coastal strip, with Allied air forces maintaining a continuous bombing and strafing in support of artillery and ground forces.

The major development was announced at Canberra where Prime Minister John Curtin dramatically altered his prepared speech to parliament to read a message from Gen. Douglas MacArthur amid cheers and shouts.

General MacArthur's regular noon communique three hours earlier had forecast the fall of Gona. It reported that Australian jungle fighters had beaten back strong enemy attempts to escape from their surrounded positions, killing at least 95 Japanese and capturing four. This brought enemy casualties around Gona for the last week to about 400 killed.

Occupation of Gona was the first major development since Americans and Australians pushed the Japanese back against the north coast between Gona and Cape Endiander, about 20 miles southeast, on Nov. 19.

Fifteen Japanese Zero planes swooped from clouds yesterday to attack American heavy bombers off the coast of New Britain, but 10 Zeros were certainly destroyed and four were so badly shot up they probably did not reach their base.

WAR POWERS BILL PUT ON ICE UNTIL COMING CONGRESS

Washington, Dec. 10.—(U.P.)—The House ways and means committee today voted unanimously to postpone further consideration of the administration's third "war powers" bill—a decision that kills the measure until after the new congress convenes Jan. 4.

Committee Chairman Robert L. Doughton, D., N. C., announcing the action, said members felt there was "no reasonable possibility" of enacting the bill before the current congress goes out of office.

Noting that some members had discussed the situation with Speaker Sam Rayburn before the vote was taken, Doughton said that even had the committee reported the bill it was unlikely the house could muster a quorum for its consideration.

The motion to postpone consideration of the bill was made by Rep. Jere Cooper, D., Tenn., a staunch administration supporter.

The bill would have permitted the president to suspend laws governing movement of property and information into and out of the United States if he considered the restrictions detrimental to the war program. The president also could have suspended controls over deportation and emigration, but the committee had deleted a section to give him power to suspend immigration regulations and statutes.