

GERMANS 30 MILES IN BELGIUM

Weather
 Forecast: Cloudy with occasional light rain tonight and Friday; little change in temperature.
 Temp. 53
 Highest yesterday 55
 Lowest this morning 37
 Precipitation .02

MEDFORD TRIBUNE
 PULITZER AWARD 1934
 United Press—Full Leased Wire

PANZER FORCES KNOCK BIG HOLE IN YANKEE LINE
 Main Lateral Highway Severed by Fast Enemy Drive—Yank Flanks Stabilized

Thirty-ninth Year MEDFORD, OREGON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1944 NO. 281.

Reds Unleash Western Hungary Drive

GERMAN DEFENSE PIERCED IN NEW, HEAVY ONSLAUGHT

At Least 10 Divisions Dash at Enemy in Area 32 Miles Southwest of Budapest.

London, Dec. 21.—(U.P.)—Berlin reported today that the Red army had its offensive in western Hungary between Lake Balaton and the Danube, throwing at least 10 divisions of more than 100,000 troops into an onslaught which breached the German lines.

Nazi broadcasts said the main weight of the new Soviet drive was centered in the area of Szekesfehervar, 32 miles southwest of Budapest and midway between Lake Balaton and the Danube.

"The German defense reacted immediately," a DNB dispatch said. "Several local breaches were sealed off, and strong counterattacks hit the enemy's flank. It must be expected that the battle will mount in fury."

Stiffened resistance along the 45-mile line between Budapest and Lake Balaton had stalled the Soviet push in western Hungary which now appeared to be renewed in full force.

The Hungarian capital already was flanked to the southwest by the drive which constituted the lower arm of a pincers whose jaws were reported less than 20 miles apart, bringing the last rail line out of the city under Soviet artillery fire.

To the northeast the Russians battered through stiff opposition in the southern Slovak mountains.

FORTUNES GOING FOR FRIVOLITIES SAY SHOPKEEPERS

By Delos Smith
 United Press Correspondent
 New York, Dec. 21.—(U.P.)—Fortunes are pouring into the coffers of the perfumed, richly carpeted salons of Fifth avenue for fur coats, jewels, lingerie and the like to brighten the Christmases of the nouveau riche, but the storekeepers aren't talking.

These select retailers of the most expensive merchandise in America, feel it is a matter that should be referred to in whispers—what with the sixth war bond campaign still underway and war wives who have no jewels or fur coats or husbands home for the holidays.

But a recognized jewelry trade authority—a manufacturer and designer who wished to be anonymous lest he anger his colleagues—said that never in his experience had there been such a market as this one.

"We can sell anything—anything at all," he said. "The biggest demand, and it seems without limit, is for items retailing at \$500 to \$2,000. The demand for the really expensive stuff—from \$75,000 up—is the greatest since 1938. I don't see how they do it, especially with the 20 per cent luxury tax added."

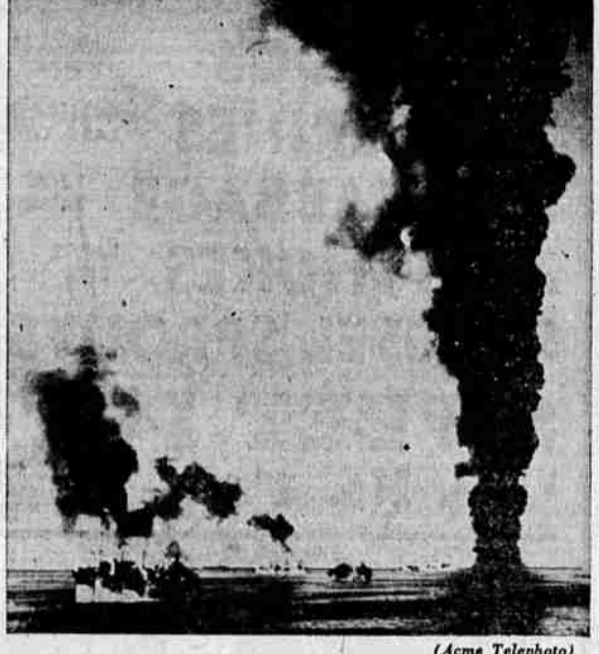
SIDE GLANCES

By TRIBUNE REPORTERS
 Alfred Carpenter generously passing out aspirin tablets before opening a meeting.

V. Aubrey Norris running Father Time a dead heat in delivering a news item.

Senator Earl Newbry threatening to serve his guests salads topped with pennants declaring, "Pears courtesy Newbry Orchards."

23,000-Ton Navy Tanker Sunk in Pacific



(Acme Telephoto) A billow of smoke marks spot where 23,000-ton navy tanker, Mississippi, went down in Central Pacific by enemy action. Normal complement of ship is about 250 officers and men, about 80 per cent of whom were rescued by nearby ships. Navy did not disclose nature of enemy action.

Mukden's War Production Plants Hit By American Superfortresses

By United Press
 American Superfortresses carried the Pacific war to the Japanese again today, hitting the war production center of Mukden, in southern Manchuria, and Tokyo reported additionally that two pairs of B-29's dropped bombs in two districts of south-central Honshu, one of the Japanese home islands.

The Japanese admitted slight damage was caused at Mukden, Manchuria's largest city, but claimed that four American planes were shot down.

The raids, which were suggested by Liberator assaults on the Japanese staging bases in the Philippines, came as Gen. Douglas MacArthur's forces on Leyte, in the Philippines, completed the destruction of the Yamashita line and pursued the isolated enemy groups into the guerrilla-infested hills in the northwest corner of the island.

Yanks Converge
 Two American columns on Leyte were reported only a mile apart after capturing the town of Libongao, 11 miles north of Ormoc, and Kananga, two miles farther north.

An indication of the favorable situation on Leyte was seen in MacArthur's report that "the battle is rapidly drawing to an end."

In China, Chinese troops were reported closing in on the rail hub of Hochih in northern Kwangsi province while another column reached the vicinity of Chingchengkiang, 180 miles of Liuchow.

THREE JUVENILES HELD ON CHARGE OF LARCENY

Three more boys around 16 years of age, are held in the juvenile ward of the county jail, charged with larceny of parts from an auto. Bail was fixed at \$500. All live in this city.

County officials said other arrests for the same reason are expected and signs indicate another "boy gang" has sprung up here. Recently three local boys were sent to the reform school for bicycle and other thefts.

COLORADO UNIONS WIN FIGHT AGAINST REPORT

Denver, Dec. 21.—(U.P.)—Colorado's organized labor groups today won a distinct victory in the long-awaited ruling of the Colorado supreme court on the so-called "labor-peace" law.

The tribunal held that two sections of the law—which would have forced labor unions of the state to incorporate and file annual reports, much the same as corporations are forced to do—were unconstitutional.

Last year, 1,030 Puerto Ricans, the majority skilled workmen, obtained jobs in the United States, according to the war manpower commission.

NO PAPER MONDAY

Following long-established custom the Mail Tribune will not publish on Monday, Christmas day, in order to permit employes to enjoy the holiday in their homes.

MILK CONDITIONS BAD IN SOME OF OREGON'S TOWNS

State Health Officer Says Surveys Reveal Serious War-Time Deterioration.

Portland, Ore., Dec. 21.—(U.P.)—Shocking bad conditions in the milk industry in several Oregon towns exist despite efforts to control them, Dr. Frederick D. Stricker, state health officer, said today.

State milk sanitation surveys made by the sanitary engineering department of the state board of public health in several communities at the request of local officials reveal that milk tested was extremely poor in comparison with standard ratings recognized by the federal public health service.

Pendleton Bad
 Top rating under the federal system is 100 per cent with 90 per cent listed merely as a passing grade.

An initial survey made in Pendleton last July revealed that raw milk retailed was 62 per cent of standard, although this had improved to 85 per cent by October when a second survey was made.

The rating on raw milk which reached pasteurizing plants was 81 and 88 per cent in Pendleton during the two test periods. The combined rating on pasteurized milk there rose from 53 to 73 per cent between the two surveys.

The poor grade was held by Dr. Stricker to be accountable for much of the undulant fever reported in the state.

War Blamed
 Blame for the situation was placed by Kenneth H. Spiess, acting state sanitary engineer, upon wartime shortages, especially of trained help, lack of testing and lack of care in handling milk.

The state's mobile laboratory unit has tested milk in La Grande, Baker, Hood River, Coos Bay and Roseburg and tests are contemplated in Medford and Astoria. Tests now are in progress at Bend, Madras, Prineville and Redmond.

Results of surveys made in cities other than Pendleton have not been announced, but Spiess commented that Hood River and La Grande were the worst.

BRITISH UNWILLING TO FIGHT GREEKS; MUTINY IS HINTED

House of Lords Told Men May Refuse to Carry Out Orders; Reject Truce Idea

London, Dec. 21.—(U.P.)—The house of lords defeated a motion of censure against the government over the Greek situation today after debate was enlivened by a warning from Lord Faringdon that mutiny might break out among British troops in Greece because of their unwillingness to fight the Greeks.

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Cries of "monstrous" came from the floor when Faringdon brought the word "mutiny" into a discussion of the Greek crisis.

"I should not be surprised," he said, "if our commanders had not already met with cases of men who show the greatest unwillingness to fight the Greeks, and who may have refused to bomb Athens."

May Have Mutiny
 "It may be that this will go further, and we shall have mutiny among our men in Greece and refusal to fight the Greeks."

"The first thing must be an armistice and I would suggest most earnestly to the government that the proposed conditions of an armistice put forward by Gen. Scoble (Lt. Gen. Ronald Scoble, British commander) are not armistice terms."

Lord Samuel rebuked Faringdon for his reference to mutiny, saying that "such language ought not to be used in this house."

In commons, Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden tacitly rejected a suggestion for a Christmas truce in Greece.

Eden was asked by Arthur Greenwood, labor party leader, whether a Christmas truce might be arranged as one way of helping solution of the Greek crisis.

Eden replied that it was Britain's object in Greece "not to end it for a week, but to obtain a final solution of this business."

Chaplin's Attorney Trips Girl In Testimony On Amorous Interludes

Hollywood, Dec. 21.—(U.P.)—After breaking down and recovering under rapid-fire cross-examination, Joan Barry tripped today as she described amorous interludes with Comedian Charlie Chaplin during December, 1942, the month she says he left her with a baby to bear alone.

Attorney Charles E. Millikan, defending the British comic in the paternity suit, listened to her testimony that she had been intimate with him at his home on Dec. 10, 23, and 30, and then read back a deposition she gave earlier.

"We did not have relations on the 10th," he read.

"Is that the answer you gave?"

"Yes," she said quietly, "that's the answer I gave."

Witness Breaks
 She had broken down completely on the stand as Millikan asked her about her associations with other men.

Weeping and wringing her hands, she wailed to Judge Henry M. Willis:

"This man keeps bringing in all these names that mean nothing here."

"In a paternity case," Judge Willis said, "the entire life of the party in any relations resulting in pregnancy is open to question."

Questioning resumed after a lady juror had handed the dis-

Showdown Battle



(Acme Telephoto) Counter-attacking Germans plunge to Stavelot, 30 miles inside Belgium, recapturing the important base of Malmédy. Other Nazi advances were made in Luxembourg. Exact progress of enemy drive is cloaked in security silence. Shaded portions on map indicate American positions before present counter-assault opened.

Setback On Western Front Is Worst Since Philippines

Editor's note: The veil of censorship slowly is being torn away from the German counter-offensive on the western front. Here, for the first time, James McGlinchy, United Press correspondent at supreme allied headquarters in Paris, assesses the full weight and potentialities of the Nazi effort from official sources and front-line dispatches.

ICKES REVEALS REASON JAP BAN SUDDENLY LIFTED

Washington, Dec. 21.—(U.P.)—Secretary of Interior Harold L. Ickes boasted today that the executive branch "beat the supreme court by approximately 24 hours" in revoking orders excluding persons of Japanese ancestry from the west coast.

Asked at a press conference why the ban was lifted at this time, he replied:

"It was time to issue the order; the Japanese had demonstrated that they were entitled to their full rights as citizens."

Then he laughed and said "We wanted to beat the supreme court to the punch."

The court had before it two cases on the exclusion issue, and on Monday ruled that loyal citizens of Japanese descent could not be further detained after their loyalty had been established. The revocation order, however, had been announced the day before.

WORST COLD HITS PRAIRIE STATES

By United Press
 The season's worst cold wave gripped the prairie states from the Canadian border to the Texas Panhandle today, ushering in the winter season, which begins officially at 6:15 p.m. CWT, with temperatures ranging from 17 degrees below zero at International Falls, Minn., to 30 above at Amarillo, Tex.

The cold wave, which is moving across the nation in a southeasterly direction, extended from the Rocky Mountain area to the Atlantic coastal states, with the coldest weather predicted for the east tomorrow or Friday, the federal weather forecaster at Chicago said.

Below zero temperatures prevailed in the Dakotas, Minnesota, northern Iowa, northern Wisconsin and upper Michigan today, and the coldest weather of the season was forecast for Illinois and Indiana tonight.

Dec. 21 Shortest Day of Year, Sun Starts Northward

Today, Dec. 21, is the shortest day of the year. We have nine hours and seven minutes of possible sunshine compared with the longest day of the year, June 21, when we have 15 hours and 14 minutes of daylight, according to the United States weather bureau. "The shortest day occurs when, in the language of the layman, the sun reaches the southernmost point, vertically above the Tropic of Capricorn," the meteorologist said. Tomorrow the sun starts its journey back and the days will become gradually longer again.

Irate Woman Owns 112 Packs Cigarettes

Somerville, Mass., Dec. 21.—(U.P.)—When a woman loudly berated a tobacco store clerk who told her he had no cigarettes, State Tax Inspector Joseph Cacciatore stepped forward to explain the shortage and discovered she already had 112 packages in a shopping bag.

Flanks Stable

SHAEF reported that both flanks of the 60-mile Nazi offensive front are becoming stable—a favorable factor—but characterized the center which is pointed for the Ardennes Gap and Sedan as "still most fluid."

The deepest German penetration reported up to noon Tuesday was at Hablemont, 14 miles west of Malmédy and three miles west of the important Liege-Bastogne-Arlon highway which is the principal lateral communications route back of the central 1st army front.

The German high command communicated that this highway was crossed on "a broad front" and that 20,000 American prisoners had been taken. Nazi tanks were said to have overrun American supply columns falling back to the Meuse.

SHAEF reported that Field Marshal Karl Von Rundstedt's attack was being directed along six main directions within the 60-mile front.

Paris, Dec. 21.—(U.P.)—German armored spearheads have driven 30 miles inside Belgium, supreme allied headquarters reported today, severing the main lateral Liege-Arlon highway in a drive which had knocked a hole of 25 miles or more in American 1st army lines in south Belgium and the northern half of Luxembourg.

The SHAEF report was based on operations up to noon Tuesday—48 hours ago. Front reports and German dispatches indicated that Nazi progress has continued since that time although the northern shoulder of the 1st army flank, protecting Liege, has stiffened and Malmédy, Stavelot, and Butgenbach are in American hands.

Paris, Dec. 21.—(U.P.)—A Transocean News Agency dispatch quoting German military sources, said tonight that six United States divisions had been "annihilated" in the Belgian-Luxembourg offensive. They were described as four infantry and two tank divisions.

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Jackson County sales to date in the Sixth War Loan are —
 "E" Bonds\$561,431.25
 "E" Quota\$600,000