

MUZHNIK 138 MILES FROM BERLIN

Weather

Forecast: Continued fair with little change in temperature tonight and Wednesday. Temp. Highest yesterday 51. Lowest this morning 31.

MEDFORD TRIBUNE

MEDFORD, OREGON, TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 1945

NO. 257.

YANKS AND NAZIS FIGHT IN ST. VITH HOUSE TO HOUSE

Germans in Full Flight in Rest of Belgium; Planes Add to Vehicle Losses.

Paris, Jan. 23—(U.P.)—The American 1st army fought house to house through St. Vith today and on the rest of its Ardennes front pursued German forces in full flight out of Belgium.

"We are having trouble keeping up with them, they are fleeing so fast," a staff officer at Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' headquarters told war correspondents.

Only at St. Vith did the Germans make a fight of the last phase of their withdrawal across the border of the Reich into the Siegfried fortifications and that stand apparently was aimed only at holding open escape channels.

Few Miles Left
The shell-torn wreckage of St. Vith and a bare few miles to the east was about all that was left of Marshal Karn von Rundstedt's "Christmas holiday" in the west.

As the 7th armored division rooted the last Nazis out of St. Vith, the 30th division nearby moved up about two miles and the 75th division more than a mile.

American planes were running up another big bag in the second straight day of assault on the retreating Germans. Early reports said that in 247 sorties, 464 German motor transport vehicles were destroyed and 567 damaged.

British Take Towns
To the north, the British 2d army captured the four villages of Valdenrath, Obspringen, Lafeld and Locken in gains of half a mile east of St. Josst and beyond Ebensweert in the Dutch-Roer pocket.

The capture of Lafeld brought the British within two miles of the big road center of Heinsberg.

The southern front was reported quiet except for two German counterattacks around Kilstett near Gamsheim. They were beaten off in several hours of stiff fighting.

MARRETT JURORS INSPECT SCENE

The circuit court jury hearing in the trial of Fred Marrett and wife, charged with breaking and entering the office of Dr. R. W. Clancy last August 27, inspected the scene of the crime this morning. They left the courthouse at 9 o'clock and were back in the jury box in time for the regular 9:30 opening of court.

The indictment alleges the burglary was committed for the purpose of stealing drugs. Dr. A. Erin Merkel, county physician, was scheduled to be called as a witness. He has had charge of the Marretts during their four months in the county jail. It is expected the trial will be concluded by mid-afternoon.

TO BERLIN

By United Press
The distances to Berlin from advanced allied lines today: Eastern front—138 miles (from Poznan, by German report). Western front—296 miles (from point southeast of Nijmegen). Italy—530 miles (from point north of Ravenna).

SIDE GLANCES

By TRIBUNE REPORTERS
Don Cruikshank, typewriter tycoon, waiting down the street on a cloud, due to arrival of an eight-pound son.

County Clerk George Carter getting ready to notify the rural areas of coming of the dog tax collector.

Former Mayor Earl Gaddis braving the chill to pay a brief down-town call.

Senate Committee to Call Wallace And Jones for Face-to-Face Quiz

NOMINATION DUE FOR FULL AIRING OPEN TO PUBLIC

Committee Also Eyes Bill to Divorce Lending Agencies From Commerce Dept.

Washington, Jan. 23—(U.P.)—The senate commerce committee decided today to call former Vice President Henry A. Wallace and Secretary of Commerce Jesse Jones before it tomorrow.

The committee is considering both President Roosevelt's nomination of Wallace to succeed Jones and a bill by Sen. Walter George, (D., Ga.) to divorce the government's multi-billion-dollar lending agencies from the commerce department.

Wallace Unexperienced
The bill was prompted by Wallace's nomination. George, one of the most influential members of the senate, and many other congressmen have expressed the belief that Wallace lacks the necessary financial experience to handle successfully such agencies as the reconstruction finance corporation.

Chairman Josiah W. Bailey (D., N.C.) of the commerce committee said Jones and Wallace, bitter enemies, will meet face to face in a hearing open to the public.

Bailey said the committee was inviting Jones and Wallace to testify on the George bill "in order to get their views."

Want Wallace Views
"We will want to hear what Mr. Jones thinks about re-establishing these lending agencies as a separate office and get his advice on the proposed transfer," he said.

"What do you expect to get out of Wallace?" a reporter asked.

"I don't know what his views are so I don't know what we'll get," Bailey answered, adding, "but we'll get his views."

The committee chairman said that, of course, we don't know yet whether they'll come, but we'll ask them.

Meanwhile, house Republicans attacked the Wallace nomination.

Rep. Carl T. Curtis, (R., Nebr.) charged that Wallace's theories "are part and parcel of the system of state socialism, known as the new deal."

Dewey Quoted
House Democratic Floor Leader John W. McCormack, Mass., retorted that every major piece of legislation passed in the last 12 years "by the Democratic administration had received the endorsement of Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York, 1944 Republican presidential nominee, in the recent campaign."

Rep. Clare Hoffman, (R., Mich.) called attention to the law forbidding a political candidate to promise to use his influence to get employment for a person in return for support during a campaign.

Hoffman said he wanted Attorney General Francis Biddle to investigate to find out if President Roosevelt made such a promise of employment to Wallace.

Rep. Bartel J. Jonkman (R., Mich.) told the house that appointment of Wallace to the cabinet post was part of a new deal program originated by Wallace and former braintruster Rexford Guy Tugwell to "thwart and prevent recovery from the economic depression" and "prolong the country's destitution until they had demonstrated to the American people that the government must operate industry and commerce."

Editorial Comment

By United Press
Oregon Journal, Portland. (Roosevelt supporter in 1944)—The sacrifice of Jesse Jones as secretary of commerce for Henry Wallace smells. It admittedly smells more of politics than of sound administration . . . the price is too high.

Portland Oregonian—When the people of the country are being imperturbed to devote themselves more than ever to the prosecution of the war, it is shocking to be informed that the president, for the sake of a political debt, has forced Jesse Jones out of the cabinet—a position where he had proved himself and where he influenced much of the production of the country—and has asked for the confirmation of long-haired Henry Wallace.

San Francisco Chronicle—While appointments to the cabinet have frequently been dictated by political reasons, never before has a cabinet post been used so openly as a piece of change to pay a political debt . . . the magnitude of the award is to be gauged solely by Wallace's personal idea of what he can do. He thinks he can handle the department of commerce; therefore, he gets it.

New York Times—It is surprising to us that Mr. Wallace should want it on these terms . . . and surely, if he is to be confirmed in this office, it should be only on the understanding that he is to be confirmed as Secretary of Commerce and not as head of RFC and its affiliated activities . . . It is sound policy now to divorce the two jobs, and we welcome the move in that direction.

New York Herald Tribune—It will be a shock to the reviving hopes of American business and industry in their peace-time future . . . Can only create the gravest fears of waste and muddling and misdirected effort . . .

In the second place Mr. Roosevelt has flouted Mr. Wallace in the face of a senate whose cooperation he needs to make the peace.

New York Daily News—If the business and financial world doesn't understand it, it is dumber than we think it is. We thought everybody understood by now that Mr. Roosevelt prefers inexperienced and second-rate yes men as cabinet officers.

P.M.—(The appointment) serves notice that the president intended his pledge of 60,000,000 jobs after the war to be more than an electioneering promise . . . the fight against Wallace is a fight against full employment, against the concept of an expanding economy. It is a fight to maintain monopoly-as-usual after the war, to return to a system of scarcity economics.

Daily Worker—We are delighted . . . It is an opportunity that Wallace richly deserves . . . Because he had held so clearly the vision of full employment and full production . . . Because his thinking embodies the aspirations of all Americans for security and a job . . . Because of his self-effacing campaign for the president's re-election . . . Because he can do the job.

NO NEW RATION ACTION PLANNED

Washington, Jan. 23—(U.P.)—Maybe its because there's not much left unrationed in the way of food, but government food agencies indicated today that no new rationing action is contemplated in the immediate future.

A look at the ration schedule showed that about all that is still point-free are a few minor canned vegetables, soups, baby foods, frozen vegetables, and less popular cuts of meats.

CLOTHING PRICE ROLL-BACK PLAN TO CURB SPIRAL

Bowles and Krug Announce Program to Keep Americans "Decently" Clothed.

Washington, Jan. 23—(U.P.)—Price Administrator Chester Bowles and Production Chief J. A. Krug today announced a synchronized, far-reaching program which they said was designed to keep American civilians "decently" clothed in the face of rising prices and dwindling supplies of cotton, wool, and rayon.

The drastic new program is planned to reduce prices of medium and low-price essential garments by six or seven per cent in the next few months. This roll-back, plus elimination of an anticipated price increase of a similar amount, if left uncontrolled, will save the consumer an estimated \$500,000,000 yearly, they said.

Will Be "Tough"
The program should get quality, quantity and prices of essential apparel back to the level of the first six months of 1943, when the hold-the-line order began to take effect.

Bowles and Krug unveiled their plan at a joint press conference after informing about 100 invited trade representatives of its details. The officials said that the program will be considered "tough" by many business interests but they told the industry it will continue to make profits "well above" their peacetime earnings.

Bowles said that the plan, still in tentative form, will go into effect shortly and that in a few months retailers should have better supplies of the low and medium-priced garments. "their customers want."

The program embraces the entire textile industry, from the mill right through to the retailer. In many cases, the garment will bear the retail price marked on it by the manufacturer.

FIVE SAVED FROM DEATH IN PACIFIC

Washington, Jan. 23—(U.P.)—An alert communications organization and an efficient search by air and sea brought the prompt rescue of four crewmen and a passenger aboard an army air transport command plane forced down 1,000 miles off the Pacific coast, reports to the war department disclosed today.

The plane was a twin-engine transport. It was forced down at 3:30 a. m. January 18 en route to Australia. Those on board took to the liferaft after sending radio distress signals.

A radio "fix" was obtained on the area, and two ATC search B-24's, a navy plane, and a coast guard plane were dispatched from their bases. The craft was located by one of the ATC planes at 3:15 p. m. A naval vessel guided to the scene rescued all hands after they had been adrift only 13 hours.

OPA Approves Ban On Sale Of Meats

Washington, Jan. 23—(U.P.)—The office of price administration today gave its unofficial blessing to Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia's ban on meat sales in New York on Tuesdays and Fridays, but officials said the mayor would have to shoulder the enforcement headache.

In outlining his edict, which does not affect sales at frankfurter and hamburger stands, LaGuardia guaranteed strict enforcement but did not say how or under what powers.

Nazis Admit Silesia Crisis



Soviet Armies pound into German Silesia toward Breslau and Berlin, driving steadily closer to the chief remaining Polish stronghold of Poznan and were enveloping East Prussia from two sides in a great encircling movement. Other units smashed ahead into East Prussia after capture of historic Tannenberg. Until and unless it is stopped, the gigantic Russian winter offensive remains potentially the final one of the war which will end only with the crushing of Germany.

Hitler Rushes Himmler to Front To Rally Strength Against Reds

London, Jan. 23—(U.P.)—Berlin reported today that Adolf Hitler had rushed Gestapo Chief Heinrich Himmler and other of his best commanders to the eastern front and given them "complete power" to rally German strength against the Russians in any way they saw fit.

The broadcast signaled Berlin's acknowledgment that the battle of Germany had begun in the east, since Himmler is commander-in-chief of the German home army and commander of the Gestapo, which Allied armies have credited with keeping Germany in the war.

Unconfirmed reports from Stockholm said Nazi leaders were fleeing Berlin, and the rest of the capital's inhabitants would be evacuated as soon as the party bigwigs were safely away.

YANKEES WITHIN SIGHT OF VITAL CLARK AIRDROME

By United Press
American troops drove within sight of the first of the vital Clark air strips on Luzon today while B-29 Superfortresses again carried the aerial offensive to the Japanese home island of Honshu.

The war department at Washington said the B-29s hit the "center of industrial Japan," and Tokyo specifically listed the target as the aircraft center of Nagoya. Tokyo said about 70 Superfortresses from Marianas hammered the industrial city for two hours today.

Jap Planes Hit
The B-29 raids followed shortly after American carrier planes from the Third fleet destroyed or damaged 240 Japanese aircraft in attacks on Formosa and the adjacent Sakishima and Pescadore islands. The Japanese claimed the carrier raids went into the second day Monday and said that Lightning fighters and land-based bombers, apparently from the Philippines, joined the assault for the first time.

In the Philippines, vanguards of the American 14th corps pushed within sight of Bataan and the first of the 11 Clark air strips, only 53 miles north of Manila.

PUBLIC LAND GRAZING FEE AWAITS INCREASE

Washington, Jan. 23—(U.P.)—Secretary of Interior Harold L. Ickes promised today that a scheduled increase in public lands grazing fees would not go into effect until the senate public lands committee has had an opportunity to "give the matter further consideration."

A proposed monthly increase from five to 15 cents a head for cattle and from one to five cents for sheep had been scheduled for May 1.

NUDISM BAN SOUGHT

Santa Rosa, Cal., Jan. 23—(U.P.)—Nudism will become illegal in Sonoma county effective February 21 under an ordinance passed unanimously yesterday by the board of supervisors.

BYDGOSZCZ FALL UNHINGES MAIN GERMAN DEFENSE

Capture of Transport Center Frees Powerful Soviet Forces; Poznan Attacked.

London, Jan. 23—(U.P.)—The red army today stormed the defenses of Poznan, Polish bastion 138 miles due east of Berlin and 66 miles to the northeast captured the big transport center of Bydgoszcz, southern gateway of the old Polish corridor to the Baltic.

Marshal Gregory K. Zhukov's army, setting the pace in the great Russian sweep against Germany, captured Bydgoszcz in a frontal assault co-ordinated with a flanking maneuver.

Transport Hub
The fall of Bydgoszcz, hub from which a score of railroads and highways radiate, unhinged the main German defenses of northwest Poland and freed powerful soviet forces to join in the big push toward Berlin.

Both Moscow and Berlin reported that Shukov's left wing was charging over the approaches of Poznan, last big Polish base on the road to the German capital.

To the south, Marshal Ivan S. Konev's invasion forces in Silesia were reported to have reached the Oder river southeast of Breslau, and Berlin tacitly acknowledged that the first soviet wedge had been driven to this primary defense line of the Nazi homeland.

Near Konigsberg
In the northeast, the Moscow radio reported that the red army "is nearing Konigsberg," capital of East Prussia which was being overrun from the east and south. Last official accounts placed the soviet vanguard 23 miles from Konigsberg.

Marshal Stalin's first order of the day today announced the capture of Bydgoszcz, "an important junction of railways and highways and a powerful stronghold of the German defense of the lower Vistula."

GI Bill Of Rights Undergoes Attack

Cambridge, Mass., Jan. 23—(U.P.)—The GI bill of rights was under attack today by President James B. Conant of Harvard university as not adequately assuring professional training for those most entitled to it.

Conant charged in his annual report, issued last night, that the weakness of the present bill bases educational opportunity on length of military service rather than on demonstrated ability. He urged that the measure be revised to provide advanced education only for "a carefully selected group."

1/23/45
By United Press
People who like numbers, and who like to write dates in numbers, are having a lot of fun today.

Because the date is unique in this century, it's the only one that ever can be written by the first five consecutive numerals: 1/23/45.

Infantile paralysis is no respecter of wealth, creed or color.

Eisenhower Order Causes Arrests On Black Market

Paris, Jan. 23—(U.P.)—A special, unprecedented order from Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower has caused the arrest of six officers and efforts to bring charges against many more officers of the "Millionaire" 716th Railway Battalion from which 182 enlisted men were ordered to trial on black market charges, headquarters revealed today.

It was disclosed also that Col. Walter J. Marlin of Los Angeles, commander of the battalion, had been relieved of command, although he will not be brought to trial. He now is serving in Belgium.

Announcement of the new arrests followed renunciations by defendant enlisted men who charged officers treated them as "stepchildren," failing to is-

sue them ordinary food rations, condoning and encouraging thefts, and, on occasion, even "participating."

A first lieutenant will be tried on charges of stealing rations and of illicit money transactions, and the others, whose names and ranks were not disclosed, will be tried for negligence of duty, Harris said.

Despite closing arguments by Defense Attorney Maj. George Dickson of Atlanta, Ga., and acknowledgments by the trial judge advocate that the men's leadership "was not all it might have been," 10 more enlisted men were convicted yesterday and sentenced to terms ranging from 20 to 30 years for stealing and selling cigars, cigars, chocolates and other rations.

DISPUTE CERTIFIED
Washington, Jan. 23—(U.P.)—Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins certified to the war labor board today a wage dispute between the Union Oil Company of California, Los Angeles, and 2,000 employes represented by the Oil Workers (CIO).

BILL INTRODUCED TO UP SALARIES COUNTY OFFICIALS
A bill to extend the present salaries of county officers of Jackson county for two years was introduced into the house today by Reps. Van Dyke and Bengtson, according to a United Press dispatch from Salem.

At the office of George R. Carter, county clerk, it was stated that two years ago the legislature passed a law granting county officers a 14 per cent raise in salaries over the old legal schedule. This is to expire in June of this year. It is understood that the bill just introduced by the Jackson county delegation, would grant an additional 10 per cent increase, according to Mr. Carter.

WARSAW'S HOUR OF VENGEANCE
Polish Army units, serving with Russian troops, march through their capital, Warsaw, pursuing German forces fleeing back into the Reich in face of Russian blitz that has pushed forward on a 56-mile front to within 166 miles of Berlin.

Warsaw's Hour of Vengeance



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