

ANTI-PLAGUE TRUCK WORKS IN COUNTY

Under the direction of the Oregon state board of health a truck equipped for plague work is in this section for a period of one week with Edward C. Parkinson and Leroy W. Jenkinson in charge. The men are here to study sylvatic, or wild rodent plague, and Wednesday were working in the Olney district.

This is the fifth year the plague work has been carried on in the state, each year tests having been taken in Klamath county as well. Any persons finding squirrels on their property, dead from other than natural causes, are asked to contact C. A. Henderson, Klamath county agricultural agent, and investigation will be made.

Parkinson stated Wednesday that the plague is carried by the ground squirrel or rodent by way of fleas. Each species of ground squirrel or rodent has its own fleas, and through the bite of the infected flea the rodent becomes infected with the plague organism. Program to be followed out in this county by the two men here at the present time is that of locating areas in which the infected animals are found. Follow-up work is done by the department of agriculture, county agent's office, and biological survey, the object to see that as many of the rodents as possible are destroyed.

The President Outlines Defense Needs



A camera catches the varying facial expressions of President Roosevelt as he calls upon Congress to allocate \$1,182,000,000 to meet the threat of modern war. He delivered his national defense message before a joint session of Congress, called on barely 12 hours notice.

Mussolini May Climb Down From Fence Within Next 10 Days, Predicts Writer

EDITOR'S NOTE: In the following dispatch a veteran United Press commentator on foreign affairs analyzes the arguments for and against early Italian entrance into the war on the side of Germany.

By LOUIS F. KEEMLE
United Press Cables Editor

The question of whether Italy will enter the war on the side of Germany may be answered within 10 days or so.

If statements by the fascist press and fascist leaders mean anything, the time is about at hand for Mussolini to climb down from the fence.

Earlier in the war, it was Hitler's advantage for Italy to remain "non-belligerent" and prevent the allies from opening up a rear offensive on Germany through the Balkans and the Black Sea.

Now, the allies in hard straits on the western front, can spare neither land or naval reinforcements for southeastern Europe and the Mediterranean. Mussolini is generally represented as believing Hitler will win with a knockout blow. When it becomes apparent he is about to do so, Mussolini will jump in to help deliver the coup de grace and share in the spoils.

Mussolini undoubtedly is acquainted with Hitler's plans and the fuhrer's views on the prospects of victory. Since the German-Italian 10-year military alliance pact was signed in May of last year, the Rome-Berlin axis has maintained close contact.

The axis withstood the strain of the German-Russian accord of last August and September, despite Italy's antipathy to bolshevism. It was further strengthened by the Brenner Pass meeting of Hitler and Mussolini in March. Hitler apparently convinced Mussolini that he held the trump cards.

If Mussolini goes in, he may wait until May 29, when Italy's

big liner Roma is due in Genoa from New York. Mussolini might not want to start the war with the loss of one of his great ships.

Mussolini's play, if he does enter the war, most likely would be to strike for Tunisia, on the African coast adjoining Italian Libya and opposite Sicily.

He also might be expected to strike at Corsica and harass France through Savoy and Nice, on the sea at the southeastern corner of France below the maritime Alps.

In the Mediterranean, the combined British and French fleets claim superiority over the Italian, although the Italian navy is strong and has one of the largest and most efficient submarine forces in the world. Italian submarines conceivably could block the Suez canal route.

On land, the allied army is concentrated in the near east. It could hardly go into action against Italy through Yugoslavia or elsewhere unless Turkey joined in, and the Turks seem to be impressed by the German advance on the western front.

For what it is worth, the British estimate of Italy's approximate strength has been summed up by G. Ward Price, noted British war correspondent, as follows:

Navy, good; army, badly equipped; air force, out of date; air raid precautions, nil; war resources, lacking.

By war resources, Price referred to copper, coal and similar vital materials. His conclusion was that Italy could not withstand a long war.

REWARD
HUTCHINSON, Kas. (AP)—It looked as though the census count would fall below 30,000. The chamber of commerce offered 25 cents for each name of a resident missed by enumerators.

The final tally: 31,413.

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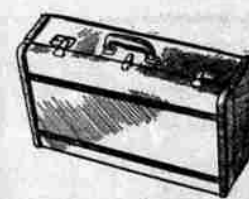
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