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NEWS BEHIND THE NEWS
By PAUL MALLON

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—The Jap war madness is in itself a defeatist confession. Her rash statesmen would never have taken war action against the United States if they thought there was the slightest chance they could survive their military and economic predicament in China.

The theory that they might have been inspired by a desire to help Hitler is not farfetched. Hitler is too far away to do the Japs either harm or good. They were just so near defeat they had to dare everything, in hopes that Hitler could win in Russia and in the world, and extricate them from their difficulties.

Dictatorial statesmen act from personally selfish motives at times. Totalitarian rulers tell their people nothing straight. Hence the Jap diplomatic and military bunglers were particularly free to gamble the future of their nation even to a suicidal extent.

NOT TWICE Sneaking a couple of aircraft carriers up near Hawaii before declaration of war is one thing, but getting them near enough again will be another. In fact, getting them home again may turn out to be something. The Hawaiian attack was obviously a demonstration designed more for a psychological effect than for military damage.

UNIFIED The composite immediate opinion in Washington was that the Jap statesmen unintentionally performed a favor for us. There will be no strikes in this country now. Whatever divergences of public opinion may have impeded this government's purposes against the nazis, certainly has vanished by action of the Japs.

FRENCH BASES A Roosevelt plan to seize French bases on this side of the world has been simmering in the martial machinery here for the past few days. Troops have been guardedly shifted to points where they could spring with ease upon Martinique and French Guiana. They were set in motion the moment dispatches came out of Vichy suggesting Petain might weaken and let Hitler use French bases in Africa.

LIBYAN WAR The British are getting amply reorganized to crush the Nazi General Rommel in Libya, after the initial discouraging results of their hopeful campaign. Their slogan is to "Give Rommel to Churchill as a Christmas present."

AUTO TAX One tax which possibly may not be collected is the levy aimed at more American citizens than any other—the \$5 yearly use tax on autos. It would hit 30,000,000 car owners (three times as many people as pay income taxes).

Former Ambassador To Russia Dies FARMINGTON, Conn., Dec. 9 (AP)—Former Ambassador John Wallace Riddle, 77, died here last night. He was ambassador to Russia from 1906-09 and Argentina from 1921-25 when he retired. He also had held other diplomatic posts, including assignments in Turkey, Egypt and Serbia.

Power Lineman Electrocuted ALBANY, Dec. 9 (AP)—Charles Boyd, 53, mountain States Power company employe, was electrocuted last night when a telephone line he was repairing in North Albany contacted an 11,000-volt power line.

AN IDEAL GIFT THEATRE SCRIP BOOKS SAVE 20% The Pelican, Pine Tree, Vox and Rainbow Theatres

SIDE GLANCES



"So my rent is coming, is it, Mr. Delehanty? Well, so is Christmas!"

Gems of Thought

Q. How can I remember to buy a defense savings bond regularly? A. Enroll in your company's pay-roll allotment plan; or have your bank deduct the price of a bond from your checking account balance at stated intervals; or write the Treasurer of the United States at Washington, D. C., to send you a reminder periodically.

Q. What is the principal difference between Series E defense savings bonds, and Series F and G? A. Series E bonds are for ownership only by individuals in their own right and are issued in amounts from \$18.75 to \$750 (cost price). Series F and G bonds are designed for investment by corporations, trustees, associations, partnerships, etc., as well as individuals, and range from \$74 to \$10,000 (cost price).

NOT EASY Hitler will have more trouble getting those French bases than he had in getting the promise of them. The superiority of the British fleet in the Mediterranean means he will have to fight his way across to them, and then fight to keep them. The British have shunned French North African bases for diplomatic as well as military reasons (the difficulty of getting at them). But if they pass to German hands, they will become enemy territory.

WATCH SPAIN Watch Spain for evidences of further Nazi diplomatic aggression. It would be easier for the French to maintain Mediterranean naval bases there than in French Africa, and the first suggestions that he knows that fact have been coming out of Spain in diplomatic pouches.

OBITUARY ROSETTA BOWMAN Rosetta Bowman, for the last 31 years a resident of Merrill, Ore., passed away at Central Point, Ore., on Sunday, December 7, 1941, at 3:45 p. m., following an illness of one month. She was a native of Dayton, Wash., and at the time of her death was aged 68 years 11 months and six days. Surviving are two sons, Melvin A. and Leonard Bowman of Merrill, Ore., and one daughter, Mrs. Marion Hedrich of Sprague River, Ore.; five brothers, M. P. Moore of Moscow, Ida, M. C. and Charles Moore of LaCrosse, Wash., three sisters, Mrs. Homer Fleming of LaCrosse, Wash., Mrs. Calvin Haskins of Merrill, Ore., and Mrs. Harry Sever of Pullman, Wash. The remains rest in the Earl Whitlock funeral home, Fine street at Sixth, where friends may call after 4 p. m. Tuesday. Notice of funeral to be announced at a later date.

MARRIAGE LICENSES NORTH - DECKER, Edwin Charles North, 21, Red Bluff, rancher, native of California; Marilyn Florence Decker, 18, Tulelake, housewife, native of Nebraska.

JUSTICE COURT Orle Kennerly, no tail light. Fined \$5.50, suspended. Franklin L. Warren, void foreign license. Fined \$10. Berry M. Blackwell, drunk on public highway. Fined \$10 or five days. Committed to County Jail.

DRAFT CHANGES SALEM, Dec. 9 (AP)—State selective service headquarters, ordering immediate classification of all registrants, told local boards today it is likely that the law deferring men over 28 years of age would be repealed soon.

TEXAS TECHNICAL COLLEGE Texas Technical college has made uniforms for the members of its 70-piece band from wool woven in the school's own mills. Filaments of the first electric lamps were made of carbon.

LAST TIMES TODAY —HIT No. 1— IRENE DUNNE "THEODORA GOES WILD" —HIT No. 2— RICARDO CORTEZ "SHOT IN THE DARK"

WEDNESDAY - THURSDAY 2 BIG FEATURES! —HIT No. 1— John Garfield Claude Rains "Saturday's Children" —HIT No. 2— Lee Tracy Linda Hayes "Millionaires In Prison"

RAINBOW THEATRE

SKIRTS FOR PANTS IN TIME TO COME

SALT LAKE CITY, Dec. 9 (UP)—American women must soon abandon their skirts for the overalls of a workman, and take their place beside welders, mechanics and skilled laborers, Brig. Gen. Lewis Hershey, head of the national selective service, warned today.

Pausing in the Utah capital on an extended tour of western selective service headquarters, Hershey predicted a vast change in selective service classifications.

"We need more men," he said, "while I'm not predicting an emergency, we must be prepared if one occurs."

He said that the only way the army could be increased was to force it by taking men in class 2A and 2B out of defense employment and into the army.

"This will result in forcing men above the 28-year-old group into defense jobs," he forecast. "The average age of the factory workers is 22. That's too young. Women will figure more prominently in defense."

At the present time, airplane manufacturing companies have found that women can do a better job than can men, he declared. They not only are smaller, and can get into close places for welding, but they also do a better "detail job," he continued.

"Now don't get the idea we are trying to wreck industry. We are now re-working classifications, and an announcement on our plans will be made later."

Hershey said that the classifications would not go into effect probably until June of next year.

"But we're beginning now to educate the people and the employers to the fact that they can get along when we start drafting defense workers," he added. "It's all a matter of keeping the stage set. In our game, we can't take a chance."

Hershey's remarks were in line with those made in Washington by Lieut. Col. Joseph F. Battley, a selective service adviser, that the army, in case of emergency, may have to be doubled or tripled at a moment's notice.

"Who knows," Hershey added to Battley's statement, "we may even have to quadruple it."

His next stop will be Boise, Ida., where he will visit the air base and selective service officers.

Legislature May Be Called Upon For Defense Fund

SALEM, Dec. 9 (AP)—Senator Dean H. Walker and Representative Robert S. Farrell Jr., leaders of the senate and house of the state legislature, pledged to Governor Sprague yesterday that the legislature would give him full cooperation during the war.

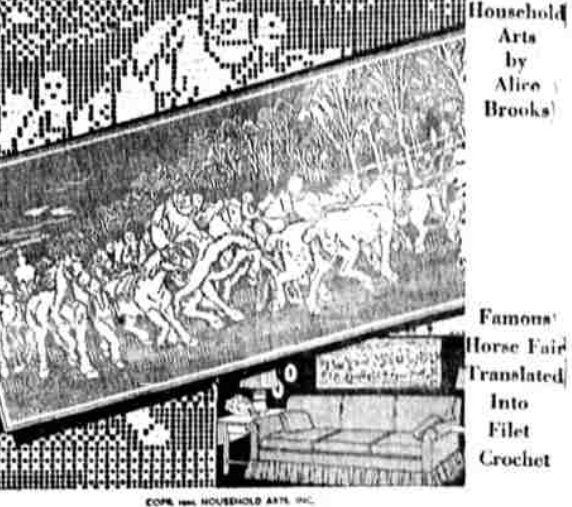
They said the Multnomah county tax muddle, for which a special session has been demanded, has been pushed into the background, and that the political campaign would receive little attention in the next few months.

Governor Sprague told them he has not completed estimates as to how much money would be required for defense purposes. Only \$99,500 is available in the emergency board fund, but the cost of the state guard is estimated at more than \$500,000. Some legislators expect a special session to appropriate the money.

The governor said he has been deluged with telegrams from Oregon citizens offering their services.

TEAM SAFE SALEM, Dec. 9 (AP)—Governor Charles A. Sprague received a cablegram today from Roy S. Keene, Willamette university football coach, that all of the Willamette football team and party is safe and well in Honolulu.

A Masterpiece In Crochet



PATTERN 7149

Just think of it! Now you can crochet this beautiful and famous picture "The Horse Fair" by Rosa Bonheur. Done in mercerized cotton, it is certain to be an heirloom you'll treasure. Pattern 7149 contains directions and chart for making panel; illustrations of it and stitches; materials needed.

In Words of Jack London, Nazis Losing Their Velvet

By DeWITT MacKENZIE Wide World War Analyst Jack London, who not only was a master-writer but an expert in things pugilistic, used to say that every time a man does battle in the ring he loses some of his velvet, that is, a bit of his youthful strength and power of recuperation.

Signs along the now blizzard-swept, frozen wastes of the Russian war front are strong in the suggestion that the nazis have lost a very considerable amount of their velvet since they started beating their heads against the Muscovite wall. Their striking power is noticeably weaker, and on the southern front even their defensive resistance has lowered so that we have the amazing spectacle of a German debacle westward from the Rostov zone.

This is not what we have been schooled to expect from the Hitlerian machine that "can't be stopped." Indeed, such a reversal is so foreign to the Nazi operations thus far that one is impelled to caution in reaching conclusions. An interesting appraisal of the position is given by Russian General Bodin in the army newspaper Red Star.

"The initiative now is in Russian hands," says Bodin, "but the strength of the Germans is not crushed. The enemy has many tanks and reserves."

That looks like a fairly shrewd estimate, though we do need to see a little more before taking it for granted that the present phenomena means that the initiative has definitely passed from the Germans to the bolsheviks. This much is obvious: That the invaders have lost much velvet and that the reds are on the offensive in most sectors. For the first time the nazis are showing signs of heavy exhaustion.

Moscow reports that along the sea of Azov the Germans have continued their headlong retreat beyond Tanager, with the bolsheviks in hot pursuit. That means a retirement of more than 40 miles, and the end of the debacle isn't in sight. The Russians also claim the initiative on the bloody Moscow front.

It is true that the Nazi difficulties are due in part to unusual circumstances. For instance, the German radio, as heard in this country by NBC, said the disaster on the southern front was due to a change of weather which "rendered useless the mechanized might of the German army." There might easily be something in that, though it wasn't explained what effect the weather had on the Russian mechanized forces.

Undoubtedly the near-arctic conditions on much of the Soviet front have played a considerable part in the Nazi difficulties. The Russians report that even in the milder south they are finding the frozen bodies of German soldiers, indicating a lack of preparedness for such weather. Supplies must be coming up slowly through the snow-drifts along the attenuated lines of communication. In this connection one wonders whether abandonment of many Nazi tanks means gasoline supplies have failed.

However, the Hitlerites have made many of their own troubles by taking huge chances at various places in an effort to achieve some worthwhile victory—almost any kind of triumph, either moral or strategic. They need such a victory both for home consumption and for the effect abroad, especially in view of the critical position of their relations with France and Japan.

Civil Air Patrol Recruits Sought By La Guardia

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9 (AP)—Enlistment of 180,000 fliers and 100,000 ground crew men in a civil air patrol was sought today by F. H. La Guardia, director of civilian defense.

He asked last night for 90,000 licensed pilots, 90,000 student pilots and 23,000 civil air crew. The patrol would use 2,000 airports which now have no military or regular commercial airline operations.

Major General John F. Curry of the army air corps was named commander. La Guardia said the idea was to make available immediately the "potential value of defense" of the civilian fliers.

Polly Ann cupcakes are always welcome, whether in the lunch bucket... bridge parties or the family meal. Dark, light, spiced and so many delicious varieties. Polly Ann Bakery, North 8th street.—Adv.

Good Reaction

A SUDDEN activity in defense bond and stamp purchases was one of the first local reactions to the announcement that the United States was at war with Japan. Klamath people, and no doubt Americans everywhere, are well aware that war requires money, and are ready to contribute their share in this emergency.

Another local development following the war outbreak was a rush to the recruiting offices of army, navy and marines. All did a land-office business on Monday, and were still signing up recruits on Tuesday.

Still another reaction to the startling news was public response to the appeal for registration in the civilian reserve. Large numbers of people had not registered when the roll was taken last summer; some, no doubt, because they were not here at the time or the matter slipped their minds, but possibly others because they could not envision a situation where civilian reserve service would be necessary.

Those persons who have been given already responsible work in connection with civilian defense were also quick to respond to the situation that developed at week's beginning. There was almost unanimous attendance at the various meetings which were called on momentary notice Monday.

All of these are good signs. They mean that the people of this community are waking up to the demands of the hour. They are patriotic and willing to do their part. The important thing is to direct their efforts into the most effective channels.

False Security Dissipated

REPORTS of hostile planes off the coast of the United States, were undoubtedly received at first with skepticism by most of the residents of the area that was endangered if these were actually hostile planes. But army repetition that an actual approach was made changed skepticism to a realization that war and all that it means are at the very threshold of this area and we must be prepared for every eventuality.

It is difficult to shake ourselves into this understanding. Everything of the kind has seemed far away, as it was. But it is no longer, and the sooner we realize it the better off we all will be. Monday night's developments came with shocking suddenness, but they served a purpose in lifting residents of the Pacific coast out of a fog of false security.

It Cannot Be Tolerated

TIMES are such that irresponsible automobile operation cannot be tolerated by a serious people going about the serious business of winning a war. Carelessness, unnecessary driving, thoughtless disregard for the rights of others, must now be condemned even more strongly than ever before.

In the past few nights and early mornings, conditions in the Klamath district have been extremely hazardous for automobile operation. Fog has frozen on the pavements, making them ice-slick, but they do not have the appearance that customarily goes with such danger. The result is that many people have run unexpectedly into skid traps, with disastrous results.

Automobile accidents are a waste that we in America have permitted to go on in increasing volume. The country is in no position today to absorb waste of any kind. Careful driving will eliminate one source of waste that is largely unnecessary and cannot longer be tolerated.

Mannequin-Maker Leaves Legs In Christmas Stocking Gifts

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif., Dec. 9 (AP)—Some lucky soldiers are going to get gift-filled with legs and masks of movie stars for Christmas because a morale officer "way up in Alaska had a bright idea.

Lieut. M. W. Foresman, morale officer at Fort Greely, Kodiak, Alaska, made the unique request to Katherine Stubergh, who produces wax mannequins and masks for film studios. The officer explained that since there "are no recreation facilities, it makes me do strange things," such as requesting "a mask of a good looking girl." There are 6000 men at the camp.

"I have planned a Christmas party," Lieut. Foresman wrote. "To add a little zest, I am writing to several notables, asking that each contribute something, and these will be given to the outstanding soldiers in camp. We hope it will tend to keep their chins up a little higher."

Miss Stubergh not only is sending two masks, of Hedy Lamarr and Marlene Dietrich; she made a life-size wax leg, dressed it up with a mesh stocking, garter, boudoir slippers and a bit of lace at the thigh, and filled it with trick puzzles, candy, woolen sox, playing cards and a shaving set.

Miss Stubergh liked the idea so well she's sending another gift-filled leg to Sgt. Dick Norton at Camp Roberts, Monterey, Calif., That'll be like old times to Dick. He used to work for the Stuberghs.