

Blackout Signal

One 5-minute blast on sirens and whistles is the signal for a blackout in Klamath Falls. Another long blast, during a blackout, is a signal for all-clear. In precautionary periods, watch your street lights.

Herald and News

ASSOCIATED PRESS IN THE SHASTA-CASCADE WONDERLAND NEA FEATURES
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Weather News

March 19—High 45, Low 18
Precipitation as of March 13, 1943
Stream year to date 13.48
Last Year 10.00 Normal 8.88

ALLIES SET FOR AFRICAN PUSH

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS
ON the European side of the war, the news today is edited by the weather.

IN northern Tunisia continuing torrential rainstorms have turned the airfields into sloppy strips of muck and the flat plains into sticky bogs too soft for tanks.

In the south, DUST STORMS are holding Montgomery more or less motionless before the Mareth line. Many of Rommel's desert-ranging tanks are stuck in the sand and our planes are hunting them down as well as they can in the swirling fogs of sand.

(Once a tank is stuck it is out of luck. It has to keep moving to keep out of trouble.)

IN the far Tunisian north, west of Bizerte, Von Arnim is hitting the British hard in order to take the pressure off Rommel in the south.

(Creating a second front, that is, for Rommel's benefit.)

GENERAL GIRAUD is said by the Algiers radio (run by our side) to have been present when Gafsa was taken and to have remarked:

"I am convinced that Gafsa marks the beginning of an offensive that will go on as far as Berlin."

NOTE, please, that this isn't news. It is propaganda. We must always differentiate between them.

Giraud's remark is intended to reassure us that everything is going well and to make the Germans nervous.

The use of propaganda in war is legitimate enough, but back here on the home front we must be careful to identify it for what it really is. If we get it mixed up with NEWS we'll be misled.

THE Russians, wallowing through quagmires of deep black mud, are still pushing toward Smolensk. Their winter fighters are reported to be abandoning their skis in the face of the spring thaw.

Today's dispatches say the thaw is progressing at such a rate that soon only the air forces on both sides will be able to operate.

THE Germans are still throwing fresh masses of tanks, troops and planes into the Kharkov fighting.

Whether they have crossed the Donets is not disclosed in today's dispatches. The Russians hold at least some advanced position on the west bank of the river, and from the east bank are taking a heavy toll of the Germans who try to cross on the thin ice.

THE Germans claim today to have sunk 32 ships out of an allied convoy in the Atlantic.

This claim, of course, is subject to heavy discount, but the fact remains that the submarine campaign is worrying us considerably.

We're getting a fairly big force on the other side of the Atlantic, and it has to be supplied by ships.

SPEAKING of submarines, our planes catch a Jap sub UNLOADING CARGO at Lae, in (Continued on Page Four)

Rationing Board Changes Hours to Benefit Workers

A change in the hours at rationing board headquarters, 434 Main street, has been announced by Don R. Drury, chairman of the board, in order to give further benefits to those working six days a week.

Hours at the present time are 9:30 a. m. to 4:30 p. m., and these have been changed from 10:30 a. m. to 5 p. m. The extra half hour will be of special value to the mill workers. Change goes into effect Monday, Drury stated.

BRITISH SHIPS SLUG JAPS IN DONBAIK AREA

Fires Rage in Enemy Shore Positions In Burma

By The Associated Press
British warships laid down a fire-rattling barrage of Japanese positions yesterday in the Donbaik area in Burma, a communique said today, and vanguards of Field Marshal Sir Archibald P. Wavell's forces driving down the coast "made progress" toward the town of Donbaik itself.

Donbaik lies near the tip of the Mayu peninsula, just north of the big Japanese base at Akyab on the bay of Bengal.

Fires Started
British headquarters said numerous fires were started in the naval bombardment and declared that Japanese shore batteries inflicted "neither damage nor casualties" in attempting to break up the assault.

"East of the Mayu river, our positions have been maintained and in the past 24 hours there has been no important change in the situation," the British command said.

Japs Infiltrate
Japanese infiltration tactics east of the Mayu river, which separates the peninsula from the mainland, had previously forced the British to withdraw north of Raihedaung, 25 miles above Akyab, and threatened to cut off British forward troops along the coast.

In the southwest Pacific, Gen. Douglas MacArthur's headquarters reported continuing allied aerial attacks against a 2000-mile arc of Japanese (Continued on Page Four)

Nazi Submarines Claim Sinking of U. S. Convoy

By The Associated Press
A DNB dispatch broadcast by the Berlin radio and recorded by The Associated Press declared today that Nazi submarines had sunk 32 cargo ships and a destroyer in a prolonged attack against an eastbound allied convoy in the Atlantic.

There was no confirmation from allied sources.

The German dispatch described the action as the "greatest and most successful" in the history of U-boat warfare. It said the 32 cargo vessels sunk totaled 204,000 tons.

Friday's German communique had reported that a fierce continuing fight was in progress between U-boats and an allied convoy over a large area in the Atlantic.

Today's announcement said the German submarines had pressed home their successful attack in the face of a formidable defense thrown around the convoy by destroyers, corvettes and planes.

House Farm Bloc Speeds Parity Bill to President

By WILLIAM F. ARBOGAST
WASHINGTON, March 20 (AP)—The house farm bloc that caught the "city fellers" napping yesterday looked with confidence today to the senate to speed to the White House—and possibly veto—legislation requiring the inclusion of labor costs in determining parity.

Parity is a technical and intangible price calculated to give farmers a share of current national income and purchasing power proportionate to that they enjoyed in the base period from 1909 to 1914.

Surprise Maneuver
In a surprise maneuver that caught opponents off-guard, the farm bloc succeeded in passing through the house on a voice vote the bill of Representative Pace (D-Ga.) to amend the basic

Collegiate "Cover Girl"



Virginia Howard, daughter of Mrs. Bonnie Howard, 188 East Main street, was elected Emerald "Cover Girl" and candidate for the University of Oregon in the national collegiate bond queen contest. Virginia graduated from the Klamath Union high school in 1941 and is now a freshman at the university.

SKIP-A-YEAR TAXES CRITICIZED BY HOUSE

Report Sees Tough Fight Over Ruml Proposal

WASHINGTON, March 20 (AP)—The house ways and means committee, in a majority report outlining the administration's new tax collection plan, today sharply criticized the counter proposal for skipping 1942 levies as "like robbing Peter to pay a bonus to Paul."

"To forgive any taxpayer's one year's taxes means that the debt which he has already incurred and owes to the government must be borne by some other taxpayer, who may in some instances be less able to pay than the taxpayer whose (Continued on Page Four)

Jack Sorenson Gets Citation

Jack Wallace Sorenson of Klamath Falls, radloman third class, United States navy, was among the naval airmen to receive citations for bravery under fire and devotion to duty at ceremonies at the Whidby island air station, Washington, late Friday.

The citations were earned in aerial combat against the Japanese at Kiska harbor in the Aleutian islands.

The name of young Sorenson was not listed among those who have gone from Klamath Falls recruiting station, nor does his name appear on school records here.

Gen. Griswold Named Fort Lewis Chief

FORT LEWIS, March 20 (AP) Gen. O. W. Griswold has been named commander of the army ground forces at Fort Lewis, succeeding Maj. Gen. Charles H. White, who has been transferred to another station, it was announced today by Col. Ralph R. Glass, post commander.

RANDALL LEAVES
Two navy planes, piloted by Lieutenant Commander William Randall and an accompanying ensign, circled over town Saturday afternoon before taking off northward. They have been held here several days awaiting arrival of a tire for the plane piloted by Randall, former manager of the local airport.

Reds Struggle to Hold Defenses in Donets River Area

MOSCOW, March 20 (AP)—The red army still struggled today to hold its defense lines along the twisting northern Donets river east and southeast of Kharkov against the increasing number of German tanks, men and planes being poured into this area, many of them apparently being brought up through Kharkov.

Despite unfavorable weather conditions, however, the Russians said they had driven steadily forward in the offensive for Smolensk and had gained another town after vicious street fighting in the Staraya Russa area.

Dnieper River Clear
Dispatches to Pravda, the communist party newspaper, declared that advances along the Dnieper river front now had virtually cleared the enemy out of every sector along the river from its source down toward the Vyazma-Smolensk railway and that, driven westward, the Germans now were laying mines over a wide area to stem the red army push.

With spring mud bogging down the entire area, however, it was thought that soon only air forces would be able to function normally.

Thin Ice
The soviet noon communique did not disclose whether the Germans had been able to cross the upper Donets where the Russians still held some positions on the western shore. But as the red army continued its slaughter of German infantrymen and rapid-fire riflemen who charge across the thin ice of the still-frozen Donets, the Germans brought more and more men to the battle line, it was reported.

The German death toll was said to be mounting steadily. Both sides are aided in the night fighting by the present full moon.

At one unidentified place on the northern Donets, the Germans grouped 25 tanks with a large infantry unit to force the Russians to withdraw. The noon communique said that the soviet troops managed to re-form their lines and counterattack, hurling the nazis back to previous positions.

The midnight communique had acknowledged that two villages were lost to a numerically superior enemy force "at the cost of heavy losses."

Germans Repulsed
Southeast of Kharkov, the noon war bulletin said, the red army continued to repulse attacks of large forces of enemy tanks and infantry, attacking along the upper Donets river line.

More Russian successes were detailed in the drive for Staraya Russa with a company of German infantry exterminated, the communique said, in street battles that followed the storming of one settlement south of Lake Ilmen.

Angell Describes Bonneville for House Committee
WASHINGTON, March 20 (AP) Half the total electric power of the United States will be produced by the Bonneville and Grand Coulee dams on the Columbia river, Rep. Angell (R-Ore.) told the house appropriations committee during hearings on the war department civil functions bill.

Testimony on the hearing, made public yesterday, also disclosed that the army engineer corps had asked for an additional \$500,000 appropriation to complete work on the Bonneville dam this year.

The urgency for electric power necessitated a speedup in the building program, resulting in increased costs above the current \$4,168,000 Bonneville appropriation, the engineers explained.

Maj. Gen. Eugene Reybold, chief of the engineers, said earlier difficulties in securing labor and materials had been overcome since a "high priority rating" was assigned the project.

Angell told the committee that because of the priority delays work at Bonneville was 90 days behind schedule last July, but the time had been made up through bonuses and other inducements.

Gangster Ends Life by Suicide When Indicted
CHICAGO, March 20 (AP)—Death by suicide has ended Frank Nitti's gangster-studded career.

The chief of the Capone syndicate, ruler of the city's underworld and acknowledged "brains" of one of the nation's major gangs, shot and killed himself yesterday, only a few hours after he learned he was one of nine men indicted by a New York federal grand jury on charges of extortion.

Party Leader Dies



Frank O. Lowden, 82, World War governor of Illinois and leader of the republican party, died today in Tucson, Ariz.

FRANK O. LOWDEN DIES IN ARIZONA

Pneumonia Fatal to Aged Republican Leader

TUCSON, Ariz., March 20 (AP) Frank O. Lowden, 82 years old, World War governor of Illinois, died today at El Conquistador hotel where he was a winter visitor.

Tired and feeble when he arrived, the elder statesman of the republican party suffered an attack of pneumonia two weeks ago. He gradually grew worse until his death.

Sees Reporters
Lowden arrived here a few days before his 82nd birthday, January 26 intending to spend the remainder of the winter.

As soon as he had rested from the train trip, he agreed to see a reporter for the annual interview he had given The Associated Press in recent years.

He refused to comment on controversial questions regarding (Continued on Page Four)

German Agency Claims Russian City for Nazis

By The Associated Press
DNB, official German news agency, said in a broadcast recorded by The Associated Press today that Chuguev, 22 miles southeast of Kharkov in the Ukraine, "is firmly in German hands."

The town of Sevsk, 170 miles northwest of Kharkov, also was taken by storm, the agency declared.

The broadcast claimed that the Upper Donets had been crossed at several places and said the town of Tomarokva, about 15 miles northwest of Belgorod, had fallen to German arms.

"In the whole area west and northwest of Kursk the German march to the east is continuing," the agency declared.

Eden Focuses Attention on Soviet-American Relations

By WADE WERNER
WASHINGTON, March 20 (AP)—British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden's week of Washington conferences today appeared to have focused diplomatic attention on Soviet-American relations—with particular reference to the Anglo-Russian pact he negotiated last year.

The question generally posed is whether similar pacts—avoiding precise blueprint of post-war borders—are in the offing between all the western democracies and Russia.

Wallace Warning
Eden arrived here just after Vice President Wallace had warned that without a "satisfactory understanding" between the western democracies and Russia a third world war would be inevitable. With the diplomat was William Strang, assistant undersecretary of state

U. S. TROOPS ORGANIZE NEW BATTLE LINES

Rain, Sandstorms Bog Airfields, Halt Planes

By DANIEL DE LUCE
ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA, March 20 (AP)—American infantry and armor organized their positions at Gafsa and El Guejar, only 60 miles from Marshal Erwin Rommel's coastal road lifeline, and set the stage for what may be one of the biggest battles of the Tunisian campaign today.

A March downpour which turned the plains into sticky bogs too soft for tanks kept motionless, however, the forces of Lieut.-Gen. George S. Patton Jr., and dust storms at the southern end of the front where Gen. Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's eighth army was poised before the Mareth line held activities at a minimum there.

Continuing storms which turned northern airfields into sloppy strips and dust storms in the south also prevented the allied air forces, now welded into a mighty weapon under one commander and one headquarters, from striking the crushing blows of which they are capable.

No Enemy Planes
Such sweeps as were made in the north, today's allied headquarters communique said, were carried out by allied fliers without meeting a single enemy (Continued on Page Four)

Coal Operators Ponder Offer to Extend Contract

NEW YORK, March 20 (AP) Northern Appalachian Bituminous coal operators have sent a telegram to the White House, but a spokesman declined to say today whether an appeal had been made to President Roosevelt to intervene in negotiations here with the United Mine Workers for a new contract.

The negotiating committee of the United Mine Workers of America offered today to extend until May 1 negotiations for a new contract in the northern and southern Appalachian soft coal areas, provided any agreement reached would be retroactive to April 1.

The present contract expires March 31.

The proposal, signed by John L. Lewis, UMW president, was described by a union spokesman as a move to avert a stoppage of mining should no agreement be reached before March 31.

The northern and southern operators made no immediate reply to the proposal, and said (Continued on Page Four)

and one of Britain's foremost experts on Russia.

Immediate interest in the pact signed by Eden and soviet Foreign Minister Molotov 10 months ago was heightened by London commentators who suggested the former might find opportunity in Washington to promote closer relations between Russia and the United States.

Editorial Interpretation
Attracting even more diplomatic attention than Eden's subsequent conference here with soviet Ambassador Maxim Litvinoff was the delayed publication in the United States of a London Times editorial interpreting the "sense and significance of the Eden-Molotov treaty."

"The issue of security in Europe," said this week-old Times (Continued on Page Four)