

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

PRICE FIVE CENTS

LLS, OREGON, FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 1943

Number 9755

Weather News

March 25—High 64, Low 29
Precipitation as of March 19, 1943
Stream year to date 13.81
Last year 10.08 Normal 9.89

ALLIES LUNGE DEEP IN NAZI LINE

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

THERE isn't much war news today. We can't hope to get every detail of the fighting on every front—probably wouldn't read it if we did. We hear only of the more spectacular developments. There's nothing spectacularly new today.

THE Southern Tunisia hot spot remains unchanged in any material respect.

Montgomery gains some new ground against fierce enemy resistance at Mareth, where he is hitting the heavily-fortified German line head-on. His flanking column which went around the end and got in behind the German lines hasn't been heard from (in the news) for two days.

PATTON and his Americans are holding their positions at and a little beyond Maknassy, but the enemy still holds high ground on their flanks from which he must be driven before we can risk further advances.

THE allies (we and the British) seem to have superiority in the air.

The Germans are reported to be using their aircraft only in support of their ground operations whereas we're said in the dispatches to be able to support our ground forces fully while at the same time sparing planes for raids against ports and shipping.

BRITISH military observers in London (usually quite well informed) estimate today that in the Mareth-Gafsa-Gabes triangle (where the heavy Tunisian fighting is taking place) Rommel has in the neighborhood of 80,000 men, of whom slightly more than half are Germans.

THE Russian situation remains unchanged in its general pattern.

The Russians are still battering their way toward Smolensk, with slight gains reported. The Germans are still on the prod edge of Kharkov and after yesterday's comparative lull are said to be again throwing in fresh troops. The Russians say they are holding the line of the Donets at all points.

Fresh Russian activity in the Caucasus (in the Kuban valley) is reported again today.

WE'VE bombed Kiska 25 times this month—nearly once a day. After our brief glimpse of actual developments there the other day the censorship fogs have closed in again.

THERE'S nothing new from the Pacific—except speculative rumors that we may be preparing a new punch at the Japs. These rumors may be founded on fact, and may be intended to worry the Japs. You never can tell.

ON the home front, the battle for the BIG DOLLAR goes on more or less as usual.

The farm bloc, which, like Montgomery, had made a dent in the opposing line, loses some ground in a counter-attack. In the senate, the bill to include farm labor costs in the farm parity ceiling is sent back to the

Allied Vichy-French Residents Sent To Germany

BERN, Switzerland, March 26 (AP)—British and American men who had remained in the former Vichy-controlled part of France after the total occupation by German troops were reported today to have been taken to Germany.

The United States legation here said it had no confirmation of the report but said it had been notified that all British and American citizens in the area—men, women and children numbering some 3600—had been arrested.

U. S. Bombs Japs at Kiska



Fires in the Japanese installations at Kiska in the Aleutians sent columns of smoke high into the sky after a raid by U. S. bombers. Among targets hit was the Japs' secondary seaplane hangar. Note seaplanes and small boats on the water. U. S. army air forces photo.

RED ARMY PRESSES TOWARD SMOLENSK

Stiff Nazi Resistance Felt on Western Front

LONDON, March 26 (AP)—A Reuters report from Stockholm tonight said Russian tanks had entered Torogobuzh, 50 miles east of Smolensk.

By EDDY GILMORE
MOSCOW, March 26 (AP)—Before mounting German resistance, the red army steadily pressed on in one sector of the western front today and halted to consolidate its position in another, but the general pressure (Continued on Page Two)

Martin Claims Votes to Pass Ruml Tax Plan

WASHINGTON, March 26 (AP)—Republican Leader Martin of the house claimed definitely today, for the first time, enough votes for passage of the Ruml skip-a-year tax proposal, as debate on pay-as-you-go entered the second day.

Although Chairman Doughton (D-N.C.) of the ways and means committee, whose tax plans provide for no abatement of obligations, countered with a statement that "the Ruml plan is (Continued on Page Two)

Dust-Gathering Jap Farm Machinery Poses Problem

LOS ANGELES, March 26 (AP)—Gathering dust in southern California warehouses, an official of the war production board declares, are many Japanese-owned tractors, trucks and other farm machinery sorely needed on America's food production front.

How to get them out and put them to work? Burnette J. Daniels, regional WPB counsel, concedes this is a sizeable legal problem. But, he adds: "If the government can take the American farmers' sixth automobile tire, it should be able to take this unused, Japanese-owned farm machinery."

Contact Individuals Under existing laws, Daniels said in an interview yesterday, every Japanese who stored farm implements prior to evacu-

LAND ARMY TO SAVE NATION OF STARVING

President Plans to Increase Farm Production

WASHINGTON, March 26 (AP)—President Roosevelt told today of plans for a crop-cultivating land army under Food Administrator Chester C. Davis, an increase in the supply of farm machinery and the deferment of hundreds of thousands of farm workers, and emphatically concluded that we are not going to starve in this country.

Davis, operating virtually an autonomous agency, will take up immediately the question of forming the land army, he said. Mr. Roosevelt noted that he had heard all sorts of speeches and read headlines about food production falling off. But he also has seen interesting figures, he said, on the estimated acreage being planted for food crops, with nearly all showing an increase.

Farmers Deferred At the same time, the chief executive told a press conference that 550,000 farm workers already had been deferred from military service and that Selective Service Director Lewis B. Hershey estimates that 3,000,000 additional people on the farms would be deferred this year.

In a lengthy discussion of farm problems, Mr. Roosevelt also said that the war production board has taken steps to insure a greater supply of farm machinery to those who till the land. Manufacture Okehed Not only will some of the larger manufacturers be allowed to (Continued on page two)

Allies Smash Important Jap Field in Burma

NEW DELHI, March 26 (AP)—Heavy American aerial blows in two days of raiding against the Japanese in Burma were announced today in a communique of the 10th U. S. air force, including "a highly successful operation" against the key airfield at Meiktila.

"This is one of the most important Japanese airdromes in Burma," the war bulletin said, "and has been used in the past as a forward base from which to attack allied installations in Assam."

Hits Noted "All our bombs fell in the target area and there were many hits on barracks as well as on other buildings at the field. One twin-engine Japanese bomber was destroyed on the ground."

That attack, which was carried out Tuesday by medium bombers, also extended to the warehouse and storage district of Meiktila and the railroad there. "Many fires were started," the communique said.

Zero-type fighters attempting to intercept the formation were driven off and two were probably damaged. The following day medium and heavy bombers raided railroad yards at Maymyo, a rail bridge near Mandalay and Myitnge bridge.

Government Ceiling Prices on Meats Here for Duration

WASHINGTON, March 26 (AP)—Price Administrator Prentiss Brown said today that, as far as he is concerned, government ceilings on retail prices of meat and other foods are here for the duration.

In an interview, Brown said the question of retail price maximums on meat had been confused in some quarters with discussions whether OPA would put similar ceilings on prices of live hogs. The hog ceiling proposal, he said, is still under consideration but has nothing to do, in his opinion, with retail ceilings.

Ambulance Keys Turned Over by Elks



The local unit of the Oregon Women's Ambulance corps was formally presented with a new, modern ambulance last night by Klamath Falls lodge, B. P. O. Elks. In the picture, left to right, E. B. Hall, trustee of the Elks lodge; Captain Kathleen Livingston of the ambulance corps, receiving keys from Exalted Ruler Frank Peyton of the Elks, and, at right, Major Helen Rinaudo, Portland, high officer of the OWAC. Story on page two.

MORRISON-KNUDSEN STARTS TRACK WORK

Southern Pacific Gets Company to Repair Right-of-Way

Morrison-Knudsen company, big contracting firm, is preparing to start extensive track and right-of-way conditioning work for the Southern Pacific in this area, it was learned Friday.

Activities of representatives of the contractors may be responsible for many of the rumors concerning a mythical navy base on Upper Klamath lake. It has been reported that M-K agents have inquired about both office space and purchase of some equipment, such as trucks, giving rise to speculation as to whether this firm was to be active in a base construction.

The M-K contract work for the railroad, it was learned, will include ballast and other conditioning work, found necessary by the Southern Pacific because of the heavy volume of travel now using the rails on the main line through here. This work will be in addition to the railroad's regular maintenance program.

M-K company has been doing work of this nature in the high Cascades on the line between here and Eugene.

Senate Seizes Middle Road on Inflation Bills

By JACK BELL
WASHINGTON, March 26 (AP)—The senate took a compromise course in the battle over inflation control today. It sent to the White House one administration-opposed measure to boost farmers' income but returned to committee another which would increase parity price ceilings.

A coalition of administration democrats and republicans split the farm bloc wide open to halt consideration of a house-approved bill which Price Administrator Prentiss M. Brown charged would boost food prices 104 per cent and add \$2,333,000 to the cost of living.

Returned to Ag. Men This measure, requiring the inclusion of all farm labor costs in calculating parity, was returned to the agriculture committee for further study on an unexpected (Continued on Page Two)

Russia, Japan Sign Year Extension to Fishing Pact

MOSCOW, March 26 (AP)—In an agreement signed at Kulbyshev, Russia has given Japan a one-year extension of fishing privileges which the Japanese have enjoyed in certain soviet far eastern waters since 1923.

The government newspaper Izvestia, which announced the signing, said the agreement was initiated yesterday by soviet Vice Commissar for Foreign Affairs S. A. Lozovsky and Japanese Ambassador Naotake Sato.

The fisheries protocol, originally signed 20 years ago, was renewed in 1928. It expired in 1956 and has not been renewed since then, but the convention is prolonged each year on the basis of the original agreement.

Agreement Same The agreement this year is virtually the same as in previous years except that the rentals which the Japanese must pay are increased by five per cent. Last year when the protocol was extended the rate went up by four per cent.

At the same time of signing last year, British and American officials attached no particular significance to it although Japan was at war with the two allies of Russia. A failure to reach agreement, however, might have been regarded as indicating a deterioration of Soviet-Japanese relations.

Enemy Blasted By MacArthur's Heavy Bombers

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN AUSTRALIA, March 26 (AP)—Japanese bases 1700 miles apart in the island arc above Australia were blasted by General Douglas MacArthur's bombers yesterday, with Ambolna, 600 miles northwest of Darwin, hit hard in one raid and Rabaul smashed heavily for the second time this week.

An allied communique said that quarter-ton bombs hit directly on two enemy cargo vessels, one of 8000 tons and one of 6000 tons, in Ambolna harbor, and that flames shot up from wharf areas.

Former Dutch Base Ambolna formerly was a Dutch naval base and now is one of the Japanese strongholds menacing Australia. For two hours before dawn yesterday, the war bulletin said, allied heavy bombers ranged over Rabaul, the enemy's northern New Britain island naval and air base, starting fires and causing heavy explosions with bombs weighing up to a ton.

Anti-Strike Agreement Not Binding, Says Lewis

WASHINGTON, March 26 (AP)—John L. Lewis told the Truman committee today that an anti-strike agreement concluded in December, 1941, was "not necessarily binding."

The United Mine Workers chieftain said that was his opinion because "it has been breached by the government itself." Asked for amplification, Lewis said he believed the war labor board breached the agreement "when it set up the arbitrary Little Steel formula."

Organized labor and industry entered into the agreement shortly after the Peart Harbor attack, pledging no strikes or lockouts for the duration. The Little Steel formula, evolved last July, provides that wages may rise not more than 15 per cent above their January 1, 1941 level to compensate for added living costs.

"Are you trying to say the miners will strike if they don't get the terms they want?" asked Senator Ferguson (R-Mich.). "The answer is no," Lewis replied. "I never said anything about striking. I join with the committee and all Americans in hoping that no work stoppage will be necessary."

Not Binding Then he added the no-strike agreement was "not necessarily binding" and declared "one can always elect to decide how long he will bear an injustice." He also repeated a recent statement that in the absence of a negotiated contract, the United Mine Workers "would not be guilty of trespassing on a mine corporation's property."

Lewis said he found himself in a dilemma in his current negotiations for a \$2 a day wage increase for UMW members. First, he said, the fifth circuit (Continued on Page Two)

EIGHTH ARMY CLIMBS HILLS ABOVE GABES

Patton's Tanks Pinch Escape Corridor Of Rommel

LONDON, March 26 (AP)—Gen. Charles de Gaulle pledged tonight that he and Gen. Henri Giraud would insure a fighting union of all French forces and end all doubts and rancor at a forthcoming meeting in North Africa.

"I am going very shortly to North Africa," he said in a French broadcast over the British radio. "... I shall see General Giraud, a great soldier and a noble figure."

By ROGER GREENE
Associated Press War Editor
British 8th army assault troops, rallying from their initial setback, were reported lunging deeper into the Mareth line in southern Tunisia today, while other British forces were credited by the Algiers radio with seizing a key hilltop "near El Hamma," 20 miles west of Gabes.

An Algiers broadcast said the British had completed occupation of a height "overlooking the whole of the Gabes plain" after beating off axis counterattacks. Gabes itself lies 20 miles north of the Mareth line.

Americans Strong To the northwest, American troops were reported holding strong mountain positions after a 10-mile advance from the El Gueatair oasis on the road to Gabes from Gafsa.

Frontline dispatches said the AEF contingent repulsed a German infantry attack and now commanded the Djebel Berda Heights at the south side of El Gueatair pass, 20 miles southeast of Gafsa.

Farther north, the left flank (Continued on Page Two)

Frey Advocates Suspension of Labor Relations

WASHINGTON, March 26 (AP)—John P. Frey, AFL metal trades president, told the senate war investigating committee today he advocated suspension of the Wagner labor relations act for the duration.

"I am of the opinion that nothing would be more advantageous to the production of war materials than to suspend all operations under the Wagner labor relations act for the remainder of the emergency," Frey told the senate war investigating committee.

He contended that representatives of the NLRB, which handles collective bargaining matters, "encouraged and assisted" CIO unions in raiding memberships of AFL unions in west coast shipyards.

Then he added the no-strike agreement was "not necessarily binding" and declared "one can always elect to decide how long he will bear an injustice." He also repeated a recent statement that in the absence of a negotiated contract, the United Mine Workers "would not be guilty of trespassing on a mine corporation's property."

Lewis said he found himself in a dilemma in his current negotiations for a \$2 a day wage increase for UMW members. First, he said, the fifth circuit (Continued on Page Two)