

NEW OFFENSE PREPARED ON REICH

The Herald and News

In The Shasta-Cascade Wonderland

PRICE FIVE CENTS

KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 1945

Number 10377

Weather News
 January 31, 1945
 Max. (Jan. 30) 39. Min. 33
 Precipitation last 24 hours .03
 Stream year to date 6.56
 Normal 6.55 Last year 4.98
 Forecast: Snow.

1ST ARMY MEN STORM ACROSS NAZI BORDER

Germans Report Shift In Troops for New Drive

PARIS, Jan. 31 (AP)—White-clad infantry of the American first army stormed across the snowdrifted German border at two new places today and Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' artillery started pouring shells into the main concrete works of the thinly held Siegfried line.

All along a 35-mile assault front from below St. Vith to the Roer river northeast of Monchau, the first and third armies had a full scale assault underway with gains which carried the first to the ramparts of the west wall and broadened the third army's foothold inside Germany to five miles.

The next few hours, it was believed at supreme headquarters, might begin to show whether even with additional cold and delaying drifts, the Germans would be able to hold their fortifications with the force they left behind in their drainout to bolster the swaying eastern front.

Shifts Troops (The Germans said Gen. Eisenhower was shifting his troops in preparation for an all-out offensive and had massed 60 divisions, nearly half of them armored, for the attack. They called the Monchau drive "allied preparation to gain offensive bases.")

Bucking snow and slush third (Continued on Page Three)

VAST CONTROL SEEN IN COMMERCE POST

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31 (AP)—Potentially "vast political control" is vested in the cabinet post for which Henry A. Wallace has been nominated, a senate committee said today.

Reporting on a measure to split up the powers formerly held by Jesse Jones as secretary of commerce, by divesting the post of its lending agencies, the committee said:

"The man who has charge of these agencies could so administer those powers as to determine the economic direction of the country, and with that, its social and political character."

Delivers Rejection Along with the report, the commerce committee formally delivered to the senate its refusal to approve President Roosevelt's appointment of Wallace to succeed Jones. The president had asked Jones to step aside so Wallace could have his job.

The formal reports on both the nomination and the George bill to separate the RFC and other lending agencies from the commerce department will permit the senate to take up the controversy tomorrow.

Split Indicated Indications were that the issue is engendering the biggest democratic split since the 1937 court fight.

Stripped of its window dressing, the battle is fundamentally one between those who regard (Continued on Page Three)

Eighth Army Invades Luzon Above Manila

Reds Push to 68 Miles of Berlin

By JAMES F. KING

LONDON, Jan. 31 (AP)—Marshal Gregory Zhukov's troops today captured Landsberg 68 miles east of Berlin, Marshal Stalin announced tonight, and Berlin broadcasts said the red army had plunged to towns only 58 and 62 miles from the reich's capital.

Landsberg, great rail and road hub on the Berlin-Danzig rail line, was conquered along with the strong points of Meseritz, Schwiebus and Zullichau to the southeast as Zhukov's forces broke through the German defense guarding Frankfurt on the Oder river 39 miles from Berlin.

German broadcasts said soviet columns had speared to Soldin, 58 miles from Berlin, and to Zielenzig, 62 miles from Germany's queen city. These would represent gains north and south beyond Landsberg by columns 35 miles apart. Zielenzig is only 55 miles from the suburbs included in greater Berlin.

A later German broadcast indicated the first Ukrainian army to the south may have speared within 85 miles of Berlin on the southeast and 30 miles beyond the Oder in that area for the deepest penetration of Germany.

It declared the front in Silesia had been stabilized "on a line from Sorau through Breslau to Bielsko" in Poland.

If Marshal Ivan Konev's men have driven to Sorau, they are 45 miles inside Germany and 58 southeast of Frankfurt. Stalin's order of the day showed that Zhukov was beating into Germany on the direct route to Berlin along a 50-mile-wide front.

Heavy armored battles were reported on the snow-drifted fields near the Oder. Meseritz is 24 miles southeast of Landsberg, Schwiebus is another 13 miles farther south, and Zullichau 11 miles still farther south. Zullichau, only four miles from the Oder river at one of its great bends, is 89 miles from Berlin.

The Oder curves within 40 miles of Berlin, and the German accounts placed Russian tank columns within 20 miles of the great river at that bulge near the Nazi capital.

Community problem, the chamber directors authorized employment of technical help and other steps in the preparation of data to be presented at a hearing on February 20 on the proposed diversion of Klamath waters to the Sacramento river watershed.

Action on the traffic bureau question came after a report by George P. Davis, chairman of the chamber's rates committee. He said the group had come to the conclusion that effective freight rate studies and rate work in behalf of this community and the surrounding area must be handled by a bureau set up for that purpose. Business men burdened with other work cannot hope to go into this technical problem deeply enough to get effective results, he said. He stated he believed the project would be of such wide benefit that it would receive support from private interests, but that a nucleus of financial aid should be built up through the chamber and from tax sources.

Year's Work Urged He suggested that one year's work should prove whether the bureau would be of sufficient value for continuance. The directors voted to adopt the traffic bureau plan in principle, and directed the president, secretary, rates committee, industrial development committee and finance committee to determine to what extent the chamber could contribute to the financing program. It was indicated that several thousand dollars would be needed from private sources after a nucleus is established.

Richard Henzel gave a report (Continued on Page Three)

Remove Controversy The two amendments removed virtually all the controversy from the legislation, designed to require men between 18 and 45 to work in essential jobs under threat of induction, fine or imprisonment. The taller one is subject to a possible roll call vote later.

The "anti-closed shop" amendment, offered by Rep. Wadsworth (R-N. Y.), provided that no man taking a job in accordance with the bill's provision should be required, as a condition of employment, to join a union.

Vote Likely It would have permitted a man assigned to a "closed shop" to go there without joining a union. It further stipulated that the pending legislation should not interfere with existing wage, hour and collective bargaining laws. A roll-call vote on the (Continued on Page Three)

Midwest Shivers With Cold Wave

By The Associated Press Bitter cold kept the midwest shivering today and Chicago weather forecasters said the outlook was for fair and continued cold for at least another 24 hours.

The mercury dropped as low as 20 below zero at St. Cloud, Minn. Lone Rock, Wis., reported 19 below and Rochester, Minn., 18 below. The subzero minimums extend through the Dakotas, Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin to central Illinois and Indiana, Chicago had 4 below.

Less intense cold swept into the lower Mississippi valley and central gulf states. Vicksburg, Miss., reported a low of 19 above zero; Birmingham, Ala., and Atlanta, Ga., 21. It was in the 30s in northern Florida.

War Bulletin

LONDON, Jan. 31 (AP)—The first White Russian army thrust within 63 miles of Berlin today with the capture of Byersdorf, five miles west of Landsberg, which was taken earlier in the day, the nightly communique broadcast from Moscow announced.

As has been customary, the distance from Berlin disclosed by Moscow was much more conservative than reports from the Nazis themselves. Earlier tonight the German radio indicated the red army was battling in the Oder river valley north of Frankfurt not more than 45 miles from the German capital.

Pilot Really Up a Tree



Falling to clear the tree tops in an attempted jungle landing in Central Burma, this tiny liaison plane wound up locked in the branches of this huge tree. With ropes and ladders, rescuers freed the pilot and three infantrymen passengers who escaped uninjured.

Sixteen Babies, Woman Die In Fire at Boarding House

AUBURN, Me., Jan. 31 (AP)—Sixteen young children and a woman, trapped after an exploding stove sent flames raging through a wooden boarding home for war and factory workers' babies, were suffocated or burned to death today.

Most of the victims ranged in age from three months to three years. They died in their cribs— their heads thrust through the spaces between the slats in their futile struggle to escape. Only eight of the 25 occupants were able to flee the fast-spreading flames that swept the interior of the converted farmhouse.

"No More Babies" One of them was Mrs. Eva Lacoste, operator of the home, who sobbed "We don't have any more babies," as she told of trying to flee from the burning building with two cribs, of falling, and losing the babies in the fire.

"I had them in my arms, I lost them when I fell down," Mrs. Lacoste cried after telling Dr. Frederick W. Caron, her physician, how a stove had exploded. Mrs. Lacoste related that she fell at the front door of the home and stumbled out into the snow-filled yard. She was badly burned on both arms.

Find Remains Firemen later found the remains of the two cribs and the bodies of the babies at the door entrance. Word spread through Auburn of the fire and hysterical women factory workers rushed to the new Auburn section where the home was located to learn the fate of their babies.

One mother had placed her eight-month old twins in the home only last night. Fire Chief Ralph Harnden, who, with firemen, stood helplessly as sheets of flame barred them from the building, said that a heart-rending spectacle awaited them when they finally were able to enter.

Sixteen bodies were found and one by one identified. He said it was "a terrific sight" when he and his men finally battled their way to where the children had been quartered. "We found many of them with their heads through the slats of their cribs, where they apparently tried to escape," he added. "I carried out six of them myself, in blankets."

The boarding home formerly was a farm. It consisted of a one and a half story main building, an "el" and a barn.

Health Writer Found Dead in Bed

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 31 (AP)—Dr. Logan Clendening, nationally known writer on health matters, was found dead in his home this afternoon with his throat slashed, and the coroner reported he apparently died about midnight last night. Clendening was 60 years old.

The body was discovered sprawled across a bed in the Clendening home in the fashionable country club district of southwest Kansas City shortly after noon.

Clendening's column, long syndicated nationally, was called "Diet and Health."

Wesley Hetrick Killed in Action

PFC Wesley Hetrick, 34, former Klamath Falls resident, was killed in action in Italy September 15, 1944, according to word received here by friends.

Hetrick was with the 133rd infantry of the United States army and made his home in this city for one and one-half years prior to entering the service.

Freight Rate Study Favored By C of C

Klamath chamber of commerce directors went on record today in favor of establishment of a traffic freight rate bureau here, authorizing an investigation of possible methods of financing the project for at least one year. Purpose of the bureau would be to study freight rates affecting this area and to battle for favorable adjustments.

SOME NAZIS READY TO QUIT, REPORT

LONDON, Jan. 31 (AP)—Some Germans are ready to surrender, the Berlin radio said today, but declared that "those cowardly creatures who try to desert the fatherland in its hour of need are relatively few among our people."

"Germany will fight on no matter where or under what conditions," the broadcast added, as other German radio reports told of millions of refugees fleeing toward Berlin from areas directly threatened by the surging Russian advance.

Clear Roads One transmission by Transoceanic Nazi news agency, said 5,000,000 Germans were trucking westward from the threatened areas, some of them in columns more than 35 miles long. Another appealed to German women and children to help clear the roads of snow and ice for the reinforcements moving up to the eastern front.

"Remove all obstacles from their path," said the appeal, addressed to civilians in eastern Germany. "Strew sand and ashes (Continued on Page Three)

Investigation Approved By Senate After Debate

PAUL W. HARVEY JR., OREGONIAN, Jan. 31 (AP)—The Oregonian after an hour's hot debate passed 19 to 10 and sent to today the bill appropriating \$25,000 for expenses of the legislative committee to investigate the 1943 purchases by the state commission.

Opponents of the appropriation said the investigation is unnecessary, and that the funds take old-age pension repayment from the people.

Frederick S. Lamport, Republican, opened the debate in a charge that "this investigation will come to naught," and "be a waste of money."

After opponents of the bill said the old already had been audited, Sen. E. R. Fatland, Condon republican, pointed out the auditors were on the state payroll, and added an independent auditor is needed.

A motion by Sen. Rex Ellis, Pendleton republican, to send the bill to the senate's alcohol committee for investigation failed 18 to 11.

"Political Jitters" Sen. Thomas R. Mahoney, Portland democrat, said "Governor Snell has an acute case of political jitters," while Sen. W. H. Strayer, Baker democrat, said the old-age pensioners would be deprived of \$80,000, not \$25,000, because of matching federal moneys which would be lost.

Supporters of the bill, most of whom said they had no evidence the liquor commission acted illegally, said the investigation should be held to clear the commission.

MANPOWER CLAUSES REMOVED FROM BILL

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31 (AP)—In rapid order, the house today rejected controversial "anti-closed shop" and fair employment practices amendments to pending manpower utilization legislation.

The "anti-closed shop" amendment was snuffed under by a teller vote of 178 to 142. A standing vote of 148 to 113 defeated an amendment to give statutory backing to the program of the president's fair employment practices committee set up to discourage discrimination in employment because of race, creed or color.

Remove Controversy The two amendments removed virtually all the controversy from the legislation, designed to require men between 18 and 45 to work in essential jobs under threat of induction, fine or imprisonment.

The taller one is subject to a possible roll call vote later.

The "anti-closed shop" amendment, offered by Rep. Wadsworth (R-N. Y.), provided that no man taking a job in accordance with the bill's provision should be required, as a condition of employment, to join a union.

Vote Likely It would have permitted a man assigned to a "closed shop" to go there without joining a union. It further stipulated that the pending legislation should not interfere with existing wage, hour and collective bargaining laws. A roll-call vote on the (Continued on Page Three)

Grand Jury Returns True Bills, Secret Indictments

Three true bills and three secret indictments were returned by the Klamath county grand jury Wednesday afternoon in a partial report to Circuit Judge David R. Vandenberg. Judge Vandenberg set Monday at 11 a. m. as the time for arraignment of all persons under indictment by the jury, which includes former Police Chief Earl Heuvel, accused of contributing to the delinquency of a minor girl. Heuvel has not yet been found by officers seeking to arrest him on a warrant issued by the court.

Indictments returned Wednesday include: Robert J. Baker, charged with larceny by embezzlement, in connection with the alleged embezzlement of \$283 from Thomas R. Beam, proprietor of the Malin hotel.

Clarence Thompson, charged with being an accessory to a felony, in connection with the Baker-Beam case.

Glenn Edward DeHart, charged with larceny of an automobile belonging to Einar Engen.

Previously, the grand jury had returned three secret indictments and one true bill—the Heuvel indictment. That makes a total of six secret indictments and four true bills returned by the jury in the past few days. The jurors will return for further deliberations on February 13.