

425,007 WAR CASUALTIES ON WEST FRONT

WASHINGTON, March 15 (AP)—Army ground force casualties on the western front from D-day last June to March 1 total 425,007, Secretary of War Stimson reported today.

Of that figure, he said, 34,468 represented casualties during the month of February. He noted that the February losses were substantially lower than in January when 61,982 casualties were reported. In December the losses amounted to 74,788.

Stimson gave the western front tallies in reporting that army casualties in all theaters reached 748,457 on the basis of individual names compiled in Washington through March 7. Added to navy losses of 91,132, this placed aggregate casualties since Pearl Harbor at 839,589, an increase of 15,957 over last week's report.

The secretary said that in February on the western front 4145 were killed, 26,438 wounded and 3887 reported missing. The classification of army casualties in all theaters since Pearl Harbor and corresponding figures for the previous week follow:

Killed, 145,733 and 142,285; wounded, 450,766 and 438,734; missing, 89,656 and 91,237, and prisoners, 62,302 and 60,666. Of the wounded, 228,502, or more than half, have returned to duty.

Similar figures for the navy: Killed, 34,938 and 34,513; wounded, 41,443 and 41,209; missing, 10,438 and 10,671, and prisoners, 4268 and 4317.

In discussing the campaign on Luzon and Leyte, Stimson said the Japanese counted killed there now numbered 150,278, and the captured 1516. In addition, he said, thousands have been killed or drowned on transports.

By contrast, he added, our dead and missing total 7243 of whom 6889 were killed. In addition, 23,978 Americans were wounded, putting total casualties at 31,221.

RED CROSS DANCE AT FT. KLAMATH

The dance held Saturday night to raise funds for the Red Cross war fund drive was a financial and social success, a large crowd attending from neighboring points as well as Fort Klamath. The affair was held in the C. I. clubhouse, and in this connection, a correction is in order on a previous erroneous item stating that the dance was being sponsored by the C. I. club. The Red Cross drive committee, consisting of Hansford T. Williams and Mrs. Guss A. Page, acted as sponsors of the dance.

Dancing was enjoyed until 12 o'clock, when pies and cakes brought by women attending the dance were sold, and refreshments served to the large crowd.

Mrs. Fred Zumbun and Guss A. Page are assisting the local committee in the drive for funds, and donations are coming in very well, it is reported.

The committee, Hansford T. Williams and Mrs. Guss Page, wishes to take this means of thanking the community as a whole for cooperation in its efforts, and of hoping that the committee next year gets the same splendid assistance.

Court Rules Mules Entitled to Buck

LOS ANGELES, March 15 (AP)—The U. S. circuit court of appeals here has ruled that a mule is not entitled to one buck. (You know, the kind where it throws its rider.)

U. S. Judge Leon R. Yankwich had held that a mule owned by the Fred Harvey company was entitled to one buck when it threw Elmer H. Mateas on a sightseeing tour of the Grand Canyon. Judge Yankwich dismissed Mateas' \$7000 damage suit.

The circuit court set aside the dismissal.

CLOCK OF FLOWERS
Linnaeus, the Swedish botanist, devised a flower clock, basing it on the habit of various flowers closing their petals at the same time every day. Different flowers were used for each hour.

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Reunion in Shoondyko



Everybody's happy as Mr. and Mrs. Marten Zooneville welcome to their home near Shoondyko, Holland, the granddaughter they haven't seen since 1921. She is WAC Pfc. Neeltje Zooneville, whose parents took her to Sodus, N. Y., when she was 16 months old. She grew up there and now is serving with the USAAF 9th Bombardment division.

Oregon Farmers Lauded by Agriculture Department

WASHINGTON, March 15 (AP)—Oregon farmers were lauded by the agriculture department for practicing soil conservation even while raising one of their largest crops.

G. F. Geissler, western division director of the agricultural adjustment agency, reported to Rep. Stockman (R-Ore.) that Oregon farmers last year received about \$4,000,000 in government assistance for soil conservation and that considerably more of this work probably could have been done if more federal assistance had been available. The Oregon farmers received \$2,358,000 for this purpose the previous year.

"This seems convincing evidence that your farmers are aware of the importance of soil and water conservation," Geissler wrote.

Oregon farmers have been

asked by the agriculture department to increase production of corn, oats, clover seeds and three varieties of legume seeds. Reductions are proposed for barley, wheat, dry peas, Irish potatoes, hairy vetch seed.

The government also asks an increased production of sheep and lambs, a reduction in cattle and calves and in numbers of sows farrowed this spring.

The 1944 production, Geissler said, "shows a real contribution to the war food effort." He cited dry pea production as an example of the manner in which Oregon farmers shifted to war needs. Last year's 575,000 100-pound bags compared with a pre-war average (1937-41) of 61,000 bags. But the government wants only 30,000 acres planted to peas this year compared to 52,000 last year.

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"The 1945 production effort asked of your farmers," Geissler wrote, "totals about the same as the large assignment that was carried through so successfully in 1944. However, it is a considerably bigger job since the complications of another year of war have been added to the many production obstacles which were overcome in 1944. Farmers generally are aware that the obstacles facing them very likely will make the job the most difficult of war... It courage, ingenuity and extra effort will get the job done, I am confident that Oregon will turn in a fine production job in 1945."

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