Herald and News

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Today's Roundup

By MALCOLM EPLEY

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SMOKE drifts over the mountains from the great Wilson river fire, which has covered an area about as large as the Klamath irrigation district.

EPLEY

We hear of the terrible devastation of vegetation, which can best be realized by persons who travelled through the Tillamook burn in the same northwestern Oregon area in the early 'thirties.

With it all comes a definite sense of loss to those who love the woods and the open country of Oregon.

The Wilson river fire is a long way from Klamath Falls. We do not get any logs from there. Few if any local people seek recreation in that area. But that is part of our Oregon country. It is an area that has contributed to the happiness and prosperity of many Oregon people. Its blackened acres will be a blow to the prestige of Oregon as a green country with great recreational opportunities.

A great fire in Oregon timber damages all Oregon, and from this conflagration must be salvaged a determination to prevent such devastation elsewhere in our region. It dramatizes the lesson of fire prevention in a way that can't be done in editorials or by word of mouth.

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Hazards

A HAZARDOUS condition exists on the Klamath naval air station access road at its intersection with the Great Northern tracks.

One sailor has been killed there, and there have been a number of accidents, chiefly at night.

We are told that a sign on the highway, warning of an approach to a railroad grade crossing, was knocked down in one accident and never has been replaced. A man stationed at the air station reports this sign is lying in the ditch.

Replacement of the sign would seem to be a simple precaution that should be taken immediately by the proper authorities. But it seems to us that a wig-wag or other light signal should be established at this crossing to make it still safer.

Another crossing that has long needed such a safety device is that at Hager where the Merrill highway crosses the O. C. and E. This is an extremely dangerous crossing at night, and only by a lighted signal can the danger be appreciably reduced.

These needs have been mentioned before. We think the railroads should do something about them.

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Briefs From The Pocket File

IN the mail is a letter from Frankie Calise, former Merrill boy now in the army in the Philippines, telling us about the terrible wreckage at Manila . . . "If the American people could see it they would know what sacrifice really means," he says . . . Gib Fleet's fine picture on our Page One the other day, showing a branding scene on the Obenchain ranch near Bly, has attracted outside attention . . . An outdoor magazine writes us it would like to use it . . . Some one has been poisoning dogs in the vicinity of California and Conger avenues . . . A heavy penalty awaits the guilty if caught, we are sure . . . Our paper yesterday said that an accident knocked down a tree in the yard of Mrs. P. G. Smith at California and Conger . . . That's right, there's also a Mr. P. G. Smith, who happens to be a sergeant in the marine corps, a member of a family prominent in radio and movie circles, and a nice guy . . . He lives there, too.

The War Today

By DeWITT MacKENZIE
Associated Press Foreign Affairs Analyst

THE Chungking National Herald, which speaks for the Chinese foreign office, has come out in support of the proposal by the people's political council that the allies hang Emperor Hirohito of Japan as a war criminal.

"Let him be hanged with the rest of the gang," exclaims the newspaper.

Well, it's easy to understand this feeling, after all that China has suffered at the hands of her barbaric neighbors. And the Chinese aren't the only people who have a long account to settle with the Japs. However, one questions whether we should be wise to hang the mikado and, that being so, whether it is discreet to advocate it in advance of an allied decision. Such a proposal, coming from Chungking, can only have the effect of making the Nipponese fight harder and longer at this critical juncture.

The argument for executing the mikado is that Japanese militarism is built about him as God-emperor. It's said, and rightly, that it is because his subjects regard him as divine that they fight so fanatically for him.

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Mikado Is Tool

HOWEVER, it's one thing to say Hirohito is the symbol about which the people rally, and quite another to credit him with being the real head of the government or of the militaristic machine. There's some doubt whether he knows exactly what it's all about. In any event, he is being used as a tool by the militarists.

It can be argued, of course, that a religion like Shinto (the way of the gods), which lends itself to the machinations of the war-lords, is better smashed. Still, it is fairly obvious that if we did hang the emperor and did try to destroy the religion, we should be creating chaos in Japan, and therefore should be undertaking a dangerous experiment.

For this reason—and not because of any regard for Hirohito or his religion—many observers feel that the allies should proceed circumspectly. At any rate, before advertising the hanging they should have made up their minds definitely that they are going to carry it out, and risk prolonging the war. Here it should be added—and this is important, I believe—that decision not to hang the emperor wouldn't preclude forcing him to give up his throne to a more suitable incumbent.

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Japan Question

WORD from Potsdam is that President Truman reportedly is trying to clear the way for concentration of the Big Three on the war against Japan, and observers are watching intently to see what steps the trio may take to expedite unconditional surrender. Mr. Truman is said to maintain that the saving of American lives is of paramount importance to the American government. So one would think that the question of unconditional surrender would take precedence over the hanging of the uncaught mikado.

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Russia Could Help

PURELY as a matter of speculation, it seems clear that should Russia come into the war, it would greatly shorten the conflict. One of the prime reasons, as I see it, is that the allies could render Manchuria impotent rather quickly by striking from soviet soil. Many of Japan's war industries are in Manchuria, and if these were destroyed both Nippon and her big war-machine on the continent would be in a bad way.

If the Russians do enter the war, they may in due course invade Manchuria with their armies, unless Japan surrenders. However, unless the Muscovites struck quickly they might have to postpone the operation, since there are only about six weeks before bad weather blankets Manchuria and turns the terrain into a mud field which renders movement difficult. Then the ground won't tighten up until about November.

SIDE GLANCES

"I wish he'd write more clearly—I can't make out whether it says 'heartache' or 'heartburn'!"

100 EVACUATED FROM TOWN IN FLAME'S PATH

(Continued from Page One)

mild southwest wind continued to drive the flames, which already have blackened 55 square miles, toward the northeast.

The timber company mill, partly lighted by fire outlining the hills less than half a mile away, operated at full blast throughout the night to send as much lumber as possible through the planer. Mill hands kept fire hoses playing over lumber stacked on the loading docks awaiting shipment.

Soldiers Join Fight

Three hundred more soldiers—100 each from Fort Lewis and Vancouver Barracks, Wash., and Fort Stevens, Ore.—joined the nearly 2000 civilian and servicemen fire fighters. Trucks crammed with G. I.'s, red-eyed from lack of sleep, continued to roll toward the fire line.

A refugee camp was set up at Balm Grove, south of Gales creek. Farmers further down the valley from Glenwood gazed apprehensively at the sky and some loaded belongings into trucks, ready for evacuation.

The humidity reading at Glenwood was 40-45 yesterday — a slight improvement. Forestry officials still could not explain the origin of the disastrous fire.

Willamette Valley Lumber company officials here said the burned camp was one no longer in use. The present Black Rock camp was evacuated during the night as flames approached; but trenches bulldozed around the camp held the fire away.

Residents of the rural pioneer district in Polk county prepared for possible evacuation this afternoon as the blaze began gaining headway.

A group of the 300 fire fighters, forced to flee from their lines, called for reinforcements. The blaze, partly on cutover land and partly on green timber, was about 12 miles from the city of Dallas.

Smoke 20,000 Feet High

The state forestry department reported that smoke from the vast blaze was billowing 20,000 feet in the air, and said it had no hope of controlling it unless the weather changed.

The Salmonberry creek fire, a few miles to the north, took a sudden leap to the west, covering an additional 3000 acres. The fire, which already had spread over 3000 acres, was believed under control early this week. It was burning mostly through logged-off land, although 1000 acres of green timber had been killed.

The 6000-acre Polk county blaze, so far confined to logged-off land but threatening a vast stand of green timber, destroyed the Willamette Valley Lumber company camp at 1 a. m. today. About 3,000,000 feet of logs at the camp were destroyed, the logs valued at $30,000.

ABERDEEN, Wash. July 20 (AP) Fire in the North river country which raged through more than 2000 acres of slash, burning logging equipment and some green timber was still out of control this morning, though it had calmed down to some extent due to a high humidity, state fire officials said.

Oregon Senators Vote For Charter

PORTLAND, July 20 (AP)—Oregon's senators, Wayne Morse and Guy Cordon, have sent word they will vote for ratification of the world security charter with no reservations.

Morse said the charter was "deserving of the unanimous vote of the senate."

Although Cordon said there is room for improvement in the document, he is prepared to vote for it "as is."

AUSSIES RETAKE JAP OIL FIELDS

(Continued From Page One)

back into production. They drilled new wells and boosted output of crude—which is so pure that ships can use it without refining—to beyond pre-war levels in an effort to build up a stockpile of fuel oil.

Sambodja is the third oil field recaptured from the Japanese, the other two being the Miri and Ceria centers in western Borneo. It is expected that the allies will follow the Japanese pattern and quickly bring the fields and refineries back into production, thus easing oil and transportation demands on other allied sources.

U. S. ASKS BRITAIN TO LIFT SUEZ TOLL

(Continued From Page One)

the fall of 1942. After formal talks in London and Washington, however, Britain refused.

The matter was brought up several times since then. The latest request was made last May 22 and new discussions now are underway in London.

The letters showed that the United States paid out about $9,000,000 in tolls on British war and merchant ships going through the Panama canal from the start of lend-lease to January 1, 1945.

Therefore, Washington is arguing again with London, Britain should pay the Suez costs.

The Suez canal is owned by a corporation organized under French law. The British government, as the major shareholder, holds 44 per cent of the stock. This was cited as a reason why Britain should bear the burden of getting American shipping through.

The British, however, replied that the tolls have to be paid in Egyptian pounds, recalling that lend-lease arrangements require that countries lend-lease only goods made from their own resources or services which mean spending their own currency.

Miners To Get More Red Points

WASHINGTON, July 20 (AP) Coal and ore miners throughout the country will become eligible early next month for extra ration points for meat, dairy products and sugar.

The OPA announced today that an experimental program now in effect for San Francisco and Denver area miners only would be expanded during the first week in August to apply everywhere.

As in the two western regions, coal and ore miners who do not have access to in-plant feeding establishments will be able to obtain a monthly maximum of 50 extra red points for meats and fats, and a supplementary stamp for one pound of sugar a month.

PLANES THROW INCENDIARIES ON NIP TOWNS

(Continued From Page One)

hashi areas and made passes at Nagoya.)

Meanwhile Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced from Manila that more than 300 tactical medium, heavy and attack bombers with fighter escort, all from Okinawa, crossed the East China sea and hurled more than 290 tons of bombs on Kiangwan airdrome, just north of Shanghai.

Kaingwan, the greatest enemy air base in China, had four paved runways for bombers, two fighter strips and numerous buildings. Heavy cloud cover prevented accurate observation of results. Thunderbolts which escorted the bombers found and hit the Tinghai airdrome in Chu Shan island opposite Shanghai in low-level attacks.

Coincident with these Tuesday raids, others of MacArthur's Okinawa-based Far East air forces heavily hit Kagoshima on the main Japanese southern island of Kyushu, blocking three important railway tunnels and damaging a third. Kagoshima, a city of 180,000, site of a munitions works and a submarine shipyard, was thus cut off from rail communications with rest of Japan.

Kagoshima's coasts also were hit along with oil storage facilities.

Another force of MacArthur's tactical Thunderbolts put twelve 500-pound bombs into a 10,000-ton Japanese freighter and left it sinking halfway between Okinawa and Kyushu.

Meanwhile, navy search Privateers and Liberators had their best single day against Japanese shipping between the Asiatic mainland and the Japanese islands on Wednesday, sinking 11 and damaging five small coastal cargo ships. Fleet air wings one and 18 made the strikes, off the Korean east coast and opposite Honshu.

The second marine aircraft wing, by shooting down three enemy planes, ran its bag to 500 since it entered the Okinawa campaign April 7.

The Superfortresses, in the heaviest strategic raid of the war, hit five centers on Honshu from 60 to 200 miles from Tokyo in their campaign against Japanese "shadow" (small home) industries.

Crewmen reported smoke rising 17,000 feet high over Fukui and said "it looked like the target was destroyed completely."

There was almost no flak or fighter opposition over any target, but searchlights were so numerous that one flier said it reminded him of the New York World's fair.

At the Amagasaki oil refinery, fires were set so great that one airman said he saw them more than 100 miles away.

The Superfortress "Goin' Jessie," which dropped the army air force's 2,000,000th ton of bombs on the enemy last week, made her 45th successful mission, over Chosi, where her crew reported the target was a mass of flames. This one plane now has dropped more than 60,000 pounds of bombs on Japan.

The Tokyo radio reported that American Liberators scouted the Chosi area in the wake of the B-29s and that a lone B-29 reconnaissance plane was over Hitachi today.

HELLCATS BLAST KAMIKAZE STRIKE

WASHINGTON, July 20 (AP)—Fourteen Hellcat pilots of air group 30 scored a 47 to 0 victory over Japanese kamikaze planes seeking to attack task force 58 off Okinawa April 6.

Led by Lt. Roy F. Gillespie, 100 Girard street, Bellingham, Wash., the American carrier pilots knocked down the Japanese suicide fighters and bombers in a spectacular 30 minute engagement. Not a Yank was lost or injured, the navy reported today.

Air group 30 now is home for rest and reassignment.

In its entire tour, Fighting 30 knocked down 110 enemy planes without losing a pilot in aerial combat.

Lt. Johnnie G. Miller, Okarchie, Okla., was credited with five.

Operating from an Independence class carrier, air group 30 served with Vice Admiral Mitscher's famed task force 58 during the period when it supported two major invasions, destroyed or disabled remnants of the Japanese fleet and shot down thousands of planes.

Klamath's Yesterdays

From the files — 40 years ago and 10 years ago.

From the Klamath Republican July 20, 1905

Trout fishing will be a new attraction at Crater lake this year. A number of years ago, trout were put into the lake to see if they would live. Each year they have been increasing, until now they are quite plentiful.

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The Elks lodge of Ashland, No. 941, has just received its charter. A number of Klamath Falls men belong to the Ashland lodge.

• • •

From the Evening Herald July 20, 1935

Charles P. Pray has been reappointed head of the state police.

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Open house will be held Sunday by the Reames Golf and Country club.

CHINESE HOLD SOUTH COAST FOR INVASION

(Continued From Page One)

China and Manchuria plus an equal number of auxiliaries. He said Japanese sea traffic between the islands and China had been interrupted and that no troops had been moved recently in either direction.

Yeungkong is a little more than 600 miles northwest of Luzon.

Beach Clear

This cleared a stretch, formerly held firmly by the enemy, where the Japanese announced they feared an American invasion. Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek was quoted in a Yank magazine dispatch made public yesterday, however, as saying in effect that an invasion of the continent would be unnecessary, that the enemy could be subdued by Chinese ground forces aided by American air power.

In Kwangsi province Chinese forces which swung out in a wide arc eastward from recently captured Liuchow have captured the important highway junction of Laipo and have turned north toward Kweilin, adding to the number of Chinese troops closing in on that largest of former U. S. 14th air force bases.

The cigarette that is 100 percent less irritating is the one that is dead out. Besides the economic loss by reduction of raw material, many man days of vitally needed labor are expended fighting forest fires. Do your part. Let's Keep Oregon Green.

NEWS BLACKOUT HIDES ACTION OF THIRD FLEET

(Continued from Page One)

the imperial airforce has no intention of trying to stop its attacks. Halsey's prowling along Nippon's shoreline is a "baiting scheme," Tokyo propagandists explained, and the "Japanese navy and airforce are not coming out to fight now. They are waiting for an advantageous time before they strike."

Radio Tokyo indicated clearly this "advantageous time" would not come until American invasion forces begin storming Japan's shores.

Nips "Explain"

A typical Nipponese commentary came from a military correspondent of the Tokyo newspaper Yomiuri Hochi, who suggested the Japanese tactic "completely frustrated" Halsey's "main mission to size up our striking power to be deployed in the event of an invasion." A broadcast of his commentary said "temporary suspension" of allied carrier raids may mean the allied naval force is withdrawing.

There may not be a cough in a carload but the spark from a carelessly thrown cigarette can be plenty irritating. When in your car, use the ashtray; when walking, grind out the butt in mineral earth or rocks. Keep Oregon Green.

Truman Raises Historic Flag; Symbolic Rite

(Continued From Page One)

erans administrator who also had been summoned here for a conference, accompanied him to the site from the "little White House" in Potsdam. Stimson, Eisenhower, Patton and Maj. Gen. Floyd L. Parks, American member of the Berlin kommandatur, were in the president's party. Lt. Gen. Lucius D. Clay, head of the U. S. group council, received Mr. Truman.

The president's brief message was interpreted by some of his listeners as meaning the United States insisted that the peace and welfare of the average man were more important than territorial disputes and boundaries.

German Site

The ceremony took place in the cobblestoned central court of what had been the German aircraft command for middle Germany. All Germans had been cleared from the area before the president arrived. He drove up in his open car, accompanied by military and naval aides and a small secret service detail.

Immediately after the flag-raising the president sped back into Potsdam to resume his deliberations with Generalissimo Stalin and Prime Minister Churchill—discussions in which possible Russian aid in the war against Japan is believed to be playing an important part.

The president was described as eager to return to Washington as soon as possible after the conference here closes. He has all but abandoned plans for even a brief visit to London.

He is keeping in close touch with congressional considerations of the United Nations charter and Bretton Woods proposals, and the "little White House" map room is receiving hourly reports on the Pacific war.

Experts Arrive

The shipping experts arrived late yesterday amid indications that post-war world shipping and the role of the United States' greatest merchant fleet in history would play a large part in the discussions of the president, Stalin and Churchill.

Land attended the Roosevelt-Churchill Quebec discussions and furnished advice at later Big Three meetings. Before leaving Washington the president had directed the top shipping official to stand by, ready to join this conference.

It was disclosed also that Prime Minister Churchill dined alone Wednesday night with Premier Stalin at the little Kremlin. The conference lasted several hours. Only Stalin's and Churchill's interpreters were present at the dinner table during the private meeting, where obviously much of world importance was discussed.

Eden Back

British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden returned to work today and fulfilled all his regular appointments with Soviet Foreign Commissar Vyacheslav M. Molotov and U. S. Secretary of State James F. Byrnes. Eden had been too ill last night to attend a state dinner tendered in a cordial atmosphere by President Truman at the garden-bowered little White House.

The absence of the foreign secretary had caused some concern here in soviet and American compounds. Apparently, however, Eden was ready to plunge back into the task cut out for the foreign secretaries, who under conference procedure reach generalized agreement on problems and pass them on to the Big Three for final decisions.

U. S. To Send Six Million Tons Of Coal To Europe

(Continued From Page One)

to the army to release "sufficient" miners—at least 30,000. He said he understood that the plan is now under consideration and declared he was confident "that the army, which well knows the serious situation in Europe and the disaster that impends, will accede to this request."

As solid fuels administrator, Ickes asked the fuel conservation directors of 25 states to launch local drives immediately to place homes and other buildings in condition to keep people warm on short fuel quotas next winter.

The program is designed to make every home, shop and building "heat-tight" by insulation, storm doors and windows, weather-stripping, caulking cracks and by other means, Ickes said. He added in a statement that furnaces and other heating equipment should be put in efficient condition to save fuel.

"Millions of Americans in the eastern half of the nation will have to keep warm on 80 per cent of the coal or coke normally burned while fuel oil users cannot expect more than three gallons for every four normally consumed," Ickes said.

A GEM of THOUGHT

An overseas Soldier named Britt
Was writing his Wife a bit,
Said he—If you ever hear that Crack:
The Straw that Broke the Camel's Back—
HONEY, tonight I'll be sleeping on it.

Liniment, 25c to $2.50

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In Your Car 93c for 6 Qts., Plus Fed. Tax. Wards Supreme Quality motor oil refined from 100% Bradford-Allegheny crude, the finest obtainable. Pennsylvania oils give maximum lubrication. Drive in to our Service Station for crank case service.

DANCE
Saturday Night
K. C. HALL
Sponsored by Townsend Club
Modern and Old Time Dancing—9:00 'til 1:00
Men—50c Ladies—50c