

WEATHER
Maximum Thursday 100. Minimum Friday 65. 6 p.m. Thursday 95, humidity 21. 5 a.m. Friday 69, humidity 59. Noon Friday 92, humidity 28.

BANK DEBITS
El Centro Business Barometer
Thursday \$502,859.34
Last year \$517,984.92

IMPERIAL VALLEY PRESS

Only Paper in Imperial Valley Served by Complete United Press Fast News Wire Day and Night, Full NEA, Inc., Features, with Valley News by the Largest Editorial Staff in Southeastern California.



VOLUME XL, No. 268

Six Pages

(Five Cents Per Copy)

FRIDAY, JUNE 12, 1942

PHONE 360

THE POST-PRESS

EL CENTRO, CALIF.

U. S. S. LEXINGTON SUNK BY JAP BOMBS



A "fish-eye" view of the Midway battle was Ensign G. H. Gay's who is shown here chatting with Nurse Ann Davidson in a Honolulu hospital. His plane shot down, he floated for 24 hours on a rubber life raft before he was rescued. He saw havoc wreaked on Japanese ships in the water about him.

8 Nurses Arrive Home from Bataan

SAN FRANCISCO, June 12. (UP)—Eight army nurses from Bataan and Corregidor who cared for sick and wounded American fighting men during the furious battle of the Philippines have arrived in San Francisco, it was disclosed today. The eight nurses are: 1st Lieut. Florence McDonald, Brookton, Mass.; 2nd Lieut. Dorothea Daley, Hamilton, Mo.; Juanita Redmond, Swansea, N. C.; Eunice Hatchett, Lockhart, Texas; Mary Lohr, Johnstown, Penn.; Harriet Gwin, Lee, Boston; Sue Gallagher, Petersburg, Va.; and one who requested her name not be used.

RAMBLING REPORTER

Send The Reserves!

Everything was peaceful and quiet at the El Centro canteen for service men Thursday afternoon. Mrs. Paul Blenkinson was holding down the fort alone and only a few service men dropped in.

Suddenly there was the tramp of feet, the hum of voices, and the canteen was practically buried under 100 soldiers who happened to be passing through town.

Bedlam broke out in the place. The radio blared, the piano banged, music boxes roared, ping pong paddles smacked, and the hum of conversation grew to a roar.

And what was Mrs. Blenkinson doing all this time? Working with the speed of desperation, she squeezed two sacks of grapefruit into juice and carved up two crates of cantaloupes and served them.

"Then she called for help and more supplies. And we don't blame her."

The Sign Said So—

Allison Smith, 3, is very fond of her uncle, Clarence E. Smith, the El Centro attorney. He visited her recently at her home in San Diego and Allison was eager with questions she wanted answered.

"Uncle Clarence," she asked, "when are you going to get to be an attorney?"

"Why, honey," he said, "I'm an attorney now."

"Oh, I see," Allison said thoughtfully, "but your card says you are a practicing attorney."

The Cake Walk—

While officiating as auctioneer at a cake sale Boy Scout Troop No. 71 had recently, Homer Jenkins was as busy as two cranberry merchants.

He would brag on the cakes so enthusiastically that the audience just had to buy them. Everytime there was a particularly tempting cake, Jenkins would bid on it himself.

As a result he had to think of a lot of new excuses to keep from being stuck with about half the cakes on sale.

It was just his appetite.

Continued Story—

(Here is the continuation of the letter on air conditioning received by the El Centro city council.)

"We will take foreign matter out and such as smoke, dust, carb monoxide gas, fog, snow, and cold, and render you a cool, clean, all bracing inspiring weather. Heat waves, and such as you have just had will have no terror for you. Property was considerably damaged and"

(Continued on Page 6; Column 3)

Scrap Rubber Sought

Roosevelt Orders Salvage Campaign Beginning Monday

WASHINGTON, June 12. (UP)—President Roosevelt today ordered a 15-day nationwide scrap rubber collection campaign to begin at 12:01 a.m. Monday, June 15.

The scrap rubber will be collected, he said, by 400,000 filling stations which will serve as rubber collection depots. The filling stations will pay one cent a pound for the scrap.

The campaign was ordered by Mr. Roosevelt to determine the exact size of the nation's scrap rubber stockpile to determine whether nationwide gasoline rationing is necessary to conserve tires.

He said he wanted the drive to be intensive, extending into homes, offices, factories and farms. The campaign will end officially at midnight, Tuesday, June 30.

BUYER DESIGNATED

The rubber collected in the nationwide drive will be sold to the Rubber Recovery corporation, a new government unit under Secretary of Commerce Jesse Jones.

Discussing the rubber situation in general, the President emphasized the necessity for people in all parts of the country to exercise utmost conservation of their present tires.

If a man has four tires now, the President said, he should reduce his mileage and drive as slowly as possible to save rubber because we have no idea when new tires will be available.

It may be a very, very long time before tires are available for any large segment of the civilian population, the President said.

He urged the people to search their attics, cellars and garages for any articles containing rubber.

Commenting on the seriousness of the situation, the President said the army and navy already had been forced to cut their use of rubber 25 per cent, placing solid tires on many of their vehicles although that slows down their speed and makes transportation more difficult on armed personnel.

"By solid tires, do you mean a new type of substitute tire?" the President was asked.

The President said he referred to iron wheels.

Rubber collected in the scrap campaign will be weighed at the filling stations and oil company (Continued on Page 6; Column 6)

Valley Warriors Snag Big Share Of Doc's Glory

Five I. V. Men Figure Prominently in News from Fronts; Three Are Survivors Of Lexington in Coral Sea Struggle

Imperial Valley men now in the armed forces of the United States figured prominently in the news Friday as part of the story of World War No. 2 was written into history.

Lieut. Leonard Moore of El Centro, son of Mr. and Mrs. P. L. Moore and former Post-Press

employee, was pictured in newspapers all over the world as one of the heroes of the Midway battle. He was shown holding one corner of the nameplate of the B-26 medium bomber, the Susie-Q, all that was worth salvaging after the plane reached its base from an attack on a Japanese aircraft carrier.

LEXINGTON SURVIVORS

LeRoy Patton, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Patton of El Centro, Gerald Peyton, brother of Mrs. Clyde Lee of El Centro, and Chesley Cawthon, son of Mr. and Mrs. Max Cawthon of Niland, were among the heroic survivors of the Lexington, whose fate was revealed by the government Friday.

Patton, Peyton, and Cawthon were on board the Lexington in the battle of the Coral Sea and were among the last to leave the blazing craft before it sank beneath the water. They were in the group fighting the fire in the hold of the ship. Officers ordered all men left to jump overboard.

ESCAPE DROWNING

Young Patton is an excellent swimmer but the suction caused by the sinking ship prevented him from making any headway. A destroyer shot a rope to the officers on the Lexington, Patton told his parents on a visit home last week, and as it sagged into the water, he grabbed it. His hand was horribly burned by the rope, but he succeeded in getting a half hitch around his arm. He held the rope while other boys grabbed it. They were in the water an hour and a half before they were rescued.

While preparing at Foster Field, Texas, to take his place in active service with the Army air corps, Cawthon, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Kinne and former Post-Press sports editor, was said in an army press release to be the most versatile of the west coast athletes now in training there.

Army officers quoted Kinne as saying he planned to add egg plant hunting to his list of sports which now includes football, basketball, baseball, and tennis.

Valley Sand No Good for Bombs

If an enemy airplane drops an incendiary bomb on your home don't cover the missile with Imperial Valley's ordinary dune sand in an effort to put it out.

This was the warning issued Friday by El Centro's fire chief, C. S. Reed, who has been taking a leading part in preparing the public for such emergencies.

The proper method of handling the bombs is with sand, Reed assured, but the kind of sand is very important. The hills and dunes of fine silt massed in dunes in the valley are not composed of heavy enough soil to be of much help in combating the menace. The bomb would simply blow the fine silt away.

Instead, the heavier sand found in river bottoms and dry washes, which is commonly used in mixing concrete, is the kind that should be used, Reed said.

This practically eliminates vast desert that surrounds the irrigated section of the valley as a reservoir on which citizens could draw to fill their sand buckets. Instead of "Water, water everywhere," it's "Sand, sand, everywhere and not many grains of it of much use."

There are a few places on the desert where suitable sand can be obtained, Reed said. In the Mt. Signal area there are numerous gravel pits and dry stream beds where coarse sand can be found and east of Holtville there is a section containing the heavier grains.

Reed said that the city's lumberyards also carry the kind needed to fill the three-gallon buckets that every household should be stocked with.

was awakened by a "row" down stairs, and found two sailors "on the floor, with Virginia."

"I threw the sailors out," said Clarence Beard. "I was disgusted and demanded that my son take his wife and leave the house. He pleaded with me to let them stay, at least until the next day. I let them stay that long, then they moved out."

The Beards were living with their in-laws then because Damon at that time was getting only \$43 a month "for winding clocks" at the university, he testified.

Father-in-law Beard said he once

Farm Labor Draft Policies Studied

(SEE EDITORIAL)

SACRAMENTO, June 12 (UP)—Gov. Culbert Olson today asked Brig. Gen. J. O. Donovan, state director of selective service, to obtain clarification of policy relative to drafting of farm laborers.

"Every effort should be made to keep a sufficient supply of farm labor, since the harvest of our crops is important not only to our civilian population but to the military as well," Olson said.

Olson explained he had received several protests against the drafting of persons essential to farm work.

Axis Presses for Great Offensive

Germans Seize Initiative in Russia, Libya to Forestall Allied 2nd Front With Major Drive Toward Caucasus

— By UNITED PRESS —

The Axis seized the initiative at heavy cost in Libya and Russia Friday in an effort to get Hitler's 1942 offensives moving before the United Nations can establish their promised second front in Europe.

Disaster Foreseen Unless Farm Labor Supply Increases

Committee Reports on Extreme Need in Calif. To Prevent Shortages.

LOS ANGELES, June 12. (UP)—The Kenna state committee on economic planning today reported only quick reinforcements of men and machines will prevent possible disastrous shortages of food and war materials before the end of the year.

The 60-day survey included 24 public hearings from El Centro to Eureka.

Problems probably will be permanent, rather than merely for a duration, the committee held, and temporary measures will be inadequate.

The farm labor supply April 1 was almost half that of two years earlier, and no reserve of migrant labor was in prospect, the committee reported. High-paying war industries have drawn off the reserve, and even a federal draft of labor still might leave a shortage, certainly for this season. Four new sources of farm labor being considered were regarded as inadequate.

Recruiting of teen-age youths is limited by transportation, farmerettes generally respond in small numbers, relief and pension roll candidates are few, and even the proposed importation of Mexican labor would fail to meet the demand, since Mexico is also sharing in a war boom and increased agricultural growth.

Suggested measures to alleviate the shortage include coordination of farm labor policies and hiring activities, recruiting of new workers from every available source, efficient operation, breaking of red tape, and adequate representation with responsible federal agencies.

3 More Candidates Enter Campaign

Nomination petitions for three candidates for offices in Imperial county and for the Holtville Central Democratic committee members were filed with County Clerk W. J. McClelland Friday.

E. J. Smith, justice of the peace at Holtville, will be a candidate for re-election and Dave C. Harris and Lawton W. Porter will be candidates for constable at Winterhaven.

At noon June 20 is the last hour for filing candidates' nomination petitions, giving sponsors a week yet in which to get the petitions signed and filed.

Baseball NATIONAL

Boston 0 Chicago 0

Javert & Lombardi; Olsen & McCullough

Only day game, either league.

Jap Loss Tallied At 15 Warships To Three for U.S.

Final Count in Coral Sea Battle Shows Smashing American Victory; Carrier's Loss Called Light Price for Results

— By WILLIAM F. TYREE —

ABOARD U. S. CRUISER IN SOUTHWEST PACIFIC, May 10. (Delayed)—(UP)—The U. S. Navy's oldest aircraft carrier, the 33,000-ton U.S.S. Lexington, was damaged by enemy bombs in the battle of the Coral Sea and several hours later blew up like a Fourth of July firecracker.

The end came when flames from leaking gasoline lines reached her torpedo lockers, detonating them with a mighty roar.

Most of the great ship's personnel, however, had been safely removed a few minutes before the blast.

Naval officers considered her loss a light price to pay for the de-

General Staffs in Conference on 2nd Front for Europe

Informed Quarters See Landed Offensive Least Likely of Prospects

LONDON, June 12. (UP)—Allied general staffs are in contact on "the urgent problem of creating a second front in Europe in 1942," it was understood today.

Only a few men in Washington, London and Moscow know when, or even how, the blow will fall under the agreements reached by Great Britain and the United States with Russia.

The British man in the street, and the Russian, interpreted the identical second front announcements here and at Washington at their face value. He expected an actual land fighting front in western Europe this summer by an invasion of the continent.

CONSERVATIVE VIEW

More conservative quarters, especially those who knew the tremendous problems involved, held that Britain, the United States and Russia might already have agreed that formation of such a front immediately was impossible; that the Allied contribution would be limited to bombing attacks of growing ferocity and commando-like raids on an increasing scale along 2,000 miles of the European coast.

This is the view held generally by well informed, if unofficial opinion in London. This opinion is that it is almost fantastic to expect the British and American armies to invade the continent within the brief months left for a campaign this summer.

SECOND FRONT NOW

But there is already a second front which day and night is eating into the Germans and Italians. Resistance by the heroic patriots of all occupied countries is growing; big scale commando raids in which troops, superbly equipped American trawlers will soon take part are on the Allied date list; the United States Army air corps is soon to

(Continued on Page 6; Column 2)

FBI Special Agent In Parleys Here

Harold Nathan, chief special agent in charge of the San Diego field office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, was in El Centro Friday for a conference with the heads of all law enforcement departments in Imperial county.

He visits Imperial county at intervals to explain developments in defense and to answer questions of law enforcement officers assisting the FBI in its activities.

Argument Over \$20 Ends in Death for Negro at Imperial

"Haven't I been good to you?" Raymond Williams, 24, Negro, said a moment before he fired two shots into the body of Roy James, 28, another Negro, killing him instantly during an argument over \$20.

The killing occurred Thursday night on the Brill ranch 4½ north-west of Imperial in front of the Williams home. Deputy Coroner Herbert Hughes said.

After the killing Williams went to the Imperial police department and told Chief W. H. Burton about the shooting. Williams said he killed James because he struck Mrs. Williams while they were all quarreling over \$20 James advanced for a payment on the Williams car several months ago.

Officers held Williams in the county jail in El Centro while investigating his statement that he had been an inmate in an institution for the insane.

Blowout Causes Truck Accident

David Benjamin Hall, 32, truck driver for Imperial county road district No. 2, was recovering in El Centro hospital Friday from injuries suffered when a tire on a dump truck blew out on highway 80 west of El Centro and the truck went out of control.

The loaded dump truck ran off its side after careening 80 feet. Highway Patrolman V. R. Eick said Hall suffered bruises and dislocations but was not in a critical condition, his physician said.

Keesling, who is attached to selective service headquarters, emphasized that local boards were to make no change in existing regulations until instructed by headquarters here.

The conferees apparently agreed on the married-man provision to

Dependents' Pay Measure Okayed

WASHINGTON, June 12. (UP)—Senate and house conferees agreed today on a bill authorizing payments to dependents of men in the armed services and authorizing deferment of men with wives and children.

Sen. Elbert D. Thomas, D., Utah, one of the conferees, said the bill does not provide for blanket deferment of married men but Maj. Francis V. Keesling, jr., explained the measure would permit selective service headquarters to instruct local draft boards to defer married men until further notice.

Keesling, who is attached to selective service headquarters, emphasized that local boards were to make no change in existing regulations until instructed by headquarters here.

The conferees apparently agreed on the married-man provision to