

1-4-42-S. W. Wiles

CIRCUIT RIDER

WARS - World
World II

JAPAN NO PUSH OVER

Representative Jack Anderson who two weeks ago told the House of Representatives that civilian defense must be made uniform the country over, under a full-time head, wrote a few days ago to Worth Brown, past president of the State Republican Assembly:

"We paid a terrific price for unity in this country but we certainly have it now. If the administration will crack down hard on the labor racketeers and put this country on a seven-day week we can do the job that has to be done and do it right.

"You will recall that I did my level best to impress upon the people in our district that Japan would be no push over. Following my visit to the Pacific isles a year ago I realized the tremendous difficulties involved in maintaining an adequate supply line between our Pacific coast and the Far East. Japan hit us below the belt with a sneak punch and although we are a bit groggy I have no fear as to the final outcome."

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CAMP FOR EVACUEES

The unoccupied SRA camp four miles above Soquel has caught the eye of the county defense council as a possible location for people along the water front in that area, should another and more serious evacuation be ordered.

Part of its buildings were dismantled and taken to southern Monterey county about a year ago, but enough remain to furnish quarters for a considerable number, should it be necessary.

Application has been made by the defense council to the state.

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STATE GUARD UNIT

Preparations are steadily going forward for the organization of a state guard unit or units in Santa Cruz county. No definite action can be taken until the legislature has met a week from tomorrow and put through the measure on which the interim committee of 22 is working.

Nevertheless, Santa Cruz city and county will not be caught napping. Office quarters for those who will direct the formation of the unit have been tentatively secured.

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IMPOUNDED T. B. MONEY

The Santa Cruz County Anti-Tuberculosis Association finds itself in possession of a number of checks which it can not cash. The Japanese residents of the entire Santa Cruz county have always been liberal and numerous contributors to the anti-tuberculosis work.

When war was declared and funds of aliens in our banks tied up by federal order, the association found that it had on hand a score or more of checks with the names of Japanese upon them which can not be cashed immediately. The Japanese have been such staunch supporters of the association that it is anticipated that every one of the checks will eventually be good.

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WEATHER FOR THE ENEMY

Since the war started the Pacific coast has quit having any official weather. The Associated Press and United Press wires carry no statement of coming meteorological conditions, lest the news leak through to Tokyo and become usable to the jolly old Rising Sun submarines

which have been lurking in the area now officially designated as "off the California coast."

Local papers are permitted to tell their readers how much rain has fallen in the immediate past, but mustn't go into details as to the future.

Some comment has been made that the Sentinel-News, in its afternoon edition on December 26, stated that "under wartime restrictions we can inform you that it will be fair tomorrow and probably for the week-end."

Then the following day proceeded to clock up almost two inches of precipitation and the rainfall for the week-end was 4.55 inches.

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WORTHWHILE IN DEFENSE

Manager Carl Ris Friday purchased forty 25-cent defense stamp books with one stamp in each and presented one to each employee of the store in Santa Cruz. The cost was charged to the Woolworth company, which saw that each of its 82,000 employees in the United States was similarly started on filling a book which will, in ten years, be worth \$25.

Mr. Ris also received word that the Woolworth company will give \$100,000 to the war relief fund of the Red Cross. He has not worked out the allotment for the Santa Cruz store but expects it to be more than \$50 to the Santa Cruz chapter.

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That big gas tank of the Coast Counties company, which stands just around the corner from the head of Pacific avenue, is no danger to the public in time of possible shelling or bombing, so long as it is kept full.

Experience of gas companies in England have been that a shell or shrapnel hole through a water-sealed gas tank (such as ours is, in Santa Cruz) merely results in escaping gas. Should the escaping gas be ignited it is merely a huge flare of flame.

It does not explode, so long as the tank is full.

Danger of an explosion is when the



BIG BOY—Italian 75 mm. shells, held by a sturdy Australian soldier, were part of the booty taken by the British in the drive through Libya, and used against their makers.

tank is partly or entirely empty, with oxygen mixed with gas. As a wartime safety measure the Coast Counties is keeping its stand-by gas reservoir in Santa Cruz full.

RESERVE SUPPLY

The big gas tank holds 300,000 cubic feet of natural gas, as a reserve supply for this city.

Should an enemy plane drop a bomb directly on the gas pipe line which brings to Santa Cruz its supply from the Kettleman Hills field, the company would, according to Superintendent Al Strong, merely turn a valve somewhere this side of the direct hit, and have enough gas in its reserve to serve its Santa Cruz patrons at the normal demand for five hours.

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NEW AUTOS "FROZEN"

A number of Santa Cruzans who had casually ordered new automobiles to be delivered to them the first of the year are distinctly out of luck.

Just to make all this newspaper talk of shutting down on automobile purchasing all the more emphatic, Tom Wilson, chairman of the Santa Cruz branch of the Northern California Auto Dealers' association, yesterday received the following telegram from Tod Bates of San Francisco, secretary of the northern California group:

"Official freezing order received absolutely prohibiting the sale, lease, trade, loan, delivery, shipment or transfer of any new car or truck regardless of when order taken, deposit made or used car traded in. Until amendments now being worked out are released dealers can not deliver any new cars or trucks under any circumstances."