

## NEED ARTILLERY IN MODERN WAR

Experts Agree Tanks and Dive Bombers Have Not Outmoded Big Guns.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 (U. P.).—Thundering field guns on the world's major battle fronts provide conclusive proof daily that the time-honored artillery arm is still important despite the development of dive bombers and tanks.

Most military experts agree, as they have since Napoleon's day, that field artillery remains of paramount importance in any campaign.

### Russians Use Cannon

In the Bataan peninsula, accurately aimed shells from Gen. Douglas MacArthur's field batteries have smashed offensives by the Japanese and exacted heavy losses in the face of a 10-to-one edge in manpower.

From Russia come reports that the huge Red Army, using thousands of horse-drawn cannon in sub-zero temperatures that paralyze mechanized vehicles, is steadily pushing back the German invader.

And out of the reports, in the opinion of some experts, come the following lessons:

1. That the field artillery is an effective all-weather weapon. It does not have the limitations of night, fog, cold or other factors that reduce effectiveness of dive is a

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## PUSH PLANS FOR ROAD TO ALASKA

New Danger of Attack Spurs Action on Long Talked Road.

By LUDWELL DENNY

Times Special Writer

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—Fear of an attack on our Pacific Coast via Alaska is driving officials here to rush preparation in the territory and plans for an international highway through Canada.

Japan's rapid advance down the Dutch East Indies, following the capture of Singapore, may liberate enemy forces for a spring drive in the north. That spotlights our long neglected Alaskan outpost. It is the most exposed, least prepared point in our Pacific defense triangle of Alaska-Hawaii-Panama-California. Unfortunately, that is no secret to the Japanese.

### Target for Direct Attack

Because the Alaskan route from Tokyo to California is 1400 miles shorter than the better defended Hawaiian route, and because Japan's great naval and air base at Paramushiro is only 750 miles from our Aleutian Island "bridge," the danger of direct attack is probably greater from that direction than any other.

### Build Defenses Rapidly

Although serious defense effort in Alaska is less than two years old, rapid progress has been made. This includes airfields, and the Army bases at Anchorage and Fairbanks, as well as the naval bases at Sitka, Kodiak and Dutch Harbor.

### Canada Reluctant

For a long time the War Department caused the delay. Then Canada, by failing to co-operate as enthusiastically as her nominal approval indicated, helped to block the project.

### Organizations

**McKinley Club Plans Party**—The McKinley Club will have a card party at the club rooms, 2217 E. Michigan St., at 8 p. m. tomorrow. Euchre and bridge will be played. Mrs. Blanche McKinney is chairman of the arrangements committee.

**O. E. S. Group to Elect**—Members of Englewood Auxiliary, O. E. S., will elect a new vice president at a business meeting at 1:45 p. m. tomorrow in the Masonic Hall, 2718 E. Washington St. A pitch-in noon luncheon will precede the meeting.

**Movie Club Meets Tomorrow**—The Indianapolis Amateur Movie Club will meet at 8:30 p. m. tomorrow at the home of Dr. J. W. Sovine, 3311 N. Illinois St. The program includes a paper on lens aberrations by Dr. Sovine, color movies of Florida, a prize winning picture, "The Will and the Way," and "The Iso-Color Process" by the Spectrum Products Co.

**Lawyers to Elect Tomorrow**—The Marion County Lawyers Association will meet at 7:30 p. m. Feb. 23 at the Senate Ave. Y. M. C. A. Annual election of officers will be held, and Henry R. Wilson, a former assistant Attorney General of Indiana, will speak on Appellate Procedure.

**O. E. S. Meeting Tomorrow**—The Corinthian Chapter of O. E. S. will hold a stated meeting at 8 p. m. tomorrow at the Evergreen Masonic Hall. A patriotic program will be presented under the direction of Edith Drago, worthy matron, and Clarence Rodgers, worthy patron.

**Circle to Give Supper**—Ladies of the Goodwill Circle at Mars Hill Church of Christ will give a fish fry and chili supper at the church at 5 p. m. Friday.

**Auxiliary to Give Party**—Ladies' Auxiliary 278, International Association of Machinists, will give a card party at 8 p. m. tomorrow at the new lodge room in Castle Hall. Mrs. Francis Romeris is president.

**Speaks on Rubber**—The Outlook for Rubber will be described by Dr. Ralph Shriner of Indiana University, at the 6:15 dinner-meeting of the Professional Men's Forum at the Columbia Club tomorrow. Dr. Shriner is head of the Chemistry Department at Indiana.

**Doctors to Meet**—The Indianapolis Medical Society of Marion County will have a joint meeting with the staff of the Indiana University Hospitals at 8:15 p. m. today at the Medical School auditorium.

## Today's War Moves

By LOUIS F. KEEHLE

United Press War Analyst

The Japanese menace to China's line of supply, the Burma Road, has become acute since the fall of Singapore.

Latest news from the battle front in southern Burma is not encouraging. The Japanese are well past the Salween River on a line extending about 100 miles from Martaban northward to Papun. This line, as nearly as can be estimated from incomplete reports, is roughly about 35 to 50 miles from the rail line which connects Rangoon with the Burma road. The implications of the Japanese advance are enormous.

If the Burma road is cut, the flow of arms, munitions and supplies to China has no war-production of her own. China, struggling against the Japanese for 4½ years, has an army of 5,000,000 men.

Properly supplied, this army is the greatest present asset of the united nations in the Far East, and to the entire war cause. It could be the nucleus for an eventual overland drive to overwhelm Japan from the west.

### Loss Would Be Costly

Cutting of the road would be a big loss, greater than the fall of Singapore. Also, if the Japanese establish themselves that far in Burma, they would be within striking distance of India and would have the port of Rangoon to facilitate their operations in the Bay of Bengal and the Indian Ocean.

If the Burma Road is cut, there is no other present way to get supplies into China in sufficient quantities. Russia cannot help, since she needs all she can produce and can get from Britain and the United States to meet the Hitler menace.

An alternative supply route to China from India is being con-

## FEDERALIZATION ON ROCKY ROAD

Schricker Fights Jobless Aid Plan; Boehne Says It Is 'Dead.'

By DANIEL M. KIDNEY

Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—Despite President Roosevelt's renewed effort to obtain passage of the \$300,000,000 war-conversion unemployment bill, over the objections of the states, a majority of the House Ways and Means Committee, still is reported opposed to its passage.

Final hearings got under way today with R. J. Thomas of United Automobile Workers (C. I. O.) scheduled as the principal witness. The measure was ostensibly drafted as an aid to unemployed auto workers and others, but state officials accuse the Administration of attempting to use it to put over federalization of unemployment compensation.

When Sidney Hillman, head of the WEB labor division, and Paul V. McNutt, Federal Security Administrator, first took the measure to the White House several weeks ago it called for \$600,000,000.

The President cut the sum in two. Six governors—among them Henry F. Schricker of Indiana—protested against federalization at yesterday's hearings.

At a luncheon for Governor Schricker, Rep. John W. Boehne Jr. (D. Ind.), member of the Ways and Means Committee, pronounced the bill "dead."

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