

# BRITAIN SET TO BLOCKADE ITALY'S GERMAN COAL

## Finns Repulse Fresh Attacks On Viipuri IS DETERMINED TO HALT FLOW OF NAZI FUEL

'Fan Mail' Floods Census Protester



Following introduction of his resolution to eliminate questions about private incomes from the 1940 census questionnaire, Senator Charles W. Tobey of New Hampshire received thousands of letters supporting his protest. The senator (seated, foreground) and some of his staff are pictured sorting the "fan mail" in his Washington office.

### North Atlantic Seaboard Is Hit By Ice And Snow

DAMAGE IS EXTENSIVE  
Ice covers shrubbery, orchards and power lines in several states.

By The Associated Press  
Widespread ice and snow weighed down the seaboard states with a costly property destruction greater in some sections than that of the disastrous New England hurricane of December, 1938.

Orchards Ruined  
Power lines snapper, leaving many communities without heat, light or telephone service.

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### Report Gains On Two Other Fronts

Defenders Claim To Have Driven Back Soviet Troops In Arctic

### SOVIET LOSSES GREAT

Russians Claim Capture Of New Points In Move To Encircle Viipuri

BY MAX HARRELSON  
HELSINKI, March 4.—(AP)—Finland's outmanned defenders, locked in a death struggle with the Red army on three fronts, reported tonight they had repulsed fresh assaults on beleaguered Viipuri, driven back the Russians in the Arctic and smashed enemy attacks north of Lake Ladoga with heavy losses.

More than 1,200 Soviet troops were killed, the Finns said, as they attempted to batter their way through the wilderness northeast of the lake, where the bodies of 1,000 Russians, slain in fighting the previous day, dotted the snowy banks of the frozen Kollaa river.

Farther north, apparently taking the offensive, the Finns captured what they described as an enemy "strongpoint" near Kuhmo, while in the Arctic they said they had regained territory from which they had retired last week.

In an attempt to deliver the final crushing blow to Viipuri, at whose gates they have been hammering for days, the Russians launched a three-pronged attack on the tottering city yesterday.

While one column drove across the Bay of Viipuri in an encircling movement, the Red army increased the pressure by attacking between the bay and the Vuoksi river and from the direction of Ayrappa, farther east.

The Finnish high command reported that all these attacks had been repulsed and indicated that Viipuri's defenders were still standing firm.

The Russian high command announced early today the Red army had occupied the hamlet of Saarela, north of Viipuri, and the fortified island of Tururay, 15 miles to the south, but did not mention fighting in the immediate environs of the city.

The Finnish communication did not mention any fighting on the (Continued on Page Four; Col. 4)

Wilmingtonians Contribute \$228 To Fighting Funds For Little Nation

By BILL BELL  
SHENANDOAH, Pa., March 4.—(AP)—Dangerously cracked public buildings in one-fourth of Shenandoah were locked tonight by state inspectors as mining experts warned that cave-ins which split the walls of homes and business places today might continue at least two weeks.

Damage was estimated at \$1,000,000 by Borough Councilman William Maximonis. No one of the 2,000 persons who fled their cracking homes was injured.

All morning the sinking continued slowly as buildings in a 16-block area settled into cave-ins of old anthracite diggings that honeycomb the mountain below the town.

Acting within a few hours after a "terrible rumbling" and the warning shriek of the town fire siren sent residents scurrying from sagging homes, two state agencies and borough council started a program for safety and rebuilding. These steps were taken:

### Utilities Head Entertains AFL Chief



In Atlanta to attend the southern labor conference, William Green (left), president of the American Federation of Labor, is shown with Preston Arkwright, president of the Georgia Power company, at the luncheon Arkwright gave in Green's honor. Guests included industrialists and labor leaders from Georgia and other southern states.

### Miss Chambers Will Open 'Pageant Of Foods' Today

OPENS AT 2:30 O'CLOCK  
Talks Will Condense Highlights Of Complete Course In Cookery

The "Pageant of Foods" cooking school, to be conducted by Miss Ruth Chambers under the sponsorship of the Star-News, will open in the New Hanover high school auditorium this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock.

Miss Chambers arrived in the city Sunday and said she was impressed with the "loveliness of your Southern city" and glad to see the possibility of some Southern sunshine after having been in the midst of winter weather for some time.

Making her first visit to Wilmington and vicinity, Miss Chambers came here direct from Atlanta, Ga., where she has just completed a large cooking school under the auspices of the Atlanta Journal.

Miss Chambers yesterday expressed the hope that every housewife in the community would be on hand to greet her when the cooking school opens this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock at the high school auditorium. Her lectures will be given at the same hour through Friday afternoon.

She was accompanied here by Miss Reba Stagg, assistant, who specializes in the garnishing and artistry of many favorite cooking dishes. Both are here under the auspices of the National Livestock and Meat board.

Miss Chambers said the object of the four daily sessions, which required six months of planning and preparation, was to condense into a four-day program the highlights of a complete course in cookery, comprising selection, menu planning, and serving as well as all methods of cooking the array of food which goes to make up the well-balanced diet available to the average housewife.

Murray is given \$400 a week

Former Husband Criticized By Judge For Failure To Care For Child

LOS ANGELES, March 4.—(AP)—Blonde Mae Murray, former star of the silent films, was awarded custody of her son and \$400 a month for his support today by a judge who criticized sharply her former husband, the polo-playing Prince David Mdivani, for failure to care for the child.

Superior Judge George A. Dockweiler ordered her to retain custody of her 13-year-old son, Koran David Mdivani, now in the care of an Albany, N. Y., family.

### McKoy Given Contract For New Theatre

Ideal Plumbing Company Is Awarded Plumbing And Heating Work

### TO START WORK SOON

House, Which Will Seat 1,250, Scheduled To Be Opened This Fall

Henry B. McKoy, of Greenville, S. C., formerly of Wilmington, was yesterday awarded the general contract for the construction of a new moving picture theatre at 18-18 North Front street for Wilmington Theatres, Inc.

The Ideal Plumbing company, of Wilmington, was awarded the plumbing and heating contract and the Electrical Maintenance company, of Wilmington, was awarded the electrical contract.

No statement regarding the amount of money involved was issued.

Work of demolition of the present building, occupied by Baxter's pool room, Wolff's News Stand and Honan's jewelry store, and erecting the new one, will be started within a few days, H. F. Kinney announced.

The complete building is expected to be completed within about eight months and will probably be ready in the late fall, it was announced. It will seat approximately 1,250 persons. The Carolina, now the largest in the city, will accommodate about 900.

### NAZIS PUT FRESH TROOPS ON FRONT

French Military Dispatches Tell Of Unusual Activity Along Line

PARIS, March 4.—(AP)—Fresh German divisions were reported taking places in Westwall forts today and French military dispatches told of unusual activity on the western front during the last 48 hours.

The Germans took the initiative in a series of week-end raids between the Rhine and Moselle rivers but the French said the action showed signs of slowing down after numerous patrol clashes. The Germans took several French prisoners yesterday in the Vosges mountains area.

White French sources said new Nazi divisions were moving into the German lines, reports were printed in the Swiss press that Bavarian and Austrian troops also were being moved into German towns and villages opposite the Swiss frontier from the Rhine to Lake Constance.

The Swiss high command tonight ordered more than 60,000 frontier troops and territorial reserves to rejoin their units Wednesday, three days ahead of a scheduled re-mobilization of the nation's armed forces.

Numerous aerial feints across western front lines gave indications of the rival commands' alert watch on each other for a hint of spring-time action in Europe's often momentous month of March.

Seven victories in the sharpened aerial activity were reported by the Allies. British and French air forces each claimed two German (Continued on Page Seven; Col. 6)

### Portugal Industries Making Arrangements To Buy American Oil

LISBON, March 4.—(AP)—Because of increasing difficulties in getting their supply of coal from England, some Portugal industries are arranging the purchase of coal from the United States as they did during the World war.

The shipping company Companhia Nacional Navegacao, having received no coal from England since the beginning of January, cancelled the departure of its largest freighter, the S. S. Santhome, originally scheduled to sail to Africa.

Instead, the ship will sail for Norfolk, Va., Thursday with a full load of cork and will load 6,000 tons of coal there.

### BRITISH-ITALIAN PACTS IN DANGER

Protest To London Against German Coal Blockade Strains Relations

ROME, March 4.—(AP)—A strongly-worded protest to London against the British blockade of German coal shipments to Italy worsened Italian-British relations tonight and appeared to threaten a rupture of existing Italian-British agreements on Mediterranean operations.

The coal blockade, the fascist government said in publishing the text of the note sent yesterday, endangered "economic and political relations" and "seriously injures Italian interests."

Publication of the protest added to the strain on the friendly feelings between the two nations—a friendship which a constant Italian press campaign of criticism of English war moves has not warmed.

It revived memories, too, of League of Nations sanctions during the Ethiopian campaign and engendered a fresh wave of bitterness in Italy against Britain's control of this country's access to vital supplies.

(In London foreign office circles indicated the Italian protest would meet with a cool reception although it was indicated the Italian note would be given "the most careful consideration.")

(These sources reported, at the same time, that it would be unwise to believe that Britain would retreat from her original position in view of "unrestricted warfare by Germany against the Allies and neutrals.")

The Rome government's energetic note gave an official turn to anxiety here over the latest blow at what the protest called the "life and labor of the Italian people."

It raised the question, too, of Italian dissatisfaction over the "gentlemen's agreement" of last April regulating Italian-British relations in the Mediterranean.

The Italian note warned Britain that its coal blockade action was such as to "disturb and compromise"

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The European War Situation

### IS PUNISHED AT SEA

London Circles Buzz With Predictions Of Another Cabinet Reshuffle

ITALY FILES PROTEST  
Another Large British Ship, Tanker Charles F. Myers, Sunk By Sub

By DREW MIDDLETON  
LONDON, March 4.—(AP)—Punished hard at sea and involved in her first important dispute of the war with non-belligerent Italy, Great Britain stood diplomatically pat tonight in her determination to blockade Italy's German coal supplies while London buzzed with predictions of a cabinet reshuffle.

These occurrences were not directly connected, but they were component parts of what First Lord of the Admiralty Winston Churchill has called "this hard and novel war at sea."

The Italian protest over the coal blockade recalled, in its vehemence the furor between the two nations over proposed League of Nations sanctions against Italy for her invasion of Ethiopia. Great Britain backed down that time, but tonight foreign office sources indicated there was little chance that she would waive her "rights and interests under international law" and permit Germany to continue shipping coal by sea to her non-fighting partner in the pre-war axis.

The foreign office felt its hands had been strengthened by what it called Germany's "indiscriminate" warfare at sea—by planes, submarines and mines—during the past week. This warfare brought the first bombing and machine-gun attack in the English channel by a German bomber which killed 108 persons aboard the 8,441-ton British Indian liner Domala, and today added more neutral ships to the casualty list.

Another big British ship, the 10,516-ton tanker Charles F. Meyer, was reported a casualty in sub-

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### STEAMER REPORTS CHASE BY U-BOAT

Radio Message Is Received From British Boat East Of Virgin Islands

NEW YORK, March 4.—(AP)—MacKay Radio announced tonight the receipt of messages from the British steamer El Ciervo reporting she was being "chased by a submarine."

Her position was given as 22:10 north; 51:28 west. The message indicated the ship had sighted the submarine at 3:07 p. m. (EST).

The position given is about 900 miles east of the Virgin Islands. The El Ciervo is of 5,841 tons.

(At Washington, coastguard headquarters said the same message had been picked up and relayed there. (The position given by the British ship was well outside the neutrality zone.)

The announcement lent new support to reports that German submarines (Continued on Page Seven; Col. 7)

### WEATHER

FORECAST  
North Carolina: Partly cloudy Tuesday and Wednesday, slightly colder. In central portions Tuesday and Wednesday, temperatures in the mountains Wednesday.

Metereological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m. yesterday.

Temperature  
7:30 a. m. 61; 7:30 a. m. 51; 1:30 p. m. 60; maximum 72; minimum 54; moon 62; normal 51.

### ACTION OF NLRB UPHeld BY COURT

Decision Handed Down In Case Involving National Licorice Company

WASHINGTON, March 4.—(AP)—The supreme court today upheld the action of the Labor board in outlasting a contract between a company and its employees on the ground that the agreement violated the Wagner act.

The contract in question was a three-year agreement between the National Licorice company of Brooklyn, N. Y., a collective bargaining committee of employees, and 118 of the firm's 140 employees individually.

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### Large Caveins Split Walls Of Homes And Other Buildings In Shenandoah

By BILL BELL  
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