

J. B. RIDDLE WILL TAKE G. O. P. POST

Morganton Man Will Not Make Determined Fight For Position, However

WINSTON-SALEM, March 17.—(AP)—J. Bennett Riddle, Jr., of Morganton, who was endorsed here two weeks ago by a group of Piedmont North Carolina republicans to succeed Brownlow Jackson, of Charlotte, as secretary to the North Carolina republican executive committee, has indicated he will accept the post if it is offered to him, but is not disposed to make a militant fight for it, L. L. Wall, spokesman for the group, has announced.

Wall released a letter written to him by Riddle in which the Morganton man expressed willingness to assume the heavy duties of the job if the republicans of the state desired it.

"I have no ambition to be state secretary," Riddle said, "and I would gladly be relieved of the responsibility. However, it is imperative that we lay aside our personal feelings in matters that pertain to the furtherance of the cause and allow ourselves to be used in whatever capacity it appears that we might be of service."

Riddle mentioned the fact that in 1938 there was a definite trend toward the republican party. It was reflected, he said, in the returns from the elections all over the north and west.

"The state of Virginia doubled its membership in the legislature and the state of Tennessee showed a considerable increase in strength," Riddle said in his letter. "North Carolina was the only state of which I can learn where we actually lost ground and hit an all-time low in representatives elected to the legislature."

Riddle made it clear in his communication that in expressing his willingness to accept the place as a successor to Jackson, veteran GOP worker, he was not disposed to ignore the feelings of the incumbent secretary or to minimize his record of achievement in the party.

FAMOUS PRIEST KILLED—LOND PINE, Calif., March 17.—The Right Rev. Monsignor John J. Crowley, 48, famous desert priest, was killed today in an automobile accident. His machine struck a pole and collided with a truck.

ROYAL THEATRE MONDAY AND TUESDAY AS THRILLING AS THE CRY OF A NEWBORN BABE! A CHILD IS BORN! FITZGERALD

War History Repeats Itself



Their fathers once defended the shell-shattered building in which the British Welsh Guards seen above are doing their training maneuvers in France. Shells that made this gaping hole were fired in the last World war, by the same foe.

MUSSOLINI AND HITLER PLAN TO CONFER TODAY

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there was wide variance between Allied and German viewpoints.

Welles expected to know the result of the Hitler-Mussolini meeting before he sails for home on the liner Conte di Savoia Wednesday, but a reliable source said he did not expect to delay his departure for it.

The German ambassador to Italy, Hans Georg-Viktor von Mackensen, left Rome today to meet Hitler, a German source said. This led to the belief that his sudden call at the foreign office yesterday, while Welles and Count Ciano were conferring, had to do with the Hitler-Mussolini meeting.

Rome was without definite word on plans of Il Duce who in the past week has conferred with both Undersecretary of State Sumner Welles and Joachim Von Ribbentrop, Germany's foreign minister.

The American envoy had his second talk with Mussolini yesterday after a swing through the warring capitals—Berlin, Paris and London—on a fact-finding tour for President Roosevelt.

Today Welles put in a couple of hours work at the United States embassy, writing a report for the President on his talks with Mussolini and Foreign Minister Count Galeazzo Ciano yesterday, and then took advantage of the spring sunshine for relaxation.

Welles and United States Ambassador William Phillips are scheduled for an audience with Pope Pius tomorrow morning for talks to which most observers attach great importance, particularly in light of the Pontiff's peace efforts.

HITLER LEAVES BERLIN—BERLIN, March 17.—(AP)—Adolf Hitler, cloaking his plans in secrecy until the last minute, left Berlin unexpectedly tonight on a dramatic trip to the Italian frontier where tomorrow he will meet his enigmatic axis-partner, Benito Mussolini, for the first time since the start of the war.

Diplomatic circles, astonished by Hitler's sudden departure, regarded the conference as a momentous development.

German quarters optimistically predicted the meeting would result in new measures of cooperation on the part of Italy which, though linked to the reich by a mutual assistance pact, thus far has carefully preserved her non-belligerent status.

Important Part—Observers believed that the tense situation in southeastern Europe, which both Hitler and Mussolini have no desire to see turned into a

battlefield, would play an important part in the talks.

Hitler was accompanied by his foreign minister, Joachim Von Ribbentrop, who returned to Berlin only last week after a two-day visit in Rome during which he conferred with Premier Mussolini and was received in audience by Pope Pius XII.

The official announcement of their departure, issued only after their train had pulled out, said the meeting between the Fuehrer and the Duce had been arranged by Ribbentrop while in Rome.

The announcement declared the meeting scheduled to take place in the Brenner Pass, had been "long envisaged," but gave no hint as to the directions the negotiations were expected to take.

(Dispatches from Rome disclosed that Mussolini already had left the capital en route to the Brenner Pass, accompanied by his foreign minister, Count Galeazzo Ciano.)

Throughout the day the greatest official secrecy had been observed in Berlin regarding the meeting until the announcement was made.

Rumors had persisted, however, that Hitler and Von Ribbentrop had departed for a conference with Mussolini and his foreign minister, Count Ciano.

Reliable sources said Hitler and Ribbentrop left by train at 11 a. m. (5 a. m. E. S. T.), and that tomorrow's conference is expected to take place at 10 a. m. (4 a. m. E. S. T.)

Man Dies When Airplane Overturns In Newark Bay

NEWARK, N. J., March 17.—(AP)—Floyd Shinn, 25, of North Arlington, drowned today when a small airplane in which he was taking flying lessons overturned in Newark Bay.

Kenneth Raymond, 31, of Maplewood, Shinn's pilot-instructor, was taken to St. James hospital, suffering from submersion. Raymond was rescued by Harold Shinn, 20, brother of the drowned man. Shinn saw a cross-gust of wind flip over the Piper Cub two-place plane a quarter-mile offshore and went to the scene in a rowboat he propelled with one oar.

First Lieutenant Honno Phillips, 24, an observer, proudly wearing the iron cross, said the assignment to his unit was to attack for the first time British airports protecting Scapa Flow in order to keep as many British pursuit planes grounded as possible.

"On the out-trip," Phillips said, "we were tense because it was the first raid on a British airport. We headed for Earth House first. Coming out of the east our objective lay clear before us. We let our row of bombs go. We saw bomb after bomb strike clouds of dirt as they struck the runways, then the bright fire of burning hangars.

"During the attack British pursuits tried to reach us from below but we turned off and disappeared into the night."

All the fliers said their planes suffered only small damage as a result of shell splinters.

GREATEST OF WAR—LONDON, March 17.—(AP)—Fourteen German planes carried out the greatest raid of the war against British soil Saturday evening, dropping 100 high explosive and incendiary bombs about Scapa Flow naval anchorage, damaging one battleship and causing Britain's first civilian casualties in aerial warfare.

Seven navy men were casualties, one civilian was killed and seven civilians, including two women, were injured. Five cottages were damaged. Late tonight the air ministry said the Royal Air Force, in a daylight counter blow yesterday, sighted several German patrol vessels in Helgoland Bight off the German coast between the Islands of Borkum and Helgoland, and attacked them with bombs.

One of the German naval vessels was said reliably to have been "partially lifted out of the water" by bomb explosions. All British aircraft were declared to have returned safely.

German planes, which returned to the attack today with raids on British east coast shipping, were intercepted by British fighters. The air ministry said two of the German bombers were chased into the clouds and that "damage was believed to have been inflicted on both of them."

Judge Dwight C. Haven Passes In Tampa, Fla.

Judge Dwight C. Haven, about 74, Atlantic Coast Line attorney in Wilmington for many years, died Thursday at his home in Tampa, Fla., it was learned here last night.

Funeral services and interment for Judge Haven will be in Joliet, Ill., his native home. He was retired from active duty with the railroad several years ago and has been in Florida since that time.

He was well known in Wilmington and had many friends here.

NAZI AIRMEN SAY BRITISH SHIPS HIT

(Continued From Page One)

British home fleet had been brought to Scapa Flow.

"We waited for days, loaded carefully, prepared for weather which would be most favorable because we did not want to experience what the British did Dec. 18 (when the Germans said they shot down 36 British Vickers-Wellington bombers over Helgoland Bight)," said Major Doench.

"Just before flying off we talked our plan over once more and then departed. We flew a roundabout way because we were not foolish enough to go directly. We came toward the Orkneys from the east and still could see well. (It was about twilight.)

Many Ships—"The surprise was so great the British apparently were at their evening meal. Before us was such an endless number of ships we had trouble picking out which one we should make the target.

"We hit four of the biggest, each at least once directly with 1,000 pounders.

"Other bombs landed close beside the ships so that they lifted into the air and settled back into the water.

"For half an hour as we circled about the north we saw huge columns of flame. About 7:55 p. m. we disappeared into the darkness toward home."

Twenty-six-year old First Lieutenant MacMagnussen, a short, nervy pilot who has participated in 13 flights against Britain, said "we flew toward the Orkneys sometimes so high we had to use oxygen, sometimes through brief rain and sleet storms. Our radio man entertained us by playing hot music on his harmonica, which was relayed to the others by our radio system. As we approached the Orkneys there were no clouds, hence it was unfavorable for us because the English could quickly spot us."

"All was quiet on board as we flew to attack one of the warships most favorably situated.

Calm Command—"The attack begins," was the calm, crisp command.

"The outlook in the nose of the ship glided me.

"Now a little to the right, now a little to the left," he said.

"Then I sensed the plane lightening. The bombs were dropping. It was a few seconds before I learned the results. Then our bomber called, 'we hit, she's burning!'"

"The prow of the boat was enveloped in a cloud of smoke which spread so that the entire craft soon was buried in a black mass.

"Tongues of red flame shot out. We made a few curves to watch the fireworks. Anti-aircraft firing appeared to be planless shooting, as though the English were not able to see us.

"Then came the warning that pursuits were on our tail. I rose in spirals, stepped on the gas. As we departed into the darkness we saw another great torch spring up. Apparently another big one had been hit."

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The European War Situation

(By The Associated Press) BERLIN — Hitler secretly leaves Berlin for conference with Mussolini; German command says air raid on Scapa Flow results in severe damage to three British battleships and probable damage to two others.

LONDON — Admiralty says only one battleship damaged in greatest air raid of war; seven naval casualties and first civilian killed by German bomb; air ministry reports counter raid on nazi patrol boats.

ROME — Mussolini leaves suddenly for meeting with Hitler; Fact-Finder Welles to remain in Rome until Wednesday.

PARIS — Severe localized fighting continues on western front.

HELSINKI — Newspaper Uusi Suomi suggests Field Marshal Baron Mannerheim assume direction of Finland's fate "in general."

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25 Persons Killed In Passenger Train Wreck

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia, March 17.—(AP)—Twenty-five persons were killed and 70 injured today when a passenger train crowded with peasants and army reservists was wrecked by an avalanche in a narrow canyon near Ozalj.

One of the seven coaches was hurled into the Kulpa river and all its occupants were believed drowned. The remaining coaches, all badly

damaged, clung precariously to the river bank.

Government authorities, who said the avalanche was caused by recent heavy rains, rushed medical aid to the scene.

WILL VISIT POPE—ROME, March 17.—(AP)—Pehr Evinid Svinhufvud, former president of Finland who came here from Berlin, will be received by Pope Pius tomorrow shortly after United States Undersecretary of State Sumner Welles.

REVIEW PARADE—NEWARK, N. J., March 17.—(AP)—Postmaster General James Farley, chairman of the national democratic committee, reviewed New Jersey's St. Patrick's day parade on Broad street today.

JUDY, YOU NITWIT—YOU'LL BE FIT FOR A WHEEL CHAIR! OH, THAT'S BOSH, KATY! NOW THAT MIRACLE MODESS IS HERE IT'S SILLY TO FOLD UP ON DIFFICULT DAYS! BUT DON'T YOU WORRY ABOUT CHAFING? WHY SHOULD I, KATY? MODESS HAS A WONDERFUL NEW FEATURE CALLED "MOISTURE ZONING." IT ACTS TO DIRECT MOISTURE INSIDE THE PAD, KEEPING EDGES DRY AND COMFORTABLE LONGER THAN EVER BEFORE! ANOTHER BIG DIFFERENCE! MODESS' HAS A GENTLE FLUFF-FILLER! SO AIRY—SOFT, IT MOULDS TO THE BODY PERFECTLY—WITHOUT BULK OR BUNCHING! AND MODESS' MOISTURE-RESISTANT BACKING GUARDS AGAINST STRIKING THROUGH! OH, JUDY! THANKS A MILLION FOR TELLING ME ABOUT MIRACLE MODESS! AFTER A ROUND OF GOLF—I NEVER DREAMED I COULD BE SO COMFORTABLE! AND AREN'T YOU GLAD MODESS COSTS NO MORE!

GOOD NEWS for Mr. and Mrs. America! From Heating and Plumbing Headquarters comes the newest equipment for home comfort, home economy! NO MATTER how little or big your budget or your home... whether you are building or modernizing... you're sure to find the exact type of Heating Equipment and Plumbing Fixtures you prefer in the really complete American Radiator and Standard Sanitary line.

AMERICAN RADIATOR & Standard Sanitary CORPORATION NEW YORK PITTSBURGH Cast Iron & Steel Boilers & Furnaces for Coal, Oil, Gas • Radiators Plumbing Fixtures & Fittings • Air Conditioners • Coal & Gas Water Heaters • Copper Pipe & Fittings • Oil Burners • Heating Accessories SHOWROOMS IN PRINCIPAL CITIES

THE BRILLIANT STAR of "Mr. Smith Goes To Washington" THE SWEETHEART of "3 Comrades" THE DIRECTOR of "Ninotchka"

COMBINE To bring you the grandest, most heart-warming entertainment of the year! ... A romance for every man who ever made a blind date—for every girl who ever kept one! Margaret SULLIVAN James STEWART in the Ernst Lubitsch production The SHOP AROUND THE CORNER with FRANK MORGAN Joseph Schildkraut

BIJOU TODAY ONLY True ADVENTURE! greater than any fictional STANLEY AND LIVINGSTONE TRACY HELLY GREENE