

GERMANS TAKE LAON, 70 MILES FROM PARIS; PLAN PUSH TOWARD CHANNEL TO TRAP ALLIES

Nine Officials Of Coast Line Are Advanced

F. W. Brown, Now General
Manager, Is Promoted
To Vice Presidency

ARE EFFECTIVE JUNE 1

Howard, King, Kendall,
Brantley And Doss Are
Among Men Advanced

Nine major promotions, all effective June 1 and all to be located in Wilmington, were announced yesterday by officials of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad company.

The announcement followed the voluntary resignations Friday of J. W. Perrin, freight traffic manager, and J. N. Brand, assistant vice-president.

Brown Promoted

The advancements included the promotion of F. W. Brown, now general manager, as vice president in charge of operations by the railroad's board of directors at a meeting in New York on May 16. Mr. Brown will continue as general manager of the company.

Mr. Brown entered the service of the Atlantic Coast Line in March, 1920, as assistant to the general manager and has been in Wilmington since that time.

Other Promotions were:

W. H. Howard, now general passenger agent, to assistant passenger traffic manager.

P. L. King, now superintendent of passenger transportation, to general superintendent of transportation.

H. M. Kendall, now superintendent of freight transportation, to assistant general superintendent of transportation.

J. B. Brantley, now assistant vice president, to general traffic manager.

R. J. Doss, now freight traffic manager, to general freight traffic manager.

R. G. Hodgkin, now assistant freight traffic manager, to freight traffic manager.

George P. James, now general passenger agent at Washington, D. C., to passenger traffic manager.

The promotions were announced by H. L. Borden, secretary of the company, in New York, by F. W. Brown, general manager, and by J. B. Brantley, assistant vice president. Local appointments were approved by C. McD. Davis, executive vice president.



Up go more and more sandbags in a London square as British soldiers feverishly prepare their capital for the long-threatened aerial blitzkrieg, feared by Britons to be nearer with every foot the Nazi columns advance toward the west.

RFC Offers Credit Aid To Defense Industries

WASHINGTON, May 20.—(AP)—The RFC offered its credit facilities to industries which lack capital for expansion necessitated by the national defense program today, while at a conference of aircraft manufacturers came official word that for the present at least they needed no help.

Jesse Jones, the RFC chairman, issued a statement saying his agency was ready to cooperate with the banks in making secured loans for national defense purposes, by taking 75 per cent of such loans or underwriting 75 per cent leaving the bank carrying 25 per cent of the advance.

Industry Prepared

After conferring with the nation's principal aircraft builders in a hurriedly summoned session, Secretary Morgenthau told reporters the industry had sufficient capital, and enough skilled workers to meet the present demands of the defense situation, without sacrificing labor standards.

The development came as a surprise to some officials who had been discussing the possibility of RFC loans for the purpose of building additional plant capacity, or of having the government build new plants directly, retain ownership, and lease them to private builders. This possibility apparently remained in the long-range picture.

"The administration and the RFC hope to have the fullest cooperation from banks in meeting whatever credit demand there may be," Jones said in a formal statement.

Meanwhile, a congress pushing the defense appropriations through top speed heard from Rep. Martin of Massachusetts, the republican of the hemisphere

AGENCY IS PREPARED Martin Asks New Deal How It Intends To Finance New Arms Demands

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COAL ACT UPHELD BY U. S. TRIBUNAL

WASHINGTON, May 20.—(AP)—The supreme court, in a decision upholding the bituminous coal act, ruled 8 to 1 today that congress can constitutionally prescribe price-fixing, marketing controls and other regulatory remedies to cure "chaotic conditions" in interstate industry.

The act was passed in 1937 after an earlier regulatory law, called the Guffey coal act of 1935, was ruled invalid. The aim of the legislation was to curb the "over-production and savage, competitive warfare" which, Justice Douglas said in today's majority opinion, had "wasted" the bituminous coal industry.

"Labor and capital alike were the victims," the opinion observed. "Financial distress among operators and acute poverty during periods of general prosperity. This history of the bituminous coal industry is written in blood as well as in ink."

If the operators themselves "had endeavored to stabilize the markets through price-fixing agreements," Douglas commented, they "would have run afoul" of the Sherman anti-trust act.

But he added that "what congress has forbidden by the Sherman act it can modify. It may do so by placing the machinery of price-fixing in the hands of public agencies. It may single out for separate treatment, as it has done on various occasions, a particular industry and thereby remove the penalties of the Sherman act as respects it."

Congress under the commerce clause is not impotent to deal with what it may consider to be dire consequences of laissez-faire (non-interference). It is not powerless to take steps in mitigation of what in its judgment are abuses of cut-throat competition.

"The commerce clause (of the

LOUVAIN LIBRARY GUTTED BY FIRE

U. S. Correspondents Find
Entire Population Of
City Has Fled

BY LOUIS P. LOCHNER
WITH THE GERMAN WEST-ERN ARMIES, May 20.—(AP)—American newspaper correspondents, guests of Adolf Hitler, today saw the ruins of Louvain library, which was erected on Herbert Hoover square by co-operation of numerous American universities.

The building had been gutted by fire. Its 700,000 volumes must be considered lost. All floors had been swept by the blaze.

No one seemed to be able to say by whom or how the blaze had been set.

From the basement wisps of smoke still rose.

Practically the entire population of Louvain, 41,000, had fled. The German military commander of the city, Lieutenant Colonel Engelman, tried to form an emergency city council with a fire captain and

NEW AMERICAN AIR BASES SUGGESTED

Proposed As Partial
Answer To Sunday's Speech
By Colonel Lindbergh

WASHINGTON, May 20.—(AP)—Development of new air bases in the Western Hemisphere, under the common sovereignty of all American republics, was suggested by some officials tonight as a partial answer to last night's speech of Col. Charles A. Lindbergh. Lindbergh demanded an adequate defense of the hemisphere

WEATHER

FORECAST
North Carolina: Partly cloudy with scattered showers and drizzle Tuesday; Wednesday generally fair, not much change in temperature.

Meteorological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m. yesterday:
Temperature: High 82; low 67.
Precipitation: 0.10 in.
Humidity: 73% at 7:30 p. m.
Wind: S.W. 10-20 mph.

Tides For Today
High 9:30 a. m. 4:25 p. m.
Low 10:30 a. m. 4:25 p. m.
Sunrise 6:06 a. m.; sunset 7:11 p. m.; moonset 5:16 a. m.

Measure To Permit Vote On Longer Weed Quotas Is Approved By House

WASHINGTON, May 20.—(AP)—The house passed and sent to the senate today a bill to amend the agriculture adjustment act to permit tobacco farmers to vote on the question of establishing tobacco marketing quotas up to three years, instead of for one year as at present.

The bill also amends the definition of "carry over" of tobacco to exclude from consideration tobacco of the 1939 and 1940 crops purchased for the British trade and temporarily stored in this country.

The bill also would authorize upward adjustment of the national marketing quota for any year by not over 20 per cent and make it possible to spread over a period of two or three

REICH SEEKING TO ISOLATE, WIPE OUT MIGHTY BRITISH ARMY IN NORTHERN FRANCE

BRITISH AIRMEN BUSY Reported Doing Steady Damage To Bases And Communication Lines

LOSE 16 AIRPLANES English Troops In Belgium Dropping Back Before German Drive

BRITAIN

LONDON, May 20.—(AP)—Britain's airmen, outnumbered but claiming superiority, plane for plane and man for man, tonight were reported doing steady damage to supply bases and communication lines of the Germans driving to channel ports for an attack on England.

An air ministry bulletin said fighter patrols of one Royal Air Force group had brought down more than 50 Heinkels, Dorniers, Junkers and Messerschmitts Saturday and Sunday, "with less than half that number of casualties to themselves."

Attack Oil Tanks

A detailed account of Saturday bombings of oil storage tanks near Hanover and railway junctions at Cologne, said a "strong formation" attacked oil tanks at Misburg, and roads and bridges behind the German lines at Gemboux, Givet, Dinant and Namur on the Belgian front.

The midnight attack on the oil tanks lasted two hours and the raiders reported "at one stage in the operations seven bombs were seen to fall diagonally across the target and three big explosions immediately followed. Several huge fires were seen to break out."

Still Burning

The raiders said that on their way home they saw the oil tanks bombed on Friday at Bremen still were "well alight."

In the railway junction attacks, 36 bombs dropped on one point, the account said, with "several direct hits... causing extensive damage."

One end of a bridge over the Sarnes river.

He's France's New War Chief



Gen. Maxime Weygand, former commander of Allied army in Near East, who was made chief of French general staff and commander-in-chief of military operations. This places him over General Gamelin in actual conduct of war.

SHIFT DIRECTION German Offensive Toward English Channel Eases The Threat To Paris

PINCHERS SHAPED

FRANCE

PARIS, May 20.—(AP)—Across the northern plains of France Adolf Hitler's men in rolling armor — 60,000 strong in the advance guard — battered westward tonight on a new tangent, the English channel as their goal.

The shift of direction of this steel-plated spearhead of five mechanized divisions eased the threat to Paris after the vanguard had thrust to within 80 miles of the French capital.

New Objective

The new objective—besides the oft-mentioned aim of bases for direct attack on the British Isles—apparently was to drive an iron wedge between the main French forces defending Paris and the British-Belgian-French armies in Belgium.

(Berlin reports estimated that a successful drive to the sea might isolate 300,000 British soldiers on the Allied northern flank.)

Northern Allied armies were forced to drop back to intercept the threat, while the main body of French troops fought to stem the German advance. These movements recalled the "race to the sea" at the start of the World war which left the Allies in control of the channel.

Future Uncertain

Whether Germany definitely had abandoned the idea of striking at Paris remained uncertain.

(Reports reaching Basel, Switzerland, May 20.—(AP)—Italy swung her war preparations into a new high speed tonight as the feeling grew stronger in many Italian minds that her entry into the conflict merely was a matter of time and new demonstrations against Great Britain and France broke out.

The war department ordered three days of air raid drill and blackouts in Rome province as well as at Terni, 45 miles northeast, where

CREATE BIG 'SACK' German Army Headed To- ward Noyon, Only 50 Miles North Of Paris

PUSHING OFFENSIVE

GERMANY

BERLIN, May 20.—(AP)—Germany's blitzkrieg troops pushed deeper into France today by capturing the city of Laon, 75 miles northeast of Paris, while, in the west, Nazi warriors created a huge "sack" which they sought to close and trap thousands of Allied soldiers.

The German high command in a special communique declared that the German warflag "is flying from the citadel of Laon" and that the Germans had advanced to the canal connecting the Oise-Aisne rivers, 6 miles southwest of Laon.

Headed Toward Noyon

Thus, with new ground gained on the eastern edge of the German pocket in France, the Nazis were headed toward Noyon, only 50 miles north of Paris. Both Laon and Noyon were held by the Germans during most of the World war and Noyon then was destroyed by heavy bombardments.

In the west, where the German army swung toward the English channel in an attempt to isolate and destroy the British army of 300,000 in northern France, an authoritative source pictured the "sack" as follows:

The Sack

The bottom is the Belgian city of Charleroi, on the Sambre river. The northern part of the "mouth" is Cambrai, France, 35 miles southeast of Tournai and 55 miles southwest of Charleroi.

Many Belgians and French and perhaps British are believed almost surrounded in the "sack."

DNB, the German official news agency, saw in the possible closing of the "sack" a repetition of the Kutno battle in the Polish campaign last September where the Germans reported bagging 170,000 prisoners.

The Germans called Kutno one of the greatest destructive battles of all times.

Great Activity

The news agency said there was great activity along the channel ports on the continent, indicating

WAR ENTRY PLANS PUSHED BY ITALY

Many Believe Its Entry Into Conflict Is Merely A Matter Of Time

BY RICHARD G. MASSOCK
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WAR INTERPRETIVE

BY KIRKE L. SIMPSON
(Associated Press Writer)

The fate of Allied armies in Flanders hangs perilously on the confused battle along the western flank of the huge salient Germany has carved into northern France in a dozen days and nights of fighting.

Whether massed French forces holding the road to Paris at the depth of the pocket and along its southern flank forced the Nazi attack to veer westward, or whether the shift conforms to German grand strategy is not clear. There can be

Canada To Raise Another Division

OTTAWA, May 20.—(AP)—Prime Minister Mackenzie King said tonight in the house of commons that Canada has more than 100,000 men on military duty, 23,000 in England, and will undertake to raise a third division for service.

The prime minister reported that the first division in Europe will be followed by another of 24,645 men.

More than 9,600 are engaged in cost defense, 16,665 are guarding vital centers and more than 6,000 are at miscellaneous tasks, he said.

The Canadian air force has 1,389 officers and 10,926 men.

Outlining a war program involving \$700,000,000 war expenditures for the fiscal year—\$2,000,000 a day—the prime minister asked approval of creation of a new ministry of national defense for air.

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German Drive Shows War Is On Streamlined Basis

(Editor's note: J. Norman Lodge, 40-year-old Associated press staff writer who won the Croix de Guerre for his part in the World War, tells how modern warfare methods have revolutionized the old rules of fighting. Lodge went to Europe in March. He saw fighting at Narvik and Namsos, Norway, in the German invasion of Scandinavia and was taken to Scotland on a British transport when the Allies abandoned Namsos.)

BY J. NORMAN LODGE
LONDON, May 20.—(AP)—Tear your old military textbook—modern warfare has gone streamlined, mostly air-streamlined.

The ancient idea that artillery preparation must precede an infantry advance, that supply and ammunition trains must follow up the advances to provision troops adequately, even that hospital troops are necessary, is about as useless as last month's map.

The modern method, especially the tactics being pursued by the attacking Germans is, according to a neutral military observer, as intricate as a Colgate football maneuver and just about as efficient.

The German method might be described as a naval battle on land.

After choosing the objective or country to be attacked and invaded

Every Day Is THE Day

- To Rent Vacancies
- To Sell Furniture
- To Sell Real Estate
- To Sell Used Cars
- To Sell Businesses
- To Secure Help
- To Find Lost Articles

With A Want Ad
Call 2800
To Start Your Ad

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 5)