

F. R. ESTABLISHES NEW ARMS PRODUCTION AGENCY

Deems Murray Is Arrested On Murder Charge Here Is Empowered To Take Over Any Factories

Will Be Speaker



OTIS M. MULL MULL IS ASSURED OF SPEAKERSHIP

George Ussell, His Opponent, Nominates Him At Democratic Caucus

RALEIGH, Jan. 7.—(AP)—O. M. Mull of Cleveland county tonight was assured of election as speaker of the house when his opponent for the office, George Uzzell of Rowan, nominated him immediately after the caucus had been called to order for their caucus.

On Uzzell's motion, the nomination of Mull, 60-year-old lawyer, farmer and textile mill operator of Shelby, was made unanimous. He will be elected when the house convenes at noon tomorrow. This will be his fifth term as Cleveland county representative. He came to the house first in 1907 and returned in 1919, 1929, and 1939.

Uzzell, also a lawyer serving his fifth term, had indicated up to the time of the caucus that he would not withdraw from the race. He has claimed support by 61 house members—57 votes were necessary for nomination—and Mull had said he had about 100 votes.

Democrats of both houses caucused tonight—the first actual grinding of the 1941 legislative machinery.

The republicans, with but six members in the house and two in the senate, did not hold caucuses. Senate democrats nominated Senator John D. Larkins, Jr., of

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 2)

BUSINESS, TRADE BODIES TO MERGE

Better Business Club Decides To Join The Chamber Of Commerce

The membership of the Wilmington Better Business club last night voted to merge with the Chamber of Commerce, which is now under revision in order to revitalize it.

The club, accepted the invitation of Harris Newman, chairman of the

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 6)

Southeastern N. C. Shows 60,059 Population Gain

The ten counties of Southeastern North Carolina have a combined population of 396,887—a gain of 60,059 over the 1930 population of 336,828, according to an official release yesterday from the Bureau of Census in Washington.

Cumberland county had the largest increase over the past decade, a gain in population of 31.2 per cent. Brunswick county had the lowest gain, 8.3 per cent.

Charged With Killing Kelly With Truck

Coroner's Jury Had Returned 'Accidental' Death Verdict Month Ago

EVIDENCE IS OBTAINED

Sinclair Says Witnesses Claim Defendant Ran Over Kelly In Street

A death, termed "accidental" a month ago by a coroner's jury, last night had developed into a case of murder against J. Deems Murray, of 924 N. Fourth street, as the city plainclothes squad said it had uncovered startling evidence of foul play.

Murray, a 50-year-old truck driver, was arrested late yesterday afternoon and charged with the slaying of James A. Kelly, 69, a night watchman and former deputy sheriff of 111 Walnut street, on December 7, District Solicitor David Sinclair said.

Evidence Secured The solicitor said the officers had secured evidence that Kelly was shoved away from the side of a truck by Murray who then intentionally ran over him in the street.

No motive for the slaying was revealed by Solicitor Sinclair but officers said it "involved a case of jealousy."

Murray was being held without bond in New Hanover county jail last night pending further investigation by the city detectives.

Body Found Dec. 7 The crumpled, battered body of Kelly was found about 6 o'clock on Saturday evening, December 7, at the intersection of Fourth and Nixon streets by a police patrol car, responding to a wreck call, police said.

His ribs badly fractured and one of his lungs punctured, Kelly was

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 6)

BRITISH USE U. S. PLANES IN LIBYA

American-Made Craft Do 'Exceptionally Good Work' In African Drive

CAIRO, Egypt, Jan. 7.—(AP)—American planes made their first appearance with the British Near Eastern forces in the present offensive in Libya and have done "exceptionally good work," a Royal Air Force official disclosed tonight.

The first to go into service here were Martin bombers. While only small numbers are being used so far, observers said they seem adapted to the desert air warfare, which offers many special problems, such as navigating in sandstorms and screening sand out of the mechanism.

The current arrivals of American aircraft in Egypt were described as a "trickle," which air officials said they hoped would grow steadily.

Air chiefs here are highly satisfied with the RAF's performance.

(Continued on Page Five; Col. 6)



WILLIAM C. BULLITT BULLITT SPEAKS AT CHAPEL HILL

Says U. S. Must Give Democracies All The War Materials They Need

CHAPEL HILL, Jan. 7.—(AP)—William C. Bullitt, former American ambassador to France, declared tonight "we know that the surest way to defeat the axis powers is for us to go to war in support of Great Britain, Greece and China" but that the American people "at this moment" prefer to take the risk of a totalitarian victory "rather than go to war."

"To diminish that risk, Bullitt told the international relations club of the University of North Carolina, the United States must give those nations "what they need—not what we think we can comfortably spare."

He listed "merchant ships, war vessels, airplanes, guns, munitions, steel, wheat—all that we give will be used in defense of our own security."

In his first speech since he resigned from government service, Bullitt declared: "We hate war and because of that hatred the question of entering this war as a national policy does not even arise."

"We know that the surest way to defeat the axis powers is for us to go to war in support of Great Britain, Greece and China, but we hate war so much that we prefer to take a chance on the ability of the British, the Greeks and the Chinese to defeat the dictator powers without direct military assistance from us."

"We know what the consequences of totalitarian victory would be for us, and we are taking this risk with our eyes open."

"Unquestionably, the people of the United States at this moment prefer to take this risk rather than go to war."

Bullitt, who more than two months ago advocated that arms production go to war on a "war-time basis," said that, adding Britain, Greece and China involved slight danger of war.

"It is so greatly to the advantage of the totalitarian states to have us stay out of war while they are attempting to conquer Great Britain."

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 2)

WEATHER

FORECAST North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia: Partly cloudy with slowly rising temperature Wednesday and Thursday.

(By U. S. Weather Bureau) (Meteorological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m. yesterday.)

Wilmington High 12:30a 1:11p Masonboro Inlet 3:36a 9:58a Cape Fear river stage at Fayetteville on January 7, at 8 a. m., 13 feet.

British Take Army Airport Near Tobruk

Troops Seize 40 Italian Planes Grounded As Result Of RAF Action

DEFENSES ARE TESTED

British Reveal Three Black-shirt Commanders Deserted Men At Bardia

CAIRO, Egypt, Jan. 7.—(AP)—Advanced forces of the British army were declared officially today to have thrust almost 70 miles west of fallen Bardia to occupy the military airport serving Tobruk, the main Italian base in Libya, and seized 40 fascist planes grounded there by RAF action.

Some of the fast motorized units used thus far so successfully in this desert offensive were reported almost at Tobruk's gates, darting in here and there to test the ports outer defenses.

Operations Satisfactory The British command itself put the situation in a sentence: "Operations toward Tobruk are proceeding satisfactorily."

Tonight British general headquarters asserted that three black-shirt (political militia) commanders deserted their troops during the unsuccessful Italian defense of Bardia, thus leaving "the regular (army) commanders to fight on."

No details were given. Nothing was said officially here about the total number of Italian troops now put out of action, but official quarters in London estimated that 94,000 had been rendered "ineffective"—70,000 prisoners plus the dead, wounded and missing.

Command Air In announcing that the Tobruk airport at El Adem, some 15 miles to the south of Tobruk itself, had been abandoned and fell without a struggle, the British thus indirectly laid claim to an effective command of the air at least along the entire 70 miles of coastal area from Bardia.

The approaches to Tobruk's harbor were declared cut off by British warships; the coastal road in

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 3)

ITALY DETERMINED TO STAY IN WAR

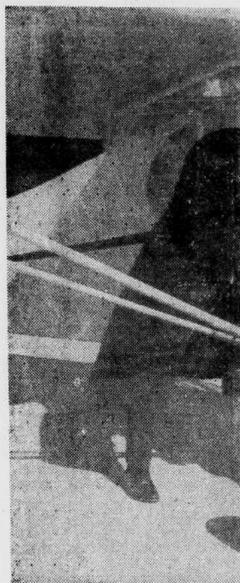
Editor Gayda Says Nation Intends To Fight On As Axis Partner

ROME, Jan. 7.—(AP)—Italy let it be known today that, in spite of her defeat at Bardia and President Roosevelt's plan for increased United States aid to Britain, she intends to fight on to the finish as an Axis partner.

"However gigantic the British empire's resources appear on paper and the promises which the United States brings alongside them, the Axis' means are more immediately and more powerfully

(Continued on Page Five; Col. 3)

Senator Rowe Off to Legislative Wars



State Senator Roy Rowe, of Burgaw, representing the district comprised by New Hanover and Pender counties, is shown climbing into the cabin of a local airplane at Blumenthal Airport for a flight to Raleigh for the opening of the North Carolina State legislature today.

Senator Rowe is an ardent amateur pilot and uses air travel whenever possible in his business. He arrived in Raleigh yesterday afternoon. Also shown in the picture is James Pennington, of the airport.

Bank Service Planned At Holly Ridge; 70 Officers Are Ordered To Camp Davis

PERMISSION IS ASKED

Low Temperature Retards Pouring Of Concrete At New Firing Center

Gurney P. Hood, state commissioner of banks, announced in Raleigh yesterday that the Waccamaw Bank and Trust company had applied for permission to establish a teller's window branch at Holly Ridge, where Camp Davis, an anti-aircraft firing center, is being constructed, according to an Associated Press dispatch.

In its request the bank stated that 3,000 men are at work at the camp now and that it is estimated that 6,000 men will be employed within the next three weeks. The daily payroll is expected to be approximately \$30,000.

Work Continues Meanwhile, work went ahead steadily at Camp Davis yesterday, with a strong wind helping considerably to dry out the land, made muddy by rains last week. The low temperatures, however, delayed the pouring of concrete on several buildings and the contractors do not expect to pour any concrete in a great quantity until the temperature rises.

With water pouring in where workmen were digging foundations for several buildings, it became necessary yesterday to install pumps to keep the water pumped out as fast as it flows in. Due to the boggy nature of the upper side of the camp site it was also necessary to build a special road for the hauling of materials and supplies.

Further developments yesterday included the setting up of a saw shop for the cutting and re-fabricating of raw lumber being hauled here. The shop, 126 by 244 feet,

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 5)

Brown Praises Naming Of Camp For Gen. Davis



General Thomas W. Brown, head of the N. C. State College Military Department, today praised the action of the War department in naming the Holly Ridge anti-aircraft firing base for the late Brigadier General Richmond P. Davis, a native of North Carolina.

General Davis was commander of Colonel Brown's brigade in Hawaii in 1923-25, and Colonel Brown was under his command at Fort Lawton, Seattle, Wash., in 1927-28.

Colonel Brown described General Davis as "a good soldier" and a "brilliant, master mathematician." Naming of the base for him, the colonel said, was a "just tribute to a great North Carolinian and a great American."

General Davis was commander of Colonel Brown's brigade in Hawaii in 1923-25, and Colonel Brown was under his command at Fort Lawton, Seattle, Wash., in 1927-28.

Colonel Brown described General Davis as "a good soldier" and a "brilliant, master mathematician." Naming of the base for him, the colonel said, was a "just tribute to a great North Carolinian and a great American."

General Davis was commander of Colonel Brown's brigade in Hawaii in 1923-25, and Colonel Brown was under his command at Fort Lawton, Seattle, Wash., in 1927-28.

CAPITAL PREPARES FOR INAUGURATION

Broughton And Other State Officials Will Be Sworn In Thursday

RALEIGH, Jan. 7.—(AP)—Raleigh decked its streets in patriotic bunting today for the inauguration Thursday of its first native son to become governor.

Flags and banners made Fayetteville street an avenue of color from the capitol to Memorial auditorium, where soon after noon Thursday J. M. Broughton and other state officials will also take their oaths.

Officials announced that everything was ready for the biggest in-

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 3)

War Interpretive

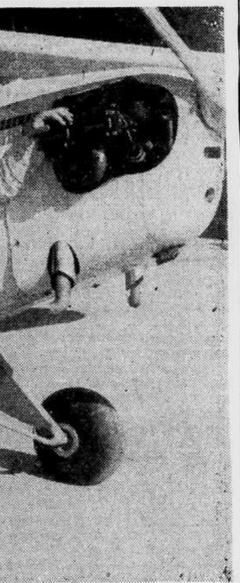
BY KIRKE L. SIMPSON Britain's official comment on President Roosevelt's "help-our-friends" speech strikes a ringing note of confidence that the critical corner of the war has already been turned.

"Fresh encouragement" has come from the United States, the London statement said, "at a time when there is good cause to believe that the tide of war is turning."

Behind this lies the conclusion of British war leadership that Italy has already been knocked out of

(Continued on Page Five; Col. 2)

SOME TO REPORT SOON



13 Will Arrive After Completing Tours In Philippine Department

The War department in Washington yesterday assigned 70 officers to Camp Davis, anti-aircraft firing center being developed at Holly Ridge, with 56 of the group being ordered to report about February 5 and 13 upon completion of their present tours of duty in the Philippine department.

Among the 56, drawn from various stations, were Lieutenant Colonel Robert T. Chaplin, James C. Tutson, Ernest R. Barrows and George W. Dunn, Jr.; four majors, 28 captains, six first lieutenants and 14 second lieutenants. The group being transferred from the Philippine department, included Lieutenant Colonel John B. Martin and Louis H. Thompson, Major Harold W. Smith, two captains and eight first lieutenants.

Lieutenant Colonel Ferdinand F. Gallagher was ordered to report at Camp Davis on January 21.

In addition to the officers named above, Army orders issued yesterday also included:

MAJORS John M. England, CAC, Fort Hancock, to Camp Davis. John E. Adkins, Jr., CAC, Fort Barrancas, to Camp Davis. Clem O. Gunn, CAC, Fort Barrancas, to Camp Davis. Melton A. Hatch, CAC, Fort Totten, to Camp Davis. Harold W. Smith, CAC, Philippine Dept., to Camp Davis.

CAPTAINS Clair McK. Conzelman, CAC, Philippine Dept., to Camp Davis. Lewis S. Kirkpatrick, CAC, Philippine Dept., to Camp Davis.

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 3)

Greek Destroyers Shell Valona, Return To Bases

ATHENS, Jan. 7.—(AP)—A squadron of Greek destroyers has churned into the Adriatic, penetrated by night into the Albanian gulf of Valona and shelled the Italian-held city with 80 rounds without even so much as sighting Italian warcraft, the Greek marine ministry announced tonight.

(Greek destroyers have been built both in Italy and Britain.) Then, said the communique, the squadron loaded back to its bases "at reduced speed."

The action was reported to have taken place on Sunday night, and coincided with another RAF bombardment of Valona, in which fires were declared left burning in warehouses and elsewhere on the waterfront.

Now, Greek military reports say the Greek forces are menacing Italian land communications between Tepeleni and Valona, major southwestern Albanian seaport. Tonight the Greek military spokesman said the Italians had evacuated 35,000 sick and wounded from Valona alone and that since the outbreak of hostilities Oct. 23 the fascist losses could be counted "in the tens of thousands."

(In Belgrade, it was reported that the wreckage from the Italian steamer Geneva, including 500 barrels of naphtha, had been found on the Yugoslav coast near Bar. This presumably is one of two Italian

(Continued on Page Five; Col. 1)

Knudsen, Hillman, Stimson And Knox Will Serve As Members Of Office

TO PUSH PRODUCTION

Members Of Body Stress Urgency Of Defense Problem, Ask Cooperation

By RICHARD L. TURNER

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—(AP)—To hasten the production of war materials for both the United States and Great Britain, President Roosevelt today formally established the new four-man "office of production management" with broad authority, including the power to take over any industrial plants considered non-cooperative.

As working heads of the new agency, he appointed William S. Knudsen, former president of General Motors, and Sidney Hillman, CIO vice president. Both were members of the old advisory defense commission. Knudsen will be director general and Hillman associate director general and they will act, Mr. Roosevelt said, as a team or partnership in wielding the tremendous powers at their disposal. Secretaries Stimson and Knox of the war and navy departments, respectively, are members ex-officio.

(The President had announced last month that he intended to set up the new agency, but his executive orders issued today gave hitherto undisclosed details of the agency's authority.

Explains His Orders After Mr. Roosevelt had explained his orders at his regular Tuesday press conference a reporter asked: "Mr. Roosevelt why is it that you do not want to appoint a single responsible head for the defense program?"

The inquiry pointedly recalled recent charges that the defense program was bogging down for the lack of a single responsible administrator.

The President, in obviously good spirits, anyway, laughingly answered that he had appointed a single head. The name of the new official, he said, was Knudsen Hillman. The two were in absolute agreement, he added, as to what

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 7)

REPORT ON HOME GUARD IS FILED

Defense Council Committee Files Recommendations With Chairman

The Home Guard committee of the Wilmington Defense Council yesterday recommended to Mayor Thomas E. Cooper that the Wilmington Light Infantry be given priority in the forming of a Home Guard here and that Capt. James B. Lynch be named the captain of the unit.

A meeting of the committee, appointed recently when Mayor Cooper named the Defense Council, was held Monday afternoon in the office of Wilbur R. Doshier, chairman. Those attending were Doshier, J. B. Edwards, Leo Sykes rep-

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 8)