

Rent Level Is Adopted By Group

Will Use Scale in Effect Here on May 1, 1940, To Prevent Increases

PROCEDURE IS GIVEN Action Is Taken by Fair Rents Division of the Housing Committee

The Fair Rents sub-committee of the Wilmington Housing committee yesterday adopted the rent level in effect here on May 1, 1940, as the "cardinal principle" on which it will operate in an effort to prevent excessive increases in rents in this defense-congested area.

County Adopts Resolution For School Bond Election

Approval of the resolution calling for a special bond election early in July to pass on the New Hanover county school board's request for \$500,000 to expand overcrowded school facilities was voiced yesterday by the board of county commissioners, meeting in regular session at the courthouse.

WALLACE FESTIVAL GETS UNDER WAY

WALLACE, May 19.—(AP)—Swelled with thousands of visitors, Wallace presented an atmosphere of gaiety tonight as its seventh annual Strawberry Festival opened its five day program of fun and pageantry paying homage to this section's chief money crop.

Five Rail Unions Decide To Seek Increase In Pay

CHICAGO, May 19.—(AP)—Declaring that the cost of living was rising, five big operating railroad unions decided today to seek a 30 per cent increase in the basic pay rates of their 350,000 members.

Aliens Seized By U. S.



Striking with sudden swiftness all over the nation in the first country-wide move to round up aliens who failed to comply with the 1940 registration act, government officials seized thousands of non-citizens and held an unannounced number for deportation proceedings.

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STIFFER PROFITS LEVY ADVOCATED

Treasury Offers Proposal To Help Finance Large Defense Program

WEATHER

FORECAST North Carolina — Partly cloudy and continued warm Tuesday; Wednesday increasing cloudiness, showers and cooler in west portion.

Four Army Fliers Die In Collision

Two Light Bombers Collide High Above Little Town Of Rains, S. C.

French Batteries Fire On British Planes Over Syria, Nation May Open Drive On De Gaulle's Forces

BRITISH BOMB BASES

LONDON, May 19.—(AP)—With the British bombing Syrian airbases as bases for the German air force and the French high commissioner in Syria accusing his ex-allies of "criminal aggressions," the fate of France's whole colonial empire may be at stake in the conflict taking shape in the Middle East.

London Radio Indicates Zamzam Might Be Safe

AMERICANS ON BOARD Berlin Radio Claims Large Liner Sank En Route From Brazil to Capetown

MARINES PATROL WOOD FIRE AREA

Major Challembe Says Some of Fires Have Been 'Rather Suspicious'

Defense Housing Fund Approved by Senate

WASHINGTON, May 19.—(AP)—The senate approved today a \$174,409,630 urgent deficiency appropriation bill which includes \$150,000,000 for national defense housing.

Fishing Boat Explosion Is Termed 'Unavoidable'

LITTLE RIVER, S. C., May 19.—A coroner's jury early today returned a verdict of "unavoidable accident" in the tragic fishing boat explosion which yesterday caused seven persons—all North Carolinians—to lose their lives 12 miles at sea off the Little River inlet.

VICHY MAY GRANT PASSAGE TO NAZIS

LONDON, Tuesday, May 20.—(AP)—France may hand back the former German African colonies of Togoland and the Cameroons and then grant Nazi troop passage across French territory to strike at the "Free French" forces of Gen. Charles De Gaulle, an authoritative source said early today.

Germany Believed Asking France to Re-Establish Control Over Colonies

VICHY, France, May 19.—(AP)—French anti-aircraft batteries were reported tonight to have begun firing on British warplanes over Syria and official sources here indicated an imminent French offensive attempt to regain empire territory now held by "De Gaulle rebels."

Two New Defense Strikes Develop

WORKMEN AT LORAIN, OHIO, YARDS OF AMERICAN SHIPBUILDING COMPANY QUIT

AOSTA, TROOPS FALL TO BRITISH

ROME, May 19.—(AP)—The Duke of Aosta and his troops defending the Ethiopian mountain stronghold of Amba Alaji have surrendered to the British after enduring a 40-day siege, the Italian high command announced today.

Group Is Named To Seek Defense Coordinator Here

Appointment of a special four-man committee to collaborate with agencies of the city, county, state and federal governments in finding a public official familiar with local conditions to serve as coordinator of all Wilmington defense activities was effected yesterday at a joint meeting between the Wilmington Defense Council and the board of county commissioners.

GERMANS ATTACK BRITISH VESSELS

BERLIN, May 19.—(AP)—Heavy German air attacks on British ships off the Greek island of Crete threw a significant light on expected military developments in the eastern Mediterranean, the German commentary Dienst aus Deutschland said tonight.

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