

Hughes To Quit Court On July 1

Retirement Request of Chief Justice Is Accepted By President Roosevelt

LETTER IS REVEALED

Declares Consideration Of Health and Age Makes Step Necessary

HYDE PARK, N. Y., June 2.—(AP)—President Roosevelt accepted tonight the request of Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes that he be permitted to retire from the Supreme Court on July 1.

The Chief Justice, in a letter made public by the temporary White House, informed the President that "consideration of health and age makes it necessary that I should be relieved of the duties which I have been discharging with increasing difficulty."

The President telegraphed Justice Hughes that he was "deeply distressed" by the letter and that it was his "every inclination" to beg him to remain. But he said "deep concern for your health and strength must be paramount."

Hughes' letter was delivered to the White House in Washington late today and telephoned to the offices of the temporary White House in Poughkeepsie, N. Y., a few miles from Hyde Park.

President Roosevelt was at his hilltop cottage, a retreat without a telephone, so Secretary William D. Hassett took a transcribed copy of the Hughes letter out by car. The telegram of acceptance was written in longhand.

Second Vacancy Hughes' retirement created a second vacancy on the Supreme Court bench unless that caused by the retirement of Associate Justice James C. McReynolds is filled before July 1.

(It was predicted in Washington that Attorney General Robert H. Jackson would succeed Justice Hughes.)

With the filling of the two vacancies, President Roosevelt will have appointed seven of the nine Supreme Court justices.

Senator James F. Byrnes, South Carolina Democrat, has been mentioned prominently for months as a likely candidate for appointment to the high tribunal.

Text of Letter Following is the text of Justice Hughes' letter to Mr. Roosevelt, dated June 2:

"My dear Mr. President: "Consideration of health and age make it necessary that I should be relieved of the duties which I have been discharging with increasing difficulty. For that reason I avail myself of the right"

(Continued on Page Ten; Col. 3)

JOHNSON ELECTED MINISTERS' HEAD

Association to Bring Dr. Harris E. Kirk to City For Services

The Rev. F. S. Johnson, pastor of Immanuel Presbyterian church, was elected president of the Wilmington Ministerial association at a luncheon meeting at Trinity Methodist church yesterday. He succeeds the Rev. James T. Lawson.

Other officers elected were the Rev. Mortimer Glover, vice-president, and J. B. Huntington re-elected secretary.

The association decided to make arrangements to bring Dr. Harris E. Kirk, of Baltimore, Md., to Wilmington in the spring of next year. Dr. Kirk is one of the outstanding American preachers and is also a teacher and author. He

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 2)

British Marine In Crete Shoots Down 20 Bombers

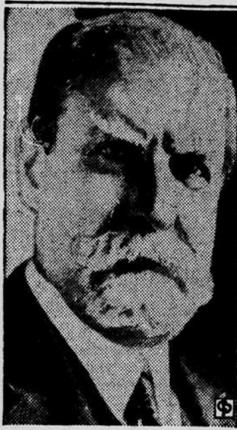
By LARRY ALLEN

ALEXANDRIA, June 2.—(AP)—A Young British Marine firing the last anti-aircraft gun in action at Crete, capital of Crete, brought down 20 German bombers before the British were forced to withdraw, one of his comrades said on his arrival today from the Nazi-conquered island.

The gunner, Lance Corporal Thomas Neal, 23, now is missing with five other members of the last Marine detachment to leave Crete. Private Patrick Mohoney, of Liverpool, who operated the searchlight near the gun position, told how Neal sang and shouted defiance at swarms of Stuka bombers

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 3)

Will Retire



CHIEF JUSTICE HUGHES

BEACH OFFICIALS PRAISE SOLDIERS

Mayor Fergus and Penton Say Conduct of Troops Exceptionally Good

Unstinted praise for the "gentlemanly conduct" of the thousands of Camp Davis and Fort Bragg soldiers who spent their week-end leisure time at Carolina and Wrightsville beaches was recorded yesterday in the minutes of the New Hanover board of county commissioners.

The laudatory remarks were voiced by R. C. Fergus, mayor of Carolina beach, and echoed by Dan Penton, Wrightsville town administrator, who appeared before the county board in a successful appeal for additional police held to handle civilian crowds.

"We had an unestimated thousands of soldiers down at Carolina beach over the three-day holiday period," Mayor Fergus told the county commissioners, revealing that there had been no disturbances or arrests by or of soldiers at the beach during the week-end.

"These new soldiers of the United States are, if I may be permitted to say so, gentlemen in every sense of the word. Their conduct at our beaches has been exceptional," Mayor Fergus related.

He emphasized that all disorders and arrests on the beach over the Friday-Saturday-Sunday period involved civilians.

Mayor Fergus' remarks were endorsed by Mr. Penton, appearing before the county board to ask the appointment of at least two new deputy sheriffs to augment the Wrightsville police force.

"Wrightsville this past week-end had the greatest crowd of its long history," Mr. Penton said. "There were a number of arrests, all of them involving civilians. Soldiers were orderly and conducted themselves in an excellent manner."

As an argument substantiating his request for additional police help—help, he said, which the Town of Wrightsville is in no financial position to give itself—Mr. Penton cited a civilian fight in Lumina dance hall last Saturday night in which a young woman had her left arm severely gashed by a knife.

"That fight would never have happened, I'm sure, had we been in a position to detail the proper number of police officers to the ballroom," the town commissioner told the county board.

"The type of people using Wrightsville beach this year are an entirely different element than we've had before; they're people who, for the most part, are never seen before, and the only hope of keeping order is more police," Mr. Penton declared.

The county board granted each of the beaches one additional deputy sheriff for the balance of this month, and went on record as favoring the addition of at least

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 5)

Winds And Downpour Lash City

Trees Knocked Down, Many Power Lines Struck

POWER SERVICE HIT

125 - Foot Police Radio Tower at Fourth and Dock Streets Blown Down

Reaching near-hurricane proportions at its 43-mile-an-hour peak, a freak windstorm lashed at Wilmington and environs yesterday afternoon, snapping a and uprooting trees, breaking plate glass windows, and interrupting telephone and power services over a 10-mile area.

The wind was accompanied by thunder, lightning and a heavy fall of rain that in the space of a few moments turned many city streets into miniature gushing torrents.

No One Injured

No personal injuries or casualties were reported.

The storm struck at the city from the north, coming first as a gusty wind rolling billows of dust before it. It reached its utmost fury at 2:05 p.m. to the accompaniment of deafening thunder and brilliant lightning.

At its peak, the windstorm virtually cleared downtown streets of all mobile and pedestrian traffic, sending thousands of persons scurrying for shelter in stores, hotel lobbies and theater foyers.

Apparently the storm was concentrated in an area bounded by a 10-mile radius of Wilmington, for by the time it had reached Wrightsville and Carolina beaches the wind had subsided.

To the northeast, Camp Davis was untouched by the windstorm, although a heavy rain fell there for nearly a half hour. At Southport, the storm had abated its intensity, bringing only a light rainfall.

Wilmington business and residential streets were generously littered with storm-strewn debris, mostly broken tree limbs and loose boards and shingles ripped from buildings.

Tower Blown Down

The 125-foot police radio tower at Fourth and Dock streets was blown down at the windstorm's height. Two supporting guy wires to the tower were whipped loose by the wind, and almost instantly the giant tower crashed.

Plate glass windows were broken in several downtown stores, and in the courthouse building four windows on the north side of the second floor were blown in by the impact of the wind.

An official of the Tide Water Power company said last night that the storm had caused an undetermined number of line breaks. All available linemen were rushed to duty to restore service at intervals.

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 5)

TRIBUNAL EXTENDS WATERWAY RIGHTS

Upholds Constitutionality Of Southwest Power And Flood Control Project

WASHINGTON, June 2.—(AP)—The supreme court broadened the Federal government's authority over the nation's waterways today in upholding the constitutionality of a \$54,000,000 power and flood control dam across the Red river on the Oklahoma-Texas border.

A notable decision earlier in the term, involving the New river in Virginia, upheld Federal jurisdiction over non-navigable portions of a navigable stream.

"And we now add that the power of flood control extends to the tributaries," the court said.

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 5)

WEATHER FORECAST

North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia—Considerable cloudiness Tuesday and Wednesday with local showers and thunderstorms, moderate temperatures. (Meteorological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m. yesterday):

(By U. S. Weather Bureau) 1:30 a. m. 74; 7:30 a. m. 79; 1:30 p. m. 93; 7:30 p. m. 79; maximum 93; minimum 69; mean 81; normal 75. Precipitation: 1.30 a. m. .92; 7:30 a. m. .79; 1:30 p. m. .38; 7:30 p. m. .78. Total for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m. .054 inches; total since the first of the month, .054 inches. Tides For Today: (From Tide Tables published by U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey) High Low Wilmington 3:44a. 11:29a. 4:27p. 11:47p. 1:14a. 7:50a. 2:06p. 8:23p. Masonboro Inlet 1:14a. 7:50a. 2:06p. 8:23p. Sunrise 5:01a.; sunset 7:19p.; moonrise 12:54p.; moonset 12:46a. H H

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 6)

Dies



LOU GEHRIG

GEHRIG, FORMER YANK STAR, DIES

'Iron Horse' of Baseball Passes After Long Illness Of Rare Disease

By JUDSON BAILEY NEW YORK, June 2.—(AP)—Lou Gehrig, great first baseman of the New York Yankees for 14 years, died tonight after two years' illness of a rare disease that everyone except he himself believed incurable.

The "Iron Horse" of baseball, who would have been 38 years old June 19, passed away at his home in the presence of his wife after a critical span of only three weeks. He did not lose consciousness until just before death at 9:10 p. m. (EST).

The disease which erased Gehrig from the lineup of the mighty Yankees on May 2, 1939 was diagnosed as "amyotrophic lateral sclerosis," a hardening of the spinal cord which caused muscles to shrivel.

He wasted away sharply in the final weeks and was reported 25 pounds underweight and barely able to speak shortly before he died.

He had served for a year and a half as a member of the New York city parole commission and visited his office regularly until about a month ago, when he decided to remain at home to conserve his energy.

In his playing days Gehrig was one of baseball's greatest stars, but was most famous for his great physical feat in playing 2,130 consecutive regularly scheduled American league games in 14 years.

He twice was chosen the most valuable player in the league and won a place in baseball's Hall of Fame, joining a score of the game's immortals.

He participated in 34 World Series games and piled up numerous batting records of various kinds. Through all the years Gehrig was known for his clean habits and affable disposition and these factors made him one of baseball's best beloved players.

They also helped him stand off the ravages of his disease after Gehrig had given up hope.

Gehrig refused to believe that his disease was incurable and as long as possible maintained a normal routine.

He had withdrawn voluntarily from the lineup in the spring of 1939 because he was in a slump. At that time no one realized he was ill. But after benching himself while the club was in Detroit, Gehrig went to the Mayo Clinic at Rochester, Minn., where the nature of his trouble was learned.

A treatment of daily injections was prescribed and followed faithfully for two years. Gehrig remained with the ball club for the remainder of the 1939 season, sitting in a far corner of the dugout and occasionally limping out to home plate to present the lineup to the umpires, but never taking part in another game.

The Yankees won their fourth straight world championship that fall, but Gehrig for the first time

(Continued on Page Ten; Col. 2)

Nazi Infantry Detachment Lands At Syrian Port Near Turk Line; British Prepare For New Battle

QUICK ACTION SEEN

Imperial Forces Poised To Strike At Syria To Block Nazi Foothold

CYPRUS DRIVE LOOMS

London Believes Turkey Will Not Yield to Axis Threats, Promises

LONDON, June 2.—Quick British military action against French-mandated Syria, where sea-borne German troops already are reported landing, was expected by authoritative observers tonight.

The conviction was expressed in informed quarters that Imperial forces are poised to strike at Syria to prevent the Nazis from getting a foothold there and also to bolster Turkey, Britain's non-belligerent ally.

Expect Assault

With Britons conceding the Mediterranean to be virtually an Axis lake and the dangerous turn of events in Syria, British authorities on Cyprus, island bastion standing between Axis-conquered Crete and Syria, began preparing for an anticipated German air assault. British women and children were removed from Cyprus, native families rushed to the hills and ground defenses were placed at the ready.

Authoritative informants expressed confidence that Turkey would never yield to Axis threats or promises. But whatever the Ankara government does, they said, Britain was determined to get the head start in Syria.

A move into the French mandate, occupying a position between Axis positions in the eastern Mediterranean and the middle east oil fields, would stiffen Turkish resistance, it was contended.

Hitler In Position

Qualified observers agreed, however, that Adolf Hitler already is in position to bring extreme pressure on Turkey through his occupation of Crete and Greece's Aegean islands. He appears to have isolated the Dardanelles from any hope of assistance by the Royal Navy.

In addition, the conquest of Crete might be used by the Nazi Fuehrer to show how easily his troops might attack along the whole west end of Turkey.

The belief that Syria presents the greatest immediate menace was enhanced by statements here of uncertainty about the situation in the vital northern Iraq oil fields.

Despite the armistice ending the month-old conflict in Iraq and the flight of Premier Rashid Ali Al Gailani, the main pipeline from

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 4)

M'RAE GIVES PARK TRACT TO COUNTY

15-Acre Tract Is Located On the South Bank Of Smith's Creek

A beautifully wooded tract of land comprising about 15 acres, located on the south bank of Smith's creek one mile north of the Princess street road, was yesterday donated to the county for a perpetual park by Hugh A. MacRae, Wilmington realtor and developer.

The gift was immediately accepted by the board of county commissioners, meeting in regular session at the courthouse, and plans for the tract's eventual development were discussed.

All the surviving accident victims are expected to recover, hospital attaches said tonight.

Members of the New Hanover High school graduating class of last week, it was announced last night, will meet in the High school auditorium this morning at 9 o'clock to arrange mass participation in the funeral rites for their fellow-graduate, Martha Hartis.

All members of the High school ROTC band, of which Betty Hartis was a member, will officially participate in the services for Betty, it was announced yesterday.

The list of pallbearers, as announced last night by spokesman for the family, will be as follows: For Miss Betty Hartis: Charles Rankin, Kenneth Warren, Murphy

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 3)

SYRIA CUTS LINES LEADING TO EGYPT

(By the Associated Press) CAIRO, Egypt, June 2.—Syria shut herself off from communications with Egypt suddenly and without explanation tonight and night amid growing signs that the French-ruled Middle East state might be the next battleground of the war veering eastward from the Mediterranean.

A broadcast on the Berlin radio wave length said the French high commissioner of Syria proclaimed a state of siege for the eastern Syrian region bordering Iraq and clamped down new border restrictions.

General Maxime Weygand, commander of French forces in North Africa, arrived at Vichy and conferred immediately with Chief of State Marshal Petain.

It appeared likely that his unheralded trip to the French provisional capital was connected with the Syrian proclamation, a possible precaution against a British "get-there-first" maneuver against the Axis.

Meanwhile, Syrian airports used by the Germans as way stops en route to aid the now-squelched Iraqi rebels again were the targets of the RAF.

While other RAF units covered the British retreat from Crete, the Middle East air command announced its bombers yesterday destroyed one Axis plane and damaged several others at Aleppo airdrome.

Germans circulated reports that the wily grand mufti of Jerusalem, long a thorn in Britain's side, had arrived at the rich Mosul oil fields of northern Iraq to reorganize Iraqi resistance to the British.

Talks Of Axis Partners Expected To Be Revealed

British Chiefs Rapped By London Daily Mail

LONDON, Tuesday, June 3.—(AP)—The London Daily Mail, in the sharpest press criticism of the British cabinet in weeks, today asked in an editorial:

"When are we really going to get down to the job of winning the war? When are we going to run machines, factories and shipyards to full capacity; when are we going to see an end of masterly retreats?"

Saying the country was seriously concerned about the way things are going, the editorial continued:

"Churchill declined to believe there was any uneasiness about Greece. Perhaps he can be persuaded that the people are deeply disturbed about Crete."

"We have been surprised in Norway, France, Greece and Crete and we have suffered from serious mistakes. The Germans seem to have made no mistakes."

"Something is wrong. Britain needs new ideas. She certainly needs a radical shakeup on the home front."

HARTIS SERVICES SCHEDULED TODAY

Rites Will Be Held From Winter Park Baptist Church at 4 O'Clock

Funeral services for the three Hartis children who lost their lives in an automobile collision Sunday afternoon between Dunn and Clinton will be held this afternoon at 4 o'clock from the Winter Park Baptist church.

The services will be conducted by the Rev. W. A. Tew and the Rev. Bryan Doshier. Interment will follow in Oakdale cemetery.

Pallbearers for the accident victims—Harold Henderson Hartis, 21; Martha Hartis, 19, and Betty Hartis, 17—will be mostly from High school friends of the children, the son and daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Harold H. Hartis, Sr., of Winter Park.

The children were killed, two of them instantly, early Sunday afternoon while motoring to Dunn to visit friends. Their car, driven by young Hartis, collided head-on with an automobile operated by Jerome Godwin, of Dunn. Godwin, another young man and two young women, are in a Fayetteville hospital, confined by serious injuries sustained in the crash, as is also Jimmy Edison, of Saluda, S. C., a passenger in the Hartis car.

All the surviving accident victims are expected to recover, hospital attaches said tonight.

Members of the New Hanover High school graduating class of last week, it was announced last night, will meet in the High school auditorium this morning at 9 o'clock to arrange mass participation in the funeral rites for their fellow-graduate, Martha Hartis.

All members of the High school ROTC band, of which Betty Hartis was a member, will officially participate in the services for Betty, it was announced yesterday.

The list of pallbearers, as announced last night by spokesman for the family, will be as follows: For Miss Betty Hartis: Charles Rankin, Kenneth Warren, Murphy

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 5)

GEARED FOR SPEED

Armored Cars and Mobile Field Guns Are Unloaded On Docks at Latakia

MOVE TOWARD BEIRUT

French Radio Says Syria May Soon Become Main Theater of War in East

ANKARA, Turkey, June 1.—(Delayed)—(AP)—A Nazi infantry detachment geared for speed landed last Thursday at the French Syrian port of Latakia, just south of the Turkish border, highly authoritative sources said today.

Armored cars and mobile field guns were among the equipment unloaded from coastal steamers which apparently hugged the coast to avoid British naval interception enroute from the Italian Dodecanese islands.

The German units were believed to have moved on southward to Beirut, Lebanon capital, more than 100 miles away. A good coastal road connects the two points.

Military observers here saw a strong possibility of an imminent German attack on Palestine, timed to coincide with a new offensive by the Axis into Egypt on the western approach to the Suez canal.

NEW THEATRE

The Free French Brazzaville radio in French Equatorial Africa reported that "Syria may soon become the main theater of operations in the Far East," the British news agency Reuters said.

Both Free French and British circles in London were discussing the possibility of a British invasion of Syria to counteract Axis moves which has included the landing of German planes in Syria. The end of hostilities against the British in Iraq would facilitate such a British move.

The Brazzaville radio said French army units in Syria had moved out of some of their barracks apparently to make way for German troops, that an important amount of shipping space had been assembled and placed under German control, and that German officials were organizing an additional distribution of food rations to the Syrians in order to win their sympathy.

(Observers in Turkey expressed belief that any Axis aerial assault on the British island of Cyprus in the eastern Mediterranean now that Crete has been conquered would spring from Axis bases in Syria.)

MANCHESTER HIT BY NAZI PLANES

Casualties Are Expected To Be Heavy and Property Damage Extensive

MANCHESTER, England, June 2.—(AP)—The Luftwaffe broke days of relative calm over England with a smashing explosive and fire attack upon this midlands factory city early today.

Rescuers struggling with wreckage through a pall of smoke hesitated to estimate the casualties. However, many houses, at least four shelters, a nurses' home, two hospitals, three churches, three hotels and two movie theatres were hit and observers expected the dead and wounded to reach large totals. Business property was considerably damaged.

(The Germans announced they had destroyed factories and warehouses in the British supply center with "numerous" incendiary and explosive bombs causing heavy explosions and extensive fires.)

The nurses' home was wrecked by a direct hit and many women were believed to have been buried. A physician crawled into the hos-

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 2)

F. D. R. MAY OFFER BRITAIN MORE AID

Chief Appears Moving Toward New and Possibly Momentous Decisions

HYDE PARK, N. Y., June 2.—(AP)—President Roosevelt appeared moving tonight in the direction of new and possibly momentous decisions on stepping up aid to England.

The completion of two legislative steps to strengthen America's armament effort—the expansion of mandatory priorities and the open-

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 5)

Casteen Assumes Duties Of Acting Police Chief

Police officers were advised yesterday afternoon, through a letter posted on their department bulletin board, and signed by James R. Benson, city clerk, that Chief Rourke had been relieved of "all official duties" with the department, and that Charles F. Casteen has been named acting chief. The bulletin letter stated that Rourke's dismissal had been effective since 12:30 p. m., Saturday, May 31.

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 4)