

Tobacco Tops \$30 On Marts BUYING RUNS HEAVY

Fairmont, Whiteville Report Record Sales of Over Million Pounds

Two tobacco markets of the Border Belt experienced sales of over a million pounds yesterday for the best sales since the days of the first World War.

The Fairmont Tobacco Board of Trade reported sales of 1,153,498 pounds for an average of \$31.88 per hundred and totalling \$367,733.83.

M. S. Smith, sales supervisor of the Whiteville market, reported 1,103,176 pounds cleared during the day for an average of \$31.30 per hundred.

FLORENCE, Aug. 18.—Second week of sales began today on the Carolinas Border Belt and the United States Department of Agriculture report showed that average prices on all quoted grades advanced over Friday.

The gains ranged from \$1 to \$4 in leaf grades and \$1 to \$2.50 on stems and primings.

ELIZABETH CITY BASE WASHINGTON, Aug. 18.—President Roosevelt today authorized construction of the \$6,500,000 lighter-than-air naval dirigible base at Elizabeth City, N. C.

WALLACE PROPOSES TRIAL FOR PARKING METER PLAN Plans for the renting of parking meters by the city for a six month trial to determine if their use would help relieve the congested traffic throughout the downtown area was advanced yesterday by City Manager James G. Wallace.

Under the city manager's current plan, the meters, simple to operate, would allow parking on any down town street for 12 minutes for a penny with a full hour in the designated space costing five cents.

More Discussion Whether the measure would meet the approval of merchants and motorists alike has not yet been thoroughly discussed, but it is assumed that use of the meters would serve to relieve the parking difficulties as they have in the past.

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WEATHER FORECAST North Carolina: Partly cloudy followed by scattered thundershowers Wednesday and west portion Tuesday afternoon; slightly warmer east portion Tuesday.

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

Temperature 1:30 a. m. 71; 7:30 a. m. 73; 1:30 p. m. 82; 7:30 p. m. 78; maximum 85; minimum 69; mean 74; normal 78.

Humidity 1:30 a. m. 84; 7:30 a. m. 79; 1:30 p. m. 41; 7:30 p. m. 67.

Precipitation Total for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m. .00 inches. Total since the first of the month 2.87 inches.

Tides For Today (From Tide Tables published by U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.)

Wilmington High 6:57a; Low 2:02a; Masonboro Inlet High 7:30p; Low 2:49p; Sunrise 5:38a; sunset 6:55p; moonrise 1:30a; moonset 4:37p.

Capo Fear river stage at Fayetteville at 8 a. m., 9.30 feet.



READY FOR INSPECTION FLIGHT—Maj. Gen. Holland Smith, commanding officer of the Marine barracks in Onslow county, who directed last week coordinated army, navy and marine maneuvers in offensive and defensive war study off the Onslow coast, dons aviation togs at New Bern for an airplane view of the maneuver area. (Left to right) Lieut.-Col. H. D. Campbell, commanding officer of Camp Mitchell, near the New Bern airport, where the Marine corps has established an aviation training center; Maj. Peter Schrider, marine officer, who acted as pilot for General Smith's air tour; General Smith, and Lieut.-Col. Louis E. Woods, senior officer at Camp Mitchell.—Official U. S. Navy photo.

FOUR KNOWN DEAD IN NEW YORK FIRE

Sabotage Suspected As Cuban Cargo Vessel Bursts Into Flames at Pier

NEW YORK, Aug. 18.—Four men were known to have perished, one other was believed to be dead on deck, at least 55 were injured, and police said they feared many more might have been burned to death today in the 3,570-ton Cuba mail line cargo ship Panuco.

At a late hour tonight, investigators said they had yet to find evidence of sabotage in the still-burning ship, which was destroyed along with its \$600,000 cargo when flames, accompanied by explosions, engulfed it shortly before noon.

The Cuba line reported 12 members of its crew still missing, and the New York Dock company, owner of the destroyed pier, said its reports indicated that nine persons had been killed.

May Find More Bodies Police Commissioner Lewis A. Valentine expressed fear the bodies of some crewmen would be found when the ship cooled sufficiently to permit examination.

Inspector John J. Donegan, in charge of police at the fire said he understood there were eight men in each of five holds, and many might have been trapped.

District Attorney William O'Dwyer, who sped to Brooklyn waterfront for the five-alarm blaze, would not estimate the number of dead or discuss his findings during the investigation, but an assistant, Edward Heffernan, said he believed there had been more than 40 in the holds.

Total damage was estimated unofficially at \$1,500,000.

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Two Recreational Centers Are Authorized For City

Federal Works agency officials in Washington yesterday announced the approval of two Wilmington projects totalling approximately \$150,000 for the construction of two recreational centers in this city for defense workers and soldiers.

The two construction jobs, in the first batch of more than \$5,000,000 of approvals reported, are expected to get underway soon, it was said, with contracts to be awarded as soon as possible.

The funds for the two recreation centers is only a fraction of that which has been asked by this city. Plans and specifications are said to have already been drawn in Washington, and it is expected that bids will be asked immediately.

More than \$5,000,000 in such works, designed to facilitate services necessary to the health, safety and welfare of the army personnel and defense projects workers, have been asked by local officials. It is expected that additional approvals will be forthcoming inasmuch as \$150,000,000 in federal funds have been earmarked for the purpose under the Latham act.

Sites to Be Chosen One of the centers to be constructed here, on sites yet to be selected, will take care of activities of white soldiers and defense project employees, while the second would care for the needs of negro recreational activities.

Approvals of projects in Washington yesterday covered 26 undertakings in 12 states and called for the expenditure of more than \$5,000,000. Greater part of the work will center on recreation facilities, but some schools for defense workers were also included.

It is expected that new appropriations will be made almost daily.

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POLICE ABANDON ATTACKER HUNT

15-Year-Old Girl Fights Off Negro On Lonely Road Near Camp Davis

Pender county peace officers last night reached the end of a dead trail in their efforts to find a man believed to be a negro soldier from Camp Davis who attempted to assault a white girl Sunday afternoon in Topsail township, two or three miles south of the army camp.

Sheriff J. T. Brown who earlier in the day had placed a pack of blood hounds on the trail in an effort to track the suspect, said at a late hour last night his men and the hounds had reached the end of the cold trail.

Whether an attempt would be made today to have the girl try to identify her would-be attacker at Camp Davis could not be learned. Sheriff Brown said that the 15-year-old girl believed she could recognize the suspect despite the 6,000 negroes stationed at the camp.

The negro was frightened off by the girl's screams.

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CITY, ARMY TO STUDY CLOSER COOPERATION

Manager Wallace, Mayor Bellamy, General Smith Will Confer Today; Week-End Riot to Be Aired

First concrete plans for preventing recurrences of the riot of 300 negro soldiers here Saturday night in which at least four men were seriously injured and numerous others beaten will be taken today at conferences of city and Camp Davis officials.

Among those who will participate in the conference at the camp today, which is expected to launch an intensive investigation into other similar instances in the camp region, are Maj. Gen. Frederic H. Smith, commandant at Camp Davis, City Manager James G. Wallace and Mayor Hargrove Bellamy. Whether local police and sheriff representatives would take part was not learned.

In announcing the conferences, City Manager Wallace said that officials here are in no way anxious to make moves which will have friction between the army and this city's pleasant relations and that every consideration would be made to work out a plan whereby the city would better police the affairs of its men.

No Trouble With Whites The talk was made possible in a conversation with General Smith on the telephone yesterday, and it was at that time pointed out by Mr. Wallace that there had been no trouble with the white soldiers, but that future friction between the civilian and soldier negroes must be erased in some manner.

"We cannot and will not let these fights continue, even if we have to take matters into our own hands and arrest those responsible and let the courts decide what is best to be done," Mr. Wallace said.

When told that members of the Military Police force, which has of

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1,000,000 GERMAN TROOPS POISED FOR FRESH ASSAULT ON SOVIET UKRAINE ARMIES

NAZIS TIGHTEN TRAP

Nazi Command Says Fall of Odessa Imminent; Luftwaffe Pounds Rivers

BERLIN, Tuesday, Aug. 19.—German and Rumanian troops were reported today to be tightening their encirclement of Odessa, where waves of Stukas blasted at Soviet transports to prevent any "Dunkergue escape."

Dive bombers also were said to have put the whole of the Dnieper river bend under continuous assault to break up the Red retreat and keep the wide stream from being converted into an effective defense line.

DNB said six Russian transports aggregating 15,000 tons, a cruiser and a torpedo boat were disabled or badly damaged in attacks on Odessa harbor.

In the field, the Soviet armies of the Southern Ukraine were officially described by the German high command as defeated and in flight which in some areas was "like a rout."

German bombs beat heavily, said front reports, on the great industrial area of Dnieperopetrovsk, which lies but 80 miles northeast of the captured town of Kriyoi Rog.

DNB said German panzer units had occupied one small town in the Dnieper bend Sunday, capturing or destroying 100 trucks and "the entire provisioning, supplies and facilities for one division" as well as taking 500 prisoners.

In the Black sea port of Nikolae, whose occupation by the Germans was announced yesterday, it was declared that the remnants of four Russian divisions were destroyed in their efforts to break out.

Today's aerial attacks in the Dnieperopetrovsk area, in one of which 24 American-made or designed Martin bombers were reported destroyed on the ground, were subordinate in importance to the Luftwaffe's broader assignment along the Dnieper where it winds to the south and southwest of that city.

Few bridges span the river and so Soviet craft of all types were under violent aerial fire. Specific

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U. S. Plans Air Ferry To British Middle East

Far-Reaching Step Is Described as Offset To Possible German Thrust Into Western Africa

By J. C. STARK WASHINGTON, Aug. 18.—In a far-reaching step to offset any German move to French Dakar and to strengthen British forces in the Middle East, President Roosevelt announced plans today to ferry American war planes direct to West Africa and on to the Middle East front.

The White House announcement, which quickly followed the President's return from his historic sea conferences with Prime Minister Winston Churchill, described the new service as "an important step to speed delivery of planes direct to the Middle East."

However, it was considered important also for its effect in neutralizing any move the Vichy government might make to turn over Dakar, French West Africa, or Casablanca, Morocco to Germany for naval and air bases. It was noted that the White House announcement said "the importance of this line of communication be-

tween our country and strategic outposts in Africa cannot be overestimated."

Under agreements concluded with the Pan American airways system, the White House said, the ferry system and a companion transport service would "provide direct and speedy delivery of aircraft from the 'Arsenal of Democracy' to a critical point in the front against aggression."

Pan-American will ferry the planes from the United States to West Africa and thence to the Middle East, also establishing an air transport service from West Africa to the Middle East. It plans to arrange a similar transport service to West Africa.

"Planes owned by the United States government will be used by Pan American," the announcement said, "and they will be operated by American personnel. The route is so arranged that it will nowhere pass through the zone of actual warfare."

Higher Income Tax Rate Advocated Before Senate

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18.—A substantial increase in the \$3,236,700,000 tax bill was advocated by the American Farm Bureau federation today, but the organization contended the heaviest share of the burden should be placed on incomes instead of levying sales taxes.

To carry out this program, Edward A. O'Neal, Farm Bureau president, proposed cutting existing income tax exemptions in half, so that the exemptions would be \$400 for single persons and \$1,000 for married persons, with a \$200 credit for each dependent.

"We are strongly opposed to increased excise taxes, a general sales tax, or a manufacturers' tax," O'Neal told the senate finance committee "at least until other tax sources have been more nearly exhausted, and favor, instead, increased taxes based upon ability to pay."

O'Neal contended that the federal revenues should be brought up to a point equal to two-thirds of expenditures. He asked the committee to put a stop to "proteffing at the expense of national defense and security" and to use taxation powers as "the most effective way to prevent disastrous inflation."

O'Neal also contended that the present excess profits tax was too low.

Tax On Excess Profits "We respectfully urge," he said, "that the rates on corporate income be graduated upward to recapture a larger percentage of excess profits; and that the average earnings option be modified to provide that all profits above a reasonable maximum return on investment be considered as excess profits and subjected to the same schedule of rates as applied to all other corporations."

JAPANESE ISSUE BLUNT WARNING Official Press Says Nation Cannot Ignore Threat of U. S. Aid to Soviet

By The Associated Press TOKYO, Tuesday, Aug. 19.—A new grave strain on already tense Japanese-American relations over United States aid to Soviet Russia was reflected in the press today after an hour-long conference between U. S. Ambassador Joseph C. Grew and Foreign Minister Teijiro Toyoda on the explosive situation.

With a million Red army troops reported reliably to be mobilized on the Siberian frontier (where Far Eastern advisers say Japan likewise has formidable forces), the newspaper Kokumin bluntly declared:

"As for reports that the United States and Britain will demand certain assurances from the Soviet regarding pressure on Japan as a condition for their aid to the Soviet against Germany in connection with the coming Moscow conference Japan considers it injurious to the safety of her empire and

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AIM AT OIL FIELDS

Marshal's Budyenny's Men Ready for Finish Fight With the Invaders

(By The Associated Press) MOSCOW, Tuesday, Aug. 19.—Red army defenders, hard-put at both ends of their bending western front, have abandoned the town of Kingisepp on the northern wing, putting the Germans within 75 miles of Leningrad, the Russians announced officially early today.

Kingisepp is southwest of the former capital of the Czars and north-east of Lake Peipus, just inside the province of Leningrad from the Estonian frontier.

LONDON, Aug. 18.—Field Marshal General Gerd von Runstedt might hurl more than 1,000,000 war-hardened Axis troops against the Red army's defenses on the west bank of the Dnieper in a gigantic effort to reach the Crimean gate to the Caucasian oil fields, Soviet sources said today.

Stoutly defended by the forces of Marshal Semeon Budyenny, they said, the steeply banked and swift river—more than a mile wide for 100 miles from its mouth—would be an almost impassable barrier.

They admitted, however, that the river also barred the possibility of extensive Soviet counterattacks westward against German forces occupying the ship-building and industrial center of Nikolae and encircling the port of Odessa.

One of the main objectives of a push into Crimea, peninsular republic which juts deep into the Black sea, would be the city of Sevastopol, main base of the Red navy's Black sea fleet.

Just as important would be the Luftwaffe's nearness to Tuapse and Batumi, two vital ports on the Transcaucasian oil line. Tuapse lies 300 miles east of Sevastopol and Batumi 470 miles southeast, each less than two hours flight away by bomber.

Vital Port Centers Heavy bombing of these two ports would deprive the Black sea fleet of much of its effectiveness, since they long have been refueling stations for Soviet naval craft.

American military sources said that if the Black sea fleet's effectiveness was limited by destruction of its bases and shortage of fuel the Germans would have "a fair chance" of advancing eastward by sea, protected by fighter aircraft, to put flanking pressure on the southern Russian defense forces.

Soviet sources here discounted German claims of immense material gains by the seizure of Nikolae and Krivoi Rog, but admitted the war was entering a difficult phase.

"Cities and towns are light forfeit to pay," one said, "for the maintenance of the Red army unbroken in the field."

Authoritative sources said the

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Roosevelt Said Prepared To Enter Shipyard Strike

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18.—(AP)—Defense officials hinted tonight that a Presidential appeal was going forth immediately to the Federal Shipbuilding and Drydock company to accept a national defense mediation board formula for ending the CIO strike which has halted \$493,000,000 worth of navy and merchant ship construction at Kearny, N. J.

These officials, who declined to be quoted by name, indicated that if the White House appeal was rejected, an executive order would be issued immediately for government occupation and operation of the big shipyard.

The appeal by President Roosevelt might have gone forward already to the shipbuilding firm and its parent corporation, United States Steel corporation, it was indicated, or would be sent very shortly.

It was expected that no announcement would be made of Mr. Roosevelt's request until an acceptance or rejection had been received in Washington.

More than a week ago an OPM official stated that an executive order had been prepared for taking over the Kearny yard.

The strike, in which the CIO Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America claims that 16,000 of the yard's 18,000 workers are idle, was called August 7 after the company refused to accept the mediation board's recommendation for inclusion of a union-maintenance clause in its contract.

This clause provides that all union members, or workers who may join the union in the future, must remain in good union standing as a condition of employment.

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The peace officer, who also works with Sheriff E. Frank Morton of Onslow county, had just turned off Road 17 into a dirt road near Verona when he noticed a car parked on the right side of the road and as he approached saw a negro standing on the left. Just as the car came along side the officer the man opened fire, the first shot hitting the door handle, the second missing and the third going wild into the rear of the machine.

Drawing his own gun, the officer opened fire by the passenger, and believed that he hit the negro because he said that through his rear view mirror he saw two companions leading the man across the road to the car. An eastern shore alarm was broadcast describing the car and all hospitals asked to be on the lookout for a wounded negro.

Onslow Deputy Sheriff Narrowly Misses Death In Fight With Negroes

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