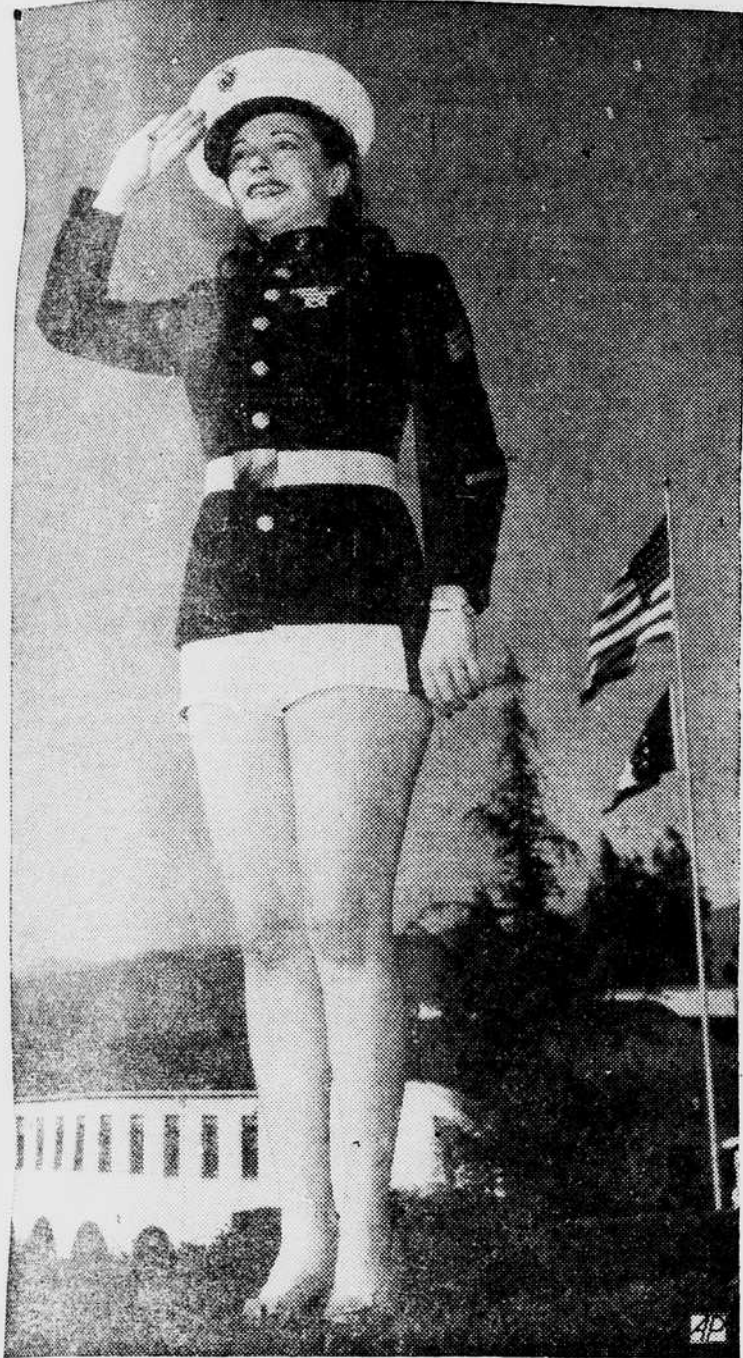


Sweetheart Of The Marines



Marian Hall, daughter of Lt. Col. George Thomas Hall of U. S. Marines, spent most of her life near Marine barracks. Unofficial sweetheart of Marines, she's also a University of Washington graduate cum laude.

REDS MOVE ON KHARKOV IN GRAND OFFENSIVE; AND PLANES LEAD CRUSHING ATTACK; FIGHTING RETREAT MADE ON KERCH PENINSULA

Maritime Day Program Set Here May 22

Representative Clark Will Speak; Twelfth Liberty Ship To Be Launched

SCHELL WILL ATTEND

Maritime Official Will Discuss Progress Of Merchant Shipbuilding

By HOWARD SUTTLE (Star Washington Bureau) WASHINGTON, May 14.—Representative J. Bayard Clark will be the principal speaker at Wilmington's "Maritime Day" celebration, May 22, Chairman Emory S. Land, of the Maritime commission, announced here today.

Eyes Left Without An Order—In Australia



Three Australian girls attract the attention of United States troops as they march to their quarters after disembarking at a port in Australia to bolster United Nations forces in the southwest Pacific.

Soviets Knockout 150 Nazi Tanks In 2 Days Of Hard Fighting In Fan-Like Movement Upon Vital German Key In Donets Basin

GUERRILLAS AID DEFENSE IN CRIMEA

Germans Acknowledge Resistance On Kerch Peninsula, But Russians Say Heavy Casualties Inflicted Upon Enemy

By HENRY C. CASSIDY MOSCOW, Friday, May 15.—(AP)—Red army shock troops supported by heavy tanks and anti-tank "stormer" planes still were advancing early today on the great Nazi-held industrial city of Kharkov in the Ukraine, but the Soviets acknowledged a new "fighting retreat" of their armies on the narrow Kerch peninsula in the Crimea. In what probably is the greatest Red army offensive of the war—the fan-like movement upon Kharkov—the Soviets said they had knocked out not less than 150 Nazi tanks in two days of hard fighting.

The midnight communique said: "During May 14 our troops on the Kerch peninsula, under pressure of superior enemy forces, are fighting stubbornly but retreated to new positions. "In the Kharkov direction our troops continued to advance successfully. In two days' fighting we destroyed and put out of action not less than 150 German tanks. "Many trophies were captured and prisoners taken. "On other sectors of the front nothing of significance occurred. "According to more precise data on May 12 we shot down 51 German planes and not 42 as previously announced. "On May 13 we destroyed 40 German planes. Our losses were 23 planes. Guerrillas Active Russian guerrillas were reported aiding the stubborn Soviet defense in the Crimea. A Sevastopol dispatch said these well-organized bands blew up a German supply train. Although the Crimea offered the firmest footing for military operations in Russia at this time, some traces of the long hard winter still lingered even there. One dispatch said a river was flooded five miles wide, hampering Russian supply problems. The Red army was using pontoons to bridge the flood. (The Berlin radio said Russian resistance on the Kerch peninsula was confined to "isolated points", and said that despite a heavy rain which soaked the ground the German-Rumanian forces were still pressing forward.) A supplementary Russian communique reported that Red airmen on Wednesday destroyed or damaged 120 Nazi tanks on various sectors of the front. This announcement did not make clear whether this was in addition to the 150 tanks knocked out on the Kharkov front. The airmen also reported destroying 120 German trucks in their swoops on the long Nazi supply lines. In the northwest "severe losses" were inflicted on the Germans, the communique said, and one single Soviet unit killed more than 4,000 Nazis in a 10-day operation. But the most vital Red action was the drive on Kharkov. After fighting a five-month retreat at the beginning of the war, the Russians hurled the Germans back in their big winter offensive and now have had the advantage of choosing their own spring offensive target—Kharkov, a key to the entire southern Nazi military structure. The sudden, dramatically timed

Treasury Asks Minimum Tax Of \$5 Person

It Would Include Every Person Who Must File An Income Tax Return

WASHINGTON, May 14.—(AP)—A proposal to put a minimum \$5 tax on every person who must file an income tax return, including millions who otherwise would be non-taxable, came today from Secretary Morgenthau of the treasury. The new plan apparently started out with strong support. Morgenthau said it had the backing of Senator George (D. - Ga.), chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, which is the Senate's tax group. While details of the proposal remained to be worked out the secretary said that it was desirable both to reimburse the treasury for the cost of handling income tax returns and also might raise as much as \$100,000,000 of additional revenue to finance the war program. Actually, treasury officials said, it costs only an average of 50 cents to handle a non-taxable income tax return and about \$1.50 to handle the taxable returns. If adopted, the plan will mean a levy of \$5 or possibly more on nearly every employed person in the low income brackets. Under tentative schedules of personal exemptions adopted yesterday by the House Ways and Means Committee, returns would be required of all single persons earning \$9.60 a week and all family heads making \$23 or more per week. The House

GAS RATIONING NOW IN EFFECT

Curtailed System Will Be Extended To Pacific Northwest June 1

By FRANK LE MAY WASHINGTON, May 14.—(AP)—As almost 10,000,000 eastern automobile owners made ready to go under card rationing of gasoline tomorrow, with non-essential automobiles allowed only three gallons a week, this rigid curtailment system was extended tonight to the Pacific northwest, to be effective June 1. Meanwhile, assurance came from Petroleum Coordinator Ickes that there was no immediate prospect of broadening motor fuel rationing to other areas, unless the government decided this should be done to save rubber. Car owners formed long lines at schools and other registration places today, in a last minute rush to get their cards ahead of the rationing deadline at midnight. An official hint was heard that the gasoline allowed for the cards in the various classifications might be cut further, with non-essential cars getting even less than three gallons a week, because so many motorists claimed high essential use of their cars. The price of administration had not yet been set. "A" cards allow 15 gallons (Continued on Page Two; Col. 4)

Senators Ridicule Move To Limit Gas

Vote Set Today On Question Of Waiving Special Privilege

WASHINGTON, May 14.—(AP)—An angry Senate poured condemnation today on a resolution by Senator Downey (D-Calif.), which would pledge members to waive any special privileges to obtain rationed gasoline, and prepared to dispose of it finally tomorrow.

Two hours of debate, in which a dozen senators roundly condemned the proposal and questioned Downey's motives in introducing it, were climaxed by an objection by Senator Norris (Ind.-Neb.) to immediate consideration of the proposal.

Downey, who said he had offered the resolution to counteract public criticism over the issuance of X or unbranded ration cards to Congress members, subsequently told reporters he had no intention of pressing the matter further.

But two hours later, democratic leader Barkley of Kentucky, who had urged Norris not to raise the technical objection, announced that he would attempt to force a record vote on the resolution tomorrow. While he spoke, a Washington newspaper bearing the headline "Furious Senate Ducks Gas Vote" lay on his desk. The California senator said in introducing the resolution that the nation was "approaching a desperate condition on gasoline and rubber." He argued that the Senate ought to still criticism by pledging its honor not to seek any special favors denied to the ordinary motorist. Senator Barkley was on his feet (Continued on Page Two; Col. 6)

NAVY RELIEF FUND TOTALS \$7,520.51

City More Than Goes Over The Top In Recent Drive Here

Wilmingtonians contributed \$7,520.51 during the one-week drive here to the Naval Relief Society's \$5,000,000 campaign fund. Actually \$7,613.21 was contributed, but \$92.70, in state and federal taxes, had to be paid on tickets sold for the dance last Friday night at Lumina. This was the only item of expense throughout the entire drive, all costs for a great variety of services being contributed by Wilmington firms and individuals. The revenue was derived from: Contributions, \$4,008.46. Emblems, \$2,248.75. Sponsors' fees, \$727.50. Dance tickets, \$628.50. The total raised was far in excess of the goal. (Continued on Page Two; Col. 4)

NEGRO ATTACKER GETS 15 YEARS

William Bell Convicted On Charge Of Assault With Intent To Commit Rape

A sentence of 15 years in the state prison was imposed on William Bell, young Wilmington negro, charged with criminal assault on a white woman here March 19, after the jury returned a verdict of assault with intent to commit rape Thursday afternoon in Superior court.

The case went to the jury about 11:15 o'clock and the verdict was brought in at 3:13 in the afternoon. In charging the jury Judge C. Everett Thompson set out four possible verdicts: guilty of rape, which carries the death penalty in this state, guilty of assault with intent to rape, guilty of assault on a female, or guilty of assault on a female.

In a 25-minute address to the jury prior to the judge's charge, Solicitor David Sinclair declared that Bell was charged with one of the most felonious crimes possible for a human to commit.

"If you gentlemen free this boy, he'll meet his death at the hand of some husband, brother or father," the solicitor said.

"Once a crime like this is committed, something seems to get into the blood of the criminal that makes him go on and on. The only cure is death."

Bell is alleged to have forced his way into the home of the prosecuting witness around noon on March 19 and to have ravished her on the floor of her kitchen. Through his attorneys, Addison Hewlett, Jr., and Elbert Brown, (Continued on Page Two; Col. 5)

Full Accord Reached On Pay For Seamen

WASHINGTON, May 14.—(AP)—The War Shipping Administration and the Maritime Trade Union here have reached a "full accord" on policies governing wages, hours and working conditions of officers and seamen employed on American merchant ships. In announcing today the signing of an agreement by the W. S. A. and union representatives, Rear Admiral Emory S. Land, shipping administrator, said statements of policy "commit both sides to constructive action."

U. S. Will Take Over Domestic Air Lines

Passenger And Mail Service Will Be Curtailed Sharply

WASHINGTON, May 14.—(AP)—Actual operation or control of all domestic air line planes will be taken over by the Army on instructions of President Roosevelt, it was announced today.

Disclosing the sweeping wartime steps, the War Department said passenger and air mail service would be sharply curtailed but for the time being, about half of the more than 300 commercial transport planes would continue commercial operations on scheduled routes. Continuing of commercial schedules will be subject to emergency military orders at any time to undertake emergency military missions.

"All routes and services not regarded as essential to the war program will be terminated," the War Department said.

The announcement said the new order was "about to be put into effect" but gave no date. Negotiations with airline officials have

(Continued on Page Four; Col. 5)

THOUSANDS SEE FREIGHTER BURN

Survivors Of Panamanian Vessel Praise Navy For Efficient Rescue Work

A FLORIDA EAST COAST PORT, May 14.—(AP)—Thousands of persons on rooftops and along the beach watched flames sweep a Panamanian merchantman after it was torpedoed by an Axis submarine off the southeast coast. The torpedo blast and subsequent explosions aboard the ship awakened residents along the coast. They streamed to the beach or gained roofs and other vantage points to watch the distressed craft drift away, burning briskly. Naval authorities announced the ship's loss today. Thirty-two survivors, who abandoned the vessel in lifeboats, reached a nearby coastal town safely. Thirteen others who dived overboard when the

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 6)

290 TO GRADUATE AT HIGH SCHOOL

Final Exercises Will Be Held At School On Night Of May 29

Approximately 290 New Hanover High school seniors, one of the largest classes in the history of the school, are scheduled to receive diplomas at graduation exercises on the night of May 29 in Legion stadium. Principal T. T. Hamilton announced Thursday morning.

The program, the theme of which will be "Courage," will be presented by 25 seniors under direction of Mrs. George LeGrand, beginning at 8:30 o'clock in the evening. Diplomats will be presented to the seniors by Principal T. T. Hamilton.

Opening the commencement exercises will be the Junior-Senior set for tonight under the direction of Miss Maie Sanders, chairman of the faculty committee.

Vesper services will be held May 24 at 5 o'clock in the evening at the First Baptist church with the sermon by the Rev. Mortimer Glover. Patriotic hymns will be sung by the High School Glee club and four students, Bert Nesbitt, Mack Wilson, Jr., Tessie Finch and Eslee Fergus will participate in the service. The faculty committee in charge of the service is composed of Mrs. C. B. Newcomb and Mrs. E. P. Erock, chairman.

Class night exercises will be held (Continued on Page Two; Col. 4)

U. S. And Japan Are Engaged In Great Shipbuilding Race

U.S. Producing 17 Dreadnaughts; Japan Building Five Battleships;

LONDON, May 14.—(AP)—Spare outlines of the greatest battleship building race in history, that between the embattled navies of the United States and Japan, are sketched by the new 1941 edition of Janes Fighting Ships, the authoritative naval annual made public today. To previously known details of the Japanese capital ship program a huge effort in relation to Japan's resources, the new edition adds the names of the last three of a group of five fighting monsters of more than 40,000 tons. Two of the five, the Nissin and Takamatsu are completed or near completion, the annual indicates, while the other three, now identified as the Kii, Owari and Tosa, probably are not far from ready, the last having been laid down 2 1-2 years ago. Against these the new Jane's describes progress on 17 tremendous United States battleships and six battlecruisers. "Never before has such a quantity of capital ship construction been under construction at the same time for any country," says the foreword. "A similar remark applies to aircraft carriers and

WEATHER

FORECAST: NORTH CAROLINA — Showers with little change in temperature Friday except cooler and thunder-showers in extreme west portion. SOUTH CAROLINA — Showers with little change in temperature Friday. (EASTERN STANDARD TIME) (Meteorological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m. yesterday): High 75; Low 68; mean 72; normal 70. Temperature: 1:30 a. m. 69; 7:30 a. m. 70; 1:30 p. m. 71; 7:30 p. m. 71; maximum 76; minimum 68; mean 72; normal 70. Humidity: 1:30 a. m. 85; 7:30 a. m. 92; 1:30 p. m. 90; 7:30 p. m. 85. Precipitation: Total for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m., 0.06 inches; total since the first of the month, 0.91 inches. (From Tide Tables published by U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey): Wilmington 10:00a. 4.50a. 10:20p. 4:56p. Masonboro Inlet 7:45a. 1:42a. 8:00p. 1:40p. Sunrise 5:10a; sunset 7:06p; moonrise 5:42a; moonset 7:32p. Cape Fear river stage at Fayetteville on Thursday at 8 a. m. 9.39 feet. (Continued on Page Two; Col. 3)

National Record Set By Shipyard

Liberty Ship Is Completed In 29 Days After Launching

Reared on a site hacked out of a riverside wilderness only 15 months ago, the North Carolina Shipbuilding company plant here, employing upward of 10,000 people, has established a national record in time required to complete a Liberty ship after its launching.

The record—29 days—was established when the eighth ship launched here, the S. S. John Penn, was turned over to the U. S. Maritime Commission, and placed in service.

So far as could be ascertained, no other shipyard has been able to complete a Liberty ship in so short a time after its launching. But officials of the shipyard, where production has been progressively faster since the launch-

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 3)