

MERCHANTS CAN BREATHE EASIER

Work Of Marking Merchandise To Conform With Price Ceilings Completed

Employees of business houses in Wilmington breathed a sigh of relief Monday as the heaviest work of marking prices on merchandise to conform with the newly imposed price ceiling regulations was finished.

After about two weeks of steady overtime work, the price tags of practically every item in some establishments was checked and marked with a new price, no higher than it was on March 1.

In some instances, various articles of merchandise had not increased in price, it was learned, but this was a rare occurrence. A salesman for a large mercantile firm revealed that the price on a particular brand of men's underwear had increased more than one dollar a dozen, wholesale, since March 1, and that any merchant buying the item after its price rise would naturally have to absorb the loss.

He cited another instance in which several merchants in the outlying sections of the area refused to buy any merchandise that had increased in price since last February. "They must have known something like this was going to happen," he said.

"I tried to get them all to buy merchandise when it still was reasonably priced along last year's levels. Some of them did, and will now make a nice profit. Others refused to buy, thinking that the price would not increase much, and now they are forced to take a loss on many items.

The credit restrictions, recently imposed, are also making life miserable for many establishments here whose main line of business is credit terms. They are forced to regulate all future accounts to conform with the new regulations, and in the case of present accounts, they must notify each customer of the minimum amount he will have to pay on his present account.

Morton Named City Building Inspector

The appointment of Gilbert C. Morton as city building inspector was announced Monday by J. G. Wallace, city manager.

Morton was formerly a county W. P. A. superintendent.

Mr. Morton replaces P. E. Notter, who resigned several months ago.

In addition to issuing permits for new construction and for renovation of existing structures here, the inspector will play an important part in the city's campaign to raze or repair dilapidated buildings.

Mr. Morton, whose home is at 319 Walnut street, attended State College at Raleigh and has had considerable practical experience in construction work here. He began his duties Monday.

City Engineer J. A. Loughlin has been carrying out the duties of building inspector since Mr. Notter's resignation.

58 Deaths Occur At Rail Crossings In State In 1941

RALEIGH, N. C., May 18.—(AP)—Grade crossing accidents last year in North Carolina accounted for 58 deaths, the state highway safety division reported today.

None of the fatal accidents, however, occurred on N. C. or U. S. highways.

BEAT THE HEAT

After bathing is a good time to apply Mexican Heat Powder to relieve heat rash, and help prevent it. Absorbs perspiration, often the cause of irritation. Always demand Mexican Heat Powder.

Wilmington, N. C.
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Flames Consume Business Block In Hackettstown



An entire block in the shopping center of Hackettstown, N. J., was wiped out as leaping flames raged through buildings and stores. In the center of the photograph is depicted all that remains of a department store. Damage is estimated at approximately \$250,000. Several firemen were overcome before they brought flames under control in three hours.—(Central Press.)

Cruiser Prinz Eugen Knocked Out By RAF

Direct Hits Scored By Torpedo Planes; Believed Out For 3 Months

BY DREW MIDDLETON

LONDON, May 18.—(AP)—The powerful 10,000-ton German cruiser Prinz Eugen was regarded tonight as knocked out of the vital battle of the Atlantic perhaps for three months by the gaping wounds of two or more aerial torpedoes driven home before dusk last night by an RAF fighter-bomber squadron which caught her slipping along the Norwegian coast.

Reporting that the aerial striking force reached Norwegian waters while it still was light, the Air Ministry News Service said "the attack was pressed home in the teeth of strenuous opposition from a large force of enemy fighters and heavy anti-aircraft fire from ships."

One attacking pilot said he saw a "great pillar of dirty black smoke" rise from the superstructure of the cruiser after he sent his torpedo home.

There were two large explosions 15 seconds apart, the News Service reported. It said another pilot saw a sheet of flame leap up from the cruiser after he attacked. He added that he saw other torpedoes "running well toward the ship."

Besides torpedoing the Prinz Eugene, the British planes peppered four escorting German destroyers with cannon and machinegun fire, an Admiralty account said.

The attack was placed off Lister Fjord, 60 miles south of Stavanger and little more than 300 miles air line from northeastern Scotland.

Even at the time of the attack which put her on the Nazi navy's temporarily useless list alongside the heavily damaged battleships Scharnhorst and Gneisenau, the Prinz Eugen was limping back to a home port from Trondheim for repair of previous damage, the Admiralty said.

"The Admiralty gave an indication of the intensity of the attack in its announcement that Beaufort torpedo-carrying bombers, Hudson bombers, Blenheim bombers and Beau fighters took part.

While the Beauforts roared in close to loose their torpedoes, fighter planes battled a swarm of Nazi planes and the other bombers strafed the decks of the Prinz Eugene's four escorting destroyers with cannon and machinegun fire, a communique said.

It reported five German ME-109 fighter planes shot down and said the attack cost nine British planes. The Berlin broadcast said between 30 and 50 British planes attacked, and 29, or purportedly more than half of the British formation, were shot down—seven fighters and 22 bombers.

The temporary loss of the Prinz Eugen and the intensified RAF "death watch" on Trondheim Fjord was believed by informed sources to reduce the possibility of an outright attack on the Arctic supply lane to Russia by the Germans' Trondheim squadron.

This consists now of but three heavy warships, the powerful battleship Tirpitz, sister-ship of the sunken Bismarck; the pocket battleship Admiral Scheer, and the 10,000-ton heavy cruiser Admiral Hipper, sister-ship to the Prinz Eugen.

The Prinz Eugen, which made the daring dash through the mist of the English channel last February with the Scharnhorst and Gneisenau, was reported by the Admiralty on May 3 to have suffered damage requiring "very considerable repair" as a result of a torpedo attack by the British submarine Trident.

Elsewhere along the aerial battlefield of Western Europe, the RAF followed up night attacks with a two-hour pre-dawn pounding

SKIN IRRITATIONS OF EXTERNAL CAUSE

acne, pimples, bumps (blackheads), and ugly broken-out skin. Millions relieve misery with simple home treatment. Goes to work at once. Direct action disinfects by killing germs it touches. Use Black and White Ointment only as directed. 10c, 25c, 50c sizes. 25 years success. Money-back guarantee. For Vital in cleansing is good soap. Enjoy famous Black and White Skin Soap daily.

NAVY RECRUITING OFFICE IS BUSY

Maintaining Record Of Two Enlistments Per Day Since Pearl Harbor

The U. S. Navy Recruiting office here is still maintaining its record of nearly two enlistments a day since the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Since December 8, a total of 292 men have enlisted through the office. Enlistments have been for every branch of the service, recruiting officers said.

Prior to the lowering of the educational standard for naval air cadets, there were few enlistments for air training. However, since the minimum education requirement is now a high school diploma, many young men have applied for aviation cadet training.

Their applications will take much longer than those of men desiring service in other branches, it was pointed out.

Due to the strict standards of physical ability as well as character, education and training, applicants for naval air training are thoroughly investigated before acceptance.

A few of the early applicants are now serving in the war zone, it was learned. As their period of training requires three months or more, only a few have completed their basic courses.

Kelly Negro Fatally Injured In Accident

CURRIE, May 18.—Wade Silus, colored, of the Kelly section, was killed Saturday afternoon when he fell off a lumber truck on which he was riding.

The accident occurred between the home of L. J. Rooks and A. K. Rooks on the highway.

Silus body was crushed by the heavy truck running over him.

He was a married man with a large family.

The estimated population of the entire Western hemisphere is 264,500,000.

DON'T TAKE CHANCES WITH Your Safety

In Times of Excitement, Refrain from Telephoning

So that Vital Calls can have Right-of-Way

During public emergencies such as air raid warnings, practice blackouts, fires, storms, and ship sinkings, telephone lines must be kept clear for calls vital to the community's protection.

Please don't be excited by rumors and rush to your telephone, for what may seem merely a rumor to you may develop into an emergency for the telephone company if everyone begins telephoning to ask about it. Rumors may easily be started purposely to hamper communication facilities at a time when they are most needed.

In some places, a flood of calls during times of excitement has seriously hampered the work of police, fire and civilian defense authorities, endangering life and property.

So we ask that you please refrain from telephoning during times of excitement and stress. At such times use the telephone only in case of serious personal emergency. Your cooperation is essential for the effective handling of emergencies by the organizations assigned to those tasks.

Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company
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QUESTIONNAIRES MAILED BY BOARD

Occupational Registration To Be Made By Local Employment Office

Occupational questionnaires for men of the 35 to 45 year draft registration were mailed Monday by Draft Board number 2, it was learned.

The men will be grouped and classified by the local Employment Office and as soon as the men of the Third Registration are completely classified, questionnaires will be sent to the men of the First and Second Registrations.

The city Draft Board No. 1 does not expect to send occupational questionnaires to Third registration men for sometime.

The U. S. Employment Service has begun classifying approximately 650 occupational questionnaires from Columbus county and about 200 from Pender county, Manager Maurice Moore said Monday.

The employment service expects to classify cards sent it by selective service boards in Brunswick, Columbus, New Hanover and Pender counties.

"It is our job to classify the men by occupations. The cards must be filled out by the registrant, returned to his draft board, which in turn sends a portion to us, Mr. Moore said.

"After the classification, we will inform men in misfitted positions of jobs where they can serve to better value."

"The occupational questionnaire is segregated in three general groups. First, those persons of critical occupational skills in which the known national demand is greater than the supply; second, is comprised of those of essential occupations, many of which may become a critical nature as the demands of war industry increase; and third, those of non-essential trades, but which may develop into essential or critical jobs."

"The results of classification will make available information for the employment office regarding the various types skills of all persons in this area who are registered with draft boards. This same procedure is being carried on throughout the nation. By having this information, we can better serve employers and workers by matching men and jobs."

"The employment service has information regarding job openings in critical and essential trades throughout the nation. We shall pass this information along to those men desiring to better serve their country."

"After we have classified the men, we shall inform the Selective Service boards regarding industry's need for certain types of work. They should be better able to decide where a man is needed."

Men should not apply for a social security number card merely for the purpose of showing an account number on their occupational questionnaires, stated Mrs. Lurline D. Lewis, Acting Manager of the Social Security Board here.

FALSE TEETH That Loosen Need Not Embarrass

Many wearers of false teeth have suffered real embarrassment because their plate dropped, slipped or wobbled at just the wrong time. Do not live in fear of this happening to you. Just sprinkle a little FASTEREEL, the alkali (non-acid) powder, on your plates. Holds false teeth more firmly, so they feel more comfortable. Does not sour. Checks "plate odor" (denture breath). Get FASTEREEL at any drug store.

Social security account numbers should be obtained only when a person is going to work or has a job in employment which is covered by the Social Security Act. Farmers who are required by the Selective Service Board to fill in an occupational questionnaire do not need a social security account number, according to Mrs. Lewis. The Social Security Board has been receiving numerous applications for social security cards recently from those who have registered for the draft and who have received an occupational questionnaire for the social security number, but this is intended only for those who have social security account number cards. If an individual filling in the questionnaire does not have a social security account number, he should simply write "none" in the space provided for his social security number.

Those who have had social security account number cards and have lost them may secure a duplicate card free of charge at 130 Customhouse, Wilmington, N. C. or at their nearest Social Security Board field office.

Specifications For Barges Are Requested By C. Of C.

Plans and specification of the wooden barges expected to be used in transporting gasoline on the inland waterway were requested from the U. S. Maritime Commission Monday by the local Chamber of Commerce.

It was explained that one or more firms in the Wilmington area will be interested in the specifications.

The chamber of commerce pointed out in a letter to the Commission that the "Congressional Record for May 11, reviewing a speech by Congressman Angel, of Oregon, quotes him as stating that under the twenty million dollar amendment recently added to the independent offices supply bill for

the construction of barges, he has been advised by your office that the Commission is building some of these barges as a matter of experiment, to see just what can be done, how soon they can be constructed, and how economical and efficient will be the service such craft will be able to render.

"Further in his speech he outlines some of the general plans of construction. Assuming that it is the plan of your Commission to distribute the contracts for construction of the barges as widely as possible, to expedite delivery, we are writing to advise that one or more firms in the Wilmington

area will be interested in seeing the plans and specifications when available."

RAYMOND STEVENS DIES
WASHINGTON, May 18.—(AP)—Raymond B. Stevens, chairman of the United States Tariff Commission, died today at Indianapolis, the commission announced. He had been ill for several months.

Toys and novelties consumed enough rubber last year to equip 8000 2 1/2-ton trucks for the Army, or 40,000 half-tonners.



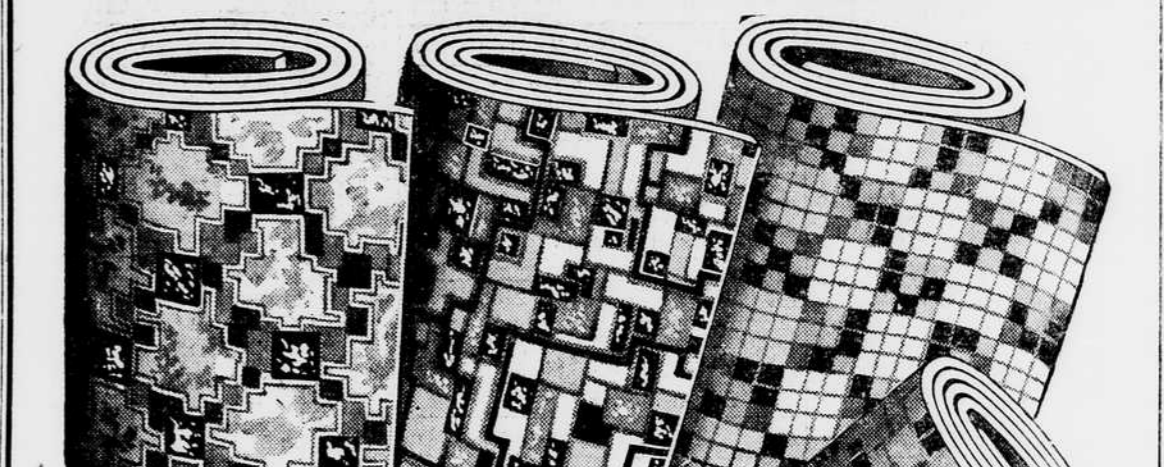
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