

600 Million Fund Asked To Build Defense Housing

F. D. R. Seeks Living Quarters For Thousands Of Workers

SPEED IS ESSENTIAL

Meanwhile OPA Serves Notice Rent Ceilings Effective June 1

WASHINGTON, May 27.—(P)—President Roosevelt asked Congress today for a quick \$600,000,000 to provide living quarters for thousands of workers in overcrowded war production centers and to avoid any loss of efficiency in the plants themselves.

Meanwhile the office of Price Administration served notice that rent ceilings would become effective in twenty industrial areas June 1. It said voluntary compliance thus far had been insufficient and warned that unless landlords cooperated, federal action would be taken to enforce the ceilings.

The President's special message estimated that 1,600,000 workers would migrate to war industry areas in the year beginning July 1. Existing housing facilities are insufficient, Mr. Roosevelt said, and the excess population must be provided for by new public construction "largely temporary in nature" and designed for workers in the lower income brackets.

"Thus far," he said, "Congress has shown a full appreciation of this need and has made \$1,020,000,000 in appropriations available for the construction of war housing. This figure reduces to its true perspective when we realize that it is less than one per cent of the funds made available for war purposes.

A Wise Policy The allocation of war funds for the shelter of the men and women leaving their homes to serve our war industries is a wise and established national policy.

"That policy should continue." War production is now increasing in geometric ratio. Plant capacities are expanding faster and faster. Consistent reports from all over the country indicate a rising need for housing, running far ahead of the supply and threatening seriously to reduce the effective use of these plants unless remedied at once.

The President emphasized the need for swift Congressional approval of the appropriation because of a necessary time lag between the time funds are authorized and the facilities can be constructed. He said that a large portion of the funds would be returned to the government in rents and through sales after the war is over.

The 20 rent ceiling areas were notified March 2 to put the ceilings in effect June 1.

"In no area was it found that the price administrator's recommendation was not followed."

CHEST GROUP MEETS TODAY

Formal Organization To Be Carried Out At Meeting At 5 O'Clock

Plans for the organization of a Community Chest in Wilmington will be drawn at a meeting of a committee on organization to be held this afternoon at 5 o'clock in the offices of the chamber of commerce.

A permanent chairman will be chosen and the set-up formulated for having our formal organization, it was announced by E. A. Laney.

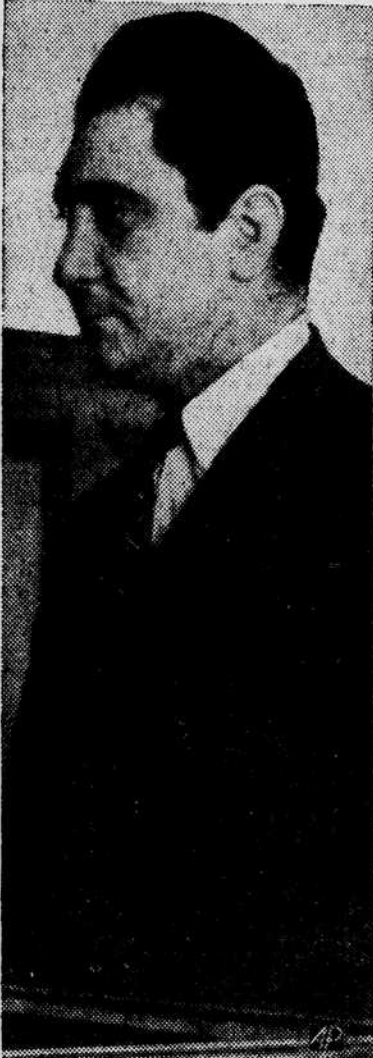
The Community Chest has been endorsed by a number of organizations whose representatives will attend the meeting.

A full attendance is anticipated.

State Allotted 408 New Cars For June

WASHINGTON, May 27.—(P)—The office of price administration made available today for rationing in June the same number of new passenger automobiles as was allotted monthly in March, April and May, plus any unused quota carried over at the end of May.

To Pen For 82½ Years



Eugene Levine (above), 31, stands before the bar in court at New York and waits for Judge Louis Goldstein to sentence him to serve 82½ to 165 years in prison for attacks on six women victims. Previous to his indictment on six counts, Levine admitted attacking "about 100" women in the last two and a half years. Judge Goldstein recommended that he be kept in solitary confinement at Sing Sing.

CHINESE BATTER JAPS AT KINHWA

15,000 Out Of 100,000 Killed; Defenders Successful At Back Door

BY SPENCER MOOSA CHUNGKING, May 27.—(P)—The Japanese army of 100,000 which launched the offensive in Seaboard Chekiang province has been defeated, having lost 15,000 in casualties, at least 10,000 of them dead, and still has not been able to take Kinhwa, the provincial capital, the Chinese reported tonight.

At the same time Chinese advances from the backdoor battlegrounds of Burma and Yunnan province painted a more favorable picture. The American Flying Tigers were reported still hammering Japanese troops, who now apparently had been stripped of effective air protection, and Chinese troops reported successes.

About 1,500 Japanese were killed when they advanced through a Chinese mine field, exploding 70 or 80 of the buried mines, the communique added, and only about 200 of the Japanese who later succeeded in entering the suburb of Kwangkio managed to escape from a Chinese bayonet charge.

The situation of Kinhwa was still precarious, however, with fighting continuing to rage on three sides of the city.

An enemy unit also was reported repulsed east of Lanchi, 15 miles northwest of Kinhwa, after losing 1,300 casualties, and prisoners were reported taken in attacks on the Japanese rear north of Kienteh.

(The Japanese, who were claiming two days ago that their troops

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 7)

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 8)

Gestapo Purge Master Is Wounded At Prague

LONDON, May 27.—(P)—Reinhard Heydrich, acting Reich's protector of Bohemia and Moravia and Gestapo purge master for Nazi-occupied territory, has been wounded in an assassination attempt in Prague and the threat of swift and terrible reprisal executions hung heavy tonight over old Czechoslovakia.

One Berlin broadcast said Heydrich's wound was not expected to prove fatal but gave no other intimation of the seriousness of his condition. Another said the attack occurred at 1 p.m., today on the Prague-Berlin highway but within

House Vets RUSSIANS MAKE DETERMINED ADVANCE ON KHARKOV AND BARVENKOVA FRONTS; U. S. FREEZES WAR INDUSTRY LABOR

Measure Sent Back To Conferees Who Has Recommended \$42 Month

PAY BOOST DELAYED

No Chance Of It Going Into Effect Now Before July First Of This Year

By WILLIAM F. ARBOGAST WASHINGTON, May 27.—(P)—For the second time in two weeks, the House overwhelmingly voted today for a minimum pay of \$50 monthly for service men. It sent back to conference a compromise proposal worked out by a Senate-House committee recommending \$42.

The action virtually eliminated any chance for a service pay boost becoming effective before July 1 since the bill provides that any raises shall become effective on the first day of the calendar month following its enactment. For the increase to go into effect June 1, the conferees would have to reach an agreement, and both branches and the President approve it, by Sunday. House leaders already have announced their intention of adjourning after tomorrow.

Senate and House consideration of the bill providing allowances for service men's dependents, a companion measure, also may be delayed.

Cries of "politics" and putting "a dollar sign" on patriotism highlighted the one hour of debate that preceded the 332 to 31 vote on a motion by Rep. Rankin (D-Miss.) to reject the compromise and instruct the conferees to stand by the House figure. The vote was almost identical with the 332 to 28 count by which the House on May 13 turned down the Senate-approved \$42 scale.

Recommended \$42 Rankin's motion took precedence over one by Chairman May (D-Ky.) of the military committee, that the compromise be accepted. The committee had recommended \$42, an increase of \$12 over the \$30 monthly now paid a private and an apprentice seaman after four months of service. Men entering the service receive \$21.

The committee also had recommended that first-class privates and second-class seamen be boosted from \$36 to \$48, but the House insisted that its action of \$54 be upheld by its conferees.

May declined to disclose what course he would follow next in behalf of the \$42 originally proposed by the Army and the Navy but several other conferees predicted the joint committee would stick to its guns and report the \$42 again. This procedure, it was thought, might persuade \$50 advocates to yield rather than incur a deadlock. Fifty dollars, Rankin told the House, was what nine-tenths of the House membership and the nation wanted. He cited high wages being paid industrial workers. Rep. Sutin (D-N. J.), referring to industrial profits on war contracts, said that if the members failed to vote for at least \$50, "we should hang our heads in shame when we pass an enlisted man on the street."

Australians Higher Paid Rep. Reed (R-N. Y.) commented that Australian privates, "probably getting paid out of lend-lease funds," receive more than \$50.

"The tinge of politics is bound to color what we do here today," declared Rep. Costello (D-Calif.). He contended it was not a matter of providing adequate pay because a soldier's value could not be measured "with dollars and cents."

"You can't pay for patriotism" like that shown at Bataan, he added, pleading with his colleagues not to "smear patriotism with a dollar sign."

Costello scoffed at Rankin's contention that the \$50 minimum

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 8)

WPA Takes Action To Stop 'Labor Pirating' By Manufacturers

ORDER FAR-REACHING

U. S. Employment Services Alone Will Hire Men For Critical Skills

By FRANCIS M. LEMAY WASHINGTON, May 27.—(P)—A "freezing" of essential workers in critical war industries to their present jobs was decided upon today by the war manpower commission to stop "labor pirating," described as a severe interference with war production.

In this far-reaching move, the United States employment service was made the "sole hiring agency for critical skills in critical areas." There was no immediate estimate of the number of workers who would be affected, but it was expected to run into hundreds of thousands if not millions.

A commission spokesman said the action meant that henceforth essential workers would be "unable to change from one war plant to another without approval of the United States employment service."

The policy will become effective, he told newsmen, as soon as the proper directives can be drafted, "which means immediately."

He declined to discuss the possible effects the policy might have on the stabilization of wages in war plants.

Agency to Hire "This simply means," he said, "that all employment in critical war plants will be handled exclusively by the United States employment service. Pirating of labor has become acute, especially in the aircraft industry. The pirating usually is done by a plant offering more money to a worker in another plant. This practice, the commission has found, causes instability and slows down production."

The policy could be enforced, through war contracts, but he expressed an opinion that "employers will go along and we do not think compulsion will be necessary."

The commission also took further steps to make certain that men irreplaceable in production may be deferred from the draft and remain at their work benches. Preliminary plans were drawn for a classification of war plants according to their urgency, and for a system of manpower priorities to assure the critical plants ample supplies of skilled labor.

The commission previously had asked that local draft boards consult with the federal employment

(Continued on Page Four; Col. 4)

WATER PROJECT BOND VOTE SET

Citizens Will Ballot On \$600,000 Issue Here On June 30

Approval or disapproval of a \$600,000 city bond issue to supplement federal funds to build the proposed King's Bluff water supply project will be expressed June 30 by residents of Wilmington.

Date for the city election on the issue was set at Wednesday's meeting of city council. Registration books for the election will be open in the wards and precincts here from June 6 to June 20 but persons who registered for last December's bond election will not be required to register again in order to be eligible to vote in the bond election. Funds Necessary

Both Mayor Hargrove Bellamy and City Attorney W. B. Campbell emphasized Wednesday morning that the new \$600,000 bond issue was necessary to provide funds for the King's Bluff project which was not included in the waterworks improvement program for which a \$525,000 bond issue was authorized to match Federal funds last December.

The entire waterworks improvement program, including a new filter plant at Hilton, two 75,000 steel storage tanks, extensions to the present system of mains here and the King's Bluff project, is estimated to cost \$2,620,000 of which the Federal Works agency

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 1)



This aerial view shows the German ship "Warenfels" which was scuttled at Diego Suarez on the island of Madagascar as the British invaded that strategic French possession in the Indian ocean. The vessel was refitted in dry dock when the British started action and the German crew attempted to destroy her. But the British say the scuttling was not completely successful and the ship can be salvaged. The picture was radioed from Cairo to London and then cabled to the United States.

Germans Open Major Offensive Against British Army In Libya

Armored Forces Are Engaged In Bitter Conflict In Desert

By EDWARD KENNEDY CAIRO, Egypt, May 27.—(P)—Strong Axis tank columns thrown forward in an effort to flank the southernmost point of the British Libyan triangle based on Tobruk and Ain El Gozala were engaged tonight by British armored forces in action so heavy as to indicate that Field Marshal Erwin Rommel may have opened a major offensive.

The first indication that Rommel was again on the march eastward, unfavorable though the season is for broad operations because of the intense heat, was given in the regular communique of the British Imperial command which noted that his forces "including tanks in some strength" were advancing.

Then, in a subsequent special communique, British GHQ thus disclosed that the fiercest action in some weeks had quickly developed: "During the night a large enemy armored force advanced from the west to the south of our positions around Bir Hacheim (which lies southeast of coastal Ain El Gazala and southwest of coastal Tobruk). Early this morning the enemy was being engaged by our armored forces. No details of the fighting are yet available."

From other sources, however, it was learned that a fierce battle was raging along a line running south from Ain El Gazala.

The Nazis struck first at British positions near the Bir Hacheim waterhole about 50 miles below the coast, their tanks being met by

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 4)

WEATHER

FORECAST: NORTH CAROLINA—Warmer in interior Thursday. SOUTH CAROLINA—GEORGIA—FLORIDA—Warm and humid, scattered thunderstorms Thursday.

(Meteorological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m., yesterday: (By U. S. Weather Bureau) (EASTERN STANDARD TIME) Temperature: 7:30 a. m. 66; 1:30 p. m. 79; 7:30 p. m. 66; maximum 80; minimum 63; mean 72; normal 74. Humidity: 7:30 a. m. 85; 1:30 p. m. 70; 7:30 p. m. 80. Precipitation: Total for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m., 0.03 inches; total since the first of the month, 6.01 inches.

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 5)

(Continued on Page Four; Col. 5)

Reds Consolidate Gains Near Kharkov, Beat Germans In South

4,500 NAZIS ARE KILLED

Eighty-Two Planes Reported Destroyed During Tuesday's Fighting

By HENRY C. CASSIDY MOSCOW, Thursday, May 28.—(P)—Russian troops battling on the Kharkov-Barvenkova fronts were reported today to have beaten their way forward in both areas after killing 4,500 more Germans and capturing large quantities of equipment.

The midnight Soviet communique announced that the Red army had consolidated their gains before Kharkov while defeating fierce Nazi attacks in the Izyum-Barvenkova sector 80 miles to the south.

A supplementary communique said 1,400 Germans had been slain "in the Izyum direction," by the men of one rifle unit, and that in another sector the Germans were in retreat after having failed to ford a river—an attempt that was broken up by Soviet artillery firing at short range.

The Germans lost 1,000 dead in that river action, and Soviet cavalry-rymer stabling 40 miles behind the German lines in another area slew 2,100 Germans.

Eighty-two German planes were declared destroyed in Tuesday's fighting, while Soviet losses were listed as 12 craft.

Front dispatches had said earlier that the Red army, backed up against a river in the Izyum-Barvenkova area, had counter-attacked in a daring stroke that considerably lessened the Nazi flanking threat there.

One Field of Combat Intimating that these two battle fronts now had become practically one vast field of combat, Maj. Gen. Nikolai Zhuravlyev, a military reviewer, said all the fighting was "closely bound up on the operational point of view."

He declared the German failure to break through in the Izyum-Barvenkova area, despite a tremendous massing of tanks, was proof that the Nazis no longer enjoyed their former superiority in armament.

Already, in these initial operations of spring, the Germans have been forced to use 30 per cent of the tanks and armored cars they have on the Russian front, he declared.

All Soviet accounts stressed the number of tanks the Germans were employing (without mentioning an over-all estimate). And the numbers the Russians were destroying.

As a typical incident, Red Star, (The army paper, said the Germans

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 4)

SAILOR RIDES GUN DOWN WITH SHIP

Cannon Fires Just As Torpedoed Vessel Takes Death Plunge

NEW ORLEANS, May 27.—(P)—Naval gunner Woodrow Wilson Harrison of Augusta, Ga., tried so hard to bag the Axis submarine that sank the medium sized American freighter on which he was stationed on May 19 in the Gulf of Mexico that he went down with the ship riding the carriage of his blazing gun.

The second class seaman, reportedly only 17 years old, was the only man lost aboard the ship itself, which sank in five minutes in early afternoon, but 19 crew members in a lifeboat struck by the stricken submerged ship were sucked under and lost. Twenty-two men were rescued 28 hours later by a passing ship and brought here.

The sinking produced two other remarkable adventures, one of a gunner whose foot was caught in a rope and pulled under the surface before an explosion freed him, and the other of the submarine commander pulling two crewmen from the sea, treating one's injuries and giving them cigarettes before putting them aboard the only life raft that remained afloat.

Second mate Amigo Soriano of Seattle, Wash., and Theodore Snow of El Segundo, Calif., said the sub commander wore shorts and spoke perfect English with an Oxford accent. He dressed Snow's cuts with alcohol, and said: "Are you American boys? Sorry we had to do this, but this is war." They

(Continued on Page Four; Col. 5)

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 5)

(Continued on Page Four; Col. 5)

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 5)