State And National News

ESTABLISHED 1867.

New Hanover County Placed Under Dimout Regulations By Army

Entire Area Restricted; City Council Names
Local Officers Waiting For Orders

RESOLUTION SIGHTED

City Reported Ready To Consider Rules Applying To This Zone

According to Sheriff C. David Jones, a new bulletin on dimout regulations has been received, which places all of New Hanover county within the dimout region.

Other counties included in their entirety in this regulation are Brunswick, Curituck, Dare and Carteret.

Vehicle Ruling Made

A part of the bulletin reads, on streets, highways, or within areas where vehicular headlights are visible from the sea, they shall are visible from the sea, they shall pay operate (subject to exceptions hereinafter stated) with no more than two lighted parking lights, and each light shall be equipped with not more than a six candlepower buib. Dimmed or low beam lights may be used if they are hooded in such manner that light escapes through not more than one-tenth of the surface of the

These regulations have been iscommand in Atlanta. At present the Federal Government is designated as the law enforcement body to enforce the lighting and the fixed at 15 miles an hour within the dim-out areas.

The Federal Government, in turn, according to bulletins issued retroactive to December 1. recently, has asked the cooperation and assistance of local civil and county agencies in the enforcement of these regulations. Civilian Defense authorities are also requested to cooperate in the enforcement of these restrictions. It has been reported from au-

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thoritative sources that in a meet-

HOSPITAL WORK

Durham Will Handle Plumbing, Heating

trial hospital, was awarded Tues- judicial branches. day night to the J. R. Bagwell

noon, were discussed at the meeting, and the contract submitted by the Bagwell company was approved, subject to final approval by the Federal Works Agency in

Total cost of the proposed plumb ing and heating bid is \$85,500, Mr. Rce said, with the plumbing cost at \$49,800 and the heating nistal-

lation set at \$35,700. Plumbing and heating contracts were originally awarded along with the general contract for the addition by the board of managers

on November 14. The Federal Works agency, which is providing the majority of the funds used for the addition,

rejected the plumbing and heating award, however, on the grounds that the bid was too high and

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WEATHER

Forecast

NORTH CAROLIN: Cold west and tentral portion today.

(Eastern Standard Time)
(By U. S. Weather Burean)
Meteoroligical data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m., yesterday.

Temperature

1:30 a, m., 32; 7:30 a. m., 35; 1:30 p. m., 55; 7:30 p. m., 49. Maximum, 59; minimum, 31; mean, 45; normal, 49

Humidity

1:30 a. m., 48; 7:30 a. m., 46; 1:30 p. m., 42; 7:30 p. m., 35.

Total for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m., 0.09 inches.

Total for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m., 10.09 inches.

Total since the first of the month,
1.13 inches. Total since the first
List inches.

Tides For Today

(From the Tide Table published by U. t.

Coast and Geodetic Survey).

Wilmington

4:40a 11:50a

5:05p -- P

1:50a

1:50a

2:12p 9:207

New Topsail Inlet ___

Simore's)

(All times Eastern Standard)

Sunrise, 7:11 a. m.; sunset, 5:05 p.

m.; moonrise, 1:38p; moonset, 1:29a.

Fifth Member Today

According to informed sources it was reported Tues-day night that Garland C. Currin of 309 North Fifteenth street will be sworn in as the fifth member of the city council this (Wednesday morning.

Mr. Currin will take the place made by the resignation of Mayor Hargrove Bellamy a few weeks ago. Edgar L. Yow, former mayor pro-tem was named to fill the mayor's seat, thus leaving a vacancy.

Mr. Currin, owner of the Currin Wholesale company here, will be sworn into office today before the regular meeting of the council.

He has lived in Wilmington for the past six years. Before that time he and his wife and two daughters, resided in Sanford where he was connected with a wholesale firm.

FEDERAL WORKERS HIKE OKEHED

Congress OK's Increase For About 1,500,000 **Government Employes**

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—(AP)-Congress unanimously approved sued through the fourth service salary increases for approximately 1,500,000 federal civilian employes today in a stop-gap, session-end measure for adjustment of warspeed limit law, which has been time government pay until detailed of the ban on voluntary enlistlegislation can be worked out in the new Congress. The raises are

> Representative Ramspeck (D-Ga). House Civil Service committee chairman, estimated the rais- may volunteer to be inducted \$250,000,000 a year.

Piloting the legislation through the House a few hours after the a spokesman said.

eral civilian employes. This extra pay provision, which expired November 30, is based on slightly less registrants wishing to volunteer CONTRACT GIVEN vember 30, is based on slightly less than time-and-a-half for hours worked in excess of 40 a week.

2. Brings under overtime provis J. R. Bagwell Company Of ions the remaining 48 per cent, except those paid on a fee, mileage or some other basis where definite work hours are not stipulated.

3. Grants a 10 per cent increase to employes not on an hourly basis, dition to the James Walker Mem- to employes in the legislative and

4. Provides that both the overcompany of Durham, J. C. Roe, time and 10 per cent increases are president of the hospital board payable only on the first \$2,900 of an employe's salary, and that an

The bids, opened Monday after- employe making \$5,000 or more (Continued on Page Seven; Col. 6)

Smoke Kills Fireman

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 15-(P) -Smoke killed one fireman and overcame 158 others but all 1,000 guests escaped injury early today when a stubborn, hard-to-get-at fire burned for hours in the second sub-basement of the 22-story, 1500-room William Penn hotel, largest hostelry between New York

and Chicage. Fire Chief Edward J. Kerr who hearly collapsed himself, said it was the worst battle against smoke in his 30 years' experience. Never before in the city's history had so many firemen been overcome. Only 25 to 30 fighting the smoke were unaffected, Kerr said. Thirty firemen and two hotel employes made ill by smoke were hospitalized

Meet the Queen



by the Boys' Club in New York City. She wears a Waac uniform and holds a doll, both prizes award-ed to her when she was picked over a number of other tiny contestants.

Until February: Men May Still Volunteer

The all-service draft can not be ed, but no significant chanput into effect until about Febru- ges in the general situation years may volunteer through their zi infantrymen supported by

Selective Service headquarters every Russian thrust. today disclosed this modification ments so that Navy, Marine and Coast Guard quotas can be filled pending the perfection of arrangements to draft men for them. The procedure for drafting men for the Army, which has always

es would increase federal payrolls ahead of the time they would be called normally, will not be changed by this "stop-gap" innovation, Memoranda sent to local draft

STORES TO BEGIN

heating construction at the new ad- on a mileage or other factor, and Business Houses Will Be Open After Dark To Holiday Trade Next Week

> staying open at night for holiday trade on Saturday, December 19, F. O. Fockler, secretary of the local chamber of commerce announced Tuesday. On Saturday, Invalid Father And Family stores will-be open from 9 a.m. In Pittsburgh Blaze until 9 p.m. However, on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of week, business houses will be open to trade from 9 a.m. until 8 p.m.

after Christmas.

are being rapidly depleted. The Chamber of Commerce, in a government bureau. the Wilmington hotel, is doing a Chamber to Wilmington, Mr. Fock-

4,000 Fuel Oil Coupon

into the mails on Wednesday.

were mailed by the board on Tues- Number Ten sugar ration ticket is uted by volunteer workers.

Class One fuel coupons, with for coffee will continue in effect (Continued on Page Seven; Col. 7) each unit good for a 10 gallon until January &

ROMMEL CONTINUES LIBYAN RETREAT

REDS CAPTURE TWO AREAS FROM FOE **RIVES SLOWED**

Cute Florence Sarle, 4, salutes after she was chosen queen of the ninth anual Little Sister show held

local draft boards meanwhile.

provided that draft registrants

Senate gave its unanimous approvboards gave this outline of how al, the Georgian explained the bill: the modified volunteer system will boards gave this outline of how the modified volunteer system will ported knocked out on the central

(Continued on Page Seven; Col. 7)

Stores in Wilmington will begin following week, Christmas

secretary emphasized. "There is tion Army said Tuesday.

Books Are Mailed Here

Four thousand fuel ration cards | ration, are now in effect. Coupons have actually been put into the for the periods expiring December mails, and an uncounted number 5 and January 2 are to be used have been made ready for presen- by consumers at the present time, tation to shipyard workers, the the board explained. Class Three War Price and Rationing Board coupons are not intended for a announced Tuesday night. Many particular period, but are to be more fuel applications have been used throughout the next twelve processed and coupons will be put months at the consumer's discre-

Approximately 1150 coupons Beginning today (Wednesday) day, as the result of help contrib- in effect, and may be used until January 31. Number 27 coupon

Nazi Counter Attacks Hinder Soviet Troop Advance In All Sectors

1,000 GERMANS KILLED

Russians Claim Destruction Of 40 Tanks And 10 Aircraft In Battle

MOSCOW, Wednesday Dec. 16.—(AP) — The Russians an-nounce the capture of two more populated places west of Fzhev on the frozen central front yesterday, but the mid-ON ENLISTMENTS night communique made it apparent that steady Nazi counterattacks still were All Service Draft Delayed slowing the Red army both there and on the two wings of the Stalingrad sector.

More than 1,000 Germans were declared killed and 40 WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 .- (F) _ tanks and 10 planes destroyand men 17 through 38 were reported. Waves of Natanks were meeting nearly

> 400 Nazis Slain Approximately 400 Germans were killed west of Rzhev, and the Soviets also reported the destruction of several dozen enemy blockhouses and artlllery nests the Rzhev-Vyazma-Velikie Luki triangle the Russians have Luki triangle the Russians have undertaken to smash northwest of STOVE RATIONING Moscow, About one battalion enemy infantry was dispersed and partly destroyed in the railway area, the communique said. The Velikie Luki sector was not men-

1. Extends provisions for over-work during the next six weeks: ported knocked out on the central ime pay for 52 per cent of all fed-Instead of going directly to re- front, and the remander were dis cruiting stations, as they did be- abled in the repulse of German fore the ban was imposed, draft counterattacks northwest and

southwest of Stalingrad. Inside Stalingrad the Russians Coal and oil heating stoves for deluge of bombs and bullets. continued their methodical artillery barrages interspersed with small infantry charges to destroy 16 enemy blockhouses, ten dugouts,

six guns and 20 machine-guns. "Our troops engaged big forces of enemy infantry and tanks" southwest of Stalingrad, the communique said. This sector appear-

ed to be the most troublesome for (Continued on Page Seven; Col. 7)

STOCKING FUND **NEEDS MUCH AID**

One Of Many Cases Looking For Christmas

The father of one Wilmington Wilmington stores will remain family of seven is unable to proclosed on December 26, the day vide for his wife and children because he is chronically handi-"People should get their buying capped with arthritis, Captain done as quickly as possible," the James Neighbours of the Salvastill merchandise to be bought," only financial provision for this he said, "but stocks in many stores group, the youngest of which is 14 eligible under the program." months, is a small allowance from

The Empty Stocking fund, with ready been wrapped and mailed ceive food, clothing, fuel, medi- to operate coal burning equipment. for local citizens. In the first year cine, and Christmas cheer this the service has been offered by the year, Captain Neighbours declared. Christmas is only ten days off, ler declared "It looks like it's been the Captain observed, and if citizens intend to share their Christmas possessions with their underprivileged neighbors it is time they were sending or bringing their contributions to the Star-News office in the Murchison

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 7)

NOTICE!

If your carrier fails to leave your copy of the Wilmington Morning Star, Phone 3311 before 9:00 a m. and one will be sent to you by special messenger.

British Tommies Hot On The Heels Of Rommel

ALLIED PLANES POUND TUNISIA;



These infantrymen of the British Eighth Army ru n through the dust of the western desert in their pursuit of Gen. Rommel's Axis forces fleeing across Liby a toward Tripoli. They are passing an Axis tank which has been blasted out of the battle. The British drove Rommel's troops out of their stronghold at El Agheila Dec. 13 and continued to chase the retre aters westward.

Japanese Troops Make Landings In New Guinea With Heavy Loss

PROGRAM SLATED

In 30 State Area To Be Doled Friday

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 .- (A) private dwellings in the 30 state fuel oil rationing area will be rationed beginning Friday, the Of- said. fice of Prince Administration an-

nounced today. OPA said the rationing resulted from an emergency request of the Buna village two days ago in a House of Commons today. War Production Board. The order fierce hand-to-hand struggle previrtually suspends sales of oil ceded by a torrent of mortar was expected, if not in the auheaters but makes coal heaters shells. Buna mission and other readily available to householders nearby coastal points still are held tumn of 1940, at any rate in the who wish to convert from oil to by the Japanese, however,

by the rationing.

burning equipmennt merely will al sector. be required to obtain a purchase

used oil ration coupons. Price Administrator Leon Henderson called it a "unique rationround" attack by Flying Fortressarmy had 400 by the autumn of day, killing 17 of the 19 persons stead of asking the public to re- fighters which smashed Japanese 1941 and now has between 1,000 aboard. frain from buying or limiting pur- landing boats, left Japanese dead and 2,000, he added. chases drastically, "we are makdraped over the sides of barges Although designed primarily for jured, lay all night and up until ing coal heaters available to any and scattered on the beaches, and Britain's defense and since surone who can use one and who is

As for oil burning stoves, purchase certificates will be issued only to house-holders who are relandslide business in wrapping and such cases as this to consider, is placing oil burning equipment that mailing Christmas packages, ac- inadequate to spread over 100 is beyond repair and who can satcording to Mr. Fockler. He re- families. Much more is needed if isfy the local board that no one ported that 6,000 parcels had al- Wilmington's needlest are to re- in the household is physically able

> Fire Sweeps City Block In Norfolk

NORFOLK, Va., Dec. 15-(AP) -More than half the north side of the 200 block of West Main street was swept by fire that started shortly before noon today in the three-story building occupied by Hoffer Bros. Furniture store. The blaze was brought under control shortly before 2 p. m.

The Hoffer Bros. building was destroyed. Three adajacent buildings, occupied by an army and navy store, a Thom McAn shoe store and a small amusement arcade, were badly dam-Three coast guardsmen, who assisted municipal firemen in

battling the blaze suffered

slight injuries and were treat-

ed at hospitals. None of the

three was in a serious condi-

force Army In Area; Bombed By Allies

west of captured Gona and Buna in New Guinea in a new reinforce ment attempt, but Allied headquarters said that the enemy's already-torn ranks were under a

"The entire area is strewn with derelict barges, wreckage and en-

pressure on the enemy in all sectors" on the Buna front where U. S. and Australian troops took Minister Churchill disclosed to the

Perhaps 1,000 Japanese troops prime minister said. New cooking stoves, new stoves were believed to have weathered He made the disclosure in disdesigned to burn wood exclusively Allied air attacks to gain a new and used stoves are not affected foothold in an obvious attempt to a new coal stove to replace oil cut to shreds in a constricted coast- bear his name.

The new enemy landing was certificate from their local ration- made in the Cape Ward Hunt area, ing board and surrender their un- 44 miles northwest of Buna on the upon an entirely new tank and wrecked supply rafts

dawn to execute the operation. From each of the five ships four 50 soldiers were launched.

Navy Blunder Caused Loss

Of Liner, Says Ship Head

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.- A | He stopped, asked whether the

shipping company official asserted harbor was safe, and was assured

today that a Navy blunder led there was nothing to worry about.

to the sinking of the 21,936-ton The ship entered and struck two

area as a troop transport. Mean- possible fault" was involved, Sec-

while, the Navy undertook a "very retary of the Navy Knox at the

The accusation came from J. board of inquiry was looking into

Hugh Jackson, a director of the the theident. He was asked wheth-

American Presidents Line, which er the vessel might have struck

Calif., that the captain of the hit one of our mines," he replied,

met two U. S. destroyers outside. (Continued on Page Seven; Col. 8)

former liner President Coolidge, mines, Jackson said.

formerly owned the ship. He told an American mine.

(Continued on Page Seven; Col. 6) of all kinds."

while operating in the Solomons

a luncheon meeting at Stockton,

transport, about to enter a harbor,

thorough investigation."

Attempt Made To Rein- CHURCHILL TELLS HOUSE OF DEFECT

Coal And Oil Heating Units EA, Wednesday, Dec. 16.—(P)—J British Had 100 Tanks anese troops have landed north.

SOMEWHERE IN NEW GUIN-British Had 100 Tanks anese troops have landed north.

WILL COUNTY TANKS are scored and four Axis fighters. When German Invasion Seemed Near

> LONDON, Dec. 15 .- (P)-Britain said. had only 100 tanks and they were of the thin skinned kind which had emy dead," today's communique proved ineffective against German among important port installations. anti-tank fire in France when the it was announced in Cairo tonight. "Our troops maintained heavy German threat of invasion seemed The Italian high command had said greatest on June 11, 1940, Prime

> > spring of 1941 or even 1942," the

cussing the emergency measures Craft Of Western Airlines turn the Allied flank and relieve taken to provide Britain with ar-Householders who wish to buy the enemy units that are being mor, and the new tanks which

A tank committee called together on August 11, 1940 had decided northeast shore of New Gulnea, put it in quantity production in crashed in the sagebrush dotted despite a sizzling "merry go less than a year, he said. The desert country of central Utah to-

Two Japanese cruisers and three passed by other models, they destroyers seeking to effect the 'gave a good account of them- Fairfield and about 50 miles south landing had only two hours before selves in North Africa, Churchill of Salt Lake City. declared.

motor landing craft-20 in all new air weapons with which to of Springfield, Ark., and Lieut. A. each with an estimated capacity of combat the Uboat, he said he had F. Gardner of the U. S. Marine reconstituted the Battle of the At- corps, whose home was said to The first wave of probably 1,000 lantic committee last October to be in Alexander, N. Y. Japanese got ashore and the bar- consider the part "which the air Gardner was one of three miliges were in the process of repeat- had begun to play in anti-U-boat tary officers aboard. The other ing the operation when the Allied warfare and consequential, compli- two, Lieuts. T. A. Baldwin and

Asserting that a "question of

same time announced that a naval

"I have no information that it

Bombardment Of Italian Ports Of Supply

POWER IS GROWING

zerte And Tunis Re-

ported From Morocco

LONDON, Dec. 15.—(AP)-Field Marshal Rommel's army in Libya retreated on to the west today along a harsh and perilous road while official reports indicated that there, in Tunisia and over the Mediterranean generally the Allied air arm was striking with sharply growing power.

The Morocco radio, quoting what it represented as an Allied headquarters communique, said Allied patrols "are pursuing their activity forward of our lines."

Reports Coincide Although the Morocco broadcasts ave not always been reliable, its report of aggressive activity by the Americans and British in Tunisia, coincided with a Reuters dispatch which reported that rains were letting up and that resumption of large scale action appeared imminent. Rains have bogged down the

ground forces there for several The radio said the communique also announced a series of heavy air attacks on Bizerte and Tunis for the third successive day, and on the Sfax railroad yards where

were shot down over Bizerte. Allied fighters on patrol over southern Tunisia attacked a number of objectives, the broadcast

Naples also was attacked last night by heavy RAF bombers which caused numerous fires earlier that "dozens of bombs" fell

in that vital naval base and sup-(Continued on Page Two; Col. 4)

IN PLANE CRASH

Falls On Utah Sagebrush; 2 Survive

FAIRFIELD, Utah, Dec. 15.-(R)

The two survivors, seriously inafter noon today in the wrecked plane in Cedar valley, four miles

At a Lehi hospital, the survivors Indicating that Britain may have were identified as A. J. Mallett

cated and technical developments H. H. McCrae, were killed, along with 11 other passengers and four crew members. One of the latter was a student co-pilot.

Mallett was only partly conscious when rescuers reached the plane. Gardner was able to talk. M. J. Dahl, a rancher living two miles west of where the ship crashed after taking off from the Salt

(Continued on Page Seven; Col. 6)



till Christmas