VOL. 79-NO. 104

Him Responsible

awful marner.

ary. W. R. Allen, D. A. Her-

W. E. Powell, and George

Roberts, Charles P. Holland, High-

driver of the civilian car, Kennedy,

Dr. Elliott reported that, in his

L. D. Webb, returning to his

wreck through the rear-view mir-

Continued on Page Two; Col. 4)

African Envoy

was at fault in the accident.

Reds Capture Nazi Machine Gun Nest At Sta



FRENCH UNDER GEN. GIRAUD DRIVE FOE BACK IN AFRICA; RED ARMY MAKES BIG GAIN

Nazis 80,000 Casualties In 8 Days

8,000 KILLED IN DAY

Towns And Villages Liberated By The Dozens In Soviet Campaign

MOSCOW, Thursday, Dec. 24—(A)—The Red army has beaten forward across the Middle Don plains for gains of 72 to 103 miles in 8 days, the Russians announced early new wlb program today, on a continuing and massive offensive which has cost Adolf Hitler upwards of TO BEGIN SHORTLY 80,000 killed or captured in that sector alone.

A special communique said Labor Board To Set Up the Germans were sent reeling back for another 12 to 18 miles yesterday and that in the day's fighting 8,000 Nazis were slain and 16,400 fell prisoner.

bered more than 44,000.

The latest in a series of special throughout the country. communiques reporting unprecedented successes in the winter offensives, said that towns and villages by the dozens were liberated putes will be done in the field, by the Red army.

itself largely to hearing appeals "The offensive of our troops in and making policy. the middle course of the Don is Another major procedural step will permit the ten regional dicontinuing," it said triumphantly. Virtually ingulfed by the Soviet leans for production of an undistide was the key communications rectors to make final decisions on closed number of cargo planes for center of Millerovo. One Soviet voluntary wage or salary adjustthe Army air forces was announced today by the War Department. spearhead had driven to Baranikivka, in the Ukraine 31 miles ment cases involving employers of not more than 100 persons. northwest of Millerovo.

> Another thrust had reached and its work, the board expects to liberated the town of Voloshina, keep nearly all dispute cases and about two-thirds of the voluntary

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 1)

SIGN TRADE PACT

Countries Agree To Recipment; Hull Instigator

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.- (P) -The United States and Mexico--signed a reciprocal trade agreement today sweeping aside longstanding barriers to peacetime (Curtiss-Wright corporation has commerce and opening the way announced that the Curtiss-Cara- to a greater wartime exchange of

Secretary of State Hull signed the bulky document with Dr. Fran-

iff-reducions on 76 items while the duties on 127 others were 1910, the Yoke Fellows' club of on the Phillips works at Eindhoven, frozen at present levels. In return the Young Men's Christian Asso- Holland, on December 12.

Among the concessions made by J. B. Huntington, secretary of the tives disabled, much trackage twist-00,000,000. This was raised to \$11.- Higgins said six weeks ago that Mexico are the binding of the YMCA announced Wednesday. ports indicated the original goal the Army for construction of 1,200 trucks and tractors of which Mexcargo planes and would undertake ican purchases in 1940 amounted up their stockings, and that the ribombers, Whirlwinds and Ameri-Announcing the oversubscription various other assignments, including to \$6,988,000; a reduction of 50 stockings would be filled with can made Bostons, all used now as Announcing the oversuseription of the victory loan securities at ing a "manufacturing laboratory" percent on the duty on machinery candies, nuts, and fruits. The dinintruder craft for sharp and quick of the victory loan securities at hig a manufacturing laboratory and appliances, of which the Unita press conference, Bell said it to make aircraft accessories not and appliances, of which the Unita press conference, bell said it only for Higgins-built planes but ed States supplied 70 percent of will include "all the usual good gets they hit the railroad yards near was the greatest financing achieve-Mexico's imports in 1940 valued Christmas dishes." Supervisors Ghent and Saint Lo, Abbeville, Le

CONTINUE DRIVE Allied Raiders Bombard PRISONERS TAKEN Russian Offensive Has Cost Japs At Rangoon, Akyab Attack Position Held By

NEW DELHI, Dec. 23-(AP)-Cascading bombs upon widely separated targets, American and British raiders have struck powerful new blows at Rangoon and Akyab in softening-up raids ahead of British troops moving down the Burma coast while carrier-borne British naval planes assaulted the westermost Japanese base in the Netherlands, Indies far to the south.

These Allied attacks, carried out over an ever-broadening arc of the Indian ocean against only scant enemy opposition, caught the Japanese flatfooted or show-

Smaller Units To Handle

Worker Disputes

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 .- (P) -

The War Labor Board, it was dis-

closed today, is planning to speed

up and simplify the handling of

labor disputes by giving greatly

increased authority to ten "Little

War Labor Boards" scattered

Under this decentralization plan

much of the work of settling dis-

with the national board confining

By this process of regionalizing

The boord also said it is draft-

ing a simplified form of applica-

for rulings on proposed adjust-

The streamlined procedure for

handling dispute cases provides for

the establishment of permanent panels in major cities. They will

be composed of public, manage-

ment, and labor representatives.

Any dispute which the U.S. Con-

ciliation Service is unable to settle

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 3)

YMCA TO SPONSOR

Bring Cheer To New Han-

over County Home

ed that they now were surrendering air superiority, or both U. S. Army Air Force headquarters announced that in two destructive assaults on Rangoon Sunday and a third yesterday attacking Flying Fortresses were challenged by only two enemy fighters and the British naval craft met little or no opposition in their attack Sunday night on the Japanese oil supply base at Sabang, on the small island off the northern tip of Sumatra in the Netherlands East Indies. There was speculation that

(Continued on Page Six; Col. 8)

Spare Auto Tires

ger car.

farmers.

ments to make it easier for the France, this afternoon, the Air Min-

small business concern to apply istry announced in a communique

tonight

Southhampton.

low countries.

of the New Hanover county home, kind in weeks, left many locomo-

the Sabang raid was made by

May Be Taken Soon.

OMAHA, Dec. 23-(AP)-Rubber

Administrator William Jeffers

said today that due to the rub-

ber shortage automobile owners

may have to give up their spare

tires and it may be necessary to

take tires from cars of persons

who own more than one passen-

He made the comment at a

Jeffers said the recent tire col-

meeting here to discuss simplifi-

cation of gas rationing forms for

lection drive netted 10,000,000 tires but about 40 per cent are

scrap and from 30 to35 per cent

are worth recapping. The rest

are ready for immediate use.

ST. MALO BOMBED

Smash At Nazis In Brit-

tany, Normandy

sweeps over Brittany and Norman-

Denhelder on the Dutch coast.

Dutch port on the Zuider Zee, was

into service on the RAF front only

ed and other transport facilities in

Preport, Saint Pol and La Chapelle.

Enemy air fields also were hit; and from an enemy convoy off the

Dutch islands two enemy ships were

MEET IN SPRING

North Carolina Education associa-

RALEIGH, Dec. 3- (P) -The

set aflame.

ESTABLISHED 1867.

Italians Near Pont Du Fahs

ROMMEL STILL FLEEING

Axis Reports Suggest Imminence Of Tremendous Battle

LONDON, Dec. 23—(AP) The French under Gen. Henri Honore Giraud have driven the enemy back in a sharp engagement apparently in the Pont du Fahs area and have taken more prisoners and war material, African reports Says Rubber Chief said tonight, and the Axis hinted a big battle was shaping up in the Tunisia corner.

> A headquarters spokesman said the French attacked a position held mostly by Italians near Pont du Fahs, 30 miles south of Tunis. Captured equipment included two armored cars.

The spokesman and the official Allied communique reporting the French success over their former Axis overlords in Tunisia directly con-tradicted a DNB, German news agency, report that a French squadron was annihilated in the fighting and 100 French dead were left on the

Vigorous Patrol Activity

BY RAF AIRCRAFT Reports from the Allied headquarters told of "vigorous" patrol activity on the British and Ameri-Other British Fighters can sectors in Tunisia, with the enemy shelling some of the British First Army's positions north and south of Medjez-el-Bab, a vital point 35 miles southwest of Tunis.

r south on the LONDON, Dec. 23 -(P)- Boston tor, probably in the region of Kaibombers escorted by fighter planes rouan, which is 70 miles south of tion for wage and salary adjust- bombed the docks at St. Malo, Tunis, the French were said to

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 2)

St. Malo is on the northern coast of France almost directly south of IN NEW GUINEA Other British fighters, unmolested by defending aircraft, carried out

dy, the communique added. Earlier in the afternoon British planes with Allies Breach Enemy Fortifighter escorts bombed targets at fications In Many No enemy aircraft was encounter-Points At Buna ed during the operations, and no

British planes were lost, it was re-ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN The raids came in the wake of AUSTRALIA, Thursday, Dec. 24 .heavy and widespread overnight at- (AP)-Japanese enemy fortifications tacks by fighter-bombers on German have been breached in many places railway transport in France and the in the Buna area of New Guinea by Allied troops, General Douglas

"Many hundreds of his (the apcarried out by Venturas, American anese) dead are being buried by general reconnaissance bombers our troops," the noon communique Planes of this design have been put said.

"His situation must now be re recently. They were first reported garded as desperate."

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 5) Last night's sweep, authoritative-

Aided Giraud Escape



This is an official U. S. Navy Gen. Henri Honore Giraud from escaped was the same that carried

(Central Press)

saction series of pictures made by a cameraman whose mans often were jarred out of focus by the bond concussions, shows musical tacking and liquidating a Nazi machine gun nest at Stalingrad. Three Red soldiers charge barbed wire barricade under fire (top left), along their way through the barbed wire, they advance toward a German machine gun nest (top right). The Red infantrymen run Indian along wall of shattered building toward their objective (bottom left). The attackers mission has been completed. While buddies covered him, i fighter entered liquidated nest and emerged with machine gun. Note feet of dead Nazi at right (bottom right). EIGHTH VICTIM Last-Day Contributions Needed In Stocking Fund BIG CARGO PLANES This brought the prisoner total in the 8-day period to 36,600, while the number of dead Nazis num-OF WRECK DIES

This is the last day of the Empty J. N. Kennedy Succumbs Stocking fund appeal. After Coroner's Jury Finds

This is Christmas Eve-the day when everyone uses every spare moment to make ready for tomorrow. For tomorrow must be J. N. Kennedy, eighth victim of filled with joy, relaxation, giving, he automobile wreck which oc- plenty-the ultimate in good liv-

There are homes in Wilmington om Wilmington last Sunday aft- that will not share in tomorrow's oon died in James Walker Me- bounty unless citizens of the town Hospital at 5:15 p.m. open their purses, at this last opportunity, and give to the cause of the Empty Stocking fund. True, Only one of the nine persons involved in the accident remains alive. Officer Candidate A. W. Sauerbrey now in Camp Davis

To give to those who are friends

To give to those who are friend but do not need, is thoughtful-a At a coroner's inquest held in At a coroner's inquest held in gesture of good-will. But to give to those who need desperately is a ouse at 2 o'clock Wednesday aft-moon, verdict was rendered that that by all rights should be met use at 2 o'clock Wednesday afta seven persons injured fatally by a community as blessed with Kennedy was living at the time the flow of material wealth as inques - met their deaths as Wilmington has been this year. he result of injuries received in Remember the hundred neediest

he impact." and that the Chevro- cases! Remember them today! automobile involved, occupied The sick, the handicapped, the civillans, was driven by Kenhungry, the lonely who long for edy "in a careless, reckless, and an expression of cheer and friendliness-do not neglect these! The jury, composed of J. H. Nagel, foreman H. W. Hewlett, Bring or send your gifts to the

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 6)

Bloan heard the testimonies of Dr. BUS-TRUCK WRECK H. Ell.ott, L. D. Webb, C. S. way Patrolman W. B. Riddick and INJURES SIX HERE Deputy Sheriff E. P. Herring before reaching its decision that the

Oil Truck Plows Into Rear Of TWP Vehicle On Marpinion, the persons now dead met their deaths as a direct result of ket Street Road

home from work, witnessed the Six of the 19 persons aboard a Tide Water company bus were inor in his car. C. S. Roberts, jured at 7:30 Wednesday morning Wrightsville Beach, declared that when an oil truck ploughed into total \$11,200,000,000. he Chevrolet had gone from the the bus on Market street at Kenight side of the road "almost v. ood avenue.

crashing into the Ford coach oc-Johnnie B. Smith of 519 Nun street, the driver of the oil transafter the accident by highway pa00,000,000,000 last Monday after rehe had completed negotiations with present duty on automobiles, Mr. Huntington said that the ruins. trolmen on charges of reckless operation. He was placed in the county jail in default of \$1,000 bond to

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 8)

WEATHER

(EASTERN STANDARD TIME)
(By U. S. Weather Bureau)
(eteorological data for the 24 hours Meteorological data for the 24 nours ending 7:30 p. m., yesterday:

Temperature

1:30 a. m., 62; 7:30 a. m., 52; 1:30 p. m., 60; 7:30 p. m., 56; maximum, 64; minimum, 52; mean. 58; normal, 48.

Humidity

97: 1:30

num, 52; mean, 58; horman, 30.

Humidity

1:30 a. m., 93; 7:30 a. m., 97; 1:30

p. m., 73; 7:30 p. m., 73.

Precipitation

Total for the 24 hours ending 7:30

p. m., 0.39 inches. Total since the first of the month, 2.36 inches.

Tides For Today

(From the Tide Tables published by U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey).

Wilmington 11:08 5:38a

11:15p 6.16p

8:33a 2:20a

8:53p 2:55p

ording to a dispatch from Al- Moore's Inlet ... lied headquarters in North Africa,
President Roosevelt has named Robert Murphy, former Consul in Algeria, as his personal envoy in North Africa, with rank of Minister.

(Central Press)

Moore's Inlet

8:58p 3:00p

New Topsail Inlet

9:03p 3:05p

Sunrise, 7:15a. m., sunset, 5:09 p. m.;
roorrise, 7:09 p. m.; moonset, 8:32 a m.

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 6)

Camp Davis Commander Extends Greetings To Wilmington Residents

series of pictures made by a cameraman whose films often were jarred out of focus by the bomb concussions, shows Russian sol-

Major General Frederic H. Smith, commanding general of Camp Davis issued the following Christmas greeting Wednesday night ..

"The commanding General and garrison of Camp Davis extend to the gracious citizens of Wilmington, the seasons greetings and best wishes for

"To each who has contributed hospitality or welcome or generous aid, a grateful acknowledgement is made. To your hopes and prayers are added ours from Camp Davis that Christmas 1943 will find us well advanced toward the secure establishment of the reign of the Prince of Peace whose watch day we now cele-

YICTORY LOAN **DRIVE SUCCESS**

For Financing Goes 'Over The Top'

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 .- (A) -The Treasury's victory loan drive to be designed specifically for use has gone "over the top" by \$2,- as an aerial freighter, the Cara-

200,000,000, Daniel Bell, under- van is described as being a twinsecretary of the Treasury reported engined, high-wing monoplane, He said preliminary figures on veneer construction.

subscriptions which close at mid-

would be passed.

ment in history. "We are well pleased with the public response," he said. "We hope this will set a pattern for

us to follow in future financing." TIRES TURNED IN RALEIGH, Dec. 23 - (P) -The North Carolina field office of the Office of War Information said today that 288,822 tires have been turned in to the Charlotte warehouse of Defense Supplies corp. under the "idle tire" plan.

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.

New Orleans Shipbuilder Given Army Contract For Transports

HIGGINS TO BUILD

WASHNGTON, Dec. 23 .- (A) -Formal approval of a contract with Andrew J. Higgins of New Orced today by the War Department. Apparently, the planes will be

built at the partially -completed shipyards at New Orleans. Construction on the shipyards stopped when the Maritime Commission on July 18 cancelled its contract with Higgins for construction of 200 Liberty ships on the ground that inerty ships on the ground that insufficient steel was available.

The War Department said its agreement with the shipbuilder, negotiated by the Air Forces materiel center at Wright Field, Ohio, and approved by Undersecretary of War Robert P. Patterson, calls for construction of the planes on a cost-plus-fixed fee basis.

The on'y reference to the size of the order was a stat ement that "the total outlay will involve more than \$5,000,000." The new planes will be built largely of non-stra- allies in the war against the Axis tegic materials, but nothing was Treasury Sponsored Plan said concerning their size or expected performance.

van has been selected by the War goods. Department for construction by Higgins. The first military plane largely of plastic - bonded, wood-

It has a wing span of 108 feet. night on the three major issues length of 65 feet and is designed in the drive indicated sales would to operate from relatively small "We hope it may even reach ship was not disclosed. The plane has been designated the C-76 by s12,000,000,00," he said.

Ship was not disclosed. The plane has been designated the C-76 by said. has been designated the C-76 by the United States by Mexico are big Christmas dinner for inmates ly declared the strongest of their In opening the drive December the United States Army Air For- affected by the agreement.

for other Army aircraft also.

rocal Commerce Agree-

cisco Castillo Najera, Mexican am-Yoke Fellows' Club To bassador, bringing the 15th Ameri can republic and the 25th nation into the international trade program Hull has advocated. The United States obtained tar-

The manufacture of "wood al- at \$1,895,000; and a 17 percent and others in charge at the home (Continued on Page Two; Col. 4) (Continued on Page Six; Col. 8) will make final preparations for the holiday celebration.

Seen For Increased Gas Ration North Carolina Education association will meet in Raleigh March 31, April 1-2, it was decided at the December meeting of the association's board of directors here to-

ward he still saw "no hope of any said. increased allotment."

ficials here next Tuesday on the pons have been trimmed. problem, he announced. Meanwhile the Office of Price Ad- his conference:

Economic Director James F. Byrnes an increase in retail gasoline prices leum Administrator Davies, Price

taken to improve conditions, other timore filling station men, but that steps still were required. Railroad discussion was on the basis of the Byrnes issued this statement after

Economic Head Says No Hope

conferred today with officials con- on the East Coast, to compensate Administrator Henderson and Transcerned with the fuel oil and gaso- dealers for reduced sales. OPA has portation Director Eastman reportline problem and reported after-reached no conclusions, a spokesman ed to Director Byrnes the steps taken within the last few days to Harry Wainwright, director of the improve the fuel oil and gasoline Byrnes said the situation demand- gaoline retailers of Washington, situation. As a result of the ex-"the most stringent economy Inc., presented the request to OPA change of views, other action will by every user of such products," petroleum pricing officials. He said be taken as to which no statement

and that while steps have been he represented Washington and Bal- can be made at this time. "Because the increase or even the maintenance of the supply of fuel representatives will confer with of- entire seaboard area in which cou- trict is dependent upon increased

deliveries by the railroads, repre-(Continued on Page Two; Col. 2)

Dast Shopping

The raid on Denhelder, strategic MacArthur announced today.

photo of Capt. Gerauld Wright, 44, of Washington, D. C., who brought France to North Africa in an Allied submarine. The sub in which Giraud Lieut. Gen. Mark Clark on his spectacular mission west of Algiers in advance of the American invasion. Day till Christmas Capt. Wright was a passenger in that operation.