

American War Output Jumps For November

Production Takes Sharp Increase Over Previous Month

FOUR TIMES GREATER Quadruples That Of Corresponding Period For Last Year

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—(P)— American munitions production increased sharply in November over October and was nearly 4 1-3 times as great as in November, 1941, the month before Pearl Harbor, Chairman Donald M. Nelson of the War Production Board announced today.

Ends Declining Percentage Production of planes, tanks, ammunition, ships and other munitions was 12 percent greater in November than in October, compared with an increase of only 4 percent from September to October. This ended a six-month series of declining percentages of gain that began in May.

The 12 percent increase was smaller than April's 119 per cent, but Nelson called the "absolute gain" in November greater because production now is in much larger volume than last spring. WPB's munitions index, using November, 1941, as 100, advanced 46 points to 4331.

Nelson renewed predictions that total war expenditures in 1942 would exceed \$90,000,000,000 compared with more than \$52,000,000,000 this year. Nelson had called October munitions production disappointing but said that many items most needed in the type of warfare being waged in North Africa now are rolling off assembly lines in greatly increased quantities.

He also reported improvement in plant utilization, "although there is considerable room for greater improvement." Some factories are approaching maximum utilization but most of them have not scheduled their operations to more than half of the theoretical limit of 168 hours a week, Nelson said.

In November, 18 per cent more airplanes were accepted by the Army and Navy than in October, but Nelson said some of this increase was due to a large number of planes actually completed in October but not delivered until November. He reported an unusual increase (Continued on Page Seven; Col. 2)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—(P)— Senator Bailey (D-N.C.) today criticized Chairman Paul W. McNutt on the ground that McNutt approves the collection of union dues from workers as a condition of employment. He asked McNutt by letter what explanation the latter could give fathers and mothers whose sons are "in line of battle?"

McNutt made public correspondence in which McNutt asserted he was convinced responsible labor leaders were doing everything in their power to control "the occasional irresponsible leader who en-

Flying Commander



This picture from News of the Day Newsreel shows Lieut. Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, commander in chief of the Allied forces in North Africa, waving goodbye before entering his U. S. Army bomber on another mission for Uncle Sam somewhere in North Africa.

RATIONING NEWS GETS CRITICISM

Many Sides Heard Deploring Action On Giving Public Notice

(By The Associated Press) Criticism of the government's action in announcing its next rationing program so far in advance came from many sides yesterday but fears that rush on grocery stores would result failed for the most part to materialize. Plans to put a point rationing system into effect for more than 200 kinds of processed foods in February were disclosed Sunday.

In Chicago, the secretary of the National Association of Retail Grocers, Mrs. Rose Marie Keifer, asserted, "We deplore government officials' giving the unscrupulous portion of the public a month to do their hoarding."

Chairman Fulmer (D-SC) of the House Agriculture committee told newsmen in Washington the procedure was "ridiculous" and "can only result in a wave of buying and hoarding which will aggravate the situation."

Reports from nearly every sector (Continued on Page Two; Col. 1)

NO RUN OBSERVED ON FOOD STORES

Local Merchants Report Usual Business After OPA Announcement

Of the local stores contacted for information Monday night, home-owned and chain stores, the consistent comment was: "local consumers made no run on our grocery stocks following the new OPA announcement that more than 200 kinds of foods would be rationed, starting in February."

Only one grocer reported more calls for butter than usual, but this rush was attributed to the fact that many Wilmington stores are "short" on this commodity. O. H. Shoemaker, chairman of the local War Price and Rationing Board, declared that one grocer had reported to him heavy buying on Monday; however, many homes found their grocery stocks depleted after the holidays and any buying flurry may have been natural, it was pointed out.

It was learned that many merchants have been carrying out a rationing program of their own for some time. One firm declared that "whenever we notice a shortage, we start rationing immediately." Among the foods being voluntarily rationed to the consumer by merchants are canned milk, fish, vegetables and jelly. F. O. Fockler, executive secretary of the Greater Wilmington Chamber of Commerce, revealed that food rationing was hinted by officials when he made a trip to Washington in November seeking greater allotments of canned goods for the Wilmington area on a (Continued on Page Two; Col. 1)

Flight Is Desperate In Solomons

Jap Planes Attempt To Drop Food To Stranded Men On Guadalcanal

U. S. BLASTS SUPPLIES American Spotters Find Material; Quickly Smash At Units

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—(P)—The desperate plight of Japanese forces stranded in the northern jungles of Guadalcanal island was emphasized anew today when the Navy disclosed that enemy planes had dropped by parachute supplies which our aircraft quickly spotted and shot up.

Dumped During Night The supplies were dumped on the Japanese-held beach at Tassafaronga Saturday night or early Sunday morning (Solomon Islands time). American aerial observers spotted them there at the dawn, and Army Airacobra fighters, carrying bombs as well as their usual guns, bombed and strafed them were they lay.

The Navy communique did not specify the damage inflicted, but since the Airacobra attack apparently was made without opposition, the assumption in military quarters here was that the Army fliers had ample opportunity to do a thorough job.

The communique also reported the destruction in the Solomon islands of another Japanese ship of unidentified type, a new dive-bomber attack on the battered enemy airfield at Munda, a bombing and strafing assault on a Jap bivouac area on Guadalcanal and a strafing raid against the enemy base at Kiska in the Aleutian islands. The ship was the second announced sunk in an attack by Guadalcanal dive bombers on a small group of Jap vessels last Saturday. Destruction of the first vessel, a 3,000-tonner, was announced yesterday. The attack at Munda by Douglas "Dauntless" dive bombers also was carried out Saturday but results were not reported.

Two of the Lockheed "Lightnings" which made the strafing raid on Kiska Saturday were lost but one pilot was rescued. A naval spokesman said these planes probably had been damaged by enemy anti-aircraft fire, the Japs having long since lost their fighter planes at winter-bound Kiska. The raid on the bivouac area (Continued on Page Seven; Col. 2)

WATER CONTRACT REPORT AWAITED

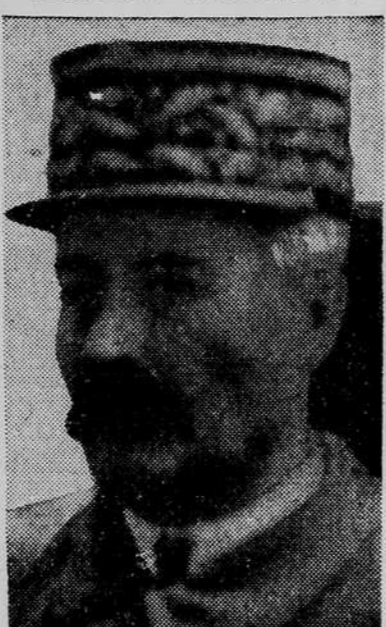
City Officials Ready For Confirmation Of FWA Project Award

Confirmation of the Federal Works Agency's award of \$1,500,000 for construction of the King's bluff salt-free water project, announced over the week-end by Kenneth R. Markwell, regional director of FWA, is being awaited by city officials, City Manager A. C. Nichols said Monday morning. According to Regional Director Markwell's announcement, the manufacture of reinforced concrete sections for the 22-mile 30-inch pipeline connecting the intake at King's bluff with the city's new filter plant at Hilton is expected to begin in mid-January at a plant to be established by the Lock Joint Pipe company of Ampere, N. J., near Acme. Markwell said that contracts for (Continued on Page Three; Col. 6)

Larger Culvert Wanted On Blue Clay Road Here

County commissioners, in session Monday afternoon, voted to request the State Highway and Public Works commission to build a larger culvert to drain off standing water on the Blue Clay road, at the suggestion of Frank G. Harris. Commissioners also voted to extend greater publicity to properties to be sold for taxes. The commission, following what was termed "a very quiet meeting," drew names for the next term of grand jury.

Darlan Successor



Gen. Henri H. Giraud, commander of French forces fighting beside the Allies, is now in control in French Africa in succession to Admiral Jean Darlan, killed by the bullets of a twenty-year-old assassin. The early coordination or unification of Gen. de Gaulle's Fighting French forces with those of Gen. Giraud in French North and West Africa is widely predicted in London.

BUNA BOMBARDED BY JAP WARSHIPS

1st Naval Shelling By Force In New Guinea; Enemy Cruiser Bombed

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN AUSTRALIA, Tuesday, Dec. 29.—(P)—Japanese warships shelled Buna village for five hours before daylight yesterday as Allied troops drove deeper into enemy holdings there.

It was the first naval shelling resorted to by the Japanese in the war in New Guinea. The enemy craft probably were submarines, an official communique said. They began firing upon the Allied encampment in the village about midnight and continued the attack intermittently until dawn. The communique said there was no damage inflicted.

In the Buna airstrip sector the Japanese tried to break from the stranglehold thrown about them by troops but the Allied fighters (Continued on Page Three; Col. 8)

LOCAL WAR HERO'S BOOK NOW IN CITY

'The Flying Guns,' Written By Clarence Dickinson, Is At Library

"The Flying Guns," a book of war experiences written by one of Wilmington's first naval heroes of the current war—Lieut. G. E. Dickinson, U. S. N., is now obtainable from the City Library, Miss Emma Woodard, librarian announced Monday. There are two volumes of the book for local readers.

Described as a "cockpit record of a naval pilot from Pearl Harbor through Midway," the book, written in collaboration with Boyden Sparks, was presented in condensed version in the Saturday Evening Post. Lieutenant Dickinson recounts in "The Flying Guns" factual experiences as a naval aviator. Shot down near Pearl Harbor, he parachuted to safety, and after many difficulties reached Pearl Harbor while the fighting was still going on. After Pearl Harbor, the young man did his share of fighting in the Marshall Islands, Wake Island, Marcus Island, and Midway. Writing modestly, he has dedicated the story to "the men of Squadron 6—those who live and those who died."

Dickinson, born in Jacksonville, Florida in 1912, spent his boyhood in Wilmington, where he went to school. He attended Guilford College and for six months afterward (Continued on Page Three; Col. 4)

Rommel Near Misurata In Desert Chase

Last Stronghold For Foe Short Of Tripoli Is Now In Sight

ALLIES MEET GERMANS Units Skirmish In Yellow Mud Of Tunisia As Weather Clears

LONDON, Dec. 28.—(P)—The Allied right wing in North Africa pursued Marshal Rommel's Libyan forces westward today on the approaches to Misurata, the last strong defensive position for the enemy short of Tripoli, while advanced Allied units skirmished in the mud of Tunisia. Break in Rains

In Tunisia, there was a break at last in the heavy rains of many days and an Allied communique announced that in vigorous patrolling in the forward areas enemy motor vehicles had been shelled and forced to retire. In another action in the same general section—this on the Medjed-Bab-Tebourba road along the Allied line before Tunis and Bizerte—an enemy detachment suffered casualties and lost several men in prisoners. In still another patrol engagement the enemy was driven off without Allied loss.

Allied headquarters also announced new and strong attacks by the American air force on enemy shipping and transport. French general headquarters announced that its troops south of Pont du Fahs, inland in central Tunisia, had made "effective progress," taking more than 100 Axis prisoners and large quantities of materials, and that to the south, between Kairouan and Pichon, French positions had been improved. Here it was said that the Axis suffered considerable losses, including a number of troops captured by the French.

The fighting French radio at Brazzaville reported that forces of Gen. Charles de Gaulle driving up from Lake Chad "continued to advance south of Fezzan," 500 miles south of Tripoli in the extreme southwest corner of Libya. Fighting was reported continuing. All this was accompanied by clear signs that a quick clarification of the political status of all the French African territories was in prospect. There were reports (Continued on Page Seven; Col. 1)

ACL INCOME MARK HIGH IN NOVEMBER

Local Railroad Shows Operating Revenues At \$11,810,931 For The Month

Operating revenues received by the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad company during the month of November amounted to \$11,810,931, in contrast to the \$5,489,183 received in the same month of 1941, firm officials announced yesterday. Coast Line expenses for November were listed at \$5,419,091. According to a report of activities for the first 11 months of 1942, the ACL received \$102,378,688; in 1941 the figure for the same period stood at \$60,951,878. Other January through November totals include operating expenses, \$56,973,579; net operating revenues, \$45,405,109; amount required for taxes, \$23,555,000; operating income, \$21,850,109; net amount paid for rent of equipment and joint facilities, \$2,908,946; and net railway operating income, \$19,141,163. (Continued on Page Seven; Col. 8)

Vice-President Wallace Proposes World Council To Preserve Peace After Fight

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—(P)—The minimum of centralized authority that must come into existence "to preserve the liberty, equality, security and unity of the United Nations—liberty in the political sense; equality of opportunity in international trade; security against war and business depression due to international causes; and unity of purpose in promoting the general welfare of the world." Discussing what to do with defeated nations, he advocated not only military but "psychological disarmament." This would include "supervision, or at least inspection, of the school systems of Ger-

many and Japan to undo so far as possible the diabolical work of Hitler and the Japanese war lords in poisoning the minds of the young." Wallace's address was sponsored by the Woodrow Wilson Foundation, American Political Science Association, American Society for Public Administration, and American Historical Association. President Roosevelt was consulted in advance of its delivery and the Office of War Information gave notice 10 days ago that it would be presented, calling it "an important address on questions of

RED ARMY THREATENS KOTELNIKOVSKI WITH 3 PRONGED OFFENSIVE

Rommel's Equipment Parked at Bengasi



Parked along the main street of Bengasi in Libya, Axis trucks, tanks, combat cars, and a motorcycle felt the fury of British bombs and had to stay put when the rest of the Africa Corps fled on November 12.

TAKE MANY AREAS

Soviet Forces Nearing Union With Middle Don Units At Stalingrad

300,000 NAZIS TRAPPED

Steel Ring Is Tightening Around Enemy Pocketed Before Big City

MOSCOW, Tuesday, Dec. 29.—(P)—The Red Army was reported threatening Kotelnikovski 80 miles southwest of Stalingrad, from three sides today, and was only 45 miles short of a union with its middle Don forces to throw a second steel ring around 300,000 Nazis pocketed before Stalingrad. A special Soviet communique—latest of a series on the new offensive—said the Red army was only 12 miles short of Kotelnikovski in a frontal assault, and had seized points on both sides of that north Caucasian railway center, in an onslaught that has cost the Germans 17,000 dead since December 12.

100 Miles From Rostov Verkhnē-Kurmoyarskaya, on the Don river loop about 18 miles above Kotelnikovski, was seized, as were Krilov and Nikolski, 23 and 38 miles to the southeast in a wide flanking movement. The Red army's middle Don forces operating down the Moscow-Rostov railway were reported less than 100 miles north of Rostov, where the Germans were declared to be increasingly jittery, since seizure of that point would trap even larger Nazi forces inside the Caucasus.

"Our troops in the area of the middle Don continued to develop their offensive and occupied a number of inhabited localities including the town and railway station of Chertkov," the regular midday This latter point is 80 miles to communicate said of that second offensive.

Chertkov is about 30 miles above Milleroo on the Moscow-Rostov railway. Milleroo itself has been surrounded for some days. The Russians said that among many villages seized in the Kotelnikovski sector were Greymyachaya, railway point 12 miles short of Kotelnikovski, and Kiseleva. This latter point is 80 miles to the southeast, deep inside the Caucasus. Other points were seized along the Don river loop above Kotelnikovski. (Continued on Page Two; Col. 2)

ALLIES REPORTED IN SOMALILAND

Vichy Radio Says British And French Enter African Territory

LONDON, Dec. 28.—(P)—The Vichy radio said tonight that Fighting French and British troops had entered French Somaliland in eastern Africa. On December 26 an Anglo-de Guallist plane flew over the town of Jibuti and scattered leaflets announcing dissident troops had entered the colony." the Vichy radio said. "In the course of the morning, aerial reconnaissance continued." In the evening at six o'clock, Angle-de Gaulle forces reached points three kilometers (1.8 miles) west of the main defense line. The British long have had effective control of French Somaliland except for the port of Jibuti, which although besieged, remained the (Continued on Page Two; Col. 4)

Canadian Railroad Death Toll Reaches 35 In Two Crashes

ALMONTE, Ont., Dec. 28.—(P)—Five men were killed today in a Canadian National Railway head-on freight train collision near North Bay, Ont., as the death toll of Sunday's passenger train wreck here rose to 35. The freight trains crashed on a curve 1.4 miles east of Nipissing, which is about midway between North Bay and Callender, home of the Dionne quintuplets. At least four of the dead were crew members. Less than 48 hours earlier, a troop-laden Canadian Pacific passenger train splintered three wooden coaches of another passenger train at the station here. Besides the 35 dead, at least 117 were injured. Railroad officials investigated in an effort to learn the cause of the wreck. A gay Christmas homeing crowd occupied the wooden coaches. (Continued on Page Two; Col. 2)

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.

WEATHER FORECAST NORTH CAROLINA: Occasional showers and continued showers today. (Eastern Standard Time) (By U. S. Weather Bureau) Meteorological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m., yesterday. Temperature 1:30 a. m., 64; 7:30 a. m., 61; 1:30 p. m., 72; 7:30 p. m., 67. Maximum 73; minimum, 54; mean, 64; normal, 47. Humidity 1:30 a. m., 89; 7:30 a. m., 94; 1:30 p. m., 68; 7:30 p. m., 91. Precipitation Total for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m., 0.90 inches. High 11:45a. Low 11:15a. Total since the first of the month, 2.96 inches. Tides For Today (From The Tide Tables published by U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey) Wilmington High 2:13a. Low 8:02a. Masonboro Inlet 2:31p. 9:53p. Moore's Inlet 11:51a. 6:25p. New Topsail Inlet 10:56a. 6:00a. (All times Eastern Standard) Sunrise, 7:17 a. m.; sunset, 5:12 p. m.; moonrise, 11:43p.; moonset, 11:37a. (Continued on Page Seven; Col. 6)