

New Health Center Activated



Dr. A. H. Elliott, assisted by his secretary, Miss Ann Powell, are shown at home in the new \$33,000 FWA sponsored health center which was recently put into operation by the city-county health department.

446,000 Fathers Facing Induction By January 1

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23.—(P)—Draft Director Lewis B. Hershey, in the first official pronouncement of the kind, said today it probably would be necessary to induct 446,000 pre-Pearl Harbor fathers by January 1 in order to meet quotas for the balance of this year. The figure was given in a letter sent to the 6,500 local boards explaining why the ban on drafting pre-Pearl Harbor fathers, except those in non-deferable work and therefore subject to induction at any time, had been lifted effective October 1.

ANOTHER CRISIS NEARING ON COAL

Government Heads For A Showdown With John L. Lewis' Mine Men

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23.—(P)—The government headed toward a showdown with John L. Lewis today by returning the mines of 33 coal operators to them despite Lewis' stand that his United Mine Workers would stay on the job until October 31 only as government employees. The miners' chieftain kept his own counsel as to what he would do. "No comment," he told reporters. The companies, operating scores of mines and including some of the larger producers in the industry, are scattered throughout 10 coal producing states. Secretary of Interior Ickes, as fuel administration, took over about 3,800 mines on May 1. Five which have no had contracts with the UMW and several holding agreements with the Progressive Mine Workers (AFL) previously had been turned back to the private owners. A spokesman for Ickes took the attitude of "wait and see what happens" when asked about Lewis' demand for government operation of the pits until October 31. Lewis made the stipulation in sending the miners back to work in June to end the third general coal strike. The instructions to work, Lewis told the miners at that time, "will automatically terminate if governmental control is vacated prior to October 31. Since then, however, the situation has been altered by congressional enactment of the Connally-Smith labor disputes act raising statutory barriers against strikes without notice and a formal secret ballot. Since then, also, Lewis has signed an agreement with Illinois coal producers and made known that he considers it to be a model for settling the soft coal wage dispute. The proposed contract, now before the War Labor Board for (Continued on Page Six; Col. 6)

WEATHER

NORTH CAROLINA: Continued rather warm. (Eastern Standard Time) (By U. S. Weather Bureau) Meteorological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m. yesterday. Temperature: minimum 68; mean 77; maximum 86; humidity 76. Precipitation: 0.00 inch. Total for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m.: 0.00 inches. Wind: from the first of the month. High 91, low 76. Sunrise 5:40; sunset 6:48; moonrise 12:24; moonset 2:37 p. m. Cape Fear River stage at Fayetteville on Monday, at 9 a. m., 9.50 feet.

Plans To Defeat Japanese Are Laid At Roosevelt-Churchill Conference; Russian Army Streams Into Kharkov

Winston Churchill Was Close To Death During London Raids Of 1940

QUEBEC, Aug. 23.—(P)—Winston Churchill narrowly escaped being killed during the London blitz of November, 1940, it was disclosed today. The British prime minister was dining at No. 10 Downing street, his official London residence, with Sir Archibald Sinclair, British minister for air, and Brendan Bracken, minister of information. A bomb fell on the Treasury building next door, demolishing it and killing 12 people. The dining-room chandelier at 10 Downing street plopped right into the center of the prime minister's table, but no one was hurt. Churchill insisted that his loyal cook go down into the air raid shelter but she refused to go without bringing the party its coffee.

BRIGHT LEAF WEED MARTS ARE READY Eight Of Markets Report Total Of 8,000,000 Pounds On Floors

RALEIGH, Aug. 23.—(P)—With eight of the 14 new bright tobacco belt markets reporting a total of some 8,000,000 pounds of leaf already on the floor, indications were tonight that opening day sales tomorrow will run close to the 6,910,271 sold on the first day of last season. Earlier reports that farmers were holding back their tobacco, pending a conference in Washington Wednesday between tobacco officials of Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina and OPA and Commodity Credit Corporation representatives, seemed to be unfounded. Representatives of the three states will try to get the ceiling of 41 cents per pound raised to 47 cents per pound. Governor Broughton said today that he thought "we have a good case," but he would not predict the outcome of the conference. He said that a number of state farm leaders and officials would attend the meeting. He said that Governors Olin Johnson of South Carolina and Colgate Darden of Virginia would be present for the conference, as would congressmen from all three states. Meanwhile, State Department of Agriculture officials reported that tobacco was moving in "fairly well" to the new bright markets and predicted "fair sales" tomorrow. Prices were expected to average well above the \$36.94 set on last year's opening day. The average in 1941 was \$27.75. Five markets reported that a million or more pounds already was on the floors. Despite the more than 8,000,000 pounds reported from eight markets, sales were expected to be "blocked" and it was indicated that floors would not be cleared tomorrow. Sales will be held to 360 piles per hour, as they were last year, instead of the normal 400 piles per hour. The reports by markets: Greenville—Approximately 1,500,000 pounds on warehouse floors. Offerings mostly lugs with sprinklings of tips and stalk tobacco. Quality fair, but better than leaf offered on opening sale last year. Some leaf weighing out light. Wallace—Estimated 1,000,000 (Continued on Page Six; Col. 2)

City Financial Condition Near Pre-Depression Mark

The City of Wilmington is definitely passing the corner which prosperity was just around the depression years of the 1930's, a survey of municipal financial records for the past 13 years revealed Monday. With two years of war-born prosperity topping a slow rise to normal, the city's tax rate is beginning to approach the 1930 figure, the total value of real estate is rising toward the pre-depression level despite war restrictions on construction, and the municipal sinking fund now has the greatest assets in the 13-year period. In 1930, the real estate valuation within the city limits was \$43,959,463. The tax rate was \$1.20 per hundred dollar valuation. Uncollected taxes stood at \$257,101. The bonded indebtedness of the municipality was \$3,222,700 while the sinking fund contained only \$52,346 in assets. Last month, the real estate valuation, though not complete, was estimated to be slightly over \$39,000,000. The tax rate was \$1.35 and uncollected taxes were \$11,581,222 (as of June 30 and not including reductions made by the delinquent tax bureau, established last year, since the annual audit has not been completed. The bonded indebtedness was \$3,410,500, matched by \$19,817 in sinking fund assets. Figures for the intervening years give an index to the financial history for the past 13 years. (Continued on Page Two; Col. 7)

M'Nutt Asks Worker Shift

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23.—(P)—Manpower Chairman Paul V. McNutt called today for 2,600,000 workers to shift from non-essential to "war useful" jobs between now and July 1 of next year. He said in a statement that 2,100,000 are needed before New Year's, and appealed for persons in doubt about the war-usefulness of their jobs to consult local offices of the United States Employment Service. Warnings have gone out previously to draft-age fathers to get into essential work, but the new statement invited movement of workers from nonessential activities regardless of whether or not they are liable to the draft. "It is easy to see," McNutt said, "why such large-scale transfers must take place. The military services plan to expand from 9,300,000 to 11,300,000 between July, 1943, and July, 1944. These men and women will be drawn from war-useful jobs as well as from other occupations. At the same time, as our commitments on the battle fronts multiply, the war industries are required to meet rising schedules of production. They must replace the men drawn into war service, replace those they lose from accidents, normal deaths, retirements and other kinds of turnover, and add enough skilled workers to assure that production schedules are met within specified periods." McNutt urged, however, that workers not transfer from one war-useful job to another unless the switch involves greater use of their talents. For instance, he said, laundry workers in war industry areas where laundry help already (Continued on Page Two; Col. 7)

MacArthur's Fighters Score New Gain Along The Path To Salamaua

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA Aug. 23.—(P)—Huge formations of day and night bombers flattened Salerno, south of Naples, yesterday and last night in the methodical Allied campaign to smash vital communications centers one by one, but met a German resistance which raised the air battle for Italy to high intensity. American Marauders with A-36 Invader escorts fought their way through a swarm of about 100 German and Italian fighters and shot down 33 in a blazing combat which marked a new high in the gunnery prowess of the twin-engine bombers. The fiery drenching from this day assault left Salerno flaming under a canopy of smoke which had not yet settled when the night-bomber Wellingtons of the RAF with their lethal 4,000-pound blockbusters scattered a new holocaust which blazed through the rest of the night. Accompanying these blows, the RAF's four-engine Liberators and Halifaxes cracked down on Crotona on the arch of the Italian foot Saturday night, setting other explosions and fires which raged near a chemical factory and caused other damage which could not be accurately assessed because of low clouds. But while bloody air battles of the last four days left no doubt that German air forces were garrisoning Italian air bases to the north in strength, there were indications that Axis commanders were planning to abandon the Italian toe. (Continued on Page Two; Col. 4)

ALLEYS TIGHTEN ALEUTIANS GRIP

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23.—(P)—American and Canadian troops, consolidating their conquest of the Aleutian islands, are spreading out from Kiska to islands adjacent to that once strong enemy air and submarine base. Strengthening positions that ultimately will be the bases for drives against Japan, the Allied forces have landed on Segula, island of about 25 square miles, some 20 miles east of Kiska. A Navy communique reported today that the landing was made "with no Japanese being found." Whether the Japanese ever had forces on Segula is not known here. It may have been an outpost for the Japanese before they fled from Kiska, for it could well have served as a point for warnings to the Kiska garrison of American moves toward the island. On Kiska itself the American and Canadian troops are continuing occupation of positions formerly held by the Japanese, taking over and improving the installations left by the enemy when they fled shortly before Allied troops landed a week ago. Indications continued to be uncovered of hasty evacuation. On the marine railway at the Japanese-constructed submarine base, three midge submarines were found. There was evidence of efforts, only partially successful, to destroy them with demolition bombs. Ultimately, that submarine base as well as the Japanese-built airfield on Kiska will be turned against the enemy, used as stepping stones toward the mainland. (Continued on Page Two; Col. 5)

CHINESE CAPITAL HAS AIR ATTACK

CHUNGKING, Aug. 23.—(P)—For the first time in two years Japanese bombers approached this capital of free China today, but apparently failed to break through the city's defenses. Air warfare reached the highest pitch in months, with American planes destroying or damaging 54 Japanese aircraft in a raid on Hankow. Two waves of Japanese planes totaling more than 60 approached this capital and also bombed Wansien, Yangtze river trading center. It was a late opening to the Chungking area's bombing season, which usually starts early in May. The Japanese planes which could be seen from the capital were engaged by Chinese fighters while China's highly efficient air raid warning system gave ample time (Continued on Page Two; Col. 2)

Japs Approach Chungking For First Time In Nearly 2 Years

The Board of Education began Monday to occupy the four rooms of its newly renovated quarters across the hall from its old location in the county courthouse. "We will be glad to get settled in our new home. We need the increased space separately," Superintendent H. M. Roland commented. The location was vacated approximately two months ago when the city-county health department moved to its new building on Fourth street. Painters and carpenters have been busy at the site ever since. Mr. Roland will maintain a private office, large enough for accommodation of school board members in their periodic meetings. There will be a large records office, where the supervisor of textbooks, the pay roll clerk, and Mr. Roland's secretary will work. In the third large room (Continued on Page Two; Col. 2)

ST. OMER IS PAID NEW ALLIED CALL

LONDON, Aug. 23.—(P)—Paying their fifth visit to St. Omer in two months, American medium bombers again blasted railway yards at the town in occupied France today in follow-up of an RAF bombing of the Leverkusen chemical works and other Rhineland centers last night. U. S. airmen first attacked the freight yards at St. Omer, 22 miles southeast of Calais, on June 24. Later they made three attacks on the German air fields there. Off the Dutch coast, Spitfires attacked enemy shipping and Coastal Command Beaufighters struck at a small force of enemy escort vessels, the Air Minister announced. Beaufighters destroyed an enemy bomber over the North Sea and Spitfires shot down an enemy fighter in a sweep over the Bethune area in France. "Uneventful sweeps" were made by Spitfires over northern France and by U. S. Thunderbolts over the Dutch coast this afternoon, the Air Minister reported. Two fighter planes were missing after the day's operations, on the continent. The Berlin radio became silent late tonight with the explanation it was "for technical reasons," often an indication that night bombers are attacking the Reich. Hundreds of British heavy bombers made the attack upon Leverkusen, breaking a week-end lull. Leverkusen, bombed for the first time since 1940 when it was twice visited, was the only specific target named in last night's missions. The Air Ministry said five bombers were lost. The German radio said Dusseldorf was also attacked. Cloud formations hampered the raid on the chemical works town, six miles north of Cologne. But crewmen said explosions and fires developed. St. John Lynk of Caning, Nova Scotia, said two explosions "came up like red plumes through the clouds at about 12,000 feet." The German international information bureau, in a broadcast recorded by the Associated Press, said "Anglo-American air formations" had lost 21 bombers on the (Continued on Page Two; Col. 1)

Board Of Education Moves

By far the brightest suite of offices in the courthouse, the rooms have been provided with hard-wood floors (which Mr. Roland avers were cheaper than linoleum). Walls are painted pale green, and all woodwork is cream-colored. The heavy iron safe has been fitted into the wall and given a coat of cream paint. New shades and a few pieces of furniture have been purchased. Addison Hewlett, Sr., chairman of the county commissioners, said that no plans had been made for use of the old education offices. They will be repaired, however. Consideration will be given to the request of County Auditor J. A. Orrell for more space for tax activities. (Continued on Page Six; Col. 4)

RAF Kittyhawks and American Warhawks

Salerno Is Drenched With Fire By Day And Night Aerial Drive

RAF Kittyhawks and American Warhawks crisscrossed the area all day yesterday without firing a shot or dropping a bomb for lack of enemy opposition and ground targets. Salerno, 50 miles south of Naples, is a main rail gateway between northern and southern Italy. Complete severance of the important electrified railway through there would force German army commanders to route their troop and supply trains far inland and more than double the length of their communication lines. Obviously the German air force had been ordered to stop at all costs the tremendous aerial campaign which in the last four days had produced (Continued on Page Two; Col. 4)

VITAL MOVE AHEAD

Pacific Decisions Made At Meeting With Minister From China

NO PRIORITY IS GIVEN Brendan Bracken Declines To Comment On Important Outline

QUEBEC, Aug. 23.—(P)—Military decisions "of the utmost importance" in which the strategy to defeat Japan constitutes "a very important part" have been made at the Quebec war conference, it was announced tonight by Brendan Bracken, British minister of information and an intimate of Prime Minister Churchill. Bracken made his statement after a luncheon conference attended by President Roosevelt, the British prime minister, T. V. Soong, China's foreign minister, and Harry Hopkins, presidential adviser. The Pacific decisions were made at this meeting. Asked whether the conclusions taken regarding Japan were the most important made, Bracken said: "It's rather hard to give priority to any decision—there have been so many important decisions made here." Bracken also disclosed that following the week's conferences, which close tomorrow, Prime Minister Churchill plans a broadcast and a fishing trip before he returns to London. The time of the British leader's speech and where he will go from Quebec were not disclosed. Roosevelt will speak Mr. Roosevelt, it had already been announced, will address Canada's Parliament in Ottawa Wednesday before heading south. In describing the luncheon gathering, Bracken said it was a "military luncheon and a meeting to decide important matters of strategy in the Pacific." The general assumption was that the president and prime minister already had reached a tentative agreement on war strategy involving China, had informed Soong of it and asked him to ratify it. Bracken told the press conference that he had not previously seen "a more hopeless assignment for journalists" because while so many were gathered here, yet nothing could be released about specific military decisions which have been made. "I can assure you," he said, "that military decisions of utmost importance have been taken in the Citadel. In years to come Quebec is going to be famous for these military decisions taken in this city." Asked whether the strategy mapped here made this a more important conference than any before it at Washington, Casablanca or in the Atlantic, Bracken related an anecdote. He said that when visitors once remarked to a London guide that the Thames was a beautiful river, the guide exploded: "Beautiful! It's liquid history." Bracken remarked that because of the conference here he had come to look upon the St. Lawrence as "liquid history." About all that can be said of the work done here is expected to be disclosed tomorrow by President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill in a press conference, a joint statement, or both. The prime minister may elaborate somewhat in his radio speech. Foreign Minister Soong, who arrived yesterday in response to a last-minute summons from Mr. Roosevelt, called at the presidential residence, high above the St. Lawrence river, before lunch and continued his discussions with the president afterward. Stephen Early, presidential secretary, had declared earlier that the Chinese minister's talks with Mr. Roosevelt would be concerned with plans for smashing at Japan. Early obviously was at some pains to emphasize the work done here on the war with Japan, and this was further pointed up by the arrivals here today of Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox, whose (Continued on Page Six; Col. 4)