

Bill Deferring Pre-War Dads Goes To F. R.

Final Congressional Approval Given Draft Measure

EFFECT QUESTIONED National Pool Provided, Placing Fathers At The Bottom

WASHINGTON, Nov. 22.—(P)—Legislation to put pre-war fathers at the bottom of the draft list won final congressional approval today.

The bill, sent to the White House by the Senate, places fathers of children born before Sept. 15, 1942, in a national pool, and declares that none of them shall be inducted if a non-father is available for call by any local draft board anywhere in the country.

Two or Three Months Senator Johnson (D. Colo.), a member of the Senate-House conference committee that drew up the legislation in final form, estimated that the net effect would be to postpone the drafting of some fathers for two or three months.

Some Senators questioned that it would have any practical effect on the drafting of fathers, however, because of an "escape clause" written into the measure at the request of selective service officials.

This clause provides that drafting of fathers shall be delayed only so long as it does not interfere with the usual regular and orderly flow of the nation's manpower into the armed forces."

Strips McNutt The bill, which strips Commissioner McNutt of supervisor authority he has exercised over selective service, and also creates a medical commission to review Army and Navy physical standards, faces an uncertain reception at the White House in view of administrative reports that McNutt would ask President Roosevelt to veto it.

In a letter which Senator Johnson read to the Senate, McNutt declared the legislation destroyed the integration of military and civilian manpower allocation provided for by the President when he placed Selective Service under McNutt's jurisdiction by executive order late in 1942.

"It is a sabotage of sound administration," McNutt wrote. "Let us hope that if it is passed, the President's critics will not then attack him on the ground that 'administrative responsibility is divided.'"

McNutt also said that the provision placing all draft authority under the director of Selective Service would "tear apart the relationship which has been established and would seriously weaken the manpower program."

In addition to abolishing McNutt's Selective Service authority, the bill nullifies the War Manpower Commission's so-called "work or fight" order that placed certain types of workers in a "non-deferable" group subject to immediate induction regardless of dependents.

Senator Wheeler (D-Mont.), author of the original anti-fathers draft bill out of which the compromise legislation grew, said he thought the bill as passed, although not entirely suitable, could produce a "fairer administration of Selective Service than we have had."

Operators Report Air Raid Alarm Sounded In Berlin

LONDON, Tuesday, Nov. 23.—(P)—An air raid alarm was sounded in Berlin last night, Swedish telephone operators said, indicating the RAF had returned to the attack on the German capital.

A dispatch from Stockholm said telephone operators there reported no calls to Berlin could be completed because of an air alarm. The Berlin radio along with other continental stations went off the air about four hours before midnight, another usual sign of an RAF attack.

The German capital was rocked Thursday night when nearly 1,000 RAF heavy bombers struck Berlin and Ludwigshafen, dropping 2,500 long tons of bombs on the two cities in devastating raids.

The four-engined bombers sent more than 3350 two-ton blockbusters crashing down on the Nazi capital in Thursday night's raid.

DEATHS SADDEN U. S. CONGRESS

Show - Down Fight On Subsidies Is Delayed

WASHINGTON, Nov. 22.—(P)—The House, saddened by the death of two of its leading members, Henry B. Steagall of Alabama and J. William Ditter of Pennsylvania, halted work today for 24 hours and thereby postponed until tomorrow a vote to ban consumer price subsidies.

Steagall, Democratic chairman of the House Banking committee and usually a stalwart supporter of the Administration, had led in the fight against its subsidy program. Seventy years old, he died in George Washington hospital this morning after a heart attack which associates said was brought on by an energetic speech against the program last Thursday.

Ditter, 55, chairman of the Republican congressional committee, and recognized as one of the most eloquent speakers in Congress, crashed to his death last night in a Navy airplane near Columbia, Pa. A member of the Appropriations subcommittee handling Navy funds, Ditter was enroute from the Squantum, Mass., naval air base to the Navy base at Willow Grove, Pa., at the time.

The two deaths raised to six the mortalities among House members of the 78th Congress and brought from Dr. George W. Calver, Congressional physician, a warning to other members to "slow down and give more attention to their physical condition."

They left the political line-up in the House at 219 Democrats, 207 Republicans, four minor party members and five vacancies. Capitol Hill flags were lowered. (Continued on Page Two; Col. 5)

Beating Is Given Measure To Allow Servicemen To Vote

WASHINGTON, Nov. 22.—(P)—A proposed system for service men to vote in next year's election took a beating from two sides today and emboldened opponents set out to kill the whole idea of federal supervision of voting.

First, the Senate struck from the plan a provision by which a War Ballot Commission could have challenged the validity of the presidential voting in any state. Then, after Chief Justice Harlan F. Stone refused to participate in an arrangement whereby a Supreme Court justice would act as an umpire to settle deadlocks on the bi-partisan ballot commission, the Senate knocked out that provision.

Senator Lucas (D-Ill.), one of the authors of the bill to have the commission handle the servicemen's vote, complained that the changes left it with "nothing but administrative duties."

WASHINGTON, Nov. 22.—(P)—The Supreme Court ruled today that under federal law the settlement of jurisdictional disputes between railroad unions is up to the national (railway) mediation board or the union themselves not the courts.

Eighth Army Captures Two Italian Cities

British Strongly Reinforced By Canadian Troops

NAZIS FALLING BACK

Berlin Claims Large Scale Drive Has Been Opened

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Algiers, Nov. 22.—(P)—Secretly reinforced by a heavy contingent of Canadian troops, General Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's Eighth Army has plunged ahead to capture two more towns near the center of the Italian front and was fighting tonight within two miles of the enemy's main defense line along the upper Sangro river.

(A Berlin broadcast Monday night said the Eighth Army had begun a large scale offensive, "preceded by a strong artillery fire and supported by strong air formations," but it described British gains as negligible. Heavy losses were declared to have been inflicted upon the attacking troops.

40 Miles Inland The site of the Eighth Army's latest thrust, made under miserable weather conditions, is approximately 40 miles inland from the Adriatic seacoast. San Pietro Avelana, 10 miles due west of Agnone, and Vastogirardi, between those two towns, fell before Montgomery's determined drive that was aimed at an important junction of interior highways leading to Rome.

Capture of Agnone, along with Archel, Castel San Vincenzo and Rocchetta in the Eighth Army's renewed advance was announced only yesterday. Seizure of the six stoutly-defended Nazi strongpoints within two days took the enemy's grip from the last points on the lateral Vastoisernia highway and delivered that valuable communications line to Montgomery's advancing forces.

Cities Burned The Germans, falling back stubbornly upon their main "winter line" northwest of the Sangro river, were reported burning both Castel di Sangro and Alfedena in (Continued on Page Six; Col. 8)

SUPREME COURT RULES ON LABOR

Holds That Courts Can Not Settle Raid Disputes

WASHINGTON, Nov. 22.—(P)—The Supreme Court ruled today that under federal law the settlement of jurisdictional disputes between railroad unions is up to the national (railway) mediation board or the union themselves not the courts.

In three cases involving the issue, the court declared in opinions by Justice Douglas that while Congress had provided specifically for judicial review in certain types of railroad disputes, it had not given the solution of jurisdictional controversies to the courts.

The vote was seven to two in two cases, with Justices Roberts and Reed dissenting, and four to three in the third case, with Justices Reed, Roberts and Jackson dissenting.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 22.—(P)—The existence of this huge bomb-proof arsenal, along with the fact that the British started building it seven years ago, was made public today for the first time, as the press was taken through it on a guided tour.

It has been one of this country's best kept war secrets, and newsmen looked on in amazement as a war office official explained how some old, abandoned quarries were converted into a giant subterranean warehouse for explosives.

Australian Jungle Troops Drive Ahead Toward Sattleberg

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Tuesday, Nov. 23.—(P)—Australians have punched their way through dense jungles and stiff resistance to within half a mile of Japanese entrenched plateau positions at Sattleberg on the Tuon peninsula of eastern New Guinea.

Sattleberg is northwest of Allied positions of Gen. G. G. Allen's forces. In an announcement reported by the press, the harbor of Finschhafen, which Aussies killed 50 Japanese.

The communique also reported the destruction of 19,000 tons of shipping in the south and southwest Pacific. Liberators sank a 4,000-ton ship off Dutch New Guinea and probably sank an 8,000-ton ship off Iavieng, New Ireland.

On the west central coast of Bougainville where the Japanese are opposing extension of the American beachhead at Empress Augusta bay, American dive bombers and torpedo bombers have torn into this resistance with 62 tons of explosives.

The Jap airforce also got in some more blows there, inflicting minor damage on shipping and some casualties. On the south central coast of New Britain, Liberators for the second straight day have delivered a heavy attack on the Gasmata air base area, hitting supply dumps with 49 tons. More than 130 tons were dropped in the previous attack.

OIL VENTURE IN CANADA ASSAILED

Ickes Says Entire Project Should Be Junked

WASHINGTON, Nov. 22.—(P)—Spokesmen for three government agencies criticized the Army sharply today for its \$130,000,000 Canadian oil venture and broke into the open a smouldering argument dating back a year and a half. Interior Secretary Ickes said flatly that the whole project "ought to be junked."

The Senate's Truman committee, self-chosen umpire in the dispute, heard from the Interior Department, the Budget Bureau and the War Production Board that 1.—The War Department ignored other interested departments when it negotiated with Canada to finance, entirely with U. S. funds, the drilling of 27 wells in Canada, laying a 500-mile pipe line and erection of a refinery, to provide the Army's Alaskan forces with fuel.

2.—Protests of the Interior Department and the War Production Board that the plan was unsound were not heeded. The charges were made by Ickes, as petroleum administrator, and supported by Leroy Whitney, technical consultant to WPB Chairman Donald M. Nelson. Harold D. Smith, director of the budget, served notice at the same time that the War Department would be expected to defend the contracts with the Canadian government. (Continued on Page Two; Col. 3)

British Use Secret Caves To Store Invasion Guns

LONDON, Nov. 22.—(P)—From an underground city carved out of solid rock and rivaling sections of the famous Maginot and Siegfried lines will flow much of the ammunition to be used in the Allied invasion of Europe.

The existence of this huge bomb-proof arsenal, along with the fact that the British started building it seven years ago, was made public today for the first time, as the press was taken through it on a guided tour.

It has been one of this country's best kept war secrets, and newsmen looked on in amazement as a war office official explained how some old, abandoned quarries were converted into a giant subterranean warehouse for explosives.

Details of the vast stores are, of course, secret. All that can be said is that there are stacks and stacks more of ammunition ready for the big day.

Away back in 1936, someone at the war office with a hunch about the future had what then was called a brainstorm for utilizing the unused quarries as storage areas. Starting with a small crew of experts, the number of workers was drawn from all over England and grew into thousands. Hundreds of thousands of tons of rock had to be moved and new tunnels cut

U. S. MARINES LAND ON ABEMAMA ISLAND IN NORTHERN GILBERTS; REDS HALT SAVAGE NAZI ATTACK

TANKS SMASHED

Battlefield Carpeted With Many German Dead

REDS HOLD FIRM

Push Toward Kiev Is Stopped By Russian Armies

LONDON, Tuesday, Nov. 23.—(P)—Red army troops buttressed by fleets of tanks smashed powerful new Nazi attacks near Korostyshev, halting a savage counteroffensive toward Kiev, wrecking 80 enemy tanks and carpeting the battlefield with German dead, Moscow announced early today.

Even as the Germans lunged desperately on this narrow sector 20 miles east of Zhitomir, other Soviet armies on the distant flanks slashed deeper into the Dnieper bend to the southeast, and in the Rechista area to the north, killing 2,500 Nazis, said the broadcast communique recorded by the Soviet monitor.

Relieve Pressure These drives apparently were intended to relieve pressure on the Kiev sector as well as to advance the general offensive toward the borders of Rumania and pre-war Poland.

Another 600 Germans fell in battle 10 miles north of Zhitomir, the war bulletin declared, as Field Marshal Gen. Fritz Von Manstein struck out in a new direction in the Chernyakov area, possibly aiming at Korosten. Two attacks were repulsed near Chernyakov.

Holding firmly in the ninth day of battle in the Korostyshev sector, the Soviets were declared to have met and broken the tremendous new Nazi onslaughts yesterday, leaving the approaches to the Russian position "covered with dead German officers and men."

The twin-pronged Red army clean-up of the Dnieper bend hammered closer to Krivoy Rog and Nikolov, the war bulletin said. Gen. Nikolai Vatutin's heavy armor swept victoriously over at least six strongly-fortified German defense centers in a broadening Dnieper bridgehead south of Kremenchug, and fought off counterblows launched against the Russian bridgehead at Cherkasi, midway between Kremenchug and the Kiev sector.

Flanking Von Manstein's attack from the north, Gen. Constantin Rokossovsky drove westward along a 100-mile front—capturing 12 villages and one railway station along the lower Pripiet river, taking 16 more towns west of Rechista, and storming eight centers of resistance.

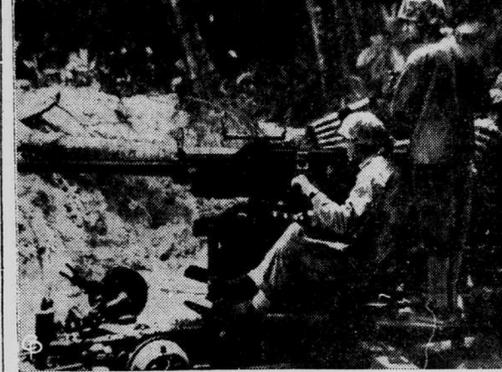
Linking old caves. All the workmen were sworn to secrecy. All that was known about their mole-like jobs was that they were working at "the dump." Hundreds of rumors spread about the place, but the public never knew exactly what was going on. The most persistent rumor was that it was an emergency food store. It was food for guns.

One enters the underground city through what looks like an ordinary railway tunnel. The interior is a maze of tunnels, rail lines, conveyor belts, elevators, storage rooms, offices, and barracks for workmen and guards.

"I was here three months before I could say I knew the place properly," said the commanding officer. A stranger gets hopelessly lost in five minutes. Over the entrance of one of the great storage sections is painted the words, "Germany's Bogey."

Among other features of the place is a telephone exchange operated by ATS (Auxiliary Territorial Service) girls, modern workshops, an air conditioning system and an emergency generating plant powerful enough to provide power and light for a whole township.

Gun Duel On Bougainville



Shortly after landing on Bougainville in the Solomons, the Marines set up weapons of all types on the edges of the jungles. This group is using a 40 mm. anti-aircraft gun to pour shells into a Jap position on a nearby island. N. S. Marine Corps photo. (International)

Berlin Claims Recapture Of Aegean Isle Of Samos

LONDON, Nov. 22.—(P)—Reconquest of Samos—last Aegean island of consequence held by the Allies off Turkey—was claimed tonight by the Germans, but this success made only a rent in the storm cloud of Allied power gathering and rising over the Balkans.

Samos, a Greek island, has not been mentioned by the Allied command, but it had in effect been lost ever since the Nazis re-won Leros and Cos to the south in the Dodecanese, and its fall had been anticipated here. Small Outposts Samos, Leros, and Cos formed small outposts of an Allied offensive are drawn up against the flank of Crete. Allied reports some weeks ago told of Allied occupation of the island of Castellorosso far to the south and it presumably still is in Allied hands, though of little military significance.

While the German radio was announcing the recapture of Samos, vastly superior German forces were being bitterly engaged over Yugoslavia, and the Nazi position in both Bulgaria and Rumania was weakening.

The partisan army of Gen. Josip Broz (Tito) in Yugoslavia—drawing in more and more German troops from the north as it struck at the weakest point of Hitler's (Continued on Page Two; Col. 4)

19 Men Were Lost In Tanker Collision Off Atlantic Coast

LEWES, Del., Nov. 22.—(P)—Nineteen men were lost and presumably died in a blazing sea after the tanker Bostonian crashed into the tanker Altair in a thick fog 33 miles off the Atlantic coast at midnight Saturday, a fourth naval district spokesman disclosed tonight.

Thirty three survivors were rescued, two of them badly injured, the spokesman said. Unofficial reports which the Navy did not disapprove said still other survivors were landed in another Delaware port.

Captain Rein Schenore, Latvian master of the Altair, 7,000-ton Socony Vacuum Oil Company vessel, said most of the missing were members of his crew who jumped overboard "when the water was already ablaze."

"That was a very foolish thing to do," said Schenore, who commanded the only lifeboat launched from the blazing ship. The Altair was heading toward Philadelphia with a cargo of crude oil. The Bostonian, a 7,000-ton Pan-American vessel was running empty.

Challenge Of U. S. Naval Power Confronting Japs

BY KIRKE L. SIMPSON Associated Press War Analyst

At long last the supreme challenge of American sea power is confronting Japan in the north-central Pacific west of the international date line. Backed up by a sea-air armada now adequate for its task, American land fighters are ashore in the Gilbert islands which fly-speck the charts just north of the Equator, carving out offensive footholds a thousand miles nearer Tokyo.

With Makin and Tarawa atolls won and consolidated, neutralization or recapture of the whole Marshall and Gilbert groups most likely will follow and the Truk island pivot of Nipponese central Pacific

BRIEF COMMUNIQUE

Position On Both Tarawa And Makin Is Improved

FIGHTING IS BITTER

No Opposition Is Reported In Landing

PEARL HARBOR, T. H., Nov. 22.—(P)—U. S. Marines have landed on Abemama atoll, 80 miles southeast of Tarawa in the northern Gilberts, and have improved their position on both Tarawa and Makin atolls.

This was disclosed today in a communique from Adm. Chester W. Nimitz as the public anxiously awaited news of progress of assaulting forces engaged in bitter fighting against Japanese artillery, machine guns and pill boxes on Tarawa.

Brief Communique A communique from the commander-in-chief of the Pacific was encouraging but brief on this phase. It stated only that "our troops have improved their position on Tarawa and Makin atolls, but are still encountering considerable ground resistance."

The Abemama (Apamama) assault was confined to one sentence: "We have landed Apamama atoll."

This atoll was believed to be lightly defended and the fact no mention was made of opposition was seen as encouraging. Simultaneously Admiral Nimitz disclosed that Vice Adm. Raymond A. Spruance of Indianapolis is directing central Pacific operations and (Continued on Page Two; Col. 2)

JERSEY SENATOR TAKEN BY DEATH

Sen. W. W. Barbour Dies At His Home Following Ailment

WASHINGTON, Nov. 22.—(P)—Senator W. Warren Barbour, 55, of New Jersey, died at his home tonight of a coronary thrombosis. Dr. George W. Calver, Capitol physician, announced that Barbour had been in ill health for several days. He died at 10:45 p. m. (EWT).

Barbour was born in Monmouth Beach, N. J. He was appointed to the United States Senate Dec. 1, 1931, to succeed the late Dwight W. Morrow. He was defeated for reelection in 1936, but was returned to the Senate two years later for the unexpired term vacated by resignation of Senator A. Harry Moore who became governor. He was reelected in 1940 for a term ending in 1947.

He is survived by a son, Warren, and two daughters, Elysabeth and Sharon.

Cost Of Living Up 3.9 Per Cent Since 1942, Report Shows

NEW YORK, Nov. 22.—(P)—The cost of living in the United States as a whole has risen 3.9 per cent since October, 1942, and 20.6 per cent since January, 1941, the National Industrial Conference board reported today.

In a survey of 70 industrial cities, the board reported that living costs for wage earners and lower-salaried clerical workers had risen from September to October—the latest period for which the board has figures.

The survey showed the largest increase in September occurred in Bridgeport, Conn., Oakland, Calif., and San Francisco where there was a rise of 1.6 per cent during the month. In four cities there was no change and in 12 living costs were lower.

WEATHER

FORECAST NORTH CAROLINA: Temperature near freezing in mountains and in north central Tuesday morning, air and continued rather cold Tuesday. (Eastern Standard Time) (By U. S. Weather Bureau) Meteorological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m., yesterday. Temperature: 4:30 a. m., 36; 7:30 a. m., 32; 1:30 p. m., 40; 5:30 p. m., 30. Maximum 60, Minimum 30. Humidity 54, Normal 54. Wind: 1:30 a. m., 91; 7:30 a. m., 71; 1:30 p. m., 70; 5:30 p. m., 49. Precipitation: Total for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m., .00 inches. Total since the first of the month, .00 inches. Tides For Today (From the Tide Tables published by U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey) Wilmington High Low 6:19a 1:09p 6:39p 1:31p 4:14a 10:22a 4:21p 10:45p Sunrise, 6:33 a. m., Sunset, 5:03 p. m. Moonset, 2:33 a. m., Moonset, 2:36 p. m. Cape Fear River stage at Fayetteville

\$40,000 Mark Is Passed In War Chest Campaign

Wilmington and New Hanover county's War Chest campaign has passed the \$40,000 mark according to the latest tabulation made Monday afternoon.

The second official report date brought in a total of \$15,079.29 which added to the reports of the first day brought the total to \$40,241.28, with \$105,157.84 to go. The next report date is set for Tuesday at 5 p. m. when all division leaders and team captains are urged to make their reports. This meeting will be held at campaign headquarters.

The industrial division led in the reporting Saturday and Monday, reporting a total of \$5,960,000. The North Carolina Shipbuilding company, largest unit in the campaign