

NORTH CAROLINA: Partly cloudy Tuesday preceded by rain in extreme east portion in forenoon. Wednesday partly cloudy and warmer becoming cooler in mountains in the afternoon.

Germans Bomb American Hospital



Lt. Sally Houtt (left), Army nurse of Wendell, N. C., and Pvt. Marshall Floyd of Marshville, N. C., examine holes made by anti-personnel bombs in a large Red Cross flag on the ground beside an evacuation hospital near Nettuno, Italy, where two German planes dropped bombs killing 30 persons. (AP Wirephoto via Signal Corps Radio)

British Bombers Join American Planes In Blows Against Nazis Threatening Italian Beachhead; Reds Capture Town Of Korsun; Rooke Invaded

ON THE ROSS RIVER Core Of Resistance For 100,000 Nazis Reported Taken

LONDON, Feb. 14.—(AP)—The Red army today captured the Ukraine railway village of Korsun, the core of resistance for the remnants of ten trapped German divisions of perhaps 100,000 men who have fought with the ferocity of wounded beasts for 11 days.

In announcing the fall of Korsun on the Ross river 25 miles south of the Middle Dnieper—Moscow's bulletin said, however, that large German relief forces attacking outside the annihilation ring west of Korsun had succeeded in driving "a small wedge" into Soviet lines at the cost of heavy manpower and material losses.

On the northern front Russian troops captured several more localities on a 70-mile front between Luga and Lake Peipus in their drive southward toward Pskov, less than 40 miles beyond Soviet spearheads. Pskov is the communications key to the Baltic territories of southern Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, and also is the feeder point for an exposed Axis salient jutting 110 miles eastward from Pskov to Staraya Russa, on the south side of Lake Ilmen.

In the vicious Ukraine fighting the Russians gave no indication that German tank and infantry forces outside the Korsun annihilation ring would succeed in reaching their trapped companions, Moscow dispatches said instead that the capital expected to hear shortly another series of salvos from Moscow's victory guns signalling the final liquidation of the exhausted survivors of ten crack Axis divisions in the biggest single German disaster of its kind since Stalingrad.

The Germans trapped in the Korsun sector, 80 miles southeast of Kiev, apparently now hold a strip of territory only four miles deep on either side of the Ross River.

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Of course there were some younger men present, too. The Senior Fraternity had a table. And there were some who came along in time for Company B and Company C, when the Brigade Armory was built in 1906. And a smattering of invited guests. But the reunion was spiritually that of the veterans of Company A, the first group to come under the benign influence of the organizer who, in a very personal way was with them through the gift of an oil portrait, the gift of Mayor

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Southwest Pacific Isle Occupied By Americans

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC, Tuesday, Feb. 15.—(AP)—Rooke island, which sits squarely in the center of Vitiaz Strait between New Guinea and New Britain, was occupied Saturday by American forces which met no opposition, Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced today.

On the same day, American Marines pushed along New Britain's north coast to occupy Gorissi village, east of Cape Mensing. This extended the territory covered by the Marines since their landing at Cape Gloucester Dec. 26, which was followed four days later by the capture of the air-drome. The Leathernecks are now 21 miles east of the airfield.

The Japanese apparently had abandoned Rooke island, since the American force has reported no contact with the enemy. The Japanese evidently considered their position on the island untenable after the Marines occupied the entire western end of New Britain. Long island, northwest of Rooke, also was occupied by the Americans the day the Marines invaded Cape Gloucester, further endangering the enemy's position on Rooke.

A headquarters spokesman said the position of Rooke island made it a valuable possession for the Allies, providing in conjunction with Long island control of both Vitiaz and Dampier Straits.

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E. M. Tharp, vice president and general manager of Ohio Fuel Gas, said he could not estimate when the situation would improve. It came to a head as a wave of zero weather swept across the Midwest Sunday and the demand for gas to heat homes became greater than could be supplied without curtailing commercial users.

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Annual Get-To-Gether And Banquet Of Company 'A' Is Lively Event

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Officials Confident Hanover County Campaign Will Be Success

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Weather Clears And Allied Bombers Make Over 800 Sorties In Area

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Such ground fighting as was reported yesterday raged around the battered villages of Carroceto (Aprilia), 10 miles north of the Allied supply port of Anzio. British troops, aided by tanks, recaptured an important railway bridge west of the town, but the Nazis again fought their way into the buildings of a factory a half-mile east of Carroceto. These buildings now have changed hands four times in fierce fighting.

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STOCKHOLM, Sweden, Feb. 14.—(AP)—Finnish government leaders held long conferences throughout yesterday on the question of peace with Russia amid plain indications that the government might fall on the issue, delayed dispatches from Helsinki said today.

The dispatches, passed through Finnish censorship, said there was no official indication the government had asked for Russia's terms, or even was ready to ask for terms.

But Finland's majority party, the social democratic party, was putting strong pressure on the government to act.

"The situation as seen in social democratic circles was that for the present the only threat to the government rested with the decision whether to ask Moscow for peace conditions," the Helsinki dispatch said. "If no action is taken in this direction, it was said in responsible party circles, then the position of the social democratic party would become untenable and the government would be forced to resign."

Earlier, the Finnish capital was reported expecting concrete developments—perhaps an open bid by the government for Moscow's proposals—in the next day or two.

(A Reuters dispatch from Stockholm, said it was believed Finland's aging negotiator, Juhua Paasikivi, already had sent a Finnish note to Moscow.)

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WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—(AP)—American Thunderbolt fighter bombers took over the offensive to whittle down German air strength today with a smash at the Gilze-Rijen air-drome, one of the Nazis' main fighter bases in Holland, executing the swift attack without loss.

The almost daily bombardment of Nazi installations in northern France continued meanwhile without let-up, with RAF and Allied bombers under Spitfire escort giving emplacements there the 42nd daylight pounding in 56 days.

RAF Typhoons joined the cross-channel offensive, striking an enemy airfield and other military targets in northern France.

All bombers returned from the attacks on northern France, but the RAF lost four fighters in the day's operations.

Vichy radio said 25,000 persons had been evacuated from this Pas de Calais area to another department of France.

The Thunderbolt fighters escorted the P-47's carrying bombs instead of reserve fuel tanks to the usually heavily defended Gilze-Rijen field 65 miles inland from the Dutch coast, but the assault was carried out so rapidly that not a single German plane took to the sky in challenge.

This base is used by the Ger-

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House Committee Acts To Simplify America's Income Tax Structure

LOCAL EDUCATION LEADERS HONORED

Roland, Grise And Hamilton Are Cited By The NCEA At Meet

Three New Hanover county educational leaders were honored Monday afternoon by the North Carolina Education Association in conjunction with the National Education Association for their outstanding work in the field of education in this area.

Those who were honored were: H. N. Roland, New Hanover county superintendent of public instruction; J. W. Grise, district principal and assistant New Hanover county superintendent; and T. T. Hamilton, superintendent of secondary schools in the county and principal of New Hanover High School.

Roland, New Hanover county's "beloved" superintendent, was made a life member of the Department of School Administrators of the National Education Association for his untiring efforts to "improve school conditions" in this county. Grise was made a member of the Department of Elementary School Principals of the NEA while Hamilton was made a life member of the Department of Secondary School Principals.

The presentations, in the form of Valentines, were made by Mrs.

COLDER WEATHER IS KING IN N. C.

CHARLOTTE, Feb. 14.—(AP)—An acute soft coal shortage was reported in the Charlotte area today and supplies throughout the Carolinas described as only fair as the Piedmont shivered under sleet, snow, ice and cold rain.

Temperatures generally were in the 20s.

M. L. Burtless, head of the Solid Fuel Administration's newly-established distribution agency here said low income families in Charlotte were threatened with a critical situation and remarked that the city was "probably in the worst situation of any Carolina area."

Burtless added, however, that the SFA was taking steps to meet the emergency, but he advised

(Continued on Page Seven; Col. 4)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—(AP)—A leader in each major party offered today to meet the challenge "cheerfully" if the other side makes the row over the service ballot a campaign issue.

Rep. McCormick (D-Mass), majority House leader, and the minority chief, Rep. Martin (R-Mass) indulged in the exchanges over the relative merits of the Federal ballot versus the State ballot. Conferees of the disagreeing House and Senate will meet Wednesday to seek a compromise.

Martin told reporters that House Republicans were prepared to meet the test if the Democrats should make a national campaign issue of the Federal ballot for soldiers, and he expressed confidence the public would support the Republican stand for State ballots.

"We would cheerfully accept that challenge," said McCormick in an interview. "There is no reason to disfranchise those soldiers who might not get a State ballot 'in time.'"

Rep. Rankin (D-Miss), a foe of the Federal ballot proposal said: "Mr. Martin is certainly a brave man to come out and dare the Democrats to put this bob-tailed, unconstitutional Federal ballot proposal in our platform. Mr. Martin

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 2)

Consolidation Of Various Levies Is Attempted By Group

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The committee, however, took one step in the direction of simplification, by voting to attempt a consolidation of the victory, normal and surtaxes without changing substantially the existing overall payments.

The committee's staff of experts was given the task of drawing up proposals for the integration.

The action lays aside, at least temporarily, a proposal by Representative Carlson (R-Kas.) that the government drop from the tax rolls those who pay the victory tax but whose income is not large enough to come under the regular income levies. A similar proposal was made by the Treasury last fall.

Congressional sources expect the Treasury and probably some labor groups to oppose the merger of the victory tax into the permanent tax structure. Some groups contend the victory levy is a temporary wartime tax only.

Chairman Doughton (D-N. C.) said the Ways and Means group decided "to get as far as practicable as near the same amount as by the present law from each taxpayer."

Significantly, he emphasized that this did not mean Congress would consider this year no new proposals for larger wartime revenue, but that so far as simplification is concerned the individual burdens will remain the same, if this can be done.

Meanwhile Congressional Democratic leaders were reported to have counseled President Roosevelt

CONFERENCE WORK ON SUBSIDY BILL

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—(AP)—With the possibility of a presidential veto in the offing, the House turned over to conferees today the job of polishing up legislation outlawing the administration's program of subsidy payments to hold down food prices for consumers.

Senate conferees have not as yet been named, but little delay is anticipated once the conference goes to work. Both Senate and House have voted to halt the subsidies, differing only on when it should be done. The House has voted for a ban effective Thursday while the Senate Bankhead bill outlaws them after June 30.

The real showdown will come on overriding an expected presidential veto. President Roosevelt last year vetoed a measure killing subsidies and most Congressmen look for a repeat performance. Presumably the subject was discussed today at a White House conference of Congressional leaders.

At stake in the controversy is the life of the Commodity Credit Corporation, which has made the

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 1)

BOARD STUDYING HOME CONDITIONS

In one of their longest sessions, members of the New Hanover county Board of Commissioners Monday adopted a resolution acknowledging various organizations of the city who have offered assistance in rectifying reported conditions at the county home.

At the regular weekly meeting the board held a lengthy discussion on the institution. Bids will be received for renovation of gutters and pipes at the home.

The board urged all responsible citizens to visit the county home and juvenile detention home, stating that it should be their interest to make such recommendations as they see fit for the betterment of conditions to the board.

A letter was received from the Parish council of St. James Church, which stated that the

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