

NORTH CAROLINA: Fair and cooler Tuesday with slightly higher temperatures in afternoon. High yesterday: 66—Low: 44.

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Sanatorium Is Issue Again At Board Meet

MATTER UNSETTLED

Gardner Says About 90 Per Cent Of The People Here Favor Hospital

The Tubercular sanatorium was made an issue again at the weekly meeting of the Board of County Commissioners yesterday afternoon. However, no action was taken by the group, and the matter still remains unsettled.

A letter was received from the Civitan Club, which asked for reconsideration of the matter of a public election.

Commissioner George Trask said that the floor and said that it was his opinion that approximately 90 per cent of the people appeared to be in favor of a new institution, and he thought they should be given the opportunity to say one way or the other.

Commissioner George Trask said that he did not believe that the people would be in favor of the new hospital at the present time. The war isn't going to last forever," he said. "And in not too long, we will be able to build our new hospital with half the costs."

Gardner was of the opinion that the public, which was being represented by the letters from the various civic clubs and the medical society, should have a chance to vote on the matter.

Commissioner Lewis Coleman disclosed in an interview the fact that he believed no man on the board wanted to see action taken on the matter any more than himself. But he has been opposed to the government of New Hanover county building a hospital, and taking care of the obligations of the surrounding counties.

Mr. Coleman states: "I have always been in favor of building a Tubercular sanatorium to take care of the needs of New Hanover county. And I am still of that opinion. I believe that the plans and specifications for a hospital should be prepared only to take care of sufficient needs of this county."

"When the plans and specifications are prepared, and the approximate costs has been submitted to this board by the architect, (Continued on Page Ten; Col. 5)

WILLKIE FACING A 'VITAL TEST'

By The Associated Press
The voteless farm belt of the Midwest became the No. 1 pre-convention political stage for Republicans and Democrats alike last Monday night.

Wisconsin's voters were all set for Tuesday's preferential primary, called "vital" by Wendell L. Willkie and obviously significant to all Republican Presidential possibilities.

With an obvious eye on November farm votes, Republican agricultural leaders — five governors and four Congressmen — met in Chicago to draft a GOP farm blank for the fall campaign. Gov. Bourke B. Hickenlooper of Iowa opened the meeting with the declaration: "Political exploitation of the farmer must stop."

Wisconsin's voters will pick 24 delegates to the Republican National convention today in the first clear cut test of Willkie's campaign strength. However the election goes the result may be a barometer to Republican sentiment in other farm states.

There is a full Willkie slate on the ballot but supporters of other Republicans—Lt. Com. Harold E. Stassen, Gov. Thomas E. Dewey and Gen. Douglas MacArthur—all have delegate candidates. Willkie, who stumped the state for his own ticket, went on to Nebraska yesterday where Republican voters will choose between him and Stassen in a primary next week.

Chinese Government Denies Their Troops Violated Red Border

CHUNGKING, April 3.—(AP)—The Chinese government denied in an official statement today that Chinese troops from Sinkiang had violated the border of the Mongolian Peoples Republic and that Chinese planes shot up Kazakhs fleeing from Sinkiang.

The statement said: "The contents of a Tass dispatch of April 2 from Urgan (Ulan Bator) alleging that Chinese troops stationed in Sinkiang had crossed into Outer Mongolia (the Mongolian Peoples Republic) and opened fire with machine guns from airplanes are entirely at variance with the facts."

Davis Red Cross Drive Progresses

CAMP DAVIS, April 3.—As the Red Cross War Fund drive goes into its final week, ending April 5, results from approximately one fourth of military and civilian personnel at Camp Davis show contributions of \$4,814.00. Figures show contributions to be \$1,025, commissioned military personnel No. 391, and enlisted personnel No. 3,397.

Contributions are solicited from civilians and officers and are voluntary among enlisted personnel. A donation of one dollar entitles a soldier to membership in the Red Cross. Already many batteries have 100 per cent membership, according to A. T. Shumaker, Red Cross Field Director, who predicts a successful drive.

TRIBUNAL RULES IN VOTING CASE

Upsets Decision Of 9 Years' Standing In Texas Election

WASHINGTON, April 3.—(AP)—The Supreme Court today upset a decision of nine years' standing and ruled that Negroes have the right to vote in Texas Democratic Primary elections, prompting Justice Roberts to protest that the tribunal's opinions are getting to be like a railroad ticket good only for one day in one train.

The eight-to-one decision, stating that "the great privilege of choosing his rulers may not be denied a man by the State because of his color," overturned the court's unanimous opinion in 1935 sustaining the exclusion of Negroes from participation in a Texas Democratic Primary.

The decision has far-reaching implications for the South, where success in a primary usually is tantamount to election, but whether it will lead to any great increase immediately in the number of Negro voters is considered doubtful. The decision does not touch upon other barriers existing in various parts of the South, such as poll taxes, educational tests, etc.

Specifically involved in today's litigation was Lonnie E. Smith, a Negro who contended he was denied the right to vote in a 1940 primary by Houston, Tex., election judges. There are an estimated 571,000 Negroes of voting age in Texas.

Of the present members of the court, only Chief Justice Stone and Justice Roberts were on the bench at the time of the earlier decision. Justice Roberts, sole dissenter in today's decision, protested that the court's present policy "indicates an intolerance" for the conscientious and deliberate opinions of former justices and "involves an assumption that knowledge and wisdom reside in us which was denied to our predecessors."

Amplifying his complaint that today's ruling tends "to bring adjudications of this tribunal into the same class as a restricted railroad ticket, good for this day and train only," Roberts said: "I have no assurance in view of current decisions that the opinion may not shortly be repudiated and overruled by justices who deem they have new light on the subject."

The court's earlier decision was based on the ground that Negroes were excluded from the primary because a Democratic party convention had refused them entry.

(Continued on Page Seven Col. 3)

WAC HEAD LAUDS WOMEN MARINES

CAMP LEJEUNE, April 3.—(AP)—American women in the battle zones are showing "the greatest courage I have ever seen," Col. Oveta Culp Hobby, WAC head, told a women's Marine officers graduating class here today.

Recently returned from a 39,000-mile tour of three war theaters, Mrs. Hobby paid high tribute to Army, Navy and Red Cross nurses, stressing their courage in the Italian campaign.

Flanked by high-ranking officers of the Marine Corps and the Marine Corps Women's Reserve, she told the graduates that no matter what they were doing the Axis had their opposite number doing the same job. "It is up to you," she said, "to do a better job than your opposite number among the Axis nations."

She pointed to the highest standards and traditions set by the Marine Corps and asked her audience to live up to them.

"There is no job connected with the war that is insignificant," Col. Hobby said.

She said that the spirit of kinship among the various women's auxiliaries both here and abroad had reached a new high and that "our women's setup was given to the French and the Netherlands governments for use in training the women in those countries."

U. S. Forces Occupy Ten More Atolls In Marshalls; Truk Is Bombed Twice; Soviets Strike 13 Miles Into Rumania

Method of Fighting Plane Fires



Demonstrating a new method of fighting plane fires, Army firemen operating two huge tank trucks at Jacksonville, Fla., extinguished in two and one-half minutes an obsolete bomber which had been drenched with gasoline and fuel oil and set ablaze. One truck (left) sprays carbon dioxide and the other (not shown) sprays water under tremendous pressure.

STEWART LAUDS SALVAGE DRIVE

Says City Has Second Largest Amount Of Fats In The State

"Wilmington has salvaged the second largest amount of fats in the State," William A. Stewart, chairman of the County Salvage Committee declared yesterday. Due to the efforts of G. C. Gorman, who has been in charge of collecting fats, working from 15-20 hours a day in this effort, Wilmington has shipped over 50,000 lbs. of fat every two weeks. This amount could be greatly increased, he added, if citizens were more cooperative.

"There is still a small group of housewives who sabotage the campaign by putting sand and water at the bottom of their cans, and a very small amount of fat on top. The poundage lost through this is considerable."

Stewart observed that the amount of fats collected from restaurants had decreased since the owners have taken over the collection and sale of fats. He believes that the help should do the work as it would mean more men in each establishment working at this and hence greater efficiency and output.

Since January 1, 1944, 1,260,000 lbs. of paper has been salvaged. This amount could be increased 75 per cent if people would only use paper that can be used. Too many people are saving paper spoiled by garbage and of no use to the Salvage Committee.

Mr. Stewart urged that people with small bundles of paper bring them to the Salvage Committee Headquarters at the Boy's Brigade, second and Church Street, instead of asking the truck to call for them.

The total for the collection of scrap metal is unattainable as many concerns, such as the Shipyard, ship the metal out themselves and have no records available. Since January 1, the Atlantic (Continued on Page Three; Col. 6)

Draft Directors Excuse Physical Or Induction On Religious Holidays

WASHINGTON, April 3.—(AP)—State draft directors have been instructed to excuse Christian registrants, on request, from taking physical examinations or being inducted on Good Friday, April 7, Selective Service said today.

Jewish registrants who request it will be excused on April 8 and April 15, the first and last days of the Passover, under an arrangement last week.

In each case some other day will be set for examination or induction.

Secretary Ickes Sees No Extra Gas For Civilians

WASHINGTON, April 3.—(AP)—Secretary Ickes said tonight that "contrary to the impression held in some quarters," there is no possibility at this time of increasing civilian gasoline rations in any section of the country. "Despite any statements made by so-called 'informed sources,' stocks of gasoline for civilian use are tight all over the country," said Ickes, who is Petroleum Administrator for War, in a statement.

TRIAL OF THREE OFFICERS OPENS

CINCINNATI, April 3.—(AP)—A public court martial started today to determine whether three Air Force officers neglected their duties, conspired to let quantity override quality in aircraft engine production at the Wright Aeronautical Corp. plant in Lockland, and gave false testimony to a Truman committee member, as charged.

The defendants, Lt. Col. F. C. Greulich and Major Walter A. Ryan of Detroit and Major William Bruckmann of Cincinnati, pleaded innocent when arraigned before an 11-member court headed by Brig. Gen. Lehman H. Miller, commander of Camp Sutton, N. C.

Col. Greulich was chief of the inspection section of the AAF materiel command at Wright Field Dayton, O., Major Ryan district inspector, and Major Bruckmann resident inspector at the Wright plant.

Peremptory challenges by Major Henry C. Clausen, trial judge advocate, (prosecution) removed Col. Clarence E. Partridge of the office of chief of ordnance and Col. George W. Easterday, professor of military science at Lehigh University, from the original tentative panel of 13 officers.

The defense, led by Col. Park Holland of Albany, N. Y., lost two preliminary skirmishes with the prosecution. Col. Philip J. McCook, law member of the court and former associate justice of the New York Supreme Court, refused to separate either a continuance or separate trials.

Major Clausen, former district attorney in San Francisco, declared in his opening statement that in addition to failing in their inspection duties up to April 1943, the three officers cooperated in a company policy of making "production override inspection."

"Company men, in their blind allegiance to the company, fostered this idea," Major Clausen said. "The more stuff shoved out, the more the company made because of fixed price contracts."

Major Clausen asserted that Major Bruckmann, former president of a big Cincinnati brewery, granted the plant an "A" control rating under which fewer government inspectors were stationed there.

Clausen charged that the officers knew of conditions at the plant as early as November, 1942, but nothing was done (Continued on Page Three; Col. 6)

NET CLOSES ON IASI

Claim 208,000 Axis Troops Slain Or Captured In Polish Drive

LONDON, Tuesday, April 4.—(AP)—The Moscow radio, in a broadcast in the name of the Soviet government, called on the Rumanian people today to abandon the Germans and "capitulate at once."

The broadcast, recorded by the London Daily Mail, said: "Unless you (Rumanians) do so, the whole of your country will become a battlefield and your towns and villages a heap of ruins."

The call went out while the battle for Rumania was approaching a climax with the spearheads of the Red army already well beyond the Prut River.

REDS FORGE AHEAD

LONDON, Tuesday, April 4.—(AP)—Russia's Second Ukraine Army, striking 13 miles into Rumania, has captured 50 villages and driven to within nine miles of the rail city of Iasi, a Moscow communique announced last night, while to the north the First Army was credited with killing or capturing 208,260 Axis troops and encircling the remnants of 15 divisions in a still-rolling offensive near the borders of German-occupied Poland and Czechoslovakia.

Marshal Ivan S. Konev's Second Army, attacking on a 70-mile front inside Rumania, cut the 50-mile railway linking Dorohoi and Iasi at the village of Dengeni (Denzheny), on the east bank of the Jijia River 13 miles west of the Prut River border, said the daily soviet bulletin. Dengeni is 25 miles southwest of Dorohoi.

A special announcement issued a short time later told of the staggering losses suffered by the Germans in a 24-day period last month — a total of 183,310 Germans killed and 24,950 captured on a single front.

On the basis of Russian announcements, this boosted to 537,160 the number of Germans and satellite troops killed or captured in nine major offensives which began in the winter snows of Russia and rolled on westward despite the coming of spring floods until today the Red army is attacking inside Axis territory for the first time in the war.

The remnants of 15 German divisions, originally between 150, (Continued on Page Three; Col. 1)

ACTOR'S LAWYER DELIVERS PLEA

LOS ANGELES, April 3.—(AP)—Declaring "there is no more evidence of Mann Act violation here than there is evidence of murder," Attorney Jerry Giesler concluded an impassioned 2 1/2-hour plea this afternoon for Charlie Chaplin's acquittal of the charge.

"The fate of the defendant will be placed in your hands tomorrow," Giesler told the jury of seven women and five men. "I ask you to judge him as you yourselves would want to be judged, without fear or favor, without bias or prejudice."

Of the government charges that the comedian transported 24-year-old Joan Berry to New York and back here in 1942 with immoral intent, Giesler said: "He has been publicly pilloried, scorched and burned. The worldwide publicity is far beyond recall. But he has not sullied Miss Berry's name and if her name has been sullied, it was only through her own actions and associations of her own choosing."

Shouting, Giesler told the jury that Chaplin had spent money to have Joan's teeth fixed for movie work, made 4,500 feet of film test shots of her, risked \$500,000 on a proposed film starring her and— "He wouldn't have had to spend all that to have her sexually. After he stopped having intercourse with her he was willing to keep her on because he believed she had the qualifications of an actress. If she had only kept up her work under his tutelage, who knows what a great star she might have become?"

After the conclusion of Giesler's final arguments late this afternoon, U. S. Attorney Charles H. Carr had another hour for his rebuttal argument.

Previously, Giesler declared Miss Berry and the 54-year-old (Continued on Page Three; Col. 6)

Major Mix-Up

Just recommended at Camp Davis, N. C., for promotion to major, "Captain" John H. Walker (above) of Wilmington, N. C., learned that he has held the higher rank since leaving Ft. Bliss, Texas, a year ago. He failed to receive a copy of his promotion order last April.



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BUDAPEST BOMBED FOR FIRST TIME

New Night Thrust Into Hungary Is Reported By Nazi Agency

LONDON, Tuesday, April 4.—(AP)—Allied bombers were reported in a Berlin broadcast early today to have made a night thrust into Hungary following the heavy daylight raid upon Budapest yesterday by Italy-based U. S. fliers.

Soon after midnight, the German station said a "small number of planes" was approaching the Hungarian capital.

Earlier, it had warned of single enemy aircraft approaching southeast Germany, suggesting a foray by British Mosquitos, which lately have been dropping 4,000-pound blockbusters.

BUDAPEST BOMBED ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, NAPLES, APRIL 3.—(AP)—U. S. heavy bomber fleets bombed Budapest for the first time today, smashing hard at railroads linking Germany with the Balkan front already punctured by Russian armies, and at an aircraft factory making Messerschmitts for the Luftwaffe.

A great force of four-engine bombers made the round trip of nearly 1,000 miles from Italy to strike at the Nazi war machine in the Hungarian capital astride the Danube.

ENEMY CUTS OFF BIG IMPHAL BASE

NEW DELHI, April 3.—(AP)—Japanese invasion forces have cut supply roads into the big Allied base at Imphal, capital of Manipur state in eastern India, it was disclosed today as fighting raged in the wild hills of the Naga headwaters east of Kohima, 60 miles north of Imphal.

An Allied spokesman, while conceding that Imphal had been temporarily isolated by main road, declared the crisis would be overcome shortly and that there would be no necessity for supplying the great advance base by air.

A full-scale battle had been joined east of Kohima, where a Japanese column was driving determinedly toward Dimapur on the Assam-Burma railway lifeline to Lt. Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell's Chinese and American forces in northern Burma. Dimapur is 44 miles across the Naga hills from Kohima.

A second Japanese force thrusting toward Imphal from the Chindwin River area to the east, was reported thrown back by defending British and Indian troops. Southeast of Imphal, near the lower end of the 200-mile invasion front, Japanese artillery continued to shell the Tamu-Palei road.

14 NOW HELD BY U.S.

Two More Islands In Admiralty Group Are Invaded By Americans

By LEONARD MILLIMAN Associated Press War Editor
United States forces have occupied ten more atolls in the Central Pacific Marshall islands, Admiral Chester W. Nimitz announced last night.

The American flag now flies over 14 of these Japanese-mandated atolls. Four others — Jaluit, Mili, Maloelap and Wotje — are still held by the enemy and are under daily bombardment by Army, Navy and Marine planes.

All of the Balik or western chain of the Marshalls, except Jaluit, is now occupied by American forces. Little or no resistance was encountered by reconnoitering forces which landed and established sovereignty over the ten new atolls — Ujae, Lae, Lib, Namu, Ailinglapalap, Namorik, Ebon, Killi, Arno and Bikini.

Kwajalein, the first atoll to come under American rule, was invaded January 31 and since then the conquest of Eniwetok, Majuro and Wotho was previously announced.

Majuro and Arno are adjacent atolls in the eastern chain between Mili and Maloelap, the most important of that group. Seizure of two more islands in the Admiralty group in the Southwest Pacific was announced today (Tuesday) by General Douglas MacArthur. They are Koruniat and Ndrilo, lying between American-held Los Negros and Hauwei off the northeast coast of Manus.

Two more raids on Truk, making ten bombing attacks within ten days, were announced. Nimitz reported that their Central Pacific bases after a raid on Truk's Dublon island Sunday night (Saturday U. S. time) and MacArthur told of a dawn attack by South Pacific bombers that started big fires. Other South Pacific aircraft carried out round-the-clock raids on Rabaul, reporting one huge explosion.

Southwest Pacific bombers destroyed 13 barges at the crippled Japanese base of Wewak on New Guinea and poured 128 tons of explosives on nearby Hansa Bay.

Possibility that Japanese Bou- (Continued on Page Three; Col. 5)

FINNS POSTPONE PEACE DECISION

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, April 3.—(AP)—A decision on Finland's peace crisis appeared to have been postponed tonight until after Easter, while some pessimism prevailed in Helsinki on the country's chances of finding a way out of the war with Russia.

Finnish political quarters here said that while there were reports of some modification in the Russian armistice terms following Dr. Juho K. Paasikivi's trip to Moscow, the belief now prevails that the terms are as harsh as ever and even more precise.

The earlier reports had said the Russians made some frontier concessions, but placed high reparations demands on the Finns. In political circles in Helsinki, it was presumed the peace question hardly can be solved within the next few days.

Although some clarification of the situation had been expected tonight when parliament met, it was declared semi-officially that "nothing special happened" at the session.

A similar convocation is to be held tomorrow morning before the members adjourn for Easter.

Nimitz Awarded DSM By Act Of Congress; President Signs Bill

WASHINGTON, April 3.—(AP)—Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, commander-in-chief of the Pacific fleet, became today one of the few men in history to receive an award of the Distinguished Service Medal by an act of Congress.

President Roosevelt signed a bill making the award. Such awards usually are left in the hands of the Army and Navy. In some cases, however, Congress takes special note of an award by authorizing the President to present the medal in the name of Congress.