

FORECAST  
FORECAST  
NORTH CAROLINA: Fair and continu-  
ed mild Saturday.  
Temperatures yesterday:  
High: 67—Low: 52.

# Wilmington Morning Star

REMEMBER  
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## Troops Carry Avery From Ward Store



Two soldiers firmly hold Sewell Avery, president of Montgomery Ward & Co., as they carry him from the mail order store in Chicago following his refusal to turn the company's books over to the government. Photo copyrighted by the Chicago Times. (International soundphoto.)

# Continent Blasted In Great 'Eve Of Invasion' Offensive; Bolivian Revolution Foiled

## A STATE OF SIEGE Numerous Heads Of At- tempted Revolt Being Detained By Gov.

LA PAZ, Bolivia, April 28.—(AP)—The Bolivian government announced tonight that a vast conspiracy had been broken up with the detention of numerous revolutionaries and that a state of siege had been declared throughout the country.

No details were given, but an announcement by the government said that acting President Major Gualberto Villarroel acted constitutionally with the consent of his cabinet to preserve public order in the face of subversive activities. No public disturbances were reported.

**News Revealed**  
NEW YORK, April 28.—(AP)—A cablegram to the Associated Press from La Paz, Bolivia, tonight said a revolutionary attempt had been put down and martial law declared. No details were given in the unsigned five-word message in the Spanish language.

Presumably the message, timed at 7 p.m., was from the Associated Press correspondent in La Paz, Julio Valdez. Such messages often are unsigned, and there is no reason to doubt its authenticity, although transmission of such news from a country in a state of siege or revolution is an unusual feat.

Bolivia has been in an uneasy situation since a revolutionary junta overthrew the government and took control in December, 1943.

The new regime, with Major Gualberto Villarroel as president and Victor Paz Estenssoro as head of its revolutionary party, has not

## Nazi Invasion Speculation Hits New High; D-Day Is Being Set

LONDON, April 28.—(AP)—Nazi invasion speculation hit a feverish tempo today as Berlin dispatches said that German bombers attacked masses of invasion vessels in undisclosed harbors of western England last night and continental commentators began naming definite "invasion dates," one as early as next Tuesday.

A vast outpouring of speculation came from Nazi and neutral microphones, some contradictory and some nonsense, with guessing on the date of D-day ranging from May 2 to June 7 and with general prediction that the Allied invasion from the west would be timed with colossal blows in the south and in the east.

From this island base itself history's greatest aerial offensive was growing in intensity, and the air commanders were openly and officially referring to it as the "eve of invasion" offensive, but everything possible was being done to

keep the enemy guessing as to the exact date.

The report of an air attack on invasion vessels in western England was sent from Berlin by the correspondent of the Stockholm newspaper Tidningen, who added that great quantities of Allied shipping were maddened in southeast England Channel ports.

Today's German communiques said that "heavy bomber formations attacked ship concentrations and other strategically important targets in the range of the British Southwest Coast with telling effect," and this may have been the basis for the Swedish correspondent's report of "invasion vessels" being hit.

The Berlin communique also said that Nazi motor torpedo boats attacked a destroyer escorted British convoy on the English south coast this morning, torpedoing a destroyer and sinking three of the convoyed vessels.

"The latest naval clashes off the Atlantic coast and in the channel," a German high command spokesman as quoted by the Berlin radio, "and finally the glaringly obvious displacement of the center of gravity of the Anglo-American air raids to the occupied western territories and to strategic communications centers of southwestern Germany, must of necessity be regarded primarily from the general point of view of the expected onslaught."

The Berlin correspondent for the Swiss newspaper Die Tat said that foreign newspapermen there were betting on the invasion coming between May 6 and June 7. A Turkish commentator said, "we can take it for granted that the next few days or weeks will witness the most important events of the war."

In Moscow the official communist newspaper Pravda observed: "Conditions are favorable now for powerful blows, not only from the east but from the south and west."

## 14TH STRAIGHT DAY Bombs Being Dropped On Nazi Targets At Rate Of 6 Tons A Minute

LONDON, Saturday, April 29.—(AP)—The first triple-header American heavy bomber strike highlighted widespread attacks on German air bases and fortifications in France yesterday, and brought to approximately 2,800 the number of Allied British-based sorties during the 14th straight day of the "eve-of-invasion" sky offensive.

The attacks, which cost the Americans four bombers and three fighters, followed up a 1,000-plane, 3,500-ton RAF night assault on the Nazi technical center of Friedrichshafen and other important targets.

RAF heavy bombers streaked out over the channel in the direction of the French coast shortly after dusk apparently in continuation of the uninterrupted series of smashes at Europe.

At the same time German planes prowled along the southeast coast of England during the night but found the skies filled with anti-aircraft fire and night fighters. There were no immediate reports of any incidents.

Since Wednesday midnight the Allies have been dropping an average rate of 6 1-2 tons of bombs per minute, night and day, on Axis objectives, and the German radio late last night indicated the unprecedented assaults were entering the 15th day when it warned that Allied planes were approaching northwest Germany.

Two fleets of Flying Fortresses, each about 250-strong, roared out yesterday morning and hit the big Avord airdrome 130 miles south of Paris, and coastal fortifications in the Cherbourg area. About 500 Thunderbolt and Mustang fighters escorted one bomber formation to Avord, while the bulletin made no mention of escorts for the fleet which attacked the Cherbourg sector, 70 miles across the Channel.

An abortive attack by German fighters on the formation that flew to Avord was broken off by the fighter escort. "This was the only encounter with the enemy during the day," a U. S. communique said.

In the afternoon a fleet of perhaps 250 Liberators crossed the 20-mile-wide Dover Strait and pounded the Pas-de-Calais area. Thunderbolt fighters shepherded this formation over the territory which may soon be the scene of bitter ground battles.

Hundreds of other fighter-bombers, American and Allied, ranged across France itching for aerial combat, but the Germans showed little eagerness, and some crews never sighted a single plane. The attacks on Nazi ground installations ranged from Tours to Paris and northern France.

Since April 15 when the "big push" got under way it is estimated that the Allies have scoured Axis targets with approximately 70,000 tons of explosives.

**Top-Ranking GOPites  
To Address Convention**  
WASHINGTON, April 28.—(AP)—Former President Herbert Hoover and Rep. Clare Boothe Luce (R-Conn.) have been invited to address the Republican National Convention starting June 26 in Chicago and have accepted, the GOP national committee announced today.

## Washington Shocked By Knox Death; Question Of A Successor Is Raised

### JAPANESE HALTED ON EVERY FRONT

Little Trace Of Fighting  
Nips Found By Allies  
On New Guinea

WASHINGTON, April 28.—(AP)—The sudden death of Secretary of the Navy Knox shocked official Washington today and also posed the question whether President Roosevelt would keep the complexion of his wartime cabinet unchanged by appointing a Republican successor.

Knox, who died of a heart attack at the age of 70, was one of two members of the opposition party in the cabinet. The other is Secretary of War Stimson.

Mr. Roosevelt decides to name another Republican, it is believed one of those considered may be Lt. Commander Harold E. Stassen, youthful former governor of Minnesota now serving in the Pacific. Stassen's friends are booming him for the Republican presidential nomination and he has made clear he will accept the nomination, if it is offered. He might feel impelled to accept the navy secretaryship from a sense of duty, however, if it were offered.

Some members of Congress said privately they hoped Undersecretary James V. Forrestal would be advanced to his late chief's post. Forrestal, 52-year-old New York investment banker and a Democrat, has been undersecretary since 1940 and is familiar with the Navy Department's administrative problems.

Funereral services for Knox will be held Monday in the Mount Pleasant Congregational Church at 2 p.m. (EWT). They will be conducted by Dr. Fred S. Buschmeyer, assisted by Navy Chaplain S. W. Salisbury.

**Adm. Spruance Is Made  
Fifth Fleet Commander**

U. S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, PEARL HARBOR, April 28.—(AP)—Adm. Raymond A. Spruance today was officially designated as the commander of the Fifth Fleet.

This command designation for Spruance replaces his former title of commander of the Central Pacific force. Under that title he has in over-all command of the invasions of the Gilbert and Marshall islands, and of the recent carrier task force strikes against Truk, the Marianas and the Palau islands.

### SECRETARY WAS 70

Roosevelt May Name His  
Cabinet Unchanged

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### FARMS FLOODED BY MISSISSIPPI

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS  
The Mississippi River, swollen to a stage which may equal a 99-year record at some places, for the second time in a year, spilled over crumbling levees today to flood new acres of Illinois and Missouri farm lands but with less disastrous results than in 1943.

Four main levees protecting Illinois banks of the river went out as the crest neared. Orders came from the Army engineer's office to evacuate farm families from other areas threatened with inundation.

The flood is expected to crest at St. Louis at 38.9 feet, the same reading as last May. At that stage it exerts damaging pressure on every levee all the way down the river to Cairo, Ill.

For farmers on the river side of the levees this is the third consecutive year flood waters have driven them from their land.

Latest figures from the Midwestern Red Cross office at St. Louis disclosed the floods along the Mississippi, Missouri, Arkansas, Illinois and other rivers have affected a total of 5,700 families in Missouri and Illinois and 6,527 families in Kansas and Oklahoma.

### FORRESTAL NOW NAVY SECRETARY

Acting Chief Is Known As  
A Broker And Banker;  
Well Adapted

WASHINGTON, April 28.—(AP)—James V. Forrestal, who became acting Secretary of the Navy today upon the death of Secretary Knox is a broker and banker who has declared his hobby is "obscure."

A veteran of naval aviation during the First World War, he came to Washington as an administrative assistant to President Roosevelt, assigned primarily to Latin American problems. Friends have said that he was well adapted to such a post of anonymity because of his dislike for talking about himself.

U. S. Navy creation of the office of undersecretary of the navy by Congress he was transferred to that new post in the "little cabinet" and served as acting secretary when Knox was out of Washington. In his job as undersecretary Forrestal has been responsible to a great extent for the speeding up of naval construction.

Born in Beacon, N. Y., the 52-year-old acting secretary, like his

**Judge Makes Penalty  
Fit The Crime; Men  
Fined Quarter Apiece**

KANSAS CITY, April 28.—(AP)—Circuit Judge John F. Cook made the penalty fit the crime for six men before him today on charges of gambling by playing poker.

"What was the game's limit?" asked the judge.

"A quarter," one of the men said.

"Each of you is fined a quarter," pronounced the judge.

## Magazine Salesmen Here Preying On The Public

By JEAN HARRELSON  
The magazine racketeers are operating in Wilmington again! According to a classified advertisement carried in both the Star and News, a young lady is wanted for what sounds to be a good paying job, but which actually, when investigated, turns out to be nothing but what has numerous times been called a "nice paying racket."

When the "employer" is interviewing the prospective applicant, he states, "There is a great demand for magazines by subscription, for often you cannot find the desired mag on newsstands. It's big money in the business, after you once get the hang; just like silk hosiery, if you had them to sell you could make \$500 a week, and you can make from \$60 to \$100 as a magazine saleslady."

Of course, he breaks down and confesses that you don't get a salary, only work on commission. However, when you are "learning the trade" there is a petty salary of \$25 per week, with traveling ex-

penses paid. When quizzed as to how far he estimated the wages would go with the considerable high prices in war centers or resort towns, he said quite frankly, "well, after you've paid your hotel room bill, meals and laundry you actually don't have much left."

The investigator is under the impression that hotel bills and meals are considered expenses on a traveling position?

The travel? "Oh, towns such as Norfolk, Charleston, Wilmington, parts of Florida and Texas." "It's good work after you acquire that gift for gab and start getting commission." (Investigator's note) Yes, too often travel instead of broadening the mind, merely lengthens the conversation.

There is a similar advertisement in today's edition for a young man, 17 to 22. Yours for the fulfilling, but it calls for intestinal fortitude with a capital G.

P. S. You would be working for Periodicals Sales Company, head office in Chicago.

## Double-Barreled Congressional Probe Of Ward Dispute In Sight

### FIRM BACKS AVERY

Legal Battle Against Government Control Of Company Underway

CHICAGO, April 28.—(AP)—Board Chairman Sewell Avery received a vote of "full confidence" from Montgomery Ward and company shareholders today after he began a widely watched legal battle against government control of the firm's Chicago plants.

Avery and the 12 other directors were re-elected at the jam-packed annual session of stockholders. The gathering, setting a record for attendance, echoed at times with cheers and laughter and heard some criticism and boos.

Avery was greeted with a prolonged ovation when he arrived, and later the participants in a voice vote marked by only one or two nays adopted a resolution saying they "heartily approve of the policy of Montgomery Ward and Company in insisting upon the maintenance and protection of the lawful rights of the company" and expressing "full confidence in the management under the present leadership of Sewell Avery."

Developments occurred in rapid fire order in the case rooted in

### MORE PENICILLIN TO BE RELEASED

WASHINGTON, April 28.—(AP)—A nation-wide system for limited distribution of the "wonder drug" penicillin to civilians was announced today by the War Production Board.

Under the system, supplies will be channeled to more than 1,000 depot hospitals.

An Office of Civilian Penicillin Distribution has been established in Chicago at the WPB regional office to carry out the distribution. The procedure will be as follows:

Each month each penicillin manufacturer will apply to WPB in Washington for a civilian quota based on the amount of his production. Allocations will be forwarded to the Chicago office which will assign quotas to each depot hospital on the basis of bed capacities, the number of hospitals in each depot's area and the available supply of penicillin.

### 'BODY' TURNS OUT TO BE ONLY BEEF

Spring fever manifests itself in various forms. One of the more common versions among school-boys is playing truant and going fishing.

Friday several young boys were enjoying the balmy weather and fishing on the Cape Fear river between Navassa and Leland when they hooked a strange catch, which turned out to be a box of decomposing flesh and bones. The lads weren't in any doubt about what to do.

Several men sitting in a nearby construction office were surprised when a wide-eyed breathless boy dashed in and yelled, "Call the sheriff!" The sheriff of Brunswick county duly called and impatiently awaited, arrived and pronounced the odoriferous catch to be "inedible beef."

Among the various on-the-spot speculations were the possibility that it was black market produce or it had fallen or been tossed from a ship.

It is unknown whether the lads resumed their fishing.

### United Nations Now Producing 400,000 Barrels Of Gas Daily

WASHINGTON, April 28.—(AP)—Interior Secretary Ickes announced today the United Nations daily are producing 400,000 barrels of 100-octane aviation gasoline, enough to send 10,000 planes over Berlin every day.

It was the first official announcement of production. Up to now, the armed forces have refused to permit publication of the daily output.

Ickes announced it at a special press conference.

### Naval Patrol Plane Is Forced To Land Near Ethyl-Dow Plant

A U. S. Navy patrol plane was forced to land on the Cape Fear river near the Ethyl-Dow Chemical Plant yesterday at 12:30 p. m. it was officially announced.

The plane which was making a routine flight, was towed in by the Coast Guard. No one was injured.

### 'AMERICAN HIMMLER' Critics Wonder Whether Hamburger Stands Are Safe Any Longer

WASHINGTON, April 28.—(AP)—A double-barreled congressional investigation of the Montgomery Ward case was in prospect tonight as angry critics of seizure of the firm's Chicago plants asked whether the government would now take over "hamburger stands" and whether Attorney General Biddle would be an "American Himmler."

Chairman McCarran (D-Nev.) of the Senate Judiciary Committee, announcing he already had dispatched an investigator to Chicago, declared his committee was determined to "get to the bottom of this case."

Across the Capitol, a resolution for an inquiry was forced to the House floor by an angry coalition of Republicans and Democrats who squeezed it through a tumultuous session of the Rules Committee by one vote.

McCarran said he sent the investigator to Chicago under a subpoena.

### 19 PERSONS DIE IN PLANE CRASH

FLAGSTAFF, April 28.—(AP)—Nineteen persons are dead, two seriously injured and two less seriously hurt in the crash of a transport about 15 miles east of here, the Coconino County sheriff's office reported today.

Although the plane was not immediately identified, the 11th Naval District at San Diego, Calif., previously reported a transport overdue at Winslow, Ariz., stating that a search was in progress.

Sheriff's deputies said they received word from naval officials at Winslow that its missing plane was last reported at 12:33 a. m. from the vicinity of Ash Fork and Williams about 60 miles west of the crash scene. A light snow was falling at the time.

Dr. A. H. Sherman and an ambulance went to the scene, in rugged country about five miles south of Winslow, to bring the injured to Flagstaff.

Finding of the wreckage was reported by deputies who were searching in radio-equipped cars.

### EVIDENCE TAKEN IN MURDER CASE

GREENSBORO, April 28.—(AP)—Taking of evidence was completed and arguments of lawyers was started today in the trial of three men charged with first degree murder in connection with the slaying February 19, 1943, of E. J. Swanson in his store at James-town, N. C.

Late in the day Judge F. Don Phillips ruled that the jury could hear testimony connecting two of the three defendants, John Edgar Messer and William Dalton Biggs, with an armed robbery at Danville, Va., 25 days after Swanson was slain. Thereupon, R. F. Barber, Danville service station operator, testified that in early morning hours of March 16, 1943, William Biggs and Messer, at gunpoint, robbed him of \$140.

Mrs. Swanson, the storekeeper's widow, and O. M. Bundy testified yesterday that Messer shot and killed Swanson while William Biggs held a gun on Mrs. Swanson. Miss Doris Ray identified Elmer Biggs as driver of an automobile which stood outside the store during the slaying.

The three defendants were convicted in superior court last May of first degree murder and were sentenced to die, but gained a new trial in appeals to the supreme court.

After completion of lawyers' arguments and the court's charge tomorrow morning, the case will go to the jury.

### McDonald Advocates Tax Reduction, N. C. Progress

Ralph McDonald, candidate for the Democratic nomination for Governor of North Carolina, last night set forth a broad program of State progress combined with tax reduction as he brought his campaign to New Hanover in an address at the County Court House. McDonald declared that the state is collecting more than \$30,000,000 a year in taxes above all present expenses, and that this margin of excess revenues makes possible a program of progress and tax reduction at the same time. He was introduced by W. A. McGirt, prominent local businessman and former member of the State Highway Commission at the time of the state's great highway progress.

"For many years the state has been collecting more taxes than the total expenses of the state government," said McDonald. "Last year the collections in taxes were \$102,000,000 while the total expendi-

tures were only \$70,000,000. The excess revenues have been piling up in the state treasury, and the amount is already close to \$100,000,000 in an idle surplus. By July 1, 1945, the cash surplus will be more than \$130,000,000, every penny of which represents taxes collected from state taxpayers and not used to meet the state's budget."

McDonald proposed four actions to "tie down and permanently invest this vast surplus for the good of the people of the state": (1) earmark \$50,000,000 to pay off the entire state General Fund indebtedness; (2) Freeze \$20,000,000 as a reserve fund against future decline in revenues, thus providing a tide-over for any emergency; (3) Use the \$50,000,000 in the highway surplus to finance a major highway building and improvement program.

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 4)