

Wilmington and Vicinity: Partly cloudy and mild. Temperatures yesterday: High 72—Low 45.

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BOTH BRANCHES OF CONGRESS STILL DEMOCRATIC

U.S. 3rd Army Opens 2-Tined Drive On Metz

CAPTURES 16 TOWNS
Little Change On Holland Front; Rains Hampering French Sector Fight

By AUSTIN BEALMEAR
SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, PARIS, Thursday, Nov. 9.—(P)—Elements of U. S. Third army infantry lashed out in a two-pronged attack along the Metz-Nancy front yesterday capturing 16 towns and advancing up to three miles on a seven-mile-wide front.

As that long-stagnant front sprang to life amid the thunder of heavy artillery early in the day, American fighter-bombers systematically knocked out German command posts one by one.

EASTERN FRONT STRANGELY CALM

LONDON, Nov. 8.—(P)—Russian armies were moving into position tonight for the blows described by Premier Stalin as "the decisive offensive against the vital centers of Germany."

The massing of men and materials along the eastern front has brought a lull in the fighting, and for the third consecutive day the Soviet communiqué said only that there were "no essential changes at the front."

Council Group To Confer With County On Fire Bond

The City Council yesterday received a comprehensive report from City Manager A. C. Nichols on fire service beyond the city limits and the county's proposal to post a \$100 bond as a guarantee for such service.

Japanese Warplane Losses Exceed 100 Daily Through Nov. 6

By The Associated Press
Destruction of Japanese warplanes is running at the highest rate of the war—more than 100 planes a day for the first six days of November.

WEDEMEYER SEES HOPE FOR CHINA

CHUNGKING, Nov. 8.—(P)—Maj. Gen. Albert C. Wedemeyer, in his first interview since arrival in Chungking to succeed Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell, described the military situation in China as unfavorable "but not irretrievable," and he made it clear that he would not interfere in any way in Chinese politics.

He disclosed that his command of American forces embraced French Indo-China as well as China, with Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek as overall supreme Allied commander.

Non-committal on the Stilwell episode, Gen. Wedemeyer scored American criticism of the Chinese, and Chinese criticism of the United States, as hindrances to the conduct of the war.

BROUGHTON SETS NOVEMBER 23 AS THANKSGIVING

RALEIGH, Nov. 8.—(P)—Governor Broughton today officially proclaimed November 23 as Thanksgiving day in North Carolina and urged that "earnest prayer be made on that day for an early peace throughout the world, based on justice, freedom and democracy."

POLES PROGRESS SOUTH OF FORLI

ROME, Nov. 8.—(P)—Polish troops "continue to make good progress" south of Forli near the eastern end of the Italian battlefield, the Allied command announced today, but Germans still cling to shattered buildings on the Forli airfield.

Leyte Lashed By Big Storm Advance Ends

FIGHTING IS HEAVY

Filipinos Disrupt Enemy Freedom Of Movement In Ormoc Area

GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, PHILIPPINES, Thursday, Nov. 9.—(P)—Lashed by a raging tropical hurricane, the U. S. 24th infantry division fought in mud and slime yesterday along the winding road to Ormoc against fresh, veteran Japanese troops guarding the port of last hope on western Leyte.

For perhaps the first time since Gen. Douglas MacArthur's forces landed on eastern Leyte Oct. 20, today's communique claimed no advance for a 24-hour period ending at noon yesterday. Instead, it told of "heavy fighting" extending into densely wooded ridges overlooking the road where it makes a sharp horseshoe curve at Limon, four miles south of Carigara bay.

The communique said a "tropical hurricane is restricting operations." The phrasing was modest. Few Yanks ever have seen such a raging storm of wind and rain which turned their foxholes into wells, soaked them through and through and made life even more miserable than usual.

FIGHTING IS HEAVY GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, PHILIPPINES, Thursday, Nov. 9.—(P)—Heavy fighting with Japanese reinforcements raged along the ridges bordering the twisting road to Ormoc on Leyte while artillery pounded the enemy's rear, headquarters said in today's communique.

For the second straight day, headquarters told of bitter fighting by the 24th division of Maj. Gen. Frederick A. Irving down the narrow, ridge-dominated highway and in the tortuous terrain nearby against elements of the Nipponese first, 30th, 102nd and 16th divisions.

Throughout the Ormoc defense zone Filipino guerrillas disrupted the enemy's "freedom of movement," headquarters said, by cutting communications.

TOUGH LUCK

WASHINGTON, Nov. 8.—(P)—A telephone caller asked the Washington Evening Star today if Representative Bell (D-Mo) was reelected.

Democrats Hold Margin Of Power In Congress

By The Associated Press
WASHINGTON, Nov. 8.—Democrats held a sizeable margin of control in the Senate and piled up a considerable numerical majority in the House, latest election returns showed tonight.

Shortage Of Big Shells Forces Rationing

Addressing workers of the John T. Hepburn war plant, Higgins said shells for the 240-mm or eight-inch guns—those used to knock out the super fortifications of the Germans' West Wall—were rationed to a limited number a day.

MEADOWS GRANTED 60-DAY TRIAL STAY

KINSTON, Nov. 8.—(P)—Judge Clawson Williams, presiding over Lenoir County Superior court, tonight granted a 60-day postponement in the trial date of Dr. Leon Meadows, former head of East Carolina Teachers college, and set the new trial date for January 19, 1945.

Dr. Meadows, charged in Pitt county with 19 counts of embezzlement and false pretense growing out of the handling of college and student funds, was scheduled to be tried at a special term of court ordered by Governor Broughton to begin at Greenville Monday.

Judge Williams had been appointed by the governor to try the case. Counsel for Meadows presented affidavits at the hearing to show that their audit of the college books had not been completed and that at least 90 days more would be needed to complete their defense.

Fifth district Solicitor D. M. Clark, who opposed the postponement, contended that no more time was needed and that the case should be tried "in accordance with the governor's wishes" as soon as possible.

In granting the request for postponement, Judge Williams said he hoped the governor would reason him to try the case, adding that 60 days would be all he could allow the defense in preparing its case.

Defense attorneys and prosecution alike went on record favoring the appointment of Judge Williams to preside over the trial at its new date.

Appearing for Dr. Meadows were Judge Alvin Dunn, chief of his counsel staff, of Greenville; H. C. Carter of Washington, John Dawson of Kinston, and Frank Wall, an auditor who was appointed to examine the college books.

Solicitor Clark was assisted by J. A. Jones of Kinston, special prosecutor, and J. H. Harrell of (Continued on Page Three; Col. 5)

'Roosevelt—Tree Grower,' Casts His Ballot



Accompanied by a guard, President Roosevelt, who listed himself as "Franklin D. Roosevelt—tree grower," is shown emerging from a Hyde Park voting booth after casting his ballot in the national election. (The president raises Christmas trees. (AP wirephoto.)

North Carolina Vote Running Ahead Of Forecasts; Amendments Approved

ALLIED BOMBERS HIT OIL SUPPLY

LONDON, Nov. 8.—(P)—Allied heavy bombers hit twice today at Nazi oil production.

An American force of more than 350 fortresses and Liberators, accompanied by more than 850 fighter planes spilling for a fight west back to the Merseburg area and bombed the Leuna synthetic oil works. They encountered neither strong enemy fighter opposition nor heavy flak.

RAF Lancasters concentrated a plant of bombs on the synthetic oil plant at Homberg, in the Huh, and left great clouds of smoke hiding the factory. They met 12 enemy fighters, but anti-aircraft fire was intense.

Both Merseburg, about 100 miles southwest of Berlin, and Homberg were attacked last Thursday.

The RAF assault was designed to interrupt repair work on the Homberg plant, which had a normal capacity of about 16,000 tons a month. A clear patch over the target allowed visual bombing.

American Bombers Hit Jap Destroyer

GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Philippines, Thursday, Nov. 9.—(P)—Mitchell medium bombers hit and damaged a Japanese destroyer off Mindanao in the southern Philippines, Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced today in a communique supplement covering air actions of the past 24 hours.

West of the Leyte invasion scene Liberators and fighters ranged over Cebu, Negros and Panay, destroying 35 enemy planes for certain, probably destroying three others and sinking a 1,000-ton freighter. One bomber and three fighters were lost.

ROOSEVELT ASKS UNION FOR PEACE

HYDE PARK, Nov. 8.—(P)—President Roosevelt, re-elected to a fourth term in the first war-time presidential election since the Civil war, said today "we have again demonstrated to the world that democracy is a living, vital force."

Presidential Secretary Stephen Early distributed this statement from the President late this afternoon:

"For the first time in 80 years we have held a national election in the midst of war.

"What is really important is that after all of the changes and vicissitudes of four scores years, we have again demonstrated to the world that democracy is a living, vital force, that our faith in American institutions is unshaken, that conscience and not force is the source of power in the government of man.

"To that faith let us unite to win the war and to achieve a lasting peace."

Early said "bundles of telegrams and messages" arrived at the President's Hyde Park estate today. "Many of them contained the phrase, 'isolationism is dead,'" he said.

Early made public this message received by the President from Secretary of State Cordell Hull, now undergoing a physical check-up in a Navy hospital at Washington:

"I extend my warmest felicitations on your re-election to the presidency.

"Under your wise leadership our country will reeducate itself, united and strong, to the attainment of complete and speedy victory over our enemies, and to the establishment of a just and lasting peace.

"The kindest personal regards and best wishes."

COUNTY STRONG FOR ROOSEVELT

By a vote of more than three to one, New Hanover counties Tuesday gave their support to Franklin D. Roosevelt in his race for a fourth term in the White House against Thomas L. Dewey, the Republican candidate.

The county, which in 1940 gave Roosevelt more than a five to one majority over Wendell Willkie and in 1936 a seven to one majority over Landon, yesterday gave him a total of 9,444 votes against 2,821 votes for Dewey with all 18 precincts reporting.

Tuesday's vote set an all-time high for the county, according to H. G. Carney, chairman of the county board of elections. He reported that 12,441 of the 18,743 registered voters dropped ballots in boxes, giving a 66 per cent vote. In 1940 a previous high of 10,923 was set and in 1938 it was 9,012.

The presence of many Democrats for Dewey was espied in the results. The largest vote given any Republican candidate other than Dewey was with 17 of the 18 precincts heard from, 1,245 given George L. Green, opponent of L. Y. Ballentine for Lieutenant Governor of the state. Deducting that number from Dewey's vote of 2,821 leaves 1,576 people who apparently voted for Dewey for (Continued on Page Nine; Col. 4)

More Women Will Enter Forthcoming Congress

WASHINGTON, Nov. 8.—(P)—The weaker sex will be stronger in numbers in the forthcoming 79th congress.

Election returns disclose an increase in the seven house seats now held by women. Eight feminine candidates have been elected and three more still are in the running.

Furthermore, the feminine contingent will divide more evenly in partisanship, the count now showing four or more democrats and four to five republicans. One democrat woman and six republicans are sitting in the 78th house.

Two democratic newcomers definitely go on the roster, a third apparently wins a place, two challengers still are to be heard from. Democratic incumbent and dean of congresswomen, Rep. Mary T. Norton of New Jersey was seen re-elected as have been four of (Continued on Page Three; Col. 5)

Party Makes Clean Sweep In Election

GAINS 3 GOVERNORS

Electoral College Vote Stands, Roosevelt 413, Dewey 118

By The Associated Press
Momentum of a massive vote boosted the Democratic strength in Congress today (Thursday) and gave the White House added power to combat tricky problems of war and peace.

And, as the popular vote from Tuesday's election rolled toward the 50,000,000 mark President Roosevelt declared the balloting had shown the world that "democracy is a living, vital force."

Thomas E. Dewey, obviously relieved that the political scrap was over for 1944, attributed his defeat entirely to the war. But he had held the president to the narrow margin of popular votes since the Wilson-Hughes race of 1916.

Late last night the 44,065,730 ballots tabulated were divided this way: Roosevelt, 23,437,275. Dewey, 20,628,720.

The difference, 2,808,554, compared with 591,385 in the 1916 election.

And, if it was any solace to him, Dewey amassed a bigger vote in the solid south than did Wendell L. Willkie four years ago. The southern states went Democratic, of course.

Republican leaders in Louisiana were so set up about the showing there that they even began discussing the chances of establishing a two-party political system in the state.

The Republican presidential nominee, heading back to Albany from New York City, found one thing to be happy about in defeat. He told a news conference it was the "high confidence the people expressed in the state government."

And he was pleased, too, about the manner in which his foreign policy views had obtained support within his own party.

But the Roosevelt administration saw the democrats retain their majority in a Senate which will (Continued on Page Three; Col. 4)

SOLDIERS DISCUSS ELECTION OUTCOME

WITH THE U. S. FIRST ARMY IN GERMANY, Nov. 8.—(P)—With the presidential election decided, the strict Army censorship which has prevented any sort of poll or questioning of the troops on its political aspects was relaxed today.

(A dispatch from Rome said Army Public Relations officers there notified correspondents that the War department had ruled soldiers could not be quoted on political aspects of the election.)

In the areas around Aachen GIs discussed the election, many of them expressing approval of President Roosevelt's re-election. Up in the front lines where the doughboys are battling Germans there was not a great deal of interest because those men are (Continued on Page Nine; Col. 4)