

FORECAST
Highest temperature about 46 degrees today with gentle to moderate winds. Yesterday's temperatures: High, 53.5—Low, 40.8.

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Senate Commerce Group Rejects Wallace; Russians Kill Or Capture 381,330 Nazis; German Resistance West Of Roer Collapses

Push Reaches Danzig, Seals East Prussia

Germans Claim That Red Army Now Is 91 Miles From Berlin

LONDON, Saturday, Jan. 27.—(AP)—The Soviet High Command announced last night that the Red Army has killed or captured more than 381,330 Germans in its two-week-old winter offensive, which yesterday rolled on unchecked through the big industrial city of Hindenburg in Silesia, reached the Danzig Free State frontier, and cut off East Prussia with a thrust to the Baltic coast.

From 20 to 25 Nazi divisions—perhaps 200,000 Germans—now are trapped in East Prussia.

Outflanking Poznan, big Polish strongholds, the Russians also crossed the Warta river 10 miles south of the city and speared to within 136 miles of Berlin with the capture of Mosina. This was the closest approach to the Reich capital yet announced by the Soviet command.

North of Poznan the Russians took Rogozno, only 20 miles from the German frontier and 140 miles northeast of Berlin; other units striking toward the coveted Reich capital from the southeast in Silesia were only 143 miles away.

A special Russian communique announced the staggering losses inflicted on the Germans in the gigantic offensive between January 12, when it began at the Vistula river bridgehead below Warsaw, and January 24.

Moscow said that five Russian armies had killed more than 295,000 Germans in that period and captured 86,330 and also had destroyed or captured 592 planes, 2,965 tanks and self-propelled guns, 7,386 mortars, 20,019 machineguns, 34,619 trucks as well as vast quantities of other war material.

The Germans said without Soviet confirmation that other Russian units had raced around both sides of besieged Poznan on the direct route through western Poland, snatching close to the Brandenburg province frontier. The nearest point to the German capital on this border is 91 miles due east.

On the 15th day of their powerful winter offensive the Russians were reported to have driven closer to the rim of besieged Breslau, Silesian capital, to have crossed the upper Oder river defense line and broken into Brieg, on the west bank 22 miles to the southeast, and to have fought their way into Hainburg, five miles east of fallen Hindenburg, whose normal population is 126,000.

Moscow radio said that Breslau, Germany's eighth city and the center of its ninth, had been "isolated" with the Russians cutting off all direct communications inland, and also said that the Oder river had been crossed at several points.

The banks of the Oder swiftly are becoming the scene of the lost battle of Germany as the Red Army approaches the inner heart of Germany, the broadcast added. Berlin said Russian troops in northern Poland had crossed the Oderberg canal west of Bydgoszcz (Bromberg), indicating that Marshal Zhukov's First White Russian Army units now were sweeping northward into the Polish Corridor to widen the salient between the German homeland and the cut-off Junkers province of East Prussia. Torun, Vistula river stronghold 41 miles southeast of Bydgoszcz, was surrounded, Berlin said. The east bank Vistula river communication centers of Chelmono, Grudziadz and Marienwerder to the north were being attacked as the Russians hurled the enemy back against the river and sought to break into the Polish corridor from the east.

Premier-Marshals Stalin announced the brilliant new gains of the Red Army as Moscow's 224 guns began firing victory salvos.

King Reported Ready For General Election In Canada Parliament

OTTAWA, Jan. 26.—(AP)—Prime Minister W. L. Mackenzie King has made a "practically final" decision to dissolve Parliament and call a general election in Canada toward the end of March or during the first week of April, the Ottawa Journal said today.

Such a step would be an indirect result of Canada's conscription problem. Although King has stated frequently that he did not want to hold a general election during the war, recent developments have altered the situation.

After surviving the conscription crisis of last November, the King government decided to seek a seat in the House of Commons for its new defense minister, General A. G. L. McNaughton, in a by-election in the Ontario constituency of Grey-North on February 5. The two leading opposition parties, the Progressive Conservatives and the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation, decided to contest the election.

The deadline for withdrawing from the contest is next Monday. Both opposition parties have indicated they intend to stay in the race.

ANTI-UNION LAW BATTLE LOOMING

Southern Senators Want To Prove Government Master Of Labor

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—(UP)—The work-or-jail bill goes before the House for action next week facing what some Southern Democrats promised would be a stiff fight to amend an anti-closed shop amendment to demonstrate whether the Government or unionism is "master of this country."

Insistence that the May-Bailey bill be amended so that a man drafted for war industry could be forced into a labor union against his will, came from two Southern Democrats, Reps. Eugene E. Cox, Ga., and Howard W. Smith, Va. Both have been prominently identified in the past with legislation designed to curb labor's powers.

They served their warning as the House rules committee—Cox is acting chairman and Smith a member—gave the measure a green light for floor consideration.

Cox and Smith said they would support the bill but that they would wage a stiff fight to have re-instated the controversial Andrews anti-closed shop amendment deleted during final consideration by the House Military Affairs Committee. The bill is designed to bring into war plants those men between 18 and 45 who are not now directly aiding the war effort. Those who refused the direction of their local draft boards into specified plants in their own or other areas would face up to \$10,000 fine, five years' imprisonment, or both—the same penalty exacted from violators of the Selective Service law.

Reds Accused Of Failure To Aid Warsaw Patriots

LONDON, Jan. 26.—(UP)—The first survivor of last summer's tragic rising of Polish patriots in Warsaw to reach London today accused the Russian army—then drawn up across the almost dry Vistula—of abandoning its offensive against the Germans when the insurgency broke out inside the Polish capital.

Lt. Jan Nowak, the man who carried the orders for the uprising from London to Warsaw, said the Polish patriots, led by Gen. Bor (Tadeusz Komorowski), began their fight through "unimaginable hell" when the rumble of Russian artillery fighting the Germans east of the Vistula echoed through Warsaw last August 1. Russian patrols, he said, had actually reached Praga, Warsaw suburb on the Vistula's east bank.

U. S. Reported Victor In Big Naval Battle

Chinese Agency Claims 50 Jap Ships Sunk In Pacific

PEARL HARBOR, Jan. 26.—(UP)—The Chinese press reported today, without confirmation from any official source, that units of the American and Japanese fleets fought a major naval engagement Tuesday in the East China Sea 300 miles from Shanghai, and that 50 enemy vessels were sunk off the Central China coast during the past fortnight.

Sao Tang Pao, Chinese army newspaper published in Chungking, said the naval engagement, described as the biggest since the second battle of the Philippines last October, lasted nine hours.

Japanese forces broke off the battle at noon, the newspaper said, and fled toward their homeland, approximately 650 miles to the northeast.

Although the Chinese reports drew no response at Pacific Fleet Headquarters, observers pointed out that surface naval actions are not announced here until battle reports arrive.

The news from China, plus recent carrier raids on Formosa, Ryukyus, the Indo-China and China coasts lent emphasis to Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz' avowed intention of carrying the war to the enemy during 1945.

Central (Chinese) news agency reported in a dispatch datelined Nanking that Allied submarines and planes, conducting a "very active" campaign have sent 50 Japanese ships to the bottom off the coasts of Fukien and Chekiang province in the last two weeks.

Central said recent repeated Allied bombings have forced the Japanese garrisons at Amoy, Foochow and Quemoy to move to the suburbs of the cities and to remove their arms and supplies to places of safety.

There were other indications of Japanese fears that the Allies may attempt a landing on the central China coast. Japanese civilians have been concentrated at Amoy, a Fukien port south of Foochow, presumably to await evacuation, Central reported.

Sao Tang Pao said the naval engagement began at 3 a. m. (China time) off Yungkai (Wenchow) and Pingyang on the China Coast some 250 miles south of Shanghai and 200 miles north of Formosa. The newspaper said gunfire was audible at Pingyang.

In Chungking, a Chinese military spokesman said the Japanese were increasing the strength of their garrisons at several Central China coast cities, and were attempting to overrun American and Chinese air bases in southeast China, just behind the coast line.

His apparent intent was to leave the degree of fuel curtailment in such places up to local decision, based on the availability of supplies.

The order from Secretary Ickes, solid fuels administrator asked close controls over home deliveries in the area affected by a storm-caused embargo on non-war railroad freight. The rule was no deliveries to anybody having more than five days supply, and then only one ton or seven days supply.

Japanese Guns Shell Yanks At Clark Field

First Real Enemy Resistance Encountered About 50 Miles Above Manila; No New Advances By U. S. Reported

GEN. MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Luzon, Saturday, Jan. 27.—(UP)—The Japanese are offering their first determined opposition to the 18-day-old American southward drive on Luzon toward Manila less than 50 miles above the capital, and are shelling Clark Field, great air base now in American hands, from the neighboring hills, Gen. Douglas MacArthur disclosed today.

After reporting only patrol brushes with the Japanese in the march toward Manila, MacArthur's Saturday communique said in the area of Maj. Gen. Oscar W. Griswold's 14th Corps, "our units are encountering resistance south of the Bamban river."

The Bamban, which lies above Clark Field, intersects Highway three, one of the two main routes from the north into Manila, at a

Many Civilian Employees Will Be Needed At Davis

Several hundred jobs for civilians at Camp Davis will be opened for application after February 7, it was announced yesterday by Peter A. Reavis, supervising interviewer in charge of the Grace Street office of the United States Employment Service. He made the statement on behalf of the United States Service of Civilian Personnel branch as well as his own organizations.

SHORTAGE OF COAL CLOSES SCHOOLS IN NORTHEAST STATES

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—(AP)—A coal shortage so severe it closed some schools and threatened more brought drastic fuel limitation orders today for homes as well as amusement places in the winter-struck Northeastern states.

The Solid Fuels Administration specifically denied that it was ordering closure of any schools, C. J. Potter, deputy administrator, saying its order "does not contemplate the closing of any schools if they have coal or can get coal. If they have ample fuel, it would be silly to shut down."

But Mayor Frank S. Harris in Albany, N. Y., ordered schools as well as libraries, museums, night clubs, theaters and bowling alleys to close Sunday until further notice.

And Potter's telegram to city officials in Washington, D. C., St. Louis, and 16 states and part of another east and south of the Great Lakes said:

"During the emergency period these officials are also urged to do everything within their power to curtail or eliminate the use of solid fuels in places of amusement such as theatres, moving picture houses, bowling alleys, night clubs, and in educational institutions such as libraries, museums, public or private, where this can be done without endangering the health of the community."

Col. Roosevelt's Record In War To Determine His Promotion, Senators Say

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—(UP)—Col. Elliott Roosevelt's nomination to be a temporary brigadier general will be considered on the basis of his military record without reference to the high priority plane ride of his dog, Blize, it appeared today.

Chairman Elbert D. Thomas (D-Utah) said the Senate Military Affairs Committee would take up the promotion of the President's son Tuesday. He observed that Elliott's military record "is very fine so far as the Army is concerned," and said the promotion would be considered on its merits.

Thomas J. Pendergast, Kansas City Political Boss, Is Dead At 72

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Jan. 26.—(UP)—Thomas J. Pendergast, whose great political dynasty ruled Missouri for years, collapsed around his head when he went to jail for income tax evasion, died tonight. He was 72.

Seventh Army Erases Foe's Alsace Gains

Allies Take Up Assault Positions 25 Miles From Dusseldorf

PARIS, Jan. 26.—(AP)—All German resistance collapsed today west of the Roer river system at the gateway to the prize Ruhr industrial valley and the U. S. Ninth and British Second Armies—with 35 miles of the Westwall behind them—seized assault positions only 25 miles from Dusseldorf.

The Ninth broke a six-week lull and pushed to the Roer on a five-mile front a the U. S. Seventh Army far to the south threw a new German drive into reverse, erased all its northern Alsatian gains and lifted the threat to Strasbourg by driving the enemy back across the Moselle river.

By nightfall the fighting had dwindled to sporadic machine and rifle fire along the entire 20-mile front.

The U. S. First and Third Armies crushed virtually the last of the Ardennes wedge in Belgium and Luxembourg.

The Third Army pushed eastward to a number of points where the enemy's December offensive kicked off, moved its lines up to within a mile or two of the German frontier along most of the Luxembourg front, and put five divisions on a ridge-top highway overlooking the Westwall.

The First Army to the north captured five more towns and edged eastward within two and a half to five miles of Germany against such light resistance that it was asserted officially that German troop shifts to meet the Russians definitely had relaxed pressure in the west.

In southern Alsace, French and American troops of the French First Army fought into Houssen, three miles north of Comar, for the closest approach yet made to that stronghold in the Rhineland pocket. Other ground lost to counterattacks in this area was rewon.

On the front north of Aachen, Lt. Gen. William H. Simpson's Ninth Army in a pre-dawn attack found the Germans had pulled out west of the Roer and reached the river 11 miles inside the Reich with such ease that a scheduled artillery barrage was cancelled.

At the same time, Scottish patrols of the British Second Army mopped up the remainder of the sector to the north all the way to the stronghold of Roermond, where the Roer joins the Maas.

The combined action gave the Allies a firm hold on the west bank of the Roer and its tributaries from Roermond on a giant arc to the area of Monschau.

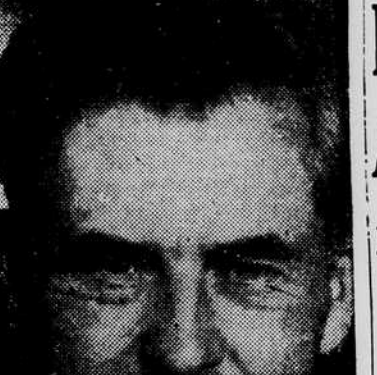
Roermond is 27 miles northwest of Aachen and Monschau is 19 miles southeast of the city.

Behind them was a 35-mile stretch of the Siegfried line, with its pillboxes and rows of concrete dragons teeth by which the Germans had hoped to balk any drive from the west along the historic invasion routes to the Reich.

Lennon Urges 'Caution' In LeGrand Opposition

Extreme caution in any attempt to "embarrass" Rep. J. Q. LeGrand in his support of the City extension bill before a State Legislature committee this week was urged last night by leading spirits in an anti-extension meeting of the Suburban Association.

REJECTED



Henry A. Wallace

OPA SCHEDULES POINT VALIDITY

Each Block Of Stamps To Be Good Four Months Under New Plan

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—(AP)—Acting to allay fear of another sudden invalidation, the OPA today set forth for housewives a definite policy on cancellation of food ration stamps.

Hereafter, the agency announced, red stamps for meats and fats and blue for processed foods will expire four months from the date of issuance. This replaces the program of indefinite validity for these coupons which had been in effect since last spring.

Sugar stamps also were given fixed expiration dates again. Number 34, now in use, will be invalid after January 28. The next sugar stamp, number 35, will be valid February 1 for five pounds and remain good through June 2. Sugar stamp number 36 is scheduled for validation May 1.

OPA will continue to validate a new series of red and blue stamps at the start of each month, usually five of each color at a time. Since they will be good for four months, this means that four blocks of each kind always will be in use, expiring on a staggered basis.

The first red and blue stamps to expire under the new system will be those which came into use December 1 and 3, respectively. They will not be valid after March 31. They include: Red—Q5, R5, and S5; Blue—X5, Y5, Z5, A2, and B2.

The new policy clears up uncertainty which has prevailed since late last month, when OPA invalidated without warning all food stamps put in use prior to the start of December.

Housewives have been promised advance warning of any cancellation, but the agency said the emergency measure was warranted because food supplies were at a dangerously low level.

The new program, OPA said, was (Continued on Page Two; Col. 3)

Plan To Take RFC From Job Also Approved

Roosevelt Handed Double Rebuff On His Political 'Reward'

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—(UP)—The Senate Commerce Committee, handing President Roosevelt one of the sharpest rebuffs in his 12-year administration, today voted against his nomination of former Vice President Henry A. Wallace to be Secretary of Commerce and approved a bill to keep the vast lending powers of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and associated agencies from falling into Wallace's hands.

The double rebuff to Mr. Roosevelt's political "reward" appointment was administered at a two-hour closed session of the committee which voted 14-to-5 against the nomination and 15-to-4 in favor of the bill to separate the Government's multi-billion-dollar lending agencies from the Commerce Department.

Completing its humiliation of the President and Wallace, the committee rejected by an 11-to-6 vote a motion by Wallace-supporters to place the nomination before the Senate without any recommendation. As a result, the nomination will go before the Senate with a notation that it had received an "adverse" report from the committee.

Chairman Josiah W. Bailey, D., N. C., said that both the nomination and the bill by Sen. Walter F. George, D., Ga., would be placed before the Senate Monday, but he declined to predict when the Senate would act.

The committee action was at least a temporary triumph for Wallace's No. one enemy—Jesse H. Jones—who was fired by Mr. Roosevelt to make way for Wallace. Jones appeared before the committee Wednesday and testified that he believed Wallace incompetent to handle the two jobs which Jones himself has administered jointly since 1942.

Wallace told the committee Thursday that he was qualified to handle both jobs, but said he would take the Commerce post with or without the lending portfolio.

The adverse action on the nomination came as somewhat of a surprise since it was believed that it would be approved if the committee approved the George bill.

Some construed the votes as double insurance by Wallace foes against any effort to hand him control of the lending agencies—one of the chief reasons behind the opposition to making him Secretary of Commerce.

If the lending agencies are separated from the Commerce Department, it is believed that much of the opposition to Wallace's confirmation to the cabinet post will evaporate—despite claims by some opposition forces that they have enough strength in the Senate to beat Wallace either way.

Anti-Wallace strategy apparently is to hold up Senate action until it is certain that nothing will happen to the George bill. The measure seems certain of passage in the House or vetoed by Mr. Roosevelt, the Wallace opposition then apparently would call up the committee's "adverse" report on the nomination and thus seek to deprive Wallace not only of the lending agency post but the Commerce job as well.

So intense was interest in the battle over the Wallace appointment that all 19 members of the Commerce committee participated in the voting.

Republican members lined up solidly against Wallace on all three votes. They were Sens. Hiram Jonson, Calif.; Arthur H. Vandenberg, Mich.; Owen Brewster, Me.; Harold H. Burton, Ohio; Alexander Wiley, Wis.; Edward V. Robertson, Wyo.; Guy Cordon, Ore., and C. Wayland Brooks, Ill.

They were joined by Democratic Sens. Md., N. C., George L. Radcliffe, Md.; W. Lee O'Daniel, Tex.; Pat McCarran, Nev.; Albert B. Chandler, Ky., and John L. Mc-

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 3)