

Clear and partly cloudy and slightly warmer today with northwest to north winds. Yesterday's temperatures: High, 45—Low, 31.

Wilmington Morning Star

REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR AND BATAAN

Nazis Report Russians 45 Miles From Coal; Berlin Resider Hear Thunder Of Red Guns; French, Americans Open New Alsatian Drive

House Bans Anti-Union Amendment

Way Is Paved For Speedy Passage Of National Service Law

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31.—(P)—The House took its longest and most important stride toward passage of a limited National Service bill today. Two amendments some members had feared would jeopardize the whole bill were firmly rejected.

In succession, the membership turned down the proposals that a "closed shop" war plant need not join the union; and that race, creed or color should not be a condition of employment.

Disposition of the two explosive issues left nothing in the way of final approval except a host of less-controversial amendments, generally considered as minor.

There was a likelihood, though, that a record vote would be forced on the anti-closed shop proposal when the bill comes up for final action probably tomorrow.

Indications were that the 178 to 142 vote today would be sustained. As it neared the end of its run in the House, the legislation provides that local draft boards may "freeze" men between the ages of 18 through 45 in essential jobs or direct them to move into jobs declared essential by the Director of War Mobilization.

A majority of Democrats backed the amendment of Rep. Wadsworth (R-N.Y.) to provide that no man taking a job in accordance with the bill should be required, as a condition of employment, to join a union. But sufficient Republicans joined a majority of Democrats to defeat the amendment.

The vote on the so-called FEPC amendment, intended to give statutory backing to the program of the Fair Employment Practices Committee set up to prevent employment discrimination because of race, creed or color, followed party lines fairly closely. Most Republicans supported it, with Democrats almost unanimously against it.

Through parliamentary steps, a record vote may be obtained on the labor amendment, although there was likely for the FEPC proposal, offered by Rep. Clason (R-Mass.).

New York's new Negro member, Rep. Powell, a Democrat, called the amendment a "deep partisan trick to play on racial prejudice" in order to defeat the bill.

Spinster Drops Dead, Two Sisters Perish In Freezing Cold Weather

FREDERICK, Md., Jan. 31.—(UP)—Three elderly spinster sisters—Ellen, Fannie and Lillie Flinn—today were found dead under circumstances indicating that a brain hemorrhage suffered by one indirectly caused the deaths of the others.

The triple tragedy was discovered by a clerk delivering groceries. He found the frozen body of Ellen, 78, on a snowbank path near her home and called the police who entered the house and found the bodies of her sisters.

Reconstructing the tragedy, authorities determined that Fannie, 78, suffered a fatal brain hemorrhage.

Ellen rushed to summon aid, but slipped and fell on the icy path and, unable to arise, froze to death in the seven-above-zero temperature.

Lillie, 75 and bed-ridden, died from exposure when the unattended fire went out. Clothed only in an undergarment, her body was found on the floor of a second-floor room.

Nursery Fire Takes Lives Of 16 Babies

AUBURN, Me., Jan. 31.—(UP)—Sixteen tiny tots and a middle-aged nurse-maid died in their beds early today when a boarding home for babies was demolished by fire and tonight authorities began an investigation to fix the ultimate responsibility for this Downeast disaster.

In perhaps 30 horror-filled minutes just as the wintry dawn was breaking, a flash fire belched through the story-and-a-half dwelling and only eight of the 25 occupants reached the safety of the snowy dooryard.

These eight included two infants, two nursemaids, Mrs. Eva La Coste, the owner, and her three young sons. But of these none could tell more than that the fire started in the kitchen which contained among other things a wood-burning range.

Mrs. Blanche Tanguay, a sister of the owner, gave the first alarm when she went to the kitchen to get milk for one of the babies and found the "whole ceiling of the kitchen on fire."

Mrs. La Coste said she sprang from her bed after being aroused by "an explosion." But with both arms burned and confined to bed at neighbor's house under opiates she could only mutter deliriously: "The babies... get the babies. They're burning. They're all burning up."

Plumes spouted from every door and window when the first firemen reached the scene after a perilous trip over ice-glazed roads.

"We carried out babies—God, I don't know how many babies," said Fire Chief Ralph B. Harmon, his face stained by smoke and tears. It was fully 20 minutes before the flames were quelled sufficiently to permit firemen to enter, said Chief Harmon in a voice that broke again and again as he recounted the sights he saw within.

"I put my hand on a baby's face and it was plumb cold," he said. "We got two babies out of the front room and eight out of the next room."

"Then we lost count. We kept lugging them out, one after another. "If you had ever been through it—lugging out dead baby after dead baby—you wouldn't be able to describe it."

The heads of some of the dead babies had been thrust through the slats of the cribs, as though they had tried to escape, Chief Harmon said.

Some of the infants slept on the first floor, some in the section of the second and others in an ell that recently was built to accommodate the multitude.

In the shambles of smashed cribs water-soaked bedding and other wreckage were charred and dully bears, rattles and soft woolly dolls that peered out grotesquely. The

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Self Service Heat



While her husband is busy helping fight a war, Mrs. Laura Breen, of Brooklyn, N. Y., is doing her share on the home front. She is shown carrying a bag of coal that she had just obtained at an emergency depot for her home.

WALLACE BACKERS SEEK COMPROMISE

Barkley Calls Conference Of Democrats Before Showdown

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31.—(P)—Majority Leader Barkley today summoned Democratic senators to an emergency conference in an eleven-hour effort to compromise the disputed Henry Wallace Cabinet appointment.

The Democrats, split wide open over the issue of granting the former vice president power as the government's chief loan agent as well as the Commerce secretaryship, are to meet at 10 a. m. tomorrow, two hours before the Senate convenes for what may be the stormiest meeting of the new session.

The importance which the Democrats attach to tomorrow's caucus was emphasized by the fact that Barkley will have to leave a sickbed to marshal his forces for the widely heralded parliamentary dispute. The Kentuckian has been

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Yanks Seize Entire Front Naval Bases At Olangapo

Other Forces Capture Calumpit, 28 Miles From Manila

GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Luzon, Thursday, Feb. 1.—(P)—In a series of significant successes, Eighth Army troops have captured Olangapo which already is being developed as a Naval base in Subic Bay and have landed on an island at the bay's entrance while the Sixth Army seized Calumpit and crossed the Pampanga river, 28 miles from Manila.

The successes were announced today by Gen. Douglas MacArthur. The surge of the Sixth into Calumpit, in an advance of 13 miles southward down Pampanga province, carried motorized units of the 14th Army Corps safely through a narrow stretch of land compressed between two swamps. Beyond, the plains open wide to Manila with no good defenses for the Nipponese in between.

While the Yanks of Lt. Gen. Robert Eichelberger thus advanced more than 20 miles from Monday's beachheads on the Zambales coast to win Olangapo, Sixth Army columns rolled 10 miles southward to San Fernando toward a juncture with the Eighth which would seal off Bataan peninsula.

The two army elements are pushing toward each other along a winding road of 60 miles from the Zambales coast to San Fernando. Other Eighth Army units landed on Grande Island at the entrance of Subic Bay, whose waters can supply the U. S. Seventh Fleet a fine base on the very fringes of Manila Bay.

The Yanks were on the move in all sectors. They cleaned out enemy pockets at Fort Stotsenburg. They punched closer to the summer capital of Baguio to the north. They seized highway junctions near the foothills of the Sierra Madre range flanking the Luzon plains on the east, thus severing enemy routes of retreat.

Seizure of Olangapo gave the Americans a drydock and extensive ship repair facilities.

At Calumpit, scene of a gallant stand by Americans and Filipinos at the start of the war, the Americans secured bridges spanning the Pampanga river.

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House-To-House Fight For City Is Expected

Germans Forcing Civilians Into Home Guard; Prussian Officers Reported Deserting; New Blood Purge By Nazis Rumored

LONDON, Jan. 31.—(UP)—The rumble of Russian guns was reported audible in Berlin tonight as indications increased that Adolf Hitler had determined to defend the city along Stalingrad lines.

Radio Paris gave the report that the terrified, homeless refugees in Berlin along with the city's own people could hear the roar of guns as the Red army captured Landsberg, only 67 miles to the east, with its spearheads thrusting steadily closer.

(Stockholm dispatches quoted by the BBC said that the German High Command was expected to declare Berlin formally a fortified city, to be defended street by street.)

Hitler, in his anniversary speech last night, had called on every German to rally to the country's defense. Today, German radios ordered stragglers in the path of the Russian advance to report to the nearest Volkssturm unit for service and threatened that "cowards" who wished to desert would be killed.

(A British broadcast recorded by the FCC reported that high German officers, abandoning their men, were leaving East Prussia by plane.

(CBS heard a Paris broadcast reporting that for the second time in two weeks a mayor of Breslau had been shot for cowardice. The first mayor was shot for trying to desert his post. Paris, quoting a German broadcast, said that his successor had been executed for the same reason.

(CBS reported from Stockholm also a new blood purge in Germany. (Continued on Page Three, Col. 3)

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Soviets Take Beyersdorf In Fast Advance

German Report Places Invaders North Of Frankfurt-On-Oder

LONDON, Thursday, Feb. 1.—(UP)—The Red Army, dashing unchecked across the frozen approaches to Berlin, was 63 miles from the Nazi capital by its own account today and a scant 45 according to the alarmed German radio.

The Soviet communique late last night announced the capture of Beyersdorf, 63 miles northeast of Berlin—a distance equal to that from Philadelphia to Newark, N. J. This represented a 10-mile advance in 24 hours for Marshal Zhukov's First White Russian Army, which took the big communications center of Landsberg in passing.

One report from the German radio placed Marshal Zhukov's men north of Frankfurt-on-the-Oder in the Oder river valley, not more than 45 miles from the capital, and driving on Kustrin, a rail center 41 miles east of Berlin, scarcely more than the distance from Washington to Baltimore.

The Soviet communique reported continued advances along the entire eastern front, from East Prussia, where surrounded German divisions were squeezed inside less than one-fifth of the province's territory, to besieged Budapest, where 8,200 prisoners were taken Tuesday.

The Moscow bulletin made no mention of besieged Breslau and the Silesian sector where Marshal Ivan S. Konev's First Ukrainian Army is operating, but the Berlin radio, contending that the line west of Breslau had been stabilized, acknowledged Russian crossings of the Oder at many points in that area and placed the northern end of Konev's line at Sorau, 47 miles inside Germany and 30 miles west of the Oder. Sorau is 84 miles southeast of Berlin.

In the First White Russian Army's sector directly east of Berlin, the Soviet communique announced capture of Topper, 70 miles east of the capital and 11 miles west of Schwebus, a town which fell to Zhukov's army earlier in the day.

The northward spread of the First White Russian Army in Pomerania brought the capture of Flatow, Jastrow and more than 50 other populated places. The thrust to Jastrow represented an advance of 12 miles in a drive which threatened to cut off the greater part of Pomerania from Germany and endangered Stettin, Berlin's port on the Baltic.

West and southwest of Katowice in Polish Silesia, the communique continued, Oderwalde, a town on the Oder river 11 miles inside German Silesia and 28 miles west of Katowice fell to Konev's First Ukrainian Army.

A German Transocean agency broadcast said First White Russian tanks and mobile infantry were locked in battle with German reserves on a 40-mile front from the vicinity of Zielienzig, 62 miles east of Berlin, to the area of Soldin, 58 miles northeast of the Capital. There was no confirmation of

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Yank Dental Officer Braves Shellfire To Pull Soldier's Tooth

WITH THE 43rd INFANTRY DIVISION, Rosario, Luzon, Jan. 31.—(UP)—Capt. John S. Engenberger of Omaha, Neb., a regimental dentist, heard a report that a Yank infantryman was suffering toothache in a foxhole on hotly contested Hill No. 600 near here.

Engenberger crawled and crept half a mile through artillery and sniper fire, found the foxhole and patient, administered novocaine and yanked out the tooth. He offered to evacuate the infantryman but the latter cuddled in his hole and said, "I had rather stay here than go back through what you just came through."

Engenberger crawled back.

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