

NURSES GIVEN DRAFT CHOICE

WASHINGTON, March 6.—(AP)—A provision having the effect of allowing individual nurses to decide for themselves whether they shall be drafted for military service won approval of the House today.

It was one of several major changes made by the House today which will be reported to the Senate tomorrow. A final decision on nurses-draft legislation is expected to be reached in a few days.

Approved by a teller vote of 397 to 99 and subject to a roll call vote tomorrow, the provision requires that drafted nurses must be inducted as commissioned officers.

But the Constitution prohibits compelling anyone to accept a Federal service commission.

Therefore Military Committee members, in fighting the amendment, told the House its effect would be to permit any nurse to reject a proffered commission and thereby not be drafted.

War Department lawyers agreed with this interpretation. Chairman May (D-Ind.) would nullify the compulsory features of the legislation and render it ineffective.

The House struck from the bill a section requiring the induction of Cadet Nurse Corps graduates before non-cadets are drafted and wrote in a prohibition against discrimination because of race, color or creed.

Both actions were taken by roll-call votes.

HIMMLER AT FRONT

LONDON, March 6.—(AP)—An unconfirmed report from Germany, through underground channels, says today that Heinrich Himmler, commander in chief of the Nazi home army, has set himself up as an Eastern Front army group commander under Col. Gen. Gudrian.

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New Committees Named For Community Chest

Announcement of appointments to standing committees of the Community Chest and Council was released yesterday by E. L. White, president.

The executive committee will consist of the four officers and three other members of the board of directors, and will include: Mr. White, E. A. Laney, first vice-president, Ronald Stewart, second vice-president, F. B. Graham, treasurer, D. M. Darden, L. D. Latta, and Paul A. Wilson.

The new budget committee has been enlarged from five to nine members to more evenly distribute the responsibility of this important chest function. L. D. Latta will be the new chairman, and he will be assisted by F. B. Graham, vice-chairman. Other members are Mrs. Herbert Blumenthal, Warren S. Johnson, Thomas B. Lilly, W. D. McCaig, Pomeroy Nichols, Howard A. Penton, and J. G. Thornton. Each member of the committee has been assigned one or more agencies as his or her particular responsibility, and will study the operations of each agency through monthly financial reports.

Harris Newman, first president of the chest, will head a special

committee to make a study of post-war chest problems and establish adequate safeguards for the unexpended funds raised during the last three chest campaigns. Working with Mr. Newman will be J. Holmes Davis, Sr., Dr. J. D. Freeman, Dr. Jos. W. Hooper, E. A. Laney, W. D. McCaig, Charles B. Parmele, J. G. Thornton and Frederick Willetts. The finance committee also has been enlarged. Thomas H. Wright is the new chairman, and W. Eugene Edwards, the other new member. They will be assisted by L. C. Robertson, Alex Sprunt and J. Walter Webb, members of the committee last year. They will review periodically the list of delinquent subscribers and establish policies regarding collection procedures to be followed by the chest office.

A new public relations committee has been established this year with Rabbi M. M. Thurman as chairman, and W. B. Bryan, Walter J. Cartier, R. A. Dunlap, H. R. Emory as members. This committee will endeavor to establish a unified year-round program of interpretation of the work and accomplishments of the member agencies of the Community Chest.

Obituaries

JUDGE E. K. BRYAN

Funeral services for Judge Egbert Kedar Bryan, 75, former North Carolina Superior court judge and a prominent attorney in the State since 1891, who died Sunday at his home, 11 South Fifth street, were conducted from the residence at 3:30 p. m. yesterday.

The Rev. William Crowe, Jr., pastor of the First Presbyterian church, officiated.

Interment was in Oakdale cemetery.

Active pallbearers were Thomas W. Davis, P. R. Smith, Major Harry Stovall, T. E. Brown, C. B. Parmele, C. D. Maffitt, W. B. Campbell and R. D. Cronly. Honorary pallbearers were members of the New Hanover Mar Association.

He is survived by his widow, who was Miss. Maie O'Connor before her marriage on November 18, 1900.

A. G. SMITH

Funeral services for A. G. Smith, 62, employe of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, will be held at 3 p. m. today at the residence, 804 Dock street, by the Rev. S. L. Blanton and Dr. J. H. Foster. Burial will be in Oakdale cemetery.

Mr. Smith is survived by his widow, Mrs. Edna M. Smith; three sons, A. G. Jr., of Winston-Salem, J. Franklin, of Newport News, Va., and Eugene M. Smith, of Bladenboro; and three grandchildren.

Active pallbearers will be Colin L. Lewis, M. W. Divine, Woodrow Wommack, John H. Tenken, James Swails and B. C. Fussell.

Honorary pallbearers will be B. G. Page, L. F. Gore, J. D. Vann, W. K. Bannerman, B. T. Hopkins and L. C. Robertson.

J. W. QUINN

Funeral services for J. W. Quinn, 63, former Wilmington resident who died Sunday in Baltimore, Md., will be held at 5 p. m. today from the Yopp funeral home. The Rev. G. W. Saunders will officiate, and burial will be in the Williams cemetery on Myrtle Grove Sound.

Mr. Quinn is survived by his widow, Mrs. Eliza Kennedy Quinn; three daughters, Mrs. Addie Mitchell and Mrs. Brennan Hubbard, of Baltimore, and Mrs. Henry Williams of Myrtle Grove sound; one brother, George Quinn, of Newport News, Va.; six grandchildren, Mrs. Everett Greenstreet, Wilson, Irving Ward, Jr., Baltimore, Miss Iris Williams and Miss Betty Anne Williams, Myrtle Grove sound, and Staff Sergeant George Mitchell and Sgt. Joseph Henry Williams, both with the U. S. Army overseas, and several nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers will be Edward Hansley, Joseph Williams, Dwight Grovett, Julian Wilson, Henry Lewis and T. N. Simmons.

MISS MITTIE JONES

Miss Mittie S. Jones died yesterday afternoon at the home of her niece, Mrs. Charles H. Register, 1012 South Fourth street.

She is survived by a brother, J. Hinton Jones, of Tampa, Fla.; a brother-in-law, John A. Yopp; a sister-in-law, Mrs. Eva Jones, both of Wilmington; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral arrangements will be announced later.

Munitions Ship Explodes In Vancouver; At Least Six Men Believed Caught

VANCOUVER, B. C. March 6.—(AP)—Hurling flames and debris hundreds of feet into the air, a 10,000-ton ammunition-loaded freighter exploded in Vancouver harbor today and at least six men were believed trapped in the blazing ship.

The ship, Greenhill Park, tonight had been towed to a beach on the edge of the harbor, but workmen were unable to search for bodies until the twisted, seared hull had cooled.

About 30 members of the steamship's crew of 52 were believed aboard at the time of the blast. A preliminary check accounted for about 24 survivors. 12 of whom were rushed to hospitals with serious injuries.

City Briefs

CHURCH COUNCIL
The Myrtle Grove Presbyterian church council will meet this evening at the home of Earl Bender.

CASE DISMISSED
The case of Jack Rodgers, charged with false pretense, was dismissed in recorder's court yesterday for want of probable cause. He was accused of representing himself as an employe of the Atlantic Tobacco Co., and taking \$30 from R. H. Davis of 301 North tenth street.

FOOD GROUP TO CONFER
A meeting of the local food advisory committee, at 2:30 p. m. Thursday in the Chamber of Commerce office, will be attended by Hillman Moody, Raleigh office representative of the War Food Administration, it was announced last night by Walter J. Cartier, executive secretary of the Chamber.

MIDWEST FLOODS HIT WAR PLANTS

(Continued from Page One)
basements to cities far from the major flooding streams. The Mississippi was rising toward flood levels as far south as Memphis, Tenn. Agricultural counties in western Tennessee faced inundation of several thousand acres of land and provisions for evacuating families from lowland communities were made. The Coast Guard headquarters at Cleveland said it had dispatched communications crews to West Virginia and Kentucky points, and had alerted guardsmen at all Great Lakes stations from Duluth to Buffalo to stand by for duty if necessary.

Big Inch Pipelines Handle 5,940,000 Gallons Monthly

NEW YORK, March 6.—(UP)—The Big Inch pipelines, completed in August, 1943, are supplying more than 5,940,000 barrels of high octane gasoline monthly from east and west Texas oil fields to U. S. fighting men and their allies overseas, the United Press learned today. The pipe lines, largest ever built, have carried 200,750,000 barrels of oil and oil products from Beaumont and Longview, Texas to Phoenixville, Pa., and Linden, N. J., since the first barrel of oil was pumped through the 1,475-mile long Little Big Inch and the 1,245-mile long Big Inch pipelines. The high octane gas, including 100 octane aviation fuel, and 80 and 72 octane gasoline for Navy ships, Army tanks and trucks comes through the 20 inch "Little" pipeline from Beaumont, officials of the War Emergency Pipelines, Inc., said. The 330,000 barrel daily output of the Big Inch, the 24-inch pipeline from Longview, Texas, goes to eight oil refining companies in the Philadelphia and New York areas, which produce military products almost exclusively.

Local Man Wins Renown As Fortress Bombardier

National renown came to the Wilmington bombardier of the Eighth Air Force Flying Fortress this week, along with his fellow crew-members, because of the name his skipper picked to adorn their B-17.

The Wilmington airman is Lt. James Hearn, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. James Hearn, of 1811 Grace street, now training to instruct other bombardiers at Midland, Texas. He returned to the United States last month after completing 35 missions over Axis territory and just in time to greet James Hearn III, who was born January 23.

The pilot responsible for their position in the public eye is Lt. Wally Davis, who appropriately christened his command "Wally's Wagon". This nomenclature trickled back to the United States and caught the eye of Wally Boren, author of a lunch-car chat-column in "This Week", a Sunday supplement syndicated magazine with a circulation of 6,000,000. The name of Boren's five-year old feature is also "Wally's Wagon". Boren went after the story, by mail, and last Sunday produced a two-page write-up, complete with pictures, of the nine men who had flown his column's namesake over Germany's toughest target-cities. Lt. Hearn's mother reports the receipt of one anonymous greeting already. It is expected that more will follow.

Lt. Hearn, a former employe in the Atlantic Coast Line's auditor of freight receipts' office, left Wilmington with the National Guard and served for a year in the Coast Artillery before transferring to the Air Forces.

After leading his cadet classes in radio and bomb-sight studies, and setting an all-time high in marks in Avon Park combat school, he won assignment as a bombardier and left last year to serve with the 305th Bombardment Squadron. He wears the Squadron's Presidential unit citation, as well as a bronze star to show participation in the two largest aerial battles in history thus far.

His wife, the former Delphina Dueso, a native of San Pedro Sula, Honduras, and a one-time air-hostess for TACA airlines, resides currently with the Senior Hearn's.

A Hearn exploit related by Wally Boren was his split-second bombing of a railroad line in Germany without the help of a bomb-sight. He hit it squarely, and explained subsequently by saying "What kind of a railroad man would I be if I couldn't find a railroad?"

BONOMI REGIME FACING CRISIS

(Continued from Page One)

Carabinieri arrived, a bomb exploded in the midst of the crowd, followed by a burst of small arms fire. The crowd surged toward the palace gate, but was held back by foot Carabinieri who formed a human block at the entrance.

A few minutes after a second bomb exploded, American and British military police arrived on the scene and began to patrol the area. It was emphasized that the MPs were there only to see that no Allied soldiers loitered around the area.

The demonstrators carried the body of the slain man to the Viminale and, breaking through a cordon of Carabinieri, placed it in the waiting room. They then lighted candles and draped flags around the body.

The escape Sunday of Roatta, former chief of staff of the Italian army during Mussolini's regime, and today's bloody outbreak plunged the Bonomi government into a political crisis which may topple it.

Apparently in a move to combat the political tension, the government announced the dismissal of Taddeo Orlando as chief of the Carabinieri. Orlando formerly was an army general on Roatta's staff and like Roatta is wanted in Yugoslavia on charges of war crimes. The Communist party has demanded his ouster.

The announcement of the dismissal of Orlando came as the Socialist, Communists and other opposition groups staged the mass protest meeting at the Colosseum. Activity was suspended in all but the most essential industries as the workers attended the gathering.

The government in announcing the removal of Orlando said "chiefs are to be considered responsible for what their subordinates do," suggesting that the police guarding Roatta at the time of his escape was implicated. The government announced that the Ufficio Informazioni (formerly known as the SIM, the secret intelligence agency of the army) would be placed under the direct responsibility of the minister of war. Under Fascism the SIM acquired a political tinge. The announcement said the new action was designed to "make of it an instrument, exclusively military in character."

Fifth Army Takes Hills Dominating Vital Road

ROME March 6.—(AP)—Driving up to a half mile northward through the Apennines on both sides of the Pistola-Bologna highway, U. S. Fifth Army troops have seized two important hills and occupied the hamlet of Bisopra, 13 miles southwest of Bologna, Allied headquarters said today.


The two heights, designated Hill 375 and Hill 374, rise 1,250 feet and with the hamlet make up a line dominating the area between the vital Pistola-Bologna highway

and the alternate Florence-Bologna road. The same troops drove on Hill 481 slightly eastward, but were forced to withdraw to the foot of the peak after suffering casualties in dense minefields and booby traps.

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