

# YOUTH IS KILLED IN TRUCK MISHAP

LUMBERTON, March 10.—William Grady (Mickey) Leviner, 8-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. David F. Leviner, of Lumberton, was killed on Highway 74, one mile west of Evergreen, about 6 o'clock Saturday morning when a truck owned by his father and in which he was riding, struck a tree and overturned on him.

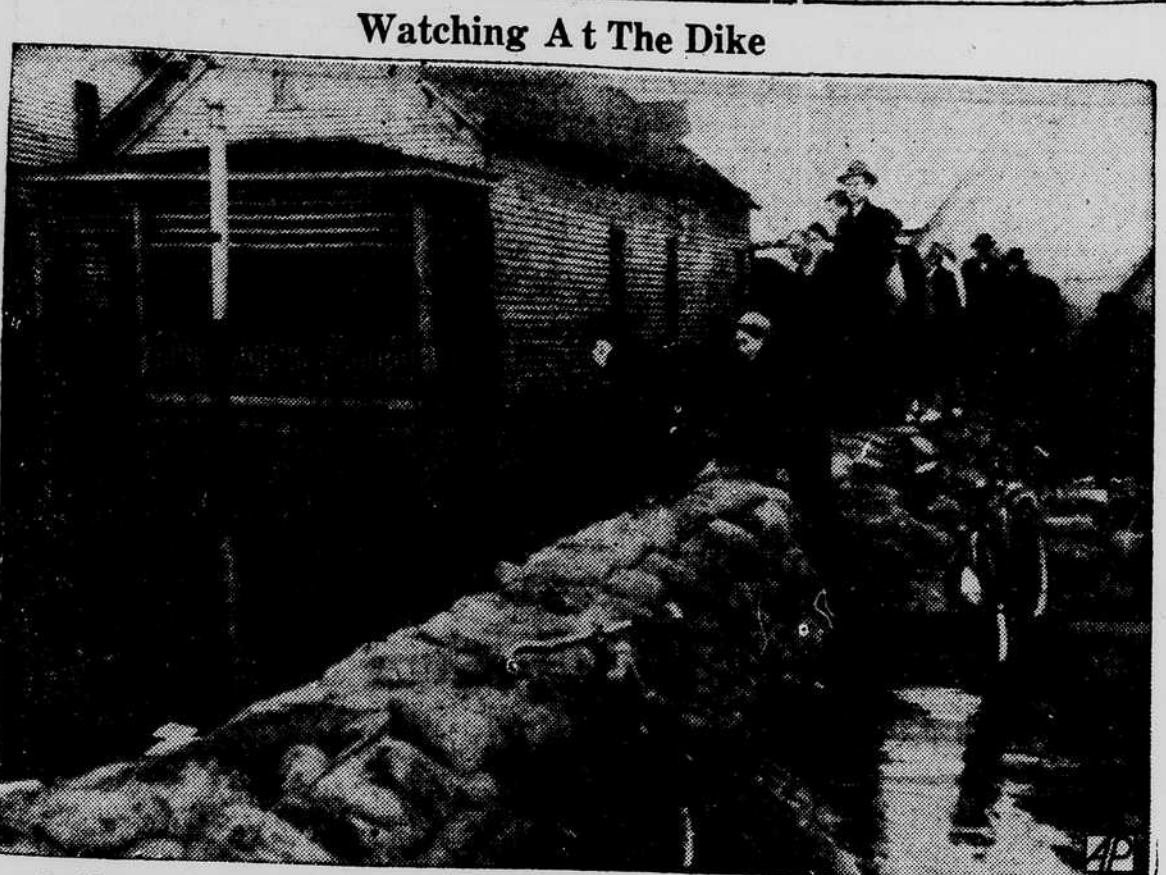
The truck was being operated by Robert Smith, Jr., who was delivering newspapers for Mr. Leviner, circulation manager for the Charlotte Observer in this area. Smith was not injured.

An inquest into the death will be held Tuesday at 8 p. m. in Whiteville.

Young Leviner was born in Myrtle Beach, S. C., where his parents lived for some years before moving to Lumberton seven years ago. An only child, he was second grade pupil in the local school.

Beside his parents, he is survived by his paternal grandfather, Troy L. Leviner, of Bennettsville, S. C., and his maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. D. F. Helton, of Charlotte.

Funeral services will be conducted from the Stephens funeral home here Sunday at 5:30 p. m. by the Rev. Edgar B. Fisher, pastor of the Chestnut Street Methodist church. Interment will be in Meadowbrook cemetery.



Residents of Portsmouth, Ohio, watch flood waters of the Ohio river move into a residential area. Soldiers and volunteers threw up a sandbag dike, at top which the onlookers watch in the Second street area. (AP Wirephoto)

# MANPOWER PLANS FACE MORE DELAY

WASHINGTON, March 10.—(U.P.)—The long-delayed manpower bill tonight faced the prospect of being held up further.

Chairman Andrew J. May, D., Ky., of the House Military Affairs Committee, said he planned to ask Monday for appointment of a conference committee to iron out wide differences in House and Senate versions of the legislation. But opponents hinted that they might block this move, which requires unanimous consent, by a parliamentary objection.

May said that in such an event he would ask the rules committee for a resolution whereby the same objective could be achieved by a majority vote of the House. That, however, probably would take up several days during which the Manpower Bill would be going nowhere.

The House and Senate bills embrace opposite theories of manpower control and the possibility existed that conferences might not be able to agree on compromise legislation. In that event, there would be no Manpower Control Law.

President Roosevelt's newest appeal for prompt enactment of some form of manpower legislation appeared to have achieved little or no progress.

He said during his Friday news conference that he had not changed his views on the problem. As expressed several times previously, those views are that war plants do not have adequate numbers of workers and that the way to get them is to give some federal agency authority to tell individuals where they should work.

The House accepted this theory when it passed a bill several weeks ago. It provided penalties for men 18 to 45 who refuse to stay in or take war industry jobs. But the Senate balked.

The bill finally passed by the Senate on Thursday provided no penalties for workers. Instead, it gave statutory authority to war manpower commission orders limiting the numbers of workers employers may have and provided penalties for recalcitrant employers.

There was no indication of a yielding attitude among leaders of either the House or the Senate.

# ATTACK ITALIAN BRIDGE

ROME, March 10.—(U.P.)—Strike at vital German communications in northern Italy, heavy bombers of the U. S. 15th Air Force attacked the Paronal rail bridge across the Adige river three miles northwest of Verona today.

The American attack followed an assault last night by the RAF on the structure, which carries the Brenner pass rail line across the river at the foot of the Alps.

The bridge, a vital link in enemy communications supplying the German army in Italy, last was hit February 28 but it had been quickly repaired.

# SENTENCED

NEW YORK, March 10.—(U.P.)—All sentences were imposed today for the first time since the amnesty curfew went into effect, on eight women and four men for patronizing after-midnight speak-easies. Magistrate Anna M. Kross sent the 12 defendants to jail for two days, in lieu of \$5 fines, after they pleaded guilty to disorderly conduct charges. All were negroes.

# ARRANGES CREDIT

LONDON, March 10.—(U.P.)—The Norwegian government in exile announced tonight that the Bank of Norway had arranged with 11 New York banks for \$16,000,000 credit to facilitate financing of essential Norwegian industries and trade after the war.

# CIGARETTES WITHDRAWN

WASHINGTON, March 10.—(U.P.)—A total of 321,856,156,236 cigarettes were withdrawn from warehouses for consumption during 1944, an increase over 1943 of 25,591,856,734, the internal revenue bureau announced today.

The song of the cricket is produced only by the male animal of the species, the female cricket making no audible sound at all. It has been reported that in certain instances the song of the cricket has been heard as far as a mile away.

# Watching At The Dike



Residents of Portsmouth, Ohio, watch flood waters of the Ohio river move into a residential area. Soldiers and volunteers threw up a sandbag dike, at top which the onlookers watch in the Second street area. (AP Wirephoto)

# Americans Nine Miles In Rhine Bridgehead

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preme headquarters did not confirm this, but a field dispatch said enemy resistance was stiffening and at least one armored division was deployed against the American advance.

It was said at headquarters that the original bridgehead was being enlarged steadily.

The Germans had not yet tried to seize the initiative, more than three days after the American First crossed, and had not yet made a major counterattack. Associated Press Correspondent Hal Boyle wrote from east of the Rhine.

This was the Ardennes in reverse, with Field Marshal Karl von Rundstedt forced to make heavy commitment of reserves against this threat to the heart of the Reich at an hour when four other Allied armies were lined up on the Rhine in position to cross.

Still on the defensive, the Germans were building up artillery in a desperate effort to knock out the Lunderdoff bridge at Remagen before the advancing American infantry and tanks drive their guns beyond reach of the crossing.

**Air Battle**

Alert U. S. Eighth Air Force fighters broke up an attempt by six enemy planes to bomb the bridge this afternoon in a spectacular air battle, 3,000 feet directly above the bridgehead, while German and American anti-aircraft gunners filled the sky with flak.

Standing outside the bridgehead of 50 square miles, enemy medium artillery and tank guns blasted at the bridgehead and the bridge, across which U. S. First Army guns, men and tanks streamed in endless procession.

To the south, the U. S. Third Army hammered within two miles of the Rhine city of Coblenz, and flushed 9,000 prisoners from the Eifel mountain trap which it shut on six enemy divisions by a junction yesterday with the First Army.

On the north side of the trap, the First Army seized 20 miles of the Ahr river, moved so swiftly that it took 20 carloads of military supplies at Ahrweiler, two flying bomb sites, an ordnance dump at Bueck, 14 miles west of the Rhine, and numerous U. S. jeeps and trucks taken by the Germans in the Ardennes breakthrough. Some prisoners wore shirts of U. S. units mangled in that breakthrough. At Bueck in the heart of the Eifel, the First Army was eight miles or less from a second junction with the Third Army in the center of the trap. The First Army's prisoner bag was 3,000.

# POCKET COLLAPSES

On the north end of the front, a field dispatch said the long-held Wesel pocket on the west bank of the Rhine collapsed under combined blows of the Canadian First and U. S. Ninth armies.

As Allied forces drove within two miles of Wesel, in the north-west corner of the Ruhr, the Germans blew both bridges there and rearwards fled across the Rhine by barges in a storm of bombs and shells.

This was the final act in the great battle west of the Rhine which supreme headquarters estimated cost the enemy 100,000 men in 23 days since February 23. Twenty-two German divisions were destroyed or so badly mauled they must be refitted.

Farther south, the Germans said their soldier wounded, the aged, women and children were moving east across the Rhine in long lines in flight from the Saar industrial basin and the Palatinate, the only two provinces still in enemy possession west of the Rhine.

Allied armies now were lined up on 150 miles of the Rhine's west bank from the Dutch border to near Coblenz, and the Ruhr's great arsenal cities were learning to their cost what this meant as the Ninth Army rocked them with giant 240-mm howitzers.

Duisberg and Duesseldorf have been catching it for a week, and a front dispatch said that from now on, other cities within range, especially Essen with its sprawling Krupp Munition Works, would know no peace.

German attempts to slash into the Remagen bridgehead yesterday with the aid of tanks were repulsed, and since then the enemy has been reluctant to return to the suicidal attacks.

# VFW WILL HONOR GREENSBORO HERO

GREENSBORO, Mar. 10.—(U.P.)—Major George E. Preddy, Jr., an outstanding ace of World War II and first member of Greensboro post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, to be killed in combat, will be honored when the name of this post is changed to "Maj. George E. Preddy, Jr., post number 2087".

"The idea back of this change is to memorialize the name of one of the great heroes of World War II who was killed in action December 25, 1944, and to honor the first member of this post to lose his life in defense of his country in any of three wars in which members of the Greensboro post have served," Commander C. D. Hodgins, of the post, said.

Approval of the use of Preddy's name was given by members of his family, Mr. and Mrs. George E. Preddy, and a picture of Major Preddy will be erected in his honor in post headquarters here, it has been announced.

# CUT ORDERED

WASHINGTON, March 10.—(U.P.)—The OPA today ordered a cut in the rationed food allotments of nearly all industrial users, effective April 1. The action was taken OPA said, to bring allocations in line with the smallest supply of rationed food since the start of the war.

# REASONS FUNCTIONS

HELSINKI, March 10.—(U.P.)—Field Marshal Baron Carl Gustav Mannerheim has resumed his functions as president of Finland following a prolonged illness, it was announced officially today.

Leather shoe sales, treated with an oil solution, show an increase of 25 per cent on an average in their wearability. All Army shoes are now being treated with this solution and through the use of this process civilians will require less shoes in the future.

# Allied Assaults Hasten German Economic Decay

LONDON, March 10.—(U.P.)—There are increasing signs tonight that the process of economic and political decay in Germany is being accelerated sharply by the American and Russian drives.

Allied economic experts report that Hitler's belt-tightening home front is faced with a growing famine as a result of disrupted communications by the round-the-clock Allied aerial blows. These day and night attacks were coupled with Russian advances which deprived the Reich of roughly 16,000,000 tons of food.

Signs of decay inside Germany—each considered significant in view of the Allied drives—were:

1. Allied economic experts said that on the basis of reports from inside Germany that country's food situation had deteriorated rapidly within the past weeks because of disorganized transport and the influx of millions of refugees from areas overrun by Allied armies and from cities leveled by British and American aerial bombing.
2. Hints that Hitler's widely-spread armies face a shortage of ammunition and were operating on a "hand to mouth" basis.
3. A survey of Allied governments disclosed that Europe's resistance forces had reduced Germany's war weapon output in enslaved countries at least 40 per cent by sabotage and "go slow" tactics. Lost to the Germans also were war weapons plants in France, Belgium, Yugoslavia and Poland.
4. Stoppage of Swiss coal and iron shipments and electric current into southern Germany and northern Italy as a result of the Allied-Swiss trade agreement signed in Bern this week.

In order not to be caught napping should Germany suddenly collapse the Allies have speeded up moves in recent weeks for the occupation of the country.

# EFFORTS TO DROP STRIKE VOTE FAIL

WASHINGTON, March 10.—(U.P.)—The National Labor Relations board will reject on Monday the plea of the southern coal producers that plans for a strike vote March 28 among the miners be dropped.

Action of the board was unanimous, an informed source said tonight. The decision was reached after consultation with the labor department and the War Labor board.

Edward R. Burke, former Nebraska Senator and spokesman for the southern coal producers association, yesterday filed a petition with the NLRB seeking to have the strike vote plan nullified.

John L. Lewis, of the United Mine Workers Association, now engaged in negotiations with the coal producers, had filed notice of the strike vote, when the discussions began last week.

Lewis today charged the operators with "bad faith" in attempting to block the strike vote.

It was learned that when Burke is formally notified of the board's rejection of his petition, Burke will ask the Federal District Court to grant the producers an injunction to restrain the national labor relations board from going ahead with the strike vote.

Burke said the "bad faith" charge was hurled at him by Lewis in today's closed session of the committee representing the soft coal producers and the miners.

A theater at Thornton Heath, Surrey, England, has "cosmetic rooms" where women can make up.

# RACE BILL FACES STORMY SESSION

WASHINGTON, March 10.—(U.P.)—An issue laden with political dynamite—whether Congress should outlaw racial and religious discrimination by employers—today was ticketed for a public airing by the influential House Rules Committee.

The bill, to establish a permanent fair employment practices committee, is in for a stormy session, even though its principles have the endorsement of both major parties.

Racial and religious organizations rallied a host of witnesses to appear before the Rules Committee when it opens hearing on the administration-backed measure Wednesday.

Some indication of the trouble that stretches ahead for the measure came from southerners on the Rules Committee this week when the bill got a brief preliminary hearing.

Even Republicans shied away from definite commitments on the pending bill which emerged from the labor committee several weeks ago.

Republican Leader Martin of Massachusetts told a reporter he is in favor of the principles of a fair employment practices law but he wouldn't say he will back the present bill.

# SEEK SETTLEMENT

INSTITUTE, W. Va., March 10.—(U.P.)—Company and union officials held a day-long conference with a war production board mediator today in an effort to settle a labor dispute which stalled production in the U. S. Rubber Company's processing division of the nation's biggest synthetic rubber plant here.

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**TOKYO RAID SETS DESTRUCTION MARK**

(Continued from Page One)

The total of the ruined area was shown as 15 square miles, from which clouds of smoke had covered the returning B-29s with soot.

Fires were still burning at seven points in Tokyo when the photographs were taken Saturday afternoon, hours after the night strike.

Three were blazing at the north end of the rectangle of destruction and four at the south end. On the south one burned on each side of the mouth of Sumida river waterfront and the other two midway between the mouths of the Sumida and Naka rivers.

The area of destruction, if laid upon metropolitan New York, would cover all the industrial sections of Brooklyn and Queens and half their residential sections, plus Manhattan from the Battery to Sixtieth street.

Le May said the area destroyed was "clearly identifiable" in the photographs. Large scale photographs showed that the destruction had spread eastward from the designated 10-square mile target area another five square miles to the bulge of the Naka river.

The destruction extends roughly from the Imperial palace (which Le May said was not a target, although Tokyo radio reported it had been set afire) to the waterfront at the mouth of the Naka river, thence approximately four miles north.

Le May added soberly, "I have something else to say at this time. What I have to say is not easy to say. I shall try to say it as if I were saying it to the people at home who belong to my officers and men and to whom my officers and men belong.

"I believe that all those under my command on these island bases have by their participation in this single operation shortened the war.

"To what extent they have shortened it, no one can tell. But I believe that if there has been cut from its duration only one day, or one hour, my officers and men have served a high purpose."

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