

War News

Churchill Declares British Aid Measure Is 'New Magna Carta'

London, March 12.—Prime Minister Churchill, voicing the deep and respectful appreciation of Britain, told the United States today the British aid bill constituted a "new magna carta" of generous and far-reaching statecraft.

The house of commons was Churchill's sounding board and repeated bursts of cheering interrupted his statement. A United States military mission of eight uniformed men—the only persons present except house members—looked on from the gallery.

Timed with Churchill's speech was the disclosure that Britain would train her propaganda weapons full blast on axis and nazis-occupied territories to tell the people of the aid bill's passage and "the decisive significance this must be in the war."

"It is the kind of news that even the most gestapo-ridden country cannot keep from percolating through the mass of its citizens," authoritative Press Association's lobby correspondent said.

The midlands, the Merseyside, East Anglia, and southwest and southeast England also were raided.

Nature of the defensive fire was disclosed but its effect on the familiar sky of conventional anti-aircraft guns.

The alarms came earlier than on the past two nights as the raiders roared over Dover strait on a cold easterly wind and with bright moonlight to light the heavy seas below.

One raider was reported shot down on the Surrey-Sussex boundary.

On the offensive side, the British air ministry announced that German naval base of Kiel and at nearby Bremerhaven were bombed "successfully" Tuesday night by the R. A. F.

Big Italian Attacks Repulsed by Greeks; Mussolini At Front

Athens, Greece, March 12.—Italian counterattacks said by a Greek government spokesman to have been ordered by Premier Mussolini himself—the heaviest of the Albanian war—have been smashed with enormous fascist losses, Greek informants reported from the front today.

The Italians struck at six points along the line, with the greatest forces thrown into such an action since the war began, and were everywhere thrown back, Greek dispatches said, adding that the Greeks were in fact able to seize new positions in the heights northwest of Tepeleni.

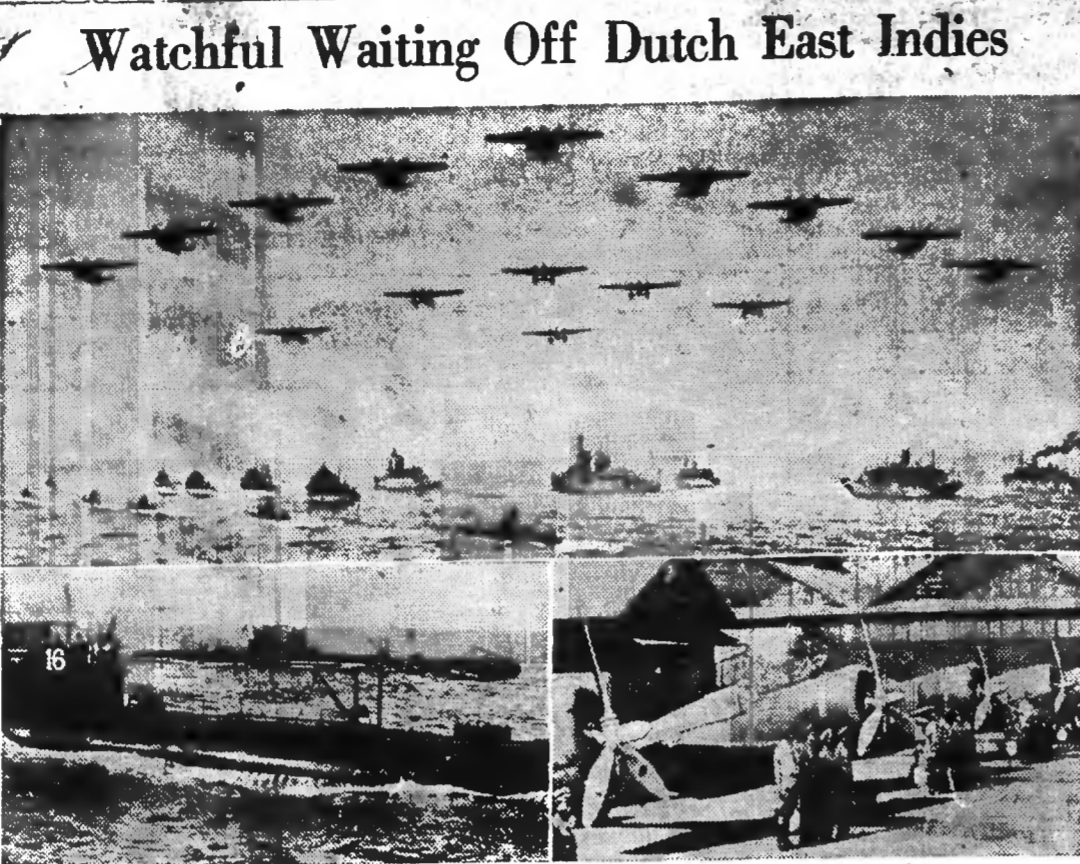
Information that it was the duke himself who sent his army forward was attributed by the Greek spokesman to captured Italian soldiers.

They reported, too, the spokesman added, that Mussolini had set next Saturday as the deadline for his generals to "do something."

Among the prisoners taken yesterday, this official informant said, were blackshirt officers who said that Mussolini had been in Albania, in the central sector, for five days.

His visit, these officers were quoted as saying, was to bolster the morale and prestige of his troops, and he declared to his military leaders that he was leaving Saturday and that they must accomplish something before he departs.

Watchful Waiting Off Dutch East Indies



The Dutch East Indies, eyed greedily by Japan, is the new danger-spot in the Far East. When Holland fell, Dutch warships went to protect these colonies. Upper picture shows the fleet and air fleet at Sourabaya, naval base in Java. Below, (left) two subs of the Netherlands navy on patrol, and, (right) the first group of American-built planes of the East Indies air force on guard.

Home Guard Here Will Have First Drill On Monday

Few Vacancies Yet In Organization of Home Guard Company In This City

Harry Pearson, captain of the Home Guard company organized here, will have his first drill on Monday evening, March 17, at the city hall.

Enlistments have been coming in very well. Captain Pearson said, but there remains a few vacancies for some good men in order to bring the company up to authorized strength of fifty.

The men will receive basic training pending the arrival of equipment, Captain Pearson said. Equipment, including arms, will be furnished by the federal government, except uniforms, which will be furnished by the state.

Uniforms will be a drab grey in color.

Other officers of the company here, which will be an infantry company, are First Lieutenant McLeolin L. Wyatt and Second Lieutenant John Wells. They are former officers in the National Guard. Captain Pearson has six years of experience in the U. S. Marine corps, leaving the service seven years ago with the rank of sergeant.

'Far East' Subject Of Kiwanis Speech

Dr. J. C. Stokes Delivers Interesting Message To Club Here Friday

Dr. J. C. Stokes, pastor of Wilkesboro and Union Methodist churches, delivered a most interesting address Friday noon before the North Wilkesboro Kiwanis club. His subject was "The Far East" and his talk contained much information of a revealing nature.

Henry Landon was program chairman for the day. Dr. J. C. Canipe, of Boone, was a guest of Dr. John W. Kincheloe, Jr., and Miss Elsie Nichols was at the piano in the absence of Miss Lois Scroggs, club pianist.

Attendance at the meeting was somewhat curtailed, due to the fact that several from this city attended the inter-club meeting at Salisbury, where Mark Smith, of George, Kiwanis International president, delivered an address.

Those going from here were President J. B. Carter and Mrs. Carter, Miss Lois Scroggs, W. E. Jones, Genio Cardwell, James R. McCartney, Paul S. Cragan, and Robert S. Gibbs, Jr.

Episcopal Service

Vesper service will be held at St. Paul's Episcopal church Sunday afternoon, March 16th, at 7 o'clock. Friends and visitors are invited to attend.

Story Introduces Bill To Repeal Commissioner Districting Act Of 1939

New Chair Bought For Judge's Bench In Wilkes Court

Wilkes court this week directed Sheriff Doughton to find a new chair for the judge's bench.

A new chair was brought in and Judge Phillips issued an order for the commissioners to pay for the furniture company from which it was purchased the sum of \$84.97, which was the purchase price.

In his order the judge said that the old chair was "inadequate and dangerous." After the new chair was delivered to the courtroom the old one was offered to Solicitor Avalon E. Hall to use at his desk but he declined, saying he believed the one he was using was more comfortable.

House Gets Bill To Provide For A County-Wide Vote

Ask Repeal Of Bill Introduced Two Years Ago By Rep. Woodhouse

Wilkes Representative T. E. Story introduced a bill in the legislature Tuesday which would repeal the law dividing Wilkes into three districts for nomination and election of county commissioners.

The measure introduced by Representative Story would abolish districts for election of commissioners and the board of three members would be elected by county-wide vote.

The districting bill was introduced in the legislature two years ago by Representative Woodhouse, of Yadkin county, and was passed over protest of Wilkes Representative D. C. Sebastian.

That law divided the county into three districts, two of which normally cast small Democratic majorities and one with a large Republican majority.

In the November, 1940, election two districts elected Democratic candidates by small majorities but C. E. Lenderman choose not to serve on the board, creating a vacancy which was filled by Clerk of Court C. C. Hayes, who appointed Max Foster, Republican, and the board continued with a majority of Republicans.

If the bill introduced Tuesday by Representative Story becomes law the method of nomination and election of commissioners by county-wide vote will be restored for the county.

F. D. R. To Get Wilkes Booklet

A Leather Bound Copy Of Booklet Here Is Forwarded To President

President Franklin D. Roosevelt will receive a copy of the publicity booklet published here last summer on North Wilkesboro and Wilkes county. John R. Prevette, chairman of the Wilkes board of the Western North Carolina Industrial Council, said here today.

A copy of the booklet has been bound in leather and the name "Franklin Delano Roosevelt" was inscribed on the cover in gold letters. Mr. Prevette said he hoped the president could find information in the booklet which would be useful in the defense program.

United States leading importer from the Argentine in January.

Hort Absher Is Convicted Today On Murder Charge

Second Degree Verdict Returned By Jury In Homicide Case Here Today

Jury in Wilkes court this afternoon returned a verdict of murder in the second degree in the case of Hort Absher, who was tried for the death of Leonard Lankford.

The jury received the case at 10:30 a. m. and deliberated over two hours. The state had not asked a verdict of first degree murder.

Alexander Senator Puts 2 Wilkes Bills In Hopper Tuesday

Would Allow Sheriff to Place Tax Advertisements; Raise Pay of Election Officials

Senator Harry Miller, of Alexander county, on Tuesday introduced two Wilkes county bills in the state legislature.

Senate bill number 323 introduced by Senator Miller would raise the pay of election registrars in Wilkes to five dollars per day and that of election judges to four dollars per day. In addition each would receive mileage to and from any meetings called by the election board.

Senate bill number 324 would give the sheriff of Wilkes county power to place tax advertising and would direct the county commissioners to pay bill for same.

Copies of the bills follow: "A bill to be entitled an act Authorizing and Directing the County Commissioners of Wilkes County to make certain payments to Election Officials of Wilkes County.

"The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact: "Section 1. That the County Commissioners of Wilkes County are authorized and directed to pay to the registrars and judges of elections of Wilkes County the sum of five dollars (\$5.00) per day to the registrars, and the sum of four dollars (\$4.00) per day to the judges, for such days as are spent by these officials in making returns of the results of the primaries or elections for their respective townships, and attending meetings called by the County Board of Elections, and the County Board of Registrars, and the County Board of Judges of Elections.

"Sec. 2. The County Commissioners are further directed to pay to the registrars and judges mileage at the rate of five cents (5c) per mile for such distances as they travel from their home in making such returns, or in attending such meetings.

"Sec. 3. The County Commissioners of Wilkes County are further directed to pay to each registrar and judge of the elections in Wilkes County the sum of five dollars (\$5.00) per day for the registrars and four dollars (\$4.00) per day for the judges for each day that either or both of these officials spent in bringing in the returns of the elections or primaries, or in attending a meeting called by the Chairman of the Wilkes County Board of Elections, or the Chairman of the State Board of Elections during the year one thousand nine hundred and forty.

"Sec. 4. The County Commissioners are further directed to pay each registrar and judge five cents (5c) per mile mileage for the distances each traveled in attending said meetings or in bringing in said returns.

"Sec. 5. All laws and clauses of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

"Sec. 6. This Act shall be in full force and effect from and after its ratification."

Bill to be Entitled an Act Relating to the Sales of Tax Liens on Real Property For Delinquent Taxes, in Wilkes County.

"The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact: "Section 1. That the sheriff of Wilkes County is hereby vested with the authority to select the newspaper in said county in which the sales of tax liens on real property for failure to pay taxes shall be advertised.

"Sec. 2. That the Board of County Commissioners of Wilkes County, upon ascertainment by the sheriff of the cost of such advertisement, be, and it is hereby directed to pay in full, out of the general fund of Wilkes County, the cost of such advertisement direct to the newspaper advertising the same, immediately upon the completion of such advertisement.

"Sec. 3. That all laws and clauses of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

"Sec. 4. That this Act shall be in full force and effect from and after its ratification."

The Raleigh News and Observer on Wednesday morning gave the following account of introduction of the bills: "Wilkes County bills were introduced by Democratic Senator Harry Miller of Alexander County, who said they were requested by Democratic Sheriff C. T. Doughton on page eight."

Delayed Inaugural



Forrest C. Donnell was inaugurated Missouri's fortieth governor after a six weeks' delay because of contested election. He is the first Republican governor to crack the Missouri capitol's Democratic ranks since the Roosevelt landslide in 1932. This picture shows him at the inaugural in Jefferson City, Mo., with Col. Branch Rickey, owner of the St. Louis Cardinals. Left: Governor Forrest Donnell, and (right) Col. Rickey.

Wilkes Board Of Industrial Council Assembles Data

Survey of Industrial Advantages Forwarded For Use By Authorities

Wilkes county board of the Western North Carolina Industrial Council has prepared and forwarded data concerning industrial possibilities in Wilkes county to Fred M. Allen, Jr., of Hendersonville, and to others who may use the information to advantage, John R. Prevette, chairman of the Wilkes board of the council, said today.

Eight briefs, which contain a comprehensive survey of industrial advantages, were prepared and forwarded to: the Department of Conservation and Development; Department of Commerce, Washington, D. C.; planning board of the War Department, Washington, D. C.; eighth district Representative W. O. Burstin; ninth district Representative R. L. Doughton. With each survey was also sent a copy of the North Wilkesboro booklet issued last summer.

After all information is gathered concerning all the western North Carolina counties represented in the council district meetings will be held and one will be in North Wilkesboro. Mr. Prevette said.

Mr. Prevette said that the object of the council is not only to get defense industries located in western North Carolina but to promote the industrial possibilities of the entire western part of the state.

The principal object of the Wilkes board of the council, he said, right now is flood control on the Yadkin, probably in connection with a defense industries plant. The organization will operate permanently, Mr. Prevette said, in a continual effort to promote industrial progress of North Wilkesboro and Wilkes county.

With Mr. Prevette on the Wilkes board of the council are R. T. McNeil, mayor of North Wilkesboro, Attorney W. H. McElwee, Sheriff C. T. Doughton, S. V. Tomlinson and W. P. Kelly, a clerk. L. L. Scott, of West Jefferson, is district chairman.

Snow Falling In This City Today

After escaping all snows so far this winter, North Wilkesboro is getting a blanket of white today.

Snow began falling about 10:30 a. m. and at Journal-Patriot press time this afternoon was still falling rapidly. However, the temperature here today remained above freezing and little snow remained on the ground.

Reports from other parts of Wilkes said the snow was not melting and had reached a depth of one inch by three p. m.

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Fair Sex Here May Train For Part In National Defense

Course In First Aid, Home Nursing and Care of Sick To Begin Monday

Women of North Wilkesboro and adjacent communities are given an opportunity to participate in national defense by a class in first aid, home nursing and care of the sick, which will begin on Monday, March 17.

Paul S. Cragan, superintendent of North Wilkesboro schools, said today that all arrangements have been made for the class to be held. Miss Evelyn Sharpe, vocational home economics teacher in the city schools, will be the instructor.

Classes, which will be about one hour each, will begin on Monday night and be held each Monday and Thursday night, 7:30 o'clock, until April 3.

All the women's civic organizations of the city are endorsing and backing the class. Supt. Cragan said, and hope that many will avail themselves of the opportunity to become better prepared to serve in case of emergency and do their part in defense of the nation.

Any women or girl not in school is eligible to enroll in the class and no charge will be made.

Among the subjects to be taken up in the course are: practical aids and appliances used in caring for sick; proper care of sick room; preparation and service of food; common sense methods of preventing sickness and accidents; home medicine chest and first aid kit.

Classes will be held in the home economics rooms of the high school building and all who are interested and who possibly can be urged to be present at the opening session Monday night.

Report Is Made On Railroad Spur Survey In City

Committee Does Not Recommend Immediate Construction Of Route

G. W. Adams, general manager of the Southern Railway company and the company's Chief Engineer Ashury, of Charlotte, met here this week with the committee appointed to seek location for a spur railroad track above the Yadkin's flood level, and with the city commissioners to report on surveys made.

The company's representatives said that three surveys had been made, one of which was impossible because of excessive grade, another impractical because of excessive cost and the third, which could be constructed.

The engineers submitted blueprints of the surveys. After all three were considered the committee did not recommend immediate construction of either the and the consensus of opinion expressed was that the future growth and progress of North Wilkesboro industrially depends upon construction of a flood control dam on the Yadkin river.

The first survey made was up the stream just east of the bluff at the Lower Yadkin bridge here and it was found that the grade would be excessive. Another was made a distance of about two miles to the Fred Finley farm and cost was considered excessive, being estimated at \$101,000.

The third survey, which the engineers said was possible, was from the main truck near the intersection of highway 268 entrance with Main street in the east end of the city and up the stream immediately east of the school property. Engineers said the grade would be 3.2 per cent and with a nine per cent curve, increasing the grade the equivalent of 3.6. The Southern Railway company would supervise construction and would service the line if the city would put up cost of construction and maintenance, the committee was told.

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