

WEATHER

Increasing cloudiness and warmer today and tonight, rain and sleet mixed in west tonight and in mountains this afternoon. Thursday cloudy and cool, light rain in central.

The Shelby Daily Star

State Theatre Today - "THE HITLER GANG" See The Shocking Murder Of Hitler's Niece

CLEVELAND COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER SINCE 1894

TELEPHONES 1100

VOL. XLIII-3

ASSOCIATED PRESS NEWS

SHELBY, N. C.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 3, 1945

TELEMAT PICTURES

SINGLE COPIES-5c

Third Army Continuing Advance

Boards Told To Press Drafting Of Deferred 18-25 Farm Workers



YANKS ATTRACTING GERMAN SALIENT—The arrows on this map indicate American attempts to break up the German salient in Belgium and Luxembourg. The U. S. Third Army has widened its spearhead north of Bastogne, and has made gains between Bastogne and Moiricy. Third Army troops now stand only about 13 miles from First Army forces which have captured Grandmenil on the north side of the salient. The shaded broken line represents the battle front.

Violent Fighting Rages In Budapest

Russians Smashing On Through City In House-To-House, Street-By-Street Battle

MOSCOW, Jan. 3.—(P)—Russian storm forces were smashing on through Budapest today in probably the fiercest house-to-house fighting since Stalingrad.

LAND BOUGHT FOR AIRPORT

City Closes Deal For 175 Acres Of J. Andrew Lattimore Land

Movement to secure and construct an airport for the city of Shelby went a long way forward today when arrangements were completed for the purchase of 175 acres of the J. Andrew Lattimore land in the Sharon church community.

WHAT'S DOING

THURSDAY 7:00 p. m.—Regular meeting of Kiwanis club. 7:30 p. m.—C. A. P. members meet at armory.

RICHARDSON IS SPEAKER:

New Legislature Ready To Swing Into Action Thursday

RALEIGH, Jan. 3.—(P)—With Democrats holding the majority all the way, the 1945 legislature squared away and swung into action today for what was expected to be a momentous wartime session.

BYRNES' ORDER IS BACKED BY WHITE HOUSE

Group Is Largest Remaining Source Of Potential Fighting Men

ARMY, NAVY AGREE

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—(P)—The White House today directed selective service to press "to the full extent permitted by law" the drafting of deferred farm workers in the 18 through 25 age class.

Acting with President Roosevelt's authorization, War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes called on Selective Service Director Lewis B. Hershey to draw as much as possible on this largest remaining reservoir of potential fighting men.

Byrnes said there are 364,000 men in this age range now holding agricultural deferments. "The Army and Navy believe it essential to the effective prosecution of the war," Byrnes said, "to induct more men in this age group."

"The President feels in view of existing conditions," Byrnes told Hershey, "agriculture like other war industries can, with few exceptions, be carried on by those in the older age groups."

Byrnes noted that Hershey had told him that if men were not available from the farms he would have to call up deferred men in the next higher age group, most of whom are fathers.

So, Byrnes proposed to tap this

Postal Receipts Show Greatest Increase In '44

Postal receipts in 1944 here showed the greatest increase in history of the Shelby post office as it closed its business year. The figures show that postal receipts in 1944 exceeded those of 1943 by \$23,802.54.

Postmaster R. M. Laughridge explains the steady increase at the post office due to the local postage rates being raised and an increase in registered mail and insurance fees, although the insurance fees have been lowered recently to an even lower rate than before the increase.

The sale of air mail stamps saw one of the biggest years in the local post office, Mr. Laughridge stating that when he became postmaster in August, 1940, air mail stamps were bought in small lots and their sales were hardly noticed, now they are bought in the same proportion as other stamps.

December of 1943 was the only month in that year to exceed \$10,000 dollars, and seven months in 1944 exceeded that mark. Receipts for 1944 were \$126,604.44 as compared with the 1943 figures \$102,801.90. In comparing the months of December of 1943 and 1944, last year's figures were \$1,527.63 higher than those of

See POSTAL Page 2

Bulletin

LONDON, Jan. 3.—(P)—The Ankara radio announced tonight the Turkish grand national assembly had voted unanimously to break off diplomatic and economic relations with Japan, effective next Saturday.



GERMAN AGENTS, SAYS FBI—The Federal Bureau of Investigation released these pictures, describing them as William Colepaugh (left), and Erich Gimpel (right), German agents who landed from a U-boat on the Maine coast last Nov. 29. They made their way to Boston, then to New York where they were arrested.

Bombers From Leyte Batter Clark Field

Patrol Planes Approach Formosa, 225 Miles North Of Philippines, Firing Jap Ships

GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Philippines, Jan. 3.—(P)—A smashing new year's day bombing of Manila's Clark Field by Leyte-based Liberators was reported from a Fifth Airforce advance base as Gen. Douglas MacArthur's stepped up air assaults brought Formosa into his communique today for the first time.

BLYTHE FIRM GETS CONTRACT

Contract for sewer and water improvements involving a cost of \$43,861 was let last night by the Shelby Board of Aldermen to Blythe Brothers Construction company, of Charlotte.

Work will begin in February and is to be completed by May 1. The construction job includes the building of 10,000 feet of sewer outfall line and the construction of a new water intake in the river.

Four bids were opened at the city hall last night, A. H. Gulon and company bid \$53,000 on the work; B. R. Hinson Construction company \$52,700 and Reid and Abee, \$47,649. The low bid was accepted immediately and by unanimous vote of the board contract was let on the spot.

These improvements in the water and sewer system have been recognized as essential for some time. Right-of-way for the new outfall lines have already been obtained across the Hubbard, Hamrick and O. V. Hamrick property in the western part of the city.

Representatives of the successful contracting firm told aldermen that they were ready to begin work within 10 days of the time the contracts are signed and it was indicated this would be done about February 1.

A GIRL'S YEAR:

Jean Goodman Of Belwood Is Miss 1945 Of Stork Derby

This morning as the assembled judges of Cleveland's annual stork derby were disconsolately thinking that bird had made a New Year's resolution to shun the county he flew into the northern edge of the county and dropped a little bundle of feminine pulchritude to indicate 1945 is a girl's year.

The deadline was drawing already at hand when Miss Jean Goodman appeared on the scene to claim the legacy of gifts provided by Cleveland and Shelby merchants and business firms to welcome her as the year's first-born in Cleveland county to Cleveland white parents.

SUPERFORTS BOMB HONSHU AGAIN TODAY

Jap Announcement Says 90 Of Big Bombers Took Part In Raid

AIRCRAFT CENTERS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—(P)—Superfortresses, 90 strong by enemy account, struck again today at industrial targets on Japan's teeming home island of Honshu.

A war department announcement of the raid was silent on the number and the exact objectives of the giant B-29s, but a Japanese communique said the aircraft center of Nagoya as well as Osaka and Mamamatsu were hit.

Acknowledging some damage from incendiaries at Nagoya and Hamamatsu, the communique added "there were almost no damages inflicted upon vital facilities and factories."

The enemy-announced number of 90 was the largest to appear in a Japanese war bulletin. It claimed—in the usual broad propaganda vein—that 13 of the Superforts were shot down, four probably downed and 25 damaged. Two interceptors failed to return to their home bases, the Japanese admitted.

The attack occurred by daylight, and Tokyo broadcasts said the bombardiers enjoyed almost perfect visibility. Two big Mitsubishi aircraft plants at Nagoya have been hit previously by the Superforts. Osaka is 75 miles southwest and Hamamatsu the same distance southeast. Both are large manufacturing centers.

Today's was the first blow against

ARMY TIGHTENS REINS ON WARD

Military Officials Seek To Gain Complete Authority

CHICAGO, Jan. 3.—(P)—The Army, waving a big stick, tightened its control today over the federally seized Montgomery Ward and company properties in seven cities across the nation.

Acting swiftly, Army officials yesterday moved to gain complete authority in operating the big mail order house facilities. The first step in that direction was that ousting of 11 company officials who Army men said remained defiant since the military took over last Thursday and had refused to cooperate in the Government's operation.

The alleged interference in the Army's operation was being investigated for the first time by a federal grand jury and federal attorneys had filed 18 affidavits in connection with the government's petition for an injunction to prevent company interference and a declaratory judgment upholding legality of the seizure, ordered by President Roosevelt. A federal court hearing is scheduled next Monday.

PENALTIES Maj. Gen. Joseph W. Byron, military manager, who directed the Army's movement yesterday, said that officials or other employees dismissed for non-cooperation with the Army faced possible Selective Service reclassification. Interference with Army operation, he said in posters in the plant, might result in "severe penalties."

Later, Byron said there was "increasing indication that the War Department will have the cooperation of a great majority" of the company's employees in stores under government operation.

Germans Lashing Back At Many Points Along 70-Mile Western Front

PARIS, Jan. 3.—(P)—The American armored onslaught smashed 5 1-2 miles northeast of Bastogne today up the diagonal railway toward St. Vith, beating into the outskirts of Michamps and into the Maister woods through stubborn German resistance.

But the German army was lashing out furiously at a dozen place along the undulating 70-mile front from the Saar to the Rhine in diversionary assaults which already have cost the Americans their thin foothold on German soil northeast of Sarreguemines.

The attack may yet prove to be another burst in Field Marshal Von Rundstedt's offensive.

So far, the American lines were holding the Germans to limited gains, but the Nazis were still striking along their two-mile-deep and five-mile long dent southeast of Bitche. The enemy, moreover, had driven a bridgehead across the Blies river east of Sarreguemines.

Snow was falling again over the Belgian bulge and there was rain farther south. At least through this morning, close air support was lacking because planes were grounded.

GERMAN SUPPLY TRAINS BOMBED

U. S. Heavies Continue Offensive Through Twelfth Day

LONDON, Jan. 3.—(P)—Lt. Gen. Lorraine and on the Saar were taking a favorable course; that 24,000 Americans had been captured in their offensive and that U. S. casualties "far exceed 50,000."

The Berlin radio said the formations were over western Germany. Hours earlier a great force of heavy bombers and hundreds of fighters were seen over Dover Strait on their way to the continent. Nurnberg, Ludwigshafen and Berlin were attacked by RAF squadrons last night.

British and American forces teamed yesterday in two 1,000-bomber blows—one by day and the other by night. Their targets were railway yards congested with freight, key highway intersections and tank and troop concentrations concealed in woods.

Fighters and bombers operating from France, Belgium and Holland smashed the Nazis hard with day-long attacks in support of ground forces. The appearance of these planes belied German claims of results obtained by Nazi pilots in their surprise New Year's day strafing of Allied airfields.

U. S. Ninth air force divebombers alone got in 750 sorties. Their bag included 62 armored vehicles knocked out and 34 damaged in the Bastogne-St. Vith area, 27 German anti-aircraft batteries destroyed, 222 railroad cars wrecked and nine locomotives blasted.

A dozen Mustangs caught five Messerschmitt-109s preparing to land and destroyed every one. One hundred and fifty medium bombers worked on railroad bridges and communications centers in the Nazi bulge inside Belgium.

All told 13 German fighters were shot down for a loss of 11 fighters and 10 bombers by the Allies.

THE WAR TODAY: Yamashita Seen Likely To Launch Attack On Mindoro

Yamashita has sworn to force MacArthur to surrender unconditionally, and there's no doubt that the war-lord means business. Yamashita isn't to be regarded lightly, for he's one of the outstanding generals of our time. True, radio Tokyo recently put him in a somewhat ludicrous light by boasting naively that he's so clever he can "doze off and even snore in the midst of conversation" However, while we might like to gauge his capabilities by this doubtful invaders hard.

See YAMASHITA Page 3