

WEATHER

North Carolina - Rain today, cooler except on coast, followed by clearing and slightly cooler weather tonight. Wednesday, fair and mild.

The Shelby Daily Star

- State Theatre Today - "Experiment Perilous" Starring Hedy Lamarr - George Brent - With Paul Lukas

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TELEMAT PICTURES

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'BIG THREE' FORM MASTER PLAN FOR WAR, PEACE NAZIS INCREASE RESISTANCE ON WESTERN FRONT

42 Dead, Over 200 Injured In Tornado's Wake

Tornadoes swirling over Mississippi and Alabama late yesterday took a toll of at least 42 dead, over 200 injured, and property damage running into hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Worst hit was a crescent shaped area on the southern and western outskirts of Montgomery, Ala., where more than 50 boxcars of a freight were ripped and tossed about like match boxes.

Montgomery alone counted its dead at 25, and its injured at more than 100. Two government warehouses were leveled and in Chisholm, a cotton mill community, 35 homes were demolished and many others damaged in a 20-block area.

Nine were known dead at Livingston, 125 miles west of Montgomery, and one at York, nine miles from Livingston. At Livingston, as at Montgomery, a freight train was tossed about and one of the Livingston dead was a trainman.

The storm first hit Meridian,

Miss., leaving a path of destruction as it cut about the city on two sides, before turning eastward into Alabama. The dead in the Meridian area were placed unofficially at seven. More than fifty persons were injured there.

Between 30 and 40 houses were destroyed in the Meridian area and torrential rains hampered search for the injured and the dead.

After a tour of the Montgomery area, Gov. Chauncey Parks of Alabama ordered three companies of the state guard into action to prevent looting.

HOSPITALS JAMMED Montgomery hospitals, jammed with the injured, were handicapped.

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CANADIANS NEAR WESEL AND EMMERICH

Loss Of Pruem Weakens Whole German Defense System In Area

REINFORCEMENTS

PARIS, Feb. 13.—(AP)—Canadians driving through the ruins of Kleve advanced today to within 20 miles of the Ruhr city of Wesel and within two miles of the Rhine industrial center of Emmerich against resistance suddenly trebled by the commitment of seven crack Nazi divisions.

In the center the American Third Army mopped up the road center of Pruem, whose capture placed Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's men within 45 miles of the Rhine city of Coblenz.

The loss of Pruem and its arterial highways to Coblenz; Cologne, 53 miles northeast; and Saarbruecken, 72 miles south, weakened the whole German defense system in the Eifel mountains where ten miles have been gashed from the Siegfried Line.

Continuing floods on the Roer river kept the American First and Ninth and the British Second armies quiet along the crucial 50-mile sector where the Germans trumpeted repeatedly that Gen. Eisenhower was massing men and tanks for an offensive to the Rhine.

"From hour to hour we expect the full scale Allied offensive to roll into the Rhine plain," the German army radio said today, "stupendous forces massed west of Dueren and Juelich are to carry our enemies to the Rhine. Twelve pioneer battalions are along and huge quantities of bridge construction as well as fresh and reconditioned infantry forces are awaiting the signal to strike."

Already 78 combat divisions composed of more than a million troops have been identified on the western front. Of these, 52 are American divisions.

LUXEMBOURG CLEARED The last of Luxembourg was cleared with the capture of Vianden by the Third army, giving Gen. Eisenhower a continuous 145-mile front inside Germany from Karken to near Saarbruecken.

The Canadians, called "water rats" because they were wading

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24 Killed In Crash Of Navy Transport Plane

64 Rescued Army Nurses Leave Manila

MANILA, P. I., Feb. 12.—(Delayed)—A broad-winged Curtiss Commando transport plane swooped low over war-torn Manila today and made a precarious landing on a deserted street in the northeast section of the city.

A few hours later the plane roared away carrying 64 army nurses who had worked with the Yanks on Bataan and Corregidor and were subsequently held in Santo Tomas internment camp. The nurses were the first Santo Tomas internees to start home.

C OF C SUGGESTIONS:

Pat McBrayer's Proposal For Vets' Hospital Wins Bond

A proposal to make the celebrated health-giving of Cleveland Springs a basis for going after a government convalescent hospital won for C. B. "Pat" McBrayer, local attorney, the \$25 war bond offered by the chamber of commerce for a feasible project to be undertaken as a community endeavor under sponsorship of the chamber of commerce and merchants association.

Miss Shirley Phillips, a student at Gardner-Webb with a suggestion for a youth program built around a community center won honorable mention in the competi-

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MARSHAL STALIN, PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, MEET AGAIN—Marshal Joseph Stalin (left) and President Franklin D. Roosevelt confer in the palace at Yalta, Crimea, Russia, scene of the "Big Three" conversations at which military plans for the final defeat of Germany was discussed.

Fighting For Manila Grows More Violent In Final Stages

Germans Maul U. S. Infantry In Luguria

ROME, Feb. 13.—(AP)—The U. S. 92nd infantry division and its supporting armor were mauled severely in weekend fighting attendant upon their abortive attack in the Ligurian coastal sector, 15th Army group headquarters said today.

A special report from Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark's headquarters concerning the attack on the negro division, which official dispatches earlier had tended to discount as minor action, said:

"Casualties and tank losses were relatively high and no net gains in terrain were made."

Sharp German counterattacks supported by concentrated artillery and mortar fire repulsed the negro doughboys after they had gained as much as a mile on a five-mile front. The 92nd's first full attack as a division was launched last Thursday and penetrated to within two and one-half miles of Massa before the enemy recovered from surprise and drove the Americans back in four days of fighting.

Action in the sector yesterday was limited to patrolling after the 92nd had fallen back virtually to the starting point of its attack, near the south shore of the Piume La Foce, a small stream south of Massa.

In the Serchio valley about 15 to 20 miles inland, however, the enemy continued to launch small scale counterattacks against American positions.

Air action was restricted yesterday but B-25 gunners over Legnano had an engagement with 15 enemy fighters and knocked down at least four.

Gunsners who shared the victories included Staff Sgt. William A. Linthicum of Durham, N. C.

WHAT'S DOING

TODAY 7:00 p.m.—Regular meeting of Lions club at Hotel Charles. 7:30 p.m.—Rotary club directors meet with Tom Moore at his home. 7:30 p.m.—C.A.P. members meet at armory. 7:30 p.m.—Order of Eastern Star, Shelby chapter 110, meets at Masonic Temple.

WEDNESDAY 7:00 p.m.—Officers and teachers of First Baptist church meet at church. 7:30 p.m.—Presbyterian prayer meeting at church. 7:30 p.m.—Fellowship hour at Central Methodist church. 7:45 p.m.—Mid-week prayer and praise service at First Baptist church.

Armored Units In North Reach Pacific Coast To Cut Luzon In Two

MANILA, Feb. 13.—(AP)—Japanese suicide troops, cornered in south Manila's flaming battle pit by a juncture of three American divisions, were being compressed and liquidated today as their only possible havens of refuge, Corregidor and Bataan, smoldered from a record 1,000-ton saturation bombing.

The final phase of the battle for the Philippine capital was mounting in ferocity as Yanks of the 37th infantry, First cavalry and 11th Airborne divisions made contact to pin the Japanese against Manila Bay south of the Pasig river mouth.

While Sixth division armored units far to the north rolled to the Pacific coast to cut Luzon in two, the three Yank divisions in Manila's shell-wrecked downtown area braved rockets, heavy artillery, machine-gun fire and mined streets in their drive to finish off the enemy garrison now confined to less than five square miles.

Across Manila Bay, American bombers poured a devastating load of more than 700 tons of bombs on the southern end of Bataan peninsula and over 200 tons on Corregidor fortress in a 48-hour period up to Sunday night.

The hazard of any Japanese flight across the bay was reflected in Gen. Douglas MacArthur's communique reporting that American fighter planes sank 35 barges, loaded with 2,500 enemy troops, off Bataan on Sunday.

MacArthur, describing the Manila fight as "extraordinarily fierce," said the desperate enemy penned up near the south Manila docks "now is closely enclosed and is gradually being compressed into extinction."

He said "very care was being taken"

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Men, Materiel Massed On European Fronts For Final Offensives

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—(AP)—Allied armies already plunging toward the heart of Germany massed men and materials for even more powerful offensives today in accord with a big-three master plan to hasten the end of the war and the beginning of a secure peace.

The pattern of the peace—the Dumbarton Oaks proposal for a new league—is to be laid before a United Nations conference to be called at San Francisco April 25.

Those are the over-all results of President Roosevelt's eight-day meeting at an old czarist palace at Yalta in the Crimea with Premier Stalin and Prime Minister Churchill.

By their own word it offers the world renewed hope, after Germany's unconditional surrender, for generations of international security in which men "may live out their lives in freedom from want and fear."

The dark curtains of secrecy were drawn from the conference late yesterday. This revealed that the big three had agreed not only on mighty new blows to crush nazism and permanently disarm Germany, but also on several pieces of specific peace machinery to guarantee independence and self-determination to the small countries of Europe. A formula for creating a new government in Poland, which will be acceptable to all three powers, is included.

The three leaders apparently compromised the split between the United States and Russia over the voting rights of great powers in the proposed Dumbarton Oaks security plan. This cleared the way for the United Nations conference and they decided to call it for San Francisco on April 25. That is the date by which Russia must renounce her non-aggression treaty with Japan if it is not to run for another five years.

Diplomatic officials here discounted the significance of this fact, terming it a coincidence. But it raised all over again speculation that Stalin had now declared to Roosevelt and Churchill an intention to enter the war in Asia when military conditions in Europe permit.

The Big Three announcement, covering nine major points, was hailed at the capitol by both Republicans and Democrats.

It commits the United States to a new and active role in the settlement of European political affairs—a new departure in American foreign policy. To consider these problems as they arise British, Russian and American foreign secretaries are to meet every three or four months, beginning after the San Francisco conference.

On his way home from the Crimea, Secretary of State Stettinius has gone to Moscow for a brief visit. The whereabouts of Stalin, Churchill and Roosevelt were not disclosed.

Military decisions were made early in the conference and the staff chiefs who participated are presumably all enroute after issuing the initial orders necessary to mount the promised new assaults on Germany.

The Crimean agreement pledges the greatest alliance of military and political power in history to support the ideal of a peace based on the Atlantic Charter, which

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Russians Smash Nazis' Bober Line Defenses

LONDON, Feb. 13.—(AP)—Russian troops smashing the Germans' Bober river line have sliced to within 70 miles of Dresden, and farther north are hammering toward Sommerfeld, only 17 miles from a junction with Marshal Gregory Zhukov's army fighting before Berlin, German broadcasts declared today.

The Berlin radio also announced evacuation of Budapest, ruined Hungarian capital, far to the southeast.

A DNB broadcast said troops of Marshal Ivan Konev north of Sagan on the Bober river were beating toward Sommerfeld, 17 miles below the Oder river's southern bank where Zhukov's first White Russian Army is fighting. Sommerfeld is 70 miles southeast of Berlin.

The German high command communique said Konev's troops farther south had burst over the Bober river and reached the Queis river sector, five to 10 miles beyond.

The Queis is five miles west of the Bober at Bunzlau, captured by the Russians, and spread 10 miles from the Bober farther north before joining it just south

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SEEK TO AMEND ELECTION LAWS

Matheny Of Rutherford Presents Bill Affecting Elections

RALEIGH, Feb. 13.—(AP)—A bill to amend the general election laws, providing for the extension of the registration periods for one week, increasing the pay of election officials by \$1 a day, and allowing county elections boards to divide precincts having more than 1,500 registrants, were introduced in the legislature today by Senator Matheny of Rutherford.

The measure went to the committee on elections and election laws. Senator O'Berry of Wayne introduced a bill to extend the time of operations of municipal capital reserve funds to 1949; and Senators Forcyst and Matheny of Rutherford sent up a measure to require local governing bodies to issue certificates of necessity to taxicab companies, which in turn must carry sufficient insurance.

A bill by Senator Aiken of Catawba would allow the state to appeal judgements in criminal cases on the following grounds: Where judgment for a defendant is rendered in a special verdict; upon demurrer; on motion to quash; arrest of judgment; on motion for a new trial on grounds of newly discovered evidence, but only on a question of law; and upon declaration that the statute involved is unconstitutional.

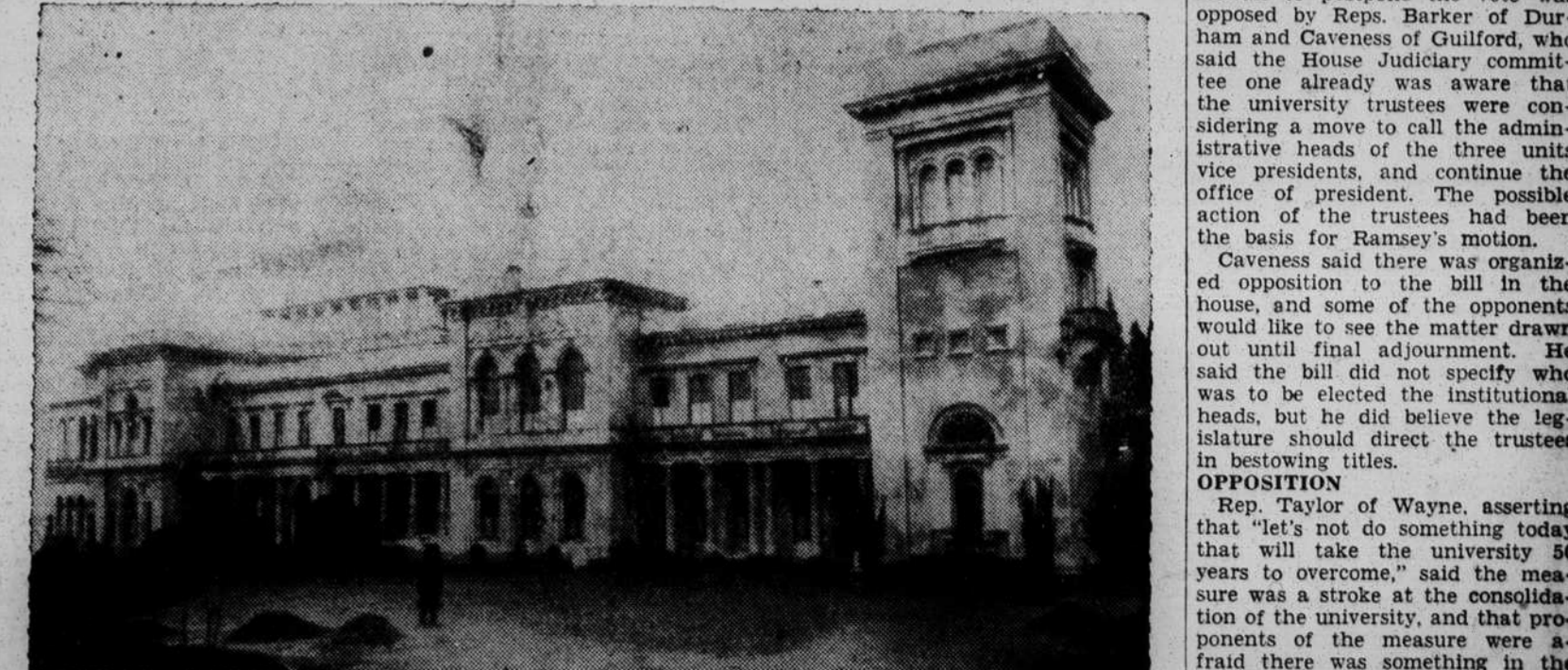
UNIVERSITY BILL By 33-47, the House postponed until February 20 a vote on a bill to create the titles of chancellor of the greater University of North Carolina and three presidencies.

A motion by Rep. Ramsey of Rowan to postpone the vote was opposed by Reps. Barker of Durham and Caviness of Guilford, who said the House Judiciary committee one already was aware that the university trustees were considering a move to call the administrative heads of the three units vice presidents, and continue the office of president. The possible action of the trustees had been the basis for Ramsey's motion.

Caviness said there was organized opposition to the bill in the house, and some of the opponents would like to see the matter drawn out until final adjournment. He said the bill did not specify who was to be elected the institutional heads, but he did believe the legislature should direct the trustees in bestowing titles.

Rep. Taylor of Wayne, asserting that "let's not do something today that will take the university 50 years to overcome," said the measure was a stroke at the consolidation of the university, and that proponents of the measure were afraid there was something in the trustees' report to "break up pet schemes to get one leg in to break up the consolidation." His asser-

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SCENE OF BIG THREE CONFERENCE IN RUSSIA—This palace in Yalta, Crimea, Russia was the scene of the "Big Three" conference at which plans for shortening the war in Europe and on complete elimination of Nazism and German militarism were discussed. President Roosevelt's quarters and the main conference room are on the second floor, right wing.