

WEATHER

Partly cloudy and continued hot today and tonight; scattered thundershowers this afternoon and night, Sunday considerable cloudiness, not so warm.

The Shelby Daily Star

- State Theatre Today -
"SWING OUT, SISTER"
RED CAMERON
GRACE McDONALD

CLEVELAND COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER SINCE 1894 TELEPHONES 1100

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SHELBY, N. C.

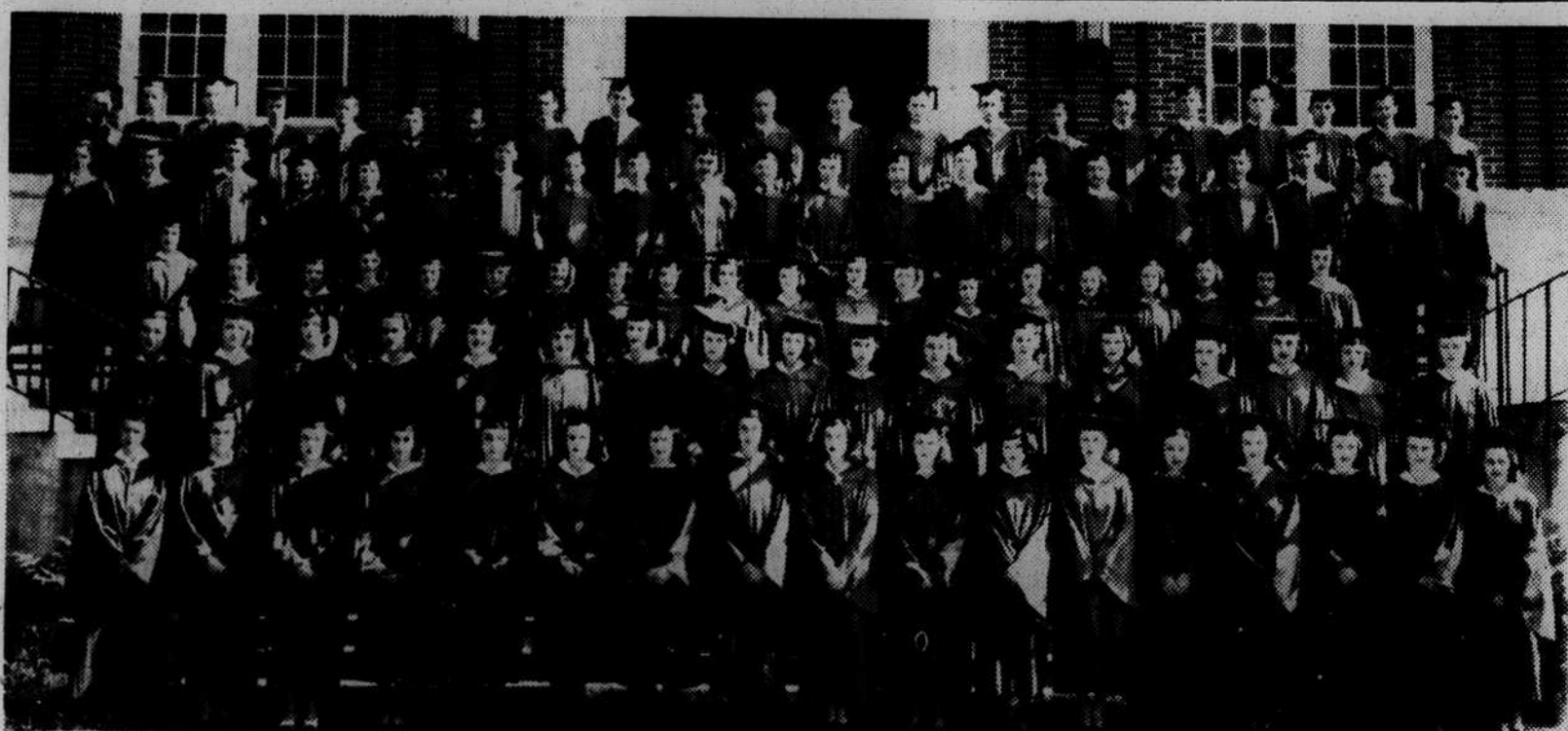
SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 1945

TELEMAT PICTURES

SINGLE COPIES-5c

FRANCE NOT WILLING TO DISCUSS SYRIAN ISSUE

Yanks On Okinawa Drive Toward Island's Main Airfield, Harbor



GET DIPLOMAS—The 1945 graduating class (above) of Shelby high school, members of which received their diplomas at exercises held in the high school auditorium last night. There are 100 members of this class.—(Photo by Ellis.)

JAPS RESISTING IN PHILIPPINES

2,117,482 Tons Of Japanese Shipping Sunk Since Jan. 1

MANILA, June 2.—(AP)—Yanks of the 38th division ran into strong opposition yesterday while attacking Japanese elements forced out of the old Shimbu line east of Manila.

Enemy resistance also stiffened again on Mindanao Island, but Americans pushed into the head of the Cagayan Valley, prospective last stand for the Japanese on Luzon, and a survey showed Allied air forces in this area had sunk or damaged 2,117,482 tons of Japanese shipping since January 1.

Despite the beating administered to the Shimbu line by the Americans after the Japanese were driven into that sector from Manila in February, the enemy managed to conserve important forces there.

In yesterday's attack 150 or more Japanese were killed at a river bend position.

DRIVEN BACK
On Mindanao, the 31st division drove the enemy back about half a mile east of Maybalay but reported heavy opposition Wednesday from Japanese held hill coverts east of Managok.

The 32nd division blasted the last of the Japanese from the Villa Verde trail, historic route between the central Luzon plains and the Cagayan valley.

The 32nd joined the 25th division north of the trail recently but had to backtrack and clear several road blocks and hill positions to make the road safe for traffic. The trail has been widened to highway dimensions. The 32nd built the road with armored bulldozers and, in the course of the job, killed more than 9,000 Japanese.

CAGAYAN VALLEY
From the new road the Yanks can drive into the Cagayan Valley, where the Japanese are concentrating for a final stand. It is their last major hold on the Philippines.

To the west of the Villa Verde trail, doughboys of the 33rd division entered tunnels of the Balatoc mine and found the bodies of about 200 Japanese who apparently were killed by fellow soldiers or left to die because they could not move.

Philippine President Sergio Osmena announced one division of the commonwealth army had been accepted by Gen. Douglas MacArthur for "the campaign against Japan" and would be equipped with American arms. It is being formed at two centers on Luzon Island.

1,221 Japanese Killed In Kama Escape Bridgehead
CALCUTTA, June 2.—(AP)—British empire troops have killed 1,221 Japanese soldiers attempting to flee eastward in the Kama "escape bridgehead" east of the Irrawaddy 17 miles north of Prome, a southeast Asia command communique announced today.

Enemy stragglers were being hunted down as Allied troops continued mopping up in Burma.

Seniors Receive Diplomas, Awards

Tribute Paid To Miss Selma Webb; Citizenship Medals To Carolyn Wilson, Dick Bowling

A class of 100 students last night received their high school diplomas at graduation exercises held in the auditorium of senior high school here when diplomas were awarded the graduates by Principal J. G. Hagaman.

Prior to awarding of diplomas, Walter Abernethy, superintendent of city schools, presented a number of awards and certificates of merit to various school students and announced that one of the best-loved members of the city school faculty, Miss Selma Webb, principal of South Shelby elementary school, has resigned from active service in the city schools after 40 years of teaching.

Mr. Abernethy paid high tribute to Miss Webb for her outstanding service to the youth of Shelby and for the role she has played as a teacher and principal in the city school system. "She has rendered invaluable service to our city and I doubt if anyone will ever equal her record here. It is with deep regret that I announce her resignation from active service in our schools," he said. The audience stood in tribute to Miss Webb who was present at the graduation program.

CITIZENSHIP AWARDS
The most coveted awards presented to members of the graduating class each year, the Max Washburn and Bess Hoy citizenship awards given to the boy and girl who are most representative of good citizenship, were won by Dick Bowling, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Bowling, and Carolyn Wilson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hackett Wilson. Both students have made outstanding records in scholarship, leadership and service during their high school careers.

Charles Burrus, Jr., was awarded the "GREAT COURAGE" award for his part in the Okinawa operation in which he has been engaged as been distinctly the most extensive and protracted of all operations by the Fifth fleet.

GREAT COURAGE
"Warfare conducted by ships of the fleet has been characterized by great determination and courage. It has resulted in the greatest naval casualties encountered in any of our operations to this time," Vice Adm. Raymond A. Spruance, commander of the Fifth fleet, said in departing from sea duty to plan new operations ashore.

In a short talk on the occasion of his receiving the Navy Cross for his part in the Okinawa operation, Spruance said: "The Okinawa operation in which we have been engaged has been distinctly the most extensive and protracted of all operations by the Fifth fleet.

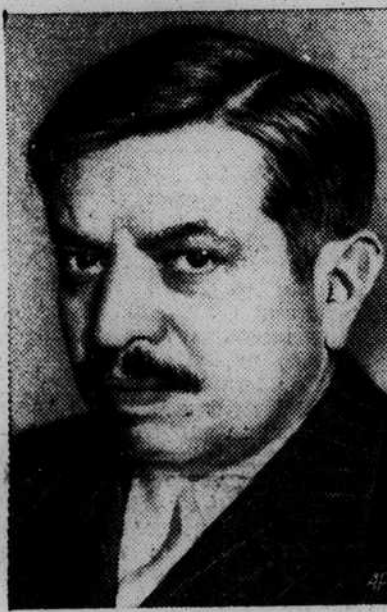
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BUS SERVICE IS EXTENDED
City bus service from the Dover Mill to Shelby hospital was started this morning by the Shelby Transit company on hourly schedules. Everett Houser, manager of the company stated this morning that there would be no Sunday service on this line as the ODT order carried permission for only six days of service a week.

Wounded Soldiers Come For War Workers Week

Everything is in readiness for the curtain to rise in Shelby Monday morning on War Workers week celebration. Various show windows will be filled with exhibits of articles in which Cleveland county manufacture has had a part. These windows will be dressed early Monday and the exhibits will be shown for the entire week.

Through the efforts of John M. Gaston, local office manager, United States Employment Service, and the Army's Fourth Service Command, a team of wounded soldiers will be in Shelby June 4, 5, and 6



PIERRE LAVAL

LAVAL SAID SUICIDE VICTIM

Another Unconfirmed Report Says He Has Decided To Surrender

PARIS, June 2.—(AP)—A London report that Pierre Laval had committed suicide was received with skepticism today in Paris circles where the former Vichy chief of government was well known.

(The exchange telegraph agency in London quoted the Luxembourg radio as saying Laval had committed suicide.)

These sources had no information concerning the radio statement, nor the earlier claim that Laval, last reported in Spain, had agreed to surrender himself to France.

"He is not the type to settle things so easily," said one person who had known Laval.

LONDON, June 2.—(AP)—The exchange telegraph quoted the Luxembourg radio today as saying that Pierre Laval had committed suicide.

The Associated Press monitor who listened to the Luxembourg broadcast, said, however, he had heard nothing in the report indicating that the French chief of government had taken his own life.

The Associated Press monitor said the only reference to Laval he had seen was in the Luxembourg broadcast.

WHAT'S DOING
TODAY
Street sale of poppies all day for benefit of disabled veterans.

8:15 p.m.—Exhibition baseball game between Shelby and Cherryville Legion teams at high school park.

10 DAYS MAY SEE END OF RESISTANCE

West Coast Peninsula Below Naha Alive With Jap Troops

25 U. S. SHIPS LOST

By Hamilton W. Faron
GUAM, June 2.—(AP)—The U. S. 10th army, after completing erasure of Japan's main defense line on southern Okinawa by capturing all of Shuri, sprang forking drives today aimed at obtaining use of the island's best airfield and harbor.

A front line dispatch from Associated Press correspondent Al Dopping said another 10 days may see the end of organized enemy resistance.

An Okinawa dispatch from Associated Press Correspondent Vern Haughland noted, however, that the west coast peninsula below the fallen capital of Naha is "alive with troops" in position to defend the big Naha airfield.

An official Navy spokesman said yesterday in Washington he was convinced the backbone of Japan's Okinawa defenses has been broken.

Tokyo radio found little to say about the ground operations but sought to bolster the homeland with extensive claims of American shipping sunk by suicide planes and assurances that such attacks are in the offing. The unnamed American Navy spokesman in Washington listed losses of 23 U. S. Navy ships and two merchant ammunition ships in the Okinawa area since the invasion on April 1. More than 40 others have been damaged.

2,000 YARDS
The complete occupation Friday of heavily fortified Shuri, in the center of the once formidable Naha-Yonabaru line, was announced in today's fleet communique which reported general advance yesterday up to 2,000 yards.

On the west coast below fallen Naha, Maj. Gen. Lemuel C. Shepherd's Sixth Marine division crossed the Kokuba river yesterday. That put it in position to cut across a peninsula containing the largest and best enemy airfield on Okinawa.

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Pacific Area Commands Are Reshuffled

GUAM, June 2.—(AP)—Return of Adm. William F. (Bull) Halsey to Pacific action with his Third fleet was announced today by Adm. Chester W. Nimitz in a significant report on the shuffling of commands to meet new phases of the Pacific war.

In the shift, by which Halsey's famous Third fleet of Leyte gulf took over the offensive in the Ryukyu and Okinawa waters May 27, Adm. Raymond Ames Spruance who directed the conquest of Iwo Jima and the Okinawa campaign up to the change, moved over to establish temporary shore headquarters in Guam.

The Japanese can be assured that in his current assignment, Adm. Spruance will be planning the greatest, most powerful assaults yet delivered against them, with either the home islands or key Chinese coastal areas as the objectives.

COMMANDER
Underlining the fact the Okinawa campaign has passed from the amphibious operations phase, Nimitz said the Tenth army and other forces in the Ryukyus under Lt. Gen. Simon Bolivar Buckner, Jr. now are under his (Nimitz's) direct control as commander in chief.

Vice Adm. John S. McCain returns to sea, commanding the Third fleet's fast carrier forces under Lt. Gen. Simon Bolivar Buckner, Jr. now are under his (Nimitz's) direct control as commander in chief.

Adm. Richmond Kelly Turner, commander of amphibious forces of the Pacific fleet, who recently was promoted from vice admiral to the full four stars, relinquished command of the Fifth amphibious force to Vice Adm. Harry W. Hill, who now directs all amphibious forces in the Ryukyus. Admiral Turner simultaneously has held both commands.

Carrier Planes Renew Attacks On Japan In Wake Of Fire Raids

By Leif Erickson

GUAM, June 2.—(AP)—Carrier raids on Japan were renewed today, Tokyo radio reported, in the wake of B-29 fire raids which have inflicted "shockingly great" damage on Nippon's major industrial cities.

Tokyo reported "approximately 20" seaborne fighter planes and an unannounced number of flying boats from bases in the Kerama islands bombed and strafed air-dromes on Kyushu island for two hours this morning.

Some raiders also strafed trains in their attack on the most southern island of Nippon, Tokyo said.

The report followed other enemy broadcasts saying Superfort fire raids on Tokyo had forced the capital's residents to dig subterranean homes and predicting martial law might be declared to meet devastation inflicted by B-29s.

A Japanese domestic broadcast quoted an editorial in the Tokyo Mainichi saying that "because of the fact that the number of war victims has increased to such a

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Russia Stands Firm On Veto Controls

Moscow Firmly Opposed To Any Relaxation Of Big-Five Veto-Powers

By John M. Hightower

Associated Press Diplomatic News Editor
SAN FRANCISCO, June 2.—(AP)—Russia is standing firm on a rigid interpretation of big-five veto controls over United Nations machinery designed to keep world peace.

Ambassador Andrei Gromyko, Soviet delegation chief, handed a new note on the Russian attitude last night to Secretary of State Stettinius and the chiefs of the British, French and Chinese delegations at the United Nations conference.

It was learned today that when Gromyko rapidly summarized its contents others present gathered that Moscow firmly opposes any relaxation of the veto power and may be objecting even to receipt of a complaint by the security council of the projected world organization except when there is unanimous agreement among the big powers.

The veto power stands as an over-riding right of any of the Big Five nations to forbid any decisive step it may disapprove.

While this appeared to intensify differences among the Big Five over how the veto should be applied—Britain pressed for a less rigid interpretation—Stettinius went ahead nevertheless with plans for trying to speed the conference.

See RUSSIA Page 2

Conference Not To End On June 6

WASHINGTON, June 2.—(AP)—President Truman has been advised that the San Francisco conference will not close on June 6, as at first believed possible, but will continue for some days thereafter.

The White House said today the President will go to San Francisco for the final session, however, whenever that may be.

President Truman's disclosure that the U. S. army in the Pacific ultimately will be twice its present size, and "bigger than our army was in Europe at its height," will fall on sorry ears in a Japan which already is apparently abandoning its hold on southern China and concentrating its strength in the north.

There are signs the Mikado's war-lords are adopting Hitler's strategy for his desperate last-ditch stand. This was to fight a delaying action and ultimately to retire into his inner fortress for a

SAYS BRITAIN RESPONSIBLE FOR TROUBLE

De Gaulle Virtually Scorns Proposed Tripartite Conference

ONLY FEW TROOPS

PARIS, June 2.—(AP)—Gen. De Gaulle clearly indicated today that France will not submit the Syrian question to the proposed tripartite conference. He declared a number of British agents created the uprising in Lebanon and Syria.

Asked about submission of the problem to the conference of French, British and United States representatives, De Gaulle told a press conference:

"We wish that when we were invited to London an answer would have been given in a different way—and it would have been better also for the invitation itself."

France, he said, had withdrawn all but 4,000 to 5,000 troops from the Levant but Britain had kept 600,000 men there, including the Ninth army.

De Gaulle said British agents in the Levant had created a situation contrary to the interests of France. France had tried to negotiate with the Republics of Syria and Lebanon on pending questions, including France's material interests in the Levant, he said. France should have military bases in the world just as Britain and America, he asserted.

The French chief of state said a large measure of independence had been granted Syria and Lebanon.

LONDON, June 2.—(AP)—There were indications today that Gen. Charles De Gaulle was unwilling to take part at the present time in an international conference to settle France's dispute with Lebanon and battle-scarred Syria, as Moscow told other members of the Big Five "the conflict which has arisen must be settled in a peaceful manner."

An Associated Press dispatch from Damascus reported French forces there retired to their barracks late yesterday under the noses of British tanks. An official Paris statement had said merely that the troops had been ordered "to cease fire and hold their positions."

See SAYS Page 2

WEATHER MAN CROSSES LINES

Northeast Shivers As Southeastern Area Swelters

A mass of cold air moving down from the Hudson Bay region spread over a wide section of the nation today, putting a chill on the traditional June-moon business and a wet blanket over many a June bride's veil.

While the cool weather pushed down over the Great Lakes region and extended eastward to the Atlantic Seaboard and up into New England, another day of oppressive heat was forecast for the southeastern section of the country. Normal temperatures prevailed over the mountain states and along the Pacific coast.

HODGE-PODGE
The nation had a hodge-podge of weather yesterday. There was rain, snow, hail and sleet, in addition to unreasonable high and low temperatures. Heavy gales accompanied thunderstorms in some midwest states. Temperatures ranged from a low of 20 above in Oswego County, N. Y., to a sizzling 102 in Orlando, Fla., and Columbia, S. C. 101 in Savannah, Ga., and an even 100 in Jacksonville, Fla. Chicago's high of 85 was in contrast to a 49 in Milwaukee, 90 miles away.

Snow fell in Duluth, at the head of the Great Lakes, this morning as the mercury dropped to 32. Temperatures in the 30's were reported in other parts of Minnesota, Wisconsin and North Dakota while the lowest early morning reading in New England was 36 in Portland, Me.

Federal forecasters in Chicago said they expected a gradual modification of temperatures by tomorrow.

THE WAR TODAY: Mikado's War-Lords Already Adopting Last-Ditch Policy

By DeWITT MacKENZIE, AP Writer
President Truman's disclosure that the U. S. army in the Pacific ultimately will be twice its present size, and "bigger than our army was in Europe at its height," will fall on sorry ears in a Japan which already is apparently abandoning its hold on southern China and concentrating its strength in the north.

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