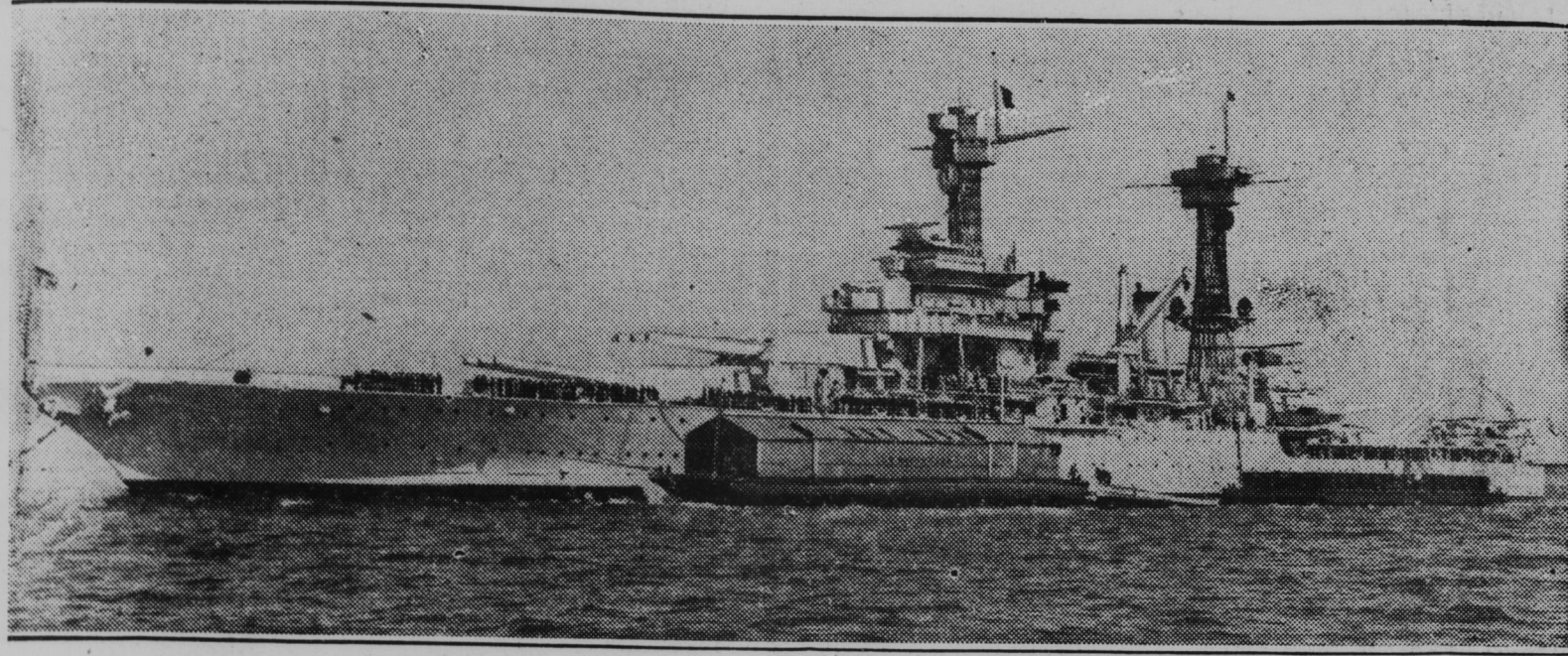


COMMONS CHEERS ROOSEVELT PEACE PLEA

Flagship Prepares for Dash to Pacific



Supply barges tie up alongside the United States fleet's flagship California as stores are hurried aboard preparatory to the battleship's departure for the West Coast from Norfolk, Va., in accordance with President Roosevelt's surprise order.

Head Of WPA Union Chamberlain Tells Investigators He Is A Communist

Would Not Overthrow U. S. Government by Force, but Sees no Harm in His Affiliation; Cushion for Business if War Comes Is Faked

Washington, April 18.—(AP)—Herbert Benjamin, general secretary of the Workers Alliance, told the House committee investigating the WPA today he was a member of the communist party.

In response to questions, he said he did not believe in overthrow of the United States government by force. He added that he saw nothing inconsistent in what he believed to be the philosophy of the communist party and the institutions and beliefs of the democratic form of government.

Benjamin denied, in reply to a question, that he had reported to the third international that formation of the Workers Alliance represented the successful culmination of a four-year campaign by the communist party.

Meanwhile, President Roosevelt called in his financial advisors to survey tentative plans as to the conduct of security and commodity markets in the event of a European war. Officials said the question already had been discussed in a preliminary way by department officials directly concerned.

The survey was described as embracing the whole subject of world trade as it would be affected by an outbreak of hostilities. Those called to the White House were Secretary Morgenthau and Under Secretary of the Treasury Hanes of the Treasury; Secretary of Agriculture Wallace, Chairman Jesse Jones, of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation; Chairman Marriner Eccles, of the Federal Reserve Board, and Jerome Frank, member of the Securities Commission.

Morgenthau, Wallace, Frank, Eccles and others went last week for a preliminary discussion of how to soften the shocks of foreign crises on American business.

The WPA said 12,000 WPA workers would be employed soon in a \$9,000,000 housing survey throughout the United States. Seventy-one surveys have been approached for 65 cities and counties in 26 states, including urban areas of North Carolina.

Other developments: W. Kerr Scott, North Carolina commissioner of agriculture, proposed the national farm program be enlarged to place more emphasis on marketing. He laid before Secre-

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\$108,000 Of Securities Disposed Of

Raleigh, April 18.—(AP)—The Local Government Commission sold \$28,000 worth of bonds and \$80,000 of revenue anticipation notes for four local governmental units today.

George I. Griffin, of Raleigh, bought \$18,000 Louisville municipal building bonds at par, with the first \$5,000 of maturities to be at four percent interest, and the remainder 4 1/4 percent interest.

Wilson county was authorized to issue \$40,000 school refunding bonds, and new school bond issues were authorized as follows: Franklin county, \$10,000; and others.

16 Highway Bids Opened

Raleigh, April 18.—(AP)—The State Highway & Public Works Commission opened proposals today for construction or betterments on 16 projects.

Low bidders announced this afternoon included: County 151, Pitt, grading, structures and surfacing, 2.92 miles between the Wilson county line and Fountain, C. O. Martin & Sons, of Summerfield, \$32,155.90.

1998 Johnston-Wilson, grading and structures on 10.62 miles of Route 42 from north of Route 39 to northeast of Contentnea creek, roadway, Laven der Brothers, of Earle, \$37,132.40; structures, Bowers Construction, of Whiteville, \$26,080.90.

Hitler Back In Capital After Trip

Goering Also Back From Italy and Will Report to Hitler on Conferences in Italy Over Reply to Roosevelt

Berlin, April 18.—(AP)—Chancellor Hitler returned to Berlin by train late today as Nazi Germany prepared to give him a tremendous ovation on his 50th birthday two days hence.

The reichsfuehrer's return after ten days absence in his Bavarian retreat, Munich, and in Austria, came shortly after the official announcement that Germany's modern fleet had put out to sea from Kiel and Wilhelmshaven on its way to spring maneuvers in Spanish waters. Field Marshal Hermann Goering also returned to Berlin tonight to participate in the Hitler birthday celebration.

Goering, chief lieutenant of the fuhrer, is expected to report to Hitler on his Rome conversations with Premier Mussolini and Foreign Minister Count Ciano at the first opportunity.

Wendell Man Gets Swindler In Mexico

Mexico City, April 18.—(AP)—Enrique Zepeda Ruiz was arrested today on charges of attempting to swindle R. B. Whitley, wealthy business man of Wendell, N. C. His capture followed an extensive investigation asked by United States Ambassador Joseph Daniels, who said several other Americans here and in the United States had made similar complaints.

Ruiz was alleged to have asked Whitley to send him \$4,000 for information that would lead to a large fortune which Ruiz said he was unable to acquire for himself because he was a prisoner.

SMALL TOWN BANKER TELLS OF LETTER HE RECEIVED

Wendell, April 18.—(AP)—A small town banker and his tobacco-n son "smelled a rat" when they got a proposal from Mexico City, which supposedly would return them \$95,000 for \$4,000, and Enrique Zepeda Ruiz was arrested in Mexico today on charges of attempting to swindle them.

R. B. Whitley, banker here, and his son, Philip, who runs a tobacco warehouse, and is Wake county Democratic chairman, cooperated with United States and Mexico au-

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Homes Along Ohio River Are Vacated

Families Prepare To Flee in Face of Rising Waters in Cincinnati Area

Cincinnati, April 18.—(AP)—Home owners on the Ohio river front loaded their possessions into trucks today as the river neared the crest of another minor flood. Residential settlements along the bottom lands of Newport, Ky., where the Licking enters the Ohio, were abandoned and refugees given aid. At Catlettsburg, Ky., confluence of the Big Sandy and the Ohio rivers, store-owners moved upstairs as water was expected to pour over Front street during the day.

Fears of damage abated at Huntington, W. Va., where United States engineers reported the expected crest of 51 feet would cover only low districts on the outskirts of the city. A forecast of cooler weather and only occasional showers over the four-state area dispelled threats of more serious damage. The week-end death toll of four was unchanged. A crest of 60 feet here was expected by tomorrow. Flood stage is 52.

Fed by scores of overflowing streams, after a record April rainfall, the Ohio continued to rise down stream. United States Meteorologist J. L. Kendall at Louisville forecast a crest of six to seven feet above flood stage by Thursday. Kendall declared there was no danger of widespread damage, adding that the usual river front buildings would be inundated.

Hatteras Park Commission Jobs Sought

Daily Dispatch Bureau, In the Sir Walter Hotel

Raleigh, April 18.—Proving the exception to the rule that there is little interest in purely honorary or non-paying places on State boards and commissions is current speculation over personnel of the Hatteras National Seashore Commission soon to be named by Governor Clyde R. Hoey.

The interest comes, however, from the fact that the project the commission will control is unique in America and is forecast by Federal park men as likely to be the greatest park attraction in the nation.

Estimates now are that within six months final conditions for creation of the park will have been met and work will be actively under way.

An appropriation of \$20,000 will enable the commission to proceed immediately with its work of putting together the acreage necessary for the project. About 7,000 acres are already available and the National Park Service will begin extensive work upon receipt of 10,000 additional acres. One proponent of the park, closely identified with it from the beginning, predicts that within six months the State will be able to acquire and turn over 20,000 acres. A maximum of 6,000 acres of shoreline is regarded as desirable.

Hatteras National Seashore will be the first great national beach park. The site, the Outer Banks from Oregon Inlet to Ocracoke Inlet, was se-

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Gen. Franco Starts Demobilization Of His Spanish Army

Burgos, Spain, April 18.—(AP)—General Franco today started demobilization of his Spanish army, with an order sending home the first 200,000 troops from all sections of Spain.

(It has been estimated the nationalist government had at least 1,000,000 men under arms).

Most of the first troops mustered out were in northern Spain. A majority of the armies in the south—the Seville, Madrid and Valencia

Storm Deaths In South Near Half Hundred

Little Rock, Ark., April 18.—(AP)—Fatalities in the tornado-marked South pushed toward the half hundred figure today, with rising streams offering a new threat to life and property. Relief workers moved to clear away debris and give succor to the homeless in eight states where 49 perished and 351 were injured. Property damage approached the \$1,000,000 mark.

Fatalities reported overnight were a 64-year-old Pike Creek, Texas, woman; a 70-year-old Hayesville, La., filling station operator; a 50-year-old woman and a 13-year-old Wabbescka, Ark., Negro.

In Arkansas, hardest hit by the twisters, eleven highways were closed by the high water from rainfall of near cloud-burst proportions, and six major streams were rising rapidly. Damage to roads was estimated at \$250,000.

One hundred WPA workers were dispatched to Newport, on the White river, and Morrilton, on the Arkansas river, to bolster levees.

Louis Starts East After Roper Defeat

Los Angeles, Cal., April 18.—(AP)—Joe Louis began packing up his belongings today to head east for his next odd job of defending the world's heavyweight championship.

Louis disposed of his California assignment last night in two minutes, 29 seconds, by the clock, leaving a game but battered Jack Roper knocked out in his own corner.

Twenty-five thousand fans, eager for a thrill, got it in short dynamic doses. Roper, fulfilling a promise to trade punches with the deadly puncher Louis, landed three vicious hooks to the head with his famed left. They weren't enough.

Louis, jolted by the first and stung by the other two, moved in for the kill. He got it with a right smash to the head, followed by a left.

There were other blows before the knockout. Roper pawed desperately for another chance to drop his sudaepunch on the Louis jaw. Louis straightened the old warrior up with a left upper cut. It started him out. The two finishers completed the job, a clean knockout.

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Heavy Quake Again Hits Chile Areas

Santiago, Chile, April 18.—(AP)—A heavy earthquake was recorded at 2:30 a. m. today in the area around Coquimbo and at Atacama province.

Coquimbo is an important seaport of 25,000 inhabitants 200 miles north of Valparaiso.

Reports reaching the government telegraph offices here said a series of shocks lasting four minutes was felt at the town of Copiapo, 12,000 population, capital of Atacama province. Considerable property damage was reported in the area, but no reports of casualties reached Santiago.

On January 24 a great area of southern Chile was devastated by an earthquake at a cost in lives estimated at from 25,000 to 30,000.

Nazi Plot On Patagonia Is A Boomerang

By CHARLES P. STEWART, Central Press Columnist

Washington, April 18.—A first class professional propagandist, doing his best to stir up anti-Nazi feeling in Latin America, couldn't have hit on a brighter idea than instigating the story of a supposed Hitlerian plan to grab Patagonia from the Argentine Republic. I know something about propagandizing in that section, for I handled Uncle Sam's publicity out of Buenos Aires during the period of our participation in the World War. In that period, two or three pro-ally riots were stirred up by it in Buenos Aires, in the course of which a number of German shops were sacked and the office of the big local German daily (La Union) was set on fire—though the Argentine smoke eaters put it out before much damage was done. But I admit I never thought of anything as good as this alleged Patagonian grab.

I say "alleged" advisedly, because it's hard for me to believe that the plan wasn't deliberately planted. Not that I doubt Herr Hitler's long-time ambition to horn into Latin America. However, this seems to me to have been too premature to appeal even to his judgment.

Didn't Fizzle Out.

Just after the story broke, I had a few remarks to make concerning it, but I supposed it would fizzle out.

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Weather

FOR NORTH CAROLINA. Partly cloudy tonight and Wednesday, preceded by light showers in north central portion and near the coast this afternoon or early tonight; somewhat cooler Wednesday and in south portion tonight.