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Germany Is Growing Weaker

British Search U. S. Freighter



A British officer, clad in shorts, descends from the bridge of the American freighter West Cossack, stopped at sea by a British destroyer for contraband search. The freighter was released after 19 minutes, but a number of American vessels have been held for many days, despite U. S. protests. (Central Press)

Active Hostilities Wait Naming Of The "Generals" In Gubernatorial Combat

Daily Dispatch Bureau. In the Sir Walter Hotel. Jan. 17.—Active hostilities in North Carolina's gubernatorial campaign will begin with naming of the "generals" who will command the forces of the half dozen or more candidates who aspire to the State's highest office.

Commissioner of Revenue A. J. Sowell has something of a jump on the field in the fact that he is already named with a State manager. It is quite probable that he will be named as the case if this bureau had not ferreted out the appointment of Burgin Pennell and announced it a week before there came official confirmation.

It is possible that others in the field have made similar appointments but so far there have been no disclosures to the enterprising and inquisitive news men with Raleigh now abounds.

Successfully have the candidates disclosed their intentions so far that

nothing more than a few rather nebulous predictions can be attempted. Before going into the managerial possibilities, a word on the negative side. State Senator John D. Lukins, Jr., of Jones county, is not now inclined to take over the reins of any one's campaign, although it can be stated on authoritative information that he was offered the command of two gubernatorial campaigns.

He was a "natural" in view of the fact that within the last two years he has successfully put over three statewide campaigns, two Jackson Day dinners from which he extracted the very last possible dollar for the Democratic campaign fund, and the sheriff's four-year constitutional amendment which he piloted to success despite the fact it had previously been rejected and in the face of North Carolina's known aversion to organic changes.

Larkins hasn't given up thought of

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Dies Report Is Surprise To Capital

By CHARLES P. STEWART, Central Press Columnist. Washington, Jan. 17.—Representative Martin Dies' congressional committee investigation of un-American activities in this country made progress today that was a surprise to everybody in Washington.

The general expectation was that the committee would declare Communist, Nazi and Fascism to be a permanent, throughout the United States. Instead they say they

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108 Missing From Three Submarines Lost by Britain

London, Jan. 17.—(AP)—The Admiralty announced today that a total of 108 officers and men were missing aboard three British submarines, loss of which was announced yesterday, but indicated that the death list may be less, since Germany had reported some of them rescued.

The submarines and their complements were listed as follows:

Sea Horse: five officers, 31 men; the Undine, four officers, 26 men; Star Fish, five officers, 31 men.

An Admiralty communique said "The German wireless has announced that part of the crew of the Undine and Star Fish have been rescued, but their names are not yet available."

The losses were the first submarine casualties Britain has acknowledged, due to German action since the war started.

Flue-Cured Exports Are Sharply Off

Washington, Jan. 17.—(AP)—Exports of unmanufactured leaf tobacco from the United States dropped almost fifty percent during the first eleven months of 1939, the Department of Commerce reported today. The 1939 export value of \$72,429,249 for 327,551,769 pounds of all types, compared with \$139,417,688 for 434,876,847 pounds during the first eleven months of 1938, and \$113,748,552 for 374,332,349 pounds during the same months of 1937.

The sharpest decline last year was in exports of bright flue-cured, which were valued at \$58,993,401 up to last December 1, compared with \$123,941,121 for the first eleven months of 1938. There were approximately 115,000,000 fewer pounds of flue-cured exported in 1939 than in 1938.

Browder Counsel Loses on Motions As to Passports

New York, Jan. 17.—(AP)—Counsel for Earl Browder moved unsuccessfully for a modification of an indictment against him today as the communist leader's trial on passport fraud charges opened in Federal court.

George Gordon argued that two of the three names under which Browder was accused of having obtained passports were superfluous, inasmuch as he was asked only the "last" name he had used when he applied for a fourth passport in 1937.

In the indictment, he is charged with having masqueraded as Nicholas Dozenberg, George Morris and Albert Richards.

Judge Alfred C. Cox denied Browder's motion to throw out the first two names.

Finns Have Russians On Run Again

Documents Found On Fliers Shot Down Reveal Plans to Bomb Towns in Norway And Sweden, Swedish Police Chief Says.

Helsinki, Jan. 17.—(AP)—Finnish troops, fighting in sub-zero weather, were reported driving the Russians back in the Salla region and advancing toward a new victory today.

Today's army communique ironically confined itself to the assertion that "our troops are fighting successfully in the direction of Salla," Finland's eastern border, just above the Arctic circle.

However, other Finnish sources said developments in the Salla sector raised hopes of further successes. The Finns reported they had routed a Russian company north of Lake Ladoga, killing 10 men and capturing two tanks.

The Finnish air force, the army announced, carried out "several bombing raids" on enemy columns and "concentration sites." One Russian plane was reported shot down.

A Swedish police chief, studying Finnish air raid precautions today, said maps had been taken from captured Russian airmen showing detailed routes from a Soviet air field southwest of Leningrad to points in Norway and Sweden.

"This looks like evidence they expect to do some bombing in Norway and Sweden," Police Chief Ernst Fontel, of Gothenburg, Sweden, declared.

Rep. Doughton To Retire At End Of Term

Washington, Jan. 17.—(AP)—Representative Robert L. Doughton, Democrat, North Carolina, the tall rangy 76-year-old chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, intends to retire at the end of this year "to take life easier."

President Roosevelt expressed regret when told at his press conference yesterday that Doughton had announced he did not plan to seek re-election.

Representative Cullen, Democrat, New York, is the ranking Democrat on the committee and will succeed Doughton if re-elected this fall and his party retains a majority in the House.

Doughton as chairman of the committee has steered through the House such bills as the reciprocal trade program, the social security law, and half a dozen tax measures. He has served in Congress since 1911.

Florida Might Back FDR Third Term

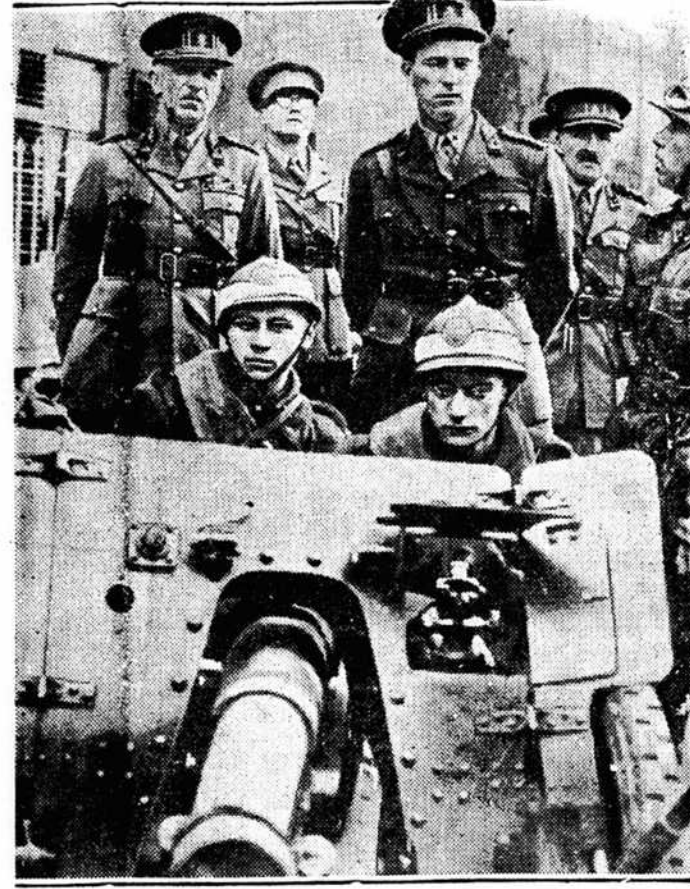
Washington, Jan. 17.—(AP)—A prediction that the Florida delegation to the Democratic National Convention would back President Roosevelt for a third term came today from Senator Pepper, Democrat, Florida. His statement, made soon after announcement that Ohio delegates would be in the Roosevelt camp if their "favorite son", Senator Donahue, failed to develop strength, kept the capital talking about the draft Roosevelt movement.

Pepper said he believed that Florida Democrats would elect 14 delegates who were friendly to the President, and would support him or any man of his choice, although they would go to the convention without official instructions.

The Republican list of presidential contenders was enlarged by the announcement last night of Frank Gannett, Rochester, N. Y., publisher, that he would be a candidate.

Gannett, outspoken critic of President Roosevelt and the New Deal, resigned yesterday as chairman of the Committee to Uphold Constitutional Government. He was particularly active against Mr. Roosevelt's Supreme Court reorganization plan, and his proposal for government administrative reorganization.

Leopold Takes Army Command



Threatened by new German troop concentrations on her border, Belgium hurriedly mobilized and King Leopold assumed supreme command of all the armed forces, as his father, King Albert, did during the first World War. King Leopold (right) and Belgian War Minister Dennis inspect a field gun during maneuvers. (Central Press)

Bus Lines Agree On Dividing Up Routes Following Hearing

Two Men Dead In Dupont Explosion

Gibbstown, N. J., Jan. 17.—(AP)—Two men were killed today and a third was injured in a nitroglycerine explosion that wrecked a unit of the DuPont Company powder works and shook an area of 20 miles.

Company officials began an investigation to determine the cause. New Jersey State police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation started inquiries — but withheld comment on any possibility of sabotage.

Residents of a half dozen southwestern New Jersey towns, and of parts of Philadelphia, 12 miles north, crowded sidewalks for half an hour after the mid-morning sock-tearing earthquake.

To Question Hull On Aid To The Finns

Washington, Jan. 17.—(AP)—The Senate Banking Committee decided today to ask Secretary Hull how American neutrality policies would be affected by extending financial assistance to Finland.

Pending his appearance at a closed session next Wednesday, action on all proposals—among them a plan suggested by President Roosevelt—was deferred.

In New York today, former President Herbert Hoover declared that Mr. Roosevelt's suggestion for credit extension "should be supported". Credit angles of possible financial assistance were canvassed by the committee today with Jesse H. Jones, the Federal loan administrator. Jones was quoted later as saying that a \$10,000,000 loan already granted Finland was a "sound credit risk."

It was reported, however, that Jones did not specify how much additional money might properly be advanced. Meanwhile, Senator Brown, Democrat, Michigan, author of a proposal to make an unrestricted \$60,000,000 loan to Finland, said he would redraft the measure to bring it more into line with the views of the administration.

Weather
FOR NORTH CAROLINA
Mostly cloudy and colder tonight and Thursday; probably occasional snow flurries in the mountains.

Convict Suicides At State Prison

Raleigh, Jan. 17.—(AP)—Weatherly Dillard, 31, hanged himself in his isolation cell at Central Prison today. Warden Hugh H. Wilson announced. He was serving a 25 to 40 year term given him in Richmond county in October, 1936, following his conviction of a crime against nature.

Wilson said Dillard was found by a guard shortly before 8 o'clock this morning, suspended by his belt from a heavy iron grill. His pulse was beating faintly when he was cut down, but efforts to revive him failed.

The convict left the following ironic note:

"Dear Mr. Dillard, from Boardman, N. C.,"

Fiscen records listed his parents as Steve Dillard and Mary Stone Dillard, addresses unknown.

Italy Told War Might Come Early

Rome, Jan. 17.—(AP)—Ettore Muli, secretary of the fascist party, warned Italians today that they might be compelled "at any moment" to fight in the European war. His warning was published after a conference with party leaders from 26 provinces.

The communique advised the Italian people not to be too greatly impressed by "the recent demonstrations of international sympathy" (evidently a reference to the friendly attitude displayed toward Italy by France and Great Britain since their war with Germany began).

"There is no need to lull oneself with the illusion that Italy's present situation with regard to war may last forever," Muli declared. "Fascist Italy may face the necessity and duty at any moment of picking up arms."

"It must, therefore, be prepared in its resources, and above all in its spirit. It is well to add that it is absurd and dangerous to derive too much satisfaction from the recent demonstrations of international sympathy which are without justification or foundation, and may not even be in harmony with the true

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People Told By Fascist Leader Not to Think Too Highly of Anglo-French Gestures of Friendship Recently Extended.

WASHINGTON-CLINTON BUS RIGHTS GRANTED

Raleigh, Jan. 17.—(AP)—The Utilities Commission granted the Norfolk Southern Bus Corporation a franchise today to operate between Washington and Clinton over Route 297. It also granted the company a route between Edenton and Plymouth over the new Albemarle bridge.

Long's Lead Is Almost Majority In Louisiana

New Orleans, La., Jan. 17.—(AP)—Ballot tabulations showed today Governor Earle K. Long, chief of the powerful political machine his brother built, must face a self-styled "reform" candidate in a run-off Democratic primary in his effort to win re-election.

It appeared certain that Long would fail to attain a majority over the field by somewhere between 20,000 and 30,000 votes, judging from incomplete and unofficial returns available before noon today, and that he must face Sam H. Jones, "reform" candidate and Lake Charles attorney, in a run-off February 20.

New Orleans, La., Jan. 17.—(AP)—Democratic gubernatorial primary returns drifting in from country parishes today whittled down a substantial lead built up in New Orleans yesterday by Governor Earle K. Long, seeking to continue in power the political dynasty founded by his brother, Huey P. Long.

It was indicated the combined vote of the four "reform" candidates would make a second primary necessary on February 20. The 12-year-old dictatorship never before has had to go into a run-off election.

In second place, well behind Long, was Sam Jones, Lake Charles attorney, who was being challenged for the run-off position by State Senator James A. Noe, former Long lieutenant, who broke with the administration after Huey's death. James H. Morrison, Hammond attorney, was fourth, and Vincent Moseley, Opelousas attorney, fifth.

The New Orleans vote expected to favor Long, because of the organization headed by Mayor Robert S. Maestri was tabulated quickly, but country precincts counted votes for local officials before the State ticket, and returns came in slowly.

The Statewide vote, 500 to 1,793 precincts: Long 80,292; Jones, 48,098; Noe, 36,945; Morrison, 8,799; Moseley, 1,272.

Parliament Advised Of British Ban

London, Jan. 17.—(AP)—R. L. Cross, minister of economic warfare, declared today that Britain's financial and trade war against Germany in the last four and a half months had placed the Nazi regime in the same economic position as the Kaiser's empire after two years of the World War.

"Our economic attack came into operation with a rapidity and soundness which was not anticipated, and it has given German economy a sharp shock," Cross told the House of Commons. "We look forward to the day when we shall have strangled Germany's economic life so that she can no longer sustain her war effort."

Great Britain's 660,000 railway workers were reported ordered on the alert today for acts of sabotage against the nation's lines. The vast "detective system" was understood to have been set up as the Daily Mail and Daily Herald reported that a plot by the German intelligence service to cripple the nation's railway network had been discovered.

The Daily Mail said the plot was aimed at public works and bridges. No arrests have been announced. The newspaper declared the conspiracy had been discovered only a few days ago, and that "counter measures" were expected to be put into effect shortly.

NLRB Agent Gave Money To Witness

Washington, Jan. 17.—(AP)—Evidence was presented to a House committee that a National Labor Board trial examiner gave a "handful of small bills" shortly before Christmas, 1938, to a Negro who had testified against an employer, charged with violating the Wagner act.

The Smith committee investigating the board put into the record a letter from C. W. Whittemore, the examiner, to Washington headquarters, telling how he and an associate had given the money to Sam Bailey, while they were at work on a case involving the Alma Mills at Gaffney, S. C. Whittemore, called to the witness stand, was not asked immediately why he gave the money, but he did say that he saw nothing wrong with making the gift. Whittemore's letter related that he and Warren Woods, NLRB trial examiner, walked five miles to the Negro's shack.

"We left Sam a handful of small

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