

German Claim Rout Of Allies

U. S. May Finance Plants For Producing Defense Materials

Support Of Defense Plan Is Evidenced

President Tells Press Conference Government Considering Re-commissioning All Remaining World War Destroyers.

Washington, May 17.—(AP)—President Roosevelt disclosed today that his government was considering re-commissioning all remaining world war destroyers—35 of them—which are now in service.

At a press conference he said also that they were being given to the navy for government financing of their expended production of defense materials, perhaps with some privately operated but government owned.

At the same time before the President's press conference was asked by the navy department to remove the existing tonnage limit on the Army's budget so that the military may be able to purchase the set of 50-odd anti-aircraft machines set up by President Roosevelt in his defense bill passed in Congress yesterday.

Support for the program he outlined continued to be evidenced in the quarters today. In New York, President Hoover said that he was not a partisan upon the principle of national defense.

In addition to all the other defense matters which the government is considering, Mr. Roosevelt disclosed that he has given to the advisability of establishing in the interior of the country factories vital to defense.

That applies primarily to new plants of existing plants, he said, rather than to picking up those plants now operating and moving them from the seaboard.

The President discussed at length the plan he expected to do with the money which he asked Congress to place at his disposal for defense operations and the additional authorization in contract authorization.

There might come up during the session when he would not want to go back, he explained, but he would be taken care of if he should go back.

The President's request for removal of the tonnage limitation was presented to the House military committee by Representative General L. D. Gasser, Michigan, chief of staff.

The hearing started today through the \$1,132,000,000 program.

BELGIAN CAPITAL NOW IS AT OSTEND

London, May 17.—(AP)—The Belgian government is now at Ostend, on Belgium's north coast, having moved there yesterday. Reuters (British news agency) reported today in an Ostend dispatch.

NAZIS AT ANTWERP

Berlin, May 17.—(AP)—German forces reached the outer fortifications of Antwerp, D.N.B. (British news agency) announced tonight.

U. S. Citizens Advised To Leave Britain

London, May 17.—(AP)—The United States embassy, on instruction from Washington, today advised American citizens in Great Britain to return home if possible. The United States is sending American agents to meet them on the west coast of Ireland.

American citizens called at the embassy today seeking advice and setting out of Britain and returning home.

The embassy estimates there still are 2,500 Americans in the United Kingdom, more than half of whom are in London area.

Ramsey Lauds Record Of Democratic Rule In State; Praises Administration

By Y. JOYNES MacFARLAN

Raleigh, May 17.—(AP)—Forty years of "honest" Democratic government in North Carolina and the courage of President Roosevelt to take "unprecedented measures" to stem "the fury of the depression" drew unstinted praise today from D. Hidden Ramsey of Asheville, keynote at the State Democratic convention.

Ramsey is general manager of the Asheville Citizen-Times newspaper and a veteran Democrat. The convention had a record delegate strength of 4,616.

The State and nation are on a sounder basis, and are richer, Ramsey said, because of changes brought about by the President and the state's Democratic governor. He especially lauded Governor Hoey and said the governor had "loved this state into a unity of spirit and purpose which it has never known before."

The key-note recited in some detail the accomplishments in the United States and in Old North State under Democratic administrations, then warned that the party and its leaders must not surrender to "a spirit of smug self-satisfaction."

Not only at home, but abroad, the problems and opportunities challenge

"the very best that the Democratic party has to offer in vision and leadership," he said, and pleaded for the Democrats to stand united.

"These are dangerous and anguished times," Ramsey warned, as he briefly touched on the foreign situation. "In Europe, the great democracies are in a death grapple with evil forces that seek to subjugate them. Over there decent civilization trembles in the balance and people of good will are threatened with all of the barbarism of a mechanized medievalism.

"The actual fighting may be confined to that continent but no one can safely place metes and bounds to the territorial cupidity and the foul and filthy ambitions of the German ruler. Certainly the repercussions of that conflict are already spreading into every crevasse of the world. No one knows what the morrow will bring to this nation in shock and in peril.

"This is no time for division within the Democratic party. We must close our ranks and exalt the welfare and security of the republic and of the State above every consideration of factionalism."

Only briefly did Ramsey refer to the Republican party: "The foe who was once able to give battle on vir-

tually equal terms has been reduced to a powerless minority. The Republican party has fallen to such low estate in North Carolina that it has lost its capacity to irritate, not to mention its power to command respect. It arouses in the compassionate Democrat more or sorrow than of anger."

The 40 years of Democratic rule in the state, Ramsey said, "have been years of prodigious progress for North Carolina and of notable achievement for the Democratic party. They have seen North Carolina win her rank as one of the imperial commonwealths of the nation." He praised Governors Aycock, Craig, Bickett, Morrison, McLean, Gardner and Ehringhaus by name, and also paid tribute to Senator F. M. Simmons, who died recently.

"Let this be said to the eternal and unquestioned credit of the Democratic party in North Carolina," Ramsey asserted. "In lean years and in fat years, in times of undisturbed power and in times of alert and powerful opposition, it has always given to the people of this state honest administration of their affairs."

"No North Carolinian in the last two score years has been forced to

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Czechs Off to Fight Nazis



Members of a Czech legion formed in London to take a crack at their arch foe are shown getting a "bon voyage" from Mme. Edouard Benes, wife of the former premier of Czecho-Slovakia, as they left for France to begin training. France already has a Czech legion on the Western Front. (Central Press)

German Radio Says Nazis In Brussels

Earlier Dispatch By Associated Press Correspondent at Front Says British Forces Have Stemmed Nazi Attacks.

By DREW MIDDLETON.
With the British Expeditionary Force on the French-Belgian Front, May 17.—(AP)—British forces have stemmed Nazi attacks in the Louvain area and the road to Brussels, 16 miles west of Louvain, still remains in allied hands.

Berlin, May 17.—(AP)—German troops marched into Brussels, the Belgian capital, toward evening today after British and French positions south of Louvain had collapsed, the Berlin radio announced.

The British army is holding its positions after two days of open warfare with German shock battalions and is waiting to see which way the German power concentrated in the Sedan area, some 80 miles air-line to the south, will strike.

The Germans there are poised to strike either to the north toward the defense before Brussels or to the south into France.

They may try to roll up to the British lines in a northward thrust from the Sedan area, but it was pointed out such a movement would leave them open to vigorous counter attacks by the French field army from the south.

The German advance attacked heavily in the Louvain area and have sent bombers far behind the lines in an attempt to bomb infantry and cut communications.

The latter movement met with small success. But three days of bombings in Belgium and France

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British Say Situation Is Improved, Though Serious

London, May 17.—(AP)—An authoritative source said today that the military situation from the standpoint of the allies "though very serious, may be regarded as slightly better than yesterday or on Wednesday."

A meeting of the allied supreme war council in Paris yesterday was described as having had "a very beneficial effect."

This is an authoritative British view of today's war position:

- 1—The situation on the French battle line is very serious.
- 2—However, the outcome is awaited with "complete confidence."
- 3—Reports from the fighting zones make it clear that the Royal Air Force "machine for machine and man for man is decisively superior to the enemy."

Germans Claim Allies Fall Back In West

Berlin, May 17.—(AP)—Alexander Kirk, United States charge d'affaires, was summoned to the foreign office yesterday and informed why Germany no longer regards Brussels as an open town. It was left to the American government's discretion whether to pass the information on to the Belgian government.

It was understood the Belgian capital's immunity to German bombing attacks expires today unless the city is stripped of its character as a fortified town to the satisfaction of the German high command.

German scouting planes, Kirk was told, established the fact that there were large army concentrations within the Capital, that railway stations were jammed with war materials, and that cannons were mounted in parks and public places.

ORDERS.

Paris, May 17.—(AP)—General Maurice Gustave Gamelin, the allied commander-in-chief, tonight ordered his troops to "die on the spot" rather than cede further ground to the German invaders.

GERMAN BOMBERS SINK DESTROYER

Berlin, May 17.—(AP)—The German high command reported today an allied destroyer had been sunk at Dunkirk, and two other vessels hit by bombs off that port in a series of raids by the German air force.

Weather

FOR NORTH CAROLINA.
Generally fair tonight and Saturday, except some cloudiness in mountains Saturday; slightly cooler, north coast tonight.

Allies Admit Reverses But Deny Rout

Hitler's Armored Units Drive 30 Miles Into France, But French Claim 'Pocket' Is Being Surrounded and Situation Is "In Hand"

Berlin, May 17.—(AP)—German troops tonight were reported "deep in northern France"—one source said without confirmation they were within 76 miles of Paris—in a continued drive from a broad opening forced between Maubeuge and Montmedy.

"Events in the next few days will show what it meant to force this opening," an authorized source said as it hinted the German campaign now is aimed at France in general and Paris in particular.

Berlin, May 17.—(AP)—The allies have been routed from Antwerp to Sedan and German forces have pierced the Maginot line in a way which even German optimists had believed impossible, authorized Germans claimed today.

These sources asserted the allied forces were unnerfed by Germany's awe-inspiring dive bombers and were "in hopeless confusion."

For Belgium, they said, there is only one sensible choice—capitulation before Brussels is laid in ruins and the remaining Liege fortress annihilated.

The army said in its regular communique that the Maginot line (actually the "little Maginot line" in that region) "was broken through on a width of 100 kilometers (62 miles)" around Sedan.

It reported that in Belgium the Dyle river defense system was pierced south of Wavre, 20 miles southeast of Brussels, and on the Namur front "the fortress was taken."

In London, British said that the allies had fallen back from some positions in the Antwerp to Sedan line, but that the situation was not completely clear due to the heat of battle. They said "rubbish" to German contentions that Belgium virtually is "finished."

Germany's thrust into northern France has been against the so-called little Maginot line fronting on Belgium rather than on the main Maginot line. Both of them, even as is Germany's west wall, are deep systems of fortifications rather than mere lines so that they may be pierced without being broken.

Paris, May 17.—Hitler's swift armored units have driven 20 miles into France to a battlefield about 100 miles northeast of Paris but French military spokesmen said the situation is still "in hand."

Three great battles are raging—one in the German bulge toward Paris in the Bethel region southwest of Sedan; another south of Sedan; and the third in Belgium where the Germans are thrusting toward Brussels with Louvain 16 miles east of the Belgian capital, the main scene of conflict.

The French high command admitted.

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Babson Cites Growth Of Spirit Of Cooperation

By ROGER W. BABSON, Copyright 1940, Publishers Financial Bureau, Inc.

Worcester, Mass., May 17.—More and more people are coming to the belief that the solution of world economic troubles does not lie in communism, fascism, or state capitalism. Rather, they believe it lies in a 100 per cent cooperative system. I am now attending a large church convention where this thought is being discussed. Cooperativists envision the entire world developed into cooperative groups for buying, job-seeking, health, insurance, etc. For cooperatives to succeed, however, their leaders must be inspired by a religious fervor—not merely by a desire to save a little money.

Consumer cooperatives have not made as much headway in the United States as in Great Britain, although they have grown steadily. The chain stores have done for us much what the consumer cooperatives have done for Great Britain. As handicaps in the paths of chain stores are built up, however, there may be a greater need for consumer cooperatives. Low farm prices will fertilize the ground for more marketing cooperatives in rural areas. Recently the cooperative spirit has been given a tremendous boost by the Blue Cross Hospital plan and may be due for another big victory in the White Cross Doctor program.

Forty Plus Clubs
But the real triumph of the cooperative movement is the forty plus clubs.

FDR Opposes Public Works In Relief Fund

Washington, May 17.—(AP)—President Roosevelt voiced opposition today to devoting part of the pending relief appropriation to public works. That, he said, would cut down on the number of jobs available to needy individuals.

In the House, where the measure is up for debate, Representative Woodrum, Democrat, Virginia, advocated that half of the money be allotted for public works.

Such undertakings, the President said at his press conference, require a much larger expenditure on materials which come from mines, forests, steel mills, and cement plants. Automatically, he said, that decreased the number of relief cases which can be cared for from the available funds.

The President said his new defense program would of course provide considerable employment, but it would by no means take care of the people on relief.

He said the \$975,650,000 relief bill must go through Congress rapidly because existing funds are expected to run out July 1.

State Delegation Is Instructed For FDR

North Carolina's 26 Votes in Democratic National Convention To Be Cast For Third Term; Delegates Are Named.

Raleigh, May 17.—(AP)—With a mighty shout the North Carolina Democratic state convention instructed today that its 26 votes in the national convention be cast for a third term for President Roosevelt, "if and when his name is presented."

The delegation would be bound to the President "until he is nominated or until his name is withdrawn from the balloting."

The convention adopted a platform pledging the party to reappointment of the legislature on the basis of the 1940 census.

The platform also states that "we endorse the principle of collective bargaining and equal justice to labor and capital"; pledges the party "to the continuation of the policy of non-diversion" of highway funds; asserts that the first objective of the party in highway matters is to improve secondary roads so that they will be passable the year round; and recommends a retirement plan for teachers.

VANCE COUNTY DEMOCRATS NAMED TO COMMITTEE POSTS

Raleigh, May 17.—(AP)—Democratic district meetings today named delegates to the Democratic national

Belgian Army Is Intact And Its Morale Is High

Paris, May 17.—(AP)—The Belgian army "remains intact and its morale is high" although it and its allies "moved to a new positions," declared a Belgian war communique issued at noon today in Brussels, according to a French news agency.

The communique said: "In relation to the operations by the allied forces and in close cooperation with those forces, the Belgian forces have moved to new positions calmly and in good order.

"Despite the numerous and difficult combats which many units have had to engage in since the start of hostilities, our army remains intact and its morale is high."

convention. Each district has a total of two votes in the convention.

Delegates by districts included: First—E. G. Flanagan, Pitt, and W. E. Rodman, Beaufort.

Second—R. L. Corbett, Edgercombe, J. C. Eagles, Wilson; also, if they can be seated, John H. Kerr, Sr., Warren, A. F. Williams, Wilson.

Third—Graham A. Barden, Craven, D. L. Ward, Craven, Dr. C. C. Henderson, Wayne, John Croom, Duplin.

Fourth—J. R. Poole, Johnston, alternate Mrs. B. A. Scott, Vance.

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Should Horton And Maxwell Be High Men, There'll Be No Run Off, Averill Declares

Daily Dispatch Bureau.
In the Sir Walter Hotel.

Raleigh, May 17.—There is hardly a chance that even an unwritten "gentleman's agreement" has been made between headquarters of Lieutenant Governor Wilkins P. Horton and Commissioner of Revenue Allen J. Maxwell, but there is a very prevalent belief that if these two candidates should finish one-two in the first Governor's primary there wouldn't be any second heat.

Politics being what it is, this can't be proved if it is so, and it will no doubt be vigorously denied if mentioned to henchmen of either; but it is being widely accepted as gospel truth.

Those who feel this way can advance very logical reasons—reasons which have convinced them if they will convince nobody else.

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