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British Claim Victory In Libya

Approval Of Lease-Lend Plan Is Predicted

Jailed by Hitler?



Gen. Werner von Blomberg According to the British Broadcasting Corp., Marshal Werner von Blomberg, one-time commander-in-chief of the German army, has been imprisoned in Landsberg Fortress in Bavaria by personal order of Hitler. The general, who believed that Germany peaked the wrong time to start a new World War, once said, "The unfortunate country which has Fascist Italy as a partner has no chance whatever of winning any war."

Long Debate Is Expected On Proposal

Leaders of Opposition Organize for Fight, But Administration Leaders Predict Eventual Passage of Bill.

Washington, Jan. 4.—(AP)—Ultimate approval of President Roosevelt's lease-lend plan for aiding the British was predicted by Democratic leaders of Congress today but they conceded that it would have to stand the test of "lengthy debate."

Providing for the lease and loan of war equipment to Britain with repayment in kind or in raw materials such as rubber upon conclusion of hostilities, the proposal already has become the foremost issue of the day-old 77th Congress and critics of administration foreign policy asserted that it would be stoutly opposed.

Among those, Senator Wheeler, Democrat, Montana, announced he would devote almost his entire time to fighting the plan. Senators La Follette, Progressive, Wisconsin, and Nye, Republican, North Dakota, expressed opposition to giving the President wide authority to effect this type of assistance to Britain and administration chiefs on the other hand expressed confidence in eventual acceptance of the proposal by Congress.

A close drawing of the lines of the controversy appeared, however, to await Mr. Roosevelt's presentation of his annual message on Monday and the introduction of legislation embodying the plan.

Mr. Roosevelt already has said that legislation to carry out the lease-lend plan would have to be fairly general in its provisions since all the things to be done could not be anticipated in writing the law. To this Senate Majority Leader Barkley added that the President would ask for broad and unlimited powers to make the plan effective.

Robbery Attempt Foiled By Guard

Belhaven, N. C., Jan. 4.—(AP)—A man identified by Constable Lee Guthrie as Steve Cromwell, escaped Calabogie Prison convict, was in a Washington hospital in critical condition today with gun hot wound which Guthrie said he inflicted when the man attempted to enter the Norfolk Southern station here last night.

Guthrie said the wounded man confessed taking part in liquor store robberies at Crosswell, Aurora and Jamesville, and participation in other crimes in the vicinity.

The officer, who had been assigned to guard a cigarette shipment at the railroad station, reported that two other men fled in an automobile when he opened fire.

Highway patrolmen blocked highways in an effort to catch the fleeing men after the incident was reported.

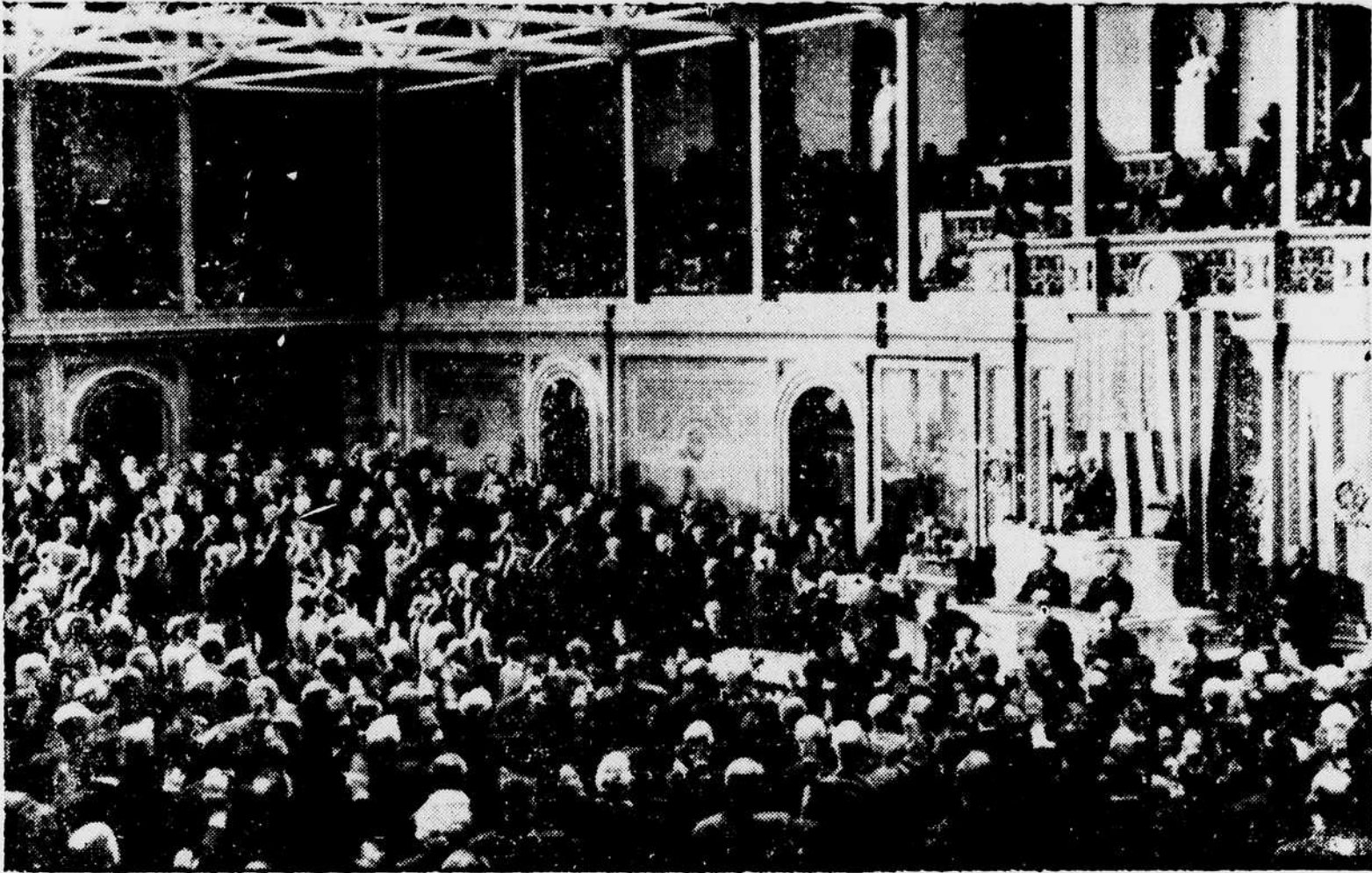
Tentative Sales Tax Bill Covering Food Exemptions Has "Blanket" Provisions

Daily Dispatch Bureau, In the Sir Walter Hotel. BY HENRY AVERILL

Raleigh, Jan. 4.—There may be some doubt how far Governor-elect J. Melville Broughton is willing to go in the exemption of food from the sales tax; but there's not the slightest doubt about the all-inclusive views of the exemption's principal legislative backer, Representative James Vogler of Mecklenburg.

Although he now says the final form of the bill to be introduced is "uncertain", there was nothing uncertain or doubtful about the tentative draft he sent out to legislators with the statement that it had been prepared at the request of Governor Broughton.

Members of the 77th Congress Take Oath



Here is a view of the scene in the House of Representatives as members of the Seventy-Seventh Congress of the United States took oath of office. Above the throng of legislators may be seen the steel scaffolding showing that repairs to the roof of the building are still in progress.

"Normal" Budget To Balance

Camp Construction May Bring Rackets

Broughton Ready For Inauguration

Raleigh, Jan. 4.—(AP)—For probably the last time before he becomes governor next Thursday, J. M. Broughton worked today at his downtown office here, winding up his private affairs.

He said he did not plan to return to the office and had reserved the time between now and Thursday for conferences regarding the inaugural program and governmental topics.

He has completed his inaugural address to be delivered Thursday at Memorial Auditorium before a joint session of the legislature, which will convene Wednesday.

On Capitol Hill all was said to be nearly ready for the convening of the legislators.

The first business will be organization with the selection of a speaker of the House and a president pro tempore of the Senate.

Candidates for the speakership are expected to begin setting up campaign headquarters here this week-end.

Officials Keep Close Watch on Developments; Only Few Workers on Closed Shop Jobs in State so Far.

Daily Dispatch Bureau, In the Sir Walter Hotel. BY HENRY AVERILL

Raleigh, Jan. 4.—State officials—especially Mayne Albright, head of the N. C. State Employment Service, and Commissioner of Labor Forrest H. Shuford—are keeping close watch on possible development of union labor "rackets" in connection with construction work at Fort Bragg, Holly Ridge and other government projects in North Carolina.

So far only about 500 workers out of some 20,000 at Bragg are working on "closed shop" union jobs, where the rackets flourish; and there appears no more than a suspicion of flagrant exploitation of the rank and file among this 500; but there have been confidential reports that efforts are being made and a big drive planned to organize the mass of carpenters, painters and unskilled workers both at Bragg and on the rapidly developing Holly Ridge projects.

Should any such drive make headway there would be opened up a tremendously rich field for the "initiation" and "dues" rackets which have made their appearance at almost all defense projects over the country.

The Messrs. Albright and Shuford are interested because the former is head of the sole employing agency at Fort Bragg and Holly Ridge and the latter is the North Carolina official primarily concerned with the actions of labor and the effect of those actions on the public.

And so they are keeping a keen eye on both projects, though exactly what they could do about it should gross racketeering develop is somewhat problematical, unless some criminal statute were violated.

So far, however, only the plumbers, electricians and welders at Fort Bragg are working under the "closed shop" plan under which the rackets flourish; and the union treatment of this half-thousand workers isn't as bad as in many places.

In order to get employment as a plumber, electrician or welder, applicants must be union members or must be willing to join the union upon entrance on the job.

Initiation fee is \$105, a tidy sum.

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Cold Wave Moves East And South

(By The Associated Press)

A cold wave brewing in Alaska and northwestern Canada engulfed most of the north central states today and moved toward the south and east at a fast clip.

With the drop in temperature came snow and strong winds. Early today the cold front had moved eastward through Indiana and southward into Missouri and Kansas.

The weather bureau at Chicago predicted that the cold wave would reach the Atlantic seaboard late tonight and that it would be felt as far south as the gulf coast.

Sub-zero temperatures prevailed throughout North Dakota and Minnesota, in most of South Dakota and in parts of Utah, Wyoming, Idaho and Wisconsin.

The mercury was dropping rapidly toward the zero mark in northern Nebraska and Iowa.

Deficit For Defense

Tax Revenues For Next Fiscal Year Expected To Be \$1,700,000,000 Over This Year.

Washington, Jan. 4.—(AP)—President Roosevelt, it was reported authoritatively today, will show a balance between tax revenues and "normal expenses" of the government in his forthcoming budget.

The budget, to be submitted to Congress next week, will be for the fiscal year beginning next July 1.

However, the "normal expense"—those exclusive of emergency costs—will amount to about eight billion dollars out of a total budget of approximately 17 billion dollars, it was reported, indicating a deficit of

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Associated Press Staff Man Declares Britain Has Begun Invasions Of The Continent

(Editor's Note: This striking exposition of British moves toward invading the continent was written—without the restriction of censorship—by William McGuffin, Associated Press staff man who has just arrived from England where he went through the Nazi blitzkrieg in France.)

BY WILLIAM MCGUFFIN

New York, Jan. 4.—(AP)—Britain has already begun to invade the continent—giving the Germans a quicker preview of the mass attack British generals have promised to deliver.

I learned from an extremely reliable source shortly before leaving England three weeks ago that the British up to that time had carried off at least nine daring motorcycle raids into German-occupied France.

Young volunteers from the British army make up these "suicide squads" which have three principal missions:

1—To terrorize and harass the German forces thinly strung out, to a point some experts say of great vulnerability, over a 1,000-mile

coastline. It's a page out of the German high command's copy book. No effort is made to hide the identity of the men. They wear the British khaki.

The British general staff wants the Germans to know that Tommies from the regular army have been able to penetrate the lines of the vaunted Reichwehr—to thumb a small but defiant nose, as it were.

The British aim apparently is to bolster French morale and keep the Germans in an unending state of nervous apprehension—no do "remind them" of what Britain intends the future should hold for them if such a fact is possible even now in Britain's admittedly weaker position as regards mechanized war equipment.

2—To capture prisoners and gather information from first hand observation within the German lines.

3—Sabotage.

Sometimes the raiders go across the short stretch of channel water in a trawler, sometimes in a fishing smack, sometimes the boats return, sometimes they don't.

Take Many Prisoners At Bardia

Cairo Dispatches Say Over Half of Fascist Defense Positions at Bardia Are Taken; Greeks Advance; Other War News.

(By The Associated Press.)

Britain's desert army claimed victory today over the Italian "suicide garrison" of Bardia, Libya, in an offensive designed to root out the last vestige of fascist military power along the western Egyptian frontier.

Without disclosing how long mopping up operations might take, Cairo headquarters of the army of the Nile said almost half of the fascist defense positions and between a quarter and a third of the 20,000 men the retreating Italians had posted at the seaport base had been captured.

Greece, too, claimed gains against the Italians—an advance which breached their lines in the central Albanian sector and opened the way "for an important development of the war."

A German radio broadcast heard in New York said there had been no change in the reich's formal relations with Greece, although Italians have announced the dispatch of a German air corps to assist Italy in "the Mediterranean basin."

The radio said a reply to a question as to whether German airmen would fight against Greece was declined by a spokesman "on the ground of incompetency to impart information on military matters."

Premier General John Metaxas renewed his prediction of Greek victory in a war which he said was aimed "to secure the independence and integrity of our country."

Australian shock troops were said to be widening a breach torn through the five-mile deep system of blockhouses, barbed wire, and machine gun nests guarding Bardia.

The British reported last night that more than 5,000 members of the Bardia garrison were captured in the first day's fierce assault.

The attack, started at dawn yesterday after a heavy night-long aerial bombardment, was said by the British to be continuing.

In the central sector of Albania, the Greeks reported their forces breached Italian defenses in drives toward Valona, Berat and Elbasani.

Neutral Ireland's accusation that German airmen were responsible for bombs dropped in the Dublin area and the government's demands for reparations and assurances against further raids elicited from an authorized German spokesman the statement that:

"Those bombs are English or they are imaginary."

British bombers were reported to have smashed for the third successive night at the important German port and industrial city of Bremen.

The raid, in which new types were said to have been started, was the royal air force's 55th attack on the city, the British declared.

Bristol, west England port, was a night target of Nazi squadrons and the British acknowledged "a number of casualties" and "considerable damage."

Daughter-In-Law Of Governor Dies

Shelby, Jan. 4.—(AP)—Mrs. Clyde R. Hoey, Jr., daughter-in-law of Governor Hoey, died early today in a hospital in Asheville.

Mrs. Hoey had been in poor health for a long time but her condition did not become grave until recently.

She and her husband lived at Canton. Before marriage she was Miss Bernice Hamrick of Shelby.

Four Youths Die As Train Hits Auto

Benson, Jan. 4.—(AP)—Four teen-aged Clayton youths, en route to a high school basketball game here, were killed in the residential section of Benson last night when their car collided with a south-bound Atlantic Coast Line express train.

Three of the dead—a boy and two girls—were members of Clayton high school basketball teams. The fourth, described by Solicitor Claude C. Canaday as the driver of the car

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Long War Predicted

Unless United States Steps In With Men, Stewart Says, War Will Last For Years.

By CHARLES P. STEWART, Central Press Columnist

Washington, Dec. 4.—Military men in Washington generally are forecasting a long war—unless the United States gets into it on a large scale, not alone with supplies, but with soldiers, too.

Experts say they don't believe Herr Hitler can effect a landing of any consequence upon English soil. They agree that he may drop a few paratroopers, but only to be captured as fast as they hit the ground. To accomplish anything worth calling an invasion, the expert consensus is that he'll have to ferry an enormous force across the channel or the North Sea and they are very confident that he can't do it—that he couldn't get the would-be invaders ashore, even if they succeeded in arriving within wading distance of J. M. Bull's beaches. And competent critics think the British fleet is quite competent to prevent that. Their judgment is that Adolf won't try it, either, because he must realize that his losses would be enormously greater than he could stand. In fact, they argue that a German army of invasion, by water, simply would be completely wiped out.

The psychological moment for a German attempt at an invasion, if any, of the island, according to our American observers, would have been directly after France's collapse. Having let that semi-opportunity pass, they argue, the fuhrer isn't a bit likely to undertake any invasion now—and if he does, they predict

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Weather

FOR NORTH CAROLINA Partly cloudy and considerably colder tonight, preceded by snow flurries in the mountains. Hard freeze in interior. Sunday fair and colder.

WEEKLY WEATHER For period ending January 8. For South Atlantic States (North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida Peninsula): Precipitation generally light or none for the period, except moderate showers north and central Florida and extreme south Georgia at beginning. Temperatures near normal or slightly below in the Carolinas and Georgia and generally above normal in Florida except near normal extreme north.