

Henderson Daily Dispatch

ONLY DAILY NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED IN THIS SECTION OF NORTH CAROLINA AND VIRGINIA

TWENTY-EIGHTH YEAR

LEASED WIRE SERVICE OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HENDERSON, N. C., MONDAY AFTERNOON, FEBRUARY 3, 1941

PUBLISHED EVERY AFTERNOON EXCEPT SUNDAY

FIVE CENTS COPY

BRITISH OCCUPY BARENTU IN ERITREA

French Naval Minister To Meet Laval

Pro-Nazi Paris Group Organized

"People's Committee" seeks closer collaboration with Germany and backs Laval for reinstatement in Vichy cabinet.

Vichy, France, Feb. 3.—(AP)—French Naval Minister Admiral Jean Duran was reported to have arrived in Paris by special train today and it was believed he would confer with former Vice Premier Laval.

It had been reported for several days that the navy minister was to make the trip from Vichy to Paris where a radio announcement told of the formation of a "people's committee" advocating close collaboration with Germany and praising Laval.

Although Chief of State Petain had announced that the misunderstanding between him and Laval was dispensed by their meeting last January 18, Laval has not been taken back into the Vichy government.

Recently the Germans were reported to have taken the stand that no further moves toward collaboration would be possible until Laval was brought back into the cabinet.

In Bern, Switzerland, it was reported that political leaders in Paris, where a new pro-Nazi "people's committee" was formed Saturday, had rejected overtures of the Vichy government, thereby threatening a speedy showdown in French-German relations.

In Berlin, authorized sources said the Wilhelmstrasse regards the new French "people's committee" at least with a friendly neutral eye although at the same time they emphasize it is exclusively up to the French people themselves to worry over their country's political future.

Greeks Take New Positions

Albans, Feb. 3.—(AP)—Greek troops opposed by fresh Italian forces were credited today with the capture of an important mountain range ten miles long in their drive from Kalamata into central Albania.

A government spokesman asserted the Greek attack yesterday was "really heroic" and netted uncounted machine guns, rifles and supplies in the positions from which the Italians were driven.

Most of the 270 prisoners taken belonged to units rushed into the Albanian fighting only last month.

Eleven Dead In Wrecks

Highway Accidents In North Carolina Take Heavy Toll Over Weekend; Many Hurt.

Charlotte, Feb. 3.—(AP)—Eleven persons died and many others received serious injuries over the weekend as a result of automobile accidents on North Carolina highways.

Seven were killed and five others hurt in two of the mishaps.

Near Charlotte, four persons were killed and three were injured before dawn yesterday when an automobile failed to take a curve and crashed into a store. The dead were Adrian L. Honeycutt and J. W. R. Binson, both of Davidson, Arlee Hager of Cornelius and Mrs. Mary Godfrey of Delta.

Three miles from Hemp, three men were killed and two others injured in a head-on collision, also in the early hours. Wayland Morgan and Winston Frye, both of Hemp.

(Continued on Page Two)

The Edison Commissioned



Here is the scene aboard the Edison at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, in New York, as the new destroyer was commissioned and formally placed under the command of Lt. Commander A. G. Murdaugh. The skipper is shown in center (left) being congratulated by Rear Admiral Clark P. Woodward. The destroyer is named for the late inventor, Thomas A. Edison.

Two Strikes Ended; Others Deadlocked

"Red Rose" For Willkie

Manchester, England, Feb. 3.—(AP)—Wendell L. Willkie received the "red rose of Lancaster" today, an honor rarely conferred upon Americans.

Visiting this Lancashire industrial city after an inspection trip through bombed Coventry and Birmingham, Willkie was met by a cheering crowd at the town hall where the mayor presented him the rose.

The red rose is a handloom from the War of Roses in which the red rose signified the House of Lancaster and the white rose the House of York.

Plans are being made for the American visitor to see King George VI and Queen Elizabeth and also King Haakon, emigre ruler of Norway, tomorrow. In the evening he is to dine with a British authors' delegation headed by Rebecca West.

Willkie expressed amazement to see this destruction and find the loss of life so small in Liverpool.

Legislature Hasn't Wasted Time So Far, Averill Says In Summarizing Activities

Daily Dispatch Bureau. In the Sir Walter Hotel. By HENRY AVERILL.

Raleigh, Feb. 3.—The General Assembly hasn't wasted all its time during the three and a half weeks of the present session, despite the fact that results of its labors to date are not altogether obvious.

There are those who seem of the opinion that there has been much dilly-dallying with resultant lack of accomplishment; but that view is held only by those who see only the outside of the legislative machinery. Those who are familiar with the inner cogs and gadgets which really make the things go are in general accord that the machine is moving along pretty smoothly and with reasonably accelerated gears.

On the other hand, both finance and appropriations committees are

(Continued on page two)

British Continue Air Assault

Daylight Raids on German-Occupied France Carry On Weekend Thrusts Extending from Flanders to Island of Sardinia.

London, Feb. 3.—(AP)—British planes bombed targets in the north western part of German occupied France in a pre-dawn attack today, the government announced, in a continuation of week-end thrusts by day against axis objectives from Flanders to the Italian island of Sardinia.

An earlier admiralty announcement said that British naval aircraft yesterday successfully attacked "one of the main sources of power supply" in Sardinia, simultaneously with other RAF daylight attacks on German-occupied ports along the "invasion coast" from Flanders to Brittany.

Meanwhile a high ranking officer of the RAF declared that Germany's first line air strength will be "measurably in excess" of Britain's on March 1, but Britain "will again beat back any return to mass daylight bombings as a preliminary to invasion" with superior aircraft and pilots.

The officer said the recent lull in the German air offensive against Britain was not "the lull before the invasion storm" but was due first to "dreadful flying weather," second to repair and overhauling of a large number of German bombers damaged in night operations, and third to diversion of a "considerable number of bombers to the Mediterranean fighting zone."

"There is no doubt," he said "that the Germans are suffering a higher percentage of losses due to weather than the personnel of the squadrons like."

A single German raider roared through a channel snowstorm today and dropped four bombs on the outskirts of London, killing a child and damaging several homes.

British Ships Dive-Bombed

Berlin, Feb. 3.—A German dive bomber sank a 3,000-ton vessel off the east coast of England in a daylight attack this morning, informed sources reported.

Hits with several medium bombs were said to have torn the vessel apart.

The high command reported bomb hits yesterday on two merchant ships, one set afire off the Thames mouth and the other struck several times southeast of Harwich.

Three British planes were said to have been downed yesterday.

Marketing Bill Will Be Introduced

Raleigh, Feb. 3.—(AP)—Governor Broughton said today he expected bills to be introduced in the legislature tonight to create a state marketing authority.

The measures will be identical and "will be decidedly in line with my program for agriculture," Governor Broughton said. Provision will be made for key market centers over the state, at which individual farmers may sell their products so they can be lumped for resale.

Later in the week, he added, a bill will likely be introduced to provide for the adoption of a state trademark and trademark for agricultural products coming up to a certain standard.

In Elizabeth City, Representative Williams of Pasquotank said he would present a resolution asking a meeting of the General Assembly at Elizabeth City, February 21 or 23.

Williams said he felt it would be "fitting" for the legislature to assemble in the county where the first general assembly in North Carolina

(Continued on Page Two)

Vichy Welcomes U. S. Envoy



Admiral William Leahy (right), American ambassador to France, is shown with Marshal Petain, French Premier, as he arrived in Vichy to take up his official duties.

Average Tobacco Prices Are Strong

Nazi Fliers Raid Britain

London, Feb. 3.—(AP)—German raiders flying singly over the south and southeast coasts attacked numerous areas of London, East Anglia and Kent today, causing death and damage here and at a coastal town in the latter area, the government announced.

The official statement said one raider was shot down off the Essex coast. Reports from that area said the plane blew up over the Thames estuary after being attacked by a British Spitfire fighter which followed it down to within 100 yards of the water, all its guns blazing.

A stick of 16 small bombs was dropped in one residential district on London's outskirts after people in the streets had heard machine gun fire overhead. A child was reported killed.

Half the bombs fell in open fields and the other half did only superficial damage to roads and gardens.

LARGE NUMBERS OF U. S.-MADE PLANES EXPECTED BY MAY

London, Feb. 3.—(AP)—A reliable source said today the British expect 1,000 American-built bombers to be flying across the Atlantic for Great Britain monthly by May.

Great Britain is buying American commercial flying boats to ferry the bomber pilots back across the Atlantic, it was said.

Constitutionality Of Wage-Hour Law Upheld

Washington, Feb. 3.—(AP)—Constitutionality of the Federal wage-hour law was upheld today by the Supreme Court in a unanimous decision, which apparently gave the government power to abolish child labor without adoption of the long pending constitutional amendment.

The high tribunal speedily overruled a 1918 opinion which had held unconstitutional a statute prohibiting the interstate transportation of child-made goods. This decision "should be and now is overruled," asserted the opinion delivered by Justice Stone.

Provisions prohibiting child labor are contained in the wage-hour act which fixes minimum pay and maxi-

(Continued on Page Four)

Italians Had Abandoned African City

British Forces In Africa Advance on Other Fronts, With Assault on Bengasi Expected as Next Major Objective.

Cairo, Feb. 3.—(AP)—British forces occupied Barentu in Italian Eritrea yesterday after the town had been abandoned by its defenders, British headquarters announced today.

On the northern sector of the Eritrean battlefield, today's war bulletin said British forces pushing beyond captured Agordat, about 40 miles north of Barentu, were pushing hard on the heels of fascists retreating toward Cheren.

Cheren is about 110 miles inside Eritrea and 50 miles northwest of Asmara, the Eritrean capital.

Further south on the African front, South African forces were reported to have pushed ten miles inside Ethiopia from Kenya Colony to occupy two Italian posts in the Dukana area.

The pursuit of Italians retreating toward Gondar in Ethiopia was declared to be continuing, "as a result of which the Italians have been obliged to abandon and destroy quantities of material and stores of all kinds."

Still other British forces, the announcement said, "are extending and deepening our penetration" into Italian Somaliland.

In North Africa, the British said, the concentration of their forces west of captured Derna was "proceeding smoothly," presumably in preparation for an assault on Bengasi, capital of Eastern Libya.

Italians Bomb Own Soldiers

London, Feb. 3.—(AP)—A "large number" of Italian prisoners were killed when the British ship evacuating them from the Libyan coast was bombed, it was reported today.

A British communiqué said: "It has been reported from the Mediterranean that a large number of Italian prisoners have lost their lives as a result of German or Italian action."

Fish Leads Opposition

New York Republican Opens Opposition Debate on Aid to Britain Measure.

Washington, Feb. 3.—(AP)—Representative Fish, Republican, New York, opened opposition debate to the aid to Britain bill in the House today with a prediction that the United States will be involved in war in Europe and Asia within six months if the measure is approved without change.

He also predicted that the government would take over vital industries, that civil rights would be suspended and that "we will have a dictatorship in America comparable to the Nazis and communists."

Fish spoke a few minutes after Philip F. LaFollette, former governor of Wisconsin, had testified before the Senate foreign relations committee that Edouard Deladier, former French premier, had told him in 1939 that France expected the United States to aid it with "money, materials and men."

LaFollette said he had called on Deladier in March, 1939, and "asked him just what aid they expected from us."

"He replied without a moment's hesitation," the witness recounted, "that they expected money, materials

(Continued on Page Two)

Weather

FOR NORTH CAROLINA. Cloudy and colder tonight; Tuesday generally fair and colder.