

# Henderson Daily Dispatch

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## Ship Overturns—47 Saved



The 3,000-ton British freighter Ramon de Larrinaga, loaded with a vital cargo for Britain, is shown after she capsized inside the breakwater at Lewes, Del. Forty-seven seamen were saved, and another, missing, is feared lost. The heavily-laden ship was beached after being towed to the comparatively safety of Lower Delaware Bay by Coast Guard cutters.

# Il Duce Meets Franco

## Hitler Bolsters Balkan Force

### 400,000 Men To Rumania Recently

Neutral Military Observers Estimate Germany Now Has Between 500,000 and 600,000 Men In Rumania; Tension Heightens.

Belgrade, Feb. 12.—(AP)—Adolf Hitler has moved 25 new divisions of some 400,000 men into Rumania in recent weeks to reinforce his Balkan command in Rumania, military observers reported today as warlike preparations moved apace throughout southeast Europe.

These informants said an average of 40 trains a day had been passing through Hungary carrying great quantities of munitions, tanks, guns and other military equipment as well as men.

Neutral military observers estimate Germany now has between 500,000 and 600,000 men in Rumania, nearly 200,000 having entered the country from the time the first contingents arrived in September and the end of December when the present mass movement began.

Balkan tension heightened with attention focused on the Rumanian-Bulgarian frontiers where the Germans are reported to have massed troops on the northern bank of the Danube.

Dispatches from Sofia, the Bulgarian capital, published today in pro-axis newspapers in other Balkan centers said Bulgaria "fears England is about to violate her neutrality, thus dragging Bulgaria into the war" by sending planes over the country to bomb Rumanian oil fields.

Other Sofia dispatches said the Bulgarian foreign minister conferred today with the Italian minister on the swiftly moving developments.

British officers from the middle east command returned today to Ankara, capital of Turkey, from an inspection of Turkish fortifications facing Bulgaria, reports from Istanbul said.

The Turkish official press pleaded for a united Balkan front against a German move across Bulgaria to help Italy's embattled forces against Greece.

This was interpreted in diplomatic quarters here as meaning the Turkish government may well be moving diplomatically to weld a Balkan front.

## Teacher Tenure Measure Offered

Raleigh, Feb. 12.—(AP)—Senators Stacy of Robeson and Howell of Buncombe sent a bill forward in the legislature today to provide job security or tenure to teachers with experience.

A teacher with an "A" grade certificate and three years of experience or with a lower certificate and five years of experience would get a continuing contract which could be cancelled only because of incompetency, insubordination, immorality or a justifiable decrease in the number of teachers needed.

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## Homestead Tax Exemption Bill Is Introduced

Raleigh, Feb. 12.—(AP)—A number of senators including Stacy of Robeson and White of Vance introduced a bill in the legislature today to exempt from taxation up to \$500 of valuation of owner-occupied homesteads.

The measure, based on a constitutional amendment adopted in 1936, would exempt 50 percent of the value of homesteads up to the first \$1,000 of valuation, setting the top exemption at \$500.

## Churchill Says Britain's Aims Known To U.S.

London, Feb. 12.—(AP)—Prime Minister Churchill declared today that "there is such common comprehension in the United States" of British war aims that no occasion had arisen to outline them for representatives of the Washington government.

He told the house of commons that no American representative to him the subject of Britain's aims in war and post-war reconstruction.

His statement replied to a question in the house of commons by J. H. Martin, laborite.

Martin asked the prime minister to give assurance that before any statement was made outside Britain on peace aims and reconstruction, the government would first inform parliament.

In reply, Churchill said: "There is such common comprehension..."

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## Roads Committee Refuses To Be Rushed Into Action On Reorganization Proposal

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

Raleigh, Feb. 12.—The joint roads committee has refused to be rushed into taking action on Governor Broughton's bill for reorganizing the motor vehicle setup so that it will come completely under his personal domination.

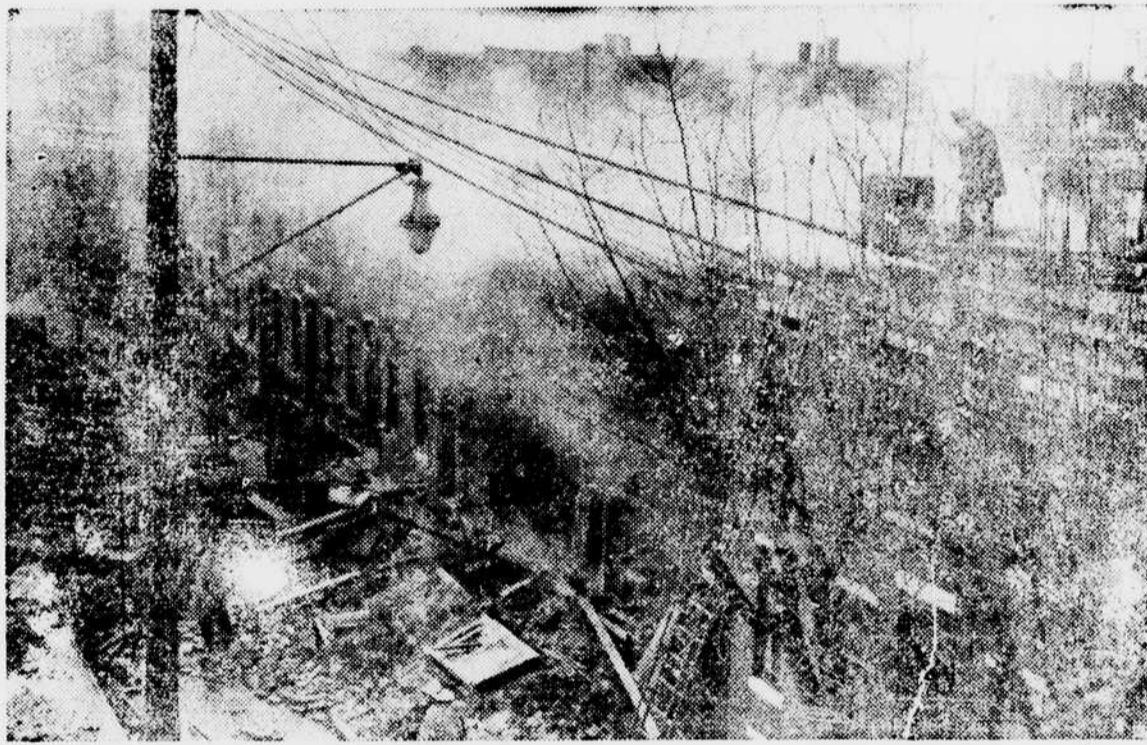
This refusal became evident after Charlie Ross, general counsel for the Highway Department, speaking at the behest of the governor, and House Chairman Clarence Stone had

clearly indicated their desire that an immediate favorable report be given House Bill 222.

There was a general rush of members to declare that they have no intention whatsoever to take any action of any sort on the bill until they have had time to digest thoroughly its contents and, more important, its implications.

None of the committee said so in open meeting, but not a few commented on the record that Mr. Ross' (Continued on Page Two)

## Four Killed in Philadelphia Gas Blast



This picture was taken, not in bomb-ravaged London, but in peaceful Philadelphia after a series of earth-shaking gas explosions blew out the fronts of two buildings and started a three-alarm fire. Four persons were killed, including Patrolman James J. Clark, 54, who was crushed to death while trying to rescue persons trapped in the wreckage. More than twenty persons injured and burned in the blast were taken to hospitals. Others were treated at the scene. (Central Press)

## British Aid Bill Changed

### Senate Committee Approves House Amendments in Proposed Lease-Lend Measure.

Washington, Feb. 12.—(AP)—The Senate foreign relations committee approved in principle today seven House amendments to the administration's British aid bill, including a \$1,200,000,000 limitation on the amount of existing war materials which would be transferred to other nations.

The amendment had been put forward in the House by proponents of British aid legislation and were reported to be acceptable to the administration leadership in Congress.

While approving them in principle—that is, subject to some technical changes in language—the foreign relations committee turned back opposition efforts to write into the legislation restrictions considered undesirable by the administration.

In addition to the seven amendments, the committee also agreed to accept another House amendment providing that Congress could revoke the President's proposed British aid powers at any time by a concurrent resolution which would not be subject to presidential veto.

The other six House changes are:

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## Navy Can't Spare Ships, Knox Says

### FDR Asks Funds For Navy

Washington, Feb. 12.—(AP)—President Roosevelt asked Congress today for \$898,392,932 in cash and contract authorizations to expedite the Navy's ship building program and to carry out a vast expansion of the fleet's shore facilities.

Included were requests for \$4,700,000 to establish fleet operations facilities and bomb proof shelters at the tiny Pacific island of Guam and for \$5,747,500 for similar purposes at the Guantanamo, Cuba, naval base.

Funds also were sought for establishment of submarine operating facilities at Kodiak Island, Alaska, and at Midway Islands in the Pacific.

Among the larger items in the list were \$100,000,000 for construction of naval vessels including unspecified types of small craft and \$12,000,000 for armor armament and ammunition.

The Navy's bureau of aeronautics would get \$98,000,000 for the purchase of planes and other purposes.

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## Navy Secretary Declines to Comment Directly on Willkie Proposal, But Says Navy "Can Spare No More Destroyers."

Washington, Feb. 12.—(AP)—Secretary Knox said bluntly today that the Navy "can spare no more destroyers" when asked to comment on Wendell L. Willkie's proposal that five to ten destroyers a month be supplied Great Britain.

"We haven't any more destroyers to spare than we need for a balanced fleet," the Navy secretary told a press conference.

"I am not going to comment directly on Mr. Willkie's proposal, but my position as the secretary of the Navy is against depleting our own fleet further."

Willkie, who listed destroyers as Britain's number one immediate war need when he testified before the Senate foreign relations committee yesterday, called for the United States to supply five or ten a month—a number that seemed out of the question to many legislators.

Some administration officials, (Continued on page two)

## WINE LEGISLATION SUBSTITUTE ADOPTED

Raleigh, Feb. 12.—(AP)—The Finance subcommittee, working on wine legislation, adopted a substitute bill today which would limit sale of fortified wines to the ABC stores operated in 26 of the State's 100 counties.

State of fortified wines would be banned in the other 74 counties.

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## HOUSE APPROVES FUNDS FOR WPA

Washington, Feb. 12.—(AP)—The House today approved \$175,000,000 to operate the WPA until July 1.

It was a fund supplementing \$975,000,000 originally authorized by Congress for the first eight months of this year.

## Petain May Meet Franco Tomorrow

Spain May Enter War As Result of Conference With Mussolini; Berlin Ridicules Report of Peace Move in Talks.

(By The Associated Press)

Premier Mussolini and Spanish Generalissimo Francisco Franco were reported to have met "somewhere in Italy" today amid speculation the conference would consider Spain's possible entry into the war.

At the same time French Chief of State Marshal Petain arrived with a large entourage at Cognac, France, apparently en route to meet Franco tomorrow.

Diplomatic observers in Bern, Switzerland, often a source of advance news on secret moves by the axis, expressed two beliefs on the subject of the Franco-Mussolini talks:

1. That Il Duce was pressing for Spain's aid in the western Mediterranean to help wrest the offensive from Britain.

2. That Franco, as head of a large Catholic state, was joining his efforts with those of Pope Pius XII to bring an end to the war.

Nazi quarters in Berlin said they knew nothing of such a meeting, but an authorized German spokesman ridiculed any suggestion that a British-Italian peace move was in the air, declaring:

"That's the best joke in the world's history."

Spanish sources in Vichy, France, said they expected a Spanish axis accord to result from the meeting—possible with Spain providing Italy with bases in Spanish Morocco and on the Spanish mainland to combat Britain's mastery of the Mediterranean.

In Greece, ancient Athens had its first night air raid alarm when Italian bombers struck last night at nearby Patras, port of the capital area. Some casualties were reported.

Activities on the far flung African fronts were reported as routine. South African troops took two towns which the British said controlled road junctions between western Ethiopia and Italian Somaliland.

Another force from Kenya Colony was reported to have driven 50 miles into Ethiopia on a 30 to 40 mile front further east. The principal action in Britain still centered around Cherch, 42 miles from the capital at Asmara. Lack of news from Libya indicated a lull on the north African front.

London said its first early morning air raid alarm in weeks shortly before 2 a. m., but the all clear sounded quickly.

British bombers again struck into northeastern Germany over night, but unfavorable weather was said to have limited the scope of the raids. Reports from Berlin said some civilian casualties resulted.

## CLERK IDENTIFIES KRIVITSKY WEAPON

Charlottesville, Va., Feb. 12.—(AP)—Charles Henshaw, employe of a local hardware store, in a signed statement today identified the gun found in a Washington hotel beside the body of General Walter Krivitsky as the .38 caliber automatic the clerk sold Friday to a man who registered the gun in the name of "Walter Pines of Charlottesville, Va."

A box of 50 match-rod bullets were sold with the gun.

Detectives of the Washington police department obtained the statement from Henshaw.

## HOLLY RIDGE SENDS SOS FOR CARPENTERS

Raleigh, Feb. 12.—(AP)—The State Employment Service sounded an "S. O. S." call for experienced, good North Carolina carpenters today and said it thousands did not make themselves available quickly at their local employment offices workmen would be called from other states.

Mayne Albright, director of the employment service, said the "S. O. S." call is for all good carpenters who want to work at the Holly Ridge anti-aircraft firing base, now under construction. The jobs pay 90 cents an hour for a 56-hour work week.

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## Reapportionment Bill Passes House

### House Overrides Efforts to Delay Consideration and Sends Bill to Senate; Revenue Bill Passed on Second Reading.

Raleigh, Feb. 12.—(AP)—The House today passed and sent to the Senate a bill to reapportion House membership to conform to the 1940 census.

The Senate approves the measure it will be the first House reapportionment since the 1920 census, an effort by Representative LeGrand of New Hanover to have consideration postponed until a proposal to set up new senatorial districts was amended was defeated 73 to 32 after vigorous debate.

The House then passed the 1941 revenue bill, a group of amendments to the continuing revenue law, on second reading by a vote of 104 to 0. The bill expands sales tax exemptions to cover all foods for home consumption and gives counties and municipalities 75 percent instead of 60 percent of the intangible tax.

Representative Worthington of Pitt sought to adjourn the House before it took up the revenue bill but later withdrew his motion. Worthington apparently wanted to postpone a vote on the tax bill another day, while Representative Bryant of Wayne insisted on a roll call today.

When LeGrand moved that consideration of the reapportionment bill be delayed until a senatorial district bill was enacted, he was joined by several other representatives including Taylor of Wayne. Taylor said he had not intended to enter the argument "but there is just as much duty to enforce one part of the constitution as another."

The constitution says the Senate and House should be reapportioned at the same time. "There is no use playing with the English language," Weeks of Edgecombe said he was "neutral" but supported the LeGrand position.

The Senate argued over, and then killed a measure to prohibit the sale of fireworks in the state.

There was more committee activity than on any previous day of the session with major action being the approval of the Broughton-

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## OFFICERS' FAMILIES TO EVACUATE MANILA

Manila, Feb. 12.—(AP)—A surprise evacuation of United States Army wives and children from Manila was reported today by reliable sources to be imminent.

Although high Army officials declined to issue an order had been issued, unimpeachable quarters displaced between 300 and 400 wives and children of officers were preparing to board the Army transports Etolin, now in port, and Grant, due later.

Army officials indicated they might have something to say about the unusual sailings in a day or two.

## Stewart Says Rationing of Machine Tools May Effect all of Us in America.

By CHARLES P. STEWART, Central Press Columnist

Washington, Feb. 12.—Food rationing, such as Europeans have to submit to, naturally never will have to be resorted to in this country. Of staples we produce, not only enough, but a bethersome surplus of our own. Even if we could be successfully blockaded, we'd still have more than a plenty to keep our stomachs satisfied. We might run a trifle shy on coffee and bananas, but nothing else much.

What with our defensive preparations and our shipments of war supplies to Britain, Greece and China, we may, however,

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## Weather

FOR NORTH CAROLINA. Fairly cloudy and warmer tonight; Thursday experiences cloudiness and warmer followed by rain at night.