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British Parachutists In Italy

British Peace Terms Sought

Lease-Lend Opponents Lead Move

Opponents of British Aid Bill, Apparently Convinced Measure Will Pass, Seek Restrictive Amendments.

Washington, Feb. 15.—(AP)—Senate opponents of the administration's British aid bill were reported today to be drafting an amendment which would require Britain to state her "peace terms" before receiving any assistance from the United States under the proposed lend-lease program.

The opposition group, led by Senator Wheeler, Democrat, Montana, was said to be in general agreement on the idea that Britain should state what sort of peace she would make if with American help, she defeated the axis powers.

Numerous technical problems were involved in writing the amendment. As tentatively drawn, it would call on the State department to ascertain Britain's peace terms before any American-made war equipment could be released to her.

The amendment was one of about half a dozen being prepared by an opposition group of nearly a score of senators, who held a strategy meeting yesterday in the office of Senator Johnson, Republican, California.

Apparently convinced they could not defeat the British aid bill, they devoted their efforts to proposals of restrictions.

Administration leaders were working with equal persistence to unify their ranks against charges which they would consider undesirable.

The administration chieftains estimated that their opponents would not be able to muster more than 20 to 25 votes when the final roll is called.

Teachers Plug For Increment

Raleigh, Feb. 15.—Introduction of Senate Bill 119 by Senator Horace E. Stacy of Roanoke confirms already prevailing opinion that the teachers of North Carolina are perhaps more firmly set on getting the "ninth salary increment" than on any other one point in their program.

They haven't let pass a single chance to plug for that increment. Telegrams received by legislators with respect to school matters have come in heaves, and in practically every one the "se" makers have been urged to support "particularly" or "especially" the ninth increment.

The Stacy bill is right in line with this effort. It is titled "To Provide for a Ninth Increment in Salary for Public School Teachers of North Carolina" and calls for an increased

Dr. Conant To England On Mission

Washington, Feb. 15.—(AP)—President Roosevelt dispatched Dr. James B. Conant, president of Harvard University, to England today as head of a special new mission charged with expediting directly to Washington "recent scientific information of importance to national defense."

Other scientists will be given similar assignments "from time to time," the White House announced.

Dr. Conant, a research chemist, was scheduled to leave New York today, accompanied by Frederick L. Howde, assistant to the president of the University of Rochester, and by Carroll L. Wilson, special liaison officer of the national defense research committee.

The Harvard president, who testified before the Senate foreign relations committee Tuesday in support of the administration's British aid bill, thus joined the growing group of prominent American visi-

tors to the beleaguered British Isles.

Protests Aid Bill—Ejected

Mrs. Myrtle Fischer of Milwaukee is escorted from the Senate Chamber after leading a demonstration of mothers protesting passage of the lend-lease bill. The women carried placards and American flags.

Japan Acts To Put End To War Talk

Japanese Residents in North and South America Advised Not to be Disturbed by Reports of Increased Tension.

London, Feb. 15.—(AP)—Japanese residents in North and South America were advised today by the cabinet information bureau not to be disturbed by "irresponsible and sensational reports" of increasing tension between Japan and the United States.

"It is true that the situation between Japan and the United States gives cause for some concern," the statement said, "but it is unwarrantable to jump at a hasty conclusion that the situation will be overlaken by any such eventually as war."

"Needless to say, both the Japanese and American governments are doing everything in their power to prevent the situation coming to such a pass.

"Vigorous propaganda now going on abroad, representing the situation between Japan and the United States as extremely aggravated, may be described by impartial observers to the ulterior motives of such foreign elements.

"The imperial government advises all Japanese residents of North and South America not to be disturbed by irresponsible, sensational reports, but instead to steady themselves so as to pursue business as usual."

Maneuvers May Be Held In Carolinas

Columbia, S. C., Feb. 15.—The gigantic maneuvers planned for the First Army this summer, it was believed here, will be staged in the area between Fort Bragg, N. C., and Fort Jackson, S. C.

Lieutenant General Hugh A. Drum announced in New York yesterday that the First Army would hold maneuvers on an unprecedented scale this summer "somewhere in the South."

There are only two southern posts under the jurisdiction of General Drum, who commands the First Army.

Therefore, it was considered here that the maneuvers, to be participated in by between 300,000 and 350,000 troops, would take place in the Carolinas.

House Puts Off Action On Many Bills Friday

Raleigh, Feb. 15.—The House developed a severe case of the "zooz-overs" Friday, putting off until next week, or sending back to committee no less than 16 of the 24 bills listed on its public calendar.

It seemed that every time a bill was called, up popped somebody to move "That the bill go over until Monday," or maybe until Tuesday or Wednesday.

Occasionally the procedure was varied by a motion to re-refer the bill to some committee or other; and once Rupert Pickens, of Guilford persuaded the House to reconsider its action in passing a bill on third reading—thus putting it back on the calendar.

Included in the 16 passed over were virtually all the important bills which had reached the calendar. Not one of the eight measures enacted was of outstanding general interest or importance.

Here's a brief resume of the manner in which the Friday House calendar was handled:

(1) On the roll call calendar were two of the three housing bills recently introduced by Libby Ward, Hubert Jarvis and others, giving authority for housing programs in rural areas and for national defense projects. They went over on motion of Mr. Ward.

(2) The nine months school bill, which had come up with an unfavorable report, but a minority report attached. There was some question about the validity of the minority report—(were enough committee members who signed it present at the reporting meeting?). On motion of one of its introducers (Pritchett of Bertie) it went back to the committee on education—without debate.

(3) A bill to add narcotic drugs and barbiturates to the list of drugs the use of which makes driving a car illegal. Went over on motion of a co-author, Weeks of Edgecombe.

(4) The court rules bill on which there is certain to be a stormy debate. Went over to Wednesday without discussion or dissent.

(5) The committee substitute "fortified wine" bill. Its proponents obviously wanted it acted upon, but when it was pointed out that printed copies had just been distributed, action was put off to Wednesday on motion of Frank Taylor of Wayne, who said he wanted to study it.

(6) A bill authorizing service of J. P. warrants anywhere. Was sent back to roads committee on motion of its introducer, Hatch of Wake.

(7) A reodification bill. Went over to Monday because its introducer, Lew Wallace of Lenoir, was home getting ready for his daughter's marriage.

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Weather FOR NORTH CAROLINA. Fair tonight and Sunday; slightly colder in east portion tonight.

Hyde County Asks State Assistance

Raleigh, Feb. 15.—(AP)—The very existence of Hyde county is hanging by a tax thread, Representative Davis of Swan Quarter said today.

There are now fewer "young folks" in Hyde than in any other county and the population is just 224 more than in 1850, Davis declared.

"They are all leaving or already have gone to take jobs in other parts of the state and in other states," Davis said, "simply because there is no industry, not one single factory that offers real chance of advancement and security."

The Hyde representative is making a request of the state which he says, if granted, will enable the county to reduce its tax rate of \$1.84 per \$100 valuation and thereby attract new industries.

Reason for the high tax rate, Davis explained, is that in the nine-year period from 1931 through 1939 the federal government acquired 60,000 acres, some of which of Hyde's taxable acreage, and converted it into game refuge. This has seriously jeopardized payment of bond taxes.

Davis has introduced a bill to provide an appropriation of \$100,000 from the State's general fund to replace what the lost 60,000 acres would have returned in taxes. This fund would be used to make payments on Hyde's \$244,000 bond of debt.

Legislative Bills Pass. The House of Representatives today passed and sent to the Senate

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Credit Unions To Be Heard

Raleigh, Feb. 15.—Members of the joint appropriations committee who today believe that their worries are over may have a ride awakening early next week. As noted in this correspondence a day or so ago the joint agriculture committees are going up on the money-allocation boys and will present their claims for approximately \$125,000 for the state department and State College in addition to budget recommendations.

Another sub-committee, headed by Senator Wallace and Representative Horner of Lee, has been named to press the needs of credit unions, and this group has no idea of putting on light pressure. They'll bear down. The credit union plan originated in

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German Warships Left One British Vessel To Rescue 14 Crews, DNB Reports

Berlin, Feb. 15.—(AP)—The 10th-13 of German warships which has reported in the past two days sinking 14 British ships in one Atlantic convoy left one of the vessels aloft to serve as a rescue ship for crews of the others, DNB, official German news agency, said today.

All of the merchantmen were armed and defended themselves vigorously, the DNB report said, and while shells fell close to the Germans, no German ship was hit.

A DNB reporter aboard one of the German ships said that the fight was swift and that after the first ten minutes five British ships were in sinking condition.

The attack started Sunday off Portugal. But DNB did not indicate the exact position, nor did the agency's reporter disclose the type of warships which took part.

"On February 12 we saw three tiny specks on the sea," the DNB reported said. "Then more came in view and soon all 15 ships of the group. We shot at the first vessel which immediately sent up a rocket. The rest of the armed merchantmen started firing at us. Then our ships picked out individual steamers. Smoke obscured the view.

"We went down the line of the convoy. Soon to our rear lay burning ships. One vessel was torn in two. Scarcely ten minutes after the beginning of the fight three ships were sunk or sinking xxx

"We got to the end of the convoy and turned around for another go at the ships. On account of their useless firing it was necessary to destroy them. Soon there was only one steamer left. Our commander ordered it to be spared for the rescue of the crews."

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Troops Sent To Demolish Objectives

Italians Say All Parachutists Captured Without Accomplishing Purpose; British Occupy Somaliland Port; Other News.

A hint that some British paratroopers are still in hiding somewhere in southern Italy seeking a chance to stage a crippling blow at Britain's fascist foe emanated today from the British ministry of information.

The ministry, weary of giving details at present, said unformed troops of unspecified number had been dropped recently in southern Italy with instructions "to demolish certain objectives connected with ports in that area," and that "some of the men have not returned to their base."

The Italians, picturing communications, power plants and a big water supply system as the potential objectives of the troopers, said yesterday that all were captured after short-lived resistance when they floated down on the night of February 10-11 before they could "cause the serious damage which they intended" with the dynamite they carried.

AFRICA—British headquarters at Cairo announced occupation of the important port of Chisimio in Italian Somaliland.

A headquarters communiqué said South African forces, driving from Kenya, had taken the port which is approximately 100 miles from the Kenya border.

ALBANIA—The Italian high command declared Italian forces had beaten back Greek attacks on the Albanian front.

IN THE AIR—The British also announced that the royal air force had fired oil plants and port works at Gelsenkirchen and the inland port of Duisburg-Ruhrort in western Germany last night. Ostend, Belgium, was hammered again. In Berlin, an authorized German spokesman said the British flew over 22 communications but attacked only one of them intensively.

YUGOSLAVIA—Premier Dragut Cvetkovic of Yugoslavia and Foreign Minister Aleksander Cincar-Markovic returned to Belgrade from Germany where yesterday they held a three-hour conference with Adolf Hitler. They went immediately to report to Prince Paul, the regent.

Both men refused to make a statement, but sources close to the premier earlier indicated that Yugoslavia probably would adopt a course more in accord with German desires.

SNOW HILL QUILTS BASEBALL LEAGUE

Snow Hill, Feb. 15.—(AP)—Snow Hill, and throughout its base of the "coldest town" in class D baseball, threw its 15th Coastal Plains League franchise today.

Owner Joseph Esau said the sport was "too expensive in recent seasons."

It was expected here that Rocky Mount, whose Piedmont League franchise was transferred recently, would take over the Snow Hill franchise.

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The British in Singapore

Center in the rapidly mounting crisis in the Far East is the British eastern Gibraltar at Singapore, naval base and strong point, which Japan would have to crack in order to make feared move into the Netherland East Indies or against Australia. These tanks are part of Singapore's garrison, which has been increased heavily.

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