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Bulgaria Signs Pact With Axis

OPM Works To Halt Strikes

Hillman In Milwaukee Conferences

Allis-Chalmers Strike at Milwaukee Has Tied up Production for More Than Six Weeks; Conciliator Sent To Detroit.

(By The Associated Press.)
Encouraged by settlement of the Bethlehem Steel strike at Lackawanna, N. Y., the office of Production Management at Washington directed its attention today to a labor dispute which has tied up production at Allis-Chalmers' Milwaukee plant for more than six weeks.

Sidney Hillman, associate director of the Office of Production Management, resumed conferences yesterday with officials of the CIO United Automobile Workers whose demands at the Allis-Chalmers factory center on union security. The plant employs about 9,000 workers, and has \$45,000,000 in defense orders.

In an effort to avert threatened walkouts which would tie up an even greater amount of armament production, a federal conciliator was dispatched to Detroit, where CIO United Automobile Workers have served notice of intention to strike three plants of the Ford Motor Company which employ 95,000 persons and are working on \$148,500,000 worth of defense equipment.

The Bethlehem Steel strike was halted yesterday about 36 hours after it started when the Steel Workers Organizing Committee (CIO) and the plant management agreed to accept a peace formula advanced by the Office of Production Management.

Meanwhile, William S. Knudsen, Office of Production Management director, sent a memorandum to Chairman Sumners, Democrat, Texas, of the House Judiciary committee, outlining a method he suggested should be made mandatory when efforts to settle a labor dispute by conciliation break down.

His proposal included these points: no strike to be called without authorization of at least 60 percent of the employees in the affected plant; an investigation, if a strike were voted, by an Office of Production Management committee which would report within ten days; 30-day period then to elapse before work could be stopped.

Brooks Bill Defeated

Daily Dispatch Bureau. In the Sir Walter Hotel. By LYNN NISBET.
Raleigh, March 1.—Some time ago when the Senate reads committee bill a whole batch of bills by Brooks of Durham designed to regulate and tighten up all the bus line regulations and add a lot more, some suggested by way of softening the blow to Senator Brooks that he prepare two new bills—one providing for a commission to study the whole bus transportation question

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Convict Shot As He Flees

Laurinburg, March 1.—(AP)—One prisoner was shot in the leg and two others escaped last night after the 110 overpowered Jailer Walter Fletcher in the Scotland county jail. The two who escaped jumped into a taxi and got away while the driver was in a cafe.

The prisoners sawed away the bars of their cell and surprised the jailer when he came in with some coffee for some of the prisoners. Fletcher and Deputy Frank Todd, who was in the jail office, opened fire on the two as they sped across the jail yard.

The prisoner who was shot was Sam Cummings, 18, serving a term for auto theft. The two who escaped were listed by the jailer as Woodrow Young, 28, serving a term for highway robbery, and Bill Williams, 25, serving a term for auto theft.

Winant and Aid Off to London



John G. Winant, new United States ambassador to England, and Benjamin Cohen (right), his executive assistant, are pictured just before boarding a clipper plane in New York for flight to London, on route to London. (Central Press)

British Aid Backers Called "Realistic"

Quake Shakes North Greece

Athens, Mar. 1.—(AP)—Northern Greece was shaken by a destructive earthquake today and early reports indicated that casualties would prove heavy.

Buildings collapsed in Larissa, a town with about 30,000 inhabitants. The panicky population fled their homes, many in night clothes, when the shocks were felt at 5:55 a. m. (10:55 p. m. Friday e. s. t.)

Larissa authorities telegraphed for tents for 15,000 homeless persons. Troops were engaged in removing victims trapped by debris.

Gales Sweep Both Coasts

(By The Associated Press.)
Two storms of gale intensity swept up the east and west coasts of the United States yesterday.

On the Atlantic seaboard, swirling air reached a depth of 14 inches in New Jersey, took at least 17 lives in traffic and other accidents and tied up shipping and air travel.

On the Pacific coast, squalls and sudden wind gusts ripped roofs from sheds and buildings uprooted hundreds of trees and blew down power lines. More than a dozen persons were cut by flying glass from wind-broken windows or by falling plaster.

Road Committees Approve Measures To Give Farmers Help On Roads And Licenses

Raleigh, March 1.—Public roads committees of the Senate and House in joint session Friday voted favorably on two bills—one of them admittedly class legislation and the other close kin thereto. Both are designed for the "relief" of farmers.

The first bill considered was sponsored by Senator Con Lanier and Representative Benton Blacklock, and it provides that farmers may purchase license plates for farm trucks at half the regular truckplate price.

the reduction to apply only to applications made during the first quarter of the year. It was pointed out that the plan would take very little revenue away from the road fund, and might actually add to it, because it is customary now for owners of this kind of truck not to buy plates until July or October. This means a six or nine months loss in gasoline revenue to the state as well as loss of use of the truck to the farmer. Under the new law the plate will cost no more in January

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Wheeler And Taft Assail Aid Measure

Foes of Administration Bill Declare It Gives President Power to Consolidate American Fleet With That of England.

Washington, March 1.—(AP)—Senators Taft, Republican, Ohio, and Wheeler, Democrat, Montana, assailed in the Senate today the pending British aid bill which gives President Roosevelt power to consolidate the American fleet with that of Great Britain in both Mediterranean and Far Eastern waters.

During a lengthy prepared address by Wheeler, Taft attempted to assert that "if this bill is passed there is no reason why the President would not be justified in sending the fleet either to Gibraltar or Singapore and consolidate it with the British fleet."

"It might not be actively engaged in shooting, but when the British lost a ship they could take one from the American fleet to replace it," the Ohioan declared, Wheeler asserted.

Earlier, Wheeler had told the Senate that the time was "not far distant" when the President should use his high office in an attempt to bring about peace in Europe.

"The Montanan interrupted an attack he had launched on the administration's British aid bill to assert that the President 'still is in a position where he could exercise the powers he has to bring about a just peace dictated by the United States.'

Labor Frets Over Rights

F B I Investigations Give Organized Labor Concern Over Civil Liberties.

By CHARLES P. STEWART
Central Press Columnist.
Washington, March 1.—From labor sources principally come hints of some apprehension lest American civil liberty presently may begin to be unduly encroached upon by a possible or pending governmental activity in the interest of our defensive program.

If we have subversive elements in our midst, they naturally are perturbed at the idea of any interference with their operations.

If we have a current of anxiety indicated by the worried utterances of such spokesmen as President William Green of the American Federation of Labor and Philip Murray, head of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, who certainly aren't generally regarded as bad characters, even though there's considerable complaint of dangers involved in their respective groups' jurisdictional rivalries.



This class of observers of the situation evidently are especially suspicious of the Justice department's Federal Bureau of Investigation, under Chief J. Edgar Hoover.

They maintain that the FBI was the perpetrator of many abuses during the 1919-24 period and cite quite a few pretty high authorities who said so. Senators Tom Walsh, Geo. W. Norris, William E. Borah, Henry F. Ashurst, Burton K. Wheeler and Smith W. Brookhart investigated the bureau and made congressional reports which denounced it as outright "lawless." Charles Evans Hughes said its devices "savoured of the worst practices of tyranny." Har-

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WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA
Fair tonight and Sunday.
Slightly colder in north central portion tonight, slowly rising temperature Sunday.

German Troops In Uniform Drive Into Sofia; British Ultimatum Reports Denied

Crisis Mounts in Near East



With Germany and Britain both maneuvering for diplomatic and military advantage in the Balkans, Turkey takes the spotlight. As 12,000 Nazis were said to have entered Bulgaria, Turkey is reported to have ordered the Dardanelles closed to all ships. British diplomats at Ankara were reported seeking air bases and permission to send warships into the Black Sea. British armed forces obtained one air base by taking the Italian island of Castellorosso.

(Central Press)

Nazi Troops Pour Into Bulgaria

King George Greets Winant

London, March 1.—(AP)—The United States' new ambassador to Britain, John G. Winant, was personally received today by King George VI at a railway station en route from Bristol to London, and diplomatic sources described it as reciprocation for the reception President Roosevelt gave Lord Halifax.

Admiral Foote No "Furriner"

Daily Dispatch Bureau. In the Sir Walter Hotel.
Raleigh, March 1.—(AP)—Admiral Percy W. Forster, who has been named as the next commander of the U. S. fleet in the Mediterranean, is reported to be having a slight cold, but he is expected to leave for his post in a day or two.

The retired sea dog so far from being a "furriner" as some state and refuse to become a recognized citizen of another coast than a \$12,000 a year job which he could have had.

That goes back to 1936, when the admiral was in Pennsylvania after having retired from active service. He hadn't been voting during his long sea service, but that will be decided to his first ballot—and that was left about to some extent to the liberal side of the country he appears to be having a slight cold, but he is expected to leave for his post in a day or two.

Sofia Occupied by Germans Almost Before Ink Was Dry On Bulgaria's Signature to Berlin-Rome-Tokyo Alliance.

Sofia, March 1.—(AP)—Germany poured her army into Bulgaria by noon division and transport plane today, occupying this capital en masse almost before the ink was dry on the Bulgarian signature to the Berlin-Rome-Tokyo alliance.

Britain's minister, George Rendel, made a final appointment with King Boris this evening to tell him that Britain has no choice but to break off relations with Bulgaria.

A British declaration of war on Bulgaria and RAF bombs on German communication lines within the country already has been predicted by the minister—in the event of just such an occurrence as today's.

The first German armored cars rolled into the heart of the capital two hours after Bulgaria's premier, Bogdan Filibet, had signed at Vienna the document which aligned Bulgaria for the second time in a quarter of a century with warring Germany.

As darkness fell, the German mechanized columns still were thundering down the streets in increasing numbers and huge transport planes were coming down periodically at the Sofia airbase, packed with troops.

Swarms of German fighter planes whined over the city, circling low enough for the cross and swastika markings to be plainly seen.

Soon after the German troops reached the heart of the capital, Bulgarian official sources said that Vienna, strategic Bulgarian Black sea port, was being occupied by the Nazis.

The military occupation must have begun at dawn with the crossing of the Danube.

For weeks the Germans have been establishing pontoon bridges there.

They were in Sofia as it happened before many Bulgarians had learned that their country had signed the axis pact.

AMSTERDAM FINED

Amsterdam, (Via Berlin)—Mar. 1.—(AP)—German military authorities fined the city of Amsterdam 15,000,000 guilders (normally nearly \$8,000,000) today as a penalty for recent disorders against the Nazi occupation.

Bill Would Give Soldiers Absentee Vote

Daily Dispatch Bureau. In the Sir Walter Hotel.
Raleigh, March 1.—John R. Morris, one of New Hanover's representatives, is planning to introduce a bill in the House granting to soldiers called into service as the result of the present emergency the right to vote by absentee ballot in both primaries and general elections.

It will be the first measure to be introduced with design to broaden the right to vote by absentee ballot since the 1939 legislature abolished that practice altogether insofar as it applies to primary elections in North Carolina.

Mr. Morris was not among those opposing repeal of the absentee ballot law for primaries—on the contrary he voted with the election-law reformers of 1939; but he is convinced that the young men of North Carolina should not be deprived of their only substantial right to vote—which is in the Democratic primaries.

"There are probably about 500

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Bulgaria Becomes Fourth Minor Partner to Berlin-Rome-Tokyo Pact, Opening Way For Nazi Invasion of Southeast Europe.

(By The Associated Press.)
Bulgaria, which was the first of the central powers to sue for peace in the world war, formally signed up with the axis as the fourth minor partner to the Berlin-Rome-Tokyo pact today.

Shortly thereafter, German troops drove into Sofia, Bulgaria's capital, in grey armored cars, wearing regulation uniforms.

Reports reaching British circles in Belgrade said that the Germans had taken over Bulgaria's important Black sea port of Varna near the Rumanian frontier.

Adolf Hitler met Premier Philof of Bulgaria and other diplomats in Vienna for the ceremony which aligned 9,000,000 Bulgarians and 40,000 square miles of territory with the axis and may open the way for a German march against Turkey or embattled Greece.

Hungary, Rumania and Slovakia had preceded Bulgaria as signatories to the treaty of mutual aid with Germany, Italy and Japan drew up five months ago.

Unconfirmed reports in Sofia said the British government had delivered an ultimatum calling upon Bulgaria to foreswear by midnight tonight any intention of giving German troops a right of way or otherwise consider herself at war with Britain. London denied the reports.

Virgino Gayda, authoritative fascist editor, declared that the Vienna signing "means the isolation of Greece in the Balkans." He said too it was "a further step toward driving British influence completely out of Europe" and should be a warning to the United States.

At the eastern pole of the three way alliance, where Japan pressed vigorously to fulfill her axis assignment as leader in the Orient, authoritative sources hinted a final settlement of the Japanese-mediated frontier dispute between Thailand and French Indo-China might be announced today or tomorrow.

Turkey's position remained unclear. The Ankara government announced after conferences with British Foreign Minister Anthony Eden that "complete agreement" was reached. Many Balkan diplomats predicted, however, Turkish troops would fight only if their country was attacked.

Greece reportedly under Nazi pressure to talk terms with Premier Mitsotaki tonight on in Albania announcing "successful local efforts" and creating a British fighter squadron with drawing more than 30 Italian planes without a single loss.

British general headquarters in Cairo said 9,000 prisoners had been taken in the British drive in Italian Somaliland. The communiqué also announced British occupation of Bardera, a road junction town on the Juba river.

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