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HULL OPPOSES SHIP BILL RESTRICTIONS

Germany Feels Sting Of Aerial Offensive

Thumbs Up in Africa



Triumphant Imperial troops in South Africa show thumbs up as they march through Hobok Fort in Ethiopia, only a few hours after its capture. The later capture of Addis Ababa and the restoration of Haile Selassie to his throne ended large scale Italian resistance.

Ship Seizure Bill Passes Committee

Senate Group Rejects Amendment Prohibiting Transfer of Vessels Owned by One Belligerent to Another.

Washington, May 12.—(AP)—Legislation authorizing the government to take foreign ships lying idle in American harbors was approved by the Senate commerce committee today, 11 to 4.

Prior to the final ballot the committee rejected, 10 to 6, an effort by Senators Vandenberg, Republican, Michigan, and Clark, Democrat, Missouri, to prevent the government from taking a vessel owned by one belligerent nation, or its nationals—Italy, for example—and turning it over to another belligerent—Britain. This proposal was expected to be passed again on the Senate floor when debate starts, probably late this week.

The committee wrote an amendment into the House-approved legislation to forbid the government from taking over any vessel actually owned by a foreign government, except by purchase.

Chairman Bailey, Democrat, North Carolina, of the committee, said that none of the foreign ships now lying idle in American harbors actually was owned by a foreign government. He said they "all are the property of the nationals of foreign countries."

Strike Parley Is Arranged

Boston, May 12.—(AP)—The Office of Production Management has arranged a conference in Washington tomorrow over a strike of more than 900 AFL skilled craftsmen which today halted \$3,000,000 worth of a \$30,000,000 project at the Navy's big South Boston dry dock.

Ernest A. Johnson, secretary-treasurer of the Building and Construction Trades Council (AFL) said a telephone call from the OPM came as union heads were considering extending the walkout order to 300 union workers in the navy yard.

Johnson asserted he and General Agent Edwin E. Graves would leave tonight to confer with Rear Admiral Morell, Navy chief of the bureau of yards and docks.

Johnson declared that the union was not picketing and that the 1,200 WPA and civil service employees at the base, described by him as protest point of the strike, were not interfered with today.

Tool Makers Are Lacking

There's Talk of Drafting Out of the Army Any Qualified Toolers There.

By CHARLES P. STEWART
Central Press Columnist
Washington, May 12.—Now there's talk of drafting men out of the army. It's a sequel to President Roosevelt's call on Defense Production Chairman William Knudsen to speed up machine tool manufacture to the last fraction of an ounce of our national possibilities.

Soldiers don't fight with machine tools, but the tools are absolutely necessary to turn out the arms that they do fight with. Consequently, machine tools, arms can't be delivered to soldiers (and to the other democracies' soldiers) at a swift enough rate. Well, a machine tool shortage does actually exist. Hence an arms shortage. Our machine tool insufficiency constitutes one of the worst bottlenecks we hear so much about.

Acting Chief A. Ford Hinrichs of the Bureau of Labor Statistics explains. According to his account, 75 percent of our machine tool factories work only one eight-hour daily shift, six days per week. Twenty per cent work two shifts daily. A skimpy 5 per cent work three shifts. The 75 and 20 per cent may work a little overtime, but it doesn't amount to much. There's a limit to the number of daily hours that a machine tool maker can stand, even with extra pay.

The President's proposition is that 100 per cent of those factories ought to run on a three-shift basis, seven days per week. It's agreed that a worker needs a weekly day off, but there should be a sufficient number of extras to permit that without interfering with the three-shift, seven-day schedule. There should be no break except for servicing the machinery, which needn't involve any considerable delay.

Skilled Labor Needed

Most of the plants' managements

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RAF Raids Nazi Cities Overnight

London Suffers Heavily in Saturday Night Raid, But Has Comparative Quiet Last Night; British Air-dromes Bombed.

(By The Associated Press)
London's millions trudged to work today through acres of fire-blackened ruins in the heart of the empire capital—scarred anew by Luftwaffe violence over the weekend—but they knew that Germany at last was feeling the sting of a big scale aerial counter offensive.

An armada of 100 RAF warplanes bombed the docks of Hamburg and Bremen during the night. It was reported, leaving "many large fires" raging in both cities from a rain of Britain's new super bombs.

Other RAF squadrons attacked Emden and raided in Nazi-held Holland.

In an evident attempt to cripple the RAF's intensified striking power, German planes concentrated the weight of their overnight assault on night flying bases in southern, central and southern England. Nazi quarters in Berlin said many multi-engine bombers were destroyed, damaged or destroyed in attacks on RAF airbases.

London itself had the lighted night raids in three weeks, but thousands of residents huddled in shelters fearful of another storm such as that which hit the capital Saturday night.

Rescue workers still dug in the wreckage for victims of that all-out attack, which inflicted a toll of uncounted dead and wounded. A single bomb smashed through a hotel and exploded in the basement where 140 persons had taken refuge.

Westminster Abbey, the House of Parliament, including Big Ben, were among the venerable symbols of the British empire scarred anew during the six-hour shower of explosives and fire bombs.

The Luftwaffe used between 300 and 400 warplanes in the raid and lost 33 of its bombers. Those, with seven downed last night, brought the total reported downed at night over England since May 1 to 132.

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This Lucky Plymouth Family Has a Trailer



This family of Plymouth, England, is lucky; it has a trailer to escape in when Nazi planes bomb the city with merciless regularity. They merely pack belongings and go to a spot in the country where there is comparative safety. Each day they may return to see if their house is still standing. From the size of the crowd, it seems some of the neighbors must have come along this trip.

Strike Threats Critical

Chiang Says China Needs Only Supplies

Chungking, May 12.—(AP)—Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek declared in a speech last night that China, without the help of an expeditionary force or naval action but with material and economic aid, was prepared to undertake single-handed the task of putting down Japan.

He added it was his conviction that "any country in the world standing against American democracy would meet with certain destruction."

He spoke at a farewell dinner given by Madame Chiang for United States Ambassador Nelson T. Johnson, who is leaving to become minister to Australia. Many leading figures in China attended.

"Should the Japanese militarists manage in some way to dispose of

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Seeks Food for Vichy



French Ambassador Gaston Henry-Haye is shown with Undersecretary of State Summer Welles in Washington regarding food shipments to unoccupied France. The ambassador revealed the U. S. will ship 15,000 tons of wheat each month to unoccupied France as long as "the general situation does not change."

No Contest For Party Post Is Expected

Early Dispatch Bureau.
In the Sir Walter Hotel.
By HENRY AVERILL.
Richmond, May 12.—There'll be no contest in this old town when the Democratic state committee meets here May 22 to select a successor to Lee Folger as national committeeman.

That is so in spite of an situation which makes it almost an even bet that Folger will be re-elected. Folger and R. J. (Young Dick) Reynolds, Jr., are the committee's choices.

Reynolds is that neither is likely to give the other obvious signs of unpopularity. Reynolds' determination to make a good job of the position.

That is Reynolds' already large majority of the national committee shows that he is not only a good job of the position.

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GM Parley Adjourned

No Suspension of Production Expected, However; Shipyard Workers Walk Out.

(By The Associated Press)
Strike threats in plants of the General Motors Corporation and in the Boston navy yard reached the critical point today and the American Federation of Labor threw its influence against a Pacific coast walkout of 1,000 AFL and CIO shipyard machinists.

Members of a national defense mediation board panel attempting to head off a strike in 60 General Motors plants which have 870,000,000 of defense contracts, adjourned early yesterday after nine days of negotiation with CIO leaders and General Motors representatives.

Chief of the union, United Automobile Workers, flew back to Detroit to consider whether to call a walkout. But Chairman W. H. Davis of the board panel said negotiations under its direction would resume tomorrow and that "there is no indication of any purpose not to continue production."

The UAW wants a new contract providing for a wage increase of ten cents an hour. The company has offered at least two cents an hour for all workers and three for newly hired certain workers. The present wage rate varies with the type of work, but company officials said the average is probably over \$1.

AFL's Building and Construction Trades Council said 925 members would not report today at the Boston navy yard, where 50,000,000 of defense building is going on, in protest against the adjournment of 1,100 WPA workers. Secretary Treasurer E. A. Johnson said the union would not picket at present.

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Draft Boards Will Classify Registrants

Washington, May 12.—(AP)—Brigadier General Lewis B. Hershey, acting selective service director, has asked all local draft boards to "prepare for the prompt classification" of registrants who were registered for military service last October but have not been rated as to their availability.

This was learned at selective service headquarters today and it was indicated the information gained by complete classification would be useful both in determining the number of skilled defense workers who might be affected by the draft and in showing the age ratings of avail-

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Opponents Demand Ban On Transfer

Secretary of State Expresses Views in Letter Made Public by Senate Commerce Committee; Land to Testify Again.

Washington, May 12.—(AP)—Secretary Hull advised today against restrictions on the use of foreign ships that may be taken over by the government, but administration opponents rejected this demand that the pending ship requisition bill be amended to ban the outright transfer of seized war vessels to Britain.

Hull set forth his views in a letter made public by the Senate commerce committee, which is hearing the end of its study of the House-approved ship requisition measure.

"The department of State," he wrote, "feels it would be unwise to place a restriction or prohibitory provision in the proposed legislation."

Any restriction, Hull added, would tend to place vessels acquired under the legislation "in a different category from other vessels now under the American flag."

Testimony before a closed committee session last week, made public today by the committee, showed Chairman Emory S. Land of the maritime commission also had urged "wide open legislation with no strings whatsoever."

Nevertheless, Senator Clark, Democrat, Missouri, a committee member, said he would propose an amendment previously defeated in the House to prevent the administration from turning seized axis ships over to Great Britain.

Resuming its hearing on the ship bill, the commerce committee today called for further testimony from Admiral Land, and some members were curious as to whether he would elaborate on his assertion last week that the government plans to use requisitioned vessels to carry war materials to Britain through "black out" areas.

Committee members also were expected to question Land further regarding his statement that, according to unofficial and incomplete reports he had received, only eight ships leaving American ports with cargoes for Britain had been sunk during the first three months of this year.

No. 3 Nazi In Crash

Berlin, May 12.—(AP)—Rudolf Hess, Adolf Hitler's number two political boss, has crashed in a plane flight made contrary to the Führer's order the Nazi party announced tonight, and his adjutant, accused of permitting the flight, have been ordered arrested.

The latest announcement from the national socialist headquarters did not at once make clear the extent, if any, of the party deputy's injuries, but said Hess had been in falling health.

Hess was said to have been missing some a flight in his own plane last Saturday.

His adjutant, of an unspecified name—were accused of having been aware that Hess had been ordered not to fly when Hess took off.

Iraq Fighting Continues

Berlin, London, May 12.—(AP)—The Iraq general staff declared today British armored forces were repulsed in violent fighting around the port of Basra.

The British were said to have lost two of their armored cars in the attack, and a British plane caught in the machine gun fire from the ground, was reported shot down in flames.

The details were given in addition to a high command communique which declared the Basra fort to be still in the hands of Iraq and that there was increased activity near Basra, to the south.

(A British Middle East communique today from Cairo said that after bombing of the fort at Rutba by a single RAF plane, motorized troops took over the stronghold Sunday morning and were in control of the entire Rutba area.)

WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA.
Partly cloudy tonight and Tuesday, little change in temperature.