



Henderson Daily Dispatch



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

TWENTY-NINTH YEAR

LEASED WIRE SERVICE OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

HENDERSON, N. C., WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, APRIL 8, 1942

PUBLISHED EVERY AFTERNOON EXCEPT SUNDAY.

FIVE CENTS COPY

W. P. B. PROVES STERN ARBITER OF NEW STYLES

Decree Says Women's Dresses May Become Shorter and Shorter, or Tighter and Tighter — But Not Vice Versa.

Washington, April 8.—(AP)—The war production board, turning stern stylist for American women, decreed today that for the duration of the war, dresses can be shorter and shorter, or tighter and tighter—as fashion dictates—but neither longer nor fuller than those now worn.

Or, midday's wardrobe can remain about the same, in cut and design, as it is at present.

Emphasizing that it had no intention of "freezing" present styles, or rendering present wardrobes obsolete, WPB established a complete list of specifications covering future manufacture of women's clothing and ordered such items as French cuffs on sleeves, balloon sleeves and patch pockets of wool eliminated entirely.

After August 17, retailers may not sell suit and coat ensembles of more than two pieces at one unit price.

The restrictions become effective for wool clothing tomorrow—in time to affect production of most of the garments to be sold next fall and winter; restrictions on cotton, rayon and other materials do not become effective until June 19—after most of this summer's clothes are finished.

Principal effect of the order will be to fix maximum lengths and sweep of coats and skirts and simplify non-functional features.

Washington, April 8.—(AP)—Women who make dresses at home for their own use or their children's are not required to conform to the clothing order issued today by the war production board.

However, home dressmakers who sell their handwork for profit and anyone else who makes clothes for sale must comply, Stanley Marcus, head of WPB's women's apparel section, told a conference of fashion writers here today.

C. A. Cannon Appointed

Raleigh, April 8.—(AP)—Governor Broughton today appointed Charles A. Cannon of Concord, president of the Cannon Mills Co., of Kannapolis, to the State Highway and Public Works Commission from the Seventh Division.

Cannon will fill a vacancy caused by the resignation of Thomas R. Wolfe of Albemarle, who has been a member of the commission for six years. He was appointed by Governor Hoey and re-appointed by Governor Broughton. He resigned formally today to accept a commission as lieutenant colonel in the Army.

Cannon was a member of the highway commission for two years during the administration of Governor Gardner. His present term expires May 1, 1945.

RAF PLANES CROSS CHANNEL FOR RAID

Folkestone, Eng., April 8.—(AP)—Squadron after squadron of RAF planes roared across the English Channel for a half-hour today in the early morning sunlight.

Vapor trails high in the sky on the French coast between Cap Gris Nez and Calais indicated German fighters engaged the Britons.

Profits Law Gets Recess Of A Week

Washington, April 8.—(AP)—Congress, still much at odds on the most effective way to limit war profits, postponed today further controversy on the question until April 16.

The House originally approved a flat 6 per cent limitation, but the Senate decided after much discussion yesterday to vest discretionary authority over profits in the Secretary of War, Secretary of Navy and chairman of the maritime commission.

The Senate wrote its decision into the \$19,212,775,260 war appropriation bill, and returned the measure to the House for ultimate adjustment of the differences of opinion on the profits curb issue.

Such discussions, however, will not start until late next week, for the Senate, after acting on the bill, started its delayed Easter recess.

Aids in India Deal



Louis A. Johnson

Special emissary from the United States, Louis A. Johnson is seeking to assist in the solution of the important Indian independence question. The problem has become more than urgent since Japanese air attacks on India's mainland. Johnson is conferring with leaders of the All-India Congress and Sir Stafford Cripps, British cabinet minister. (Central Press)

Bonus Plan Is Opposed

Washington, April 8.—(AP)—President Roosevelt and his war production chief, Donald M. Nelson, differed openly today on the wisdom of wartime cash bonuses for workers who set a fast pace in vital arms industries.

Nevertheless, there were numerous signs that the hotly debated controversy over wages and hours might be edging nearer a solution despite the continuing surface turmoil.

Mr. Roosevelt, while intimating that there might be an announcement on the wage question soon, told his press conference that he was utterly opposed to the wartime bonus plan because men in such a national emergency ought to produce all they could. He added he also disapproved of bonuses in peacetime on a piece work basis.

The Chief Executive's remarks ran counter to those of Nelson, who endorsed the bonus or "incentive pay" plan during an appearance before a Senate committee on March 20. Making the simultaneous suggestion that plants and employees be given merit awards for outstanding work, he said that such a system might eliminate labor "slowdowns." Nelson acknowledged, however, that it could be applied only in certain major war industries.

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President Roosevelt's personal emissary, Louis Johnson, was said to have helped evolve the formula.

On the Burma front, next door to India, the situation remained extremely grave, with Japan's invasion columns now holding a line only 65 miles south of the rich central Burma oil fields.

British military quarters gave this description of the campaign, indicating ultimate disaster unless reinforcements arrive.

"The Japanese attack with superior forces. We stay as long as we can, in fact as much as we can, gain as much time as we can, and then go back to the next suitable position."

From his United Nations headquarters in Australia, General Douglas MacArthur was reported in frequent touch with the battle-stained defenders of Bataan, where Lieutenant General Yamashita apparently was gambling on victory—no matter what the sacrifice in lives—before the start of the rainy season.

Education Board Will Hold Book Adoption For New Grade

Daily Dispatch Bureau. In the Sir Walter Hotel. By BOB THOMPSON

Raleigh, April 8.—Unsuccessful in its effort to find a legal way out, the State Board of Education today will start the machinery for another "basic textbook adoption."

The new books to be chosen are for the eighth or additional grade that will be added to the elementary schools in those county and city units which adopt a twelve-grade system. By the end of three years the twelfth-grade system is expected to be statewide, and it is con-

Marshall In London

Bataan Defenders Forced Back

Ferocious Jap Attack Continues

War Department Reports Outnumbered American and Filipino Forces Withdrawing in Orderly Fashion; Other Pacific War News.

(By The Associated Press) Outnumbered American and Filipino defenders of Bataan peninsula have effected a general withdrawal to new defensive positions because of Japanese penetration of their lines, the War department said today.

Official quarters in Washington said there was no immediate indication of the extent of the withdrawal, but that it was apparently accomplished in orderly fashion despite the ferocity of the Japanese assault.

It was the fifth day of intensive attack by Lieutenant General Yamashita's numerically superior invasion forces, which have been constantly hammering at the American-Filipino lines with tanks, heavy artillery fire and aerial bombardment since Saturday.

The War department bulletin said Lieutenant General Jonathan M. Wainwright's troops withdrew last night to "previously-prepared defensive position."

The present retirement was carried out to prevent the enemy from converting the break into a disastrous rout, it was understood.

As a last extremity, the defenders could withdraw entirely from Bataan peninsula's shot-torn jungles and fox holes to the rocky Corregidor island fortress in Manila Bay.

Meanwhile, new hope arose for a settlement which would enroll India's 390,000,000 whole heartedly on the side of the allies.

A Reuters (British news agency) dispatch said the executive committee of the powerful All India Congress party was discussing a new formula regarding Indian defenses.

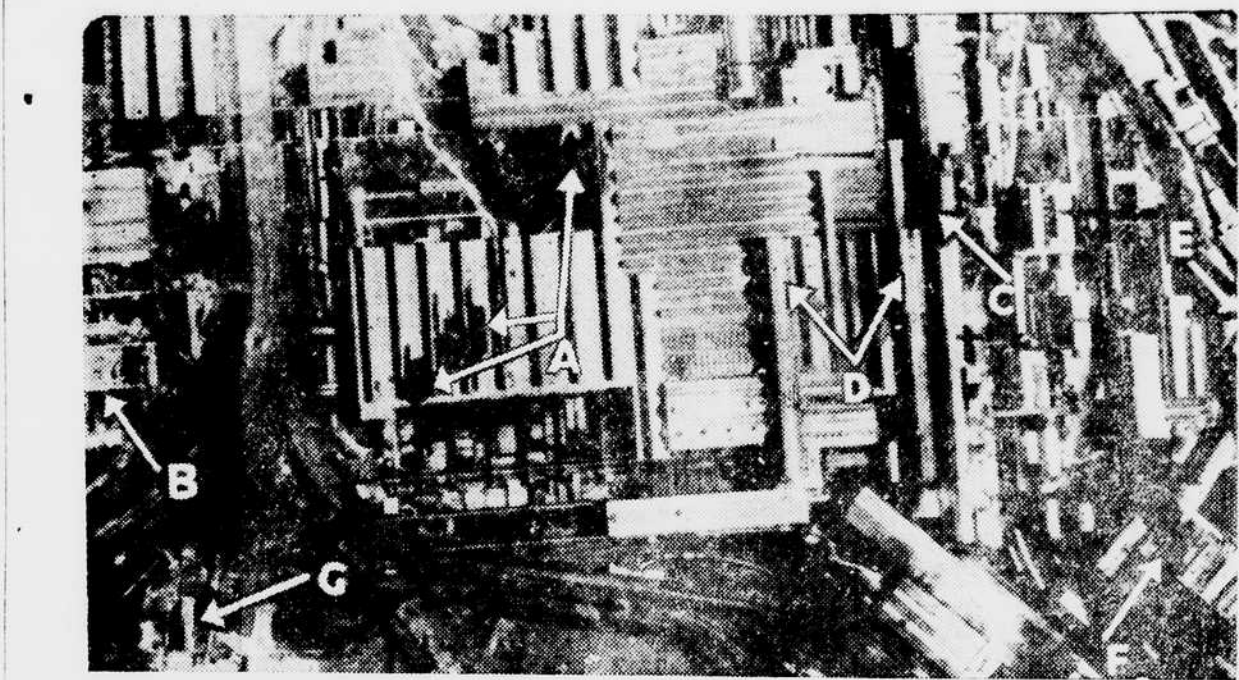
Reuters said the formula was "generally acceptable to prominent congressmen" and to Sir Stafford Cripps, Britain's special envoy.

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RAF Bombers Tackle Thyssen Steel Works



Ranging far afield, RAF night bombers did considerable damage to the famed Thyssen steel mills at Hamm, in the Ruhr, Germany. Arrows show: (A) Two direct hits on large shed—one gap is 60 yards wide; the other about 50 yards wide. (B) Direct hit on storage yards. (C) Large shed, part of steel rolling works burned out. (D) Blast effect, roofs damaged over wide area. (E) Long workshop burned out. (F) Large shed partly destroyed. (G) Large shed badly damaged by blast. (Central Press)

Nazis Claim Six Ships

German Report Says Only Four of Ten Norwegian Ships Escaped in Flight.

Berlin (From German Broadcasts), April 8.—(AP)—Six out of ten Norwegian vessels which attempted to break out of the Swedish port of Goteburg last week were sunk by German naval and air forces and two others fled back to Swedish territorial waters, official German quarters announced today.

(This reported indicated that two ships eluded the German blockade. The Vichy radio said Saturday that two vessels had reached Britain and a terse British announcement Sunday said that "certain ships have arrived safely in this country," but did not give the number.)

The Germans' announcement broke their silence on the track by the Norwegian vessels in the Baltic.

It said light German naval forces intercepted the ships, which were reported under command of British captains.

Five ships aggregating 26,990 tons were sunk by German cutters, the announcement said, while one 6,000-ton ship was sunk by the German air force.

IT WAS WONDERFUL WHILE IT LASTED

Hollywood, April 8.—(AP)—Peace, it was wonderful, while it lasted last night at the "Bundles for Blue-Jackets" dance.

Then a sailor tried to dance with Constance Bennett, the movie actress.

Miss Bennett, co-hostess of the affair, was dancing with a 20-year-old aircraft worker. The Blue-Jackets, trying to cut in, said: "The Navy never gets anything but coffee and doughnuts. The civilians get all the dances with the movie stars."

WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA

Rain and cooler north and west portions tonight.

Japs Claim Huge Allied Casualties

Tokyo (From Japanese Broadcast), April 8.—(AP)—Imperial headquarters said today that Japanese forces on Java had 82,618 prisoners, including 883 Americans.

The announcement said 66,209 of the prisoners were Dutch, 19,636 British and 4,890 Australian.

The Japanese said their clean-up of the island had netted them 177 warplanes, 1,059 tanks and armored cars, and large quantities of artillery, small arms and equipment.

Imperial headquarters said Japan's losses in the Java battle were 85 killed and 1,781 wounded.

BERLIN REPORTS 16 NEW SINKINGS

Berlin (From German broadcasts), April 8.—(AP)—German submarines have sunk 16 enemy merchant ships totaling 104,000 tons in continued attacks against American and British supply shipping in the Atlantic ocean, a special announcement from Adolf Hitler's field headquarters said.

NEGRO HOUSEBREAKER IS SHOT AND KILLED

Rutherfordton, April 8.—(AP)—Charles Anthony, 36-year-old Negro, was shot and instantly killed last night while investigating robbery.

He entered the home of Mrs. Frances Barlow in the Laurel Hill community.

The officers shot Mrs. Barlow, who was alone except for some small children, shot the Negro with a 22 caliber rifle. Her husband was at his job in a textile mill.

Frenchmen Face Trial

Vichy, April 8.—(AP)—The Paris newspaper Le Matin reported today that 27 persons were brought to trial there yesterday on charges of terrorist attacks against German occupation forces and "French political groups."

In the last case of such trials, the newspaper recalled, a German military court sentenced seven persons to death. The present trials were expected to last a week.

Even as the last got under way, a new terrorist attack was reported in Tours where a bomb was hurled into a local headquarters of the national popular assembly organization of Marcel Deat, proponent of collaboration with the Germans. The bomber escaped on a bicycle.

The interior of the building was wrecked, but there were no casualties.

BIDS TO BE OPENED ON HIGHWAY WORK: VANCE HAS PROJECT

Raleigh, April 8.—(AP)—The State Highway and Public Works Commission will open bids here April 9 on approximately 33 miles of highway in six counties, and Chairman Ben Poyne said the construction work will begin soon after the bids are opened.

The projects include Vance county, nine miles of paving on U. S. 1, beginning one mile north of Henderson.

Statesville Wins In Drive To Prevent Moving Shops

Daily Dispatch Bureau. In the Sir Walter Hotel. By BOB THOMPSON

Raleigh, April 8.—The State Highway and Public Works Commission, through Chairman Ben Poyne, has run up the white flag and abjectly surrendered to the Statesville delegation which objected to moving the Ninth and Seventh Division highway shops to Shelby and Albemarle, respectively. The victor was the same delegation which last week brought to light the unsavory methods which Ninth Division Commissioner Max Watson used in the direct sale of his own stock of automobile parts to the State for use by the highway department.

Princeton, in ordering that the shops not be moved, completely reversed his position of last week, despite the fact that he still admits the proposed move would save the state \$17,000 a year.

Papers Say West Front To Be Opened

U. S. Army Chief of Staff Accompanied by Harry Hopkins and Military Aides; Axis Forces Active in Middle East.

(By The Associated Press) General George C. Marshall, chief of staff of the United States Army, arrived in London today on the heels of British reports that the bulk of the American army was training for a mass invasion of continental Europe.

General Marshall was accompanied by Harry Hopkins, chairman of the British-American munitions assignments board, and by senior military advisors.

London newspapers yesterday declared American and British expeditionary forces eventually would strike together at the heart of industrial Germany through France.

Thousands of American troops already are training in battle maneuvers in northern Ireland. Recent dispatches have suggested that if British and American forces could open a second front, as repeatedly urged by Russia, they might attack along the French channel coast or through Norway.

In Washington, the White House tersely described General Marshall's visit as a "perfectly normal wartime mission," while London sources said the U. S. chief of staff was expected to confer with Britain's military leaders on questions of high strategy.

On the Russian front, Soviet dispatches reported that Red army troops had smashed across the upper Dnieper river in a furious climactic drive to pinch off the German "escape corridor" from Moscow, which has now been narrowed to 30 miles.

Dispatches said the crossing was made in the face of vast Nazi fortifications between Doroguzhyn and Dubovo, 50 miles east of Smolensk.

TOLL-FREE FERPIES MAY BE INAUGURATED

Raleigh, April 8.—(AP)—Governor Broughton said today there was a possibility that the toll would be removed from ferries crossing the Alligator river and Croatan sound, in eastern North Carolina.

He disclosed that he had written Carroll Wilson of Roanoke Rapids, member of the ferriway commission, asking that estimates be prepared on the amount which the State would have to pay if the tolls were removed.

Australian War Council Plans Session

Melbourne, April 8.—(AP)—Australia's war council set the stage today for important decisions at a meeting preceded by a two-hour conference of Prime Minister John Curtin with General Douglas MacArthur and his chief aides.

The decisions are expected to be taken at a war cabinet session tomorrow.

Enlargement of the scope of the allied supply council to permit control of shipping, transport and medical equipment in addition to fulfilling its original functions of maintenance of supplies and equipment will be discussed.