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Board Of Trustees Measure Is Rejected By Joint Committee

Both Original Bill And Substitute Get Unfavorable Report; War Powers Approved

Raleigh, Feb. 17—(AP)—Bills designed to take the board of trustees of the University of North Carolina out of politics were voted unfavorably today by joint committees. Chief objections were that the measures would eliminate many capable persons from membership, and that there was no need for such action at this time.

Both the original bill by Senator Hudgins of Guilford and Representative Umstead of Orange, and the substitute, from a committee led by Representative Reynolds of Buncombe, were killed by voice vote.

The substitute measure would have eliminated provisions limiting membership to more than two members, with the exception of Guilford, Orange and Wake, and allowed no member of the assembly or State senate to be elected to the board while in the political office. It also would have allowed another person to assume another office and hold both.

Senator McKee of Jackson said she believed it safer to leave the law as it is. Supporting arguments were made by Representative Lumpkin of Franklin, Senator Brooks of Durham, Representative Taylor of Wayne, Senator Daniel of Beaufort and Representative Spruill of Hertie.

Meantime, a bill to give the governor ratifying war powers was given unanimous approval today by the senate committee on inter-state cooperation.

MCDOWELL YOUTH KILLED IN CRASH

Meigs, Feb. 17—(AP)—J. B. Burkhardt, 17, of the News section of McDowell county, was almost instantly killed here last night when his plane apparently drove the light house in which they were riding on to the ground in front of a Southern railway train. Coroner Sig Westmoreland reported. The elder Burkhardt jumped to safety.

Army Officer Opposes Bill

Head of Personnel Says Draft Changes Would Force Draft Of 'Undesirables'

Washington, Feb. 17—(AP)—A high ranking Army officer testified today that enactment of legislation to put draft quotas on a statewide basis and give deferment priorities to men with dependents might force the Army to induct illiterates, men with cerebral disease and other "undesirables" now being accepted in limited numbers.

The committee later deferred until tomorrow a vote on the measure, which would permit members to participate in debate on the independent office appropriation bill.

Replying to inquiries General Miller White, assistant chief of personnel, said that the bill would force the Army to induct illiterates, men with cerebral disease and other "undesirables" now being accepted in limited numbers.

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Casablanca Flower



MOVIE ACTRESS Eleanor Parker admires the Casablanca carnella named in honor of President Roosevelt's historic visit to that city. The prize flower is an exhibit in Los Angeles, Cal. This rare carnella was grown by James Torrey of Temple City, Cal., and was presented to Miss Parker by the secretary of the California Agricultural Association. (International)

Subs Sink Axis Ships

Six Supply Vessels Sunk, One Probably Damaged in Attacks

London, Feb. 17—(AP)—Three British submarines, roving the central Mediterranean, have destroyed six and probably seven axis supply ships and damaged seven more, the admiralty announced today.

Four of the ships were sunk and two others were damaged so badly they had to be beached, it was announced.

The actions ranged from the east coast of Sicily to Italy. Our submarines in a daring operation, shelled a train in a railway station on the northern coast of Sicily and scored many hits, the announcement said.

The sinking of six other ships was credited to three British submarines. In addition to the six axis supply ships destroyed and seven damaged, another was torpedoed while traveling in a strong escort and probably was sunk, the communique said.

This ship was traveling with another supply vessel, both being escorted by destroyers and torpedo boats, but the submarine nevertheless succeeded in her attack, it was stated.

AIR TRANSPORT

London, Feb. 17—(AP)—Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden told the house of commons today that the British government has not undertaken discussions with any government on international control of air transport lanes after the war.

The response to a question indicated, however, that eventually there would be an effort to reach an "agreement acceptable to all."

Allies Admit Grave Reverse In Tunisia;

Nazis Rip U. S. Lines

Amendment Bill Passes Second Vote

Substitute Measure Provides for State Board of Education To Be Appointed

Raleigh, Feb. 17—(AP)—By a vote of 32-10, the senate passed on second reading today a substitute measure providing for the appointment of a unified State board of education, supplementing a constitutional amendment adopted last November.

Since a two-thirds approval is necessary to authorize a constitutional amendment vote, the bill passed with only two votes to spare.

The measure would set up eight educational districts, with each having a member on the board, and four others would be chosen from the state at large. Appointments would be by the governor for staggered terms, with no governor authorized to appoint more than half the board.

Members would represent business, agriculture and the professions, whereas the amendment adopted in the general election prescribes that the majority shall be representatives of business.

Senators Saunders of Alamance said in opposition that "we passed a bad going to send the people another one two years ago and now we are back on it." Senator O'Berry of Wayne said it would create a huge political machine and Senator Weathers of Cleveland said the measure was a monstrosity.

Recommendations of a legislative committee studying the financial structure of the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad were embodied in bills today which would, among other things, authorize a bond issue to pay off its obligations.

First mortgage bonds with a principal of \$295,000 now are in default. The bondholders agreed, however, that they would reduce the interest from 6 to 3 percent if the bonds were paid off by April 1, 1943. Such action would be taken under the bills.

The governor also would be empowered to appropriate \$200,000 to match more than \$400,000 in federal funds to improve the roadbed, bridges and structures from New Bern to Morehead City. The legislative committee recommended that the improvements be made on the line extending from Kingston to New Bern, however, and said that 80-pound rails would be available.

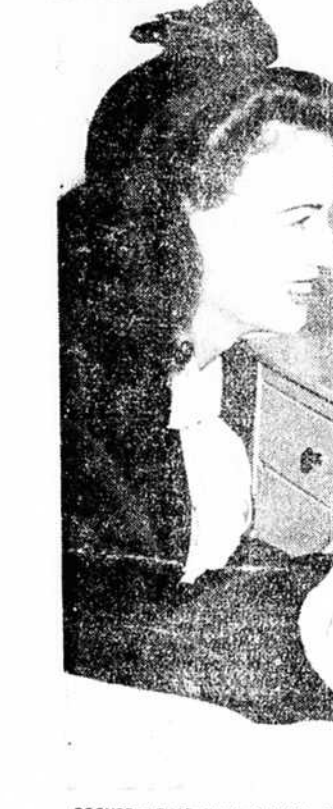
Navy Adds 58 Casualties

Washington, Feb. 17—(AP)—The Navy announced today 58 casualties in Navy forces, including eight dead, 33 wounded and twelve missing.

This brought to 23,340 the total of Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard casualties reported to next of kin since December 7, 1941. The grand total includes 6,612 dead, 4,386 wounded and 12,342 missing.

Listed as wounded was Ellsworth Syles Zink. His wife, Mrs. Ervell Zink, lives at Spring Hope, N. C.

BLOWN UP 5 TIMES, HORNET GUNNER STILL LIVES



RECUPEMATING IN A NAVAL HOSPITAL as his pretty wife, Donnie, smiles at him, is marine gunner sergeant Eugene G. Connor of Los Angeles. He was blown through the air five times by bomb and torpedo explosions aboard the ill-fated aircraft carrier Hornet. He directed the firing of an anti-aircraft gun aboard the ship even though his legs were paralyzed. This is a Marine Corps photo. (International)

More Bombs Hit Lorient

RAF Bombers Renew Attack on German Sub Base; Fighters Range Over Germany

London, Feb. 17—(AP)—Local air force bombers returned to the German submarine base at Lorient on the French coast last night for another concentrated attack in which only two bombers were lost, the air ministry announced today.

While the bombers were unleashing more tons of bombs on the much-battered submarine base, planes of the fighter command ranged over the continent as far as northwest Germany to attack communications.

The raid on Lorient followed in a double-barreled assault by the RAF Saturday night when the dock area was blasted into a mass of flames. Described by the air ministry as the most important submarine base on France's Atlantic coast, Lorient has heavily fortified harbors for 20 U-boats. Already it has been the target of more than 60 air attacks.

German planes during the night raided the coast of Spain, Wales and the first time this year, inflicting damage and causing some casualties, including twelve persons killed, a five-page communique said today. Other German planes rained a number of other points in Britain, but the casualties were light and damage slight, it was announced. Three of the enemy planes were shot down, the communique added.

Rail Parley Terminated

Chicago, Feb. 17—(AP)—A week-long parley between representatives of railroads and 30,000 members of five operating railroads was terminated today without agreement and the services of the national (railway) mediation board were invoked jointly by both sides.

Mediation processes will be instituted in Chicago tomorrow, a spokesman for the carriers announced.

The union wage demands were for a 20 percent pay increase or a minimum raise of \$2 a day, and the union filed the formal request with the carriers on January 25.

WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA

Warmer this afternoon and tonight.

Allied Air Forces Attack Jap Bases

Fuel Famine Follows Cold

(By The Associated Press) Two days of extremely cold weather on the Atlantic seaboard have caused at least 30 deaths, damaged crops in many sections from Maine to Florida, and brought severe shortages of fuel oil and gas.

The fuel shortage was of paramount importance today, with dangerously low inventories reported throughout the middle Atlantic and New England states.

The Consolidated Edison Co. and the Brooklyn Union Gas Co., which serve most of the metropolitan area of New York City, revealed they had only fuel oil supplies sufficient for the manufacture of gas for four days.

Hancock, N. H., and Warrensburg, N. Y., claimed the lowest official temperatures, 59 below zero.

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OFFICIALS TO VISIT CHAPEL HILL SCHOOL

Chapel Hill, Feb. 17—(AP)—Governor Broughton and members of the General Assembly and council of state will come here Thursday to inspect the Navy's pre-flight school.

The visitors will be grouped into platoons and, with officers as guides, will view the physical conditioning program for cadets in operation.

GASTONIA MAN SHOT BY UNKNOWN PERSON

Gastonia, Feb. 17—(AP)—Tom G. Pickett, 52-year-old textile worker, was shot to death in his room in a lodging house here last night. Police began a search for two unidentified men who were reported to have run from the building immediately after the shooting.

Stock Market Trend Lower

New York, Feb. 17—(AP)—The stock market had little of its recent bullish atmosphere today. Holding small gains at one time or another were United Aircraft, Douglas, U. S. Rubber, General Motors and Eastman Kodak. Westinghouse dipped. Commodities were mixed.

American Tank Forces Forced Back

Advance Threatens To Cut Allied Front In Middle; Russians Continue To Gain

(By The Associated Press) Allied headquarters acknowledged one of the gravest reverses of the Tunisian campaign today as battle-hardened German tank forces ripped 18 miles through American lines and threatened to cut the allied front in the middle.

A communique said nazi columns had driven to the outskirts of Sbeitla, 28 miles from the Tunisian-Algerian frontier, and were advancing on another town only twelve miles from the border.

After their baptismal taste of fire, American tank forces rallied on Monday and hurled the Germans back six miles, but fell back again yesterday.

On the Russian front, the news continued bright.

With Kharkov fallen and their 1943 winter defense wall shattered, Adolf Hitler's invasion armies were reported in headlong retreat toward the Dnieper river in the heart of the Ukraine amid conjecture that the swift moving Russians might even beat them to that sea.

In the south, the Russian command announced that their forces had stormed within 17 miles of Taganrog, after a 23-mile advance from fallen Rostov, in pursuit of 250,000 German troops fleeing westward along the north shores of the Sea of Azov.

Meanwhile, General Sir B. L. Montgomery's eighth army continued its new offensive into Tunisia, driving northwest along the Gulf of Gabes coast toward Medenine.

The British radio said General Montgomery's troops were in good condition and had ample equipment.

The new main thrust cut deep into the center of the 300-mile allied front and represented the gravest setback of the campaign.

American troops had previously (Continued on Page Five)

JOHNSTON COUNTY NEGRO IS FROZEN

St. Albans, Feb. 17—(AP)—At least one death in Johnston county has been attributed to the severe cold of the past three days. Willie Court, a Negro farm worker, was found frozen to death in a field, sheriff officers reported.

GANDHI

New Delhi, Feb. 17—(AP)—Mohandas K. Gandhi, aged Indian leader now in the eighth day of a 21-day fast in protest against his confinement by British authorities, spent a better day yesterday, the government report on his condition said today.

Nelson Considers Quitting WPB

Washington, Feb. 17—(AP)—Chairman Donald M. Nelson of the war production board today pondered suggestions, both from friends and foes, that he follow into retirement Ferdinand Eberstadt, the vice chairman he dismissed.

Nelson told friends he expected to take a week or two of vacation to rest up, to think about the possibility of retiring and to give complete freedom to Charles E. Wilson, his new executive vice chairman, who has taken over all WPB activities.

Among Nelson's friends, the majority opinion seemed to be against resigning, although some of them advised Nelson to quit in behalf of his health.

If he should resign, however, they favored for his successor Wilson, a self-made man who rose to the head of General Electric.

TEACHER AND EIGHT PUPILS ARE KILLED

Dardanelle, Ark., Feb. 17—(AP)—A loaded school bus and a state highway department asphalt truck collided at a narrow bridge a mile west of here late yesterday, killing eight school children and a mathematics teacher.

The instructor, Willie Carter, about 20, succumbed today, 15-year-old Wilton Hall died last night, three died today and four other children died in or immediately after the accident.