THE ANNIE PENN MEMORIAL WASHINGTON, D. C.

Buy War Loan Bonds And Help Win The Victory Over The Axis

Henderson Daily Dispatch

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British Storm Enfidaville Line

Post War Plans, Taxes, Farm Funds Demand Attention

Secretary Hull Opens New Debate in Pledge To Small Countries; Bond Drive Gains

Washington, April 15—(AP)—Accompanied by reports that the Japanese have shifted from offense to "aggressive defense" and new assurance that America will champion the rights of little countries, a trio of quarrels composed the Capitol melody today while the war bond drive roared on past the $4,000,000,000 mark.

The squabbles centered on post-war plans, taxes and farm funds.

Peoples of small nations the world over had it straight from Secretary of State Hull that Uncle Sam will continue to look out for the little fellow. Speaking before the Pan-American Union last night, Hull vigorously advocated worldwide attention to the good neighbor policy as a sort of global Magna Carta. He stressed the importance of the principles "on which the solidarity of this hemisphere is based," and added pointedly that these principles "are no exclusive property of the continents of the Americas . . ." His obvious references to international post-war planning had a reverse parallel in the statement of Senator Hiram W. Johnson of California, one of the original Senate "irreconcilables" who defeated American adherence to the League of Nations after the last war.

A member of the Senate foreign relations committee which will pass on several pending resolutions involving Senate commitment on post-war world collaboration, Johnson told reporters:

"How can we possibly tell what conditions will be when this war ends? It is foolish to say now what we will do. This matter should not have been brought before the Senate at all."

Elsewhere in the Senate, seven Republican members of the finance committee sought to dynamite the in-again-out-again Ruml plan from the House ways and means committee, lighting the fuse with an indictment of the skip-a-year system for putting income taxes on a pay-as-you-go basis. Representative Knutson, Minnesota Republican, mainspring of Republican support of the plan recently rejected in the House, 215 to 198, said the action "gives us grounds for asking" recall of the tax measure from the committee.

Committee troubles also plagued the $707,030,844 Agricultural department appropriation bill for the fi-

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'Down to the Sea'

BELIEVED TO BE THE YOUNGEST sailor ever to have seen service in the U. S. Navy, Calvin Leon Graham, 17, Houston, Texas, is back at home after discharge, enlisting at the age of twelve. Calvin is a veteran of two major battle actions in the Pacific war theater. (International)

Aid Pledged MacArthur

Secretary Stimson Promises Planes And Other Material For South Pacific

Washington, April 15.—(AP)—A constantly increasing flow of aircraft and other military supplies was promised today by Secretary of War Stimson for the forces of General Douglas MacArthur in the southwest Pacific.

Taking cognizance at his press conference of recent plea from Australia for additional planes to meet the more aggressive Japanese aerial activity of recent weeks, Stimson said "we will keep our American and Australian units supplied with sufficient planes not only to replace our losses but to build up our aircraft to counter the increasing enemy air attacks."

The secretary said that such appeals for additional material came to this country from all theatres of operations, and added that public officials in areas close to the war would be remiss in their duties if they failed to press their demands.

However, Stimson said, the allied combined chiefs of staff, charged with meeting the overall requirements of all the United Nations, has the "very difficult task" of allocating a limited supply to meet large demands.

Draft Eligible U.S. Employees Under Fire

Washington, April 15—(AP)—The House military affairs committee recommended today that Selective Service Director Lewis B. Hershey issue a directive to all draft boards to review their files "with a view to eliminating all deferments of government employees not thoroughly justified by supporting evidence."

"Government must be made to set the example," the report commented, in the federal government of having adopted a general policy of hiring "draft-eligible men in the 18 to 38 group on a hit or miss basis, with little attempt to define a policy whereby men or women not subject to the draft" would be given preference in hiring.

The committee's charge was contained in a report of a special subcommittee studying deferment policies of government agencies.

OPA Delays Price Limit

Ceiling on Cotton Will Not be Made While Market Open To Normal Trading

Washington, April 15.—(AP)—OPA said in a statement today no announcement regarding cotton prices "will be made during the course of trading in the cotton market in order that there be no interruption of normal trading."

The statement was issued, apparently, to counteract reports that a sudden announcement of government control on cotton prices might be made today.

Price Administrator Prentiss Brown said last week that, under President Roosevelt's "hold the line" order, he was preparing controls on cotton, and the principal question of the last few days has been the date and form of the anticipated order.

The OPA statement left open the possibility of some announcement tonight, saying "if any statement is made, it will be after the close of the market."

Conferences between the war food administration on details were understood to be holding up the order.

JAP AIRMEN SUSTAIN SUICIDAL LOSSES

MacArthur Renews Call For Planes

Japanese Assaults In Southwest Pacific Result in Losses Nearing 30 Per Cent

(*By The Associated Press*)

General Douglas MacArthur's headquarters disclosed today that suicidal losses ranging upward of 30 per cent were inflicted on a Japanese armada of 75 to 100 planes attempting to raid Milne Bay, New Guinea, but simultaneously new official warnings were sounded on the need for greater allied strength in the south Pacific skies.

A spokesman for General MacArthur further declared that a great Japanese combat fleet was concentrated in the Truk area "within three days' sailing distance of New Guinea."

The spokesman said the Japanese also had approximately 250,000 tons of merchant shipping based at Rabaul, New Britain alone.

"Constant convoys operating beyond range of our air forces are being pushed forward to reinforce the enemy," the spokesman declared.

Striking in force for the third time in four days, the Japanese lost 15 planes definitely shot down and 15 others were so badly damaged they probably failed to reach their bases in yesterday's raid in Milne Bay it was announced.

Previous attacks included Sunday's 45-plane raid on Oro Bay, New Guinea, where 24 were shot down, and Monday's 100-plane assault on Port Moresby, where 37 were destroyed.

The Japanese also lost 39 aircraft in a 98-plane attack on Guadalcanal island in the Solomons, on April 7, making a cumulative eight-day total of 130 planes knocked out of action.

Meanwhile, new developments arose in the Washington-Australia discussion of allied strategy in the southwest Pacific—touched off by General Sir Thomas A. Blamey's disclosure that Japan had massed 200,000 first line troops in the islands above Australia and may be expected to launch a comeback offensive at any moment.

In Washington, military authorities expressed belief that the Japanese had passed from the offensive to "aggressive defense" and declared there was little danger that the enemy would attempt to strike against Australia or any other important allied citadel.

In Melbourne, Prime Minister John Curtin said that the Japanese had been building up air strength in the South seas theatre for the last two months and that powerful attacks on Australia could be expected soon.

Retail Trade To Improve

Babson Says Outlook For Buyer and Seller Is Gradually Clearing Despite Pessimism

By ROGER W. BABSON
Copyright—1943—Publishers Financial Bureau, Inc.

New York, April 15—At one time in his life, my father was a small town merchant. Hence, I have always been interested in and sympathetic with the problems of retailers. All of us come into closer contact with the business of retailing than we do with any other type of enterprise or industryy. From the cradle to the grave, we are all customers of retil stores.

Appreciate Your Retailers

The retail business should not be thought of as being confined solely to department stores, drug stores, specialty shops, grocery chains and

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SFAX NATIVES RIDE BRITISH TANK

The natives of Sfax afforded the victorious armies of General Montgomery a rousing welcome as the pursuers of Rommel entered the city. Above, jubilant inhabitants clamber aboard one of the tanks that routed the Afrika Korps. Official U. S. Signal Corps Photo radioed from Algiers. (International Radiophoto.)

RAF Raids Stuttgart

Nazi Industrial City Is Heavily Bombed; 23 Planes Missing; London Has Alert

London, April 15. —(AP)—**Britain's powerful four-engined bombers raced 400 miles across nazi-held Europe last night to strike at the German industrial city of Stuttgart in a highly concentrated raid from which 23 bombers failed to return, the air ministry announced today.**

Simultaneously, other allied planes, presumed here to be Russian, were reported by Berlin to have hit at East Prussia.

The [illegible] ministry announcement described the attack upon Stuttgart, a city of [illegible] and one of Germany's most important engineering centers, as "very heavy." The target was "[illegible] identified," the ministry declared, indicating the raid was favored by good weather.

At least three German night fighters were reported shot down by the big British bombers.

The German air force, meanwhile, made a raid at Britain with night attacks on East Anglia and towns in the Thames estuary, coming a brief alert in London its first night alert since March 8. Some damage and casualties were caused by the raiders, though no bombs fell in the capital.

Three of the German planes were reported destroyed over Britain and another over its base in France.

BROUGHTON DENIES CLEMENCY TO NEGRO

Raleigh, April 15—(AP)—Governor Broughton declined today to intervene in the case of John Henry Lee, thus assuring the execution tomorrow of the 19-year-old Camden county Negro who was convicted of raping a young mother in Camden county last September 26.

WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA.
Continued cold but with slightly higher temperatures in the interior tonight. Slowly rising temperatures Friday afternoon.

OWI Men Charge News Suppression

Raid Record Set At Kiska

Washington, April 15—(AP)—The Aleutian air force command broke all previous records for number of attacks on Kiska in a single day, the Navy reported today, with its planes and allied planes over the island on Tuesday by [illegible] heavy and medium bombers.

The Navy said it [illegible] the total number of attacks on Kiska in the entire month of February, which was blind with cloud [illegible] by planes which dropped a total of [illegible] bombs.

Since March 1, Kiska has been attacked 23 times, the count including Tuesday's assault.

Fifteen Staff Men Resign, Declaring They are not Allowed To Tell Full Truth

OWI MEN

Washington, April 15—(AP)—Fifteen recently resigned members of the office of war information staff said in a statement today that they were leaving "because of one conviction that it is impossible for us x x x to tell the full truth."

Among those signing the statement immediately denied by OWI Director Elmer Davis—were Harold K. Guinzburg, New York book publisher, and Henry F. Pringle, Pulitzer prize winning author.

"There is only one issue—the deep and fundamental one of honest presentation of war information," their statement said.

Davis told a press conference yesterday that he believed the resignations were due to a clash of personalities and that he hoped most of those who resigned would reconsider.

The resigning employees said, however, that personalities were not responsible for their resignation and added:

"No one denies that promotional techniques have a proper and powerful function in telling the story of the war. But as we see it, the activities of OWI on the home front are now dominated by high pressure publicity men who prefer slick salesmanship to honest information. These publicists would treat as stupid and reluctant customers the men and women of the United States. They delude themselves that the only effective appeal to the American public in wartime is the selfish one of 'what's in it for me?'"

Giraud Plans Army Purge

Algiers, April 15—(AP)—An authoritative source said today that General Henri Giraud had ordered a purge of all pro-Axis and Vichy minded officers from the French army.

He said the French civil and military leader in north Africa had ordered commanders of the land, sea and air forces to report to him by May 1, the names of all officers who had shown a reluctance to fight on the allied side because of their allegiance to Marshal Petain.

Officers who are considered unfit for duty will be returned to civilian life, said this source, whose name may not be used.

It was stated that it was not clear whether they then would be subject to conscription but this was considered unlikely in view of Giraud's declaration that the French army should be small but high in quality.

POSTMASTERS

Washington, April 15.—(AP)—The Senate confirmed these North Carolina postmasters:

Joshua T. Winstead, Macclesfield.
Wilbur A. Pike, Pikeville.

ARMY PLANE CRASHES NEAR THOMASVILLE

Thomasville, April 15—(AP)—An Army pursuit plane crashed in a field three miles south of here, injuring the pilot to an undetermined extent.

The flier was brought to City Memorial hospital in Thomasville. He said the plane crashed because it ran out of gas.

Last Stand Of Germans Assaulted

Allied Forces Drive On Three Main Fronts In Northern Tunisia; Other News of War

(*By The Associated Press*)

Allied headquarters disclosed today that General Sir B. L. Montgomery's British eighth army had begun to storm the main axis defense line at Enfidaville, 50 miles below Tunis, and that German and Italian prisoners captured since March 20 had risen to 30,000.

"Our troops continue their advance on most sectors of the Tunisian front," a communique from General Dwight D. Eisenhower's headquarters announced.

The war bulletin said Lieutenant General Anderson's British first army pressed its offensive north of Medjez-el-Bab, 34 miles southwest of Tunis and seized "an important hilltop over difficult country in the face of strong opposition."

Italian headquarters reported "lively fighting all along the front, particularly in the western sector" where the British first army is operating.

Field Marshal Erwin Rommel's last-straw grasp of the north African bridgehead was under hammering assault in at least three main sectors, and it was likely, too, that the axis chieftain was feeling the punch of dwindling air strength as the allies recorded more than 199 enemy planes destroyed since Saturday. At least 19 axis aircraft were shot down and others destroyed on the ground yesterday.

Along with the British first army's advance in the north, allied headquarters announced that General Montgomery's eighth army troops "are in contact with the enemy defenses on the Enfidaville line."

"French forces continued their successful advance in the range of hills to the west of the Enfidaville line, and yesterday captured over 400 prisoners," the allied communique said.

Front dispatches said Marshal

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Cold Hurts N.C. Crops

Early Truck Crops Retarded; Berries And Peaches Hurt By Unseasonable Cold

Raleigh, April 15. — (AP)—Frank Parker, State Agriculture Department crop specialist, said today that recent cold spells had appreciably retarded early truck crops and harvest dates would be much later than usual.

Damage to victory gardens in the east was not believed great, but many of them, and such crops as corn, tobacco and cotton, were damaged by heavy rains and hail.

The strawberry outlook pointed to a 42 per cent reduction throughout the state, while in the Wallace area growers reported that heavy frosts of the last three weeks had cut the crop by more than 50 per cent.

The peach crop of the sandhill commercial area had been seriously hurt by the weather Parker said indications were that the state "will not make half a full crop of peaches," and added that much of the loss was not yet apparent, since the full extent of the damage could not be determined until green peaches appear later in the spring.

Production of cabbage and lettuce was expected to be approximately 12 per cent less than last year. Although low temperatures of February and March considerably damaged the wheat crop, the injury has largely been overcome, Parker said.