



Henderson Daily Dispatch

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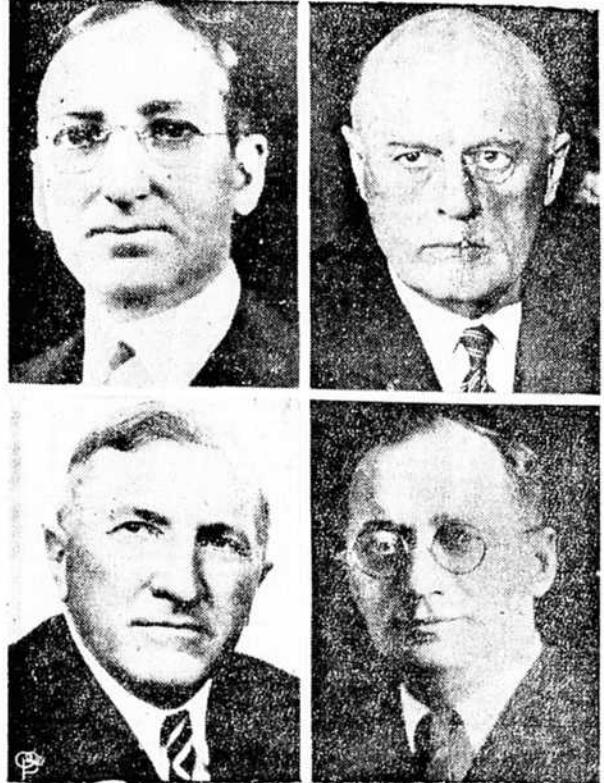
PUBLISHED EVERY AFTERNOON
EXCEPT SUNDAY

FIVE CENTS COPY

Berlin Blasted In Biggest Raid

Railway Wage Dispute Continues As Problem

Rail Heads Named Colonels In Crisis



Here are four of the seven American railroad presidents who have been given the rank of colonel to facilitate their handling of the nation's rail systems while they are being operated by the government. They will run as many divisions of the rail network. They are (top, l. to r.) Ralph Budd of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy and Frederick E. Williamson of the New York Central. Bottom (l. to r.) William J. Jenks of the Norfolk and Western and Charles E. Denney of the Northern Pacific. (International)

Shipments Of Coal Stopped To Ease Shortage In East

Servicemen's Vote First 1944 Issue

Washington, Dec. 30.—(AP)—The November election of votes of men and women in uniform to be held today as the first political issue for 1944. Chairman Worley, Texas Democrat, announced he would call the House Elections Committee when Congress reconvenes on January 10 to pick up the legislative hot potato which the Senate has voted to toss into the states.

Worley, who seeks a compromise, described as a "smoke screen" the constitutional question raised about the power of Congress to legislate ways of facilitating votes by servicemen and women.

Frank C. Walker, Democratic national chairman, released a statement saying he had "no doubt that a compromise measure can and will be enacted."

FDR Probably Has Win War Platform, Against Isolation

Washington, Dec. 30.—(AP)—The consensus of political Washington today appeared to be that President Roosevelt is a candidate for a fourth term on a platform promising to win the war and then to link America's economic and military future with that of other nations.

That was the deliberative Republican interpretation of Mr. Roosevelt's news conference action Tuesday in fondly laying at rest the New Deal for a win-the-war program, in warning against economic and military isolation after the war and in outlining a program of proposed post-war expansion in security, employment, recreation, education, health and housing.

WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA

Partly cloudy and continued cool tonight with slightly lower temperatures in mountains tonight. Friday, partly cloudy and slightly warmer.

Unions Seem More Tangled Than Ever Over Major Issue

Washington, Dec. 30—(AP)—With the army at the throat, the nation's railroad system was rid of a strike threat today but not of the wage controversy that provoked it.

Two brotherhoods, the trainmen and the engineers, executed agreements with the carriers, but the demands of the other organizations remain unsettled and, in fact, the unions seemed more tightly knotted than ever.

Chiefs of the three operating unions—conductors, firemen and switchmen—told Lt. General Somervell early yesterday that they would not challenge the government, but they delayed sending strike cancellation orders to their chairmen in the field until 9 p.m. in order to include in the message some information of the wage settlement. The order finally was sent without such information because, the union chiefs said, government spokesman avoided a commitment.

The contracts signed by the trainmen and the engineers provided for an increase of nine cents an hour and a week's vacation. Five cents of that amount was awarded by President Roosevelt, acting as arbitrator, as compensation for overtime and away-from-home expenses.

Similar terms were reported available to the firemen, conductors and switchmen, but the chiefs of these unions feared acceptance would mean a wage freeze for the duration of the war.

Here is how the "non-on" case stood: when these 15 unions representing more than a million office, shop and track workers, cancelled their strike order on Monday they sent a letter to President Roosevelt accepting the sliding scale increases of four to ten cents approved by Stabilization Director Fred M. Vinson, and said they would accept the President's arbitration of their overtime demands.

In their opinion, this left only the overtime issue for arbitration. The railroads do not agree and want the four to ten cents and the overtime ruled on as one issue. That would tend to cut down the total amount of the award.

U-Boat Sinks Merchant Ship In Caribbean

Miami, Fla., Dec. 30.—(AP)—An enemy submarine in Caribbean sea sank a medium-sized merchant ship with a loss of three lives in mid-December, survivors who arrived here reported.

Undersea raiders were driven out of the Caribbean where they operated in strength 13 months ago, and only quick hit-and-run raids on shipping have been experienced since.

The latest victim was struck by three torpedoes off the northern coast of South America. One shot was fired by a gun crew, but did not strike the U-boat, which was heard but could not be seen.

Crewmen remained aboard the stricken ship for an hour and 15 minutes hoping to salvage it after the first torpedo exploded. Then two additional torpedoes quickly finished their hopes.

Frank O. Meade of Norfolk, Va., third mate, said several men were injured in addition to the three killed.

Seventy reached safety.

Plans Ready For Full War On Japanese

Washington, Dec. 30—(AP)—Admiral Ernest J. King, commander-in-chief of the fleet, said today that plans are ready for shifting full strength of the United Nations into the war against Japan, probably some time in 1944.

Preparation of the plans, he said, have been underway for several months and may not wait until de-

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GIANT NAZI PLANE FLIES HEAVY ARTILLERY TO FRONT



JUST RELEASED in this country is this picture of the giant six-engined transport plane now being used by the Germans. Spacious enough to carry heavy field guns, six of which are shown stowed aboard, it also can fly fully armed troops or a light tank to fighting areas. As in our mail picture, heavy cargo is loaded through a door in the nose. Five pairs of wheels are necessary to support the tremendous weight. (International)

Reds Approach 1939 Frontier

Army's Rail Adviser



Martin W. Clement, president of the Pennsylvania railroad, has just been appointed advisor to the Army during the period that it will operate the nation's railroads. Described as the "ablest railroad executive in the country," he rose from rodman to president since 1901. (International)

Tag Buying Slower Than It Has Been

In the Sir Walter Hotel,
Daily Dispatch Bureau.
BY LYNN NISBET

Raleigh, Dec. 30.—"Abe" Linn's slogan of the year, "as the old adage used to say, you may expect long lines of waiting motorists at the various places dispensing automobile license plates." This year the license-distributing points are less congested than for many years past, not because there are so many less plates being bought but because the absolute deadline for purchase has been moved up to January 31.

One of the newspaper members of the last General Assembly—Senator Lee Weatherly of Cleveland—is responsible for these days of grace for car owners. Realizing that most folks are broke right after Christmas, or at least they do not w^t to spend what money they have for a license plate before Santa Claus has been taken care of, Senator Weatherly secured passage of a bill extending the time one full month.

The license clerks at the motor vehicles office in Raleigh and at most of the distributing points maintained by the Carolina Motor Club have been busy, but they have not been hampered by impatient crowds as in other years. Even so, the number of plates sold up to date compares with years when December 31 was the deadline.

Motor vehicle officials tried to keep too much publicity from being given to the extension of time before this date because they feared too many people would wait and the same kind of jam would occur at the end of January as usually came during the last two or three days in December. Warning is now given that there will be no consideration shown de-

Within 48 Miles of Polish Border After Capture of Korosten

Moscow, Dec. 30—(AP)—General Nikolai Vatutin's First Ukraine army, spearheading a great Soviet three-front winter offensive, rolled toward Russia's 1939 frontier today across the flat, frozen steppes that contain few natural obstacles east of the Bug river in Poland, 190 miles away.

Vatutin's troops were less than 48 miles from the rail and river town of Gorodnitz, on the old Polish-Russian border, following their spectacular capture of the rail hub of Korosten yesterday. Aiming toward the first plume out to Soviet territories, they pushed forward on the heels of a bitterly resisting but exhausted enemy.

With the northern army of Vatutin's forces rapidly expanding a 42-mile breach in the Leningrad-Odesa railway from Korosten south to Chernigov, other units were closing in on Zhitomir from the north and latest front-line map placed vanguard beyond the town of Lutsk, 100 miles to the west and equally important junction on the western Ukraine railway network.

Nowhere were there any signs that Marshal Voroshilov's thoroughly disorganized army could be able to stem the tumultuous Soviet onslaught of the Bug area.

On the southern front, inside the Dnieper river bend, General Radion Matrosov's Third Ukraine army, in a new supporting second-in-importance role to Vatutin's offensive, struck westward across the river from Zaparozhye, in a massive advance that completely restored the great Dnieper dam to Russian hands.

Todays' drive was apparently headed for Slobozhansk, where German's supply point from the rear 20 miles to the northeast.

Between the two major Soviet armies, Matrosov's and the Belorussian, the Germans planned still others north of Kursk, in an attempt to keep open that route of eastward communications. They took Borki, 100 miles inland, and their patrols recently advanced a half mile along the Kursk road to the next possible German line of defense.

The Germans were reported still

(Continued on Page Four)

Marines Advance Nearer Cape Gloucester Airdrome

Admiral Alfred Headquarters, New Britain, Dec. 30—(AP)—The Marine corps offensive point on American Mariana Islands, despite fierce resistance, is advancing.

While Lejeune's corps on the eastern shore of the island is closing in on Cape Gloucester, New Britain, front line headquarters said today,

"We're getting closer to the front line, but we're holding firm front line attacks by larger Japanese forces, their swords on the western front advanced a half mile along the line and inflicting to melt the attacking opposition."

The western front put the devils about a mile from the important airfield on the northwest coast of New Britain. General Douglas MacArthur's commandant said, "The Marines on the end line were doggedly holding back attacks from an enemy force estimated by a headquarters spokesman to number at least a regiment."

The increasing opposition indicated that while the air and naval bombardments given the Japanese when the Marines landed Sunday had driven

Nazi Capital 'Finished' By RAF Bombs

Smoke Curls Upward High as Three Miles; 20 Bombers Are Lost

London, Dec. 30—(AP)—More than 2,240 United States tons of high explosives and incendiary bombs shook and burned the shuddering city of Berlin last night and may have finished it as the working capital of Germany.

The engines of the mighty RAF night armada that dealt the eight heavy blows to the German capital since the beginning of the bombing last night were barely cold before huge formations of heavy daylight bombers, fighter-bombers and fighters crossed all heights toward the center in the direction of the towering "Kochelberg" ridge of France, last breached by a 1,360-plane American fleet on Christmas Eve.

The explosive power of British Lancasters and Halifaxes sent over desecrated Berlin in the early evening and brought a heavy cover of clouds damping one of the largest loads of explosives and incendiaries ever poured on one target in an attack in this war.

In the raiding operations was the largest force of heavy bombers ever sent out by the Royal Canadian Air Force.

In announcing the operations the air ministry described the attack as "very heavy" and concentrated, and said smoke spiraled upward to 16,000 feet from the large fires set by 3,000 long tons of high explosives and incendiaries.

Twenty bombers were lost in the raid in Mosquito attacks on western and central Germany and northern France, and in mine-laying operations. Five of the heavy bombers were Canadian.

It was the 90th British attack, including Mosquito strikes on the Nazi capital, but by nearly 1,000 tons of bombs in seven previous raids since the mid-November campaign was launched in mid-November.

Cotton Holds Net Gains

New York, Dec. 30—(AP)—Cotton futures opened unchanged to five cents a bale higher. Cotton prices backed away from the early gains but managed to hold net gains of 15 to 20 cents a bale at noon. March advanced to 49.66, the highest level for that delivery since December 16. Trade price fixings and year-end contracts were factors.

The Canadian press said Canada's troops had driven two miles west of Orléans on a straight railroad road and captured railroads were cut but the Ardeche, seven miles beyond the Mer, the next possible German line of defense.

March 19.35, May 19.37, July 19.16,

August 19.38, October 19.39, December 19.40, Open

March 19.35, 19.36, 19.37, 19.38, 19.39, 19.40, 19.41

May 19.35, 19.36, 19.37, 19.38, 19.39, 19.40, 19.41

July 19.35, 19.36, 19.37, 19.38, 19.39, 19.40, 19.41

October 19.35, 19.36, 19.37, 19.38, 19.39, 19.40, 19.41

December 19.35, 19.36, 19.37, 19.38, 19.39, 19.40, 19.41

Open

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