# Henderson Daily Dispatch

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# Russians In Sight Of Rumania

## LAST RESTING PLACE OF AMERICANS IN ITALY

IN A SECLUDED SECTION of southern Italy, where the ruinous hand of war has not penetrated, American soldiers who fell in recent battles further north find peace beneath rows of crosses and the Stars and Stripes. The well-cared for cemetery is at Mount Soprano. U. S. Signal Corps photo. (International Soundphoto)

## New Boards Of Election Designated

### Fred Royster to Succeed Gholson For Vance Board

Raleigh, March 18—(AP)—The State Board of Elections today set dates for regional meetings of county chairmen with State Chairman William T. Joyner, when regulations will be explained in detail.

Principal purpose of the meeting is to acquaint the local chairmen with the procedure for soldier voting, full provision for which was made by the 1943 legislature.

The dates are March 27 at Edenton, March 28 at Greenville, March 29 at Clinton, March 30 at Raleigh, April 3 at Asheville, April 4 at Statesville.

The board spent some time in going over the lists of county board nominees, but left final approval until later today.

Tentative approval, however, was given the following (Republican last names):

Beaufort county, John G. Brogaw, Washington; Jack McWilliams of Aurora, and John L. Ratcliffe, of Pantego.

Vance county, Fred S. Royster, C. P. Tanner, and T. M. Hicks, all of Henderson.

Wayne, J. Spicer Holmes, Goldsboro; Julian Allcock, Pikeville; I. E. Pearson, Goldsboro.

Wilson, J. E. Jennings, Dr. M. A. Pittman and C. J. Moore, all of Wilson.

Edgecombe, J. W. Forbes, Harbors; C. S. Winstead, Macclesfield; J. C. Liles, Tarboro.

**FRED ROYSTER IS NEW MAN ON ELECTIONS BODY**

One change was made in personnel when the State Board of Elections in Raleigh made its 1944 appointments today. Fred S. Royster was added to the board in place of A. W. Gholson, Jr., who had requested that he not be appointed again on account of lack of time to give to the work. Mr. Gholson was chairman of the old board and served through several recent campaigns.

Mr. Royster has been a member and chairman of the board before this, so that the work is not new to him.

C. P. Tanner, who was re-appointed, has had [illegible] years of service on the board, as T. M. Hicks, the third member and the Republican representative, has been a member of the board for several years since the death of his father, the late John Hicks, who served for many years.

The new board is expected to meet shortly to organize.

Members are named by the State Board of Elections on the basis of recommendations by county political organizations, usually forwarded by the Democratic and Republican county chairmen. A. A. Bunn is Democratic chairman for the county and nominated the Democratic members of the new board.

## RUMANIA HELD READY TO QUIT

RUMANIA, seeking to quit the war, is reported offering peace terms which include ceding to Russia of Bessarabia. Prince Barnu Stirbe, Rumanian spokesman (shown above), is expected to confer in Cairo with U. S. and British representatives while the Reds, poised above Odessa, rap at the Rumanian gate as shown on the map. (International)

## *Air Assaults Resumed In Force On Germany With Daylight Smashes*

**London, March 18—(AP)—Hundreds of American and British planes were thrown against the continent in an aerial offensive resumed with force today and Berlin broadcasts said strong American bomber formations were rearing over southwestern Germany at noon.**

The daylight forays followed night blows by Mosquitos of the RAF against unnamed targets in western Germany.

The Berlin broadcasts said the American bombers were escorted by fighters and were engaged in violent battles by strong forces of the German air defense. The procession of daylight attackers was joined shortly afterward by fighter planes streaking out in force toward Boulogne on the bombers' flank.

Today's bomber and fighter forays followed on far-flung blows yesterday in which Italy-based American heavy bombers made the trip over the Alps and poured heavy explosives on Vienna in old Austria, and British-based Allied planes resumed the attacks against communications in France and Holland.

The Germans attacked Vienna manufacturing plants for the second time in two days, adding that "many planes were believed to have crashed in snowdrifts over the Alps." U. S. headquarters did not immediately specify the number of planes failing to return, but Allied headquarters at Naples said eleven planes were lost in all operations of the Mediterranean air force yesterday.

## Soviet Push To Dniester Crashes On

### Great Advantages In Communications Result From Drive

Moscow, March 18—(AP)—Massed cavalry, infantry and tanks of Marshal Ivan Konev, pouring deep into the valley of the Dniester, across flooded streams and muddy fields, were within sight of Bessarabia today.

The latest Soviet communiques said the Red army had smashed forward to within eleven miles of the Dniester (the pre-war boundary of Rumania) and the offensive was unchecked.

**In one sector Russian units captured Tomashpol and drove to within twelve miles of a good highway which extends northeastward to an ancient border town and a highway center on the network of roads running to Rumania and Czechoslovakia.**

At the northern end of the Ukrainian front Marshal Gregory Zhukkov's new drive swept on from Dubno in eastern Poland, threatening the large area east of the headwaters of the Bug river. His troops were less than forty miles from the Curzon line and appeared to be operating in several directions.

Bad weather prevailed between Dubno and the Bug and the great wheat fields were knee deep in mud.

The most significant feature of the capture of Dubno was the communications advantage gained by the Russians. A hard-surfaced highway runs northwest into Lutsk, thirty miles away and another into Lwow, 85 miles to the southwest. The Russians already were within 70 miles of Lwow.

## Draft Might Halt Rubber Output Soon

### Appeal Is Issued For Retention of Technical Workers

**Washington, March 18—(AP)—Production of synthetic rubber is being held up by the shortage of workers, Rubber Director Bradley Dewey reported today in a plea for retention of the industry's young key technicians.**

Voicing the first official complaint of industries likely to be hit by the announced plan to take into the armed forces practically all of the 250,000 men under 26 who have been deferred for occupational reasons, Dewey said:

"If at this late date the industry finds itself in a position where its young, irreplaceable, highly trained, technical men are drafted it will be impossible to operate some plants satisfactory or to carry forward to completion some vital researches.

His assertions followed a hint from President Roosevelt that the chief executive is leaning toward the armed services' view that virtually all physically fit men under 26 must be drafted.

For the last ten days there has been an intensive behind-the-scenes tug of war between the armed services and the production officials over the new draft policy. Production officials had hoped to keep some 40,000 to 50,000 key technicians, but Mr. Roosevelt said that few men under 26 were indispensable.

## Second Primaries Held Essential In Democracy

### Some Aspirants Proposing That Leaders Take All

BY LYNN NISBET,
Daily Dispatch Bureau

Raleigh, March 18.—John C. Stroupe, of Hickory, one of three candidates filed for Democratic nomination for Congress in the tenth district, is pressing his challenge to the other candidates to enter agreement to let the high man in the first primary take the nomination, in order to avoid the expense and worry of a run-off campaign.

News reaching Raleigh is that Joe Ervin, of Charlotte, has reluctantly acceded to the request, but that Hamilton Jones, also of Charlotte, will not agree.

That brings up an interesting discussion of the purpose and effect of primary elections. Capitol Square is mostly in sympathy with the Stroupe suggestion. Every elective official who is eligible for re-election is a candidate to succeed himself. Opposition has not materialized to the point of menace to their ambitions. Just on general principle each officer has reason to believe he would lead in the primary if more than two participated. So they are heartily in favor of letting the high man take the honors.

From over the State come objections to that plan. It is pointed out that in entering such agreements, the candidates are assuming personal property rights in the nomination which in fact do not belong to them. There are enough limitations on popular choice under State laws which restrict voters to selection of candidates who file ten weeks ahead of the primary. There should be no assumption that only those who file and get their names on the ballots are concerned with outcome of the election.

It is true that elections cost money, both for the public treasury and for the participating candidates. That is the principal argument for letting the high man in and ruling out all the others.

But the essence of democracy is

(Continued on Page Two.)

## Heavy Movements Of Troops Begun In Finnish Areas

**Stockholm, March 18—(AP)—Heavy Russian troop movements in the vicinity of Kandalajhs, behind the northern Finland front, were reported today in a Berlin dispatch to the newspaper Svensjadagbladet.**

**On the Finnish side, the paper said, truckloads of troops and material have been heading for the Russian front in a steady stream in recent weeks.**

## Armistice Terms Given To Rumania

**Bern, Switzerland, March 18—(AP)—The Journal de Geneve, quoting an unidentified diplomat, said the Allies had presented seven conditions of armistice for Rumania to Prince Barbu Stirbey, Rumanian politician, including the northern Bucovina to Russia.**

**By this same restoration of the 1940 frontiers the northern branch of the Danube would be established to control the river's mouth, replacing the prewar European control commission.**

## Churchill Hopes For Decisive Turn Of War This Year

**London, March 18—(AP)—Prime Minister Churchill expressed the hope today that the war in nearly every theatre would reach "decisive phases" this year.**

**In a message to the "salute the soldier" fund campaign, the prime minister said:**

**"During this year the men in the British armies will be engaged in nearly every theatre of throughout the world in what we hope may prove to be the decisive stages in this great conflict."**

## Wartime Problems Presented to ODT By Motor Carriers

Charlotte, March 18—(AP)—Executives of approximately 100 motor carrier companies in the Carolinas presented to officials of the Defense Transportation today a list of their wartime problems and a request for relief.

N. P. Strause of Henderson, president of the North Carolina Motor Truck Operators Association, said the truckers particularly wanted relief from their manpower, finance, maintenance and other difficulties. The manpower problems, he said, are the most severe.

## Planes Blast Germans On Anzio Front

With the Fifth Army at the Anzio Beachhead, March 18—(AP)—Wave after wave of Allied bombers struck at German defenses ringing the beachhead below Rome today.

The first wave to roar over Anzio were barely perceptible in the early morning light as they broke out of the clouds hanging over the harbor, and dumped their bombs on the German lines just a few miles away.

The return of Allied bombers to this area lifted morale on the entire beachhead, since the Germans for the third night in a row had stepped up their own air activities, keeping troops in foxholes and shelters.

The Germans apparently were making a determined night effort to knock out these installations. The enemy planes were led into the target area by determined "pathfinders."

The tenacity of the pathfinders in the flak-filled skies led one ranking officer to remark that the Germans were using their "first team."

One stick of bombs fell in an advanced ambulance aid clearing station, killing twelve persons and wounding 85. This bombing apparently was not intentional.

The German raiders made more than thirty passes at the port after the flares were dropped before unloading their bombs.

## Churchill And Roosevelt To Meet Shortly

**London, March 18—(AP)—President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill may meet after the London visit of Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., under secretary of State, to iron out political questions, and the possibility of another three-power conference with Premier Josef Stalin was suggested today by reports from British diplomats.**

The need for Churchill and Roosevelt to get together again was accented by the Italian-Yugoslav and Polish political situations and recent discussions of terms with Finland and some of Germany's satellites.

The ground work for the talks may be laid in Stettinius' conferences here with British leaders.

After Roosevelt and Churchill decide their position on such questions it is likely they will seek Stalin's accord.

## WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA

**Partly cloudy and warmer tonight; clouds and mild Sunday with showers and colder in west portion in afternoon.**

## Shirley Grows Up

RECOGNIZE HER? She's Shirley Temple, all grown and sweet sixteen. The veteran screen star poses in a dress she wears in a new film. A hand-blocked print in royal blue is used in front of the white cotton blouse, also in the form of a ruffle at the top of the royal blue cotton dirndl skirt. (International)

## Allies Are Slowly Driving Nazis Out Of Cassino Points

**Allied Headquarters, Naples, March 18.—(AP)—Allied troops are driving the Germans from one strong point after another in the southwest corner of devastated Cassino and the rugged hills extending from the town to the monastery above, headquarters announced today.**

The Germans continue to hold out in the corner of the town against a closely coordinated Allied infantry, tank and air attack. Fluid fighting raged around the hills west of the town, with the Allies losing one height to a German counter attack. Indian troops, however, firmly held two others which they had captured.

New Zealanders and Indians were reducing one by one the German positions in Cassino's rubble and Allied tanks moved into Cassino Thursday night after having been held up by huge craters from Wednesday's tremendous air bombardment.

The Germans, driven into the southwest corner of Cassino, were protected by supporting fire from Nazi positions on high ground to the west and southwest of the town. Allied infantry went through a hurricane of mortar fire to engage the Germans in hand-to-hand struggles.

New Zealand troops started an attack toward the railroad station at the southern edge of Cassino shortly before noon yesterday and by 2 p. m. one or two tanks with some infantry were reported in the station.

Allied artillery engaged eight German tanks and anti-tank artillery nearby. As the New Zealand infantry went forward fifteen Focke Wulfs appeared suddenly and dive-bombed them but failed to break the attack.

## Cotton Shows Slight Gains

New York, March 18—(AP)—Cotton closed ten cent a bale higher, May 20.

| | Pr. Close | Open |
|---|---|---|
| May | 20.71 | 20.74 |
| July | 20.11 | 20.14 |
| October | 19.56 | 19.58 |
| December | 19.33 | 19.37 |

Middling 21.63.

## Allied Force Is Landed By Glider Behind Japs

On the India-Burma Front, March 18—(AP)—American engineers and British infantrymen landed by American gliders and transports have carved out an airstrip and land base behind Japanese lines in north central Burma and placed a strong force squarely across supply lines linking the enemy's northern and southern armies.

Details of this daring assault were disclosed today, nearly two weeks after the operation established a strong Allied position more than 100 miles south of where Lt. Gen. Joseph Stilwell, with his Chinese and American regiments, is driving southward to clear the way for a new supply line to China.

The British and Indian infantry forces were flown into the Burma jungle from bases in India by transport command task forces, first proposed at the Quebec conference of President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill.

Commanded by Colonel Philip Cochran, of Erie, Pa., the special air unit was whipped into shape by the United States army air force as a solution to the problem of getting a strong ground force into the heart of Burma without struggling through the mountainous jungle.

The bold attack caught the Japanese completely by surprise. The Allied force established the air base and fanned out into a widening offensive southeast of Myitkyina before the Japanese discovered that their supply lines between north and south Burma were in danger of being cut.

## Helsinki Clings To Faint Hope of Peace With Reds

**Helsinki, March 18—(AP)—Finnish political quarters today still cling to the hope—admittedly very faint—of rescuing the peace negotiations with Russia, despite general pessimism here following parliament's action Wednesday.**

**Recognizing that time is running out fast, these sources said Finland still wants to negotiate an armistice, but at the same time felt she ought to have an opportunity to get a more precise idea of the terms before going to the Kremlin.**

**These quarters said it is quite likely that this is the essence of Finland's new reply to Moscow, which reportedly now has been delivered.**

## Jap Defense Is Cracking At Lorenzau

Allied Headquarters, Southwest Pacific, March 18—(AP)—The American drive on Manus island in the Admiralties has overrun Lorenzau's airdrome and is cracking the Japanese defenses around the town itself, General Douglas MacArthur announced today.

Invading units of the first cavalry division took the airdrome Thursday, the day after they landed on Manus from nearby Los Negros island, which the troopers already had captured. Then they knocked down enemy pillboxes, defenses with mortar fire and tanks to push southward within 600 yards of Lorengau's outskirts.

Complete breakdown of the enemy's offensive against Allied troops holding the beachhead perimeter at Empress Augusta bay on Bougainville island was reported from the Solomons.

The week-long Japanese drive aimed at the Allied airdrome on Empress Augusta bay flickered out in fighting Tuesday night and Wednesday morning. Fred Hampson, Associated Press correspondent, said the dawn assault Wednesday cost the enemy 195 dead.

MacArthur said the enemy's formations in the Bougainville fighting had been "dispersed and decimated," and "over 1,100 of his dead lie within our lines alone."