



THIRTY-FIRST YEAR

LEASED UNDER SERVICE OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HENDERSON, N. C., THURSDAY AFTERNOON, MARCH 23, 1944

PUBLISHED EVERY AFTERNOON EXCEPT SUNDAY

FIVE CENTS A COPY

## NOW THE LUCKY ONES CAN SLEEP TILL IT RINGS



CUSTOMERS mob an alarm-clock sale in a Chicago department store (above), and one even climbs the counter, as they struggle to buy the comforting little gadgets that let mankind sleep till the last possible second. Twenty brave policemen, called in to save whatever could be salvaged from a stampede of some 1,500 people, aren't even visible in this picture and may have been forger lost. (International Soundphoto)

## Aviation Industry Asks Draft Deferments For Young Skilled Workers

### Offers Eye to Hero



MRS. PAULINE VENARD, 23, of Berkeley, Calif., has offered one of her eyes to T/Sgt. Forrest L. Vester of Livonia, N. Y., the Flying Fortress gunner who, after being wounded and blinded, asked to be thrown from his crippled plane to lighten the load. He has regained part use of one eye. (International)

## Seek Permit For Airways Within State

Kinston, March 23.—(AP)—The Atlantic & Carolina Airways Company, recently organized with authorized stock of \$500,000, has applied to the Civil Aeronautics Board for certificate of convenience and necessity to operate two air lines over North Carolina. One, the John G. Dawson, attorney for the firm, announced today.

Lee B. Jenkins, of Kinston, is president of the company. The firm asked authority to operate and maintain air line, carrying persons, property and mail over each of the following routes:

Route 1: Between terminals of Washington and Wilmington by way of Greenville, Wilson, Raleigh, Dunn and Fayetteville. The route covers 224 air miles.

Route 2: Between the terminals of Beaufort and Wilmington by way of New Bern, Kinston, Goldsboro, Durham, Raleigh, Burlington, Greensboro, Winston-Salem, Lexington, Salisbury, Concord, Charlotte, Monroe, Wadesboro, Rockingham, Hamlet, Lumberton, Lenoir, and Whiteville. The route covers 497 air miles.

The routes would connect with trunk line service north and south at Raleigh, Greensboro and Charlotte, and also with trunk line serv-

### Army, Navy Officials Informed of Results Of Survey Just Made

Washington, March 23.—(AP)—Two branches of the aviation industry—transport and engine manufacturers—today spoke up for continued draft deferments for young skilled employees, according to both cases that more than a fourth of their technical workers were under 25 years of age.

James P. Murray, president of the Aeronautical Chamber of Commerce, said that 2.4 percent of the engineers on the aircraft engine industry were under 25 years, and that 25.5 percent were under 30. Both figures are exclusive of men classified 4-F because of physical disability.

Murray sent the result of the chamber's survey to General H. H. Arnold, commanding general of the Army air force; Vice Admiral J. S. McCain, deputy chief of naval operations; and Charles W. Wilson, chairman of the aircraft production board.

Meanwhile, there were those other developments in the industrial military and civilian manpower situation.

1. The Army announced the induction of ground duty of 30,000 young men who had been exempted for air training—an effort to make up for a general shortage of ground troops.

2. A high military official reported that draft records had been found for 14 months to meet the needs of the armed forces and asserted that the time has arrived when we must have the fighting men we need.

3. Plans were made for congressional inquiry into charges that the draft had been used as a lever to force farmers into government agricultural programs.

See at Raleigh through the Pennsylvania Central Air Lines, from Beaufort suspended because of war conditions westward to Asheville, thence to Knoxville and points in the interior of the country. The firm's headquarters are located in the Branch Banking & Trust Company building here.

## WLB Head Warns Against Trimming Wage Profits

Washington, March 23.—(AP)—Chairman William E. Davis, of the War Labor Board, told Congress today that any attempt to limit "base wage" earnings of workers might prove disastrous to the war effort. Davis contended in testifying before the Senate Banking Committee that WLB decisions on price increases, demands have not disturbed the basic living cost structure, and added that increases in actual earnings are not "inconsistent with objectives of the stabilization program."

### Rarin' to Go



CHIEF ENGINEER Andrew T. Wilson, 80, is all smiles after hearing the news that the U. S. Merchant Marine is accepting him for active sea duty after retirement for 23 years. Examining physicians found him in perfect health. (International)

## Congress To Keep Hand On Lend-Lease

Washington, March 23.—(AP)—The House Foreign Affairs committee voted today to give Congress, rather than the President, the final say in the settlement of lend-lease contracts.

An amendment with this effect was written into the legislation extending lend-lease to another year beyond June 30. It was offered by Representative Wadsworth, New York, Republican, and adopted unanimously before the entire bill was reported out for action by the House.

The amendment specified that "nothing is to be construed" in the extent of lend-lease to "authorize the President in any final settlement to assume any obligations on the part of the United States with respect to peacetime economic and military policy, except as is consistent with constitutional procedure."

By inserting the constitutional procedure phrase, Representative Minton, South Dakota Republican, explained all lend-lease settlements will be subject to consideration by the Senate, which passes on treaties, or by either house with a two-thirds majority vote to go into it.

He testified that basic hourly wage rates under the WLB stabilization policy have remained substantially unchanged since October, 1942. The committee is considering legislation to extend the price and wage stabilization program a year beyond June 30, 1944.

Davis said the increases in basic hourly rates approved from October, 1942, to December 31, 1942, under the little steel formula limiting general basic wage rates to fifteen percent above January 1, 1942, levels averaged less than two percent, while average straight time hourly earnings rose eight and one-half percent.

His prepared testimony steered clear of a recommendation respecting basic demands for an upward revision of the "little steel" formula.

# Hitler Grips Balkan Reins New Air Blitz Over Europe

## 33 Aircraft Missing In Former Raid

Third Time in Week 1,000 Planes Sent Out Over Enemy Area

London, March 23.—(AP)—Another big Allied daylight force thundered over Europe today, hard on the heels of more than 1,000 RAF planes which last night set great fires raging in the German chemical and industrial metropolis of Frankfurt, the main target of their attack.

The first reports of the daylight aerial invasion came from the German press and from broadcast that bombers, presumably American, British and Canadian, were following up their big attack on Berlin yesterday with raids on the western, central and northwestern Reich.

Berlin, attacked yesterday by 600 or more Flying Fortresses and Liberators and at least an equal number of fighters and with a bomb load of about 1,500 tons, was hit again last night by Mustangs, which also hit other cities in Germany.

Although the RAF announced 33 aircraft were missing in the night operations, this was eleven more than in the last 1,000-plane attack when Frankfurt was the main target on Saturday.

The attack on Frankfurt, the 4th of the war and its seventh heavy bombardment, the city has undergone, left large fires burning and smoke rising to a great height, the air industry said.

It was the third time in a week that the RAF has sent out a force of over 1,000 planes.

Probably well over 3,000 tons of bombs fell on Frankfurt, and this, with the tonnage dropped on Berlin by the Americans yesterday, brought the total bomb losses on the Reich in the past 24 hours close to 5,000 tons.

Last night's attack probably was just as big, however, as the one on Stuttgart on February 15, when more than 1,000 heavy bombers centered their attack on that city.

The RAF hit Frankfurt unusually early, around 10:45 a. m., and unloaded showers of blockbusters for about half an hour.

## Persian Gulf Pipeline Is Under Probe

Washington, March 23.—(AP)—The Senate's new eleven-man oil committee today began an investigation into plans for a pipeline to transport oil products from the Persian Gulf area to the Mediterranean.

The committee, headed by Interior Secretary Harold Ickes, is expected to report by a United States technical mission, of oil companies, in the locale of the proposed pipeline.

The report, dated February 1, four days before the Petroleum Reserves Corporation announced the pipeline agreement, says that:

"The center of gravity of world oil production is shifting from the Gulf of Mexico-Caribbean area to the Persian Gulf area and it is likely to continue to shift until it is firmly established there."

Oil reserves, either actually approved or indicated by already discovered fields in Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Qatar are between 25 and 27 billion barrels—comparable with United States reserves.

### NOT BOTHERED BY SHOE RATIONING



THESE INFANTRYMEN are undergoing all the discomforts of a hike under a broiling sun in the tropics. However, they are far removed from such a locale. The scene is actually in the jungle chamber of the climate laboratory of the U. S. Quartermaster Corps at Lawrence, Mass., where hot-weather equipment is tested. On the treadmill (from rear to front) are: T/4 George Jalko, St. Louis, Mo.; Frank Sorenson, Springfield, Mass.; and Pfc. Francis Contois, Boston, Mass. (International)

## New Red Offensive Is Reported Begun Inside Old Poland

London, March 23.—(AP)—Squadrons of the Red Army have driven to within 25 miles of the Prut river border of Rumania, the fallen German bastion of Mogilev, Podolsk, Moscow dispatches indicated today, and Berlin reported the opening of a new Soviet offensive from the Tarnopol-Proskurov sector, apparently aimed at trapping large Nazi forces in the Vinnytsia area.

An increased threat to Rumania developed as forces of the second Ukrainian army widened the Dniester river bridgehead below Mogilev, Podolsk in a smashing drive which the Russians said captured the town of Nadshnitsa, 18 miles north of the important rail junction of Brest and 20 miles west of the Dniester river.

Other Soviet forces, according to Moscow announced, captured Vasyliv and Kurbolov-Maryushov, respectively, 18 and 24 miles north west of Mogilev Podolsk, while the first Ukrainian army continued its slow but steady push southwest of Kremenets toward the large industrial center of Lvov. More than 1,000 Germans were killed, many prisoners and many tanks captured in a single battle in this area, a Soviet bulletin said.

On the southern end of the 500-mile-long Ukrainian front, General Bohdan Malinovsky's forces staggered the German line by capturing the important fortified railway junction of Pervomaisk, driving to the approaches of Vosnesensk, 8 miles northeast of Odessa, and reaching a point eight miles from Nikolayev, on the Bug river estuary, Moscow announced.

Pervomaisk and Vosnesensk, early goals in the southern drive, are blocking the Russian drive on Nikolayev and Odessa. Part of Vosnesensk, which appeared unoccupied, would clear the path to both Black Sea ports.

## U. S.-Finnish Break Appears Inevitable

Washington, March 23.—(AP)—A break between the United States and Finland appears to be inevitable. The only way to prevent the inevitable rupture would be some official word that peace negotiations had been resumed and Russia had not withdrawn completely.

Hope that such word would be forthcoming was very slight in informed quarters here. Nonetheless, there was some reluctance to abandon all hope.

The Finnish government was notified several days ago that the United States was reconsidering its relations with Finland. A lesson was not openly threatened at that time but it was clearly implied, since it is about the only diplomatic message left to Washington.

On excellent authority it can be said that the American policy toward Finland is based on the following principles:

## Rumania Is Likely Next Nazi Victim

### German Troops Are Seizing Bulgarian Railroad Networks

London, March 23.—(AP)—Hitler was reported tightening his grip on every nation in southeastern Europe today after installing a puppet regime in Hungary, a step that Berlin propagandists sought to justify as "counteracting Allied 'intrigues'" and "the bolshevist menace."

In the first official Nazi announcement since German armed forces crossed Hungary's borders early Monday, the Berlin radio said yesterday it had no objection to a coalition Rumanian-German government.

The fate of Rumania was an example for countries being to fall in line as Hitler's drive to build up a defense wall of defense against the last remaining Rumania.

Dispatches from neutral capitals continued to refer to Bulgaria and Rumania as possibly next on Hitler's list for full military occupation, and add another—Slovakia—erected from the carved up state of Czechoslovakia.

A Daily Mail dispatch from Manila said German airborne troops were seizing Bulgarian railways and communications systems and had detained the Soviet ambassador and occupied the embassy in Sofia. Bulgaria and Rumania have remained at peace although on opposite sides in the world conflict.

Most informed quarters in London viewed Rumania as less likely to be other than docile, particularly since the advancing Russians are pressing against her Prut river border. London dispatches from Ankara quoted rumors there that Hitler had promised Premier Ion Antonescu immediate return of Transylvania from Hungary as one inducement for full collaboration.

The Vichy broadcast, heard by The Associated Press, said Antonescu had gone to Hitler's headquarters for "important discussions."

### RUMANIAN GOVERNMENT IS NEXT FOR KIDNAPING

London, March 23.—(AP)—Maneuvering swiftly to snuff his Balkan drive against the Russian front, Hitler appeared today to be about to kidnap the Rumanian government as he already has abducted that of Hungary.

There were widespread reports that Premier Ion Antonescu, of Rumania, has been summoned to Hitler's headquarters as Admiral Horthy, regent of Hungary, had gone before him. There was speculation that Antonescu was likely to be lured out because of German suspicions that he was involved in peace overtures toward the Soviets.

The British radio, at once began broadcasting the warning to the Rumanians.

Rumanian leaders have been called to Hitler's headquarters. If you oppose Germany, Germany will wreak vengeance on you, but if you agree the Allies, an even greater fate is in store. German transport is expected and runs through Rumania. Coerced evidence of the desire to help the Allies now would be the first step toward Rumania's survival.

Germany's occupation of Rumania would be largely academic, except as a measure for complete political control, for the country already is little more than a German camp area.

## TWO-DAY STRIKE OF BUS DRIVERS ENDED

New Orleans, La., March 23.—(AP)—Paul Hennessey, general traffic manager of Teche-Grayhound Lines, announced today that a two-day work stoppage of 800 bus drivers, maintenance crews and station agents of the lines in five southeastern states was ended at 6 a. m., and that full service was resumed.

## WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA Little change in temperature; Friday fair and mild.