

Ward Co. Head Forcibly Ejected By Army's Soldiers

Soldiers on Duty At Chicago Plant Following Seizure

Chicago, April 27 — (AP) — Two soldiers of the Army detail which seized the Montgomery Ward & Company Chicago plant, forcibly ejected Sewell Avery, 69, company chairman, today from his own offices, which he refused to yield to authority, even of President Roosevelt.

The troops carried Avery bodily out of the administration building. Attorney General Francis Biddle said ejection of the uncooperating head of the government procedure, invoked after a labor dispute, was ordered after Avery refused to cooperate with the government officials, who have taken charge.

Biddle said the government was in possession, intended to remain in possession and was anxious that the business be conducted without interruption and with the company staff continuing in operation.

There was no immediate word from Avery or company counsel on Ward's next step, although it was speculated the company might make some court move promptly.

Chicago, April 27 — (AP) — The Federal government, using army troops, today supervised operations of Montgomery Ward & Company, the country's second largest mail order firm whose chief executive officer unsuccessfully resisted President Roosevelt's seizure order.

United States soldiers, equipped with rifles, patrolled the spacious grounds of the plant, overlooking the Chicago river, and officers were on duty in the merchandising plant. Printed notices signed by Jesse Jones, secretary of commerce, and stating that all Ward's Chicago properties now are under Federal government control, were posted in the building.

The dispatching of a detachment of troops to the plant late yesterday climaxed the government's third effort during the day to successfully carry out President Roosevelt's directive — issued when the company failed to comply with his and a War Labor Board order to extend an expired contract with the CIO union.

Three during the day officials of the Department of Commerce and the attorney general's office attempted to take possession of the plant, but on both occasions they failed when Sewell L. Avery, company board chairman, refused to recognize their authority, contending that the seizure was illegal. He had advised Mr. Roosevelt in a telegram that the company was not engaged in war work and seizure by any Federal official would be unconstitutional.

Avery, confronted by government officials and the head of the troops, reiterated his contention that the proceedings were without legal authority. However, he left after being advised by the officials that the place was in possession of the United States government.

A company spokesman, who asked to remain anonymous, later said the management did not recognize the seizure.

Avery's latest dispute with the President and the CIO extends over a two-year period, and the current controversy follows a strike by an undetermined number of employees in the mail order division.

At the request of President Roosevelt, Avery in December, 1932, signed the original contract with the union, the United Mail Order, Warehouse and Retail Employees.

Germans Are Repulsed On Italy Front

Allied Headquarters, Naples, April 27.—(AP)—Allied troops repulsed two minor German attacks in the Adriatic sector of the Italian front yesterday as bad weather limited air operations to a few routine patrols. Allied headquarters announced today.

Only 80 sorties in all were flown by the Allied Mediterranean air force during the day and no enemy planes were observed over the battle area, a communique said. One Allied plane was reported missing.

With the exception of the brief flurry of activity on the right flank of the main fifth army front, other sectors remained quiet.

Allied naval forces, meanwhile, were credited with sinking four small enemy supply ships, three freighters and a tug, in the Ligurian Sea, north of Corsica, Monday night, the communique said.

Southwest Flood Near Peak Stage

500,000 Acres Are Already Inundated; Hundreds Homeless

(By The Associated Press)

The second major Missouri-Mississippi flood in less than a year approached the critical stage today, with 7,500 Federal troops, State guardsmen and prisoners of war working to confine the torrential waters which have already inundated more than 500,000 acres in Missouri and Illinois.

The Arkansas river in Oklahoma also was on a flood rampage, reaching the third highest crest in its history at Tulsa before receding. The town of Tulsa was almost entirely inundated and more than 1,000 persons were driven from their homes there and at Sand Springs and Tulsa.

Fed by an additional heavy rain, the Missouri surge upward to near record flood stages. Despite inundating out to a two-mile width at Jefferson City, Mo., the river passed 31 feet, a foot over last May's disastrous flood, and the highest at the State capital since 1903.

The Mississippi broke through new levees on both the Missouri and Illinois sides, and threatened additional earlier levees protecting fertile farm lands in the two states.

Immorality Orgies Found In Seattle

Seattle, Wash., April 27.—(AP)—Sheriff Harlan Callahan estimated today that at least 75 arrests will be made as a result of an investigation which uncovered "swill packs" of young men and boys who admitted young girls to their membership on condition they permit "intimacies with all male members of the groups."

Two Federal housing projects near Seattle already have forced 100 young persons, most of them brought here from the Midwest to work in war plants, to vacate as a discovery of a series of orgies, Sheriff Callahan said. Sixteen of the young men arrested thus far have been charged with contributing to the delinquency of minors and several other men and women arrested were charged with furnishing liquor to minors.

While the investigation centered in the housing projects, Captain Jack Best, of the sheriff's office, said the parties in many instances have extended to the rear seats of automobiles, taxis, cabs, and the grandstand of the nearby Long Acres race track.

"Many of the youngsters were about to be inducted into the service and had they been having one last fling with no regard for law, order or decency," said Best.

BOWLES SAYS ROGUE'S GAS MARKET LICKED
Chicago, April 27.—(AP)—Chester Bowles, price administrator, told a press conference today that black market gasoline operations had been reduced materially in recent months and "we're getting on top of" the problem although it is not yet "licked."

"Between 8 and 9 percent of all gas companies formerly were counterfeiting or were illegally used, and we've got the figure down now to about 2 percent, but that's still too high," he said.

Army Casualties At 148,425 Total, With 25,582 Dead

Washington, April 27.—(AP)—American Army casualties total 148,425 from the start of the war through April 15, Secretary of War Stimson reported today. This total included 25,582 killed, 60,166 wounded, 22,727 missing, and 29,950 officially reported to have died of disease in enemy prison camps, chiefly in Japanese territory.

Blockade Of Sevastopol Is Tightened

By Sea and Air Russians Harass Trapped Germans

London, April 27.—(AP)—The Russian fleet and air force tightened the blockade on Sevastopol by sea and air today and Moscow declared their cooperative blows had sunk five transports, presumably carrying Axis troops from the besieged base.

In and around the war bulletin said, 1,000 Germans were killed in two sharp but localized actions along the coast, but the Russians made no mention of a new Red army drive in the lower Dnieper river area.

The transport station in the Black Sea lost 14,000 tons, the communique said.

Two thousand miles to the north, the Red air force spotted a convoy of Nazi transports in the Barents sea, the bulletin said, and sank ten transports totaling 20,000 tons, two patrol boats, a patrol launch and damaged two transports and a mine layer. Ten detaching German planes were downed, and six Soviet aircraft were lost, it added.

Southeast of Stambulow, in old Poland, Soviet tankmen wiped out a company of Germans and seized a height of great importance, the communique said, while more than 400 Germans were killed in a second clash in an unbroken sector of the second Ukrainian front. Another 300 Germans were wounded and the enemy lost 20 tanks and self-propelled guns in a fierce attack there, Moscow added.

Stocks Show New Firmness

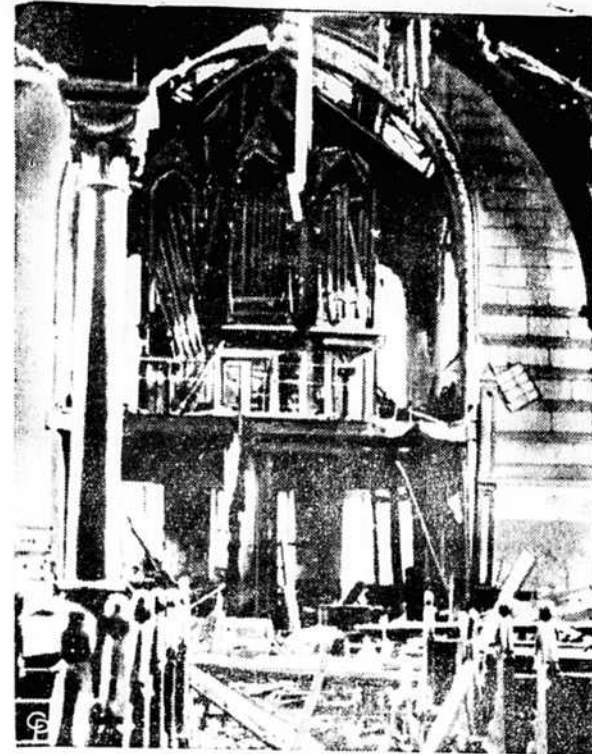
New York, April 27.—(AP)—The comeback road was a bit smoother for selected stocks today, although the market failed to develop anything resembling speed. Supported stocks included Southern Railway, U. S. Steel, Chrysler, Montgomery Ward and United States Rubber.

Better action of Montgomery Ward in the face of the Army's seizure of the company's plant, was attributed partly to some short covering based on the feeling the stock may have been overvalued, and that the dispute with WLB soon would be adjusted.

Gas companies formerly were counterfeiting or were illegally used, and we've got the figure down now to about 2 percent, but that's still too high," he said.

Jap Defenses Collapse On Most Of New Guinea Front

BOMBED BY YANKS IN ERROR



HERE IS THE WRECKED INTERIOR OF THE Church of Steig in Schaffhausen, Switzerland, following its accidental bombing by American airmen. The planes drifted from their course and the airmen hit the town thinking they were over enemy territory. Apologies and financial payments have been made by the U. S. government. (International)

3 Air Fields Are Seized In Advance

Last Airdrome Is Expected To Fall To Pincer Forces

Advanced Allied Headquarters, New Guinea, April 27.—(AP)—Utter collapse of Japanese defenses at both ends of a 430-mile New Guinea war front, resulting in seizure on the west of two airfields at Hollandia and a third on the east at captured Madang, was reported today by General Douglas MacArthur.

In four days, four air fields, and three coastal bases were wrested from the Japanese. One air field already is in use and engineers are rushing repairs on the other three.

A fifth air field, the big Hollandia airdrome, was expected to fall momentarily to pincer forces, ending the assault phase of a big military operation undertaken last Saturday. On the west, a force has moved eleven miles to the edge of the airdrome. On the east, another force is nearing a juncture.

At Madang, exposed by the amphibious thrust into Dutch New Guinea, Australian soldiers for months had moved slowly westward from the Ramu valley, overcame enemy rear guards to prevent the supply base and its airfields on the shores of Astrolabe bay. Large quantities of supplies and equipment fell to the captors.

The entire invasion front of 150 miles between Hollandia and Aitape was crumbling. Hollandia village was taken on the second day. Today headquarters announced occupation Tuesday of Aitape, five miles from Tadjik airdrome, which the Americans seized on the first day of the invasion, and now is used by the fifth air force.

Nowhere from Madang to Hollandia, between which some 60,000 Japanese are believed caught, was there report of still enemy opposition. The thousands of sixth army troops now about to join their pincers along a 34-mile road linking the original beachheads at Tanahmerah and Humboldt bays in the Hollandia sector were slowed mainly by muddy jungle trails and swamps. At Hollandia, invasion columns which struck inland from Humboldt bay early Tuesday afternoon seized both the Cyclops and Sentani airfields after killing 100 Japanese in scattered fights. The Humboldt bay columns struck west to join other columns from Tanahmerah bay in the impending capture of the main Hollandia airfield, last of three in the area.

the port of Hamburg, with two planes lost, and other bombers laid mines.

German bombers, apparently intent on harassing invasion mobilization, struck off the English Coast three times during the night, and Berlin identified some of the naval base of Portsmouth and other harbors.

Two hours after the main assault on Essen, home of the Krupp works, a great area of fire overtook the city and smoke rose 20,000 feet, the air ministry declared. The Schweinfurt bombing was particularly well concentrated.

2,000 Planes Pound Many Nazi Bases

South Seeks Price Lift For Cotton

Slight Gain For Cotton

Washington, April 27.—(AP)—Three southern senators will move next week to write into the price control extension act legislation designed to raise the market price of raw cotton.

An amendment to apply an "escalator" clause to price ceilings on cotton textiles will be offered in the Senate Banking Committee by its cotton state members — Bonfield, Alabama Democrat; Mitchell, Arizona Democrat; and McMillan, Arkansas Democrat.

Under the clause, ceiling on cotton textile goods would be raised by the Office of Price Administration whenever a rise occurred in the market price of the raw product, and lowered when raw cotton prices dropped.

The southerners say the clause would provide a flexible ceiling for textiles, based on the actual market situation, not down "artificial" limits by mill owners when raw cotton prices are low, and encourage buying of the raw product by millers in the hope of raising textile ceilings.

Actual price control now covers only cotton textiles and does not extend to marketing of the raw product.

Major Battle Impending In India's Jungle Area

Durham, April 27.—(AP)—Cotton futures opened five to 20 cents a bale higher. Near values were unchanged to 10 cents a bale higher. May 21-22, July 20-22, October 20-21.

To Discuss Psychologists
Durham, April 27.—The work of psychologists in connection with military aviation will be discussed by Dr. Walter R. Miles, professor of psychology at Yale University, at a meeting of the Duke University chapter of Sigma Xi Friday at 8 p. m. in 114 Science Building on East Campus.

This lecture will be one in a series of Sigma Xi lectures being delivered by Dr. Miles at college and universities throughout the country.

6,000 Tons Bombs Laced in Attack Before Invasion

London, April 27.—(AP)—Two thousand Allied planes slammed perhaps 6,000 tons of bombs on Nazi targets in the gigantic pre-invasion air offensive today.

United States bombers pounded heavily at the German Atlantic waf after an RAF assault on Essen, Schweinfurt and rail yards near Paris.

Well over 1,000 British bombers rained possibly 4,500 tons of explosives and incendiaries on the Nazi cities and rail targets by moonlight, opening the thirteenth consecutive day of bombing.

Then 500 to 700 United States Liberators and Flying Fortresses lobbed out against military objectives in northern France, supported by 250 to 300 fighters.

The German radio declared Allied planes roared into southern and southwest Germany this morning, possibly coming from Italy to make the day's operations a two-way blow, and that great air battles were raging.

For hours beginning at dawn the channel skies were filled with planes of almost every type assuming the offensive.

Twenty-four ton British bombers were lost in the triple assault on the important city of Essen—the Pittsburgh of Germany—Schweinfurt and its ball-bearing factories, and the railway at Villeneuve St. Georges, 15 miles southeast of Paris.

Stuttgart bomber also attacked

Controls On Textiles To Be Extended

Based on 25 Pct. Shortage and to Avoid Rationing

Washington, April 27.—(AP)—Comprehensive government controls over cotton textiles have been proposed to alleviate a predicted 25 percent shortage in cotton goods for civilians this year—a shortage which may run to fifty percent in the low-priced lines.

The proposals, prepared by an inter-agency "task committee" of the War Production Board and the Office of Price Administration, will be gone over, it was learned today, at a conference set for Friday morning with Fred M. Vinson, director of the Office of Economic Stabilization. WPB Chairman Donald M. Nelson was reported to be seriously concerned over the textile outlook, although the inter-agency committee was understood to have said that prompt action could avert clothing rationing. WPB has committed itself to avoidance of rationing.

The most serious problems are in goods for children's clothes, men's shirts, women's inexpensive dresses, kerchiefs, underwear and night clothes, infant's garments and other low-priced lines.

The recommendations to be considered by Nelson, Vinson and OPA Administrator Chester Bowles include price adjustments as well as production controls. Price premiums have long been used to stimulate production of low-end goods, these items which are low in price, hence neglected by manufacturers in favor of higher profit items—but OPA and WPB have so far failed to get together on an effective program.

WEATHER
FOR NORTH CAROLINA
Clearing and slightly cooler tonight; fair and mild Friday.

TWO WAY D-DAY SMASH AT NAZI 'FORTRESS' SEEN



PERSISTENT REPORTS INDICATE that simultaneous drives will be made by the Russians and the Allies when the D-Day signal sounds. And here is shown the boundary referred to as Hitler's "inner fortress" (indicated by barbed line) which soon may be cracking in several places. Even as the Reds pause, making ready for a terrific spring drive, they are at the very wall of the fortress and are expected to hit at vital Lwow, rail-gate to Warsaw and Berlin. The Allies must crack the heavily fortified coast line and break through many divisions of Germany's outstanding troops before reaching the "fortress" ring. Meanwhile the pre-invasion poundings from the air continue to knock out Nazi air strength and cripple rail lines and arms factories. (International)