Henderson Daily Dispatch

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Canadians Gain Two Miles

Reds' Advance Aimed At Splitting Germany

Liquor Bill Hits Hopper In Assembly

Calls Referendum Six Months After Close of the War

Raleigh, Feb. 14.—(AP)—A bill calling for a referendum six months after the war on the sale of alcohol, brandy, whisky, rum, gin, beer, ale, porter and wine of more than half of one percent alcoholic content was introduced today in the legislature.

Its sponsors were Senator Rose of Cumberland, Matheny of Rutherford, Weathers of Cleveland, Barker of Robeson and others.

The bill bore the endorsement of Governor Cherry, carrying out his campaign pledge, and the Anti-Saloon League of North Carolina.

"This article shall be liberally construed to the end that the use of intoxicating liquor as a beverage may be prevented," the bill said. "Liquor for non-beverage purposes and wine for sacramental purposes may be manufactured, purchased, sold, bartered, transported, imported, exported, delivered, furnished and possessed."

Any person transferring such beverage shall be liable to have it and his automobile seized and sold. Possession would be prima facie evidence that the liquor is for sale, except for those legally permitted to purchase it, and it would not be unlawful for a person to keep it in his own home for his own use or use of his bona fide guests.

Manufacturing of liquor would be a misdemeanor on the first offense, punishable in the discretion of the court, and the second conviction would be a felony, punishable by four months to five years imprisonment.

Provisions of the law would go into effect 30 days after the referendum, if the people voet for a dry state.

The referendum would be held under the general elections laws.

Annexation From Wilkes Is Rejected

Raleigh, Feb. 14.—(AP)—Proposed annexation of one township and a portion of two others in Wilkes county by Caldwell county appeared headed for the legislative waste basket today as the House Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns voted to report unfavorably a bill providing such annexation.

The committee also voted to report unfavorably a substitute bill to leave the matter to a vote of the people in the areas affected.

The so-called House "gag" rule would require a two-thirds vote to remove the bills from the unfavorable calendar.

The U. C. C. committee approved an amendment increasing the minimum weekly benefits from $3 to $4 a week, and the maximum from $15 to $20. On motion of Representative Taylor of Wayne, a proposed amendment to extend the number of weeks from 16 to 20 was deferred.

The House committee on U. C. C. also struck out proposed amendments to the U. C. C. laws to provide coverage for persons working for businesses with one or more employes and to authorize clerks of superior courts to cite for contempt persons refusing to make their records available for U. C. C. study.

The joint committee on military affairs agreed to ask the appropriations committee for $30,000 for the adjutant general's office, in addition to the $120,000 already asked, for additional employes, maintenance of fifty trucks and for a three-day extension of the regular ten-day State Guard encampment.

Foe's River Defense Cut By Soviets

Germans Declare Zhukov Is Massing For Berlin Slash

London, Feb. 14.—(AP)—Red army troops have crashed through the Germans' Queis river line less than 68 miles from Dresden, a Moscow dispatch said today, and Berlin declared armored units to the north had broken into Sorau, junction city 83 miles southeast of Berlin.

Marshal Ivan Konev's forces, hitting westward in a "serious attempt to split Germany asunder south of Berlin," were approaching the upper Neisse river, which runs about fifty miles from Dresden, a direct Moscow dispatch declared.

The German high command said Konev's armor, beating northward toward a junction with Red army men, had broken into Sorau, eight miles northwest of Sagan, and across the Bober river. Sorau is five miles inside Berlin's province of Brandenburg.

The Swiss radio quoted German sources as saying Konev already had lunged to Sommerfeld, 13 miles northwest of Sorau, and within 17 miles of a junction Marshal Gregory Zhukov's troops on the Oder river.

Berlin broadcasts said Konev "inevitably is tearing gaps in our lines," and that volkssturm and alarm units "were being thrown into the fight to keep open retreat lines to the west."

They also reported Zhukov was "massing strong forces on the Frankfurt-Huestenberg front along the Oder for an assault on Berlin."

Menaced Dresden, capital of the old kingdom of Saxony, was bombarded by 800 RAF planes last night, in a demonstration of Allied military coordination. Moscow dispatches said Konev was 18 miles or less from the frontier of Saxony.

Thrusting forward ten miles in a direction which, if continued, would eventually bring it up to the German capital from the south, Konev's first Ukraine army yesterday broke through the enemy's Bober river defenses and sped on still unchecked.

Towns that fell included Klitschdorf, 63 miles northeast of Dresden.

ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE OF 'BIG THREE' IN YALTA PALACE

This is how the conference room in the Palace of Yalta, Russian Crime Tan is how the conference room in the Palace of Yalta, Russian Crimea, looked on the opening day of the "Big Three" conference. Flanked by his aides, at left, is Russia's Marshal Stalin. President Roosevelt, wearing a plain business suit, sits at the right. Beside him are Admiral William D. Leahy and General of the Army George C. Marshall. Standing is an unidentified officer. With back to camera, in left foreground, is Prime Minister Winston Churchill and his famed cigar. At his right is England's Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden. U. S. Signal Corps Photo (International Soundphoto).

Debt Limit Soon To Hit $300 Billions

Washington, Feb. 14.—(AP)—Congressional fiscal leaders bit their lips today as they conceded that the national debt limit will have to be boosted to $300 billions very shortly.

But they foresaw a chance to start whittling it down not later than two years after the war, provided, as one of them put it, "the people wake up."

Confronted with legislation to add another $40 billion stretch to the present debt limit of $260 billions, the chairman and the ranking Republican member of the House Appropriations Committee, joined in demanding sharp curtailment of all government spending.

The debt now stands at $231 billions. A month before Pearl Harbor it was $55 billions.

Chairman Cannon, Missouri Democrat, who heads the group through which all appropriation bills must pass, said it was a matter of regret that the debt limit must be boosted, as was proposed yesterday in a bill by Chairman Doughton, Democrat, North Carolina, of the House Ways and Means Committee.

Lewis Demand Poses Fresh AFL Problem

Miami, Fla., Feb. 14.—(AP)—John L. Lewis' demand that his United Mine Workers be represented on the executive council if he returns to the American Federation of Labor presented new but presumably surmountable obstacles to reunion today.

The council, meeting here now to consider Lewis' return to the AFL, was said to be willing to give Lewis or his representatives a place among them, but they didn't guarantee it.

Lewis or his agent would have to be elected a vice-president first, they point out. While council members wield considerable influence in an

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Yanks Open Drive For Final Knockout Of Japs In Manila

Army Urges Enka Group To Return

Asheville, Feb. 14.—(AP)—The army entered the complicated picture of the rayon workers strike at the huge American Enka Corporation plant here today when Lt. Col. Paul H. Hines, chief of the labor branch of the fourth service command, who arrived in Asheville yesterday, appealed to the workers on behalf of the War Department, urging them to return to work immediately.

Colonel Hines said that the rayon yarn made at the plant, which is used in entire production, is vitally needed by the army. He told the strikers that the Enka tie-up was severely injuring soldier morale.

Meanwhile, approximately 3,500 rayon workers remained idle, while union leaders and plant officials traveled to Washington to take part in a public hearing set for tomorrow afternoon before the National War Labor Board.

Byrnes' New Plug May Bring Speedy Work-Jail Action

Washington, Feb. 14.—(AP)—The Senate Military Committee today pondered War Mobilizer James F. Byrnes' new endorsement of work or jail legislation as three more witnesses prepared to testify on the measure.

Clinton Golden, of the Congress of Industrial Organizations; Lewis Hines, of the American Federation of Labor, and Ernest L. Bell, counsel for the Citizens National Committee for a National War Service Act, were asked to testify today.

Chairman Thomas, Utah Democrat, saw no chance of a vote on the bill this week.

Renewing his support of new manpower controls to aid war production, Byrnes said that "more men will be in combat in March than ever before."

End Now in Sight, MacArthur Asserts; Big Guns Silenced

Manila, Feb. 14—(AP)—Grim Yanks, advancing among ruins strewn with the bodies of the foe, loosed the decisive blow for Manila today at Japanese cornered in a three square-mile area near the Pasig river's mouth after other doughboys on the southern outskirts seized Cavite naval base and two airfields.

"The end of the enemy's trapped garrison is in sight," General Douglas MacArthur announced on the twelfth day since his columns entered the city, which since has become the most devastated battlefield of the southwest Pacific campaign.

Doomed to be added to the more than 68,000 enemy casualties inflicted on Luzon island in five weeks, the Japanese survivers within Manila are massed behind thick walls of the centuries-old Intra Muros, within government buildings and among docks.

Cavite, on the southern shore of Manila bay, fell Tuesday. The last Rising Sun warrior was killed at Nichols airfield, near the city's southern outskirts, ending five bitter days of struggle. Nelson air field, on the southeast, was cleared of the foe.

Most of the enemy's big guns within have been silenced. Thousands of Japanese have died here, adding heavily to casualties which during the fifth week of the Luzon campaign exceeded 20,000.

Every Yank knows the last Nipponese will fight as long as there is one man left with a gun. Enemy troops man the thick walls and fill the narrow streets of the Intra Muros, built by the Spanish who founded Manila in 1571.

Thirty-seventh division infantry men of Major General Robert Beichtler, using flame thrower, rifle and bayonet, moved on the Intra Muros after a slow push through streets and alleyways over and around wrecked houses, churches, hospitals and cemeteries.

Meekins To Retire, He Writes FDR

Elizabeth City, Feb. 14—(AP)—U. S. District Judge I. M. Meekins said here today he had decided to retire, but would make no other comment.

"I have definitely decided to retire and have so written the President today," he said.

Judge Meekins became eligible for retirement when he became 70 years old yesterday.

In the recent past his health has not been the best.

President Coolidge appointed Meekins district judge in 1925.

WEATHER

Partly cloudy and mild tonight. Thursday partly cloudy and little change in temperature.

Approaching OnGoch, Now Outflanked

Gains Virtually Flank Siegfried Line's North End

Paris, Feb. 14.—(AP)—The Canadian first army charged behind massed guns and flame throwers today to within a mile and a half of Goch, eleven-way German traffic center between the Rhine and Meuse, and outflanked it on the northeast by capturing Hasselt and Bedburg.

The Canadians, Scots and Britons of General Henry Crerar's army advanced two miles or so, leaving behind all the forty-five square mile Reichswald after breaking the corps of resistance offered by seven strongly armored German divisions. They virtually turned the northern end of the Siegfried line.

Canadian infantry closed up firmly to the line on the Oude Rhine, a tributary of the main river northeast of Kleve, and sent a strong raiding force from captured Kellen almost to the Rhine ferry crossing facing the industrial center of Emmerich.

Tanks, huge sky fleets and parachute troops powered the British empire assault steadily rolling up the soggy German positions between the Rhine and the Meuse, and threatening defenses on the Cologne plain between the flooded Roer and the great Rhineland cities.

Murderous barrages were thrown down. The Germans were pushed at least three miles east of Kleve to positions a dozen miles inside the Reich. The line appeared to be falling back to a new line between Goch, eight miles south of Kleve, and Calcar, close to the Rhine, seven miles southeast of Kleve and 15 miles from the Ruhr railhead of Wesel.

More than 100 miles to the south, the American third army gained up to a half mile in muddy, torturous terrain through fresh breaches in the Siegfried line opposite northern Luxembourg. Systematic blasting by

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Samuel Roseman, Roosevelt Advisor, Leaves for Italy

Paris, Feb. 14. — (AP)—Samuel Roseman left by a special plane today for Italy, where it was reliably reported he would confer with President Roosevelt.

Roseman is a special advisor to the President.

Roosevelt is expected to call on Pope Pius during his Italian travels, inspect war ruins there, and return to various spots he visited in Italy as a young man.

Congress Will Get Hand In U. S. World Decisions

Washington, Feb. 14.— (AP) — Congress found itself in a position today to exercise an early and possibly a decisive voice about American participation in a projected world security organization.

Four legislators were designated by President Roosevelt as members of a delegation of eight to attend the San Francisco United Nations conference opening April 25.

These four apparently have it in their combined power to veto at the outset any arrangement they believe might stall Senate approval of a forthcoming treaty setting up a world league to keep down future aggression.

There is every reason to believe that President Roosevelt had this thought in mind when he chose them as members of a group headed by Secretary of State Stettinius. They are Chairman Connally, Texas Democrat, and Senator Vandenberg, Michigan Republican, of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee; and Chairman Bloom, New York Democrat, and Representative Eaton, New Jersey Republican, of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

All four worked closely in the past with former Secretary of State Hull on preliminary plans for international peace cooperation.

Hull, named by the President in a White House statement as a member and senior advisor to the American delegation, generally is expected to become the presiding officer of the higher level United Nations conference.

For the other two members, Mr. Roosevelt picked Lt. Com. Harold E. Stassen, former Republican governor of Minnesota, and Dean Virginia Gildersleeve, of Bernard College.

Legislators immediately interpreted the choice of Stassen as a presidential recognition of the so-called "one world" wing of the Republican party that was represented primarily by the late Wendell Willkie, subsequently by Stassen and Senator Ball, Republican, Minnesota.

FDR May Report Straight To Congress And Nation

Washington, Feb. 14. — (AP)—President Roosevelt may report directly to Congress and the nation on accomplishments and far-reaching decisions of his meeting with Premier Stalin and Prime Minister Churchill.

He is reported to be greatly cheered by the agreements reached on both military and political issues. Associates think it likely that he will want to tell the American people himself, when he gets home, how these agreements can shorten the war and contribute to an Atlantic Charter peace.

First hand information on the historic big three gathering in the Crimea came, meanwhile, from James F. Brynes, war mobilization director, who arrived yesterday from the Crimea, and met newsmen. Brynes said he hoped that Mr. Roosevelt would make a radio broadcast or address Congress.

He disclosed that the President had acted as chairman of the meeting and proposed two of the agreements—those on liberated areas and the Dumbarton Oaks voting issue—which were announced in Monday's communique.

The Dumbarton Oaks decision, like many others arrived at, remains temporarily secret, but it cleared the way for the April 25 United Nations conference at San Francisco. That date, Byrnes indicated, may reflect important estimates of future military developments by the big three.

He expressed conviction that it had nothing to do with Russia's plans for possibly entering the war against Japan. He described it as probably the earliest date at which the leaders thought the conference could be called, in view of the military situation.

If there is any hope that the major battles for Germany may be finished by that time, however, Byrnes did not indicate it. In fact, he said that the military plans made in the Crimea call for a "war involving more men than ever before in this conflict."