



RICH SAAR AREA SEIZED FROM GERMANS

Legislature Adjourns After Agreement On Medical Bills

Survey For Med School To Be Made

\$232 Millions Total Is Appropriated For The 1945-7 Biennium

Raleigh, March 21.—(AP)—The 1945 General Assembly, which appropriated a record-breaking \$232,000,000, and arranged for the continuation of a substantially balanced budget, adjourned sine die today.

Adjournment came a few minutes after the Senate agreed to pass its amendments to the State hospital and medical records. It had voted to split a \$100,000,000 fund for the maintenance of patients, directing that half be used for the first time to the construction or enlargement of rural hospitals. That provoked a fight that lasted two days.

The House, however, agreed to accept a Senate amendment directing that a four-year medical school not be established at the University of North Carolina until a survey is made by an agency similar to the Rockefeller foundation.

The House already had adopted a resolution setting high noon as the time for adjournment. As that hour approached, the House clock was stopped. With its clock stopped, the House debated the Senate amendments in the hospital bill. Speaking against them were Speaker Robertson, who took the floor for the first time this session; Taylor of Wayne; Parrish of Nash; and Wallace of Lenoir. Speaking for them were Fields of Washington; Ramsey of Rowan and Spauld of Bertie.

The Senate repeatedly delayed action on the amendment resolution. The House refused yesterday to accept the Senate amendment and the measure went to a conference committee, which today recommended that the Senate recede from its action in splitting a \$100,000,000 contingent appropriation for the care of indigent patients. The Senate split the appropriation, earmarking \$500,000 for the indigent patients and the other \$500,000 for construction or enlargement of rural hospitals. Last night the Senate refused to accept the conference committee's recommendations. An attempt to have the Senate reconsider its refusal vote was lost today 24 to 22, with President Ballentine casting the deciding vote.

The adjournment resolution, sent to the Senate by special messenger, specified that the assembly adjourn sine die in memory of Second Lieutenant A. C. Reynolds, Jr., of Asheville, who was killed yesterday by a stray bullet at Fort Meade, Md. He was a former legislator.

BY ANN DAVY.—Raleigh, March 21.—(AP)—The 1945 General Assembly adjourned sine die today leaving North Carolina secure to face possible postwar economic difficulties with funds for total retirement of its \$31,583,979 general fund state debt safely tucked away.

The state's second wartime legislature had, in 67 legislative days, provided for raising more than \$130,000,000 in general fund revenue, although it appropriated approximately \$132,000,000, exclusive of \$8,500,000 contingent appropriations to teachers and low-salaried state employees.

It allocated in fact, a total of \$232,799,787 for total biennial expenditures, the additional \$100,000,000 being represented by the highway and agriculture funds.

The contingent appropriation for teachers and employees was earmarked as "emergency salary." The payment will be made to the extent that funds are available, and among a group of contingent appropriations those for teachers and state employees have an "A" priority.

During its first week in Raleigh, the assembly set aside \$31,583,979 of an expected \$70,000,000 surplus in a fund which cushions the postwar period that promises some economic headaches.

Many legislators expressed belief that the difference between general fund appropriations and revenues would be made up in revenues higher than those anticipated. The appropriations bill, largest in the state's history, passed the legisla-

YANKS ENTER COBLENZ ON THE RUN



INFANTRYMEN OF Lt. Gen. Patton's U.S. Third Army advance on the run through a street in Coblenz as with their buddies they took the German city on the Rhine. A dead soldier lies on the pavement in foreground. U. S. Army Signal Corps Radiophoto. (International Soundphoto)

Four Percent Increase In 1945 Tobacco Indicated

Raleigh, March 21.—(AP)—An estimate of prospective planting of tobacco during the coming season reveals a four percent increase in the total acreage this year, as compared with the 1944-45 season. J. J. Morgan, head of the crop reporting service of the State Department of Agriculture, said today.

Plans to plant 1,700,000 acres in the State last season, 630,000 were planted, 24,000 acres less than the expectations for this year's crop.

The AAA has increased the overall acreage allotment for tobacco in the State 1-2 percent, including allowance for new growers and adjustments in the established allotments. Due to a shortage of labor last season, a large number of farmers in the State were not able to plant or take up all of their allotments, and as a result of this, more acreage is available this season. A serious shortage also exists this year, and many farmers will not reach their acreage allotment, Morgan said. However, he added, with some adjustments in individual contracts, based on past fulfillment of acreage planted, the overall acreage planted has a good chance to fulfill present expectations.

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Sharp Drop For Cotton
New York, March 21.—(AP)—Cotton futures opened unchanged to 20 cents a bale lower. Noon prices were 20 to 30 cents a bale lower.

Py. Close Open
May 22.08 22.08
July 21.78 21.77
October 21.24 21.21
December 21.14 21.10
March (1946) 21.02 21.20

Berlin Menace Grows Hourly

Reds Seek Weak Spots For Attack

East Bank Of Oder Cleared Of Enemy; Prisoner Bag Rises

Moscow, March 21.—(AP)—The first White Russian army, now in possession of virtually the entire east bank of the Oder from the Baltic to its confluence with the Neisse, crowded artillery to the very edge of Stettin today after wiping out the enemy's Alzhan bridgehead. The move to Berlin grows hourly, as Marshal Gergorovits' army seeks weak spots for an immediate assault. The main Soviet force, led by Marshal Konev still is engaged in bounding through German positions in Breslau and Glogow on the upper Oder, but as the Red Army moves additional units of his first Crimean army to the Neisse line southeast of Berlin.

Jap Home Fleet Is Badly Crippled By U.S. Plane Attacks

17 Warships Struck And 475 Planes Are Destroyed In Blow

U. S. Pacific Fleet Headquarters, Guam, March 21.—(AP)—At least 17 Japanese warships, including a 15,000-ton scout battleship and eight aircraft carriers, were crippled today by more than 1,000 American carrier planes which hunted down the bulk of the enemy home fleet, hiding in Stimpson's 200-mile-long island sea. The audacious raid, from the USS Enterprise's carrier group, was directed by Admiral Marc A. Mitscher's command. The carrier group, which also includes 475 enemy planes, was destroyed Sunday and Monday, and damaged well over 100 more. Not one American warship was sunk, although one was damaged seriously and others sustained minor damage as the Japanese home fleet was sent scurrying to avoid Mitscher's armada. All were forced away under their own power. Combat losses of the carrier planes were extremely light.

Fee Unable To Rally For Resistance

Large Cities Fall To Americans During Lightning Advances

Paris, March 21.—(AP)—Third army columns fought within six miles of the great chemical center of Ludwigshafen-Mannheim and in the Hessian capital of Mainz today in the whirlwind conquest of the Saarland and Palatinate, which already has cost the Germans 80,000 or more casualties. The rich Saar valley, with its steel mills and vast coal deposits, was won, taken from Germany her third largest industrial sector. Important cities such as Saarbrücken, producing 135,000 tons of coal a week; Kassel, 30,000; and Zweibrücken, 60,000, were captured by the sweeping American third and seventh armies. Some divisions advanced 15 miles or more a day. The destruction of German forces was so complete it seemed doubtful that Hitler's army could rally in strength east of the Rhine, where greater defenses currently were in the making. Extension of the first army's east Rhine bridgehead to a deployment area at least 25 miles long and up to nine wide, underscored the clear-cut threat to the Ruhr, invaded on the west and threatened by Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' troops which captured Bielefeld, Essen, Dortmund, 40 miles east of the Ruhr. General Eisenhower warned that the Ruhr, the source of 75 percent of all German war production in 1942, was next in line of conquest. Although it lacks of parading power east of the Rhine was apparent in the German ranks, the German plodded stubbornly to the rear in unimpaired numbers. Germany had thrown the best troops away from the first parachute and sixth panzer armies at the Ruhr, and the American bridgehead and failed to check its expansion. The enemy was falling back upon the energy Pader and Weser rivers, plainly despairing of driving the Americans from the east bank of the Rhine. To the north the American ninth, British second and Canadian first staid in strength opposite the cities of Düsseldorf and Dortmund, and engaged in vicious fighting over the scale reaches near the Lower Rhine. The weather was favorable and improving daily. Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's seventh army captured at least nine cities and towns after leaving the Ruhr and the Saarland in connection with Patton's third army twelve miles west of Kaiserslautern. The two armies were squeezing German strongholds in double pincers.



RECOVERED from his recent illness, General of the Army H. H. Arnold, commanding general of the U. S. Army Air Forces, is shown in Military. Arnold is set out to meet Lt. Gen. George Kenney, Far Eastern Air Chief, on the latter's return to this country. (International)

Japs Expect U. S. Invasion Of Homeland

London, March 21.—(AP)—Japan announced imposition of military control over civilian property and installations today as the first of a series of projected steps designed to prepare the home front to meet an invasion. "The war situation clearly indicates the Japanese homeland will become a battlefield," War Minister General Sugiyama said in a broadcast statement from Tokyo. Sugiyama said strong defenses had been built and widespread military preparations had been made for the purpose of frustrating American invasion plans.

Meadows Jury Deliberating

Green Bay, March 21.—(AP)—A Supreme court jury today resumed its deliberations in the case of Dr. Leon B. Meadows, charged with embezzlement and other crimes in connection with the handling of personnel and student funds while president of East Carolina Teachers College.

Stock Market Shows Losses

New York, March 21.—(AP)—Losing stocks and oil fractions to record lows today in a continuation of yesterday's sharp decline, the market opened on a low note. In heavy trading, some stability was seen. U. S. Steel and General Motors,

2,000 U. S. Planes Strike Airfields In West Germany

London, March 21.—(AP)—A force of 2,000 American bombers and fighters attacked nine airfields in northwestern Germany and a tank factory at Ploesen, ten miles from the Czechoslovak border, while another fleet of British planes blasted a large oil refinery at Bremen today.

WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA. Mostly cloudy and mild and scattered showers in extreme east portion and in mountains today, followed by partly cloudy and cooler tonight. Thursday fair and mild.

YANKS RALLY AT COLLAPSED REMAGEN BRIDGE



U. S. First Army medical corpsmen stand by with first-aid ready and others on the river beyond are busy with fast rescue work, in this picture made a few minutes after the 1,200-foot Linderhain bridge (background) crumpled and fell into the Rhine. Pontoon bridges were already in service, and the First Army's offensive beyond the east-bank bridgehead were not seriously interrupted as Army engineers lacked the job of making the collapsed structure again fit for combat use. U. S. Signal Corps Radiophoto. (International Soundphoto.)

Americans Take Burned Panay City

Manila, March 21.—(AP)—American troops fought their way into the burning city of Iloilo, capital of Panay, as they expanded their hold today on that central Philippine island.

General Douglas MacArthur, announcing that troops of Major General Rapp Broke's 40th division had reached the outskirts of the city, reported "heavy fires" were burning.

The Americans captured the Iloilo airbase and a bridge over the Iloilo river at the eastern approach to the capital. Another 40th division column drove 25 miles northward from Sunday's invasion beachhead at Tigbagan to overrun the coastal plain inland from Iloilo and join forces with strong guerrilla units. Panay is the 25th Philippine island invaded in the liberation campaign.

Other guerrillas, on northern Luzon Island, wiped out the Japanese garrison at San Fernando and seized that Lingayen Gulf port. San Fernando is the most important port north of Manila and northern terminus of the Manila railroad.

One of the heaviest air strikes against the Japs was made by dive bombers and Mitchells. They hit positions in the Tagaytay valley and near Vigan on the coast.