

Russian Forces Are Planning Big Scale Drive Against Nazis

German Invaders Are Hurdled From Approaches To Soviet Capital of Moscow

Conflicting news continues to pour from the Russo-German front, but it is fairly well established that the Germans are being hurled back from the approaches to Moscow and that plans are going forward for a great Russian offensive against the invaders.

The Red army command is preparing a counter-offensive with more than 3,000,000 Russian troops to begin within two weeks, if by then it is deemed that the German invaders have expended their reserves. Soviet military informants declared Russian reservists, it was said, are being assembled and completely equipped for this prospective push.

The thrust, if it comes, will be headed by great masses of tanks and armored cars covered by fighter and bomber aircraft, it was added, but it was indicated that this would be the only similarity with the German advance into Russia.

Red tanks, it was explained, would be kept in the closest contact with infantry and cavalry—to prevent the Germans from repeating the Soviet maneuver of yielding to tanks and then closing in behind.

A Russian source claimed that German morale already was shaken. Smiling broadly, he added:

"In our propaganda to the German troops, we are showing Hitler how his methods can be turned against him."

Meanwhile, as to Britain, there is a plain feeling in Soviet circles that aid to the Soviet should be reinforced with something more than the bombing of Germany and France.

The British explanation that short nights do not permit long-range raids and pleas that the army is not prepared for large-scale operations in Europe are met with sour looks.

For Soviet sources say, with some bitterness, that in 1914 imperial Russia, although unprepared, answered the pleas of the British and French commands and launched the offensive into East Prussia.

True, these sources add, Russia thus lost two army corps in the reluctant Battle of Tannenberg, but they say this sacrifice materially weakened the Germans in the west.

This consideration is one of many which appear to make the Russians expect Britain to open a second front in Western Europe.

Late reports out of Berlin state that the Russians have caved in on one battlefield near Smolensk, but they say this sacrifice materially weakened the Germans in the west.

Revolution and sabotage in the conquered countries of Norway, Yugoslavia and Greece are causing the Germans much trouble. Norway is making life hard for the Germans there by blowing up railroads and destroying munition dumps. The Serbs in Yugoslavia are carrying on an effective sabotage work at a great cost to themselves, one report stating that mass executions are common. To help handle the situation there, German authorities are sending in 40,000 members of its brutal Gestapo. Little Greece, its fighting spirit not yet crushed, is carrying on an effective guerrilla warfare.

Despite new crises that are presenting themselves almost daily in the Far East, observers would have us believe that relations between Japan and the United States are improved. A small American gunboat was bombed but not badly damaged at Chungking this week, but following its policy of appeasement this country accepted a Japanese apology. Thailand has virtually severed

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Move Aluminum To Edenton Tomorrow

Martin County's collection of scrap aluminum, announced complete by L. B. Wynne, chairman of the drive in this county, will be moved to Edenton tomorrow where it will be shipped along with other scrap collected in the northeastern counties. Highway trucks will pick up the scrap, Mr. Wynne said.

A definite check on the drive in this county has not been completed, but Mr. Wynne estimates that well over 1,000 pounds of the scrap were contributed. According to the chairman's records, citizens in the various towns contributed the following poundages: Hamilton, 69 pounds; Oak City, 24 pounds; Hassell, 16 pounds; Robersonville, 125 pounds; Jamesville, 65 pounds, and Bear Grass, 135 pounds. The Williamston collection, supplemented by a few pots and pans brought in by home demonstration club leaders and a few others, will be weighed tomorrow. Weight estimates ranging anywhere from 600 to 1,000 pounds for Williamston's contribution.

VALUABLE ADDITIONS TO THE ARMY



Martin County made a sizable and valuable addition to Uncle Sam's Army last week when twenty-two of its best and finest young men were welcomed at the Fort Bragg induction center. A twenty-third young man, Robert Dickerson, was rejected. The group, about as healthy as any to be found, was the largest to report from this county at one time. The young men are identified as follows: Front row, left to right: W. E. Crandall, Gordon Roberson, Charlie Curtis, Vernon Bryant, Ruel Turner, Lester Bryant Edmondson, Exum Ward, Jr., Ben Manning. Second row, left to right: Grady Hardy, Robert Dickerson, Dixie Dawse Roberson, Densel Simpson, Hal Parrish, Marvin Whitehurst, W. B. Glisson, Horace Whitaker. Third row, left to right: Randolph Chandler, Noah Gurganus, Wesley Williams, Joseph Martin, William Henry Gurkin, George Moore. The camera missed Hugh Hardison, of Jamesville, but the young man answered the roll call otherwise.

Comparatively Few Bonds and Savings Stamps Are Sold Here

Patriotic Williamstonians during the months of May, June and July bought \$238.05 worth of defense savings stamps and \$7,568.85 worth of defense bonds, according to unofficial but reliable information gained today. In the face of present conditions, defense financing in these parts is just a little better than a flop. It is understood the sales were made to a limited number of patriotic citizens, clearly indicating that the masses are not yet aroused to the urgent need for a strong nation-wide support in financing the defense program.

Treasury officials are directing appealing messages to the people, urging them to buy defense savings stamps and bonds, and an hearty response has been reported in thousands of sections, but this section is trailing in its obligations and

TO ADOPT RATE

The county commissioners in their regular meeting here next Monday are expected to formally adopt the \$1.35 tax rate tentatively set in a recessed meeting here early last month. The rate is ten cents under the 1940-41 levy and will likely be adopted without much further discussion.

Other than fixing the rate and drawing a jury for the September term of Superior court, the commissioners have very little work scheduled for their meeting next Monday, Clerk J. Sam Getsinger said this morning.

\$3,500 Damage Suit Filed In Superior Court On Tuesday

Action Brought by Miss Margaret Whitaker Against D. M. Roberson

A \$3,500 damage suit was started in the Martin County Superior court last Tuesday by Margaret Whitaker against D. M. Roberson, the plaintiff alleging that she was attacked by the defendant at his place of business near here last Saturday. The plaintiff is asking \$1,000 actual and \$2,500 punitive damages.

Criminal action is now pending against the defendant to the damage suit, and the charge is to be aired in the county court next Monday.

Filed in the superior court this week by Attorney Hugh G. Horton, the complaint in the damage suit reads, in part, as follows:

"That on the 26th day of July, 1941, at about 6:30 o'clock p. m., the plaintiff, Margaret Whitaker, who had been an employee of the defendant, D. M. Roberson, went to the Slaughter House for purposes of receiving payment of wages due her and sent a friend of hers into the office of D. M. Roberson for her pay check, or pay envelope, and, as this plaintiff is advised, believes and avers, the said D. M. Roberson would

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NOT FAIR

With some few, very few exceptions, the daylight saving time schedule is in full effect locally, but there is the story that a well-known farmer whose name could not be learned immediately is going to work by the old time and quitting by the new schedule. That's not fair, but it is no mean idea. Asked what he thought about the new schedule, Closs Roberson, well-known and likable local character, said, "It's fine, simply fine," explaining that he got his breakfast an hour earlier.

River Fill Paving Project Is Delayed Two More Weeks

Highway Department Opens Offices Here With Engineer Franks in Charge

According to unofficial but otherwise reliable information received here today, it will possibly be another two weeks before work will get underway on the Roanoke River fill paving project at this point, one report stating that no definite date for starting the project had been determined. Paving contractor Ben H. Martin, of Easley, South Carolina, said two weeks ago that work would be started today. The contractor could not be contacted immediately, but reports from other sources stated that the project had been delayed again.

Kiker and Yount, the dirt fill contractors, are scheduled to turn the completed project over to the State some time today. Plans had been made to turn the project over to the commission last week, but heavy rains delayed that action. Engineers state that the fill is now in good shape with the exception of a small section just this side of the Conine Creek bridge which continues a bit soft. The dirt there is drying out, however, and the engineers think it will be all right within a few days. The dirt fill has been ready for the pavers for several weeks, according to reports, but the South Carolina contractor was delayed when the government took over certain equipment that was to have been used on the project. No cause for the recent delay could be learned.

Highway forces, making ready to handle the river fill project and also the widening of U. S. 17 between here and the Beaufort County line, have established offices in the old Martin County Bank or Lawyers' building here with Resident Engineer R. D. Franks in charge. Other members of the engineering staff are, Messrs. F. S. Hitch, M. R. Connor, R. P. Rogers, W. A. Pope, Jr., H. B. Shugar, A. L. Moore and R. L. Riddle. Several of the engineers are looking for apartments and will move their families here just as soon as they can find living quarters.

Charge County Firm With Violating The Labor Law Of State

Seven Cases Are Called in the Recorders Court Monday By Judge W. H. Coburn

In one of the first tests of the State Labor Laws in this county, D. M. Roberson, trading as Roberson's Slaughter House, was fined \$15 in one case and \$30 in a second in the recorder's court last Monday. Costs were attached separately in each case. Charged with violating the State Labor Law, the defendant entered no plea at the beginning of the trial, but at the conclusion of the evidence a plea of guilty was submitted by Wheeler Martin, defense representative. No evidence was offered by the defense, and very few of the numerous witnesses called by the State were called upon to testify. No count of the witnesses was made, but it was fairly apparent that a goodly number of the county firm's employees was on hand. In fact, the witnesses crowded nearly one-half of the court auditorium, leaving a few scattered seats for the spectators.

The court virtually cleared up the disturbance originating on last July 4th when it found two of three defendants guilty in the case charging Luke Scott, James Ruffin and Joe Ferrell with deadly weapon assaults. Scott drew two months on the roads and was fined \$25 and taxed with the cost. The road sentence is to begin at any time within the next year at the direction of the court. Ruffin, the second defendant adjudged guilty, had his case continued under prayer for judgment until next Monday.

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Five Tobacco Barns Burn In the County

Fire starting from within destroyed a tobacco barn and the contents belonging to Mrs. C. M. Peel on her farm in Griffins Township Wednesday morning. The attendant, Robert Peel, had just put the last piece or two of wood in the fire to "kill out" the stem, and inspected the tobacco just a short while before the fire broke out and burned the structure and contents in a very short time.

The tobacco was the third taken from the field, and was of unusually good quality. The loss is partially covered by insurance carried by a community group.

A second barn in Griffins Township was destroyed by fire yesterday afternoon. Owned by Messrs. Joe G. and Edward Corey, the barn was packed with about 1,100 sticks of tobacco, the owners estimating their loss at more than \$400.

Fire also destroyed a barn of Farmer George Taylor's farm and one on Farmer Charlie Leggett's farm in Cross Roads Township yesterday. A fifth barn was burned in the Robersonville area earlier in the season.

Service Stations Will Limit Sales To Certain Hours

Seriousness of Situation Being Brought Closer To All Of The People

The seriousness of the nation's defense is being brought closer to the people at home in a call issued yesterday by Defense Oil Coordinator Harold Ickes urging all filling stations along the Atlantic Seaboard to suspend sales between the hours of 7 p. m. and 7 a. m., effective Sunday, August 3rd.

Designed to curtail gasoline consumption and prevent the depletion of the supply, the Ickes call is finding support in Williamston. Seven station operators are already on record as willing cooperators, one stating that anything he could do to better the nation's defense would be done willingly. Approximately 100,000 station operators along the coast are being called upon to cooperate with the movement.

Distributors are being directed to withhold deliveries from those stations who deliberately fail to comply with the request.

Announcing his action at a press conference, Ickes renewed his warning that unless motorists comply with his request for a one-third cut in consumption, other rationing proposals such as "gasolineless Sundays" may be necessary to prevent an impending shortage of oil for Eastern industrial areas.

President Roosevelt, meanwhile, signed legislation authorizing construction of oil pipelines to the seaboard from Southwest producing areas to make up for transportation facilities lost in transfer of 50 tankers to Great Britain under the Lend-Lease program. Defense leaders have cautioned, however, that the construction program cannot be completed before effects of the East Coast shortage are felt.

Ickes said the major effect of his blackout program would be to emphasize the seriousness of the threatened shortage.

He doubted that there would be any difficulty in obtaining compliance, pointing out that the oil industry itself had made a similar recommendation. In addition, he said, station operators would be placed at no competitive disadvantage if all stations were closed for the same hours and would "realize their supplies could be curtailed" by distributors if they were tempted to remain open.

Exceptions to the closing hours, he said, would be made only in emergency cases "involving public health or safety."

Asked what steps would be taken against persons "bootlegging" gasoline during the closing hours, Ickes replied: "The bootlegging system can't exist unless you have a supplier. You can't make it in the bathtub."

When asked whether motorists couldn't "stock up" during the day, thus using the normal amount, he pointed out that he already had asked them to cut their consumption by 33 1/3 per cent.

He said he hoped his new recommendation, coupled with the request for a voluntary curtailment of consumption, "will be enough to put us across."

"We must bring supply and demand together and everybody must cut consumption," he added. "Unless this first action achieves result, it must be followed by other steps to accomplish our end."

"Closing public filling stations at night is the least action we can take now and be realistic about our actual situation today."

The recommendation applies to Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, North and South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, and the District of Columbia. It also applies to "all marketing areas in or east of the Appalachian Mountains in the states of New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia, and such additional marketing areas in said states, whether any substantial part of the motor fuel supplied is either produced in any of said states or shipped in said areas from any point east of such areas."

Local Band To Start Rehearsals Tonight

In connection with a planned series of concerts and in preparation for the coming school year, the Williamston High School band will hold its first rehearsal of the year tonight at 7:30 o'clock. At this time future plans and activities of the band will be discussed.

A beginning band will be started this year among the grade school pupils, grades five through eight inclusive. Instruments will be available under a rental system whereby each instrument rents for \$10.50 per school year. This program must get underway immediately in order that the instruments may be placed in the hands of the students at the earliest time. All who are interested are asked to meet with Mr. Butler in the high school auditorium on Monday, August 4th, at 7:30 p. m. The parents are invited to attend this meeting also in order that problems connected with this activity may be discussed.

Daring Robbery Here Late Wednesday Night

PROMOTED



Dr. Cecil G. Taylor, son of Mrs. Laura Taylor, of Williamston, is rapidly gaining recognition in the educational field. A member of the Louisiana State University faculty since 1936, Dr. Taylor was recently appointed executive secretary to Major-General Campbell B. Hodges, president of the University.

Drunk Forces Way Into County Home Early Wednesday

Failed To Stop at Warning Shot and Is Felled by Farmer with Gun Barrel

Charles Warren Garrish, a good young man who temporarily wandered from the straight and narrow path, owes his life today to a Jamesville Township farmer who chose not to shoot him down as he forced his way into his (the farmer's) home near Jamesville about one o'clock last Wednesday morning. It is a fairly easy story to understand and one that young Garrish has well proved that he is truly sorry about.

On his way from his Ocracoke Island home to report to the Selective Service Board in Swan Quarter, Garrish met a girl in Washington and drinking quite freely, Garrish became unconsciously drunk, almost. How he got into the Jamesville section and what became of his girl friend and taxi driver, he can't recall. Apparently he was dumped out along the road, and wandered to Farmer Fred Calloway's home. Thinking he would find his girl there, he tried to enter the front door. Asking who was there, Calloway received no answer, but Garrish still pawed at the screen door. Loading his gun, the farmer fired a warning shot. "Ah, you missed me," Garrish mumbled, and with a lunge he tore through the screen door. Calloway did not have another gun shell, so he directed an attack on the young man's head with the gun barrel. At least one or two sound blows were landed on the man's head, Sheriff Roebuck stating that the barrel was so badly bent one couldn't see through it.

Stopped cold, Garrish slept while Sheriff Roebuck was reaching the Calloway home. He rallied when the officer picked him up and said a few words, but the young man still did not know what it was all about. While on the way to the county jail, Garrish mumbled, but the officer said he never heard the man curse or utter an oath.

After recovering from his escapade Wednesday morning, Garrish expressed his deep regrets to Sheriff Roebuck, and asked to be carried to the farmer's home so he could apologize. He gained "the farmer's forgiveness, and no breaking and entering charge was lodged against him, but he was booked on a drunk and disorderly charge. Garrish paid for having the fourteen stitches planted in his head, and assured Sheriff Roebuck that he would send a check to cover the case costs in the justice of the peace court. The check was duly received yesterday, and as far as it could be learned, young Garrish reached Swan Quarter where he had business with the Hyde County Draft Board.

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Native Of County Dies Near Tarboro

Henry T. Barnhill, a native of this county and a son of the late Jim Barnhill and wife, died at his home near Tarboro Wednesday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock following a sun stroke suffered about two hours earlier in the day.

Mr. Barnhill, the oldest of several children, was about 60 years of age. When a young man he moved to Edgecombe County where he successfully farmed. He was well-known in his adopted community, and had many friends there. His widow, Mrs. Julia Leigh Barnhill, survives with five children, Mrs. J. L. Cox, of Wailstonburg and Mrs. Ernest Price, of Tarboro, and Julian Barnhill, Herbert Barnhill and Jesse Barnhill, all of Edgecombe County. He also leaves one sister, Miss Ruby Barnhill, of Williamston, and five brothers, B. R. Barnhill and Johnny Barnhill, both of Durham; Harry Barnhill, of Colerain; Fabian Barnhill, of Everetts, and Kader Barnhill, of New York. Funeral services were conducted from the home yesterday afternoon at 5 o'clock by Rev. Norton Dendy. Interment was in the family cemetery, near the home.

Two Shots Fired At Edwin Peel In His Main Street Store

Robber Gets Away, Leaving Bag Packed with Watches And Jewelry

Edwin Peel, jeweler, was shot at twice in a daring robbery of his main street store here last Wednesday night shortly before 11 o'clock. The young man while in an almost direct line of fire, was not hit, the robber handling the gun so effectively that he blocked the jeweler and made his escape before police could reach the store. Main Street was all agog with excitement when its attention was drawn from the baseball scoreboard on the Clark Pharmacy window by the loud calls for police. Citizens, rushing to the store, backed away when the jeweler explained to them that his store had been robbed and that the robber had a gun and had fired upon him twice. Despite a pale look on his face, the merchant was unusually calm under the circumstances and pointed out to officers and others the work of the daring robber.

Going to his store about 11 o'clock to turn out the display lights in the window, Mr. Peel inserted the key into the lock and paused momentarily to talk with Mrs. Peel who was with him. During that brief interval, the robber who was working behind a show case at the front of the store made a quick retreat to the rear. The jeweler opened the door, and quickly grasping the situation walked on toward the back of the store and took a pistol from a cabinet. He heard the robber in the skylight and called to him to halt. The robber drew his pistol and fired. C. B. Hardison, who was in his car almost in front of the place of business, heard the shot and rushed into the store, but he retreated to the front with Mr. Peel when a second shot whizzed over their heads. Hardison ran up the street a few feet and started down an alley leading to the backlot when he heard the robber running away. It was dark there and he could not see him.

During the meantime, Hugh Hines, a special officer serving while Officer John Roebuck is taking a few nights leave, entered the store and found the robber gone. He then went to the rear of the store, climbed to the roof and found an old straw hat there. A second hat was later found on the front back of the store. Officer Gurganus found the robber's old .32 calibre pistol in the back of the store where it had been dropped under the skylight as the robber dashed up the china rack to make his escape. A large number of wrist watches, removed from their individual cases and packed into a small beach bag, were found behind the showcase. The bag was locked up to preserve fingerprints, and its contents were not examined immediately. Until its contents are checked against the stock inventory, any loss cannot be determined.

Not certain they had authority to call bloodhounds, town authorities were unable to get started on the case immediately. Two dogs, young and not experienced, were brought here by Joe Johnson, and they blazed a trail across the backlot, down South Smithwick Street to Lugene Bell's home in Leggett's Lane, just a few blocks from the store. No search was made, and officers, so far have reported no further developments in the case. SBI representatives were called and they are said to have gotten a number of finger prints.

Bell, talking about the visit by the

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INSPECTION

Starting an inspection of wine shops and retail dealers in the county Tuesday, Inspector Graham of the State Alcoholic Beverages Control Board, was said to have found no irregularities in the business. The inspection is hardly half complete, an unofficial report stating that those retailers whose licenses and stock had been checked were found to be operating within the terms and meaning of the law. The first inspections were made in Williamston before the inspector was called to another county. His return is expected shortly.