



The Farmville Enterprise

VOLUME THIRTY-THREE

FARMVILLE, PITT COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1943

NUMBER TWENTY-NINE



HITLER MASSING FORCES TO TRY TO HOLD AFRICAN BASES

Allied Parachutists Take Over Two Airports in Tunisia; Rommel Expected To Try To Make Stand Against British Near El Agheila; Allies Closing In

Adolf Hitler was reported massing a fleet of more than 1,000 planes in southern Italy, Crete, Sardinia and Sicily in an attempt to defend the last Axis bases in North Africa yesterday as the Nazi-controlled Paris radio announced that German troops had "captured" Bizerte in Tunisia.

Use of the word "captured" appeared to refute previous Berlin assertions that the Germans moved in "to defend their French compatriots in Tunisia" and met only co-operation from French soldiers in the vital North African buffer state.

Tunisia lies between American-held Algeria on the west and Italian Tripolitania on the east.

Simultaneously, British parachute troops borne by huge American transport planes were reported swarming down on key points in the Mediterranean coastal colony spearheading an advance by perhaps 150,000 Allied soldiers from Algeria.

American sky troops had already occupied an airport on the Tunisian frontier.

Reports of intensified British submarine activities indicated that Hitler was desperately seeking to rush sea-borne reinforcements across the Mediterranean to the Dark Continent, as well as concentrating great numbers of planes for a showdown battle.

But the Axis claw that only a few months ago threatened to squeeze the entire Middle East was now steadily withdrawing its burnt fingers.

While Anglo-American troop columns drove eastward into Tunisia, British headquarters announced that Gen. Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's British Eighth Army advanced 30 miles across the Libyan desert yesterday to reach a point only 70 miles from the Axis base at Bengasi on the Gulf of Sirte.

The new British sweep in pursuit of Nazi Field Marshal Erwin Rommel's tattered armies narrowed the Axis "escape gap" between Tunisia and Libya to about 820 miles.

Gen. Sir Harold Alexander, British Middle East commander-in-chief, told newsmen that only 15 of 500 Axis tanks in Egypt escaped destruction or capture, but predicted that Rommel would attempt a stand near El Agheila, at the bottom of the Gulf of Sirte.

Alexander said Rommel had erected "strong defense positions" in the El Agheila area, and he added: "The enemy is groggy, but not knocked out."

Rommel himself was reported in Tunisia for a last-ditch attempt to stem the Allied offensive.

Conflicting reports variously pictured the French in Tunisia as aiding both the Allies and the Axis, some responding to Hitler's appeal for help while others accepted Admiral Jean Darlan's invitation to fight on the side of the United Nations.

A broadcast from the radio in American-occupied Algiers said French patrols clashed repeatedly with German reconnaissance forces operating out of Bizerte, but Tunisia naval base, and drove the Nazis back in one skirmish.

Share-The-Meat Campaign to Get Underway at Once

Citizens of America are being called this week to action in the nationwide Meat Campaign, which is designed to aid the effort in sharing meat for victory.

R. A. Joyner and J. W. Joyner attended the county meeting held Wednesday in this connection and are busy with organization plans for Farmville. The cooperation of individuals named as block leaders and the citizenship as a whole is requested by those in charge of the campaign.

In spite of the fact that our meat supply is the greatest in history, it will not be enough to meet the needs of our armed forces both at home and abroad, the needs of our fighting Allies and the total civilian demands.

Facing these facts, the Food Requirements Committee of the War Production Board has determined that the amount of meat going to civilians must be restricted. Accordingly, deliveries from packers to civilian outlets were restricted as of October 1, in anticipation of rationing at a later date. However, rationing machinery requires several months. In the meantime, we are asked voluntarily to share the meat so that all citizens will be able to get their fair portion.

This is essential now and will also prepare the homemaker for actual rationing. We must see that our meat supplies last throughout the year. It has been calculated that the fair share of meat for each able-bodied person over 12 years of age is 2 1/2 pounds per person per week (for each child under 6, 3/4 pound per week, and each child 6 to 12 years, 1 1/2 pounds per week is allowed). That includes all meals eaten at home, in somebody else's home, or in a restaurant.

Meat to be shared includes all retail cuts from pork, beef, veal, lamb, and mutton carcasses, sausage and canned meats made from these limited meats. The program is not one that calls on everyone to cut the use of meat. It calls for reduction only by those who have been accustomed to eating more than 2 1/2 pounds per person per week. No one expects families who are now consuming below that amount to cut their consumption.

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Late registrations will be permitted for those unable to present themselves during the stated periods because of circumstances beyond their control.

The chief executive asked that all employers give their workers sufficient time off to complete their registrations.

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No more deferments are to be made on this ground unless the registrants "are completely disqualified morally and are not eligible for a waiver under the new army standards," the boards were told.

In another draft development, a critical shortage of physicians has been recognized by the War Manpower Commission and Selective Service, and the latter agency disclosed today new procedure for obtaining draft deferment for persons in that field.

A national committee has been set up with authority to investigate physicians whose deferment has been requested by a college or other employer on the ground that he has special training and skill and is a necessary man in his work.

If the committee agrees the man is necessary, it will endorse the application for his deferment and refer it to the man's local board. The committee may appeal if the local board nevertheless classifies the man as available for military service or for "assignment to work of national importance."

Selective Service said similar procedure would be followed in other scientific and specialized fields where critical shortages develop and national committees will be set up in those fields.

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This applies to married men with children, as well as to all others, Hersey's aides said, and is effective immediately.

The regulation was revealed in an announcement of instructions sent by Hersey to local boards covering provisions of the new draft act which lowers the minimum age to 18.

In addition, to ordering local boards to reclassify men who quit essential farm work without advance notice, the instructions forbade the boards to release any farm-deferred men "for voluntary enlistment in either land or naval forces."

President Roosevelt yesterday asked all federal government agencies and departments to cancel any military deferments that had been given government employes by release of such employment.

Market Receipts Set New Record Of \$8,320,167.91

Smashing all previous records was the official report of Supervisor of Sales R. A. Fields at the close of Friday's sale, which brought the 1943 season to a successful conclusion. The report shows a total of 21,659,634 pounds sold for \$8,320,167.91, an average of \$38.41.

Last year's record reveals receipts of \$4,888,479.64 paid for 15,783,142 pounds at an average of \$30.97 per hundredweight.

It was interesting and heartening to watch the sales breaking seasonal records as the weeks went by and to note the high averages which indicated the huge cash outlay for the farmers. The good prices prevailing throughout the Belt has brought encouragement to growers in Eastern Carolina and with the purchase of automobiles and many expensive luxuries prohibited, the circulation of money is being used to much better advantage and with good effect in Farmville and Pitt county.

Summarizing the banner season, warehousemen, buyers and farmers agree that this has been an outstanding and satisfactory season from the viewpoint of each. The new sales system functioned smoothly and though offerings were heavy for the greater part of the season, the floors were cleared without difficulty and the need handled in an efficient manner and with little confusion and less congestion than ever before. Prices of the lower grades maintained a high average throughout the season and though the superior grades did not come up to expectations due to the falling price, growers appeared to be entirely satisfied.

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Thanksgiving Service At Baptist Church

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FORTRESS RAID

London, Nov. 18.—American Flying Fortresses and Liberator bombers dropped heavy loads of high explosives on Nazi Atlantic submarine bases today for the fourth time within ten days in the aerial offensive designed to disrupt the Axis concentration of U-boats warring on North African convoy routes.

The submarine sheds of La Pallice and Lorient were raided at a cost of one bomber.

The brief American communiqué did not give the results of the attacks. La Pallice is near La Rochelle, 360 miles from the nearest British coast. Lorient is on the south side of the Breton Peninsula. There was no mention of a fighter escort. This was taken as an indication of the American confidence in the ability of the Fortresses and Liberators to cope with German fighters on their own. During recent daylight attacks the pilots have reported little enemy fighter opposition.

St. Nazaire, another submarine base, was attacked yesterday. La Pallice and St. Nazaire were raided November 14 and St. Nazaire was hit November 9.

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President Sets Dates for New Registration

Youths Who Become 18 Before End of Year Must Register

Washington, Nov. 18.—President Roosevelt fixed three separate registration periods today for youths who have reached or will reach their 18th birthdays in the last half of this year.

By proclamation, he set the week beginning December 11 and ending December 17 for draft registration of those who became 18 in July and August.

Young men who reached that age in September and October will register in the following week and those who became 18 in November and December will register in the week starting December 26 and closing December 31.

Mr. Roosevelt also provided for continuous registration on their birthdays of youths who become 18 on or after next January 1. If the birthday falls on a Sunday or holiday, they must register the next day.

This will be the sixth draft registration. The last, on June 30th, covered young men who already were 18 or 19 and those who had become 20 since the preceding registration.

Mr. Roosevelt's proclamation said the new registration and the others which had been held were "advisable to insure victory, final and complete, over the enemies of the United States."

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Masons Hold Ladies Night in Chapter House

Program Featured by Address On The Place of Fraternal Love in Building Citizenship by H. H. McLean

A feast of good things for the body, mind and soul was enjoyed by members of the Farmville Masonic lodge No. 517, their ladies and other honored guests at the banquet held Friday night by the Masons, which was marked by a spirit of real fellowship and warm cordiality.

The affair was held in the D. A. R. Chapter House, which was beautifully decorated with chrysanthemums and ivy. A turkey dinner was served at seven o'clock with covers laid for 106 guests.

W. E. Joyner, Master of the lodge, presided. Mayor George W. Davis, a Past Master, gave the address of welcome, to which Mrs. Charles F. Raucom responded. R. A. Joyner, a Past Master, introduced the guest speaker of the occasion, H. H. McLean, of Plymouth, Superintendent of Washington County schools, and a former Superintendent of the Farmville school, who was warmly received by the assemblage, among which were scores of his old pupils.

Mr. McLean recalled that the day before marked the 33rd anniversary of his membership in the local lodge and expressed pleasure at being invited to speak on this occasion. Choosing the subject of Fraternal Love, the speaker said, "Those who Equality and Fraternity had been stressed more than any other in the English language by Americans since the War of Independence.

Referring to the rightful position of these words, the speaker said, "Those who are oppressed or are enslaved emphasize Liberty; the Communists shout for Equality; but I, speaking to fraternal brothers, maintain that Fraternal Love must come first, then Liberty and Equality will inevitably follow. Fraternalism has a definite place in our society. The fraternalist helps to build true citizenship, love of country and our fellowman. We find under the banner of fraternalism a multitude of activities, all designed to provide relief from the vicissitudes of life. Fraternalism gives every one an opportunity to put his humanitarian instincts to work in a real and substantial way."

Addressing his fellow Masons, particularly, the speaker declared, "As Masons we have four great duties to inculcate—To God, our Country, our Neighbor, and Ourselves; to God, in (Continued on page 2)

Legion Post Asks Invocation of May Act in the County

Charge Proper Efforts Not Being Made By Health Authorities To Control Venereal Disease

Greenville, Nov. 18.—The Federal government will be asked immediately to invoke the May Act in Pitt county as a result of action taken by Pitt County Post of the American Legion last night. The action was taken after full discussion of the post's Venereal Disease committee's report that proper efforts apparently were not being made by the local health office to control the disease and the belief that local taxicabs were being used for immoral purposes especially during the week-ends when hundreds of service men visit this community.

The Legion became active in the matter of efforts to control venereal disease in this county several months ago when it was revealed that several hundred draftees had been deferred because of the disease but that only a very few of them were taking treatment that would make them well and fit them for military service. Promising its full support to the local health office in a campaign to wipe out the disease in the county the post urged the indictment and arrest of all persons known to be infected with the disease but who refused or neglected to take proper treatment. Under such pressure, the report of the committee pointed out, some progress has been made in getting more people to take treatment but the report added that the effort on the part of the local health office apparently was a half hearted one and that there was more "pussy-footing" than actual effort to get something done. It pointed out that while there are still a great many infectious who are not taking regular treatments, only a few such persons have been arrested and that in cases of such arrests the local health office usually requests that the courts continue the cases on promise that the defendants take the treatment. The report in general criticized the slack handling of this whole matter by the health office and his assistants and expressed regret that more progress had not been made in the campaign.

After a lengthy discussion of the whole matter the post voted to issue its request for invocation of the May Act here and at the same time ordered its committee to continue its efforts to get the full co-operation of the health office in carrying out its duties in the matter of the protection of the public health of the county by diligent prosecution of the venereal disease campaign.

Lieut. Charles C. Caley, of Seymour Johnson Field, at Goldsboro, advised the post of the great need for men at this time for enlistment in the ground forces of the army aviation corps and a local committee has been appointed to meet in the Chamber of Commerce office each Wednesday afternoon from two to five o'clock to interview applicants and give out information regarding requirements for such enlistment.

Some of the boys who dug potatoes in September will be in the army peeling them in November.

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The Legion became active in the matter of efforts to control venereal disease in this county several months ago when it was revealed that several hundred draftees had been deferred because of the disease but that only a very few of them were taking treatment that would make them well and fit them for military service. Promising its full support to the local health office in a campaign to wipe out the disease in the county the post urged the indictment and arrest of all persons known to be infected with the disease but who refused or neglected to take proper treatment. Under such pressure, the report of the committee pointed out, some progress has been made in getting more people to take treatment but the report added that the effort on the part of the local health office apparently was a half hearted one and that there was more "pussy-footing" than actual effort to get something done. It pointed out that while there are still a great many infectious who are not taking regular treatments, only a few such persons have been arrested and that in cases of such arrests the local health office usually requests that the courts continue the cases on promise that the defendants take the treatment. The report in general criticized the slack handling of this whole matter by the health office and his assistants and expressed regret that more progress had not been made in the campaign.

After a lengthy discussion of the whole matter the post voted to issue its request for invocation of the May Act here and at the same time ordered its committee to continue its efforts to get the full co-operation of the health office in carrying out its duties in the matter of the protection of the public health of the county by diligent prosecution of the venereal disease campaign.

Lieut. Charles C. Caley, of Seymour Johnson Field, at Goldsboro, advised the post of the great need for men at this time for enlistment in the ground forces of the army aviation corps and a local committee has been appointed to meet in the Chamber of Commerce office each Wednesday afternoon from two to five o'clock to interview applicants and give out information regarding requirements for such enlistment.

Some of the boys who dug potatoes in September will be in the army peeling them in November.

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