

## STORIES OF HORROR COME OUT OF SAN JUAN WITH 1,500 'QUAKE DEAD AND MORE 3,000 INJURED

San Juan, Argentina.—A mass of rubble which once was the flourishing city of San Juan surrounded by luxuriant orchards and vineyards, presented a weird spectacle Wednesday.

Squads of soldiers, who had not slept since Sunday, wearily worked by lamp-light to find the bodies of residents of this Andean city which was destroyed by an earthquake Saturday night.

More than 1,500 persons were known to have been killed and more than 3,000 severely injured. It is estimated that when the last corpse is buried the dead will number nearly 8,000.

Survivors evacuated from the remains of the city are living in rudimentary shelters, railroad cars and in the open. Refugees through the roads. Only 50 buildings were left standing and they will be demolished because they are not safe.

The work of demolition was aided by a series of tremors which caused many walls to tumble, endangering rescue workers.

Outside of the city the Government is preparing seven temporary camps which will serve as living quarters for 11,000 persons.

Inside, rescue workers worked feverishly for fear still living persons might be entombed in the ruins of large buildings.

Tuesday afternoon soldiers rescued a man from the ruins of the Church of the Conception who was unharmed physically but was a raving maniac. He had been entombed with 50 corpses nearly three days.

A woman seized the body of her little daughter off of a pile of bodies about to be cremated and rushed off in an automobile toward Mendoza.

A doctor gazed at the body of his wife, then shot himself. A woman went insane believing her four-year-old daughter had been killed and then did not recognize the child when she wandered back unharmed.

One old woman frantically tore at the ruins of her house convinced her baby granddaughter was still alive. Her hands were raw and bleeding, but she moved heavy concrete blocks she never would have budged under ordinary circumstances. She found the baby scared but unhurt in a small crib formed by the stones and timber.

Most of the injured have been removed from the city. One thousand were taken to Mendoza.

Vaccination of all survivors is proceeding as rapidly as possible. Children and Uruguayan doctors and nurses are working side by side with Argentines, performing emergency operations under the most adverse conditions and often without the aid of an anesthetic. The assistance of the Chileans was described by one Argentine official as "incalculable."

"We don't know what we would have done without them," he added. "They have saved dozens of Argentine lives."

Doctors and nurses are living in railroad cars and tents although most of them have given up their beds to the homeless and sick as they have no time to use them any way.

Railroads have rushed sleeping cars to the city where they are serving as sleeping quarters and hospitals.

The city is without electricity and is dependent on neighboring towns for water.

### Fuel Oil - Kerosene Rationing Notes

The local War Price and Rationing Board was notified today that the acute shortage of fuel oil and kerosene continues throughout the district and additional rationing could not be issued except in case of illness or change of circumstances.

Period coupons of one unit and five units for period two and three are valid now and may be used until January 24 and February 21, respectively.

Period four and five coupons will become valid on January 25. Regardless of the situation, they may not be used or exchanged for currently valid coupons.

Official weather reports indicate the snow number of "desire" this year is ten and only 50 percent of the year's ration would have been used as of January 17, according to figures from Washington.

### Counties Honored With "A" Awards

Haywood, Northampton, Chatham, Pitt, and Wilson counties will receive Achievement "A" Awards for outstanding excellence in agriculture in 1943, according to C. T. Scott, chairman of the USDA War Board.

These counties were selected by the War Food Administration because of their splendid performance in increasing farm production. They not only met but also exceeded their production goals. They shifted production to meet war-time demands. In fact, everything possible was done to cooperate in the "Food for Freedom" fight, not forgetting full support of War Bond purchases, rationing and price control measures, and cooperation in all the salvage drives.

Each of these counties will receive an "A" banner from the War Food Administration to be presented by the Army in appropriate ceremonies in February. Plans are now being made for the celebration in each county and full details will be announced at a later date, according to Scott.

### Transportation

The State College Extension Service and all other agricultural agencies have cooperated in this week's drive, to make up the activities of the County War Board, and are all joining together in arranging plans for the "A" Award celebration.

Not only is the county honored but each farm family in the county. These families are being fully honored for services rendered.

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## PIGSKIN SHOES MAY COME SOON

Washington.—Plans for manufacture of 1,000,000,000 pairs of the new type of combat boot for placements of the conventional type, plus a falling off in imports of hides, may bring on pigskin shoes for civilians.

The War Production Board (WPB) discloses that under the plans now being considered, pigskin would be used for the uppers of certain types of civilian shoes in conjunction with synthetic rubber soles and heels.

## Pitt County Benefits From March of Dimes

Greenville.—The Pitt County chapter of the National Foundation to fight infantile paralysis is proud of the fact that it has in the bank \$1,147.22. The local chapter realizes that some time in the future it will be called upon to purchase some expensive equipment for children who have been attacked by this dread disease, and when that time comes, it hopes to be ready to meet the need.

It is meeting the needs as they arise from year to year; and during the past year has spent for the benefit of infantile paralysis victims, white and colored, the sum of \$280.74. The local chapter is working in close cooperation with the County Health and Welfare officers and is accepting their recommendations. All the expenditures from the fund this year have been made upon the recommendation of Mr. Futrell and Dr. Ennett.

The sum of \$75 was used for Robert Wardell Jackson, a white man victim to provide him with nursing service. He is hopeless at present and has been committed to a state institution. A total of \$85 was used for a Negro child, Hattie Moore, of the Ayden community. This was paid to the Orthopedic Hospital at Gastonia for her benefit; \$72.75 to a teacher to tutor a white child victim, who was several years behind in his school work. That child is now in a regular school room, doing normal work.

Total disbursements for the year were \$210.96. The balance of \$1,147.22, now in the bank and 50 percent of the money raised this year will remain in Pitt County for the benefit of infantile paralysis victims in this county, and the local chapter of the National Foundation requests information regarding the case of any victim of this disease needing financial aid.

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## Rome Railroads Severed; Allied Soldiers Advance

### Capital's Waterworks Reported Destroyed; British Troops Score Successes

A U. S. 15th Air Force Bomber Station in Italy, Jan. 19.—American bombers have cut all the railroads carrying the bulk of supplies into Rome from the north, air force experts said today after examining reconnaissance photographs of the area.

Of the three major lines down the Italian peninsula, only one is open at present. This is the east coast line from Ancona to Pescara, which supplies the Germans opposing the British Eighth Army.

Highways Open.

Recent raids have at least temporarily blocked the others and the effects of these disastrous bombings will be more acutely felt by the Germans when supplies now being used are exhausted, experts said. Supplies still may be brought in, however, via bomb-seared highways.

(London reported a Rome radio broadcast saying that the capital's waterworks were "destroyed" in an Allied air attack today on the outskirts of the city. Residents were urged to use water sparingly.)

Heavy bombers of the 16th Air Force and medium bombers of the 15th have made Rome's major supply arteries virtually useless.

The important central line was reported blocked at several points and the west coast line has been out of operation for some time. Subsidiary lines also have been cut and the railroad in central Tuscany, south of Florence, which serves as an alternate to the central and west coast lines, is unusable. The route from just north of Ancona to the Rome area also is cut.

Flying Fortresses, in their recent raids, put out of commission the central line from Florence to Rome on their raids at Pistoia, Prato and Pontassieve, all near Florence.

The bridge at Cecina, south of Pisa on the west coast line, has been out for several weeks and the railroad yards at Pisa were hit by Wellingtons and Liberators Monday night and Tuesday. South of Orbetello, the bridge at Montalto di Castro was attacked by Marauders at the same time but remains not yet restored.

An alternate line which is probably unable to carry the weight demanded by German operations between the west and central routes in Tuscany also has been cut, according to photo interpretation, at Pontedera, Cephalò, and Poppi, which were attacked by 14th Air Force Flying Fortresses on Tuesday.

### AMERICANS SHELL CASINO AS BRITISH CROSS RIVER

Allied Headquarters, Algiers, Jan. 19.—Losing a strong new offensive along the ancient Apian Way to Rome, British troops have smashed across the lower Garigliano River and established bridgeheads at those points in the face of furious German resistance. Allied headquarters announced today an American artillery-battery shelled a casino preparatory to an assault on the Nazi stronghold.

Latest reports said the British were holding firmly to their footholds on the western bank of the Garigliano despite repeated Nazi counter-attacks supported by tanks and heavy artillery fire.

An official German broadcast here said the Fifth Army has launched "several divisions" against Nazi positions east of the Gulf of Gaeta, and that "fighting is in full swing." The Garigliano empties into the Gulf of Gaeta 50 miles southeast of Rome.

This was the first important action in the coastal area of the Fifth Army front since Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark's forces reached the eastern bank of the Garigliano over two months ago. At that time the vital river stream was swollen and shortly after broke its banks for a width of a mile, but it since has receded.

Headquarters.

Three British assault troops struck by darkness early Monday night and captured a portion of the line from the northern bank of the river.

They were then ordered to move across the river and back to their original positions. The British were then ordered to move across the river and back to their original positions.

### Flier Drops Note In Mother's Yard

Major G. H. Pittman, Jr., U. S. Army Air Corps, flying over this section some days ago, dropped a note in a paper bag in a parachute made of a large handkerchief for his parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Pittman in Falkland. The home-made parachute, landed near a school, but the bag was torn when it struck the ground. The note let out and was lost. Major Pittman's mother found it in her backyard. "On the lamp" school children who heard the parachute, agreed.

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## Three Ships Sank In Raid On Japs

### Two Others Probably Sunk By Bombers At Rabaul; Island In Carolines Bombed

Advanced Allied Headquarters, New Guinea, Jan. 20.—Through more than 100 Japanese planes and a heavy curtain of anti-aircraft fire, torpedo and dive-bombers pounced on 12 Japanese merchant ships at Rabaul, Monday, hitting eight, definitely sinking three and probably getting two others.

During the big New Britain raid, announced by Gen. Douglas MacArthur's headquarters, at least 18 and probably 35 enemy interceptors were downed. The loss of 12 raiders was acknowledged.

The bombers flying from Solomon bases, went in at Rabaul on the 17th raid there this month at 1 p. m. Monday to find eight ships anchored on the west side of Simpson Harbor and four more in Keriva Bay a few miles south. Three Nipponese destroyers were circling the bay.

### Carolines Isle Hit

Land-based Navy bombers have struck at Kusaie in the first American raid on Japan's heavily fortified Caroline Islands.

Kusaie is the easternmost of this bridling archipelago of miniature Gibraltars in the mid-Pacific. American amphibious forces in the central and southern Pacific area are operating on the flanks of the Carolines.

Kusaie lies midway between Truk, strong central point of the Carolines, and Tarawa, major United States air base in the Gilbert Islands. It is 700 miles from Truk and 380 from Poppo, another major fortress of the mandated islands.

Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, commander-in-chief of the Pacific Fleet, announced yesterday that shore facilities were bombed at Kusaie, probably including coastal defenses guns. The strike was the closest approach to Truk from the east, and may have been intended to divert attention from the Marshall Islands.

While Navy Liberators were bombing Kusaie Monday, Army planes were raiding Mill, most frequently attacked atoll of the Marshalls.

All planes returned from both flights. The Japanese made one customary retaliatory raid on Tarawa at twilight the same day, but caused no damage.

Southeast Asia Allied headquarters reported 16 Japanese planes were shot down in a battle over Burma Saturday and all planes returned from extensive raids during the next two days.

On the western end of New Britain, the Madines who captured Hill 660 last Friday thwarted an enemy effort to get it back. The Japanese, counter-attacked at 4 a. m. Monday, but had to retire, leaving 128 dead on the field. Japanese dead since the Marines invaded that area last December 26, exceeded 3,000.

### Churches Here To Join In Fellowship Service

The churches of Farmville will meet in the second Union Fellowship Service held in recent weeks, on the fifth Sunday evening, January 20, in the Baptist Church. Rev. M. Y. Self, Methodist minister, will deliver the sermon and the pastor of the Baptist Church will conduct the service.

Plans have been made for an inspiring song service of thirty minutes led by the combined choirs of all churches prior to the message.

It is the desire of the ministerial organization and the congregations that this be a great and meaningful worship service in which everyone will be blessed. A special invitation is extended to every person in Farmville to be present.

The choirs of the various churches are requested to meet at the Baptist Church, Wednesday evening at 8:15 o'clock for practice.

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## Employees Organize To Assist In Local 4th War Loan Drive

### Josh W. Munden, Chairman of Organization; Ninety Pledged To Sell \$200 Each of Farmville's Quota, \$216,000

At a most enthusiastic meeting held in connection with the 4th War Loan Drive, in the City Hall, Wednesday afternoon, and called by the chairman, Josh W. Munden, the 90 local employees in attendance pledged themselves to sell a minimum of \$200 each of Farmville's quota, \$216,000.

Speakers at the meeting were the chairman, L. E. Walston, assistant county chairman, who spoke on plans in connection with the campaign, and Mayor George W. Davis, who emphasized the need for sacrifice and the necessity for Christian attitude in the planning of a lasting peace.

The meeting was opened with prayer, offered by Rev. M. Y. Self. Chairman Munden stated that certificates of award would be presented to each and every one who sold his quota, and that the firm, whose employees reached a 100 per cent goal would be presented an award also.

Employees unable to attend the meeting and desiring to sign up, are requested to contact either chairman Munden, at Bell-Tyler's, or Frank Williams, at Williams' Grocery.

Mr. Munden stated yesterday that members of the organization were already getting busy and that several hundred dollars worth of bonds had been sold. It is expected that other employees will join in this cooperative movement as the drive progresses.

### Leaf Ceiling To Be Continued

### Group To Hold Hearings On Differentials

Washington, Jan. 19.—Chairman Fulmer (D-SC) of the House Agriculture Committee announced today the establishment of a joint Senate and House committee to receive evidence and make recommendations regarding price ceiling differentials for fine-cured tobacco.

As House members of the tobacco committee Fulmer named himself and Heps. Pace (D-Ga.), Flanagan (D-Va.) and Cooley (D-NC). He said Chairman Smith (D-SC) of the Senate Agriculture Committee would name four additional members.

Organization of the committee was suggested by Senator Bailey (D-NC) at a meeting today of Carolina legislators and tobacco industry representatives at which they said they discussed the "failure" of present OPA ceilings to take into account costs of grading, tying and cleaning fine-cured tobacco.

E. S. Rogers, president of the South Carolina Tobacco Growers Association, said present regulations failed to recompense growers for these expenses. Georgia growers receive the same price for their ungraded product as graded, tied and cleaned Carolina tobacco, he said.

Ashton H. Williams, Lake City, S. C., attorney for Rogers' organization, said OPA has indicated in conferences that it intends to establish differentials in fixing new crop ceilings but that the question now is how much they will be.

Williams termed as "unsatisfactory" a three-cent differential he said OPA has in mind. He contended a differential of at least six or seven cents is needed. He also suggested OPA be asked to make public its new ceilings promptly so any needed changes may be made before the marketing season gets underway.

Bailey and Fulmer said the committee will receive recommendations from all interests involved as to how much the differentials be and would have OPA officials on hand to hear them.

Then our joint committee will be able to determine the fair differentials required by the industry, Fulmer said, "and make a demand that they be followed out by OPA."

### No Extension On Automobile Tags

Raleigh, Jan. 19.—T. Riddle Ward, state motor vehicle commissioner, advised today there will be no extension beyond the January 31 deadline for buying 1944 motor vehicle plates.

He said practically all 300,000 1943 plates were sold through January 17.

## 20,000 GERMANS ARE KILLED AS RUSSIANS MOVE FORWARD IN HUGE DRIVE AT LENINGRAD

### SAYS SOLDIERS WANT TO VOTE

London, Jan. 19.—American soldiers in Europe and the Middle East want to vote in the presidential election and the question of whether the state or federal government controls the machinery is not important, says Stars and Stripes, U. S. Army newspaper.

Stars and Stripes, which conducted a poll of officers and men in the European theater, added that the average serving man, in emphasizing his desire to cast his ballot next fall, "would like it well understood at home that he wants no political manipulation to prevent that vote."

The newspaper quoted an interview with Capt. Carl E. Geis of Salem, Oregon, fighter pilot awarded the DSC for action against the Japanese in the Philippines, as "perhaps the best expression of general feeling on this subject." Geis was quoted as saying:

"I can't see any difference between being a citizen at home or over here. If anything, I feel I have more right to vote now than ever before."

Sgt. Jack Golder of Brooklyn, N. Y., Capt. Charles Shaw of Cody, Wyo., fortress navigator, and Sgt. Robert Palmer of Grand Island, Neb., were others quoted by the paper's roving reporter as favoring the soldier vote.

### WAR IN BRIEF

Reds smash 12 miles through outskirts of besieged Leningrad, seize two key fortresses and rip 19 miles across three strategic fronts, killing 20,000 Nazis since Saturday.

Russia silent on the Pravda "peace" story and British denial.

Rome isolated from north as 16th Air Force cuts all rail connections. British gain three bridgeheads across Garigliano River. Allied infantry, two miles from Cassino, pounds German defenses.

Navy bombers strike Japan's heavily fortified Caroline Islands at Kusaie, midway Tarawa and Truk. Army planes raid Mill in Marshalls. No American losses.

American jungle fighters prepare for advance in Arawak sector of New Britain, using Indian tactics.

American bombers sink three and possibly two more Jap ships in raid on Rabaul; 18 Japanese planes downed. American loss twelve.

Trust your friends but don't tempt them.

### Religious Census Set for Sunday

The religious census of Farmville, which has been postponed in recent weeks due to the flu epidemic and inclement weather, is scheduled for Sunday afternoon, January 23, beginning at 2:30 o'clock.

The ministers and committees from the various churches will meet at the Christian Church at 2:00 o'clock on Sunday for last minute instructions and prayer before making this every-home visitation in the interest of the religious welfare of the citizens of Farmville.

Those in charge assure everyone that no embarrassing questions will be asked and that only honest, sincere and complete answers to a few simple inquiries are desired, as the purpose of this census is to discover how the churches of Farmville may be able to help in the religious development of individuals. Cooperation is greatly needed and will be appreciated by canvassers.

Two ways to assist those taking the census have been suggested. One is that someone is at home between the hours of 2:30 and 4:30 o'clock to furnish information; 2, give desired information as quickly and completely as possible.

If the weather should be rainy or rough, the census will be postponed a week, and be held on the fifth Sunday afternoon.

The following men will make the visitation and census:

Baptist Church—J. H. Moore, Walter Jones, George W. Davis, Herbert Kemp, Andy Martin, Raymond Stewart.

Christian—M. C. Thomas, Hedley Bryan, W. A. Pickett, Jr., T. L. Minette, B. Edson Moore, Robert Lee Smith.

Methodist—J. W. Jeynes, Ed Nash, Warren, C. R. Hetchkins, C. Hubert Joyner.

Methodist—J. Irvin Morgan, J. W. Munden, J. Frank Harger, E. C. Harner.

Presbyterian—J. W. Jeynes, E. K. Smith.

### Soviet Troops Advance 12 To 19 Miles Through Some of Strongest Fortifications in World During Five Days of Furious Fighting; Several More Points in Poland Fall To Red Army

London, Jan. 20.—In an all-out offensive to free Leningrad completely from two and one-half years of siege, the Red Army smashed 12 miles forward yesterday, seizing by storm two key fortresses, towns and blasting through an intricate mass of steel and concrete fortifications before running up against a second line of equally strong permanent defenses ringing the city's suburbs.

A second drive, closely coordinated with the first, ripped 19 miles across three strategic railways in the Volkhov-River-Lake Ilman area 75 to 100 miles south of Leningrad in a broad outflanking movement.

Reporting that the Leningrad thrust had captured the fortresses of Krasnoye Selo and Rogzha and in five days had killed 25,000 Germans, the Soviet communique dwelt at length on the German fortifications. Soviet infantrymen, tanks and mobile artillery, it said, "broke through heavily-fortified permanent German defenses made up of reinforced concrete pillboxes, armored domes, blockhouses and inter-communication trenches covered by mine-fields, barbed-wire entanglements and anti-tank obstacles.

Big Guns Silenced.

"These fortifications, built in the most up-to-date manner, were interspersed by firing positions.

"Our advancing troops have come up against a second, equally strongly built line of fortifications."

All this was on a front 25-miles wide, from south of Oranienbaum to Lulokovo across battlefields strewn with German dead and smashed equipment. The Soviet body included 36 of the huge artillery pieces that have been shelling Leningrad for 27 bitter months.

The second drive, on a 31-mile break-through in the German lines north and west of Lake Ilman, threatened to let the Russians in behind the Nazi who face Leningrad, and already had outflanked the important city of Novgorod both to the north and the south.

The push immediately before Leningrad, however, was by all odds the day's most signal victory. There, the Russian communique said, 20,000 Germans have been slaughtered since Saturday.

In addition, said the communique and an order of the day by Premier Marshal Stalin, that five-day offensive of Gen. Leonid Gorov has:

1,000 Nazis Captured.

Stormed and captured the heavily-fortified towns of Krasnoye Selo and Rogzha; retaken Peterhof, summer home of the czars; captured more than 1,000 Germans, smashed seven German divisions; and taken many of the great 16-inch guns with which the Nazis have constantly shelled embattled Leningrad.

In all, 185 guns were captured, including 36 of 152 to 405-millimeter caliber (14 to 16-inch), which had been shelling the city from 15-mile range.

Seventy-five to 100 miles south, on the Volkhov River front north of Novgorod and on Lake Ilman directly south of that city, the Russians announced that Gen. K. A. Meretskov's forces had cut the Leningrad-Novgorod direct rail line at Bolotnaya, a more easterly line at Podberezhye, and both the highway and railway between Novgorod and Shlinsk to the southwest.

This left Novgorod isolated except for the new railway running through the marshlands due west to Luga. The Russians announced that "located" the upper neck of Lake Ilman, directly below Novgorod, the German garrison in Novgorod thus is placed in a precarious plight.

Advance in Poland.

Still farther south, 300 miles below Leningrad in the area north of Novosibirsk, the Russians announced capture of several more populated places in a continuing offensive, while on the East Ukrainian front they took Goshala, 11 miles east of Rostov on the main highway to that threatened Nazi rail center in old Poland.

In the great break-through at Leningrad's outskirts, the Russian communique mentioned capture of the town of Volkovo. This appears to be not the railway town mentioned in last week's 40-mile advance from Leningrad and only 40 miles from the Volkhov River, but the town near Rostov.

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Major G. H. Pittman, Jr., U. S. Army Air Corps, flying over this section some days ago, dropped a note in a paper bag in a parachute made of a large handkerchief for his parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Pittman in Falkland. The home-made parachute, landed near a school, but the bag was torn when it struck the ground. The note let out and was lost. Major Pittman's mother found it in her backyard. "On the lamp" school children who heard the parachute, agreed.

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### Transportation

The State College Extension Service and all other agricultural agencies have cooperated in this week's drive, to make up the activities of the County War Board, and are all joining together in arranging plans for the "A" Award celebration.

Not only is the county honored but each farm family in the county. These families are being fully honored for services rendered.

The county war effort committee, working with all agencies, will have a special program to make up the activities of the County War Board, and are all joining together in arranging plans for the "A" Award celebration.

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