

FIREMEN OF EASTERN CAROLINA HOLD MEETING HERE TUESDAY

R. A. Joyner Elected President Fire Chiefs' Association At Special Afternoon Session

A regular session of the Eastern Carolina Firemen's Association was held here Tuesday evening...

The meeting opened with prayer by Rev. E. C. Chambliss, pastor of the Farmville Baptist Church...

A roll call of Departments present and a report of the Association was presented by C. H. Flanagan...

Pl/Sgt. Joseph D. Joyner, son of R. A. Joyner, of Farmville, was present for the meeting...

Haywood Smith, Chief of the Farmville Fire Department, introduced "Big Boy" King, of Roanoke Rapids...

The speaker of the evening, William R. Hodges, Insurance Commissioner of Raleigh, talked at length on the purpose of firemen and their duties...

Sherwood Blockwell discussed the question of the Draft Law and how it affected them.

The Association received and accepted an invitation from Chief Gullett of the Goldsboro Fire Department...

Names of those serving on the Legislative Committee were presented as follows: Jerome B. Flora, Chairman...

The meeting was brought to a close with prayer led by Rev. M. Y. Salf, pastor Farmville Methodist Church.

At the meeting of Fire Chiefs in the afternoon, R. A. Joyner of Farmville was elected President...

Following the barbecue supper served prior to the meeting, a quartet composed of Johnnie Moore, Margaret Tyson, Agnes Melton and Jessie Kemp...

SOYBEANS

An acre planted to soybeans in early April will furnish grazing for a flock of spring pigs...

North Carolina farmers are being advised to plant soybeans in early April...

USO Group Holds Conference Here

Snell Tells Representatives of Progress in Future

"Out of this horrible war should come a rebirth of the ideal of making our communities the finest possible places in which to bring up our children to happy normal adulthood..."

Eleven communities were represented at the area meeting for the purpose of discussing ways in which communities can inherit and utilize certain USO volunteer programs...

Mrs. J. Melville Broughton, vice chairman of the State USO Committee, congratulated the group on its long-range planning and intense interest in community recreation.

Not Post-War Agency. Snell pointed out that the plan outlined at this meeting was not to be interpreted as a way for USO to continue operating in communities after the war...

Each April we are reminded by a special campaign of the Woman's Field Army of the American Society for the Control of Cancer that this disease is the second highest cause of death in this country...

Special emphasis is lent to this message this year by the announcement that up to December 23, 1943, the death on all our battle-fronts, totaled 32,017—less than one-fifth of the deaths caused at home by cancer in a single year.

Dr. Harold D. Meyer, executive director of N. C. Recreation Committee, spoke of the teen-age problem and advocated wider use of schools as community centers.

C. R. Crawford of the Kinston City Recreation Department, declared, "The greatest thing we are going to inherit is the fine group of USO volunteers."

Stewart Woodard of Central, PSA representative, praised the citizens of the State, "North Carolina," he said, "has been one of the best hosts to soldiers in the Union."

Plans for area community chests claimed a large portion of the discussion period, with several representatives from rural sections or small towns expressing interest in one big drive to cover every need...

Russell Grumman, director of the University extension division, discussed the value of retaining the services of the USO volunteers in a community recreation program and utilizing all groups for recreation for all faiths, ages and races.

The Wayne County Memorial Community Building was cited as an example of the kind of war memorials which will live and be of real benefit to the community, rather than a stone monument or arch.

Last night RAF heavy bombers smashed at Aachen, Hannover and other objectives in central Germany. British airmen, following up yesterday's great assaults on Germany by a fleet of nearly 2,000 American heavy bombers and fighters...

The Air Ministry described the blow at Aachen, vital rail link between Germany, Belgium and northern France, as heavy and said the bombing was well concentrated.

Sixty-four American bombers and 16 escorting planes failed to return from yesterday's blow at plane factories in Oberkassel and Bremberg and at industrial targets in Rostock and Arnimvalde, near Stettin...

Another Italy-based force attacked an airfield and railroad yards at Zagreb, the capital of the puppet government of Croatia, while Fortresses bombed a cement factory at Split, Yugoslav port.

Chinese Opening Yunnan Advance

Start Drive That May Meet Allied Forces Advancing Through Burma

New Delhi, April 12.—Opening a long-expected westward push from their Salween bridgehead in Yunnan Province, Chinese troops have captured heights overlooking the terminus of a 75-mile highway to the Burman city of Myitkyina...

While the British imperial defenders of Imphal and Kohima in eastern India improved their positions, the Allies appeared to have launched a coordinated campaign to secure at least a limited line of contact across northern Burma before the monsoon next month.

Chungking dispatches said that the semi-official Chinese newspaper Tsingtao revealed under banner headlines that the Chinese in western Yunnan had occupied the Lin Maikow height, 48 miles north of the Burma Road and overlooking Nienna on the highway to Myitkyina.

Chungking hailed the drive as "the opening of a push westward," but military quarters here warned that the progress of the Chinese would be slow because the Salween Gorge country where they are campaigning is one of the most rugged areas in the world.

Since they sealed off the Japanese "back door" penetration of Yunnan in the spring of 1942, the Chinese have clung to a bridgehead on the west bank of the Salween above Tengyuen. In the intervening time they presumably have become injured to the virulent malaria infesting the area and have been strengthened by airborne United States lend-lease supplies and the output of their own primitive factories.

In their advance positions, the Chinese were about 75 miles east of Kachin tribesmen menacing Japanese communications above Myitkyina and about 115 miles from Lt. Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell's Chinese troops advancing on Mogoke.

Stilwell's troops have captured Tingting, 30 miles north of Mogoke, a Southeast Asia Command communiqué said. A front dispatch dated Monday said a four-day battle had been under way for Warsaw, Japanese stronghold near Tingting.

The hardest part of the advance through North Burma now is behind the Chinese, the dispatch said, and the slogan of the troops is "Myitkyina in May."

United States Air Force transports are flying around the clock supplying Stilwell's forces with food and ammunition, while fighter-bombers are making dozens of flights daily providing valuable ground support and disrupting Japanese communications.

Black Market Gas

Washington, April 12.—Black market operations threaten to upset the entire civilian gasoline distribution program, Interior Secretary Ickes declared today in appealing for the public's aid in combating illicit activities.

The government alone cannot stop black market operators, he said. "The real power to halt these organized criminal gangs lies in the hands of the gasoline suppliers, service station attendants and motorists themselves."

The Office of Price Administration has estimated that 2,500,000 gallons are being drained off daily through illegal sales.

Handle Poison Dusts And Sprays With Care

Dusts and spray materials used in the control of insects and diseases in the Victory Garden should not be kept in the kitchen or in the bathroom, say Howard Garstie and J. Myron Maxwell, Extension specialists at State College.

They suggest that the insecticides and fungicides be kept tightly closed and be placed out of the children's reach. Store all of these materials in the same place and under lock and key if possible.

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TWO RED ARMIES HAMMER SWIFTLY THROUGH CRIMEA

Bombs Again Hit Chief Jap Bases

MacArthur's Men Concentrate on New Guinea Area; Kuriles and Truk Bombed

Allied Headquarters, Southwest Pacific, April 13.—Escorted heavy naval and air assaults upon Hansa Bay with a 210-ton bombing the next day, causing considerable damage at that Japanese base on the northeast coast of New Guinea.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur, in announcing this latest attack, said also that heavy bombers bombed Nomoi island southeast of Truk in the Carolines and also hit Wewak on New Guinea and badly-shattered Rabaul, New Britain.

Wewak and nearby Boram took a 60-ton bombing centered on fuel dumps and anti-aircraft installations. Ten Japanese barges were destroyed north of Dagua in the Wewak sector.

Rabaul's Tobra airstrip and supply areas at Talli Bay were plastered with 30 tons of bombs. A lone Japanese plane bombed American positions at Sador on the north coast of New Guinea, but destroyed only a few tents. One man was wounded.

The new raid on the enemy's Hansa Bay supply base was carried out in midday while the target still smoked from the previous day's sea and air pounding in which destroyers boldly moved in to pour steel ashore in coordination with a 227-ton aerial bombing.

Hansa Bay is midway between the important enemy bases of Wewak and Madang. It is about 100 miles northwest of Madang, upon which American and Australian troops are converging.

On this ground front, Australian patrols several days ago pushed to within a half mile of Bogadjin, which is 20 miles south of Madang, as other Aussie units pushed toward the coast several miles to the east to join an American force slowly working its way northward along the shores of Australasia Bay.

A small unit of Liberators from South Pacific bases carried out the attack on Nomoi Atoll, which is 150 statute miles southeast of Truk, on Monday, principally hitting gun positions. The airframe on neighboring Satawan Island also was bombed.

SWEET POTATOES

Treat sweet potato seed stock with a disinfectant before bedding to help control seed borne diseases, say Extension horticulturists at State College.

Italian King To Get Out When Allies Enter Rome

King Emanuele Will Abdicate In Favor Of His Son Prince Umberto

Naples, April 12.—Tired and bereft of empire, King Vittorio Emanuele III proclaimed to his people and the world today that he would turn over the power of the throne to his six-foot son Umberto, 39, the Prince of Piedmont, on the day that Allied troops enter Rome.

The 74-year-old monarch declared he would appoint his son, "Lieutenant-General of the Realm," would retire entirely from public affairs, and that his decision was "final and irrevocable."

Thus Vittorio Emanuele, whose 42 year reign is the longest since that of Queen Victoria of Britain, yielded provisionally to the pressure of Italian liberal leaders who have refused to form a Democratic government in Italy while he remained on the throne.

Germans Admit Fresh Retreats Before Ramping Soviets; Reds Capture Kerch And Dzhankoi; Other Units Take Scores of Towns In Romania

London, April 12.—The German communiqué today told of fresh retreats in the eastern and northern Crimea, where "German and Romanian troops disengaged themselves in hard fighting toward positions further south."

Some 250 miles to the northwest, the Russians said they had fought into the streets of Trapol, Dnestra river port and rail junction, while on the middle Dnestr, the Germans crashed through the Russian cordon around remnants of 15 trapped divisions around Skala.

The Russian communiqué told of concerted drives in the Crimea from the east and north. An army commanded by Gen. Andrei Yaremko captured Kerch in the east and swept 19 miles westward, overrunning 40 settlements. The Fourth Ukrainian army in the north beat past the northern rail bottleneck of Dahanogol, 85 miles north of Sevastopol, and seized 60 more towns.

The Germans asserted they destroyed a large number of tanks in their retreats in the Crimea yesterday and that hard fighting continued on both fronts. Loss of Kerch was acknowledged after destruction of the harbor and military installations.

The Germans said "violent enemy attacks" were repelled at Ovidiopol on the Dnestr estuary, toward which the routed garrison of Odessa was being herded. There the Germans said 20 tanks were destroyed.

Other major battles were said by the Germans to be in progress on Romania northeast of Iasi (Jassy), around Kowel in old Poland and southeast of Ostrov.

With but one exception Soviet arms were victorious at along the 500-mile long front extending from the Crimea to the old Czech frontier, a Russian communiqué declared. This was in the area just west of Skala above the middle Dnestr, where a German relief force cracked a Russian cordon previously thrown around the remnants of 15 Nazi divisions trapped in that area.

The German thrust was achieved only at the cost of many men and tanks, the Moscow bulletin said. It acknowledged that the Nazis had captured the town of Bucaci (Buchach), midway between Skala and encircled Tarnopol, 80 miles to the northwest.

Marshal Ivan S. Konev's Second Ukrainian army, meanwhile, was reported to have struck hard at Axis forces in central Romania, storming the important rail junction of Pascani, 58 miles west of the Prut river, and Cristesti, eight miles beyond Pascani, 156 miles northeast of the rich Ploesti oil fields, surrendered only after 3,000 German and Romanian troops were slain, the Russians said. Near Iasi, fierce Axis counterattacks were repelled, the bulletin added, and several towns captured.

(A Romanian high command communiqué, broadcast by the Bucharest home radio and recorded in New York by the Federal Communications Commission, said today that Romanian and German forces had successfully counterattacked in northern Moldavia, recapturing the towns of Poduluisel and Targu-Frumos, respectively 45 and 30 miles west of Iasi.)

Gen. Rodion Y. Malinovsky, whose troops were battling in the streets of Trapol, the last Dnestr crossing still open to the Germans aside from Ovidiopol, sent other forces in a dash toward Chisinau, capital of Bessarabia. This column liberated more than 100 towns and villages, while troops from Konev's army, coming down from the north, seized 80 more localities as they closed in on the capital, Moscow said.

Konev's spectacular advance into Romania—his troops were reported slightly exceeding the Carpathian foothills—has caused the Axis high command to shift its Romania-German military headquarters from half-encircled Iasi to Bucharest, front dispatches said.

Northwest of Konev's drive, Marshal Gregory K. Zhukov's First Ukrainian army struck at heavily fortified positions along the old Czech border. Czech troops were engaged with the First army, action to participate in the liberation of that country.

With the capture of Trapol, Germany's retreats in the Crimea were generally inevitable, the communiqué said. The Red army's triumphant drive into the Crimea highlighted the news from the Russian front.

The Red army's drive into the Crimea was a direct result of the heavy losses suffered by the German and Romanian forces in the Crimea.

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Proclamation By The Mayor

Each April we are reminded by a special campaign of the Woman's Field Army of the American Society for the Control of Cancer that this disease is the second highest cause of death in this country, but that from half to two-thirds of the one hundred and sixty-three thousand annual deaths are unnecessary.

Special emphasis is lent to this message this year by the announcement that up to December 23, 1943, the death on all our battle-fronts, totaled 32,017—less than one-fifth of the deaths caused at home by cancer in a single year.

Treated in time, cancer can be cured! It is the slogan under which the Woman's Field Army will endeavor to teach every one throughout the nation the early signs of cancer, to the end that we shall realize the necessity of consulting our doctors while cure is still possible, should the disease strike us.

In furtherance of this effort I hereby designate the month of April as "Cancer Control Month" in Farmville, and urge all channels of information to the public to lend their support as a matter of public welfare.

MAYOR GEORGE W. DAVIS.

Pulpwood Vital To Red Cross

Unless there is a continual flow of pulpwood into the mill, the American Red Cross will be severely handicapped in its far-flung missions of mercy among Allied service men overseas.

The Red Cross drive this month and the Victory Pulpwood Campaign have a similar objective: to help American fighting men wherever they may be. Pulpwood does its part by protecting equipment, medical supplies, and food in transit to the battlefield.

More than 2,500 medical items are packed in paper. Pulpwood makes the surgical dressings and supplies the blood plasma containers which the Red Cross field men use in saving the lives and easing the pain of the wounded.

Every box of food, candy, and tobacco that goes to American prisoners of war in enemy territory is packed in paper-board made of pulpwood. And so is the welcome Christmas package which went to our fighting men by the thousands last year.

Many of us cannot give the services men the personal attention that they get from the Red Cross. Our job is on the Home Front. But we can make their tasks easier, their lives more comfortable. We may indirectly save their lives. Pulpwood is our medium.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH

"An Apologetic For Preaching" will be Rev. C. R. Mashburn's sermon topic at the evening church service at the Christian Church, Sunday.

NEW ADDRESSES

Ensign E. D. Rouse, Jr., U.S.N., U.S.S. Flotilla 2, 5459, ATF Solomon's Branch, Washington, D. C.

Lt. (jg) T. E. Taylor, Jr., U. S. N., John C. Butler (D. E. 338) c/o Fleet Post Office, New York, N. Y.

W. C. Allen, 2400 S. W. 10th St., A.S.N. 2444477, Berkeley, D. T. A. C. Coy. Charles, Ark. Pfc. Harris, son of W. L. Harris, was recently named the Good Conduct Medal.