

WEATHER FORECAST

Fair and continued rather cold tonight, with light to heavy frost to night; Friday, partly cloudy with warmer.

The Monroe Inquirer

PUBLISHED ON MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS

MONROE MARKET

Table with market prices for various commodities like cotton, eggs, corn, and wheat.

SEVENTY-FIRST YEAR

MONROE, N. C., UNION COUNTY, THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 1944

3-MONTHS, 75c; 6-MONTHS, \$1.25 SEMI-WEEKLY, \$2.00 A YEAR

Nazis Coiled For New Blow

Germans Regroup Before The Beachhead For What May Be Major Assault

WEATHER SLOWS DRIVE

German forces opposing the Allied beachhead below Rome were reported yesterday to be regrouping their strong resources of men and armor, possibly in preparation for a fourth major drive against a selected point in the Allied defenses.

A headquarters spokesman said the Germans "appear to be on the watch for any opening in our forward positions." It was two weeks ago yesterday that the Nazis launched their third costly assault on the beachhead and saw their total casualties in that area mount to 24,000.

Lowland rain and mountain snows held ground fighting to a minimum throughout Italy Tuesday while Allied heavy and medium bombers blasted the Toulon naval base in southern France and railroad yards and air-dromes at Florence and Rome.

Photographs showed the air-dromes at Florence and Rome, and several warships anchored there were thought to have been damaged. The Allies flew 1,300 sorties in all and lost five planes while destroying an equal number of enemy craft.

While no change in ground positions was registered either around the beachhead or in the Cassino sector, opposing troops engaged in many fierce machine gun and mortar duels. It was disclosed that New Zealand artillery had gone into action south of Cassino.

An Allied headquarters communique stressing the stalemate in ground fighting, said "heavy snow in the mountains and deep mud in the valleys have made all movements difficult."

FSA FAMILIES HOLD ANNUAL MEETING HERE

Recognition Given For Highest Production Of Food Items On Farms

Union county farm families who are buying their farms through the Farm Security Administration loans held their annual meeting in Monroe on March 2.

Col. S. C. McIntyre, Jr., Director of the Supply and Service Division of the War Relocation Authority, presided at the meeting. He commended the farmers for their high production of food items in 1943.

Plans for increased food production in 1944 by these farmers have been approved by the Union County FSA Committee who serves as advisors to local FSA personnel. Members of this committee are W. J. McInerney, R. S. Monroe, Z. K. Simpson, R. S. Monroe, B. L. Medlin, R. S. Marshall, and Dwight Starnes, R. S. Washaw.

COL. BAIN ADDRESSES LOCAL ROTARY CLUB

Tells Of Activities Of His Organization To Clean-Up State Beer Industry

At the regular weekly meeting of the Monroe Rotary Club Tuesday, Colonel Edgar H. Bain, State Director of the Brewing Industry Foundation's North Carolina Committee, was the featured speaker.

HERE TOMORROW



MAX MEISEL

Max Meisel, field director of the American Red Cross, who has just returned from the Southwest Pacific war theatre, will speak in the Union county court house, Friday evening, March 10th, at 8 o'clock.

Six Days Remain Before Deadline

Tax Accountants Work Long Hours As Many Delay Filing Of Returns

WEDNESDAY LAST DAY

With only six days remaining before the deadline for the mailing of income tax returns, Monroe and Union county citizens are engaging in a frenzied race to fill in forms and attach the checks or money orders that will represent their contribution to the cost of government.

DEMONSTRATION GIVEN MEAT CANNING METHODS

Women Of County Attend Meeting Held Here Tuesday

Women neighborhood leaders representing most communities of Union county attended a demonstration in meat canning Tuesday, March 7th, at the home of Mrs. W. T. Collins.

POULTRYMEN WILL MEET IN CHARLOTTE MONDAY

All Day School To Be Conducted For Benefit Of Growers

The North Carolina Poultry Division of State College under the direction of C. F. Parrish, has arranged an all day poultry school to be held in the courthouse in Charlotte, March 14th.

There is also a one dozen exhibit of brown shell and white shell eggs for which prizes will be given for the best one dozen eggs in both brown and white shell classes.

Farmers Are Urged To File Report Of Sales

Farmers selling meat, butter and many other rationed products are urged to turn in their stamps and February reports immediately, it was stated at the local rationing board today.

Announce New Postage Rates

Postmaster Sam H. Lee Explains Postal Increases Local Rates Higher

EFFECTIVE MARCH 26th

Postmaster Sam H. Lee announced today he had received an official bulletin from the postoffice department listing increases in various postal rates effective March 26 under the 1944 revenue bill recently passed by Congress over President Roosevelt's veto.

No arrangements will be made at this time to accept for redemption unused two-cent stamps and stamped envelopes, and six-cent air mail stamps, and stamped envelopes, which may be in the hands of Monroe and Union county patrons on March 26, Mr. Lee said.

The present rate of three cents for mail destined beyond the city limits will remain unchanged.

The new rate of eight cents on air mail will be effected from one post office to another in Mainland United States, but not between the United States and any of these islands.

The rate of six cents for each half ounce will continue to apply to air mail sent to or by the armed forces of the United States overseas and to mail being computed as one cent, but in no case shall the increase per parcel be less than one cent.

The postage on all mail matter of fourth class will be increased three per cent, fractions of one-half cent or more being computed as one cent.

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THE LATE WAR NEWS IN BRIEF

Aerial—U. S. armada of from 1,000 to 2,000 planes strikes Berlin for third time in five days, losing only 28 bombers and 16 fighters; accompanying fighters get 83 enemy aircraft and full total not yet compiled; results of terrific raid called "good."

Italy—Mud and snow stalemate front; belated story released by censors on fate of two lost American battalions; Rome radio claims Eternal City again bombed.

Lend-Lease—Moscow announced today that a furious battle was raging in the town of Staro-Konstantin, a "vital enemy base" in the southwestern Ukraine, after the Red army yesterday battled its way into the suburbs and, 30 miles to the southeast, captured the district center of Cherni-Ostrov on the Odessa-Lwov railway.

Stockholm—Finland has formally replied to Russia's peace terms, it was reliably reported last night, and Swedish circles speculated that the answer probably asked for an opportunity to negotiate such ticklish points as the internment of German troops now within Finnish borders.

New Delhi—Centers of Japanese resistance in the town of Walawala still were holding out against the American jungle forces last night, but Lieut. Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell reported a wide flanking movement had completely cut off the trapped enemy.

The actions of the R. A. F. and American air forces are most closely interlocked, it was said today. The RAF commentator indicated last night that the attacks by both the U. S. AAF and RAF were part of a master plan designed to crush the enemy's power to fight.

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Super-Armada Blasts Berlin

Mighty U. S. Air Force Blows Have Destroyed 259 Nazi Planes

10,000 BOMBS DROPPED

U. S. Flying Fortresses and Liberators with tremendous fighter escort which made up an armada estimated at between 1,000 and 2,000 planes, struck at Berlin yesterday for the third time in five days with what a conservatively worded American communique called "good results."

Out of the huge fleet of bombers and 16 fighters were lost, but the escorting planes alone knocked down 83 enemy aircraft; gunners aboard the bombers destroyed others yet untabulated.

The communique named the Arkner ball-bearing factory in an eastern Berlin suburb as one of the primary targets for "a concentrated attack by divisions of B-17 Flying Fortresses and B-24 Liberators of the Eighth Air Force," and said that other industrial and military targets in the capital area were bombed.

Ten thousand high explosives, bombs and 350,000 incendiaries were cascaded down upon the ruined capital, the communique disclosed, and this devastating load was estimated at approximately 2,000 tons.

The act that today's American air force proved its ability to bound back within two days from the savage battle it fought along the same route Monday, when a record of 68 United States bombers were lost and a record of 179 enemy aircraft were shot down.

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PROGRAM LAST NIGHT HONORS FRANK SUTTON

Special Services At Lutheran Center With General Miller As Speaker

A special program was given at the Lutheran Church Center last night, honoring Frank Sutton, pilot in the Royal Canadian Air Force, who lost his life while flying at Tobruk, on December 7, 1941, the day the Japs attacked Pearl Harbor and was the first Union county boy to lose his life in the present conflict.

The program opened with the singing of "America," followed by a brief address by Brig. General Lehman W. Miller, commanding officer at Camp Sutton. Mrs. Frank Sutton, mother of Pilot Sutton unveiled a photograph of her son, presented by the Lutheran Center. Mayor V. D. Sikes spoke briefly on the life of Frank Sutton.

The Rev. Harry D. Hawthorne, pastor of St. Luke's Lutheran church, and Service Pastor for Camp Sutton, acted as master of ceremonies. Mrs. John C. Sikes was the piano accompanist. Punch and chocolate creams were served during the evening. The honored guests and visitors were received by Mrs. Stacey Helms, hostess of the Center.

Service Vote Row Rages On

Senate And House Split As Conferees Finish Work On Compromise

THE MEASURE IS REVISED

Senate and House advocates of a Federal War ballot split yesterday as conferees completed work on a compromise service vote bill which Representative Rankin, Democrat of Mississippi, termed a victory for state ballot advocates.

Chairman Green, Democrat of Rhode Island, of the Senate elections committee told reporters he would take the floor in opposition when Senator Connally, Democrat of Texas, brings it up in the Senate today.

"If I were the President," Green told reporters, "I would veto it. Fewer men will be able to vote under it than may vote under the 1942 law which waived state registration requirements and the poll tax collections of some states."

Only Senator Hatch, Democrat of New Mexico, joined with Green in opposition to the conference report. Chairman Worley, Democrat of Texas, of the House elections committee, and Representative Bonner, Democrat of North Carolina, House Federal ballot advocates, added their support to the final draft.

As finally revised, the measure leaves control of armed service voting to the states under a procedure by which the Army, Navy, and Maritime commission will provide facilities for transporting state ballots to the soldiers and back.

Use of a Federal ballot would be denied in this country except to servicemen from two states—New Mexico and Kentucky—which have no absentee ballot laws, and would be allowed to overseas men and women only if they can not get a state ballot by October 1 and their governor certify by July 15 that a state ballot will be recognized.

The final conference contest came on an unavailing effort by Green to remove the requirement for gubernatorial approval on domestic use of the Federal ballots by servicemen from Kentucky and New Mexico.

Rankin emerged from the final conference asserting: "The House will take it because we got what we wanted."

Senator Lucas, Democrat of Illinois, co-author of the original Green-Lucas war ballot bill, denounced the compromise in the Senate as "worthless" to overseas voters.

President Roosevelt has indicated that the test of a possible veto would be whether additional soldier voting would be possible under the legislation finally adopted by Congress.

Senator Connally, who will present the conference report at the request of Green, refused to do so, expressing the view that "a great many more armed service people will be able to vote under this bill than under the act of 1942."

Representative Halleck, Republican of Indiana, chairman of the Republican congressional campaign committee, charged in a statement that communists and other radical elements "want to pack the ballot box in a new European way while pretending that they are helping the soldier to vote."

Elise—What kind of husband would you advise me to get, Grandma? Grandma—You just leave husbands alone and get yourself a single man.

WAC Recruiting Office Moving To Camp Sutton

Headquarters for the Camp Sutton WAC recruiting drive, heretofore situated in an office in the Union county court house will be moved to the personnel office at camp headquarters after Saturday, March 11.

U. S. Smashes Jap Assault

Enemy Fails In Attempt To Land On Los Negros In The Admiralties

MOMOTE AIRFIELD READY

American troops smashed a minor Japanese attempt to land on Los Negros island in a light raid which failed to stop the use of the field by Allied aircraft. Navy Seabees put the field into operation a few days after it was captured by the Americans when they landed February 29.

American troops who landed behind the Japanese lines on the northeastern New Guinea coast west of Salor have gained three more miles and with the main force to the east now control the coastline for 35 miles west of Salor.

American warships aiding the ground troops on Los Negros island shelled Jap landing craft and barges as the soldiers extended their holdings and beat off a few bargeloads of enemy troops who attempted to land Tuesday.

Several hundred additional enemy dead have been found," the communique said.

Allied forces now control the Rai coast of New Guinea to a point 35 miles west of Salor, it was disclosed, and elements of the ground forces from Yalau have reached Kumsisanger on the west flank and Miniri in the east, where large quantities of enemy supplies were captured.

An air strip has been completed on the Green islands, from which Allied planes now are operating, it was disclosed.

The Japanese also sent planes against Momote airfield on Los Negros island in a light raid which failed to stop the use of the field by Allied aircraft.

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CHERRY SAYS STATE NEEDS SCHOOL PROGRAM

Emphasizes Importance Of Schools In Future Development Of N. C.

A declaration that North Carolina must preserve its most important asset—that of its children who will be the future citizens and leaders of North Carolina—through a school program which will offer to every child the greatest opportunity it is possible for the State to give, featured an address delivered Tuesday night at Carthage to the teachers of Moore county by Major R. Gregg Cherry of Gastonia, a candidate for governor.

Asserting that the school through its teachers probably exerts a greater influence on the growing child than any other institution except the home, Major Cherry declared: "It is obvious that among the paramount duties of the State in the operation of its school system is that of providing competent teachers."

"A State with any concern for its own future," declared Major Cherry, "cannot sit idly by and see its children, who must carry the burden of civilization during the years ahead, deprived of their rightful heritage of good teaching. To provide such teaching is the all-important duty of each generation to the next—the debt eternal of maturity to youth."

Emphasizing the point made in his recently announced 12-point school improvement program, Major Cherry reiterated his belief that an increase in the salaries of teachers must be the beginning factor in improvement of North Carolina's school system.

He restated his No. 1 plan in the 12-point platform of school improvement which he advocates, declaring: "I will favor and recommend an increase (effective January 1, 1945) in the base pay of the salaries of teachers and school employees of at least the amount of the present war bonus, to which shall be added such additional sums as the legislature may be justified in paying to meet the increased costs of living during the present war emergency; and I am of the opinion that the beginning salary of any teacher holding an 'A' certificate should be at least \$135 a month."

Anticipating that the school system, which has aided through school-connected programs in the training of war workers, will find a new field of service when returning veterans come home after the war, Major Cherry said: "It seems very probable that the school system of the State can be of tremendous help in aiding returning veterans to readjust themselves to civilian life through school-connected trade training programs in the postwar period, which can be operated in much the same administrative manner as war-training programs have been operated."

"Not only for this reason, but for the reason that the State should offer a means to its high school students of learning to make a living, and should give them something of practical as well as cultural value, I favor and will recommend support to the expansion of vocational training in all its phases, to the end that agriculture, home economics, and trade and industrial subjects, and such other subjects be included in the same administrative manner as war-training programs have been operated."

Future inquiries about enrollment in the WAC should be directed to the office of the camp personnel director, Maj. A. R. Bunch, whose telephone number is Camp Station 148.

Many Tyrrell county farmers are staying in the hog business by using more grain. County Agent H. E. Harris of the State College Extension Service. They also plan to feed rutabagas and sweet potatoes.