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GREAT OFFENSIVE LAUNCHED AGAINST REICH

Council Takes Layne Water Bid and Backs Canning Co. Canopy

Two controversial questions were disposed of by the city council in a special meeting last night. It accepted the \$93,250 bid of the Layne-Northwest company of Milwaukee to develop a new ground well water supply for Wisconsin Rapids. And it refused by a 13 to 5 vote to reconsider permission given the Sampson Canning company to construct a canopy on the east side of its building at 1251 First street north. The latter, by far, was the most interesting from the ringside standpoint.

The Water Question:

Officials of the Milwaukee company gave the aldermen the choice of letting the firm gamble on finding some iron-free water, turning to a less desirable river filtration system or being left high and dry. The municipal water and lighting commission after considerable study recommended that the bid be accepted and the council concurred after listening to the Layne representatives, Edward J. Rogers, president, and George Galloway, field engineer.

The main stickler has been the absence of a guarantee that the required volume of 5,000,000 gallons of water per day will continue after the contract is fulfilled. The guarantee is still absent. But Galloway told the aldermen that it would "be certain for the company in Wisconsin" if the wells petered out soon after construction, adding, "it won't cost the city a dime if the amount and quality of the water is not as called for in the contract. We take the gamble, not you."

Would Finish in June

Galloway described construction of the wells, equipped with separate turbine pumps, and thought the project could be completed about next June. He said that many test wells would be sunk to determine the purest and most abundant source of supply. The commission has retained a consulting engineer to draft a master water supply plan and the state board of health will participate in the various tests.

Rogers explained that the firm has been in business for 60 years and has successful installations all over the world. He pointed out that the proposed system would pay for itself through savings in present operating costs and that fire insurance rates would go down. Rogers also declared that if something wasn't done soon, the city would be without water and that the river was not considered a desirable source of supply.

NELSON TO FORM WPB FOR CHINESE

Chungking (P)—Donald M. Nelson and a small group of American experts arrived in Chungking today to help China, now facing her gravest military trial, to expand her war production and make the maximum possible use of her own resources against Japan.

Nelson and his aides will cooperate with the newly-created Chinese war production board, which was formally inaugurated today under Wong Wen-Hao, minister of economic affairs and chairman of the national resources commission.

The arrivals were welcomed at the airport by Wong, Foreign Minister T. V. Soong and other Chinese notables. U. S. Charge d'Affairs George Acheson Jr. and Maj. Gen. Thomas G. Hearn, chief of staff to Maj. Gen. Albert C. Wedemeyer, commander of the U. S. forces in the China theater, also were present.

Auxiliary Policemen Will Meet Tuesday

Chief of Police R. J. Exner has called a meeting of Wisconsin Rapids auxiliary policemen for 7:30 Tuesday evening at Lloyd's Recreation parlor. A lunch will follow the program.

ELECT OFFICERS

The Rev. E. A. Finn of Arpin was elected president of the Central Wisconsin Ministerial association at the annual meeting in Marshfield on Monday. Other officers are the Rev. J. W. Schwager, Wisconsin Rapids, vice president, and the Rev. Raymond H. Browne, Marshfield, secretary-treasurer.

YANKS PRESS TO WITHIN 10 MILES OF ORMOC BASE

General MacArthur's Headquarters, Philippines—(P)—An American vise closed tighter on General Yamashita's encircled Japanese on Leyte today, pressing to within 10 miles of Ormoc on the south, 14 on the east and about the same distance on the north.

Advances by four American divisions were small, but they came all around the Japanese perimeter defending Ormoc, their last base on the island.

In the north, the American 24th division applied double pressure. On the road from Pinamapanon, the main body of the division lunged against enemy positions near Limon, gateway to the Ormoc corridor. West of the road, another unit of the division swung around through the hills, virtually cut the road behind an estimated 2,000 Japanese front line troops.

Three Heights Taken

To the east and north, pressure was applied by the First cavalry division, which overran several enemy strong points and seized hill-tops as it moved westward through the tangled peaks. No road served this division; and its forward elements probed the roughest terrain to find the stubborn Japanese defense positions. Mt. Mamban, a 3,800-foot peak, and Hills 4047 and 4018 fell to the cavalry.

Far to the south, the veteran Seventh division, seldom mentioned in recent communiques, was disclosed to have advanced four miles to the west coast town of Balogo, only 10 miles from Ormoc. Less than 30 miles now separates the 24th on the north and the Seventh on the south.

The daily headquarters communique announced the division had repelled a Japanese counterattack at Balogo, killing or wounding approximately half the attackers.

The Seventh today stands closer to Ormoc itself than either of the other advancing American units. It was last previously reported at Damuluan, 14 miles south of Ormoc, when it broke up a small Japanese landing attempt there Tuesday night.

Roughly midway between the Seventh and the 24th divisions, a third infantry unit, the 96th division, also advanced against Ormoc from the east. The 96th was near Alto peak on Leyte's backbone and approximately 14 miles from Ormoc. Its route now is more or less downhill to the town but very rough.

The Japanese were showing no tendency to retreat easily anywhere. Frontline dispatches described even the smallest American advances as being made over piles of enemy dead, some killed in the final infantry battles, others still lying where they had been killed hours or days before in the battering American artillery barrages.

BYRNES NAMED FOR 2-YEAR JOB

Washington (P)—The nomination of James F. Byrnes for an additional two year term as director of war mobilization and reconversion was confirmed by the senate today.

Senator George (D-Ga.) asked the senate to waive the customary committee consideration of the nomination and act at once. His stand had the full support of acting Minority Leader White (R-Maine).

The Byrnes nomination was sent to the senate by the president at noon. Approval was unanimous.



PROMOTED—Bertram W. Nason of this city has been advanced in rank from captain to major sometime in India, where he is ordnance officer for the China, Burma, India war theater. Major Nason entered active service on January 2, 1942, as a second lieutenant, having been a reserve officer, and has been overseas since March of this year. His family resides here at 431 Elm street.

Russ Crack Nazi Line East Of Budapest

Moscow (P)—The Red Army has cracked the German flank east of Budapest, and is hurling its armored might through a breach within 12 miles of the Hungarian capital, front dispatches said today. A decisive battle for control of the invasion routes to Austria appeared imminent.

A sustained pounding by wave after wave of Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's assault forces forced the enemy into a damaging withdrawal from more than 50 towns and villages, including the large railway junction of Jaszberey, target of a four-day attack.

The German withdrawal extended along a 100-mile front from Mende, 12 miles southeast of Budapest, to Korom and other towns 10 miles below the North Hungarian rail junction of Miskolc.

The tired and mauled German Panzer units fell back toward the southern base of the Matra mountains and westward to the perimeter defenses of Budapest.

One Soviet column, following the Jaszberey-Budapest railway, passed well beyond Mende, 12 miles from the capital, and drew the siege line tighter against the virtually doomed city.

Other Russian formations of tanks, cavalry and infantry, supported by swarms of attack planes, drove straight north in a continuation of the challenge for mastery of the highway and railway communications leading to Vienna.

The key communication points of Godollo, 15 miles northeast of Budapest, and Hatvan, 30 miles northwest, appeared to be the prize objectives of the northward push. Red Army columns were barely a dozen miles from each.

Godollo is on one of the major rail lines running through Budapest to Bratislava and Vienna, while Hatvan is at the entrance of a foothill pass through which another rail line runs into central Slovakia.

The Russian war bulletin said Jaszberey fell after the Russians began to outflank the city of the northeast and the Germans extended themselves to meet the threat.

Red Army columns then drove straight into the city and captured it in fierce street fighting.

Rapids' Share of County Levy Will be \$188,300

Wisconsin Rapids' share of the Wood county tax levy will be \$188,371.82, County Clerk Joachim A. Schindler announced Thursday. Marshfield is to pay \$116,820.56 while Nekoosa's share is \$52,977.22 and Port Edwards will be billed for \$88,197.69.

The charges against Wisconsin Rapids are broken down as follows: State tax, \$4,115.63; state special charges for penal and charity work, \$12,769.17; county school tax, \$15,813.32; general county tax, \$125,343.40; soldiers relief, \$154.68; county bridges, \$655.32; social security, \$29,543.89; special charges for illegal real estate, \$40.03; uncollected personal property charges, \$436.38.

Biron's share will be \$20,674.82 while Auburndale will be required to pay \$3,046.67 and Milladore, \$2,012.13. Pittsville will contribute \$6,700.62.

Assessments against townships are as follows:

Arpin, \$14,575.92; Auburndale, \$15,126.69; Cameron, \$4,299.29; Cary, \$4,115.30; Cranmore, \$3,250.74; Dexter, \$2,104.90; Grand Rapids, \$13,139.58; Hansen, \$12,399.78; Hills, \$1,435.85; Lincoln, \$17,559.91; Marshfield, \$9,857.60; Milladore, \$12,841.99; Port Edwards, \$2,685.88; Remington, \$2,021.84; Richfield, \$12,171.72; Rock, \$8,594.80; Rudolph, \$14,561.62; Saratoga, \$4,110.77; Seneca, \$3,866.54; Sherry, \$11,163.77; Sigel, \$16,071.06; Wood, \$9,781.09.

Funeral Services For William Colby Will be Tuesday

Funeral services for William Colby, 74, of the town of Grand Rapids, who died at St. Michael's hospital in Stevens Point on Tuesday evening, will be held Saturday at 2 p. m. at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Clara Jones, 2610 Third street south. The Rev. F. F. Knickerbocker will officiate and burial will be in Forest Hill cemetery.

Mr. Colby was born on May 17, 1870, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Oharry Colby, and had resided in this community all his life. He married Myrtle Jenkins on November 6, 1907, at Nekoosa. Fourteen children were born to this union, four preceding the father in death.

He is survived by his wife; four sons, Pfc. Lester at Foster field, Tex., Pvt. Irvin in the south Pacific, Nelson and Oharry, both of this city; six daughters, Mrs. Lawrence Remer and Mrs. Clara Jones of the town of Grand Rapids, Mrs. Fred McKeel of Babcock, Mrs. Joseph Rasch of this city, Mary Jane of Black River Falls and Viola of Chippewa Falls; and five grandchildren.

The body will be taken to the home of the daughter, Mrs. Clara Jones on Friday at 2 p. m., where friends may call. Baker and Son is in charge of funeral arrangements.

KIWANIS HEARS OF FBI SCHOOL

Kiwanians learned something of the technique of disarming a holdup man at the club's meeting in the Witter hotel this noon, their instructor and demonstrator being Chief of Police R. J. Exner, recent graduate of J. Edgar Hoover's National Police academy in Washington.

The "judo" technique of employing leverage and surprise to overcome another person with ease also was demonstrated by the police chief.

Mr. Exner told briefly of the jam-packed course of study at Washington which, in 14 hot, sticky summer weeks dealt with 128 subjects, taught by 60 instructors of whom 45 were FBI experts, the others being college professors, medical experts, lawyers and jurists highly skilled in special phases of law enforcement work.

Find Marshfield Man Dead Near Stratford

Stratford, Wis.—(P)—Jake Regenfuss, 73, Marshfield bachelor, was found dead in a ditch, one mile from this village today. It was not determined immediately whether he died of violence or from natural causes.

Three companions said that they had left him about 9 p. m. last night, dropping him off, from an automobile at a relatives' home where he had been living. This was about six miles from where the body was found today.

Entire Front from Holland to Alps Moves into Action

London—(P)—The American First and Ninth armies, paced by a 1,700-plane bombardment of German defenses northeast of Aachen, launched a massive offensive into the Rhineland today.

Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' First army veterans sprang forward at 11 o'clock as 1,200 heavy bombers crashed their bombs on the Dureneschweiler arc from four to six miles ahead of the doughboy lines east and southeast of Aachen.

An hour and 45 minutes later the U. S. Ninth army, whose whereabouts had been a secret two months, plunged into a new assault on the German homeland defenses near the Dutch frontier, and the entire 400-mile allied front from the marshy lowlands of Holland to the Alps of Switzerland was in motion.

This may be Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's all-out winter offensive.

At least six great allied armies were on the march. Lt. Gen. William (Texas Bill) Simpson's Ninth army popped up at the German front door after being transferred 800 miles across France, Belgium and Holland into Germany and moved across the lines of communication of several other armies.

Apparently it was attacking north of the U. S. First army's Aachen sector, or from the Nijmegen sector north of the British Second army, where it would be in position to implement the long-standing threat to sweep away the German north flank.

After a week of waiting for clear weather, the Flying Fortresses and Liberators, with nearly 500 fighters, bumped the Germans with 4,800 tons of bombs ahead of the First army in a tactical assault similar to that which preceded the St. Lo breakthrough in Normandy last July 25 and the offensive by Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third army in the Metz sector eight days ago.

Fragmentation bombs fell on a 15-mile stretch of the Cologne highway between Eschweiler and Duren ahead of the First army veterans of the St. Lo breakthrough. Anti-aircraft positions, gun batteries and other German defenses were showered.

One Mile from Maas
The British Second army plunged to within a mile of the Maas in Holland and captured Horn, only two miles from the German bastion of Roermond, 34 miles west of Dusseldorf on the Rhine.

The First French army, which joined the array of offensives only Wednesday, pushed forward on a 25-mile front on both sides of the Doubs river to a point 11 miles southwest of Belfort in the gap just north of Switzerland.

Gen. Patton's Third army tightened its grip on Metz from the north and also captured Morhange.

Stairway To The Stars Is Pep Club Theme

The usually unromantic looking interior of the Lincoln high school fieldhouse will be transformed for a few hours on Friday evening when Pep club members and their dates will tread a "Stairway to the Stars" at the annual Pep club dance.

Alumni of the Pep club are invited to attend as usual, and dancing will be from 8 until 12 with music by the Castilians.

Nov. 30 Is Deadline For Canning Sugar

Fred Bushnell, chief clerk of the local war price and rationing board, said Thursday that those who have not already applied for canning sugar must do so by Nov. 30 to get their allotment. Applications will not be accepted after that date.

WHOOPIING COUGH SHOTS

Whooping cough prevention treatments will be given Friday, November 17, at the Milladore graded school at 9 a. m. and at the Bienenk patochial school at 10 a. m. This will be the final of three treatments sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary in the two above communities.

THE WEATHER

For Wisconsin: Clearing and colder with hard frost tonight. Friday fair and continued cold.