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Thirty-First Year—No. 9546.

Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., Wednesday, August 9, 1944.

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AMERICANS SWEEP WELL PAST LE MANS

Japanese End Bitter Hengyang Fight

CHINESE BATTLE TO FINISH FOR STRATEGIC CITY

(By the Associated Press)
Japan has broken her steady string of defeats in the Pacific, Burma and India with the capture of Hengyang, vital Chinese city from which the Japanese can drive south to split China in two.
Five Chinese generals apparently remained with the last survivors of the heroic garrison, composed principally of Cantonese troops, when the Japanese broke into the city after the bitterest fighting in China since the battle for Shanghai in 1937.
The generals in a farewell message to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek, sent on Tuesday night just before radio contact with Hengyang was broken, said they intended to stay with their troops and die fighting.
Will Fight for Railway
Government Spokesman P. H. Chang today affirmed China's determination to frustrate Japanese plans to conquer the whole Canton-Hankow railway and asserted the long, heroic defense of Hengyang, which halted the enemy's advance in Hunan province, had almost destroyed its present strategic importance.
A firm hold on the rest of the Canton-Hankow railway would complete Japanese control of a 1,000 mile strip across China, giving them an overland rail route from Peiping in the north to Canton.

Pfc. Erwin L. Weinbauer Dies in Action



Pfc. Erwin L. Weinbauer, 23, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Weinbauer, 1141 Oak street, was killed in action on Saipan island in the Marianas group in the central Pacific on July 11, according to a telegram received from the secretary of war by the parents Tuesday. The message stated that a letter would follow with more details. His parents had last heard from him three weeks ago.

Born in Wisconsin Rapids
Private First Class Weinbauer was born on June 26, 1921 in Wisconsin Rapids and lived here until enlisting in the armed forces on November 10, 1942. After spending three days at Fort Sheridan, Ill., he was transferred to the west coast and landed at Pearl Harbor on December 8, 1942. He remained in the Hawaiian islands until June, 1944 and then was sent into action against the Japanese in the invasion of Saipan. He was a member of the infantry.

The Wisconsin Rapids soldier was graduated from Lincoln high school in 1940, where he starred in both basketball and track. Performing in the broad jump, dashes and high jump, he held the school record in the latter event for a number of years. He was on the track squad two years, the basketball team three years and was one of the cage squads best scorers in 1940.

Worked at Consolidated
Before entering the armed services, he was employed at the Consolidated Water Power and Paper company here.
In addition to his parents, Private First Class Weinbauer is survived by two brothers, Donald, who lives at Beloit, and Robert, who resides at 1151 Oak street, and is also employed by the Consolidated Water Power and Paper company.

Reveal Results Of Misery Bay Workers' Vote

An Associated Press dispatch from Washington today stated that the national labor relations board announced this morning that the majority of employees at the Misery Bay operations of the Nekooa Edison Water Power company have chosen to be represented by the International Woodworkers of America (CIO).
The board said that of 28 eligible voters 24 cast valid votes, of which 14 were for the union and 10 against.
The election was held two weeks ago at Misery Bay, which is located about 30 miles south of Houghton, Mich.

Cherbourg Director Is Killed in Action

Washington — (AP)—Capt. Norman S. Ives, U. S. director of the port of Cherbourg, France, has been killed in action.
The navy disclosed this today, but gave no indication of how the 47-year-old officer met death.
A veteran of duty with submarines, Ives played a large part in development of safety devices which have saved the lives of many men serving on submarines.

SERIOUSLY WOUNDED
Marshfield, Wis. — Pvt. Jerome Brandt of Marshfield was seriously wounded in France on July 27, according to a war department telegram received by his wife here.

POST-WAR PLANS ARE DEBATED BY COUNTY BOARD

A prolonged debate on post-war planning took place in the Wood county board's afternoon session Tuesday, with Supervisors Reuben Connor and Hans Vollert asking for a listing of all possible projects which the county might consider in a post-war program.
At another angle was the viewpoint of Supervisor Warren Beadle Jr., who felt that it was too early to list a grandiose parade of roads, courthouse, jail, parks and other facilities whose cost would total millions of dollars.
Board Chairman F. George Kilp, taking the floor to debate the issue, sharply urged that the public property committee of the county board should have co-operated with the board's post-war planning committee in getting plans and costs of a new courthouse listed.
Supervisor Frank Abel, chairman of the public property committee, protested that any specific courthouse plans made now would be obsolete, that materials, labor costs and matters of federal co-operation all likely would change decidedly before actual building began.
To keep putting aside surplus county funds in a post-war building fund until later, was the plan which Abel favored. Supervisor Ralph Roberts agreed, saying that "you can't make sound estimates now."

Supervisor Connor of the post-war committee remarked that "counties which just let the federal government know that 'we want a courthouse' will go to the bottom of the list (in federal consideration), while those counties which have detailed specifications, blueprints and plans and estimates of costs are the ones which will get consideration."
A compromise was reached when Abel agreed to have his committee go into a huddle with an architect and builder, get sufficient plans for a courthouse here to enable the post-war committee to make a report to Washington. He did not agree, however, to the spending of any large sum of money for the detailed blueprints which, he argued, would be outmoded before spade-work replaces paper work.
Supervisor Al Hesterkind, Marshfield, pointed out to the board that there no longer is a county safety council, urging that the board chairman appoint a safety committee composed of board members. District Attorney Hugh W. Goggins ruled that such a committee would be out of order, as a separate See—COUNTY BOARD—Page 6

Not Highest But It's Mighty Hot

The official temperature for Wisconsin Rapids hovered around the 94 mark at 2 o'clock this afternoon. Although this isn't the highest reading for the summer, 95 having already been recorded, it seems that when it's up that high hardly anybody has ambition enough to care whether it's one point higher or lower.

SLIGHT DAMAGE

Mrs. John Martens of Junction City, driving west out of a Standard Oil station at the corner of West Grand and Fourth avenue, and E. G. Bredow, city, whose vehicle was facing north and had stopped for the arterial sign on Fourth avenue, collided Tuesday afternoon causing under \$50 damage. The Martens car was undamaged and the Bredow vehicle was dented slightly on the right rear fender.

Legionnaires to Hear Gibson Describe Early Legion Days

Charles Hagerstrom post No. 9 members of the American Legion will meet at the Memorial army here tonight at 8 o'clock to hear Richard M. Gibson, first commander of the local post, tell about early days of Legion history in Wisconsin Rapids.
State Convention Report
Legionnaires will also hear reports from the delegates on the state convention held at Milwaukee, August 6-7. Delegates from here were Frank Muehlstein, commander-elect, Harold Wittenberg, adjutant, E. O. Anderson, service officer and Henry Smith, first vice-commander-elect.
Captain Gibson, officer in the First Wisconsin cavalry, organized Troop G, which later became an artillery unit known as Battery D, and took his outfit down to Waco, Texas, where so many early Wisconsin officers trained before going overseas during the first World war.
After the first World war ended, Gibson organized the Charles Hagerstrom post of the American Legion here, and he it was who was responsible for removing the body of Charles Hagerstrom from France and returning it to Wisconsin soil.
Adjutant Here 3 Years
Captain Gibson was first adjutant of the state department and was adjutant of the local post for three years. Tonight he will present several remembrances of early Legion days to the post here.
Captain Gibson is the brother of Mrs. Isaac P. Witter, city.

17 Are Dead or Missing In Freak Clipper Crash; Fourteen Are Rescued

Havana—(AP)—Seventeen passengers are dead or missing as the result of the crash of a Pan American flying boat, which broke in two and sank Tuesday in an attempted takeoff from the rough waters of Nipe bay, in northeastern Cuba.
Nine passengers and the crew of five are safe.
Survivors who were flown this morning from Antilla, scene of the accident, to Miami said they felt certain that all of those who are missing were trapped in the Clippers and were drowned. Six bodies had been recovered at the time.
Account of Accident
William D. Smallwood, San Juan automobile dealer, said three heavy swells in the bay as the big four motored Clipper, which flew pioneer trans-Pacific flights to China in 1935, reared over the water for a takeoff.
"Just as we were ready to leave the water," he related, "we hit a high swell. It tore the bottom out of the ship. We must have been going 80 or 90 miles an hour."
"The plane shuddered to a stop in just a few feet."
"I was seated in the rear, near the hatch."
"I saw a wall of water coming through the plane toward me."
Passed Out from Shock
"I must have passed out from the shock, but before I did I saw the plane break in two and start to sink."
"The part in which I was seated overturned, and I was left hanging from my safety belt. I managed to release the belt quickly, and went out of the hatch."
"There was a lot of yelling in the plane."
"I am sure that most of the people in the center of the ship were drowned."
Crewmen Praised
Smallwood praised the crewmen. "They were perfect," he declared. "They were responsible for saving the lives of most of those who got out. They went through the ship trying to release safety belts, and even cut some of them."
"The plane was en route from San Juan to Miami and had alighted at Antilla, in Cuba's lush sugar cane country, to discharge and pick up passengers."
The rear half of the Clipper did not break completely off the front part. It was completely under water this morning while the fore portion was barely a wash.

WLB Can't Order Truck Strikers Back

Washington — (AP)—Officials of the war labor board said today they are powerless to order striking Midwest truckers to return to work because the operators are ignoring a WLB order to increase wages seven cents an hour.
"We cannot order these men back to work for an employer who is not abiding by the war labor board's instructions," a spokesman said, adding that the WLB has sent to the White House a report that the operators are not complying.
The strike itself, spreading through eight states, has not officially come before the board.

Stevens Point Woman to Christen Vessel

Sturgeon Bay, Wis.—(AP)—Mrs. Anastasia Cabrowski, of Stevens Point, Wis., who has five sons in the armed services, was selected today to christen a subchaser at the Leatham D. Smith Shipbuilding Co., yards here Saturday, August 12.

Polish Premier and Committee Fail to Reach Agreement

Moscow—(AP)—Rival Polish regimes failed to agree today on a plan of fusion and leaders are returning to their respective headquarters in London and Lublin with renewal of negotiations delayed at least until after the Russians capture Warsaw.
Premier Stanislaw Mikolajczyk consulted the U. S. and British ambassadors late today after the Soviet-sponsored Polish committee of national liberation said his exiled government in London was clinging to the "dictatorial" constitution of 1935, blocking formation of a "democratic provisional government." He probably will leave for London tomorrow.
President Morawski of the committee departed for Lublin.
Both sides left the way open for talks in the indefinite future, but indicated they preferred to wait until the Germans are driven from Warsaw, the Polish capital, which could be the scene of their next deliberations.
The committee, recognized by Russia, insisted on restoration of the 1921 constitution as more democratic than the 1935 document. It is known, however, that other fundamental differences exist which could be ironed out, if at all, only by lengthy consideration.

REPORT FIGURES ON LEND-LEASE TO BRITISH ISLES

Washington — (AP)—The United States has furnished Britain with about \$2,000,000,000 worth of foodstuffs in the three and a quarter years that lend-lease has been in operation. This is the most important element of civilian supply that will require adjustment when only the war with Japan remains.
A steady curtailment in lend-lease aid to the British isles, paralleled by a return to normal commercial trade, is expected after Germany is defeated.
Curtailed Not Planned
However, so far as can be learned, no program to that end has been worked out and officials plan to make the curtailment only when they have a real situation to work with.
It is impossible at this time, one authority said, to estimate just what lend-lease help the British will need to concentrate their efforts in the final campaigns to crush Japan. Here, however, is the background against which decisions must be made when the time comes:
Amount Sent Already
In the first three years of lend-lease, March 1941 through March 1944, lend-lease shipments to all nations totaled \$17,195,000,000. Of that amount \$7,306,000,000 went to the United Kingdom.
The United Kingdom total consisting of \$3,169,000,000 of munitions as well as guns and tanks, \$1,862,000,000 of industrial materials and See—LEND-LEASE—Page 6

Judge Brings Politics Into Strike Trial

Philadelphia—(AP)—U. S. District Judge George A. Welsh today said that Philadelphia's six-day transit strike may have been called "to have some effect on the impending national election."
The jurist, in a 40-minute charge, said he did not believe the upgrading of eight Negro transit employees to operating jobs was the real cause of the unauthorized walkout. Strike spokesmen had said it was.
"I don't want to bring politics into this investigation," Judge Welsh said, "but you may find that what was in the hearts and minds of the men who called this strike was intended to have some effect on the impending national election."
Attorney General Biddle, who ordered the grand jury probe, said at Billings, Mont., last night, as he traveled west, that he believed there was a "conspiracy" behind the walkout. He did not elaborate.
The Negro workers resumed their training for trolley operating jobs today, two days after the army crushed the walkout, which had slashed war production and caused Negroes and white men to fight in the streets.
Assistant U. S. Attorney Edward A. Kelly indicated the jury was prepared to go beyond provisions of the Smith-Connelly anti-strike act.
"We might find a conspiracy to sabotage the war effort, he said, "in which case we would not be confined to the Smith-Connelly act, but would then proceed under the more drastic provisions of the second war powers act, which carries much more drastic penalties."
Meanwhile, armed guards continue to ride every bus, trolley, subway and subway-elevated today.

Blames Tram Strike On FEPC Actions

Washington—(AP)—Sen. Russell (D-Ga.) charged on the senate floor today that the recent Philadelphia transit strike was "deliberately fomented by an agency of the government."
Russell said he referred to "the so-called fair employment practices committee," and added:
"If there had been no FEPC, not a single man hour of war production would have been lost and there would have been no racial disturbances or bitterness."

MAUSTON SOLDIER MISSING

In an Associated Press dispatch today, the war department listed Lieut. William R. Holgate, son of Mrs. Marguerite Holgate, Mauston, as missing in action in the Mediterranean area.



WISCONSIN LEGION LEADERS—New Wisconsin American Legion officers elected at their state convention in Milwaukee, are William R. Kenney (right) from Marshfield, commander, and Mrs. C. W. Hurtig, from Marinette Auxiliary president.

Robert Bell Is Reported As Missing

Tech. Sgt. Robert K. Bell, 23, has been missing in action over Germany since July 18, according to a war department telegram received Tuesday night by his wife, Mrs. Robert K. Bell of Port Edwards.
Sergeant Bell enlisted on June 18, 1941, took his basic training at Jefferson Barracks, Mo., then went to Scott Field, Ill., for radio operator training, graduating on August 1, 1941. He remained there as an instructor for one year, then was transferred to the Chicago Technical school, remaining as an instructor until it closed.
Assigned to Harlingen, Texas, for advanced training, he received his wings as a radio operator-gunner in October, 1943. He left for overseas service on March 3, 1944, and as a member of the 15th air force stationed in Italy has completed 28 missions, and received the Air Medal.
Sergeant Bell graduated from Lincoln high school and was employed by Consolidated Water Power and Paper company before entering the service. His father, Gilbert Bell, resides at 1040 Sixteenth street north.
Mrs. John A. Johnston, 80, formerly of this city, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Emil Houdon, 1116 Blaine street, Stevens Point, at 9:20 p. m. Tuesday after an illness of two weeks. Funeral services will be held Friday at 2 p. m. at the Baker and Son chapel with the Rev. A. W. Truesdell officiating, burial to take place in Forest Hill cemetery.
Mrs. Johnston, whose maiden name was Lucy Howard, was born in Dottsaham, Cambridge-shire, England, on June 20, 1864, and came to the United States with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Howard, when she was still an infant, the family settling at Oakdale, Wis. She married John Alvin Johnston at La Crosse on April 25, 1894. The Johnstons moved to Nekooa in 1902 and to Wisconsin Rapids in 1921. Mr. Johnston preceded his wife in death on February 12, 1943, and Mrs. Johnston went to Stevens Point to make her home with her daughter in June of that year.
Besides the daughter she leaves a son, Roy of Nekooa, three grandchildren and one great-grandchild.
Friends may call at the funeral home until time of services.

YANKS CAPTURE GERMAN GENERAL

Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force—(AP)—Lt. Gen. Karl Spang, commander of the German 266th infantry division, has been captured by the American First army near Brest.
Eight German generals have been killed in France. Two others and a rear admiral have been captured since D-day, June 6.
Within a week, the Germans have announced the deaths in France of Lt. Gen. Von Drabisch-Waechter, a divisional commander, and Maj. Gen. Rudolph Slegman, a western front commander.
In the Russian offensive started June 23, the Red Army has announced the capture of 27 German generals and the deaths of several others. Numerous other German general officers have been reported killed in the blood purge following the purported attempt to assassinate Hitler July 20, and in "accidents."

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Congressmen Called Back for Tuesday

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The house has been marking time while committees prepare legislation for consideration.
The senate also is considering post-war measures that it probably will toss over to the house early next week.

Investigate Killings Of Three Women

Fort Wayne, Ind.—(AP)—Investigation of the recent slayings of three Fort Wayne women was spurred today by the posting of awards of \$5,000 in each case for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the killers.
Funeral services were held yesterday for Phyllis Conine, 17-year-old high school girl and latest victim.
First victim of the series of slayings was Wilhelma Haaga, who staggered into a farmhouse last Feb 2 so badly beaten she was unable to tell what had happened. She died three days later.
Last May 22, the body of Anna Kuzeff, 22, war plant worker, was found along a dark road on the western edge of the city. She had been raped.

SECOND DRIVE TO CITY OPENED BY CANADIANS

Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force — (AP)—American troops today captured Le Mans, southwestern gateway to Paris barely 110 miles beyond, and Canadians smashed through the Germans' second defense line to a point 16 miles below Caen.
(Berlin broadcasts said motorized U. S. forces had raced on through Le Mans to within 87 miles of Paris.)
The Canadian plunge carried within four miles of Falaise, itself only 65 miles above Le Mans. The allied wings curling around the bulk of the German army, threatening to pocket it.
Near Loire River
Other U. S. troops battering southward neared Angers on the Loire river, 50 miles inland from the river port of Nantes and 50 southwest of Le Mans.
This broadened the U. S. front in France to some 80 miles. Enemy resistance in the Loire push was reported light.
On the Breton peninsula, doughboys charged into the outer defenses of the great port of Brest after the German garrison refused a surrender ultimatum. Lt. Gen. Karl Spang, commanding the German infantry, was captured near Brest.
Double Drive On Paris
Both the Americans and Canadians were within little more than 100 miles and perhaps closer—to Paris in a great pincers drive on the French capital.
The British army on the Canadian left smashed ahead, threatening to trap sizeable German forces battling See—INVASION—Page 6

1 STRIKE ENDS; 28,000 STILL IDLE

(By the Associated Press)
Four work stoppages accounted for more than two-thirds of approximately 28,000 idle today in labor disputes in the United States and Canada.
These four involving some 19,000 were:
Five plants of General Motors' gear & axle division, Detroit, 7,000; Midwest over-the-road truck drivers in at least four and possible eight states, an estimated 5,000; Wright Aeronautical corporation, three Patterson, N. J., plants, at least 3,000; Montreal, Que., tramways strike, 4,000.
The United Automobile Workers (CIO) appealed to the national war labor board today to review the dispute in the five Detroit plants.
Nine thousand more were idle in 16 other disputes across the nation. Latest stoppage was a walkout of 150 tool makers and grinders at the Dodge Chicago plant, making engines for B-29 Superfortresses, in what a company spokesman said was a protest over a three-day suspension of a worker for refusing to take orders.
Settled, however, was a stoppage since July 23 of 300 glass blowers at Ball Bros. Co., Muncie, Ind., an AFL-CIO jurisdictional dispute. They returned to work yesterday.

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THE WEATHER

For Wisconsin:
Fair tonight and Thursday except scattered thunder showers north-west portion late Thursday afternoon or Thursday night, warmer southeast tonight, continued hot Thursday.
Today's Weather Facts—
Maximum temperature for 24-hour period ending at 7 a. m., 92°; minimum temperature for 24-hour period ending at 7 a. m., 48°; temperature at 7 a. m., 56°.

