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Twenty-Eighth Year—No. 8577.

Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., Tuesday, June 17, 1941.

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HITLER MASSES TROOPS ON NORWAY COAST

Italy Bans U.S. Debt Payments

Hint Invasion of Scotland Possible; British Columns Storm Toward Damascus

BLAMES OPM IN HYDRO-ELECTRIC PROJECT DELAY

Washington—(AP)—Senator Mead (D-N.Y.) asserted today that testimony taken by the senate defense investigating committee indicated that the office of production management was what he called the "culprit" delaying the construction of a hydro-electric project capable of producing 100,000,000 pounds of aluminum yearly.

Company Awaits Ok
Mead made the statement after I. W. Wilson, vice president of the Aluminum Company of America, had testified that his company was ready to apply to the RFC for financing the Fontana project in North Carolina as soon as the OPM gave its approval.

Wilson said the project on the Little Tennessee river would provide power for a plant which would produce 100,000,000 pounds of aluminum annually.

Earlier Wilson, flatly denying charges by Secretary of the Interior Ickes, asserted that his company "has done everything within its power and more" to aid the president's defense program.

Ickes charged yesterday that the huge firm sought to control aluminum production "regardless of consequences to the United States" and through "recalcitrance" and "obstruction" was retarding the defense program.

Appearing before the special senate defense investigation committee, Wilson testified that the Aluminum company "has already doubled and will shortly treble its 1938 output; is spending over \$200,000,000 of its own money to advance defense, and has repeatedly offered to put all of its technical resources at the government's command."

Defends Company
If a shortage of aluminum exists for airplanes and other vital defense needs, Wilson said that the Aluminum company could not be blamed. He said that the company had furnished more of the metal than its own estimates and that Secretary Ickes had denied its requests for additional electric power at Bonnevile dam.

Ickes Urges U.S. Ban on Oil Exports

Washington—(AP)—A complete ban on exports of oil from the east coast of the United States, without prior government approval of individual shipments, was proposed to the petroleum industry today by Secretary Ickes, defense petroleum coordinator.

The action followed close on the heels of the stoppage yesterday of a 240,000-gallon shipment of oil from Philadelphia to Japan, because of the threatened oil famine on the eastern seaboard.

Ickes' assistant petroleum coordinator, R. K. Davies, addressed identical telegrams to 32 east coast oil shippers, as follows:

"In view of the impending petroleum shortage in the Atlantic coast area, it is imperative that drainage of stocks from this region be avoided. I suggest therefore that no further sales of petroleum products for offshore shipment be made without prior consideration by this office."

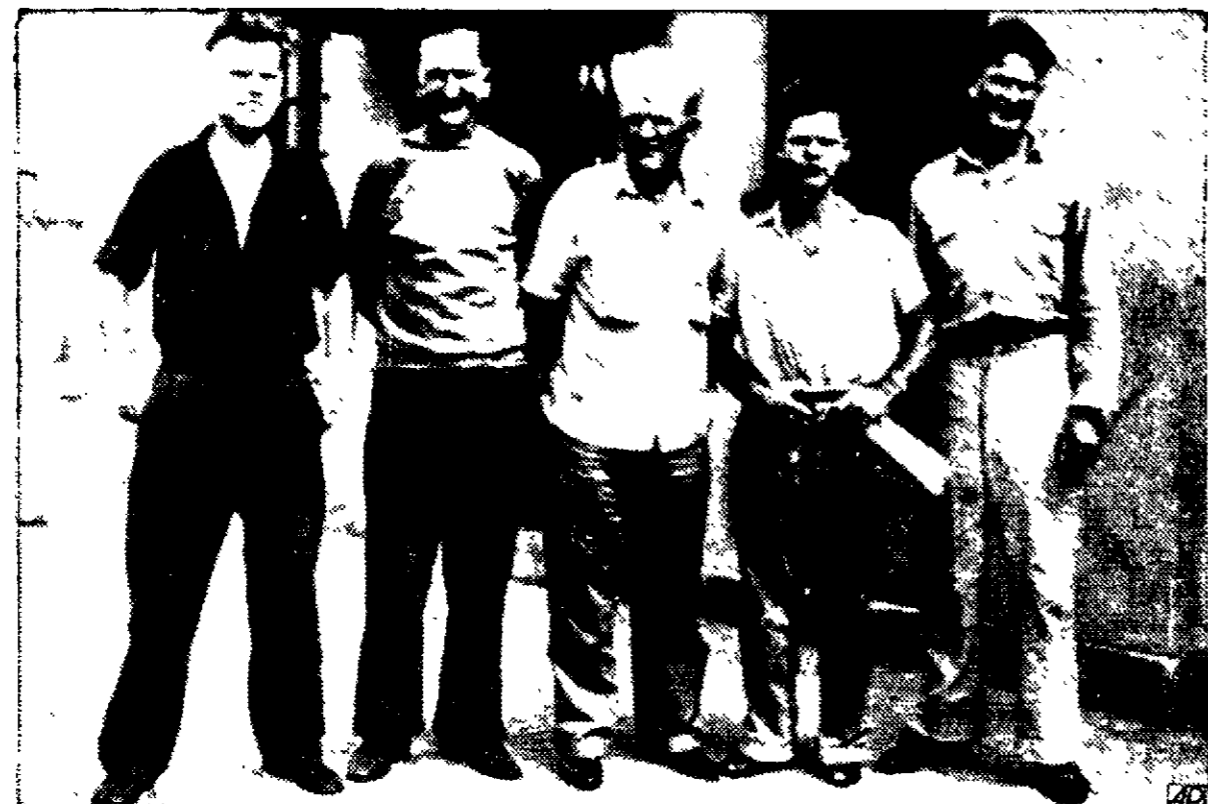
Rev. Mullen to Be Pastor of Parish at Port Edwards

The Rev. Thomas E. Mullen of Eau Claire was named Monday by the Rev. William R. Griffin, auxiliary bishop of LaCrosse diocese, as pastor of the Roman Catholic parish which will be organized at Port Edwards.

Auxiliary Bishop Griffin made the announcement of Father Mullen's appointment to 11 members of the new parish committee who conferred with him at LaCrosse. Father Mullen is expected in Port Edwards next Friday to consult with the committee on steps leading to the organization of the church.

Father Mullen, who was ordained six years ago, is at present an assistant at St. Patrick's church in Eau Claire, one of the largest Catholic parishes in Wisconsin.

Committee members at LaCrosse were Cleve Akey, Robert Reiland, F. G. Kiip, Walter Mosciak, Irving Persohn, Cyril Neuberger, Arnold Kayome, Mrs. Anton Arnold, Mrs. Irving Hofschild, Mrs. Emily Rayome and Mrs. Arthur Kennedy.



ROBIN MOOR SURVIVORS IN BRAZIL—Here are five of the survivors of the sunken American freighter Robin Moor, after their arrival in Recife, Brazil. Left to right are: Holly Rice, Donald Schablein, William Cary, Peter A. Buss and Richard Carlisle. After taking to lifeboats, 11 of those aboard the Robin Moor were rescued and taken to Recife. Thirty-five others—all those hitherto unaccounted for—were saved and taken to Capetown, South Africa.

RESCUE WON'T CHANGE STAND

Washington—(AP)—Sumner Welles, undersecretary of state, said today the government's basic charges against Germany for the sinking of the American merchant ship Robin Moor were unchanged by the arrival of 35 missing survivors at Capetown yesterday.

Final Decision Soon
Welles said that with the evidence already available from 11 survivors landed last week in Brazil and a cable summary expected on the testimony of those at Capetown, South Africa, the government very soon would be in a position to reach a final decision on the action to be taken.

Asked if the government's position that the submarine violated international law was unchanged by the safe arrival of the 35 survivors, Welles replied that it was identical. He said the American consul at Capetown had been instructed to take depositions from the survivors there and cable a summary as soon as possible.

Evidence Sufficient
The undersecretary added, however, that the evidence already received from the survivors in Brazil was considered sufficient and was already under consideration.

He did not indicate what direct action would be taken but it was considered certain that a stern protest at least would be lodged with Germany.

Robber Spurns Money, But Takes Man's Car

Hortonville, Wis.—(AP)—Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Frye, asleep in their home on the outskirts of the city, were awakened early today by the command, "drop that gun, farmer" and found themselves confronted by a robber.

The intruder, about 30 years old, carried a pistol and wore a handkerchief mask over the lower part of his face. He demanded money but when Frye said he only had \$1.50 in the house, he refused to take it.

"I wouldn't take a man's last dollar," the robber declared. He forced Frye to hand over the keys to his automobile and fled. Car and robber were the objects of a search launched a short time later.

Boy, 13, Crushed to Death Under Box Car

Milwaukee—(AP)—Richard Speckbrock, 13, and his pal, Donald Verhein, 14, decided to take a short cut home through the North Milwaukee yards of the Milwaukee road yesterday afternoon.

When they came to a tow of box cars which blocked their path, Donald wanted to walk around; Richard decided to crawl under and save time.

Richard was crushed to death when the wheels started moving. Police did not identify his body until six hours later because Donald ran home.

CANNON RUMBLE
Damascus—(AP)—The rumble of cannon was heard for several hours through this ancient Biblical city today and the battle between French and British troops was believed to be very near.

COVERS PRIVATE OBLIGATIONS TO ALL AMERICANS

Rome—(AP)—The Italian government, freezing American credits in Italy, today blocked all payments from Italy on private debts to Americans under a decree published in the official gazette in reversal for the freezing of Italian credits in the United States.

In Italy's Favor
Fascist spokesmen estimated the freezing actions to be better than two to one in Italy's favor. Il Giornale d'Italia estimating American

NAZIS STRIKING BACK
Berlin—(AP)—Germany served notice tonight that she is striking back at the United States for President Roosevelt's order freezing German assets in America.

It was officially announced that the Reich would take "the necessary measures" to counter the American action. This was the Reich's first positive reaction to what a spokesman called a long succession of "provocative acts" by the United States.

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investments in Italy at \$145,000,000 against Italian investments of from \$60,000,000 to \$65,000,000 in America.

The decree ordered Italian individuals and firms to report all American credits against them within 20 days.

Earlier Virginia Gayda, authoritative Fascist editor, declared that the United States' economic and financial measures against Italians and Germans constituted "an open declaration of economic war against the axis powers" which might lead to actual war.

Exempt U. S. Residents
Persons in Italy were forbidden to make debt payments or transfer securities to Americans, but Italians residing in the United States and Americans residing in Italy were exempted from this provision.

United States citizens were forbidden to dispose of securities or See—ITALIAN BAN—Page 7

REA Program for 1941-42 Discussed by Leaders Here
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Addressing the conference at its morning and afternoon sessions were G. E. Dillon, administration official from Washington, D. C., and W. H. Bixby and E. G. Keffler, field representatives of the Illinois-Iowa-Wisconsin area.

The R. E. A. officials discussed the future of rural electrification for Wisconsin, projects which are planned for the coming year and the distribution of materials which are used in the administration's work.

Thomas Davlin, Madison, Wisconsin Development authority official, and other W. D. A. men also attended the all-day conference.

State R. E. A. project foremen, workers and officials also discussed local problems with the national representatives at this afternoon's session.

Extend Nekoosa's Aluminum Drive to Cover Wider Area
The Nekoosa campaign to collect old aluminum for the defense program, which opens Wednesday night, has been extended to cover a wider area.

Contributors may leave their aluminum at any of these places.
A wooden crib was being built today between the Voss hardware store and the Herrick House on Market street in Nekoosa, into which the aluminum will be dumped as it is gathered. Articles received at the out-of-town collection depots will be hauled to the crib at the close of the drive this week-end.

Individuals may deposit cast-off aluminum in the crib throughout the remainder of the week.

Proceeds Go to P. S. M.
The entire collection will be sold for use by defense industries, and proceeds of the sale will go into the treasury of the Parents of School Musicians to finance their activities in behalf of school music groups.

Rural Carriers Will Attend Miller Funeral
Members of the Wood County Rural Letter Carriers association will attend funeral services here Wednesday for Ernest Miller, 62, retired rural carrier who died Sunday at a Chicago hospital.

The time of services at the East Side Lutheran church has been changed from 2 p. m. to 3:30 p. m. to permit members of the county association to be present. The Rev. E. G. Kuechle will officiate and burial will be in Forest Hill cemetery.

IN TRIBUNE WEDNESDAY

"Help wanted" signs are appearing in many Wisconsin industrial plants. Payrolls are up. Relief rolls are dropping. A clear picture of how the defense needs of the nation are helping to bring recovery to the state is given in the third of a series of Associated Press stories which will appear in the Tribune Wednesday, June 18. Watch for it.

Twenty-Seven Men to Form South Wood Co. July Draft Quota

The south Wood county draft board today announced the July selective service quota for this district would be 27 men. The figure does not include possible replacements which may account for some additional men to be sent next month.

Quota for the Marshfield district of Wood county is 18 men. The groups of both districts have been ordered to report for induction at Milwaukee on July 22, leaving Wisconsin Rapids and Marshfield on July 21.

47 Leave Wednesday
Changes in the south county district list of volunteers and selectees who leave here tomorrow afternoon have reduced the number leaving to 47 men.

One selectee, Anton Stobjaski, 31, of Wisconsin Rapids, has been deferred by the board on the grounds that he is needed at this time by his parents, a volunteer, Felix Keppert, 19, of Marshfield, was unable to leave at this time.

A third member of the June quota, Robert Bell, 25, of Wisconsin Rapids, a volunteer, has joined the U. S. army air corps at Milwaukee. He was released from the selective service group by the board and leaves tonight for Milwaukee.

Orville Gaetke, 25, Wisconsin Rapids, has volunteered for the June quota, however, to make up one of the vacancies in the original quota call of 49 men. His order number is 1260.

Divided in Two Groups
Board clerks announced division of the men leaving tomorrow on the Hiawatha into two groups, and naming of leaders and assistant leaders for each group. With a majority of the men drawn from employees of the paper industry in the Tri-Cities, the clerks gave each mill recognition in the leadership responsibilities.

One group will be headed by Theodore Anderson, leader, Wisconsin Rapids division, and Glenn Harterman, assistant leader, Biron division of Consolidated Water Power & Paper company. The other will be in charge of Robert Boger, leader, Port Edwards division, and Carroll Rusk, Nekosa division of Nekosa-Edwards Paper company.

Members of the quota are requested to bring form 150 with them when they report at the court house here Wednesday. They have also been asked to form in double lines at the depot five minutes before the Milwaukee train leaves to facilitate their departure.

The full Wisconsin quota for July is placed by state selective service headquarters at 3,514 men, according to the Associated Press. Induction dates and quotas for central Wisconsin counties are:

July 3, Jackson county 18; July 7, Adams 3; July 15, Waushara 10; July 17, Juneau 14; July 18, Marathon 34; July 22, Clark 17; July 23, Portage 32.

STRIKE AT AUTO PARTS FACTORY

(By the Associated Press)
A judicial strike at a Detroit auto parts factory today threatened enforced layoffs for 40,000 workers in automobile plants which depend upon the struck factory for parts.

Plant May Be Idle
A Michigan state labor mediator declared that employees of Plymouth, Briggs, Ford and Dodge truck plants might be made idle unless there was a speedy settlement of the walkout of C. I. O.-United Automobile Workers at the Douglas and Lomason company.

The U. A. W.-A. F. L. has a union shop agreement with the firm, and has contended that the rival C. I. O. union has tried to raid its membership. This the U. A. W.-C. I. O. denied, describing the walkout as a "spontaneous vacation period."

While other strikes continued in important defense industries, C. I. O. President Philip Murray issued a statement deprecating what he termed "the current slander campaign against the loyal Americans who represent the C. I. O. and its unions." He denounced as "malicious gossip" stories of "splits, purges and red hunts" in the organization.

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(By the Associated Press)

Adolf Hitler was reported massing "large numbers" of German troops today on the west coast of Norway—possible springboard for invasion of Scotland—and advices reaching London said a steady stream of troop trains and sea-going transports was moving toward coastal bases.

Only a few days ago, Soviet Russia announced officially that German soldiers were moving back into northern and northeastern Germany from the Balkans.

The Soviet announcement said "it must be assumed" that the Nazi troop movements were not directed against Russia, and the British declared talk of friction between Germany and Russia might be a feint to mask preparations for Hitler's long-awaited attempt to invade the British isles.

Coincidentally, the Finnish newspaper Sanomat in Helsinki declared that the military situation in the Baltic was ripe for surprises likely to affect Finland.

"We have no right to shut our eyes to what is happening around us," the newspaper said, and Helsinki was alive with rumors of troop movements on both sides of the Russian frontier with Finland.

War tremors stirred again in the Balkans, too, as all Rumania was ordered blacked out, beginning tonight, for the first time since a general blackout was lifted a month ago.

London—(AP)—British forces are attacking Aantour, six miles southwest of the Syrian capital of Damascus after capturing Madani yesterday, authoritative British reported today.

Madani is 10 miles south-southwest of Damascus.

Proceed Slowly
These sources reiterated that the British-Free French command was going slowly in the Levant states purposely to keep losses as low as possible both for themselves and the defenders.

General Paul Le Gentilhomme was said to be carrying on in command of the Free French forces despite a broken arm suffered from an air bomb.

In the capture of Sidon, on the Lebanese coast, the British were reported to have captured seven tanks, two of which were usable, as well as some stores and ammunition.

Damascus that campaign in Syria and Lebanon be pushed to a swift conclusion came from sections of the British press today as reports from the battlefield told of slow progress by the allied armies.

Demand Swift Action
Declaring there is a possibility that Germany may decide at any moment to attempt a lightning "airborne stroke" and change the whole complexion of things in the near east, the Daily Mail declared: "Speed is vital. We want Syria and its airfields."

A military spokesman said the situation at Merdjayoun—five miles from the tip of Palestine—was obscure, but that French advance units were believed to have entered the town by thrusting between two allied columns.

The raiding forces were accompanied by tanks, the spokesman said, but the penetration was not regarded as serious because imperial troops were said to be in considerable force on both sides of the pocket.

The French had taken yesterday their troops had taken the offensive west of Mount Hermon with appreciable results and declared they were holding their positions elsewhere.

French Counter-Attack
Vichy, Unoccupied France—(AP)—Military dispatches from Syria today reported a French counter-attack had driven the British out of the strategic town of Merdjayoun, which was captured by British forces a week ago.

(The British middle east command in Cairo acknowledged strong counter-attacks by the French at both Merdjayoun and Kuneitra, about 40 miles southwest of Damascus.)

Dispatches from Beirut indicated the French had taken the offensive all along the front, pushing as far south as the Kinetra sector, which British and DeGaulle troops took the first day of the attack June 7.

Nazis Intend to Invade Scotland?

London—(AP)—Persistent reports reaching Norwegian circles in London today indicated Germany was concentrating "large numbers" of troops on the Norwegian west coast—a possible springboard for invasion of Scotland.

The Norwegians said that in the past few days numerous troop trains carrying marines and material had passed through Oslo on the way to west coast bases.

In addition, reports from Krageroe, on the Skaggerak, say a steady procession of transports and other vessels has been steaming in a westerly direction.

Inflict Heavy Losses
The war bulletin said heavy losses were inflicted on the German and Italian troops who repeatedly assaulted the imperial forces.

Fort Capuzzo is opposite Salum, where fierce fighting appeared developing into a major battle following the start of the British offensive.

In East Africa, the imperial command said British forces captured an Italian rearward position west of Lake Lakemti, in southern Ethiopia, taking 200 prisoners, four guns and 20 machine guns. In the Assab area, six Fascist officers and 180 men were reported captured.

British sources described the imperial offensive in North Africa as "still a local one for the moment" but that the operations were developing.

British Lose Tanks
The German official news agency DNB said that up to noon today the British had lost 100 armored units and that the situation was developing favorably for the Germans and Italians. The Berlin radio, heard in London, said British tank losses totaled the strength of a regiment.

The Nazi high command was less specific, but said that the British tank losses "were increased considerably" and that fighting was continuing "with the use of strong forces on both sides." It asserted that axis airmen were effectively blasting the British forces.

The Italian high command declared the British had sustained considerable losses in men and machines and 11 planes.

Swift Flanking Thrusts
Reports from the fronts indicated the British were employing the tactics which proved so successful against the Italians last winter—lashing out at axis communication lines with swift flanking thrusts by mechanized units.

Announce Low Bids on Hy. 34 Projects
Almond and Madison contractors were the low bidders today at Madison on contracts covering improvements on approximately 10 miles of State Highway 34 in Portage and Marathon counties. The bids were:

No. 34, 5,908 miles from the Portage-Wood line north of Rudolph to Highway 10 east of Junction City; A. J. Pagel, Almond, \$122,519.33.

No. 34, 5,066 miles from Highway 10 north to Dancy in Marathon county; A. W. Gallagher & Son, Madison, \$162,413.50.

Contracts on both call for grading, draining and aggregate surfacing of the mileage given, according to the Associated Press. The projects were two of 10 on which the total of low bids was about \$1,736,585. The low bids must be checked before awards are made.

Marshfield Strike Closes Box Company

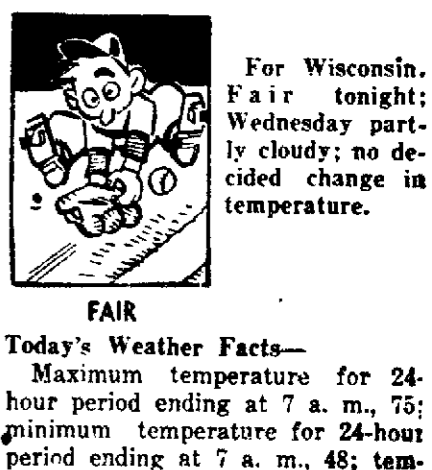
Marshfield, Wis.—The Blum Bros. Box company here was shut down today when Local 1121, Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, an AFL affiliate, called a strike and established picket lines to enforce demands for wage and hour adjustments. The plant employs 60 men.

Union sources said the strike was called after a rupture in negotiations which have been under way for six weeks, R. A. Zimick, Wausau, a union official, said the local is asking a minimum of 35 cents an hour for a 40-hour week, with the hourly scale to be increased to 40 cents at the end of nine months.

Paul Blum, company president, said under a piece-work scale men on machines are now making as high as \$23.58 per week under a 55-hour weekly schedule. Pickets this morning turned back a truck-load of cheese boxes leaving the plant.

THE WEATHER

For Wisconsin, Fair tonight; Wednesday partly cloudy; no decided change in temperature.



Today's Weather Facts—Maximum temperature for 24-hour period ending at 7 a. m., 75; minimum temperature for 24-hour period ending at 7 a. m., 48; temperature at 7 a. m., 61.