

GERMAN SOUTHERN FLANK IN RUSSIA TOTTERS

Reduce "A" Card Gas Value

SOVIET RUSSIA RECOGNIZES THE BADOGLIO REGIME

Naples—(AP)—Russia's establishment of diplomatic relations with Premier Pietro Badoglio's government appears to have further strengthened his regime, already endorsed by Prime Minister Churchill, and to have given King Vittorio Emanuele a firmer hold on his throne.

Italian Communist leaders said today they would continue to oppose the king if Badoglio, and one chief, Paolo Tedeschi, said that if

MORE COMING—BULL

Washington—(AP)—Secretary of State Hull said today that Moscow's decision to exchange ambassadors with the Badoglio government in Italy is one of the kind of things that probably will be occurring everywhere in Europe as the war goes on.

The secretary would not explain what he meant.

He told a news conference that he had some information on the subject but did not care to go into it at this time. A reporter asked whether the United States also would exchange ambassadors with Premier Pietro Badoglio's regime. Hull replied that the government hadn't come to that question yet.

Russia's action improved Badoglio's position, "we shall have to strengthen our efforts to obtain a really democratic government."

Policy of British, U. S.

(In London, it was expected that Britain would stand pat—at least until the military situation improves—continuing her dealings with the Badoglio government through the military control commission and allied advisory commission. It was anticipated there that the United States would adopt a similar policy.)

It was learned that the Badoglio government had kept allied authorities informed of the negotiations. See—RUSSIA—Page 7

BAKERY DRIVERS RETURN TO WORK

Stevens Point, Wis.—An agreement was reached early today whereby 22 salesmen-drivers of the Bake Rite Baking company here returned to work this morning.

The men did not report to work Monday, since their work agreement ended Saturday. Russell M. Lee, Milwaukee, representing the U. S. conciliation service; John Arnold, Wisconsin Rapids, representing the union; and John Gray, company sales manager, conferred relative to a new contract all day Monday and much of last night.

The drivers are members of Stevens Point Local No. 354, A. F. L., of the Teamsters' union. Cause of the dispute was absence of a new agreement, not wage scales, and the return to work today was effected after a new one-year agreement was signed.

There was no picketing at the bakery Monday, but retail outlets of Bake Rite throughout central Wisconsin were without their customary bakery goods Monday as the drivers failed to make their rounds.

Rotarians to Hear Post-Graduate Panel

Members of the Wisconsin Rapids Rotary club at their regular Wednesday meeting will be treated to another debate on the question, "whether the U. S. should assist in reconstructing the league of nations." This problem which was discussed last week by a group of Lincoln high school students will be continued by a "post-graduate" panel with William Miller, John Burnham, Leland Jens, and Arthur Treutel participating.

Decorate 22 Men For Destruction of Subs

Washington—(AP)—Probable destruction of three Nazi submarines, and damaging of at least two others has won decorations for 22 members of an aircraft squadron attached to an escort carrier operating in the Atlantic.

Body of Woman Found In Chicago River

Chicago—(AP)—The body of a woman, on which police found a card bearing the name of Miss Stella I. Turkelson, 28, formerly of Lone Rock, Wis., was recovered from the Chicago river today.

Herbert Shorney, who employed Miss Turkelson as a domestic, told Police Chief Carl W. Soderlin of suburban River Forest that she disappeared Nov. 10 after leaving a note saying "I just don't feel up to living." She was worrying about a brother serving with the army in Africa, Shorney said.

Britain U. S. Plan to Isolate Southern Ireland From the Outer World

London—(AP)—Prime Minister Churchill told commons today that Britain and the United States plan "to isolate southern Ireland from the outer world"—a virtual quarantine by methods yet to be disclosed which would seal off that potential spy-post during the 11th hour to the opening of the western front.

Churchill's words clearly implied an extension of restrictions to the border between northern Ireland and Eire, and perhaps even a semi-blockade of Eire, where President De Valera has refused to close German and Japanese offices.

First Step in Policy

Restrictions on travel to Eire, Churchill said, are "the first step in a policy designed to isolate Great Britain from southern Ireland, and also to isolate southern Ireland from the outer world during the critical period now approaching."

"It a catastrophe were to occur to the allied armies which could be traced to the retention of German and Japanese representatives in Dublin, a gulf would be opened between Great Britain on one hand and southern Ireland on the other which even generations would not bridge," he told commons.

Churchill declared that the British government had been consulted throughout by the United States on the Washington request that Eire close German and Japanese consulates—and "give the American approach full support."

A high authority expressed the conviction in Dublin last night that See—IRELAND—Page 7

Howe School Plan Awaits Meeting of Aldermen & Board

Further action on a proposed new school building at the site of the present Howe school will await a special joint meeting of the school board and the city council, Board President Earl Sherman said at a board meeting in Lincoln high school last night.

The announcement followed presentation by board member Bernard Shearer of a second suggested blueprint of the proposed building. Mr. Sherman also announced that a special meeting of the board, at which teachers' salaries will be discussed, will be on March 27.

Board members unanimously granted use of Lincoln fieldhouse on March 28 for the address here by Wendell Willkie, Republican presidential candidate.

The report of Miss Mary Zapp, school nurse, explaining the reason for closing two grades in the Howe school, said that it was a preventive measure designed to give opportunity for each child in those grades to be examined by the city health officer, to determine if any inchoant cases of scarlet fever existed in the group.

Examination of all children in the two grades a week after those classrooms were closed evidenced no sign of the disease, Miss Zapp's report said.

Parents Away; Two Children Die in Fire

Waukegan, Ill.—(AP)—An 8-year-old girl and her 5-year-old brother suffocated last night in a garage where they were trapped while fleeing from their burning home in Round lake beach. Firemen searching through the charred ruins of the garage attached to the dwelling found Romona Friedrich and her brother, Richard, clasped in an embrace in a large wicker basket.

Fire Chief Charles Redman of Round lake theorized that they had fallen into the basket while the girl was attempting to lead her brother to safety.

The house took fire while the children's mother, Mrs. Gladys Friedrich, was visiting friends living a block away. Her husband, John, was at work in Waukegan.

Former Rapids Man Returns On Furlough

On a ten day leave while his ship is undergoing repairs, Petty Officer First Class Gene Kossak, who made his home in Wisconsin Rapids in the early thirties, journeyed here to visit friends and familiar scenes.

Gene will be remembered by baseball fans for his work on the city team, and he also was life guard at the swimming pool for several seasons. He enlisted in the navy the day following Pearl Harbor and has been active service at Guadalcanal, the Solomons, and on the north Atlantic. Two of his ships were sunk and the last time he was in the water for 13 hours before being picked up by a British vessel.

He was severely wounded on two occasions but is still active as a gunner's mate. He is returning this evening to an unnamed base to report for duty.

WORTH ONLY TWO GALLONS AFTER 21ST OF MARCH

Washington—(AP)—The basic family car gasoline ration was cut to two gallons a week for the whole nation today when the office of price administration reduced the "A" card allowance from three gallons to two in the midwest and far west areas, effective March 22.

At the same time, the "B" supplementary ration ceiling on the Pacific coast will be trimmed from 400 to 400 miles a month.

No change is scheduled for any of the present rations in the 17 east coast states and the District of Columbia, already on an "A" card allotment of two gallons a week.

"We make these reductions reluctantly," OPA Administrator Chester Bowles said of the west and midwest cities, "but we are entering a period in which critical demands will be made on our limited supplies of gasoline, and we are entering it with supplies that are sharply limited as the result of war demands."

Preliminary figures show, OPA said, that gasoline allocations for the country as a whole will be about nine per cent less for the second quarter beginning April 1 than for the first quarter. The ration reductions are expected to save about 18,000 to 20,000 barrels of gasoline a day.

OPA also announced new plans to crack down on the leakage of gasoline to the black market, which officials described as "now the biggest racket in the United States."

The "A-1" ration revision means that when "A-1" coupons become valid March 22 for all sections of the country except the Atlantic seaboard (now in a different series), they will have to last three months. See—GASOLINE—Page 7



WOUNDED—Pfc. Howard Thurber, wounded in action on the Italian front, has been awarded the Purple Heart. Thurber, serving with the medical corps, saw service in north Africa before going to Italy. He enlisted in the army in July, 1942, receiving his training at Camp Robinson, Ark., and Fort George G. Meade from where he was sent overseas. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Thurber of New Rome.

RUMANIAN PEACE BID IS REPORTED

London—(AP)—Prince Barbu Stirbey, former premier of Rumania, travelling on a special pass granted by the British government, is en route from Ankara to represent a Rumanian peace bid to allied authorities in Cairo, British press dispatches from Turkey said today.

Diplomatic circles maintained a wait-and-see attitude toward the reported mission, but some significance was attached here to the fact that the dispatches emphasized permission to enter allied territory had been given Stirbey by the British.

Began 3 Weeks Ago

Stirbey began his mission three weeks ago, with full approval of Marshal Ion Antonescu's government, by holding conversations with neutral and allied diplomats in Ankara, the dispatches said. In Cairo, they added, he is expected to contact Lord Moyne, British resident minister, and the Soviet ambassador.

Stirbey has long been recognized as a friend of the allies, but diplomatic circles said one stumbling block to his reported mission might be the difficulty of convincing the allies that he had a right to speak for the whole of Rumania, since he probably represents only one faction of the deeply divided country.

Opportune Time

However, with the red armies nearing the Rumanian border it is an opportune time for Rumania to seek any kind of peace if she wants to prevent her country from becoming a battlefield, it was pointed out. Rumanians have recently been reported storming all trains in a flight from the threatened eastern provinces.

Expect FDR to Ask Draft Boards to Call Up Fathers

Washington—(AP)—President Roosevelt was expected today to ask local boards to adopt a hard-boiled policy on the drafting of fathers, in order to protect vital war industries from a growing military drain on their skilled help.

To Clarify Memorandum

Mr. Roosevelt, it was predicted, will "clarify" his memorandum of Feb. 26, which called for a review of all occupational deferments and which—some officials assert—has prompted many draft boards to turn to industrially-deferred non-fathers to fill their quotas.

The memorandum thus has had the effect, some government sources said, of giving the local boards another way of postponing the draft of fathers, even though Mr. Roosevelt did not intend any special consideration for them. War Manpower Commission Chairman Paul V. McNutt made the disclosure yesterday that a White House message might be forthcoming within 24 hours. He indicated, after he and War Production Board Chairman Donald Nelson had talked with the president, that the subject to be dealt with was occupational deferment and the "serious situation" arising from the exodus of trained manpower from war plants.

McNutt stopped talking at that point, but informed sources within the war production board (WPB) and WMC offered these predictions: 1. That Mr. Roosevelt would emphasize that pro-Pearl Harbor fathers should get the same treatment as non-fathers. 2. That he would call for some new machinery to insure that highly essential plants get a measure of protection from the drafting of engineers, technicians and other key workers.

American Barbed Wire Matted With Jap Bodies After Attack On Bougainville Is Repulsed

BULLETIN

Washington—(AP)—Loss of the American submarine Corvina was announced by the navy today, bringing to 20 the number of U. S. subs lost since the war started. The navy, in accordance with policy, gave no information on where the Corvina made her last war patrol. She presumably was operating against Japanese shipping in the Pacific.

The Corvina, commissioned August 6, 1943, carried a normal complement of 65 officers and men.

(By the Associated Press)

Japanese hopelessly trapped on Bougainville island in the Solomons have been repulsed bloody in a four-day suicidal attack on the allied positions at Empress Augusta Bay but are reported re-grouping for another assault.

A new smash against the Japanese in northern Burma was announced by southeast Asia allied headquarters today. British forces breached enemy defenses on the upper Chindwin river, thus adding a new spearhead in the drive to clear northern Burma and permit the opening of a land supply route to China.

From the south Pacific, Associated Press War Correspondent Vern Haugland reported that at the height of the Bougainville battle, more than 500 Nipponese hurled themselves in a frenzied death plunge at the barbed wire barricades at the north end of the allied lines. A few got through but were wiped out later.

Headquarters estimated at least 1,000 Japanese have been killed and many more wounded in the battle which began last Wednesday. American casualties have been light. No Hope of Victory

Haugland said the Japanese, outflanked by allied amphibious operations and faced with ultimate starvation and annihilation, attacked without hope of victory, but spurned. See—WAR IN PACIFIC—Page 7

VIRGINIO GAYDA DEAD, ROME SAYS

London—(AP)—The Rome radio said tonight that Virginio Gayda, former mouthpiece of Benito Mussolini as editor of Il Giornale D'Italia, was killed in an allied air raid on Rome today.

The German-controlled radio said several waves of allied bombers hit the city and Gayda was a victim in a bomb-hit building.

Following Mussolini's ouster last July Gayda was variously reported slain and a suicide, but later information via neutral countries told of his safety.

Gayda was Mussolini's premier exponent of the German-Italian axis, once calling it a "precious alliance of economic force." For years he inveighed against leaders and institutions of the democratic nations.

Utah Buried Under 12.8 Inches of Snow

Salt Lake City, Utah—(AP)—Northern Utah today was buried under 12.8 inches of snow—heaviest March storm on record since 1884. Automobile traffic was stalled in some areas. Airlines cancelled schedules. Some trains were delayed. The storm extended into southern Idaho, eastern Nevada and southern Utah.



REDS OVERRUN BIG DNEIPER BASE—Hammering relentlessly at the German Dnieper-head salient, the Russians toppled the big German anchor base of Kherston at the mouth of the Dnieper following a lightning drive past Tynginka (C). Other forces (A) have driven to within less than 50 miles of the Rumanian border. Moving swiftly past Uman, the Russians have announced the capture of Gaiavoron (B) on the middle Bug river.

States' Rights Service Vote Bill Gains Final Approval in the Senate

Washington—(AP)—A states' rights service vote bill, permitting the use of a curtailed federal ballot only with the states' permission, won final approval of the senate today after embittered debate.

The senate voted 47 to 31 to approve the final version of the measure, worked out by a joint conference committee of house and senate members after weeks of wrangling. Goes to House

The measure now goes to the house, where Chairman Wesley (D-Tex.) of the elections committee predicted its prompt acceptance.

Senators Green (D-R.I.) and Lucas (D-Ill.) authors of the original federal ballot bill, disowned it after the house ripped away most of their handwork and replaced it with machinery giving the states first say about the form of the ballots and full right to determine the qualifications of absent voters.

Striking back at Democratic criticism of the compromise service vote bill, Senator Bridges (R-N.H.) asserted today that if President Roosevelt ratifies the measure "he alone must assume full responsibility for the disfranchisement of millions of our soldiers, sailors, marines and consanguinians."

The bill, which leaves the service ballot largely in the hands of the states, received final approval in the senate, in spite of an announcement by Majority Leader Hartley (Ky.) that he would speak and vote. See—SERVICE VOTE—Page 7

PITTSVILLE MAN KILLED IN ITALY

Pittsville, Wis.—Mr. and Mrs. William Dye, Route 1, Arpin, who live on Highway 13 four miles north of Pittsville, received word Monday night that their son, Pfc. Sedney A. Dye, 27, had been killed in action in Italy.

Sedney Dye entered the army February 28, 1942 and took training at Camp Blanding, Fla., at Dilworth, N. C., at Camp Edwards, Mass., and at Fredericksburg, Va., before he was sent overseas to North Africa in March 1943.

He has a brother, Russell, also in the army.

Big Plane Burns

New York—(AP)—A transport plane crashed and burned at LaGuardia field shortly after 3 p. m., eastern war time today. No one was seen leaving the wreckage.

BELIEVE ENEMY WILL EVACUATE ODESSA BY SEA

London—(AP)—Russian troops have crossed the middle Bug river in the western Ukraine and, formed several bridgeheads southwest of Uman, the German radio said tonight.

London—(AP)—Every available ship in Rumania's Black sea ports has been rushed northward, apparently to Odessa, an Istanbul dispatch said today. This appeared to foreshadow complete collapse of the Germans' broken southern flank in Russia in a vast scale 1944 Dunkerque which would pull the battle line back into obviously frightened Rumania.

The Istanbul dispatch, based on information from Sofia, suggested the Germans were preparing to evacuate Odessa by sea.

Following up Premier Stalin's announcement last night of the capture of Kherston, 90 miles east of Odessa, the German high command's communique said today that base had been evacuated "in the course of planned disengagement movements after the destruction of all military installations."

75,000 Nazis Killed
Moscow announced 55,000 Nazis had been killed and captured in 10 days of the broad Soviet offensive in lower Russia. Kherston fell to Gen. Rodion K. Malinovsky's Third Ukrainian army, made up of Stalin-grav veterans, after crossing the lower reaches of the Dnieper.

If it were true that the Nazis had given up all hope of other than a seaborne retreat from their last stand in the Ukraine, this would explain their terrific resistance in the outskirts of Tarnopol in pre-war Poland, where a sea-saw fight raged. See—SOVIET WAR—Page 7

King Is New Head of Bar Assn.; Act On 3 Resolutions

M. S. King, city, was named president of the Wood County Bar association, at a meeting in the courthouse here late Monday. He succeeds John Fordyce, Marshfield, Vice president is R. E. Andrews, Marshfield, succeeding King, while A. J. Cross, Nekosha, was re-elected secretary and W. T. Nobles, city, was re-elected treasurer.

The association members agreed unanimously that (1) County Court Reporter Nellie Dolan should receive a salary increase from \$1800 to \$2,000; that (2) no move should be made at this time to make the office of district attorney in Wood county a full time job, and (3) named Theo. W. Brazee and Judge Frank W. Walkins of this city and Charles E. Pors, Marshfield, to a committee to work with any county board committee which might be considering or developing plans for a new courthouse here.

BRITISH PLANES POUND LE MANS

London—(AP)—American P-47 Thunderbolts roared unchallenged over northern France today in a low-level offensive. Divided into two formations, the Thunderbolt squadrons strafed coastal targets, dipping almost to rooftop height.

The initial operation of this type was made Saturday by the versatile Thunderbolts, once used exclusively as high altitude fighters.

RAF Halifaxes drenching out under a waning "bomber's moon" staged a heavy attack last night on the strategic railway center of Le Mans in western France, while Mosquitos struck at Frankfurt and other places in western Germany.

Stalin Warns Finns to Take Peace Offer

Stockholm—(AP)—Soviet-Finnish peace negotiations appeared today to have entered a critical stage as advances from Helsinki indicated that Russia had warned Finland to accept her original armistice terms and quit the war without delay or accept the consequences.

Although strict Finnish censorship served to obscure the situation somewhat, it was reported on good authority that the Russians had delivered a stern note to the Helsinki government demanding to modify their peace proposals and giving the Finns only a few days more to make up their minds.

A secret session of the Finnish parliament was believed likely today to discuss the situation, which was described as highly urgent.

THE WEATHER

For Wisconsin: Showers and thunder storms south, and rain north portion tonight. Changing to snow north and west portions by Wednesday morning. Snow flurries warmer early tonight, becoming colder northwest portion late tonight. Colder Wednesday. Fresh to moderately strong winds.

Today's Weather Facts—Maximum temperature for 24-hour period ending at 7 a. m., 28; minimum temperature for 24-hour period ending at 7 a. m., 23; temperature at 7 a. m., 23. Precipitation, .16—1 1/4 inches of snow.