

Oct. 22 1942

France Stirs Defiance of Labor Conscription

Bern, Switzerland—(P)—Editors of newspapers printed and circulated secretly in unoccupied France were reported today to be assuming the leadership in a campaign to defy conscription of labor for Germany.

Their work, more than any other underground activity, appeared to have a chance of coordinating individual resentment against the conscription issue which, the Vichy correspondent of the Neue Zuercher Zeitung said, really involved "a decision for or against collaboration with Germany."

"Unity of Attitude"
"This secret press has succeeded in realizing a unity of attitude among the people," declared the Berner Tagwacht in a dispatch from Lyon.

Sources here asserted it appeared clear that Germany was determined to take French workers by compulsion if Pierre Laval failed to come through as Germany demanded. He was said to have been given until Nov. 1 to announce the workings of a conscription plan, and until Nov. 30 for actual delivery of the workers to Germany. Foreign observers believed from the tone of Laval's speech at Vichy two days ago that he himself was not optimistic of success.

See "Energetic Reactions"

A question thus was posed individually for every Frenchman—the most direct personal problem to arise since Laval took power as chief of government in Vichy six months ago. The Tagwacht predicted that "energetic reactions" could be expected.

The situation conceivably could become so critical as to compel the axis to undertake the occupation of the whole country, although conservative observers thought matters had not yet gone that far.

(In London a Fighting French source predicted Germany would

take over a big slice of unoccupied France to bring workers who refused to go to the Reich under Nazi control. Probably included, said this source, would be the whole industrial area between Lyon and Limoges extending southward at least to St. Etienne. He added that authoritative advices indicated Laval planned to visit Berlin within 48 hours to confer with high German authorities.)

—Get in the Scrap!—

Japs Use Philippines for Cotton Production

Washington—(P)—Japan hopes to convert a million acres of Philippine farmland to the production of cotton to meet a Nin-

PUTZIER FUNERAL RITES SATURDAY

Funeral services for Elmer Putzier, army airforce private who died last Sunday in the crash of an army plane near Chadron, Neb., will be held Saturday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock from the Krohn and Berard mortuary to St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran church.

The body will arrive in Wisconsin Rapids Friday morning on the Milwaukee road and will be met at the station by a color guard of Legionnaires of Charles Hagerstrom post No. 9 and escorted to the funeral home to remain until time of services.

The Rev. E. H. Walther will conduct the funeral rites, with the Legion in charge of military ritual to be read by the post chaplain, Fred Burt. Legionnaire C. H. Babcock will be in command of the firing squad and of the color guard which will meet the body.

Commander Alvin Marks announced that Legionnaires will stand guard at the mortuary throughout Friday until 10 p. m. and will resume again Saturday morning. Shifts of two post members will comprise the honor guard.

Private Putzier was the son of Mr. and Mrs. William Putzier of Wisconsin Rapids.

—Get in the Scrap!—

Allies Increase Air Superiority in Africa

With the Allied Airforce in the Egyptian Desert—(P)—For the past three days allied warplanes have waged relentless attacks by day and night on enemy desert airfields and in the opinion of authorities here have won a degree of air superiority in North Africa more overwhelming than ever attained before.

Bolstered by a steady stream of reinforcements, allied air strength is greater now than it has ever been. The Luftwaffe as yet has not seemed to be able to spare any large-

ed mounting losses in the battle of the southwestern Pacific as planes and ships of both sides jockeyed for positions to throw decisive blows.

2 U. S. Destroyers Lost

In the Solomon islands where a major naval war may be touched off at any hour, the United States lost two destroyers, the O'Brien and the Meredith. American planes retaliated by damaging an enemy cruiser and a destroyer and shooting down 12 Japanese planes.

Destruction of the two U. S. destroyers was regarded as evidence of the presence of larger American warships in the Solomons.

Westward of the Solomons, allied See—WAR IN PACIFIC—Page 13

Complete Over 25,000 Surgical Dressings Here

Over 25,000 surgical dressings have been finished by the South Wood County Red Cross chapter dressings project, Miss Anna McMillan, project chairman, announced today.

Because of the excellent cooperation and generous response of the Red Cross workers, Miss McMillan said, it will be possible to complete the chapter's first quota of surgical dressings within the allotted time.

The project has been carried forward in the quarters in the Mead-Witter block, made available to the Red Cross by the building's management. Furnishings for the space have been donated by firms, organizations and individuals.

A national flag was furnished by the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary, and a large Red Cross flag will be posted in front of the building. Standards for the two flags were supplied by the Nason Mill Works.

Windows of the Red Cross location are devoted to a display of photographs of south Wood county men in the armed forces, arranged by L. G. Shugart, and to a display of Girl Scout handicraft and Scouting activities.

THE WEATHER



For Wisconsin! Snow flurries extreme north portion early to night, continued cold tonight and Friday forenoon, with lowest temperatures somewhat below freezing; moderate steady strong