Twenty-Ninth Year-No. 9041.

Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., Saturday, December 19, 1942.

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JAPS ARE SHORT OF PILOTS—RICKENBACKER

British Advance Into Burma

FAMINE MONDAY

Washington-(A)-The eastern seaboard's gasoline tap, ordered closed to an emergency trickle, appeared likely to be turned on again Monday but with prospects that the flow of motor fuel will be thinner than the old rationing volume.

Seek "Integrated" Plan

the District of Columbia, sought to work out today what Price Administrator Leon Henderson termed "a thoroughly integrated plan" to replace the drastic suspension.

"And we hope," said Henderson last night," "to be able to announce it by Sunday and put it into effect Monday morning.'

OPA officials indicated the new plan at least will eliminate some of the inequities resulting from the temporary order. But in view of Petroleum Administrator Harold L. Ickes' announcements that gasoline distribution in the east will be cut nearly 20 per cent during the rest of December and about 25 per cent Burn Out 3 Upper Floors next month, it was expected that forthcoming rationing restrictions will be more severe than before.

May Eliminate "A" Books

Meantime, speculation on what ed from reduction of unit values of flames. "B" and "C" rations to elimination entirely of the "A" couvalue of "B" and "C" coupons, issued for essential driving, is four ence While all non-commercial vehicles

in the area continued eligible for normal supplies, the motorists with "A." "B" and "C" books were instructed they may buy only one coupon's worth of gasoline for emergency trips.

Confusion over the term "emergency" and protests that war workers might be unable to reach their jobs brought instructions from Henderson that fuel may be supplied "workers in war plants where their transportation to and from work depends on their getting gasoline." Physicians, mail carriers and others dependent on automobiles for essential occupations were included in the "emergency" classification.

FDR Explains Shortage

President Roosevelt asserted at a press conference yesterday that the shutdown on gasoline sales was a temporary expedient to meet a crisstations about dry.

Africa, he said, was taken from eastern stocks because it was quicker than obtaining fuel from Texas.

Stores Open Nights Until Christmas Eve

Starting with the regular Friday night opening last night, Wisconsin Rapids retail stores are open each evening between now and Christmas, with the exception of Sunday, to accommodate gift shoppers. Nekoosa and Port Edwards business establishments are following a like schedule.

Stores in the Tri-Cities will close at 6 p. m. Thursday to permit employes to spend Christmas eve with their families, and will remains closed Christmas day.

\$500,000 Fire Wrecks War Plant at Denver

Denver -(A) - A Denver war plant was destroyed by fire today, with damage estimated by fire department officers at \$500,000. Three employes were burned, one serious-

Fire department officers said a faulty furnace sprayed oil on hot





HOPE TO RELIEVE At Least 2 Lives Lost, THRUST AIMED EAST'S GASOLINE Nine Severely Burned AT IMPORTANT in Chicago Hotel Fire PORT OF AKYAB

Chicago—(A)—At least two persons were killed and nine injured today in a noonday fire that crackled through the five- troops have crossed the Indian borstory brick West hotel at Madison and Halsted streets, the heart of the der and advanced some 40 miles innear west side flophouse and honky-tonk belt.

First reports said four persons had perished, two in a plunge from a fourth-story window to escape the flames and two from burns. Later it was learned the casualties were reported once at the scene of the The office of price administration which shut off gasoline purchases fire and a second time on arrival at a hospital.

Bayfield Co.

Flames Spread Fiercely

The fire spread fiercely within a Man's Death few minutes but was brought under control in little more than an hour by a large force of firemen and | Washburn, Wis .- (.P)-Mrs. Vinequipment. cent Rogers, 19, was detained at the

Fire Commissioner Michael J. county jail without charge today Corrigan said it was possible many pending an investigation by Bayoccupants of the hotel might have field county authorities of the fatal been trapped inside the 65-year-old shooting of her 30-year-old huslandmark. He estimated damage at band. \$125,000. Those killed were a man and a

woman who leaped from a fourth floor window before firemen arrived. They were not identified immediate-

The fire burned out the three upper floors of the building.

John Carlson, 53, a busboy who was one of the first to leap to safe- month-old daughter, and she fell to taking part in the action. ty from the blazing building, said he was awakened by smoke in his fifth volver from her husband's collection British forces in India, launched his the new program will provide rang- floor room, 'already engulfed in of weapons and fled the house with attack—the first step toward the

"I ran to the window," he related, bor to take her to Washburn. Rog-"stepped out on to the fire escape ers followed. As he approached, and saw firemen had rigged up a Mrs. Rogers, holding the child, raisapiece in 16 of the eastern states life-net below. I jumped into the ed the weapon, intending only to and four in west Virginia. The net." He landed safely, suffering on- frighten her husband. Rogers fell, a ly slight shock from the experi- bullet wound in his head.

Fifty-six pieces of fire equipment were pressed into service and succeeded in confining the blaze to the STRIKE LOOMS West hotel building.

The entire Fourth division of the police department was mobilized for rescue and first aid, work, and to The entire Fourth division of the rescue and first aid work and to keep order and safety amid the crowds that thronged the busy west! side intersection.

Two Leap to Deaths

A man and woman who leaped from the fourth floor were killed in-One man was found on the third

floor with both his legs cut off, apparently by a falling wall. Fire Chief Dell White of the First

battalion, commanding the first firemen to reach the scene, said the service, the union said the dispute plaze appeared to have started on arose in this manner: the second or third floors.

On the Madison street side of the commenced arbitration proceedings building, he said, about 20 feet from in Clintonville Nov. 12th, the subthe outer wall, is an elevator and is which left most eastern filling that the flames apparently had roar- ject matter thereof being the claim ed up and down the shaft, turning of the union to a wage bonus prom-Gasoline for the allied forces in the entire hotel building into an in- ised by the company to the workers, and in reliance upon such promise

Some occupants of the hotel were the union signed a labor contract. asleep when firemen came in and On Dec. 16th, the company comroused them. About four persons es- menced a lawsuit enjoining arbitracaped in jumps into life-nets.

Information on Rationing

Word was received by the local war price and rationing board today fuel oil rationing has been relaxed to permit householders to purchase heating oil with coupons valid for later periods. The procedure is open only to householders who have asked their local board to review their ration and who have

exhausted currently valid coupons. In such cases, the holder may apply to his local board and exchange coupons for the next heating perod-those numbered "3"-for counons which can be redeemed at once. The exchange is permitted only up to one half the total gallonage allotted for the next heating period.

Service station owners were asked by the board today to remind Marshfield Soldier Is motorists to remove from windshields the A class sticker when the Missing in New Guinea reported. The city squad-car and turned the squad car about and folcar also bears a B or C sticker. Only one sticker, the highest class designation, should appear on the Hoag, 26, whose parents are Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Hoag of Marshwindshield of a vehicle.

If motorists put up their cars, they must turn in their A mileage ration books to the rationing board | Sergeant Hoag, the war departwithin five days. The board sug- ment said, has been missing since gests that the books be brought in November 19. person, to avoid loss. When cars are taken out again, a new A book will be issued at the time when the Two brothers are in the armed car is put back in use.

forces, Sergeant Gerald, also in Bushnell's service station, Frank Simonis, manager, has been added to the list of official tire inspectors authorized to make the tire inspections required by mileage rationing regulations.

New Guinea and a member of the same regiment, and Pfc. Donald, a Sergeant Lola Payne broadcast on Baker street owned by Clarence Reiland. Swanson was headed to the December quota all Catholic welfare conference said to the December quota all Catholic welfare conference said to the December quota all Catholic welfare conference said to the December quota all Catholic welfare conference said to the December quota all Catholic welfare conference said to the December quota all Catholic welfare conference said to the police squad car. Patrolman struck the rear of the Reiland car parked on the south side in Friday's issue, a Wisconsin Rapidor (R)— The nation Maximum temperature for 24-hour period ending at 7 a. m., 9; minimum temperature for 24-hour period ending at 7 a. m., 10; temperature for 24-hour previously reported killed in action in New Guinea.

Simonis, manager, has been added to the December quota all Catholic welfare conference said to the Isting of the December quota all Catholic welfare conference said to the Isting of the December quota all Catholic welfare conference said to the Isting of the December quota all Catholic welfare conference said to the Isting of the December quota all Catholic welfare conference said to the Isting of the December quota all Catholic welfare conference said to the Isting of the Struck the rear of the Reiland car parked on the south side in Friday's issue, a Wisconsin Rapid to the Milwaukee depot at 2 p.m. In Maximum temperature for 24-hour period ending at 7 a. m., 9; minimum temperature for 24-hour period ending at 7 a. m., 10; temperature for 24-hour period ending at 7 a. m., 10. Precipitation of the Struck the rear of the Reiland car parked on the Struck the rear of the Reiland car parked on the Struck the rear of the Reiland car parked on the Struck the rear of the Reiland car par

New Delhi - (A) - British to Japanese-occupied Burma to the Maungdaw-Buthidaung area, about 60 miles northwest of Akyab of the Bay of Bengal, the British announced today.

Jap Forces Withdraw

The British advance, started after a terrific aerial bombardment of Japanese positions between the Indian border and Akyab, was made without opposition. Japanese forces withdrew before the approaching British, the communique said.

Both British and United States planes have been blasting Japanese concentrations between the Indian frontier and Akyab for a week.

While there was nothing to indicate that the British thrust was part of a general allied offensive. Rogers was killed yesterday near the action did put the initiative in his home, four miles east of Cable. allied hands at least temporarily Coroner Alvin Bradley, who or- for the first time since the Japandered an inquest but set no date, ese occupied Akyab last May. said Mrs. Rogers had told him and Size of Army Unknown

Sheriff Andrew Gidlof this story: There was no indication of the Mrs. Rogers had complained that size of Gen. Sir Archibald P. Waher husband had cut wood into vell's attacking army, and the comlengths too long for the stove, Rog- munique did not disclose whether ers struck her, as she held her nine- American and Chinese units were

Wavell, commander-in-chief the floor. Mrs. Rogers took a reher baby, intending to ask a neigh- promised re-occupation of the former British protectorate—as the mer British protectorate—as the monsoon season ended, permitting large scale operations.

The monsoon period had held the India-Burma front in a state of stabilization for six months. There was no immediate explanation as to why the Japanese chose not to defend the position they had built along the

Akyab Is Objective The British thrust obviously was ma port which was occupied by the Japanese May 8, winding up to all practical purposes the campaign in

Clintonville, Wis. —(AP)— The

Associated Unions of America re-

ported today that its affiliate, the

F. W. D. Employees association, had

authorized the local union executive

board to call a strike at the Four

Wheel Drive Auto company, which

In a telegram to Director John R.

Steelman of the U.S. conciliation

"Pursuant to a provision in the

contract, the company and union

The telegram asked Steelman's as-

call a strike only as a last resort.

contains a clause so stating.

counsel, claimed that in addition the

superintendent had promised a sec

maintained the union sought two

bonuses for signing one contract.

The bonus involved would amount

Marshfield, Wis. - Sgt. Walter

field, is missing in action in New

Guinea. A telegram was received

by the family Friday afternoon.

He had served in the army since

April, 1941, when he was inducted.

to about \$168,000 counsel said.

Claim One Bonus Paid

ond bonus for signing.

is engaged in war production.

Ask Federal Intervention

tion proceedings."

For the second day in succession the RAF yesterday attacked the Japanese-occupied village of Rathedaung, about half-way between Maungdaw and Akyab. Heavy dam-

age was inflicted on the village. Brig. Gen. Clayton L. Bissell, commander of the United States air forces in China, Burma and India, disclosed only yesterday that the United States Tenth air force based in India had gone out on as many as 14 raiding operations in one day during the past week without the loss of a single plane by enemy act-

Akyab is only 300 air miles from Calcutta, India. and in Japanese hands it always would be a potential threat as a base for a Japanese attack on India.

Progressive Group to sistance in settling the dispute and Ask Special Election said the executive board desired to

Madison, Wis. -(P)- A brief Counsel for the company said the urging a special election for seexisting contract contained no prolection of a governor to fill the vision for a wage bonus, that the dispute involved a purported prom-Governor-Elect Orland S. Loomis ise made before signing of the 1941 will be filed with the supreme court contract. The 1941 contract expired perseded by the current contract and D. Roberts said today. The brief will be written by Attorney Walter D. Corrigan, of Milwaukee. The Counsel said the company board court has taken original jurisdiction 78% Paid in Cash of directors voted to pay a bonus on a request to determine who shall if the union would sign the 1941 con-The union, according to company attorneys Monday.

The company denied this and County's New Police Radio

Truck Damages Light

corner from Second street south in-

frequently happens-brushed again-

st the traffic signal light on a pole

at the north-west corner of the in-

System Gets First Workout

Wood county's police radio sys-lavenue on the west side of the

tem, still in the testing period, had a bridge. The description finished and

minor work-out in earnest this mor- Smith responded: "The truck is

ning, Chief of Police R. J. Exner headed toward me right now." He

headquarters in the city hall are lowed the truck until an opportun-

curb was offered.

tensively damaged.

Minor Traffic Accident

The accident occurred at 7:38;

Swanson, Route 3, early this morn-

RICK RETURNS HOME-Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker (left), flying hero of two wars, and Maj. Gen.

Barney Giles in San Francisco before Rickenbacker left for Washington, D. C., to tell Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson of his harrowing experiences while lost on the Pacific 24 days.

Vanguard of British Eighth Army, Hot on Rommel's Trail, people back home could know what those boys are doing for us and putting up with, I think they would Only 240 Miles from Tripoli He referred to complaints which he has heard since his return against gasoline and rubber ration-

flight yesterday on the road to Tri-

poli under day-long ground and air

The only gauge of the speed of

Abandon Zanta En Nofilia

Tripoli.

South Wood County's Community-War Chest, oversubscribed by nearly 24 per cent, was today cailed by President Ralph R. Cole "a blows. aimed at Akyab, an important Bur- worthy effort, reflecting credit upon the firms and individuals" who made possible the total of \$37,182.-47-more than \$7,000 beyond the

> "The people of south Wood counmiles airline west of El Agheila, ty now may feel that their district has 'done its share' in providing an equitable portion of the funds which Sultan area more than 30 miles furresponsible patriots must give in ther west. these times," Mr. Cole said. "It was a worthy effort, reflecting great credit upon the firms and individbeen in heavy fighting with Romuals who were subscribers.

Gratifying Success

"It is neither my place, nor the place of any person, to say 'thank you' to the 4,023 subscribers, big and small, whose donations made our Community-War Chest drive a gratifying success.

"The only people qualified to say that are the soldiers and sailors and marines who will be aided by the agencies our money will support; the families of those men we will creasing fury of the allied air athelp in time of distress; the local, | tack on axis strongholds in Tunisia worthwhile causes and charities | and widespread patrol probing all which will receive the benefit of the generosity of our Chest mem-

"I can as Chest president, however, express my gratefulness to all those whose enthusiasm and spirit vacancy caused by the death of made our drive possible-the men and women who worked in campaign jobs without receiving their share on behalf of the Progressive state of credit and recognition. On behalf last June and, counsel said, was su-central committee, Chairman Glenn of the people of our district, I extend to all who aided us the appreciation which is their due."

Approximately 78 per cent of the

be governor during the next two amount subscribed to the Communtract, and that the bonus was paid. years and will hear arguments of ity-War Chest was received by the See-WAR CHEST-Page 7

Across the enemy's narrowing foothold in North Africa, the in-

All-Out Drive May Be Near

ward across Libya.

Zauta En Nofilia on Thursday.

An Italian communique said 21

allied tanks were destroyed and a

lack of "strong pressure" enabled

axis forces "to effect prearranged

movement" in the withdrawal west-

along that hilly front in improving weather suggested that the all-out allied drive on Tunis and Bizerte may be near.

In the eighth day of the sustained battering of axis-held ports in Tunisia, Flying Fortresses yesterday hit and set ablaze an axis warship, believed to have been a cruiser, off Bizerte.

The same planes sent new debris flying among the docks of the great naval base and shot down three of 15 enemy planes which attempted to stop them. Only one Fortress was

Other Planes Raid Sousse

Other United States bombers flew through heavy anti-aircraft fire to blast the railroad station and a 2,-000-foot section of the yards at Sousse, south of Tunis. Axis ships in the harbor threw up

a vicious cloud of anti-aircraft fire and two of the bombers were lost. A headquarters spokesman said the patrolling activity along the See-WAR IN AFRICA-Page 7

Draftees to Leave on equipped to operate with the sys-lity for the driver to pull up to the Tuesday, Wednesday

Contingents of the south Wood A big transport truck turned the ly checked. Smith reported the truck county selective service district's December quota will leave Wiscon- BURNS TO DEATH was operated by Howard Donovan sin Rapids on Tuesday and Wedto East Grand avenue, headed west of Green Bay. The light was not exnesday afternoons next week, men routed to Camp Grant leaving A front fender and headlight were Fort Sheridan Wednesday afterdamaged on a car driven by Clifford noon.

The local board reminded selec-A bystander witnessed the acci- ing, when it collided with a parked tees that they need not report at

etreating army rolled swiftly westward today and the Moocco radio reported that vanguards of the pursuers were within 19 miles of Sirte, 155 miles beyond El Agheila, starting point of the current drive, and only 240 miles from The British communique said only 7 More Jap that axis forces continued their

by U.S. Subs General Sir Bernard L. Montgomtry's forces was that the enemy had Washington - (AP) - Weakening abandoned Zauta En Nofilia, 100 Nippon's grip on the south Pacific by a steady slashing at her supply and that allied air forces had movlines, American submarines were ed onto an advanced base in the seen today as an undersea vanguard

Vessels Sunk

of an eventual large-scale allied offensive against Japan. With seven more enemy ships un-The Morocco broadcast said adder their undersea belts, the subs rance units of the Eighth army had emerged in the role recently cast for the fleet by Navy Secretary Knoxmel's rearguard 55 miles west of

that of softening Japanese outposts for invasion. Yesterday's navy communique which told of the latest jolt at the Japanese Pacific grip gave no details of how the undersea raiders struck, but Knox previously had ful movement. Parts of the gull pointed out that the submarine

Nippon's island bases. Latest toll of the American subs was listed as a large tanker, a large cargo ship, a medium-sized tanker two medium-sized cargo vessels, one medium-sized transport and a traw-

blows would be aimed at cutting off

supplies and reinforcements' from

This brought to 105 the number of vessels known to be sunk by U.S. submarines-not counting 22 listed as probably sunk and 28 as damag-

Petition for McMurray Expense Probe Denied

Madison, Wis.—(A)—A petition for investigation of campaign expenditures of Howard J. McMurray, representative-elect of the fifth listrict, was denied today by Attorney General John E. Martin.

Martin said that congress itself as "the best judge of the qualifications of its own members."

The petition was filed Dec. 10 by James A. Swoboda, chairman of the letic board, died in a hospital yes-Thill-for-Congress club during the terday. Besides her husband, she is campaign when McMurray defeated Rep. Lewis D. Thill.

Informed of Martin's decision Swoboda pointed out that he could file a petition for investigation with either the Milwaukee county court for the governor, or both. "Any final action in this matter will be up to congress eventually," Swoboda

Mondovi, Wis. -(P) - Oscar Lindall, 66, was burned to death today when the building in which he Tuesday afternoon and men for lived alone was destroyed by fire. Firemen said origin of the blaze was undetermined

QUALITY OF JAP FLIERS 'GOING

Washington —(P)— Captain Eddie Rickenbacker, back from a farflung war survey which brought him three harrowing weeks adrift on a life raft in the Pacific, reported today that the quality of Japanese fighter and bomber pilots is "going down very rapidly."

Lauds American Fliers In contrast, the World war

flying ace said, the level of American fliers in the south Pacific "is going uphill." Rickenbacker landed in Washington today, met his

wife for the first time since his rescue, and then saw newspapermen at Secretary of War Stimson's press conference. "It is quite evident," he reported, "that the great majority of the Jap-

anese pilots are inexperienced and Rickenbacker drew his experiences from an inspection trip to New Guinea and other points in the south Pacific including Guadalcanal island in the Solomons.

"Real Hell Hole" Of Guadalcanal, he said:

"There I found a real hell holemud and corruption-if only the take this war more seriously."

ing, saying they "seem ridiculous you have seen what those London-(.P)-The British chase of Nazi Marshal Rommel's boys haven't got."

Rickenbacker declared that on Guadalcanal, tremendous successes were being accomplished by bomber and fighter pilots who were destroying a vast amount of enemy shipping, including cruisers and de-

Kept Going by Successes

He added an opinion that "if it weren't for their tremondous successes in combat, I don't believe those boys could possibly last physically or mentally very long, but due to the great stimulus of their successes, they are all happy and

anxious to keep going." "After seeing these boys in the air and on the ground," he continued, "I've come to the conclusion that if we brought combat troops back into America and put factory workers in their position, we'd have production doubled in 30 days

Telling of his experiences after his plane was forced down, Rickenbacker said the first food for him and his seven companions came from a seagull, which perched on his head and was snared by carewere eaten, and other parts were See-RICKENBACKER-Page 7

Sgro Murder Case to Reach Jurors Today

Milwaukee -(P)— The case of Joseph Sgro, 33-year-old accused slaver of the Rev. Beniamino Re, will'go to the jury this afternoon.

Judge Roland J. Steinle said he would submit five possible verdicts for the jurors' consideration: Not guilty; guilty of murder in the first degree (life); second degree murder (14-25 years); third degree manslaughter (2-4 years) not guilty by reason of insanity at the time of

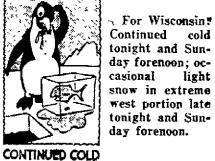
Counsel presented their pleas to the jury today. The defense rested late yesterday.

MRS. LORENZ DIES

in New Jersev.

Madison, Wis. $-(\mathcal{P})$ - Mrs. W. F. Lorenz, 59, wife of Dr. W. F. Lorenz, director of the University of Wisconsin's psychiatric institute and chairman of the university athsurvived by five sons. She was born

THE WEATHER



Continued cold tonight and Sunday forenoon; occasional snow in extreme west portion late tonight and Sunday forenoon.

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