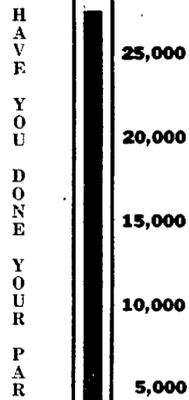


\$30,000



SOUTH WOOD COUNTY

WAR CHEST JUST SHORT OF GOAL

The South Wood County Community-War Chest total at noon today was raised to \$28,840 by contributions reported to Chest headquarters late Saturday and this morning, bringing the \$30,000 goal within a step of accomplishment.

Drive Ends Wednesday With the campaign extended until Wednesday, there appeared little doubt but that the Chest goal would be reached, possibly by tomorrow, as the final phases of the drive were undertaken and reports from hitherto uncompleted divisions came in.

To the growing lists of business places, offices and organizations which have received the special gold star awards of the Chest, headquarters today added the following:

Wilcox Ready-to-Wear, Witter hotel, Wadhams Oil company, Lloyd's Recreation, Haertel Memorial Service, Frank Garber company, Wisconsin Rapids fire department, Sam Church's Drug store, Kellogg Bros. Lumber company, J. Ed Johnson, Brostowitz Plumbing, Daly Lumber & Fuel company, Upton tavern, Wisconsin Rapids Elks lodge, Nepco Machinists local, Ann Schultz Beauty shop, Teske Hudson garage, Kerrins Confectionery, Rued Service station, Wood County Telephone company, Valley Baking company, Dr. Leo Spaeth, L. A. DeGuere, Jeffrey & Jeffrey, Sunrise club, Nash Hardware, Herschleb's Ice Cream store, Hein Printing company, Port Edwards hotel, Dr. Edw. Hougan, Gottschalk's grocery and Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune. County Offices Get Stars

Gold star awards were also made to the following offices and departments of Wood county: County judge, probation office, county nurse, sheriff's department, county clerk's office and the local selective service office.

Reelect Officers of Papermakers' Union

Veteran officers of Badger local 187, International Brotherhood of Papermakers, were reelected to office at the annual meeting of the local Sunday.

President Edward G. Gilbertson was chosen president for a 12th term; Ed Galles, vice-president, for a third term; Ezra Maeder, financial secretary, seventh year; Joe Kahoun, recording secretary, eighth year; John Sherwood, treasurer, second year; and George Fahmer, trustee, sixth year. Mr. Fahmer has also served the local as president and recording secretary.

Beardsley's Grocery Going Out of Business

Announcement was made today of the closing at the end of this week of Beardsley's grocery, 160 First street north. The store, operated by Mrs. G. S. Beardsley, is one of the older retail institutions of the city and has been in business for 39 years.

Mrs. Beardsley's announcement of closing gave employment problems as the reason for discontinuing business. Balance of the stock will be sold at retail this week, she said.

9 SHOPPING DAYS LEFT. Buy Christmas Seals. Includes an illustration of a seal.

Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune

A CONSTRUCTIVE NEWSPAPER

Twenty-Ninth Year—No. 9036.

Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., Monday, Dec. 14, 1942.

EVERY WEEK IS "THRIFT WEEK" IN THE WANT ADS

Single Copy Five Cents

SMASH ROMMEL'S LINE AT EL AGHEILA

JAP DESTROYER FORCE ROUTED; ONE SHIP SUNK

Washington—(AP)—American air forces in the south Pacific were reported by the navy today to be continuing their heavy bombardment of the new Japanese air base at Munda on New Georgia island in the central Solomons.

Washington—(AP)—Fate of a damaged Japanese destroyer task force which sought to strengthen Nippon's isolated fingerhold in northwestern Guadalcanal island remained hidden today in the wake of a flurry of allied offensive blows all along Pacific battle points.

At least one of 11 enemy destroyers was sunk and from four to seven others were known to have been hit by American sea and sky slugs. Navy officers said no doubt hundreds of Japanese were sent to a watery grave as a result of the action.

But, whether some of the destroyers weathered the two-day storm of blows late last week and reached their beleaguered Solomons outpost with supplies and troops was not stated in the Sunday navy communique which also told of other American attacks in the southwestern scene as well as a sky stab in the winter-locked north Pacific.

One American torpedo boat was lost in the Guadalcanal fighting which began Friday when dive-bombers scored hits on five Japanese destroyers but failed to stop the task force. Naval surface craft swung into the scrap Saturday, the communique said, reporting one destroyer sunk, another fired and probably sunk and a third damaged.

Blat Jap Airfield. Meanwhile, new raids against Japan's new Munda airfield on North Georgia island—only 150 miles from Guadalcanal—brought indication that previous bombings had rendered the base temporarily useless. For two days, army Flying Fortresses plastered the field with more than 27,500 pounds of bombs, ripping the flight strip with four 1,000-pounders, and neither time was any enemy aerial opposition reported. In both instances, all American planes returned.

Far to the north, three army medium bombers struck at Kiska island, blasting a grounded and already damaged Japanese ship and bombing and strafing shore installations.

Allied Headquarters in Australia—(AP)—Allied forces in the Buna area of New Guinea kept the Japanese positions there under continuous artillery and mortar fire yesterday while fighters and bombers attacked the stubborn defenders from the air, an allied communique reported today.

The Japanese, making a desperate last stand in a narrow coastal sector around Buna, maintained their resistance from cleverly constructed pillboxes. They also were receiving some support in the air, the allied communique reporting that two enemy fighters were shot down by an allied reconnaissance plane near Buna.

Allied troops, it was said, advanced slightly in the Sanananda sector between Buna and Gona, now in allied hands. Patrols continued to mop up Japanese stragglers west of Gona.

Cranberry Growers to Get Report on Canning Meeting

Twelve Wisconsin Cranberry growers attended a conference called Friday at North Chicago by the management of the cooperative canning plant in which Wisconsin growers are stockholders. Problems confronting the growers and their company were presented by M. L. Urann, of South Hanson, Mass., who is president and general manager of Cranberry Canners, Inc., the co-op company which operates one of its plants at North Chicago.

Those in attendance were C. L. Lewis Jr., Beaver Brook; A. H. Hedler, Phillips; Phil Gebhart; Black River Falls; Guy Potter, Camp Douglas; and F. F. Mengel, B. C. Brazeau, Guy O. Babcock, William F. Huffman, Vernon Goldsworthy, Gary Getzlin, Guy Nash and Roy Potter of Wisconsin Rapids.

A report of the conference will be made Wednesday at the winter meeting of the Wisconsin Cranberry See—CRANBERRY MEN—Page 7

FIRST AID CLASS The first aid class which has been conducted at the Elks club on Wednesday nights will suspend sessions until after the holidays. The next session of the class will be held on Wednesday night, January 6.

Roosevelt Stands Pat in Opposition to New Farm Parity Formula

Washington—(AP)—President Roosevelt was reported standing pat today in his opposition to any change in farm parity price formulas.

A house-approved proposal to boost parity levels by including the cost of all farm labor on the senate calendar with the unanimous endorsement of the agricultural committee, may be junked by a mid-week adjournment of congress.

To Revive It Next Session Farm leaders said, however, they would re-introduce it in the new session starting early next month.

The president was reported to have told some senators that he felt re-assessment of parity along the lines proposed would boost price levels by 10 per cent and increase the cost of living at a time when every effort was being made to prevent inflation.

The parity controversy is only one of several which appear likely to be left hanging in the air if leaders succeed in forcing final adjournment Wednesday.

RFC Funds in Jeopardy One of the most discussed of these centers around a house-approved measure authorizing a \$5,000,000,000 increase in the borrowing and lending authority of the Reconstruction Finance corporation, which furnishes funds for programs under-

NEW CONGRESS OPENS JAN. 6 Washington—(AP)—Speaker Rayburn said today congressional leaders had agreed to convene the 78th congress Jan. 6 and that President Roosevelt would deliver his message in person to a joint session of the senate and house Jan. 7.

The president was told, Rayburn said, that the historic 77th congress would adjourn Wednesday of this week, "or certainly not later than Thursday."

taken by several government agencies. Included among these is the board of economic warfare, headed by Vice President Wallace.

Inspired by testimony of Federal Loan Administrator Jesse Jones of the RFC at a closed session of the banking committee that the RFC had no recourse but to make funds available when the BEW issued a directive, Republicans demanded an amendment which would require prior RFC approval of expenditures before the BEW could embark on new projects.

Seek OPA reorganization. Meanwhile, house Republican leaders listed as among their first objectives in the new congress the reorganization of the office of price administration and of congress itself, and abolition of the National Youth Administration and the Farm Security Administration.

They said they expected that many democrats, lukewarm toward the Roosevelt administration, would support at least part of their program.

Reorganization of congressional procedure was placed high on the agenda by Representative Dirksen of Illinois.

Would Streamline Procedure "I intend to introduce at the very start of the new congress next month a resolution that I hope will lead to a streamlining of congressional procedure," Dirksen said.

His resolution will call for creation of a special committee to study the entire subject and to make recommendations for more efficient operation. Dirksen has advocated establishment of a joint congressional war committee to coordinate the work now done by more than half a dozen senate and house committees.

DR. HUBERT WORK DIES Denver—(AP)—Dr. Hubert Work, 82, former United States postmaster general and secretary of the interior, died of a heart ailment at 1:55 p.m. (CWT) today.

Gun Commanded by Rapids Officer Keeps Japs on Jump in New Guinea

BY MURLIN SPENCER With American Troops Some where in New Guinea—(AP)—There is a sleek little number on this battlefield that is driving the Japanese in Buna mission and on Cape Endaiaere to distraction. Her name is Helen.

Helen is a lethal piece of artillery named by one of the best American crews in northern Papua. Japanese planes have been spending long hours trying to find her. She was flown here piece by piece and then reassembled.

Helen is credited with knocking out two Jap ack-ack guns near Cape Endaiaere; with pounding Japanese in both Buna village and Buna mission, and with making the Japs lose plenty hours of sleep.

Just to show the Japanese interest in Helen, 24 Zeros were flying overhead when I visited the gun emplacement. But she is so well hidden that she is impossible to see more than a few yards away.

Her crew, commanded by Lieut. Herbert H. Jackson of Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., takes the greatest delight in the night action.

"They say the Nips like to sleep in trees so we fix shells with fuses so they will explode amongst trees," he said. "They're guaranteed to knock the Nips out and if not they at least keep them awake, which has a great nuisance value."

Every member of the eight-man gun crew wanted to name her, but Corporal John Polishuk of Benton Harbor, Mich., selected the name. The black haired youth said he named her after Helen Jankus, Chicago, a pretty brunette, and Polishuk produced pictures to prove it.

Besides, Jackson said, if they ever got the correct christening liquid his boys never could stand and watch it be used that way. So the gun probably will remain unchristened.

NEWFOUNDLAND DANCE HALL FIRE CLAIMS 100 LIVES

St. John's, Newfoundland—(AP)—Fire and panic in the midst of an old-time barn dance cost the lives of 100 merry-makers and injured 102 others as a servicemen's hostel and recreation center went up in flames Saturday night only 200 yards from the fire station on St. John's main street.

Many Trampled to Death Like the Coconut Grove disaster in Boston, which claimed nearly 500 lives, many were trampled to death in the rush for the exits and the victims included servicemen and women. It was believed there may have been Americans among them.

A Knights of Columbus hostel for men in the armed services, the wooden structure was crowded with 500 persons when fire roared through the building and burst from the doors and windows in huge columns of flame that towered in the sky.

Cause Undetermined The authorities still were without knowledge today of the cause of the disaster but an eyewitness said the fire "seemed to do its dreadful work in 10 minutes."

The terrified dancers, trying to force their way out through the four exits of the building, piled up in tangled masses of bodies.

Sixty-nine of the dead had been identified last night; of the 31 unclaimed, many were so burned as to be unrecognizable. It was not known how many women were lost and exact figures were not announced on the number of Canadian navy, army and air force personnel lost.

First word of the fire came to St. John's residents shortly after 11 p.m. as they listened to music being broadcast from the dance floor.

Hears Shouts of "Fire" Suddenly, amid the square dance calls, several voices were heard shouting "fire," while others gruffly ordered them to "keep quiet." The music stopped and then the microphone went dead.

Listeners who rushed outside their houses said they could see sheets of flame streaming from the building and some heard the terrified cries of those inside.

Some who escaped from the hostel said the fire began in the auditorium and dance hall while others asserted an explosion seemed to come from the kitchen and then the whole building was engulfed by flames.

Stevens Point Mayor Gets Navy Commission Stevens Point, Wis.—Mayor Frank J. Lasecki has enlisted in the U. S. naval reserve with a lieutenant's commission, and expects to be called to active duty shortly after Christmas, it was learned here today.

Mayor Lasecki is chairman of the Portage county defense council and coordinator of district 10 of the state council of defense, which includes Portage, Wood, Adams and Juneau counties.

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Pleads Guilty to Larceny Paul Godin, 52, Wisconsin Rapids, pleaded guilty to a larceny count and his sentence of one year in Waupun penitentiary was suspended and he was placed on probation.

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Axis Forces Retreat West Toward Tripoli; Allied Air Fleet Hits Foe in Tunisia

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The onslaught which once drove Rommel, the desert fox, out of his burrow was timed to coincide with smashing aerial assaults on the enemy's Tunisian strongholds in thundering evidence of the rising air might of the allies.

8th Army Again on March The brief announcement that the Eighth army again was on the march came early today in a brief communique from Cairo which said: "Rommel has been driven from his strong positions at El Agheila and is in retreat to the west."

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One military source in London commented: "This is the first time in this war that a great German army has found itself faced by equal forces, and what happens? The German army pulls out without a fight."

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SONS OF LEGION MEET The sons of the American Legion squadron will hold a business meeting at Memorial armory Tuesday night, December 15. The meeting will begin at 7:30.

THE WEATHER For Wisconsin: Not much change in temperature tonight, but with a minimum temperature higher than last night; slightly colder Tuesday afternoon.

ETHIOPIA DECLARES WAR London—(AP)—The Ethiopian legation announced today that it had been advised from Addis Ababa that the Ethiopian government has declared war on Germany, Japan and Italy.

Big British Ship Sunk: Fear Over 1,000 Dead An East Coast Port—(AP)—A large British ship carrying more than 2,500 persons including 1,800 Italian prisoners of war, was torpedoed and sunk off west Africa last September survivors reported on arrival here.

Crewmen told newsmen that "present known survivors" among the passengers and crew totaled 1,010 and that some 350 Italian prisoners were rescued by "six or seven" submarines which surfaced after the attack. One of the subs was Italian, the others German.

The sinking occurred as the transport was on the last lap of a voyage from Suez, where the Italians had been taken aboard.

Reestablish French Rule Over Madagascar London—(AP)—Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden and Gen. Charles De Gaulle signed an agreement today for re-establishing French sovereignty over Madagascar.

The agreement provided that the provisional military administration set up by the British after the occupation of the huge island would end with the arrival there of Gen. Paul LeGentilhomme, commander in chief of Fighting French forces in Africa.

EDITOR WILLIAM A. DRUMB DIES William A. Drumb, one of the deans of Wisconsin journalism and for many years editor of the Grand Rapids Tribune here, died at the Portage hospital Sunday morning. He had been taken to the hospital Friday, Mr. Drumb was 76.

Federal Wednesday Funeral services will be held at Wisconsin Dells, where Mr. Drumb has been editor and publisher of the Wisconsin Dells Events since 1925, on Wednesday afternoon at 1 o'clock. The services will be held at a funeral home there, the Rev. Mr. Davies officiating.

The body will be brought to Wisconsin Rapids following the services, and will be taken directly to Forest Hill cemetery for interment. The graveside rites will be conducted at Forest Hill about 3:30 o'clock, with local pallbearers.



Pfc. Clarence Arndt

Two central Wisconsin men are reported missing in action in northwestern Africa, both apparently lost in the invasion thrust against the French colonies early in November.

They are Pfc. Clarence Arndt, 25, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Arndt, Wisconsin Rapids, R. 5, and Pvt. Ivan G. Sadowska, 22, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gust Sadowska, Marshfield. Private Sadowska's father is a former Wood county sheriff and present deputy sheriff.

Mr. and Mrs. Arndt were notified Sunday in a telegram from the war department which stated their son had been listed missing since November 8. Clarence left with a Portage county draft quota on October 27, 1941, trained at Fort Knox, Ky., and was stationed in Ireland since last April.

His parents last heard from him in a letter he wrote October 9. He was not married and lived with his parents at their farm in the town of Grant, Portage county, before his induction into the army. A brother, Henry, resides at 240 Fourteenth street south.

Word that their son was listed as missing was received by the Sadowskas Sunday night. Date given by the war department was also November 8, and Private Sadowska had also been stationed in Ireland before the African invasion.

Court Agrees to Rule on Governorship

Madison, Wis.—(AP)—The state supreme court decided today to take original jurisdiction on a declaratory judgment which will determine who will be governor of Wisconsin after inaugural day January 4.

Chief Justice Marvin B. Rosenberry, acting upon a request by Governor Julius P. Heil, who was defeated by the late Orland S. Loomis, governor-elect, said he believed the issue was of sufficient public importance to warrant a prompt decision of the court.

The tribunal agreed to hear arguments on the legal question beginning at 9 a. m. next Monday. There was to be a conference among the justices and attorneys for the parties late today to consider the issues upon which the court would be asked to rule.

Governor Heil was represented by J. C. Hardgrove and Paul R. Newcomb, members of the Milwaukee law firm of Miller, Mack and Fairchild.

Lieutenant Governor Walter S. Goodland, who has announced his intention to take over the duties of governor, was represented by Attorneys Daniel Grady, of Portage, veteran Democrat, and James J. Kerwin, of Milwaukee.

The tribunal authorized Attorneys William B. Rubin and W. J. Zimmers of Milwaukee to file briefs as friends of the court. Rubin was requested to appear on behalf of Goodland by Dr. W. C. Sullivan, of Kaukauna, the Democratic gubernatorial nominee in the last election.

Deputy J. Ward Rector appeared for Attorney General John E. Martin.

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