

WEATHER

U. S. OFFICIAL FORECAST
Fair, Continued Cold Tonight;
Increasing Cloudiness, Warmer
Tomorrow
Sunset, 7 P. M.

Trenton Evening Times

FINAL EDITION

62d YEAR—No. 108

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Trenton, N. J., Friday, March 10, 1944

28 Pages—224 Columns.

Price, Three Cents:

New Draft Rule Culls Men From War Industries

Order Will Affect One Group From 18 to 25; Another, 26 to 37

Colonel Edgar N. Bloomer, State selective service director, served notice today on all New Jersey employers that they must release during April, May and June for possible induction all men 18 through 25, regardless of marital status, who do not possess or are not fully using critical skills.

Bloomer went a step further and called for the release during the same period of all men 26 through 37 not employing critical skills, with the exception of pre-Pearl Harbor fathers.

The order was issued in a memorandum which Bloomer sent to employers throughout the State, along with a copy of a memorandum issued last week by Governor Edge directing the State's 202 local boards to investigate every case of deferment of men between 18 and 30.

The employers were asked immediately to revise their replacement schedules with a view to carrying out the spirit of Governor Edge's order. They were given until March 18, Saturday of next week, to submit the new schedules to Selective Service field representatives.

"We have reached the point where only the vital activities of the war may be permitted the civilian manpower required," said Colonel Bloomer. "Less vital activities may expect their contribution of manpower to the armed forces to be such as to result, perhaps, in an immediate curtailment of production. The extent and period of this curtailment will depend upon their ability to obtain replacements for those needed, but released to the armed forces."

First Red Cross Drive Report Shows \$79,772

First official reports on the War Fund campaign for the American Red Cross in this community were announced today by George N. Ewing, drive chairman for 1944, showing total receipts of \$79,772.38.

This included \$71,840.60 from the special gifts committee. The residential and business and commercial divisions have been supplied with campaign materials, Ewing said, and their phases of the drive were moving into full action.

Since collections in the first 10 days total only 25 percent of the \$321,000 assigned quota, the chairman urged workers and the public as well to redouble their efforts to bring the drive to a speedy and successful conclusion. It will continue through March.

Chilly on Eve Of Blizzard's Anniversary

The official thermometer dropped to an even 20 degrees early today and it's expected to get down in the low 20's again tonight. Tomorrow will bring increasing cloudiness and warmer weather.

Fifty-six years ago today—two days before the historic blizzard of '88—this area was experiencing the same "generally fair" weather that's been kicking around. But there is no indication of snow this year—at least not up to this time—aside from an occasional flurry so typical of March.

FLANDERS, March 10 (AP)—Early morning temperatures in the Morris County "ice box" section ranged down to six degrees above zero recorded here at 7:30.

Bomb Accuracy Amazing to Nazis

STOCKHOLM, March 10 (AP)—Cermans are convinced that American bombers "must have some new weapon" making possible such pinpoint accuracy as the awful destruction of the ball-bearing works and tank plants in Erkner, southern suburb of Berlin, a Swede arriving today from the ravaged capital said.

The Erkner works were a target of the American day raiders Wednesday. German dispatches said the bombers had penetrated to the very heart of the city yesterday, taking advantage of thick clouds.

Sensational Gun Murder Trials Slated

Prosecutor Prepares Cases Against Hill, Mrs. Sieracki

Two sensational murder cases, which have attracted widespread attention, are being prepared for trial by the staff of Prosecutor Walter D. Cough.

One is the Duck Island-Cypress Lane slaying of three parked couples, Clarence Hill, 35-year-old army private, whose home is in Hamilton Township, is accused of each of the six nocturnal shootings. A shotgun was the murder weapon in each instance.

A shotgun blast also caused the death last October 26 of Edmund Sieracki, 28, of Brae Burn Heights, an Eastern Aircraft worker. His wife, Mrs. Viola Sieracki, 24, mother of two children, is charged with loading and firing the gun during a dispute over her husband's late arrivals for meals after working on a night shift.

Following the routine procedure of murder cases, pleas of innocence have been entered at arraignment of both defendants and Mercer County grand juries have returned indictments.

Robert Queen and Frank H. Wimberly, Trenton lawyers, are (Continued on Page Three)

Irvin Cobb Dies; Noted Humorist

NEW YORK, March 10 (AP)—Irvin S. Cobb, 67, humorist, whose sparkling wit and homely humor illuminated thousands of written pages, the motion picture and stage, died at his Hotel Sheraton apartment today of complications after three months' illness.

The man who contributed handsomely to the fame of his native Paducah, Ky., died unable to fill a promise made last December to Kent Cooper, executive director and general manager of the Associated Press, that "if, as and when I get ready to depart elsewhere I promise to keep friendly newspapers fully advised."

Cobb, whose heavy, rugged features belied his nimble, lightning humor, was the author of many books and magazine articles, ranging in subject from broad comedy sketches to the tender "Judge Priest" tales. As an extemporaneous speaker he was unassisted and was in constant demand for after-dinner engagements.

Starting in the newspaper business in Paducah as a boy of 16, Cobb soon graduated to New York. After serving on the editorial and production side of several motion picture pictures, he was tempted to try his hand as an actor. In his new career he appeared with such stars as the late Will Rogers.

Cobb was born on June 23, 1876, the son of Joshua Clark and Marie Marshall Cobb. On June 20, 1900, he married Laura Spencer Baker, of Savannah, Ga. His widow and a daughter, Mrs. Elisabeth Cobb Brody, of New York, survive.

Slew 'Model' Husband, Widow Found Guilty

NORRISTOWN, Pa., March 10 (AP)—Blonde, petite Helen M. Wucherer was convicted of second degree murder today in the fatal shooting of the "model husband" she had offered to share with another woman.

'Chute Pilot Killed

Tester for Switlik Dies When Plane Crashes in State Park

Edward Butler, 42, a parachute tester for the Switlik Company, was killed this afternoon when an airplane he was piloting crashed in Washington Crossing State Park, Wilburtha State Police announced.

Butler was flying alone at the time, it was reported, when the Pitcairn open-cockpit craft developed motor trouble.

Donald VanLew, of Washington Crossing, heard the motor sputtering, followed by the crash into the State park. He drove down the River Road immediately to the Wilburtha State Police barracks to report the incident.

Corporal John Magee and Trooper William Auer set out with VanLew and located the wreckage, deep in the park, off the Pennington-Washington Crossing Road.

Stanley Switlik, president of the parachute firm which bears his name, was notified and went to the scene immediately. The body was not moved by the troopers, pending arrival of a deputy county physician.

Butler, who lived with his wife in a trailer parked along Mercer Airport at the Luscombe Company plant, was a former airplane barnstormer.

Butler was born in Howard, Ind., and after a barnstorming career took a job with the Glenn Martin Company in 1933. During 1934 and 1935, he was manager of the Baltimore City Airport, coming here in 1936.

Mrs. Butler was the former Elizabeth S. Thomas, 23 years old, a native of Portsmouth, N. H. She, too, is employed by the Switlik testing department.

Roosevelt Denies Dispute on Ships

WASHINGTON, March 10 (AP)—President Roosevelt asserted today that what he and Prime Minister Churchill had said about disposition of the Italian fleet was correct, that no controversy could be made of it and that he would violate military security by discussing the matter.

The cards list a series of questions on the rank, serial number and military address of the person in service. One printed in black will be filled out by the canvasser and the other printed in red will be left with the householder who will forward it to the Adjutant General in the event the address of the person in service is changed after the canvass.

Instructions to the volunteers, which will be distributed next week with about 600,000 of the cards, state they have "no responsibility as to the legal rights of voters" and warn against entering into political discussions with householders. It is further advised the information obtained is confidential. Canvassers will carry their civilian defense arm-bands and cards for identification.

You'll Hop a Helicopter

Postwar Windmill Plane Routes Are Mapped By Public Service—Plan Includes Points Now Requiring Hour or More by Bus

FLASHES

DOUGLAS RESIGNS WASHINGTON, March 10 (AP)—The resignation of Lewis W. Douglas as deputy shipping administrator to return to the presidency of the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York was announced today by President Roosevelt.

CONTEMPT CASE DELAYED NEW YORK, March 10 (AP)—Contempt proceedings against Edward V. Broderick, attorney for murder defendant Wayne Lonergan, were postponed today by Judge John J. Freschi. The jurist indicated the postponement was granted in order to avoid jeopardizing his client's interests.

Ramirez Out As President Of Argentina

Formally Resigns Post; Farrell Continues In Job

BUENOS AIRES, March 10 (AP)—Pedro Pablo Ramirez formally resigned the presidency of Argentina today.

Ramirez, whose administration broke relations with the Axis only to confront a palace coup in which Edelmiro J. Farrell became acting President under an announced delegation of powers from Ramirez, sent a notification of his resignation to the Supreme Court.

The court, at a hastily-convened session, merely acknowledged receipt of the notification and a manifesto Ramirez addressed to the nation. Neither document was made public immediately.

Meanwhile, Farrell and his ministers were discussing the situation in a special Cabinet meeting.

Ramirez already had vacated the presidential palace and taken a private villa in Buenos Aires.

Fighting Dwindles Along Beachhead

Activity Limited to Patrols—Aircraft In 900 Sorties

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Naples, March 10 (AP)—Activity on all battle fronts in Italy dwindled to minor patrol operations yesterday in the face of severe weather.

Allied Headquarters announced today that the air force managed to get into the air, however, for 900 sorties. Medium bombers again attacked the beachhead.

Two-Card System Is Adopted For House-to-House Canvass To Get Data for Service Vote

Civilian defense volunteers will use a two-card system in making the house-to-house canvass to obtain information for sending absentee ballots to members of the armed forces.

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German Targets Blasted In Offensive by R. A. F.; Nazis Falter in Ukraine

Landing Made On Isle Close To Yugoslavia

Troops on Lissa Island; Churchill's Son Leads

LONDON, March 10 (AP)—The British radio said today that British and American commandos under the command of "a British general with the name of Churchill" had landed on Lissa Island, off the Dalmatian coast of Yugoslavia.

There was no confirmation here of the landing, but it was widely believed in London that the German broadcast was talking about Captain Randolph Churchill, son of Prime Minister Churchill, who is reported to have gone to Yugoslavia, presumably dropping by parachute.

The broadcast said Churchill had taken command of Allied troops on the island but it remained to be seen whether his forces would include 2,000 followers of Marshal Tito (Josip Broz) there.

Churchill, 32, was the first member of Parliament to become a paratrooper. The Allies have been giving aid to Tito's Partisans but there has been no official announcement of the presence of British commando or American Ranger troops in Yugoslavia.

Market on Gain; Autos Hold Lead

Stocks Absorb Moderate Realizing During Early Trading

NEW YORK, March 10 (AP)—Stocks absorbed moderate realizing in the early trading today and then moved ahead to a seven-month high on increased trading.

The advance lacked the vigor of the Wednesday session when dealings were the largest since November 8. And the steels failed to participate although they held around the previous close.

Technical factors caused the upturn, the experts said. Ability of the list to resist selling at the current levels attracted new buying and a moderate amount of short covering.

Automobile issues were in the forefront of the rise again with Chrysler, Studebaker and Willys-Overland in new high ground.

Rails firmed although their average was well below the year's top. Rail equipments were strong and active on gains ranging to 3 points with most issues of the group in new high ground. Dupont made a new high and American Telephone equaled its high in the high-priced investment favorites.

Mrs. Burke Denied Right to Visit Son

ELIZABETH, N. J., March 10 (AP)—Ten-year-old Donald Clark's mother lost a second fight to gain custody of her son yesterday when "Advisory" Master Douglas Herr ruled the boy should remain with the foster-parents he has known since he was eight months old.

Mrs. Lillian Layden Burke, of Trenton, was denied the right to visit her child.

The boy had been left with the foster-parents by his mother shortly after she lost a job at a Newark "walkathon" the court was told. Herr had ruled in the Clark's favor in 1941, also.

Stimson Disavows MacArthur 'Smear'

WASHINGTON, March 10 (AP)—War Secretary Stimson told Senator Vandenberg, Republican of Michigan, today that the Army War Library has been ordered to discontinue distribution of a list of selected magazine articles which prompted a vigorous protest by Vandenberg.

Landing Made Aircraft Factory Near Marse'le Heavily Pounded by Lancaster Bombers; Mosquito Planes Smash at Points In Western Germany—Russians Gain

Giant R. A. F. Lancaster bombers, thundering 1,200 miles roundtrip over much of occupied France, kept the aerial offensive against Hitler Europe in high gear during the night by striking heavily at the Marignane aircraft factory near Marseilles.

An Air Ministry communique today disclosed that the attack was designed to coincide with sweeps by speedy Mosquito medium bombers against unspecified targets in western Germany. There was no immediate official word of daylight onslaughts against the continent, but a Zurich dispatch to London reported that heavy explosions and the drone of planes were heard shortly after 1 P. M.

The reverberations, which Swiss observers interpreted as a sign that a heavy raid was in progress, came from southern Germany between Stuttgart and Augsburg.

The British Lancasters which attacked enemy plane production centres at Marignane reported that they encountered light anti-aircraft fire over the target and heavy barrage near Marseilles, but no fighter opposition whatsoever. Two-ton blockbusters and four-ton superbombs were loosed against strategic installations, with the bombardiers taking advantage of exceptionally bright moonlight to press home their attack.

Meanwhile, the London Standard reported that all planes and crews lost by the American air forces in their three major attacks on Berlin this week were replaced in full by noon today. All stations were said to be once again at full strength and ready for another attack at any minute.

LONDON, March 10 (AP)—The German radio announced today that Nazi troops had abandoned Uman, one of their strong bases in the Western Ukraine.

LONDON, March 10 (AP)—The entire Southern Ukrainian front blazed today with a great Russian offensive which Moscow said has resulted in the capture of Staro-Konstantinov, storming of the inner defenses of Tarnopol and the breaching of the German lines guarding the Black Sea ports of Nikolae and Kherston.

Most spectacular of the day's developments was the disclosure by Premier Stalin of a new Russian drive launched by General Rodion Y. Malinovsky southwest of Krivoy Rog. Here, in four days of intensive fighting, the Third Ukrainian Army, driving westward across the Ingulets River, routed nine German divisions and captured Novy Bug and Grozhany, respectively 33 and 40 miles above Nikolae, and Kazanka, 17 miles northeast of Novy Bug.

Eight thousand Germans were killed and 1,000 captured in this advance, the Russian communique asserted. Nazi forces were driven back from 19 to 37 miles, abandoning huge stocks of war material including 67 tanks, 175 guns and more than 2,000 trucks. More than 200 localities were liberated by Malinovsky's troops, the bulletin added.

Besides menacing the Black Sea ports of Nikolae and Kherston, Malinovsky's advance was a direct threat to the several hundred thousand Nazi troops still in the lower Ukraine and along the coast of the Black Sea toward Odessa.

front dispatches pointed out. Capture of Staro-Konstantinov, 26 miles north of Proskurov, by Marshal Gregory K. Zhukov's First Ukrainian Army netted large stocks of war material, Moscow said. It left the Germans in this sector only a 20-mile corridor along the railway south to Proskurov as a retreat route toward Rumania. Proskurov itself was threatened with capture by Red Army troops last night, reported only seven miles away.

MOSCOW, March 10 (AP)—The Red Army took to horses in the deepening mud of the Ukraine today as the offensives of General Rodion Y. Malinovsky and Marshal Gregory K. Zhukov rolled the Germans back on a 340-mile-long front from the streets of Tarnopol to the outer defenses guarding the Black Sea ports of Nikolae and Kherston.

It is fully apparent that the last Nazis are being chased from the southwestern corner of the Soviet Union, but only under tremendous difficulties, from line dispatches to the Moscow newspapers Red Star and Izvestia said. They reported the whole area was one "great inland sea of mud and water."

Lieut. Goldman Is Missing in Action

Lieutenant Myron M. Goldman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel A. Goldman, of 902 Quinton Avenue, is among 15 New Jersey servicemen reported as missing in action.

Goldman, who graduated from Central High School in 1936, was in the European area. He studied agricultural research at Rutgers University. He qualified as an army pilot at Altus Air Field in Oklahoma.

Staff Sergeant Michael Miro, of Reelberg, also was on today's missing in action list.

WMC Action Centre Sought For Defense Headquarters

Efforts are being made by the town, appeared to be the answer to the problem, but the City Commission in granting the necessary permission, is understood to be hesitant about taking the step.

It appears that last Spring, when an intensive drive for womanpower in Trenton's war industries was inaugurated, the Chamber of Commerce and a number of manufacturers contributed the necessary funds for construction of the "Action Centre" on the old canal. American Federation of Labor unions catered in an ideal central spot in

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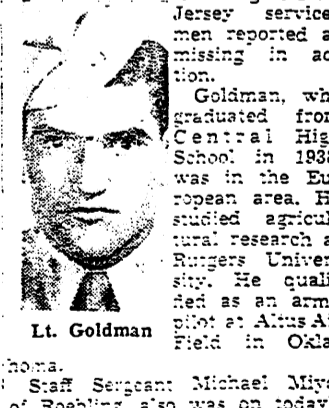
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S. Wyzkowski



Lt. Goldman