

FINLAND GIVEN HOPE OF SAVING INDEPENDENCE BY MAKING DEFENSE TREATY WITH NEIGHBORS

Reds Plan To Talk With Italy

Step To Win New Friends Is Indicated

Germany Agrees To Supply
Italy With Most Of Coal
Needs By Rail

WAR BUDGETS OKEHED

Russian Trade Group May
Go To Rome Soon To
Start Work On Treaty

By RICHARD G. MASSOCK
ROME, March 13.—(AP)—Russia
authoritatively reported to
day that it was following up
the conclusion of her war with
Finland by initiating trade nego-
tiations with Italy in an attempt
to win friends in the south.

The new negotiations were re-
portedly pending after a day in
which Germany agreed to supply
Italy with most of her coal needs
by rail to circumvent the British
blockade, and in which the fascist
chamber approved army and navy
budgets totaling \$378,000,000.

Group May Visit Rome
Authoritative sources said a Rus-
sian trade commission, which has
headquarters at Milan, may come
to Rome shortly to start negotia-
tions for a new treaty. The head
of the commission was reported al-
ready to have left for Moscow for
final instructions.

There was speculation at once
that definite move might be under-
way for improvement of Italian-
Russian relations such as German
Foreign Minister Joachim Von Rib-
bentrop was reported to have urged
in his conferences here with Pres-
ident Mussolini early this week.

The German agreement dims the
prospect of Italy obtaining coal
from the United States because of
high shipping costs, informed Ital-
ian quarters said.

General Ubaldo Soddu, under-
secretary of war, introducing the de-
tails.

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ENGINEERS URGE MOORING BASINS

One Of Six Proposed Sta-
tions Would Be Located
At Wrightsville Sound

Army engineers in a report to con-
gress yesterday recommended the
construction of six mooring basins
at the intracoastal waterway from
Savannah, N. C., to the Cape Fear
river.

Estimated cost of the navigation
improvements is \$24,000.

Chief, Col. George Gillette, district
engineer, said here last night that
the proposed location of the six
mooring basins are as follows:

Wilmington, New River, Stumpy
Point, Myrtle Grove Sound, Cape
Fear river and Wrightsville Sound.

Congressional action on the pro-
gram is expected within the next few
days.

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Eight patients were injured, 80 others shaken up and the entire neighborhood rocked by a gas explosion in the Booth Memorial hospital in suburban Cleveland, Ohio. Above, searchers examine the wreckage.

Miss Coleman Addresses Baptist Women's Meeting

CALLS FOR CONFIDENCE

Election Of Officers Sched-
uled At Closing Session
This Afternoon

With an address on "Confidence
in God" by Miss Inabelle Coleman,
of the Richmond Foreign Mission
board, the second day of the 50th
annual convention of the Woman's
Missionary Union of North Carolina
came to a close last night at the
First Baptist church. More than
700 women from throughout the
state have registered at the meet-
ing.

Miss Coleman emphasized com-
prehensively and at length the
great import of a continuing and
unvarying confidence and faith in
the Almighty and the principles
set up by His disciples.

Only Way
"In this way and in this way
only," she said, "can we find that
place in eternity designated for the
true believers."

She continued, saying that it
takes strength and courage to cling
to the faith through strife and
through hardship, but added that
ultimately it is the only course a
thinking person can take—the only
course one who wishes to abide by
the dictates of Jesus Christ can follow.

And in the end, she said, that
enduring and unchanging faith in
God will lead the believer to eternal
happiness.

The meeting was held in the main
auditorium of the church. It was
beautifully decorated with flowers
of various kinds and was packed to
capacity.

The 50th annual convention will
close to a close this afternoon at
about 3 o'clock following the elec-
tion of officers.

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Hore-Belisha Flays Allies For Inaction

Ousted British Minister At-
tacks Failure To Send
Troops To Finland

REBELLION THREATENS

Lloyd George Adds Sombre
Warning To Former War
Chief's Criticism

BY DREW MIDDLETON
LONDON, March 13.—(AP)—Former
War Secretary Hore-Belisha angrily
challenged the allied "excuse for in-
action" in the dispatch of large-scale
aid to Finland during a stormy ses-
sion today of the house of commons
which showed the makings of a
full-fledged parliamentary rebellion
against Neville Chamberlain's gov-
ernment.

In the dismal light of the Finnish-
Russian peace, the volatile minister
whom Chamberlain fired on January
3 demanded a review of the govern-
ment's "whole conduct of the war"
with Germany, and denounced as a
"pure technicality" the allied stand
that troops, although ready, could
not be sent to Finland until Finland
formally asked for them. The troops
never were sent; Finland made peace
instead.

Adds Warnings
White-headed David Lloyd George
added somber warning to Hore-
Belisha's cutting criticism, and dis-
gruntled conservatives and liberals
appeared to be uniting with opposi-
tion laborites around the two states-
men.

The commons approved 192 to 2 a
request for 700,000,000 pounds \$2-
800,000,000 for war purposes.

This vote was despite a plea of the
leftist firebrand, J. McGovern, for an
attempt to end the war before the
"frenzied slaughter begins."

He declared his independent labor party
proposed there should be an armistice
and world conference at the
earliest possible moment.

Reliable sources reported that a
full debate on the war situation
would be held March 19 with Cham-
berlain presenting a general review
and replying to questions of an
aroused house of commons.

"Too Late"
Hardly had Hore-Belisha demand-
ed such debate before he was joined
by Lloyd George who intoned: "It
is the old trouble—too late. Too late
for Czechoslovakia. Too late for Po-
land. Certainly too late for Finland.
It is always too late or too little

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HATCH AMENDMENT BEATEN IN SENATE

Proponents Of Bill Pound
Tenaciously Toward An
Early Showdown

WASHINGTON, March 13.—(AP)—
Proponents poured tenaciously to-
day toward a senate showdown on
the Hatch bill to circumscribe the
political activities of state employes
paid with federal funds.

They listened unmoved to a warn-
ing from Senator Minton (D-Ind.)
that passage of the measure would
"destroy the democratic party."

Opponents failed in an effort to
attach to the bill an amendment by
Senator Bankhead (D-Ala.) to make
it unlawful for any person to con-
tribute more than \$1,000 a year to
any candidate or campaign commit-
tee.

The vote was 45 to 36, with 35
democrats and Senator LaFollette
(Prog-Wis) supporting the amend-
ment and 23 democrats voting
against it. A solid bloc of repub-
lican votes provided the margin to
defeat the proposition.

Minton took this occasion to tell
democratic supporters of the Hatch
bill that they were helping the re-
publicans play a smart political
game that would wreck a democratic

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GOVERNMENT LEADER ASKS ABSOLUTE UNITY; RUSSIANS HAIL PEACE

SOVIETS SEIZE VIIPURI

Finnish City Taken In Two-
Hour Assault Shortly
Before Armistice

BRITAIN IS ASSAILED

Kremlin Satisfied Dictated
Peace Greatest Blow To
London In Century

MOSCOW, March 14.—(Thursday)
—(AP)—The Russian military com-
mand early today announced its
troops, in a two-hour assault just
before yesterday's armistice, had cap-
tured the city of Viipuri, which goes
to Russia anyway by the peace
treaty with Finland.

While the Soviet people and press
hailed the peace treaty as a great
triumph for Joseph Stalin's "policy
of peace" and a shattering blow to
British and French "imperialist"
plans to spread the war over all of
Europe, the Leningrad military com-
mand issued this communique:

"13th March: At 7 a. m., after two
hours of storming, the Soviet troops
occupied the town of Viipuri. On
other sectors of the front there was
nothing important up to 12 noon.
At 12 noon Leningrad time hostili-
ties ceased on all sectors of the front
in conformity with the peace treaty."

Siege Started Feb. 24
The Russians laid siege to Viipuri
immediately after the fall of the
Kovisto forts on Feb. 24.

The Kremlin made no effort to
conceal its satisfaction that the dic-
tated peace with Finland was the
greatest defeat to Great Britain in
a century.

Not only did the Soviet gain in
territorial and military advantage by
its treaty with Finland, but also se-

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CLAUDE TOWNSEND DIES IN ROBESON

Former Clerk Of Court Was
Oldest Living Graduate
Of Trinity College

LUMBERTON, March 13.—Claude
B. Townsend, 83, oldest living grad-
uate of Trinity college, now Duke
university, and former Robeson
county clerk of court, died at his
home here tonight following a

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F. R. Avers Reds Should Let Finns Live In Peace

WASHINGTON, March 13.—(AP)—
President Roosevelt served notice
in effect today that Russia should
let what remains of Finland live in
peace and not try to swallow it up
now that its defenses are weakened.

In a formal statement, the Presi-
dent said that the people of the
Baltic republic "have won the moral
right to live in everlasting peace
and independence in the land they
have so bravely defended."

The President also said that "the
ending of this war does not yet
clarify the inherent right of small

nations to the maintenance of their
integrity against attack by superior
force."

Some observers believed the word
"yet" in this sentence indicated a
belief on the President's part that
later developments in struggling
Europe might clarify the right of
which he spoke. Whether it was
intended to signify that some day
Finland's losses would probably be
restored was not stated, however.

His remark about the right to

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Scandinavians Wonder If Finland Gambling On Help From Germany

COPENHAGEN, March 13.—(AP)—
Scandinavians asked
themselves tonight if Finland,
in submitting to a stern peace,
was gambling on German help
against further Soviet encroach-
ments.

Only time will answer the
question as to whether the Rus-
so-Finnish peace involves some
form of German guarantee for the
new borders of Finland. And,
Scandinavians said, if such a
guarantee exists the realistic
Finns must know that it will
never be effective unless it is
in Germany's interest.

Mixed relief and anxiety was
Scandinavia's emotional reaction
to the drastic terms of the treaty,
giving the whole Karelian Isth-
mus, the shores of Lake Ladoga
and the "Gibraltar" peninsula of
Hanko into Soviet hands, facilitat-
ing Soviet transport by land
and air and rail to Norway and
Sweden.

There was relief that Scandi-
navia, for the moment at least,
has been saved from becoming a
battleground of Allied-Russian-
German war.

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GUNTHER ASSERTS 'DANGER NOT OVER'

Sweden's Foreign Minister
Hints At North Coun-
tries Defense Accord

STOCKHOLM, March 13.—(AP)—
Foreign Minister Christian Gunther
warned tonight that the "danger is
not over" for Sweden and hinted at
a possible defense alliance of the
north countries as a result of Fin-
land's peace with Russia.

Addressing a special meeting of
the Swedish parliament, Gunther
said the question of strengthening
cooperation among the northern
countries should be submitted to "an
unbiased examination."

At the same time he disclosed
final Russian peace terms to Fin-
land differed from those first sub-
mitted by Russia and which Sweden
passed on to Finland.

The ceding of the eastern Finnish
area about Salla's battlefields and
the Kuusamo areas, and the pro-
posed new railway connecting Rus-
sia with the Swedish border, he said,

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MANNERHEIM SAYS FINLAND HAS PAID

Leader Estimates 300,000
Reds And 15,000 Finns
Slain In War

HELSINKI, March 14 (Thurs-
day).—(AP)—Field Marshal Baron
Carl Gustaf Mannerheim in a final
order of the day declared bitterly
early today that Finland has "paid
to the very last penny any debt we
may have owed to the west."

The aged leader, who estimated
that 200,000 Russians and 15,000
Finns were slain in the 105-day war
ending yesterday, said however:
"We are proudly conscious of the
historic duty which we will continue
to fulfill: Defense of that western

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Reading The Want Ads Rewards Star and News Readers

Here are a few of the money-
saving offers which are avail-
able to readers of today's
Want Ads.

Special trade-in plover sale! Old
plover five dollars buy new
plover Limited time only.

Split bamboo surf casting rod,
6 1/2" tip, Agatite guides; re-
versible tip, only \$5.95.

Radio-Phonograph combina-
tion; built-in serial Beautiful
cabinet. \$26.50. Terms.

3 Pc. Overstuffed living room
suite; used. Excellent bargain.

Bargains in Poultry Supplies.
Two 200-egg capacity incubat-
ors, \$19.95 each. Regularly
\$26.95.

Why pay high prices for good
motor oil? We have a 20-
grade for only 8 1/2c.

WEATHER

FORECAST
North Carolina: Cloudy with rain,
stronger east and central portions
Friday; Friday partly cloudy, cold-
der portion.

(Meteorological data for the 24 hours
ending 7:30 p. m., yesterday.)

Temperature
7:30 a. m. 36; 7:30 a. m. 36; 1:30 p. m.
41; 7:30 p. m. 42; maximum 43;
minimum 35; mean 41; normal 52.

Humidity
7:30 a. m. 52; 7:30 a. m. 56; 1:30 p. m.
56; 7:30 p. m. 59.

Precipitation
Total for 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m.,
1.06 inches; total since first of the
month, 0.81 inches.

Tides For Today
High 1:30a 8:40a
Low 7:20p 7:40p
Wilmington 10:44a 4:58a
Masonboro Inlet 11:04a 5:11p
Runway 6:21a; sunset 6:19p; moon-
set 9:20p; moonrise 11:20p.

Cape Fear river stage at Fay-
ettsville, 11.65 feet.

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