

Bill Providing Work On Local River Passed

6 MONTHS AFTER WAR

Sets Aside \$1,500,000 For Port Of Wilmington, And Cape Fear River

By HOWARD SUTTLE
(Star-News Washington Bureau)
WASHINGTON, March 22.—More than two million dollars are authorized for new North Carolina rivers and harbors projects, including approximately \$1,500,000 for Port of Wilmington and Cape Fear River improvements, in the rivers and harbors bill which was passed by the House today.

Most of these projects are authorized in the measure to be introduced six months after the war has ended "unless the construction of such project has been recommended by an authorized defense agency and approved by the president as being necessary or desirable in the interest of the national defense and security." Some were included in plans for immediate construction, but which were postponed following Pearl Harbor.

Some Not Included
The North Carolina projects authorized in the bill do not include waterway and harbors maintenance funds totaling more than \$800,000, embraced in the War Department civil functions appropriation bill already enacted by Congress and now awaiting President Roosevelt's signature.

Exactly \$508,950, not including a share in the \$320,000 set aside for the inland waterway from Norfolk to Beaufort Inlet was appropriated in the civil functions bill for maintenance and operation of existing projects in North Carolina. These projects are itemized as follows:

Cape Fear River at and below Wilmington, \$200,000; Cape Fear above Wilmington, \$22,000; Wilmington survey fund, \$5,000; Morehead City Harbor, \$50,000; Waterway from Cape Fear to Winyah Bay \$80,000; waterway, Beaufort to Cape Fear, including waterway to Jacksonville, \$150,000; Beaufort Harbor, \$17,500; Silver Lake Harbor, \$4,900.

The Wilmington Harbor - Cape Fear river improvement projects in the rivers and harbors bill total \$1,465,000, while an additional \$73,000 is authorized for improvements on the Northeast Cape Fear. Other rivers and harbors projects in the post-war authorization measure.

Waterway from Cape Fear to Winyah Bay, \$11,000; Beaufort-Jacksonville-Cape Fear waterway, (Continued on Page Two; Col. 2)

VOLUNTEER OGD WORKERS CITED

Service bars have been presented to 54 volunteers in the New Hanover county Civilian Defense Council, it was officially announced Wednesday.

Those receiving bars for 5,000 hours of volunteer service were: Louis J. Poisson, C. David Jones and William A. Stewart. Bars were awarded to Mrs. Julia M. Osborne and Charles H. Casteen for 2,000 hours, and 1,000-hour bars went to Mrs. Mabel A. Dexter, F. P. O'Conroy, E. L. White and L. L. Palmer.

The following received bars for 500 hours of service: Mrs. Elizabeth Little, Mrs. Louise Jones, Mrs. Ann Burr, Mrs. Effie Burney, Mrs. Nannie K. Brown, Mrs. Mary Strange, Mrs. Viola Poisson, Mrs. Mary A. Norris, Mrs. Bernice Jones, Mrs. Frances Curtzeiler, Mrs. Ruth Cronly, Mrs. Leona Carroll, R. L. Binson, E. M. Berny, J. V. Durham, Harry F. Farrow, Aaron Goldberg, G. W. Gore, William Hayes, H. A. Huggins, K. E. Johnson, E. T. Jones, W. C. Jordan, Haywood S. King, Clarence L. Myers, H. L. O'Neill, R. M. Frederick, Jr., Temple Powell, M. A. Preslar, B. L. Prince, Deatur E. Robinson, E. C. Ruark, T. A. Shepard, Fred Smiley, Harry E. Snow, Ashley T. Starn, Alfred Stenberg, Leo W. Walton, E. Marion Westbrook, J. L. White, W. A. Whitney and McC. B. Wilson.

In a note accompanying the service bars, State Director R. L. McMillan informed C. David Jones, Wilmington commander of the Citizens Defense Corps: "For the Governor, for this once and for my self kindly express to everyone who receives the service bar congratulations and appreciation for faithful and effective service."

Allies Advancing Slowly Through Cassino Rubble

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Naples, March 22.—(AP)—Allied infantrymen, fighting with everything from flamethrowers to bush knives advanced slowly tonight against bitter German resistance and severe terrain handicaps in the battle for Cassino and the eastern slopes of Monastery Hill.

Field guns supported the foot troops from close range. The Germans were ejected from several more of the fortified buildings at the southwestern corner of the ruined town and Fifth Army troops wired and mined the newly captured areas to prevent enemy infiltration.

Allied artillery was hauled up today to blast point-blank at fanatic German paratroopers clinging to the ruins of the Continental Hotel and a half-dozen other buildings at the southern edge of Cassino as the fight for that Nazi stronghold rose to its wildest pitch.

Behind this raking fire, battle-hardened New Zealand infantry

slogged forward, foot-by-foot, often engaging in fierce hand-to-hand combat. At the end of a week of savage fighting the Germans still were resisting with a ferocity that has characterized their defense the road to Rome.

Fighting fully as bitter as the steep slopes of Monastery Hill, the battle for Cassino, from which man guns and mortars poured fire into the battle, more Nazi counter-attacks. Allied-held Castle Hill, above the rubble of Cassino, flung back today.

(The German-controlled Rome radio announced that the Nazis would withdraw all military installations from Rome and "further deviate" military traffic from the Eternal City "so that responsibility for bombing Rome will remain entirely with the Allies." The Germans declared Rome an open city last Aug. 14, when they said all military installations had been withdrawn.)

DISPLAY CONTEST PLANNED IN CITY

Miss Foster Says Merchants Have Done Outstanding Job Here

Miss Cordelia Foster, of the Tide Water Power company, who is in charge of the Red Cross War Window Display Contest, announced Wednesday that in comparison with other cities, Wilmington merchants have done an "outstanding job, and have been most cooperative, even in the face of manpower shortages, in sponsoring window displays for the Red Cross drive, even when the Easter season is one of their best window feature periods."

Miss Foster said that when window displays could not be installed, merchants were glad to feature the Red Cross posters in prominent places.

Tuesday, March 28, the contest comes to a close, and window display winners will be announced. Sears Roebuck and Company has featured on their sales floor an attractive display. Miss Foster disclosed yesterday that Belk-Williams Department store has an inside display, as well as an attractive window.

Twenty-seven other establishments have entered the display contest, Miss Foster announced. They are:

Gregg Hardware Co., James Stationery Co., Blake Electric Co., Todd Furniture Co., Pender Furniture Co., Wilmington Furniture Co., Finklestein's, X-Dept. Store, S. H. Kress and Co., Firestone Co., A. H. Yopp Piano Co., Crawford's Store, Cinderella Booterie, F. W. Woolworth Co., Fashion Center, Sally Frocks, Rehder, Florist; Efford's Department store, The Julia LaMode Shop, Sutton Council Furniture Co., Kingoff's Jewelers, Cannon Shoe store, J. C. Penny Co., I. Shrier and Son, Fashion Shop, F. W. Woolworth.

Gloria Given \$3,000 For Traveling Costs, Gotham To California

NEW YORK, March 22.—(AP)—To visit her sick husband in California, Mrs. Gloria Laura Morgan Vanderbilt Di Cicco today was granted \$3,000 for traveling expenses in surrogate's court.

Her husband, Lt. Pasquale (Pat) Di Cicco, U. S. Army, was reported convalescing from an illness.

The heiress has been allowed \$89,250 for maintenance and other expenses beginning Jan. 1. That must last until next Feb. 20.

Executives of nine states were non-committal and the White House had yet to receive a reply from Governor Olin D. Johnston of South Carolina.

Mr. Roosevelt conducted the poll to help him decide whether to approve or veto the bill which gives priority, preference to state ballots instead of the Federal ballots which he recommended to Congress. He indicated he would make

PRESIDENT GETS UNRRA MEASURE

Resolution Pledges U.S. To Aid Reconstruction Of World

WASHINGTON, March 22.—(AP)—Congress pledged the United States today to contribute its time, effort and money to rebuild the health and welfare of war-wracked nations once they are liberated from the axis yoke.

Legislation committing the U. S. to a big role in the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA) was approved finally and sent to the White House for President Roosevelt's anticipated signature.

The House adopted, 285 to 58, the conference report which the Senate passed yesterday, but only after a last-minute fight over two possible facets in the program: The shipment of farm machinery aboard, and the possibility of UNRRA participating in anything of a religious or political nature in foreign countries.

Rep. Luther A. Johnson (D-Tex.) told critics that any safeguards that are needed could be written into a bill appropriating the money.

The approved measure authorizes a \$1,350,000,000 American contribution to a world "kitty" for relief and rehabilitation of the liberated countries but actually does not provide a cent. An appropriation bill will have to be passed before UNRRA can make any expenditures or commitments.

In addition to providing a major share of the world pool of money, the U. S. has its representative, Hebert E. Lehman, as chairman of the UNRRA. He was elected by the United Nations' representatives at a conference in Atlantic City, N. J.

Representatives Calvin Johnson (R-Ill.) and Reed (R-N.Y.) raised the point of the use of farm machinery. Johnson reiterated that UNRRA proposes to allocate thousands of pieces of farm machinery in foreign countries and he protested that it is needed more here.

Rep. Luther A. Johnson countered that in his opinion there wouldn't be any liberated countries "for some time." When this liberation takes place, he said, the military demands for steel will drop proportionately and the assumption then would be that the farm machinery problem would be eased.

Ceiling Strawberry Prices To Be Higher

WASHINGTON, March 22.—(AP)—OPA Administrator Chester Bowles told Congressmen today that ceilings for berries to be announced within a few days will be considerably higher than had been contemplated.

up his mind on the basis of whether the new legislation would mean more or less voting by those in uniform.

The bill would permit use of Federal ballots only by service men and women overseas and only in cases where they apply for a state ballot by Sept. 1 and do not receive one by Oct. 1.

Ground Forces Will Get Many Corps Men

Displacements Of 17-Year Olds In Air Corps Is Suspended By Army

WASHINGTON, March 22.—(AP)—Confronted with unfilled draft quotas and a general shortage of ground forces, the Army announced today the transfer to ground duty of 36,000 young men who had been earmarked for air training.

Meantime, a high military official reported that draft boards had been failing for 13 months to meet the calls of the armed forces, and asserted that "the time has arrived when we must have the fighting men we need."

Counter-Claim
This statement was the latest development in a tug of war between the armed forces and industry and agriculture for the services of thousands of young men under 27.

An aviation industry official countered with a claim that blanket cancellations of draft deferments granted the young men would cripple war-necessary airlines.

Plans for Congressional inquiries into charges that the draft has been used as a lever to force farmers into the government agriculture program gave the situation a new twist.

The Army Air Forces also announced the suspension of enlistments of 17-year-olds in its enlisted reserve, saying that under the circumstances it is inadvisable to hold a reserve beyond immediate requirements. It was announced, however, that airforce applications from youths of 17 still will be accepted and training will not stop.

For 13 Months
Cumulative shortages in inductions since July, the War Department said, have made it necessary to use every available man for pending operations. The military official, who declined to permit use of his name, put the draft shortage even further back, saying it had run for 13 months.

General H. H. Arnold, chief of the Army Air Forces, testifying before the House Military Committee on a bill to give army status to the Women's Airforce Service Pilots (WASPs) set the induction deficit at "over 200,000."

The 36,000 released by the Air Forces are men who have come (Continued on Page Eight Col. 8)

LAND DEFENDS SHIPYARD FEES

WASHINGTON, March 22.—(AP)—A stout defense of fees paid operators of government-owned shipyards came today from Chairman Emory S. Land of the Maritime Commission, testifying before a House committee investigating reports they are excessive.

"These shipbuilders have done one of the greatest managerial jobs in all history," Land declared, adding that the commission's fee policy was the most economical and most productive one that could have been adopted.

The merchant marine subcommittee, headed by Representative Capozzoli (D-N.Y.), called the hearing to consider data compiled by its investigator showing that 19 companies operating 23 government-owned yards had earned \$174,944,051 in fees as of November 30, 1943, under existing contracts, would ultimately receive fees of \$228,234,832.

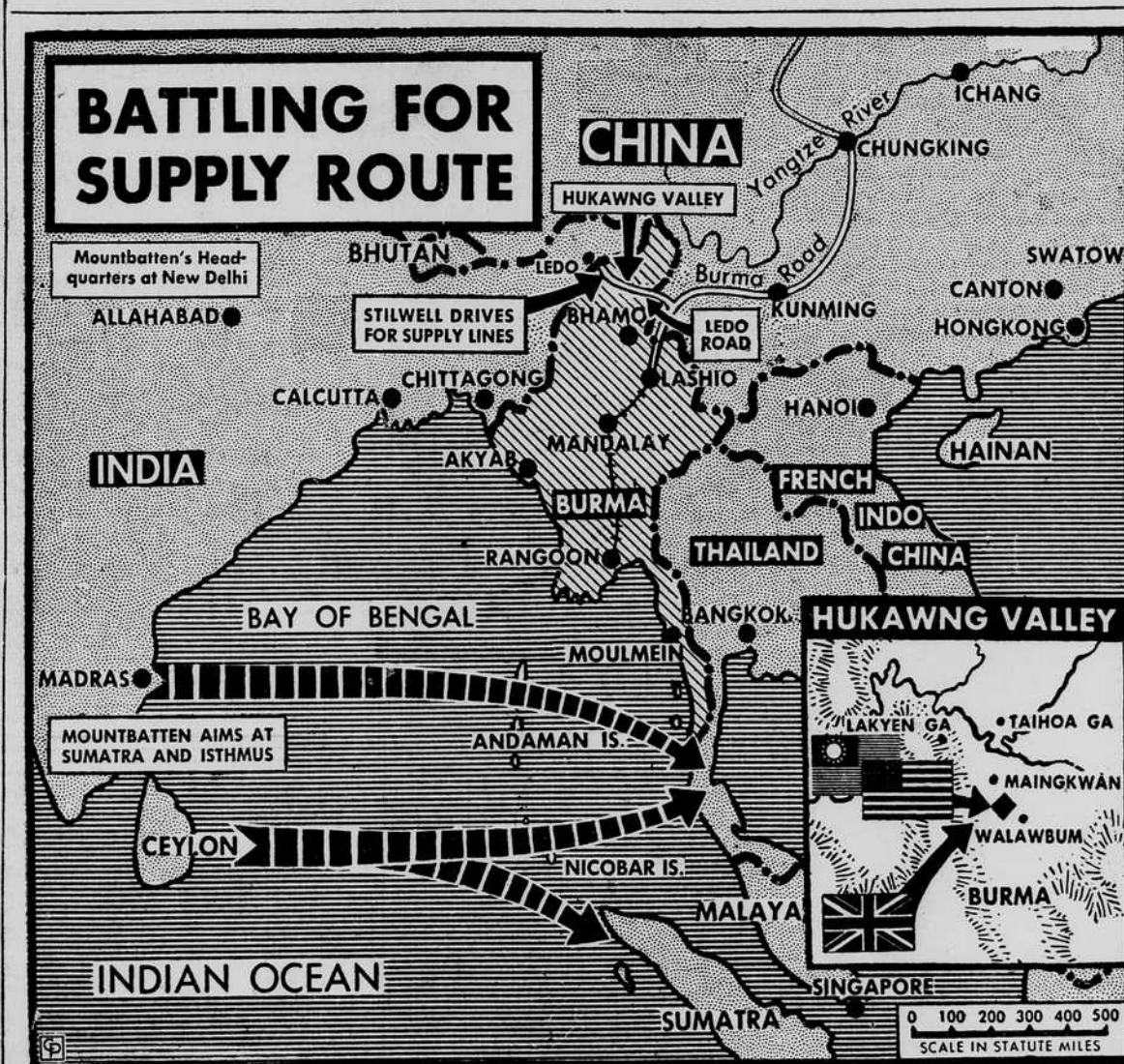
The yards cost the government \$371,960,113, and committee investigators (Continued on Page Eight; Col. 7)

PAUL, TREASURY COUNSEL, QUILTS

WASHINGTON, March 22.—(AP)—Randolph Paul, who advocated higher wartime taxes than Congress has been willing to enact, resigned today as general counsel of the Treasury.

The 54-year-old attorney told President Roosevelt in a letter of resignation that it appeared "I can contribute little more at present in this special field." Mr. Roosevelt accepted the resignation with "great regret" and told Paul his services had been "of the highest value of your country."

RAF Follows Up Strong American Raid On Berlin With Smash At Frankfurt



No army on the offensive can expect to win unless its supply line is safe from enemy attack. This is true of our campaign in Burma, which is being led by Lt. Gen. Joseph Stilwell, whose engineers have completed the Ledo Road, called the toughest road building job in the world. This was the factor which assured success in the present drive which trapped thousands of Japs in the Hukawng Valley (see inset). Eventually the Ledo Road will form a junction with the much-disputed Burma Road, over which supplies will be hauled to our Chinese allies. In addition, it will shortcut to Chungking, China's wartime capital. In the theatre commanded by Lord Louis Mountbatten a possible move might be in the direction of the Kra Isthmus (arrows) and Sumatra. This would pave the way for the recapture of Singapore and its great naval base and Sumatra, from where the Japanese are getting much-needed tin and rubber.

JAPANESE MENACE IMPHAL JUNCTION

Enemy Columns Make First Penetration Of Indian Territory

NEW DELHI, March 22.—(AP)—Japanese columns have made their first penetration of India and are pushing on westward through the Manipur mountain country in the direction of the key road junction of Imphal, 30 miles away.

The Japanese drive into India was announced by Allied headquarters today in a communique which stated little except that the enemy "continued to move to the west."

Imphal is the southern terminus of an all-weather road that winds 175 miles north through the Naga hills country to a junction with the India-Assam-China supply line, Allied jargon vein in the Burma theater.

Gen. Sir Claude E. Auchinleck, commander in chief for India (Continued on Page Two; Col. 4)

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There had been reports even before the recent Congress-White House row over taxes that Paul was in a mood to leave the Treasury. He and Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau were said to have seen eye-to-eye at all times although both advocated greatly increased wartime levies.

However, Paul denied to newsmen that there had been any rift between him and Morgenthau, adding that "it was just a matter of everything being pretty well on its way," meaning that tax matters were virtually settled for the time being.

Russians Take Important Fortified Railway Town

LONDON, March 23.—(AP)—The Red army hurled back the Germans at the southeastern end of the Ukrainian battleline — the Nazis easternmost extension in Russia — yesterday by capturing the important fortified railway junction of Pervomaisk, driving to the approaches of Voznesensk to the southeast and reaching a point eight miles from Nikolayev on the estuary, Moscow announced today.

On the northwestern end of the 500-mile line a fierce pitched battle with fresh German reserves flung in for a counter-attack resulted in the liquidation of detachments of two German guards divisions, the midnight Soviet communique said.

More than 1,000 men were killed and many prisoners and much booty captured in the battle, which the Russians located as near Podzamchye, Podzamchye, 13 miles east of Brody in old Poland, was reported captured last Sunday.

The late bulletin, recorded by the Soviet monitor, said hundreds of Germans were drowned in the Bug river when the Russians, in a two-day battle, cracked carefully erected German defenses around Pervomaisk. Moving in from the east and the south the (Continued on Page Eight; Col. 7)

JURY IS PICKED IN CHAPLIN CASE

LOS ANGELES, March 22.—(AP)—A jury of seven women and five men, most of whom appeared to be in their forties and some in their gray or balding fifties and sixties, was selected today to try 54-year-old Charlie Chaplin on a Mann Act indictment.

Prosecution and defense agreed on the jury's membership late on the second day of the comedian's trial on charges that he transported 24-year-old Joan Berry to and from New York City with immoral intent.

As the gray-clad defendant listened and watched intently at the counsel table, U. S. Attorney Charles H. Carr used five of the six peremptory challenges allotted the government.

Chaplin's lawyer, Jerry Giesler, employed nine of the defense's ten challenges.

The prosecution used three challenges to remove prospective jurors with roundabout film connections but allowed a film producer's caretaker to remain on the jury.

Carr did not disclose who the first government witness would be.

OTHER AREAS HIT

13 Bombers, Nine Fighters Reported Lost In Great U. S. Assault

LONDON, Thursday, March 23.—(AP)—American heavy bombers, escorted by powerful fighter formations, struck Berlin through heavy flak yesterday, losing 13 bombers and nine fighters, and the RAF followed up with a strong smash at Frankfurt and unspecified other German targets in the night.

The Berlin station said in a broadcast shortly after midnight that "strong British bomber formations bombed places in the Rhineland." This enemy report was promptly confirmed in London, with identification of Frankfurt as the major objective. American heavy bombers had attacked the Frankfurt area Monday.

Fifth in 19 Days
The American daylight attack yesterday on Berlin was the fifth in 19 days and the heavy bombers were estimated to have dropped 1,500 tons of explosives. They encountered no fighter opposition, but the flak was extremely heavy.

The assault was by "strong divisions" of Fortresses and Liberators, a communique from U. S. Army headquarters announced, adding that the planes "met no opposition from German fighters, although anti-aircraft fire over Berlin was intense."

The lack of aerial resistance was reflected in the announcement which, instead of telling of the shooting down of dozens of Nazi fighters, said only that "one heavy bomber taking off from an airfield was destroyed by our fighters."

Military targets still standing in Berlin as well as factories and transportation facilities in the surrounding area were pounded by the big bombers, although some of the formations were forced to drop their explosives by instrument through "thick clouds and could not observe results."

The American armada was estimated at between 500 and 750 bombers and between 750 and 1,000 escorting craft.

The communique said "very strong forces" of Mustang, Light (Continued on Page Two; Col. 7)

STUDENTS ENTER ROW AT E.C.T.C.

GREENVILLE, N. C., March 22.—(AP)—East Carolina Teachers College's student body, holding a called meeting tonight, adopted a resolution calling upon Governor Broughton to refer the matter of "alleged mishandling of college funds by Dr. Leon Meadows" to a body of state officials "higher than the board of trustees of the college, and if necessary to the state courts for a just decision."

The student body, headed by Miss Dorothy Lewis of Farmville, met after a petition had been circulated and signed today asking that the meeting be called "because of the dissatisfaction among students and the spirit of unrest on the campus because of the manner in which the entire matter has been handled."

The board of trustees of the college exonerated Dr. Meadows, head of the college, of any charges made in a report from the state auditor's office that he had not satisfactorily accounted for college and student funds totaling \$18,636.34. The decision was rendered at a meeting of the board yesterday.

'25 Pound' Raleigh Baby Weighed Only 15 Pounds, 3 Ounces

RALEIGH, March 22.—(AP)—The birth of a baby girl, at first reported to have weighed 25 pounds, at St. Agnes hospital here last night, was revealed tonight to have weighed 15 pounds and three ounces.

Dr. Thomas F. Cathcart, the attending physician, said tonight that a check of the scales used to weigh the baby revealed a 10-pound deficit. An autopsy was performed on the infant's body tonight and the correct weight is certified.

The child, born to a Negro couple, died approximately 12 hours after birth.

\$10 Will Support A Fighter Six Months — Help The Red Cross Today