

Weygand Succeeds Gamelin as Allied Army Head While Germans Pound at the Gates of St. Quentin; Nazis Drive Deeper South and West Over France

Tumbling Grain Prices Are Pegged

Move Answers Government Plea

CHICAGO, (AP)—The Chicago Board of Trade yesterday pegged grain prices to halt the plunge that sent wheat down about 30 cents in six days as German armies crashed through defense lines in Holland, Belgium and France.

In an emergency move with few precedents in modern history, the market acted at the Government's request to stop the precipitate price fall, which has reduced the potential market value of this year's wheat crop by around \$200,000,000 at present figures.

Directors voted to prohibit trading in grain futures at prices below closing levels Saturday, when wheat tumbled 10 cents a bushel in one of the most sensational collapses of the price structure since the World War.

The "Black Saturday" session was the third time within a week that wheat dropped the full 10-cent limit permitted by market rules in one day of trading.

Formal Statement Issued
Announcement of the action was made by Fred H. Clifton, secretary of the Board of Trade, in a formal statement which said:

"The directors at a special meeting today, in compliance with the request of Henry A. Wallace, secretary of agriculture, ordered that beginning at the opening of trading, Monday morning, May 20, and effective until further notice, there shall be no future trading in wheat, corn, oats, rye or soy beans on any day at prices below the following minimums:

Wheat—May 79, July 78½, September 78½, December 78½.
Corn—May 59½, July 59, September 58½, December 57¾.
Oats—May 37½, July 37½, September 37.
Rye—May 43½, July 44½, September 46½.
Soy beans—May 91½, July 89½, October 77.

Others Follow Suit

Other grain exchanges in the nation took similar action. The Kansas City Board of Trade announced that wheat and corn prices would be pegged at Saturday's closing levels there. Minneapolis and Duluth market officials also announced to establish similar minimum prices.

W. J. Krings, secretary of the St. Louis Merchants' Exchange, said its board of directors would meet today to consider pegging the mill feed futures market. New crop futures declined about \$1.85 a ton in the past week, there is no active grain futures market in St. Louis, however.

Secretary Wallace, in his telegraphed request to all grain futures markets in the country Saturday, termed such action a "temporary protective measure against further price disturbances from current war developments."

He said he believed that factors causing the sharp break might be clarified after several days.

Yesterday's order by the Chicago market followed similar action taken by the Canadian government Saturday to stop wheat declines in the Winnipeg market.

Hedge Week in Pit

It climaxed a hedge week here in the big wheat pit, which was crowded almost every minute of the sessions with exhausted brokers trying to execute a flood of orders as sensational low figures were chalked up on the blackboard.

Such pegging of the futures market has been resorted to only twice before since the turn of the century—in 1933 and in 1917.

At the time prices fell at the climax of the so-called Crawford-inflation bull market in July of



Bishop James Cannon Jr. Wants War
'There Are Some Things More Precious Than Peace'

Lindbergh Doubts Threat Of Invasion

WASHINGTON, (AP)—Calling for an end to "hysterical chatter of calamity and invasion," Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh told the American people last night that they need have no fear of attack unless they bring it on through quarreling and meddling with affairs abroad.

The co-operation of Western Hemisphere nations would make simple the air defense of America, the country's best known flyer declared in an address prepared for a nation-wide broadcast.

By implication, Colonel Lindbergh sharply criticized Administration foreign policies.

Without specific mention of President Roosevelt's recent recommendation to Congress that the nation plan for an air force of 50,000 planes, he said:

"Until we have decided upon a definite policy of defense, the mere construction of large numbers of aircraft will not be adequate for our national safety."

Urges More Arms

"We need a greater air force, a greater Army, and a greater Navy; they have been inadequate for many years," the famous flyer added.

"Let us form with our neighboring nations a clear cut and definite policy of American defense. But above all, let us stop this hysterical chatter of calamity and invasion that has been running like a fever through the last few days. It is not befitting to the people who built this nation."

Colonel Lindbergh contended that "the course we have been following in recent months leads to neither strength nor friendship nor peace."

"It will leave us hated by the victor and vanquished alike, regardless of which way the tide of battle turns. One side will claim that we aided its enemies; the other, that we did not help enough."

"Regardless of which side wins this war," he said, "there is no reason, aside from our own actions, to prevent a continuation of peaceful relationships between America and the countries of Europe."

"If we desire peace, we need only stop asking for war. No one wishes to attack us, and no one is a position to do so."

Colonel Lindbergh voiced his views on aerial defenses two days after the President, in a message stressing "the possibility of attack

Bishop Cannon Calls for War On Allies' Side

(Complete Text on Page 5)

Bishop James Cannon Jr. of the Methodist church made public here yesterday an open letter to Secretary of State Hull urging that he use his "great influence with the President and Congress to declare war against Hitler and his fellow monsters."

Declaring that some things were more precious than peace and that there could be no "permanent peace unless and until justice and righteousness prevail," Bishop Cannon asserted defense of the oppressed and of human rights was something both necessary and Christian.

"If the United States would today repeat the cowardly neutrality act and would today declare war against Germany because of the restriction of our rights by her barbarous submarine warfare, there would instantly be a great change in the attitude of the nations of the world," he said. "Instead of fear there would be hope, and I believe that there would be no menace that the sword-rattling Mussolini would enter the war."

"If Hitler Does Win"

"... It would certainly be a great calamity to the world for Hitler to win this war. Whatever may be the known and acknowledged faults and mistakes of Great Britain and France, yet the things for which they stand, as opposed to the things for which Hitler stands, are so vital for the preservation of life and liberty as we have known them that it is impossible, without a feeling of horror, to think of the overthrow of Great Britain and France, and their conceptions of freedom, of conscience, of thought, of speech, of liberty of person and the substitution of Hitler's idea of domination by brute force, his persecution of the Jews and of the church, and all that is implied by his victory."

"If Hitler does win the war against the Allies, and the British and French fleets are either captured or destroyed, not only will the front line of the defense of the United States be lost, but Hitler would obtain control of Bermuda, Jamaica, Trinidad, the French islands of the West Indies, British, French and Dutch Guiana unless we went to war with him to prevent it, and thus by air force and submarines impose upon the United States his own regulations as to all our commerce, trade and international relations, and in combination with Russia, Japan and Italy compel the United States to comply with all their demands."

Admits Unpreparedness

Bishop Cannon said it would be said in opposition to declaring war that the United States was not prepared.

"That is true," he said, "but it is as well prepared today as it was in April, 1917, and certainly the United States is not prepared for such results as would inevitably follow the Hitler victory."

Bishop Cannon said Hitler had "called the tune and the United States has danced to his music."

Had the United States declared war on Germany last October to

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Britain Calls For Planes, Mechanics

Churchill Admits 'Gravity of Hour'

LONDON, (AP)—Great Britain urgently requested mechanics to turn their hand to boost airplane production and moved 10,000 children from her exposed eastern coasts last night as Winston Churchill, making his first radio address since becoming prime minister, spoke of the "gravity of the hour."

British troops in Belgium, however, were reported to be holding "firmly," and the British air force told of new exploits in the fierce air fights over Belgium and France and of effective attacks on German military points.

While warning the nation that any attempt to minimize the danger would be "foolish," Churchill nevertheless declared there was "good evidence to show that practically the whole of the specialized and mechanized forces of the nation have already been thrown into the balance."

French Army Praised

The French army, he said, was still worthy of "invincible confidence and only a very small part has yet been heavily engaged."

As he spoke, British mechanics were asked to report at once to the nearest airplane factories for immediate duty in assembly operations.

The most urgent need of the hour, said Lord Beaverbrook, new minister of air production, was more airplanes.

The air ministry reported yesterday that at least 20 German planes were shot down along the Western Front, adding to the destruction of oil and fuel stores at Hanover.

British pilots reported the German countryside was illuminated for 50 miles by 2,000-foot columns of fire from burning oil reserves bombed at Bremen during a five-hour attack.

British Front Holds

Meanwhile a general headquarters communiqué said "the British front held firmly yesterday (Saturday) in the face of strong enemy pressure."

At home, in addition to the call for mechanics 10,000 children were transported from eastern and coastal towns to inland points to save them from any aerial blitzkrieg, and women were urged to volunteer for sewing, cooking and "special confidential duties" for the air ministry.

It was plain that all the nation's new steps centered upon air operations.

Churchill's 10-minute radio address noted that German and Allied forces were fighting behind each other's lines on the Western Front and that both were in "an extremely dangerous position."

Stabilization Predicted

However, he predicted "stabilization" of the front in a way that would "enable the qualities of the French and British soldiers to be matched squarely against those of their adversaries."

Churchill expressed full confidence in the French "genius for

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Berlin Says 100,000 Are Captured

Belgian Territory Returns to Reich

BERLIN, (AP)—The Allies, under heavy German pressure, were said last night to be losing ground all along the Belgian and French fronts, having yielded more than 100,000 prisoners and suffered heavy casualties.

As Adolf Hitler's mighty war machine rolled southward into France and westward toward the North Sea coast facing England, Nazi military experts were elated particularly by capture of "Fort 605" in the Maginot Line. Seizure of the fortification "in the light northwest of Montmedy" was reported in the high command's communiqué. DNB, official German agency, described the fortification as one of France's strongest and indicated it was taken by storm.

Defense Fire Heavy

Attacking Germans threw their full force at the fort despite heavy defense fire, DNB said, in contrast to the sudden German capture of Fort Eben Emael in Belgium by use of a new, secret weapon. (Montmedy, west of France's frontier with Luxembourg, is in a fortified belt north of the Maginot Line which, the Allies say, ends at Luxembourg.)

Hitler, meanwhile, erased another Versailles "dictate" by re-incorporating into Germany the Eupen-Malmédy-Moresnet territory lost to Belgium in the World War settlement.

The high command, reporting rising numbers of Allied prisoners and increasing quantities of captured war booty, declared that "up to now, not counting the Dutch army, prisoners number 110,000 and countless artillery up to 28-centimeter (11-inch) guns have been captured."

Allied losses also have been heavy, DNB said, particularly because of air and tank attacks on retreating columns. On the other hand, it reported, German losses during the lightning advance have been "relatively small."

Obstacles Overrun

In contrast to the World War when, in the same area, positions were open and fought over for weeks, the agency exclaimed, in this war even the most formidable obstacles simply are being overrun.

It admitted, however, that heavier losses may have been necessary at certain isolated points.

One enemy warplane was shot down during an Allied raid on Saturday night on Hamburg, DNB reported. No damage was done, there were no injuries and the raiders were chased away, it said. (The British reported bombing German oil storage tanks at Hanover, Hamburg and Bremen.)

After striking deeply toward the heart of France with motorized, armored units paced by the air fleet, the high command reported, the Germans moved up heavy forces along an expanded 55-mile front with its spearhead in St. Quentin. (The French acknowledged only that German and Allied forces had clashed on the

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British Antitank Barricade in Louvain
Such Units Have Slowed Advance of Germans

Italy Renews Threats of War, Maps Air Raid Safety in North

ROME, (AP)—Italy "must say and will say" her word in European events, and only awaits "the order of the day," Count Galeazzo Ciano, foreign minister, told the Italian people yesterday as air raid precautions were ordered for areas in the northern part of the country, facing France.

"Italy cannot remain a stranger to events in European life," Ciano said in a speech at Milan, but the people must wait until Mussolini speaks to know what to do next.

"Italy of the Ethiopian undertaking and victories in Spain is not a stranger nor can it be a stranger to events in European life in which Rome must say and will say its word," he continued.

Ciano spoke briefly on the first anniversary of the signing of "the pact of steel," the Italian-German military alliance.

While Ciano was speaking in Milan, a rumor circulated in Rome that Premier Mussolini was planning to speak tonight from his balcony at the Palazzo Venezia.

It was in the spirit of her victories, Ciano said, that Italy was hastening "these new tasks for which it will be called."

These tasks, he said, were dictated by "the necessity of finally achieving our aspirations."

Silence Broken

Italy, he said, in what appeared to be a reference to the alliance with Germany, "intends to keep faith in her engagements and will likewise her greater destiny."

Ciano said he knew the people would not expect him to say more because "the order of the day will come to us all from Il Duce when he will have decided upon it."

"And when he gives it," Ciano continued, "Milan will leap once again to its feet."

The foreign minister spoke at a time when Fascists hinted Italy was being drawn to the brink of war by German successes on the Western Front. By his speech

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60,000 Foes Only 80 Miles From Paris

New Commander Foch's Protege

PARIS, (AP)—France last night named an adopted son, General Maxime Weygand, commander of the Allied armies in place of Maurice Gustave Gamelin and called upon him to halt the German blitzkrieg which an official spokesman described as the "greatest offensive of modern warfare."

Weygand, a 73-year-old general, known during the World War as the "shadow" and right-hand man of Marshal Foch, was given command of Allied forces in "all theatres of operations" as Gamelin, light units positioned at the gates of the textile manufacturing city of St. Quentin, 80 miles north of Paris.

The fight on the outskirts of St. Quentin was one phase of a German push which the French expected to tell within 24 hours whether the Nazis would drive on toward the Channel port or turn southward down the Oise River Valley toward Paris.

60,000 Men Used

In the St. Quentin sector, the Germans hurled a motorized army corps, estimated at about 60,000 men at least, into a fierce battle between Guise and Landreches. The French high command reported last night that its troops "are opposing stubborn resistance to the enemy" in that area.

The high command said Allied fighters and antiaircraft guns had inflicted heavy losses during attempted bombing raids.

General Weygand, a native of Brussels who became a citizen of France at the age of 20, was taken from his post as commander of the French forces in the Near East to succeed General Gamelin just a day after Premier Reynaud put the World War hero of Verdun, Marshal Henri Philippe Pétain, in his government as vice-premier.

Change Announced

A communique announcing the change said General Weygand was named "chief of the national defense general staff and commander-in-chief of all theatres of operations." The appointment resulted from two conferences held with Premier Reynaud in the premier's office.

The first began at 2:30 P. M. (8:30 A. M., E. S. T.) with Marshal Pétain and the premier. The second opened at 6:30 P. M. (12:30 P. M., E. S. T.) when General Weygand alighted from an official automobile and bounded up the steps two at a time.

An hour later, the three men emerged from Reynaud's office, chatted cordially on the porch for a minute and then drove away.

General Weygand was Marshal Foch's chief-of-staff from 1916 until the end of the World War, following the French generalissimo as he was promoted to head the Allied armies in the dark spring of the war's last year.

Marshal Foch, shortly before his death in 1929, advised a French senator to call on General Weygand if a military peril menaced France and promised that "you will be tranquil."

With Germany hitting the Allied armies harder since dawn, a war office spokesman told of fighting on the edge of St. Quentin and said larger groups of the belligerents were battling "in the woods outside of town."

"Confused and hot," was the way military spokesmen described the battle from the Oise Canal to the Sambre River.

German tanks, aviation and artillery were declared joining in "unceasing attacks," although the latest reports from the front at 6 P. M. (noon E. S. T.) said the French troops had stopped the Nazi advance at St. Quentin at least temporarily.

However, the battle was admitted to be "up and down" with the advantage swinging. The military spokesman said the situation farther north, in the region of Landreches, was even "more confused."

Severe combats are continuing in the woods and forests where in several unidentified places French troops have launched attacks with

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Weygand

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California Quake Kills 8, Injures Scores; Property Damage Estimated at \$2,500,000

EL CENTRO, CAL., (AP)—Agriculturally rich Imperial Valley was struck by an earthquake Saturday night which took eight lives, injured scores of persons and did property damage estimated at \$2,500,000.

It faced a new threat of water shortage yesterday. The Imperial Irrigation District Canal, which runs from the Colorado River and brings the valley its only water was reported to be pouring through half a dozen great cracks below the border where it swings down Mexico.

Don Davis, city engineer, said he did not believe the shortage would become acute for a week or more, but district officials could give no assurance the breaks would be repaired by then.

Coroner R. W. Ware listed the dead as Mrs. Alma Ruth Mullings, 25; her two daughters, Loy, 6, and Welora, 3, and Juanita Blevins, 18, all of Imperial; John Clifford Moore, 21, of Heber; Abel Portillo, 75, of Brawley, and Manuel Gar-

cia, 25, and an unidentified Chinese in Mexicali, Lower California.

Mrs. Mullings and her children were trapped beneath the falling walls of a grocery store, as Ben Mullings, the husband and father, stood helpless beside their automobile. Miss Blevins died beside them.

Mexere was killed in the collapse of a fire wall in front of the Hotel El Centro, Portillo was a victim of falling bricks. The Chinese was smothered to death in a fire which destroyed the Hotel International and a liquor store in Mexicali.

Brawley and Imperial appeared the worst damaged of the valley cities. At least half the buildings in Brawley's main business district of eight square blocks may have to be entirely reconstructed.

The shock slipped scores of homes from their foundations and toppled almost every chimney.

Its chief main snapped in two, Brawley will be without gas for an indefinite period, Holtville,

like Imperial, lost its water tank, a tower nearly 100 feet high and storing 100,000 gallons.

After-shocks continued at close intervals yesterday. Special police and sheriff's deputies guarded the devastated areas, most of which were roped off.

Police and city engineers, who compiled the damage estimate, emphasized that a definite total could not be reached until all structures are checked closely, but indicated \$2,500,000 was a conservative figure.

Davis expressed the opinion that El Centro, with close economy, could make its 20,000-gallon water reserve last more than a week. Other cities, except Holtville and Imperial, have a reserve. The valley's population is approximately 70,000.

What effect the water shortage would have on the \$30,000,000 in farm and garden crops will depend upon how soon the canal

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Chinese Take Sinyang, Enemy Base in Honan

CHUNGKING, CHINA, (AP)—The capture by Chinese forces of Sinyang, a major Japanese base in South Honan Province, was claimed yesterday by the Chinese government.

The Chinese announced that 12 Japanese planes and large supplies of ammunition were destroyed.

Central News, Chinese news agency, reported that Lieutenant-General Jutaro Amakusa, commander of the Twenty-third Japanese Division, was wounded severely in fighting in the Nanchang-Kwangsi sector last week.