

Rumanian Front Crumbles Before Russian Onslaught

(Continued From Page One)

across the water barrier, until the border front stretched from the area of Starojinet southwest of Cernauti to Iasi, the one-time headquarters of Marshal Fritz von Mannstein.

The newspaper Pravda published a dispatch headed "Cross the Frontier" from B. Polevoi, Soviet war correspondent, which gave a dramatic account of the Russ army surge onto enemy soil.

"It is with peculiar excitement that we stand on the outskirts of a flinty, steep hill overlooking the Prut," Polevoi wrote. "It isn't a usual front line. It is the state frontier, the boundary of Soviet land. Beyond it is Rumania."

"A bridge has not yet been built. While we wait for a ferry and sappers are working on the crossing, the inhabitants of the village tell us what happened when advanced units broke through to the river, throwing German and Rumanian units into the water in the first crossing of a Soviet state frontier."

"Hurriedly-formed companies and battalions led the troops to the heights protecting the river approaches. The German and Rumanian troops were routed and rolled back to the crossing. There was such panic in the ranks that neither Tommy guns nor revolvers could halt it."

"Panicked troops overloaded ferries which rolled over and sank. They abandoned their tanks and barrels."

"Soviet sappers captured boats and rafts and forced the river. Some troops swam over, pushing their rifles, Tommy guns and ammunition on planks, boards and barrels."

"In the first hours only but growing bridgeheads were established across the Prut. By night sufficient forces were across to resume the advance into the depth of Rumania."

Russians Move Rapidly

Another front dispatch said that after forcing the Prut simultaneously at many points, the Russians gave the Germans and Rumanians no chance to recover.

"The offensive is developing with ever-growing speed," it said.

"Rumanian villages hidden among the orchards look much like Moldavian villages, but the stamp of poverty lies everywhere. The inhabitants already are accustomed to us. They are streaming home from forests and ravines where they had hidden to look with amazement at our infantry, guns, trucks and tanks."

"The organization and discipline of our troops had a tremendous effect on them, and they are genuinely sorry for those fools who, falling for the Fascist lies, abandoned their farms, drove off their cattle and fled to the rear."

Disclosure that the Germans had been pushed back beyond one of the frontiers from which they invaded Russia in June, 1941, came one week after Marshal Ivan S. Konev's 2d Ukraine army reached the Prut. T. Crowley reported today.

U. S. INCREASES PACIFIC TEMPO

(Continued From Page One)

100,000 Japs Isolated as Major Bases Suffer New Blows.

(Continued From Page One)

week with a concentrated two-day attack Thursday and Friday. Rabaul, once one of the biggest enemy bases in the Southwest Pacific, is nearly in the center of the huge area where the U. S. war department estimated that 100,000 Japanese were trapped and faced either starvation or death from disease.

Ground forces also were active throughout the Pacific area. In New Guinea, Australian forces met their first resistance in several weeks when the Japanese counter-attacked in the Muntinj valley near the north coast base of Bogadjin.

American troops in strong force were reported to have reached the Kabemba river, seven miles southeast of Bogadjin.

On the Asia continent, Tokyo radio claimed that Japanese troops occupied a part of the Imphal-Kohima highway, 25 miles north of Imphal, and predicted that the fall of Imphal, British Indian border base, "is now a not distant possibility."

Land Troops Advance

The U. S. navy department revealed that 13 men were killed and 46 wounded Feb. 22 when a U. S. destroyer opened fire on three American landing boats storming Parry Island in Eniwetok atoll.

A report by a special board of inquiry said both the destroyer and the landing craft were "slightly out of scheduled positions" because of difficult navigation conditions and smoke and dust restricting visibility.

PLAN TO LOWER TOP AGE OF DRAFT DENIED

WASHINGTON, April 3 (U. P. —

—) Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, national selective service director, to-day denied knowledge of a reported army plan to lower the draft age from 38 to 31 in order to spare more older men for industry while stepping up the call for young recruits.

Hershey said he doubted if such a plan would meet the manpower needs of the armed services.

He estimated that not more than 230,000 of the 1,187,000 men under 26 now deferred on farms or in war plants would be inducted after considering continued deferments for key men and a rejection rate of around 40 per cent. It was considered unlikely that the remaining 778,000 of the 1,000,000 men wanted by the armed forces by July 1 could be found in the 26-31 age group.

The policies to guide continued deferments of men under 26 have been under study by a federal inter-agency committee headed by manpower chief Paul V. McNutt and a decision is expected soon, possibly

today.

CHURCH SERVICES MARK HOLY WEEK

(Continued From Page One)

pal churches and the Wheeler mission.

An interdenominational committee, including both Catholics and Protestants, of which Humbert P. Pagani is the chairman, announces that almost every neighborhood church in the city will hold Good Friday services. Thus Indianapolis expects to carry out her ideal of many years: "A reverent city on Good Friday."

The Knights of Columbus will sponsor the outdoor "Way of the Cross" devotions in the Obelisk Square of the World War memorial Good Friday from 2:15 to 3 p. m. The service, which is attended by thousands each year, will be broadcast over WISH.

Held Devotions Daily

"Way of the Cross" devotions at St. John's Catholic church, attended by businessmen and women and grade school children, will be held daily at noon through Thursday. A cross bearer and two candle bearers pass from station to station while the Rev. Fr. Bernard Sheridan or one of his assistants, the Rev. Fr. Richard Grogan and the Rev. Fr. Joseph Beecham, will read the prayers.

The Rev. J. Floyd Seigle, pastor of the Capitol Avenue Methodist church is in charge of the singing and the Rev. H. H. Hazenfeld will preside at the English theater meetings, today through Thursday.

George Newton was today's soloist. Other soloists, tomorrow through Thursday are in order: Mrs. Lowell Springer, Charles Hamilton and Mrs. Russell Barton.

The Rev. E. E. Wright was to have charge of the devotions today and the Rev. Carroll J. Rockey will lead tomorrow at English. Speakers and devotions leaders at the theater Wednesday and Thursday are respectively: the Rev. W. Franklin Lahr and the Rev. H. M. Myrick; and Dr. W. R. Montgomery and the Rev. Thomas R. Thresher.

U. S. AID TO RUSS LISTED

WASHINGTON, April 3 (U. P. —

The Russ army's mighty offensives have been backed up by 8,800 American-made planes, 2,600,000 tons of American food and vast shipments of munitions and other supplies from the United States, foreign economic administrator Leo T. Crowley reported today.

Ex-Senator Norris Uneasy Over Diplomacy of U. S.

(Continued From Page One)

and munitions factories; but he warns that the peace settlement this time must not be one of vengeance carried on to innocent generations, else there will be another holocaust.

It is inspiring and warming to talk to the ex-senator, and particularly so here against his background, for it gives you a better understanding of the man and the people among whom he lives in mid-America—drab, yes; living in towns so much alike, yes; but still groping for a star.

There is the brick railroad station, where the streamliners whiz by going east and west, and the plain people mill about—and now so many soldiers, sturdy young men with girls clinging to their arms or standing about in admiring, giggling circles. Always associated with this country is the whistle of the streamliner which walls through the night, crying across the plains lonely as the voice of a phone.

Away from the station, up the hill, leads Main street, just as in all of these towns here, past the stores, predominantly chain names now, past the once nice restaurant which is so crowded and so short of help that you have to stand in line to eat. But nobody complains as they wait, while the girls rush about with

steaming dishes balanced precariously on healthy young arms, fresh and milky-white.

You pass the hotel where the manager, himself, is down every morning soon after daybreak, sweeping the lobby and tidying up.

On out Main street is the residential section of simple one and two story houses, most of wood construction, a few of brick or stucco.

Wife Does Cooking

Seven blocks from the station sits the two-story stucco house where the senator lives with his wife who, at seventy, has to do the cooking and most of the housework because of the lack of domestic help. The senator has lived for 60 years in this house.

He meets you at the door and welcomes you, glad to have a visitor. He leads you to the sun porch of the first floor where he spends most of his time. Here he works on his autobiography which is now nearly completed and will be published in the fall. Newspapers are about, and books.

He talks about Washington and congress and the world and the plain people, relighting from time to time the stub of a cigarette.

And the lonely whistle of the streamliner breaks every so often into the room. You can't get away from it.

(To Be Continued Tomorrow.)

GOP 'V' GROUP IN HOT DENIAL

Each County Faction Says

It 'Already Has Won Party Control.'

(Continued From Page One)

night after three weeks of conference among party leaders. Judge Stark was defeated in the congressional nomination race four years ago by organization-sponsored James A. Collins.

The field of candidates for G. O. P. congressional nomination was raised to nine Saturday night by the last-minute candidacies of Edmund John Rocker and John E. King.

Others who filed previously were Ward B. Hiner, Edward E. Lewis, J. C. Cartwright, Capt. Ralph Updegraff of the marine corps and John E. King of special representative of the Indianapolis Power & Light Co.

Rep. Louis Ludlow, incumbent, was unopposed for the Democratic nomination.

The Democrats developed a lively last-minute factional scrap, too.

Anti-organization forces led by James F. Cunningham, Center township trustee, filed almost a complete slate of candidates during the closing hours against County Chairman Russell Dean's organization slate.

Democrats Have Contests

Anti-organization Democrats will support Joseph Howard for the prosecutor nomination against Wilfred Bradshaw, former juvenile court judge, who is the leading organization candidate on the county slate.

The regular organization faced contests also in the sheriff, surveyor and county commissioner races.

They filed Lewis L. Johnson for sheriff, Earl L. Johnson for surveyor and Mrs. Josephine Wade for county commissioner, second district.

Against these anti-organization leaders filed Daniel J. O'Neill for sheriff, John C. Ryan for surveyor and Amos P. Stevens for commissioner second district.

Two Are Unopposed

The biggest scramble for seats in the legislature in many years developed during the last days of filing with the number reaching 104 for Marion county's 11 seats in the house of representatives.

Of these, 72 Republicans sought the 11 party nominations and 32 Democrats were out for their 11 nominations.

In the races for county offices, the city hall victory committee didn't appear to have put up much opposition to the regular G. O. P. organization slate.

Frank P. Huse, for treasurer and Dr. R. B. Storms for coroner, both regular organization candidates, are unopposed.

Judge's Term Unexpired

In his announcement for congress, Judge Stark, who still has three more years as superior court judge, said he decided to run for the nomination because he felt it his duty as a citizen to contribute whatever he could to national affairs.

Judge Stark formerly was Marion county prosecutor and chief deputy prosecutor during the administration of William Remy.

After graduating from law school, Judge Stark began practicing law in 1922 and organized the first legal aid bureau in the state under the Family Welfare society. He taught classes in Americanization and for several years was a member of Benjamin Harrison Law school and served in the navy during the last war.

Judge and Mrs. Stark live at 5306 Kenwood ave., and have a daughter and a son, the latter an ensign in the navy.

Issues Statement

Regarding his candidacy, Judge Stark said:

"To represent the 11th district in congress at this time is a challenge and presents an opportunity justifying any sacrifice an individual could make."

"We must all remember that there are battles to be fought at home as well as abroad. If we lose the battles on the home front and in Washington, the victories gained at heavy sacrifices in foreign lands will be empty."

"Like most families, whose young men and women have left home and security to fight our battles, I have a son in the service of the United States navy. None of us want these

COUNTY TREASURER

Republican—Frank P. Huse, 2518 Princeton pl.

Democrat—Henry Mueller, 810 E. Morris st.; Charles C. Conner, Jr., 2143 N. Sunbeam st.; Otto W. Pettit, 32 S. Alabama st.; Charles C. Conner, Jr., 2143 N. Sunbeam st.; Charles (Chick) Routh, 1612 Brookside ave.

Republican—Marion A. Campbell, 1187 N. Pennsylvania st.; John W. Cochran, 209 Orange st.; Daniel J. O'Neill, 161 W. Alabama st.; William E. Brown, 1629 W. Alabama st.; Charles E. Smith, 2149 W. Alabama st.; Paul W. Tindor, 4190 Central ave.

Democrat—Lewis L. Johnson, 4149 Central ave.; Ralph A. Estes, 1633½ S. Meridian st.; John W. Jenkins, 307 E. Washington st. No. 1.

COUNTY CORONER

Republican—Dr. Roy B. Storms, 23 E. 16th st.

Democrat—Charles H. Lapp, 1729 W. Washington st.; Dr. John W. Webb, 355 Campbell ave.

COUNTY SURVEYOR

Republican—Paul R. Brown, 2307 Brookside pkwy., south of George G. Schmidt, 161 W. Alabama st.; Bob B. Campbell, 161 W. Alabama st.

Democrat—Earle L. Johnson, 5418 Julian Ave.; John C. Ryan, R. R. 16, Box 311 E.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Second District

Republican—William Boson Jr., 3725 N. LeGrand st.; Samuel C. Walker, 1604 E. LeGrand st.

Democrat—Amos P. Stevens, 1545 Florence st.; Chester Schnecker, 1324 Delaware st.; Earl L. Johnson, 2209 E. Delaware st.; James E. Tindor, 4190 Central ave.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Third District

Republican—Ray D. Mendenhall, R. R. 1, Box 100, 16th and Harrison st.; William M. Johnson, 1616 W. Harrison st.

Democrat—Wilfred Bradshaw and Joseph Howard.

STRAUSS SAYS . . . STORE HOURS: MONDAY 12:15 TILL 8:45

OFFICIAL WEATHER

U. S. Weather Bureau

All Data in Central War Time

Sunrise . . . 6:25 | Sunset . . . 7:11

TEMPERATURE

April 3, 1944

7 a. m. . . . 24 | 2 p. m. . . . 42

Precipitation 24 hrs. ending 7:30 a. m. . . . 00

Total precipitation since Jan. 1 7.50

Deficiency since Jan