

BERLIN BATTLE IN 'FULL FURY'

**Nazis Report Russians
Break Into Kuestrin;
Hitler Visits Front.**

(Continued From Page One)

The Oder river behind Kuestrin, 38 miles east of Berlin, and was storming the burning fortress city from "all sides"—an indication that Kuestrin has been encircled.

The forces which attacked from the rear broke into the west-bank portion of Kuestrin, Berlin said, but the main assault came from the northwest on the opposite side of the big bend of the Oder.

The German defenders repulsed 17 Soviet thrusts from the northwest, the German DNB agency's Ernst von Hammer said. On their 18th try, powerful Russian infantry and tank forces broke into the streets of the city, he said.

Tells of Nazi Reserves

Fresh German reserves rushed up and forced the Soviet "remnants" back into the "interior of the town," Von Hammer said.

The wording of the broadcast indicated that the Russians at one time may have held almost all of Kuestrin and even at present were in the center of the city.

Other Soviet forces were in northeastern Kuestrin, Von Hammer said. Numerous planes were said to be supporting the Red army attacks.

Though Nazi broadcasts remained silent on developments elsewhere along the Berlin front, Moscow's report that the whole Oder-Neisse line was "afire" pointed to attacks all the way from Stettin to the Sudeten foothills.

Aimed Squarely at Berlin

The main thrust obviously was being aimed at Berlin from the Kuestrin and Frankfurt areas areas due east of the capital. But the flanking drives toward Stettin in the north and Dresden in the south may prove equally decisive in the final accounting.

Nazi reports yesterday said the Russians had driven west to Seelow, 10 miles beyond the Oder and only 28 miles east of Berlin, only to be thrown back seven miles to Rathstock, three miles west of the Oder.

Moscow dispatches said the 1st and 2d White Russian armies have seized roughly two-thirds of Germany's Baltic coast east of Stettin bay and mopped up nine-tenths of German Pomerania.

Soviet bombers were reported pulverizing river crossings in the Stettin area in conjunction with Red army artillery on an around-the-clock basis.

(A Paris broadcast said Soviet troops had "occupied the airfield of Stettin and have reached the edge of the city." The broadcast was reported by the FCC.)

**'THEY THREW AWAY
THE BOOK OF RULES'**
(Continued From Page One)

beyond, and expand the bridgehead.

This, at least, is the way the amazing story is pieced together from those stirring front-line dispatches.

That the enemy is "now wheeling into position for counter-attack as soon as possible must be taken for granted."

That he will fight as he never has fought before must be expected. For the heart of Germany can be pierced from that bridgehead east of the Rhine, and it is now or never for Hitler's crack legions.

But at the beginning of this mighty battle, American daring has won the initial advantage—a momentous advantage, which might have cost months of bloody sacrifice.

And thanks to the heroism of our Canadian and British allies in the north, Patton's breakthrough around Coblenz, and the Americans and French in the French in the south—all covered by a victorious air force—Eisenhower's whole line moves.

A proud and grateful America salutes the gallant allied armies.

Defense Lawyers Object to Jury Visiting Murder Scene

(Continued From Page One)

held the state has called 24 witnesses. Another state witness today was Henry Krauss, a partner of Detective Sgt. Five Davis, who also continued his previous testimony.

Detective Krauss told of his interviews with Mrs. Wiedenhoft, who was seriously beaten. He said she selected the photograph of DeGraphe from a number of "rogue's gallery" pictures.

Tells of Interview

The detective also testified that the defendant's left ankle was swollen at the time of questioning at police headquarters. Sgt. Davis said he first talked to DeGraphe last July 29, shortly after his arrest on a vagrancy charge. Later he was placed in a police lineup and identified by Mrs. Wiedenhoft, the detective said.

The defense dwelt upon the fact that DeGraphe was the only Negro in the lineup. Deputy Prosecutor Frank X. Haupt countered by establishing that several white men in the lineup were dark as the defendant.

Defense attorneys have indicated several days may be needed to present evidence of their witnesses. It would carry the case into next week.

Whether Attorneys Lewis and Begue will call the defendant to the stand to testify in his own defense still was a closely-guarded secret.

The defense has fought unceasingly to prevent introduction of circumstantial evidence such as a log wrench and a .32-caliber revolver admitted yesterday by Judge Bain.

Lt. Howard Hunter, police criminologist, testified to human blood stains on the barrel of the gun and the socket of the wrench. The state alleges that the wrench was one of the weapons used to slug the florist into a horribly-beaten condition.

The criminologist, whose technical testimony was in the best manner of Philo Vance and other fictional detectives, drew visible interest from courtroom spectators.

He described the condition of broken twigs in a hedge adjoining the Wiedenhoft home at 2260 S. Meridian st., which traced the flight of the pair of robbers. The second man at the scene has never been identified. Lt. Hunter said police methods used in this case were the latest in crime detection.

Meanwhile, six state guard companies were mobilized and on active duty in threatened areas. German war prisoners were working on levees at Jeffersonville. Camp Atterbury sent extensive shipments of gots and bedding to stricken areas.

Crest of the river in its rush downstream was at Portsmouth, O., where the water climbed to 64.93, only .07 feet short of the level at which army engineers said they could hold back the waters straining against the sandbagged flood-wall.

Cargo planes from Indianapolis Stout field dropped 25,000 empty sandbags into the city with bombing precision for erection of a temporary dike, and Mayor John Salada said the next few hours would be the crucial ones in determining the city's fate.

War production was resumed today in the upper Ohio river valley as floodwaters receded to near-normal stages.

Mines began operations in the eastern Ohio area after a two-day shutdown and at Pittsburgh workers returned to their jobs in the city's factories and steel mills.

Late reports indicated that the waters were rising slowly along some 600 miles of the river's length in Kentucky from the "elbow" at Cynthiana, to Paducah, at the other end of the state.

Only Cincinnati and Covington, Ky., across the river, were considered immune. The river flattened out as it hit the broader channel in that area, and weather officials reported a one-half-foot fall from yesterday's 69.2-foot peak.

At Louisville, the river rose slowly toward a 48-foot level. During the night the water hit the 47.1 foot mark, only 10 feet below the high mark in the 1937 disaster.

Mayor Wilson Wyatt told Louisville residents last night that the situation was well in hand, however. He said some 1200 persons had been evacuated to the city's five refugee centers and were being fed and cared for.

Across the river at Jeffersonville, Ind., police reported progress in their efforts to hold back the river. Some 350 war workers and soldiers reinforced the weak spots in the city's floodwall, but stood ready to evacuate at any time.

FLOOD DANGER SIGNS LOWERED

**Southern Indiana Cheered
By Clearing Skies at
Critical Hour.**

(Continued From Page One)

pocket city were inundated last night, with the Ohio river crest expected Sunday barring more heavy rains.

State board of health workers supervised water treatment along the swollen Ohio. Water was shipped into Aurora, Cannelton and Leavenworth. Joseph L. Quinn, state sanitary engineer, said 3000 typhoid vaccines were on hand if the disease springs up.

War Prisoners Aiding
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The Mystery Solved—Reason Rabbits Run Faster Uphill

(Continued From Page One)

body. The junction is just so much meat and so he has no power in his front legs. They're used strictly for balancing purposes.

"IN GOING downhill a rabbit would be jockeyed into the awkward position of throwing most of his weight on his front legs." As Mr. Dodd sees it, this would be bad, slightly frustrating. It might take some time for a rabbit to decide whether to risk the weight of his body on his front legs, or whether to launch on an unbalanced hind-leg downskid.

He pointed out that in going uphill these problems vanish as the rabbit's weight would be entirely on his rear-legs.

THEN before you could say jackrabbit, Mr. Dodd reeled off, quickly and without pausing, a lengthy plug for the most gigantic rabbit show ever scheduled in Indianapolis.

Sponsored by the Marion County Rabbit Breeders' association, the exhibit will be held May 9 through 13 in the saddle horse barns of the state fairgrounds. Hundreds of blueblood rabbits and thousands of people will be there, he said. And it's all free.

Mr. Dodd said he would gladly demonstrate his theory on rabbits and hills at the show if asked to do so.

THE ARMY QUIZ question touched off a round of cogitation echoing from hither to yon. Zoo experts and outdoor fans voiced their opinions on the news wires. G. I.'s scoffed at the idea of anything going faster uphill than down. Yesterday State Entomologist Frank Wallace said he did not know about it either.

**BELIEVE BAD SNOWS
TURN ANIMAL WHITE**
PENINSULA, O. (U. P.).—North-ern Ohio's worst winter in 20 years has folks believing that weather conditions are turning animals white. Anyway, a white possum with pink eyes was discovered eating bread and milk placed in a farmer's yard for the family cat.

GAS CO. TO BUILD NEW COKE OVENS

(Continued From Page One)

supply low B. T. U. gas for under-firing the new battery and the 1941 battery, both of which are built to utilize low B. T. U. gas. A producer plant utilizes the small sizes of coke and produces a low-heat value gas, suitable for coke oven underfiring, by a constant circulation of air and steam through a burning fuel bed.

The improvements are the latest in the utility's long-range plan developed after the privately-owned gas company was taken over by the city in 1935. In March, 1941, the 12 million cubic feet holder was built at the Langsdale plant on Northwestern ave. in the northwest section of the city, and in October that year a new battery of ovens was built at Prospect.

As a result, the utility has been able to meet war demands. Compared with 1935, the 1944 figures show industrial gas consumption is up 600 per cent, the number of domestic consumers (reaching 108,621 meters in service) is up 40 per cent and domestic gas consumption has increased 82 per cent. Total gas consumption in 1944 was 140 per cent higher than in 1935.

In School Play

Pat Bauder will play the title role in "Janie" to be given by the dramatic club of Ben Davis high school tonight in the school auditorium.

Others cast in the three-act comedy are John Soule, Mary Ann Hittle, Phyllis Sockler, Bob Kellems, Bill Merrick, Mary Ann Risley, Betty Jane Scott, Max Moore, June Thorpe, Ernest Grosdidier, Jane Bauder, Ralph Swift, David Grosdidier, Melvin Cook, Donna Lunt, Delbert Binkley, Bill Kellems, Bob Risley and Roy Matlock.

Managers are Myrna Lewis, Marilyn Grimes and Dale Haley. The production will be directed by Mrs. Elsie Ball.

During intermissions, the high school band, led by Mrs. Omar Rybolt, will play "Rose-Marie," "One Kiss," "Body and Soul," and "The Mounties."

STOLEN SAFE DROPS FROM FLEEING AUTO

Burglars "fumbled the ball" last night in an attempt to steal a safe from the office of the Stark-Wetzel Meat Packing Co., 725 Gardner ave. As night watchman Theodore Lewis, 712 N. Alabama, approached a parked car at the firm's loading dock, it was driven away at high speed, an 800-pound safe dropping from the rear of the car.

Further investigation revealed that the company's office had been entered and ransacked, but nothing other than the recovered safe taken.

presence of large numbers of inexperienced replacements among the Nazi prisoners now falling into allied hands.

Since the current offensive across the Roer started in the west, the Germans have lost close to 75,000 prisoners of war alone. The take on Wednesday was between 8000 and 9000 prisoners. Since the first of February the Germans have lost about 150,000 prisoners of war on the Western front.

Cut Up Divisions

They lost more than 100,000 prisoners in the battle in the Ardennes. These figures are in addition to their killed and wounded which can be estimated at least equal to prisoners of war.

The rapid dash of Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's 3d army to Coblenz is expected to cut off parts of several more German divisions while the Nazis south of the Moselle are in danger of being cut off.

The Germans probably got parts of most of their divisions back across the Rhine from the area north of the Moselle, but few with out serious losses in men, and even greater losses in material.

L. S. Ayres & Co.

Finishing Touches to a Sub-Deb Spring wardrobe... Captivating, colorful accessories. Brimming with Teen-appeal

*20% Tax on Bags and Jewelry

Sub-Deb Accessories, Fourth Floor

Yanks After

(Continued From Page One)

guards fumble, milting of the across the river track railway

Fan American onto the bridge plovies and the industrial

The first sh bridge seized Erpel and fa north and so stance that e ended only slight today—48 hou German s Americans of Linz of the bridge another dou driven two r

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From Their enti caving in u allied armie

RATION ORDER (Continued From Page One)

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