

Mayor Reviews Activities Here Following Flood

Talk Of Action Of City Commissioners, WPA, CCC And Others

Following is a synopsis of various activities here following the recent flood disaster, as given by Mayor R. F. McNeil Friday before the North Wilkesboro Kiwanis club.

"On the morning of the disaster at 9:00 o'clock I called a meeting of the city commissioners and invited J. H. Whicker, head cross chairman, R. G. Finley, chairman of disaster relief, and several other business men. After short discussion, the commissioners ordered that \$300.00, which was set up in the budget for welfare or relief, be made available to take care of and feed the families that had everything destroyed by the high water. A committee, consisting of R. G. Finley, J. H. Whicker and J. E. Walker, was appointed to look after this until we had time to communicate with the Red Cross headquarters.

"At this meeting, the board also made an order that the water committee, of which J. B. Carter is chairman, take the necessary steps to repair the damage to the water plant. I told Mr. Carter that I would help with this committee. We all went to work, and worked day and night. In the meantime, while we were repairing our damage, our neighbor, Wilkesboro, completed their water system. Through the Mayor and Commissioners, we were provided with water until we got our system working.

"C. M. Crutchfield, area supervisor for the WPA in this region, called and said he had something that would interest me and the city commissioners. I asked him to meet with us the next morning, which he did. He told us that he had made a long trip to see about an emergency project to help us clean our streets of houses, lumber, debris, or anything that came along, this to be done without cost to the town. The WPA workers, through their loaders, have done us a splendid job and saved the town several hundred dollars, for which we are very grateful. I had a letter from Congressman R. L. Doughton, stating that the CCC boys would be here to assist. They came, numbering about 125, ready to do anything that needed to be done. We have had many incidentals to spend for. However, I don't believe it has cost us more than \$500.00 to repair our water plant, plus the \$300.00 previously mentioned. There are many things we have not been able to repair yet, and I cannot make an estimate on what it will cost.

"I also wish to advise that I have contacted Congressman R. L. Doughton and Congressman W. O. Burgin with reference to a flood control dam. Mr. Burgin, as many of you know, was here Monday looking over the flood area. They were most interested in this project. I also discussed this with two army engineers who were sent here from Charleston, S. C. They think it is a very worthy project. I learned from the paper Tuesday morning that Senator Bailey is chairman of the Senate Commerce Committee, which handles the flood control legislation, and he said that he is determined to press forward the legislation in the hope of obtaining action at this session of congress.

"I want to thank the different committees and individuals, the health department, the Red Cross, Miss Lespestre, and her co-workers for their assistance and cooperation during this great tragedy."

Commission Tells Of Flood Ruling

Raleigh.—Flood conditions in the Asheville, Boone, North Wilkesboro, Elkin and other sections of the west, then in the Roanoke Rapids, Weldon, Williamston and other areas in the east, caused waiving of rights and a record-time decision of the State Unemployment Compensation Commission in determining rights of workers in mills and plants in which work stopped as a result of the floods.

Also, it brought into the limelight an amendment to the Unemployment Compensation Law, adopted by the 1937 General Assembly, which prohibits payment of unemployment benefits to claimants "if unemployment is due to a fire, where found by the Commission to constitute a catastrophe, a flood, a cyclone, a tornado or other catastrophe . . ."

The Commission, within six days after the floods began to subside in the North Wilkesboro area, on August 21, rendered a decision which held, in effect, that while the mill or plant was

not operating because of flood waters in the buildings, then the workers were unemployed due to the flood; but from the day on which the flood waters had subsided, then the flood "ceased to be the efficient, immediate or active cause of the claimant's unemployment and thereafter said unemployment was not due to a flood." The decision ordered that the claims of such unemployed workers be processed and that they be paid such benefits as they are entitled to under the law, if otherwise eligible.

Employers involved waived their rights of time allowed for appeals in order that test cases might be disposed of expeditiously, and in most cases agreed that benefits should be paid to their employees under such conditions, even though a strict interpretation of the law would raise the question of whether or not they are eligible for benefits, and even though such benefits are charged to the employers' individual account and have a bearing on their record under the State's "Merit Rating" system.

The decision, in effect, allows payment after the waters subside, even if it should take weeks or even months to get the mills or plants and their machinery in condition to resume operations. It was reached after conferences with Governor Hoey, Attorney General McMullan, Social Security Board officials and employers involved, based on the logic that the workers are or were unemployed "through no fault of their own."

Party Leaders Laud Wallace

Party Chiefs Hear Vice Presidential Candidate's Speech Of Acceptance

Des Moines, Ia., Aug. 29.—Henry Agard Wallace tonight turned the "dictatorship" tables on the Republicans by declaring another term for President Roosevelt would constitute an antidote for Hitlerism in the western hemisphere.

Formally accepting the Democratic vice presidential nomination here before a cheering, corn-stalk-waving crowd, the candidate said:

"Most Republicans may not realize it, but their party is the party of appeasement in the United States today."

Nomination of President Roosevelt for a third term in the White House has been the subject of charges of dictatorship by G. O. P. spokesmen.

Democratic party officials estimated the crowd at 7,000.

Farmers and party leaders from a dozen midwestern states converged on Des Moines for a New Deal loyalty demonstration built around the acceptance speech.

From more distant points came such party luminaries as Edward J. Flynn of New York, Democratic national chairman, L. W. (Chip) Robert of Atlanta, Ga., secretary of the Democratic National committee, and Representative Marvin Jones, Democrat of Texas, chairman of the House agricultural committee.

Prize Wallace

Representative Marvin Jones of Texas saluted Wallace as "a magnificent tribute to the manhood of the west, and a worthy running mate for Franklin D. Roosevelt."

Jones served in place of Speaker W. B. Bankhead of Alabama, chosen originally by the Democratic National committee to notify Wallace of his nomination by the Chicago convention in July.

"My sense of duty to the country in these critical days of national legislation," Bankhead wrote in a letter read at tonight's ceremony, "persuaded me that because of my official position I should remain in daily touch with proceedings in the House of Representatives."

Bankhead referred to Wallace and Jones as "yoke-fellows for over seven years in working out and executing an agricultural program for the country that has been so sound and serviceable that even the Republicans' platform and their candidate for President unite in endorsing its unchanged continuation."

CARD OF THANKS

The family of Laura Sue Parks extends heartfelt thanks for the many acts of kindness, expressions of sympathy and beautiful flowers given during her extended illness and at her death. To everyone of our friends and neighbors, to the officials and employees of the Wilkes Hosier Mills and the doctors and nurses at the Wilkes Hospital, we are grateful and pray God's richest blessings on each of you.

MRS. EMMA PARKS AND CHILDREN.

One hundred and six fewer persons were killed in traffic accidents in North Carolina the first half of this year as were killed in the same period in 1937.

Aid Given By Welfare Dept. Outlined Here

Large Amount Of Food and Clothing Given To Victims Of Flood Disaster

The following outline of activities of the Wilkes county welfare department, particularly since the flood on August 14, was given before the North Wilkesboro Kiwanis club Friday by Mrs. W. R. Absher, statistician of the welfare department:

"The Surplus Commodity warehouse was flooded and through the courtesy of W. K. Sturdivant headquarters were opened in one of Mr. Sturdivant's buildings.

On the day following the flood food supplies from the Surplus Commodity Division of the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare began to arrive and continued to come daily until there was food enough to take care of flood victims. Over 200 cases representing from 800 to 1000 people who were damaged by the flood have been given emergency food orders. Each order contains a month's supply of food and consists of flour, meal, meat, lard, cheese, prunes, raisins, and milk for children under three years of age.

One hundred mattresses for double beds have been given the welfare department by the Guilford county welfare department. The WPA district sewing room gave around 250 outfits of clothing for flood victims. These supplies came through the Surplus Commodity Division of the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare. People who had been engaged in public or private employment and who lost that employment because of flood and were in need have been referred to WPA. For all those who have farms and have been deriving their major portion of support from the farm, we have referred them to the Farm Security Office.

The subsistence farmers, that is, the farmer who produced for home consumption only, if his crop was damaged and he is otherwise eligible, we are referring for WPA employment.

In addition to this we are now paying monthly awards to 564 Old Age Assistance recipients amounting to \$5,042.00 per month. Also grants are being paid to 343 dependent children amounting to \$1,884 per month, averaging \$5.50 per child; 35 persons are receiving blind assistance amounting to \$449.00 per month. This means that 942 persons receive monthly checks through the public assistance program amounting to \$7,462.00 per month. Our superintendent of public welfare, Charles C. McNeill, is requesting the state office to enlarge our grants to take care of 130 cases who are eligible and who need it more than ever since the flood.

The Welfare Department is also the referral agency to CCC and NVA as well as WPA. This means that all applicants apply to the welfare office and are investigated by case workers before being referred to said agencies; 72 boys were enrolled for CCC in July and we are expecting a larger enrollment in October due to the flood and preference will be given to boys in families who have suffered by the flood. The parents of the CCC boys will receive \$22.00 per month as long as the boy is in camp.

Damage Caused By Air Raids Fails To Shake Britons' Faith

With the British Army's Southern Command in the field—in three days' travel through military and naval areas which the Germans have been bombing nightly I have found little damage which would hinder Britain's war effort, an unshaken faith among soldiers and civilians that they can "stick it out" and considerable contempt for German marksmanship.

A British officer told me service casualties have been one soldier killed and "a very few injured, and they not seriously."

"Officers have allowed me to go where I wished and I personally have seen this damage:

In a machine shop where recruits are taught to use tooling machines: Two machines damaged, shop partly damaged but now well on the way to reconstruction. No casualties.

A vicar, and his housekeeper shaken up by two bombs which fell near his house, miles from any military objective.

The wing of an old folks' home hit by a bomb. Twelve sick and feeble old people killed. Home considerable distance from any military objectives.

Damage Caused By Air Raids Fails To Shake Britons' Faith

The men of this army of 60,000 soldiers are so confident that Adolf Hitler's invasion which may come any night, will be defeated by mobile British columns because, "we have improved on the Germans' new conception of warfare. We will defeat him at his own game as we always have."

Lieutenant General C. J. E. Auchinleck, commander-in-chief of the southern command, who scored Britain's sole land success in Norway, by leading a mixed force of Poles, French and British in the capture of Narvik, says:

"In Flanders and France we learned that first of all we must have increased co-operation between the army, navy and the air force. We really get inside each other's minds now and we meet at the high-water mark on the beaches of Britain. . . .

"Now we have increased mobility so that mobile columns, working with the R. A. F., will be able to converge on any single stretch of flat country here if the German high command selects it as a landing port."

"The Germans will try it, all right," he concluded. "They will

Damage Caused By Air Raids Fails To Shake Britons' Faith

not care how many men are killed in landing, or how many troops carriers crash.

"But I, my commanders and men, down to the lowest sergeant, know that we get a hot reception."

Willkie "Great" Natural Talker, Experts Claims

Owen Spivey Reunion Sept. 8

The annual Owen Spivey reunion will be held Sunday, Sept. 8, at Deyer Baptist church, in Moore county, near Star, North Carolina. The following program will be given:

Devotional, Rev. J. R. Jordan, Star; welcome, John Brown, High Point; special singing by different choirs and quartets; address, Rev. L. R. O'Brien, Asheville. All relatives and friends are invited to attend.

One interesting feature in our reunion is writing our family history, we hope to soon have our history completed. All those connected with these two families that haven't received a history blank, please write to Mrs. J. L. Wilkes, Worthville, N. C. You will immediately receive one.—Reported.

A total of 3,709 North Carolina drivers had their licenses revoked the first six months of 1940.

Willkie "Great" Natural Talker, Experts Claims

Wendell Willkie is as great a natural speaker as President Roosevelt—and with training could make himself as effective, said Washington's speech authority, Haines Falconer, yesterday.

Falconer, who operates a speech-training school here, was frank in his admiration for the President's radio delivery, terming it practically perfect, and he admitted that at present Willkie's delivery is poor.

"I, myself, counted 19 mispronounced words in the Ellwood acceptance speech," he said—but he insists that with two hours' training a day the Republican candidate could be as accomplished a "golden voice" as the President.

"He has a glorious chance," said Falconer, longingly, "but in the coming battle of personalities that chance won't materialize unless he does something about that voice. If I could only get at him for two months—"

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