

# THE GAB BAG

By ALAN BROWNING, JR.



## THESE BE EXCITING TIMES

As we pen these words (we are not really penning them but using a typewriter, only pen sounds so much more literary), the fate of civilization is hanging in the balance. That is, at the time of this writing which is last Saturday to you, it is hanging in the balance. Tomorrow, the day after, next week—who can say where it will be hanging?

Events are changing so swiftly (at this moment) in Europe that it is difficult to keep apace. What appears to be of major importance in the morning may be completely lost in the more critical events of the evening. When you read these words, written at a time when war in Europe seems almost at hand, war may be going on, or

the crisis may be supplanted by the current doings of the American League.

But what puzzles us is the fate of civilization. If and when war comes in Europe, is civilization doomed? We are interested, and you should be, too, for after all, aren't we mixed up in this civilization business? And if civilization is doomed, won't we, although we are not mixed up in any war yet, be doomed too?

If we can believe the commentators from here and abroad, then we are doomed if war breaks out in Europe, and we don't like to feel that such a fate is imminent. Imagine the embarrassment and discomfort of running around the rest of one's life doomed!

Will the United States get mixed up in the war if it comes to Europe? Personally—and this is an opinion to be reckoned with—we believe it will. Why? We don't know, we just believe it, that's all. What do you think? Everyone we've asked about the matter holds the same opinion, without exception. And if war comes, no matter how strongly everyone is opposed to participation in such a war, this state of mind on the part of the people won't make it any harder for us to get in.

We may be wasting our and your time a little more thoroughly than usual this week, for war may seem only a remote possibility when you read this, but right now it looks bad. If Hitler doesn't back down, or Poland, or England or France, then something is bound to blow up. Lots of people think it will be the world.

### AROUND TOWN

There are several folks who think as we do on the matter of the Elkin gymnasium and the shameful way it has been neglected. Several of our agents have reported that of the 12 high wattage light globes that were in the gym, 10 have either been shot out or broken out with rocks. That wouldn't have happened if it had been kept locked and properly looked after.

Still, the folks who manufacture electric light bulbs have to live, we guess.

Elkin merchants are getting together next week to stage a town-wide dollar days event, which will

be held Thursday, Friday and Saturday. And we, the guy who helps them worry about their advertising, and who also worries them about their advertising, are in a good position to know that they are really planning to let their hair down and offer some really hair-raising values.

If you are one of these folks who really like a bargain, we'd suggest that you bundle up grandma, grandpa and all the in-laws, and hurry to Elkin for dollar days. For after all, Elkin merchants can give you as big values as you can find anywhere, and they've really been planning for this event. Why our Uncle Culpepper is coming all the way from Orange county just to buy a paper of pins and a moustache cup, while Aunt Frousy will accompany him for some real values in percale and fade-proof prints.

We might add that we are going to be on the streets gunning for snapshots so as we can give away some more of those lovely theatre tickets that will get you into every show in town—both of them.

### STILL DOOMED

Sunday night, 11:47. After an evening of staying by the radio, listening to news flashes and reports from the various European capitals, the fate of civilization still seems to be hanging in the balance. Hitler has replied to Premier Daladier in a note that sort of reminds us of the notes our kids write us when they want to do something that they are not sure we will permit, using all kinds of arguments.

Mr. Hitler says that if France and England will get Poland to comply with his demands, Europe will be guaranteed 25 years of peace. But wasn't Europe to have peace after Munich? Wasn't Hitler's demands in Eastern Europe satisfied after he had had his way in the Czech crisis? He said they were, probably adding under his breath as he kept the fingers of both hands crossed—"for the time being." Or did he bother to cross his fingers?

We can't figure out just how Hitler can talk of the terrible things the Poles are doing to the Germans, allegedly, with a straight face after the way the Germans have persecuted the Jews. The man just doesn't make sense; he's not consistent.

Wonder what the situation will

be when you read this? Events sure move fast these days.

### CYCLE

Mrs. Ethel Riley is visiting her parents in Ashland and friends in West Jefferson.

Mrs. Glenn Holcomb of Winston-Salem, spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jim West.

Mr. and Mrs. John Hemric have returned home from New York, after spending a week at the World's Fair.

Mr. Graham VanHoy and Mr. Spencer Howard spent a few days vacation in Norfolk, Va., last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Weldon Pinnix and family and Mr. and Mrs. Claud Pinnix and family toured in the mountains Sunday. They visited many places of interest.

Mr. and Mrs. John Dobbins of Kentucky, spent Friday with Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Dobbins.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond VanHoy had as their Sunday afternoon guests Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Howard and Mr. and Mrs. Rose of Elkin, Mr. and Mrs. Ronia Carter of Winston-Salem, and Misses Frances Pinnix and Mary Greenwood.

Mr. Chancie Cheek had the misfortune to lose a tobacco barn by fire last week.

### BRANON

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Cummings had as their week-end guest, their son, Glen Cummings, of Salisbury.

Mrs. Della Renegar and sons, James and Charles, of Bethel, spent a while Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Tom Steelman.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Cummings had as their guests Sunday Mr. and Mrs. Taft Cummings and children of Boonville, Mr. Ray Shoemaker, Mr. and Mrs. Dean Shoemaker and family of Jonesville.

Mr. Paul Doss and family spent Sunday afternoon in Wilkesboro, visiting friends and relatives.

Glen Cummings, Forest Doss and Mrs. Carrie Cummings and daughters, Jettie Virginia and Bonnie Lee, spent a while Sunday night with Mrs. Cummings' sister, Mrs. Pearl Campbell, of Coolemeec.

Dick Cummings is visiting friends and relatives in Elkin and Ronda.

**Tired of Treatment**  
Mrs. Goofus (to hired girl)—What are you leaving for? Haven't we always treated you just like one of the family?  
Ethelberta—Yes, and I'm tired of it.

**Only Got Bee**  
Auntie: "Whatever is the matter?"  
Tommy (from the city): "I p-put a n-nickel in the slot of the beehive for honey, and I-got a bee instead."



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Everybody Is Cordially Invited to Attend

# THE GREAT NORTHWESTERN FAIR

North Wilkesboro, N. C. :: September 12th to 16th

## EXHIBITS GALORE

Premiums have been increased from \$2,000 to \$3,000 in order to more effectively promote progress of agriculture, horticulture and home industry in Wilkes and adjoining counties. The best collection of exhibits ever assembled at North Wilkesboro is expected. See or write J. C. Wallace, North Wilkesboro, N. C., for premium list today and prepare to compete for the many cash prizes.

## GRANDSTAND ACTS

Never before have such stupendous acts been contracted for a fair in North Wilkesboro. The acts will include the Paramount Revue, The Rexola Troupe, Silver, the Wonder Horse, and the daring Great Peters, a full two hour show of the best acts obtainable. Some are former headliners for Ringling Brothers, Barnum and Bailey Circus.

## SPECTACULAR MIDWAY

Frank West Midway Attractions drew many favorable comments last year but for the Fair in September of this year West has secured some outstanding new shows and some riding devices full of thrills and enjoyment for all.

## THRILLING FIREWORKS

A gorgeous display of fireworks each of the five nights will climax the fair performances. Nothing has been spared to make the Fair the biggest gala event ever held for Northwestern North Carolina.

## OTHER FEATURES

The fair management has been diligent in its duty to secure for the people in this part of the state the best attractions for recreation and amusement. Also, every effort will be made to assure comfort for fair visitors. Plan now to meet your friends at the fair.

**Free**

NEW 1939 CHEVROLET CAR TO BE GIVEN AWAY DURING FAIR

**Free**

