

The caution to Americans, he of the advice given last October when the government first started moving its nationals out of the Orient.

In other diplomatic quarters, however, the belief was expressed that the Australian statement was based on late information indicat- Germany is seeking passage for a move soon in the South Pacific. goslavia and Bulgaria in order to How imminent any such thrust might be was uncertain here but speculation centered largely on the

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 1)

AXIS DIPLOMATIC DRIVE IS PUSHED Reported in 'Full Develop-

ment Throughout Mediterranean and Balkans'

ROME, Feb. 13 .- (AP)-Fascist comof Salonika. mentators declared tonight that an Axis diplomatic offensive is "in full development throughout the Mediterranean and the Balkans" now that today. Spain and Italy have reacked a new ccord and, it is understood, have informed France of their decisions.

These commentators indicated that esterday's consultation between Premier Mussolini and Generalissimo Franco, followed today by a confernce between Franco and France's chief o. state, Marshal Petain, had prepared to fight to prevent the some connection with Axis plans for a big spring military offensive.

Senate Committee Okehs Lease-Lead Bill, 15 To 8 By RICHARD L. TURNER WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.-(P) The Senate Foreign Relations committee approved the lease-lend bill, 15 to 8, today and urged its pass age with an assertion that it "is safeguard aimed at keeping out of "Making a formal dramt to for "Making a

based upon the two fundamental principles.

"The United States must strive (Continued on Page Twelve; Col. 2)

Dardanelles.

Making a formal report to the senate, the committee majority said the welfare of the nation can best he control to the provision is amply, safely and con-stitutionally made that the foreign policy of the United States snall 9:052p 3:42p 9:052p 3:42p 9:052p 3:42p 9:052p 3:42p 9:052p 3:42p 9:052p 3:42p 9:052p 3:42p

many.



Roanoke Rapids and Lumberton Will Be Seeking Team Championship BELGRADE, Yugoslavia, Feb. 14.- (Friday) -(P)-Reports that

Eight championship fights in the ing that Japan might be planning German troops through both Yu- Open division and four in the Novice class are on tap for tonight's finals in the Fifth Annual get at Greece and the Eastern Star-News-Brigade Golden Gloves Mediterranean shores reached dip- tournament at Legion stadium. All of the top favorites of the early rounds of the tournament lomats here early today as Yugoslavia's premier and foreign min-

and the popular scrappers of form. ister began "request" conferences er years will be battling for all with the Nazi leadership in Gerthey are worth in tonight's final round of fist slinging.

Diplomatists with usually reli-Roanoke Rapids and Lumberton able sources of information in govwill be battling it out for the team ernment quarters said Premier championship trophy, with Wil-Dragisa Cvetkovic and foreign minmington given an outside chance ister Alksander Cincar-Markovic of coming through for the prized

will discuss passage of German troops from Rumania through the cup. Wilmington's popular Snooky Yugoslavian railway junction of Nis, thence by rail down the Var-dar river valley toward Greece Douglas Baxley for the bantam-

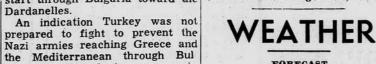
and the important Aegean seaport weight decision. Other top bouts There were unconfirmed reports Beard's set-to in the middleweight that King Boris of Bulgaria might division.

follow the Yugoslavs to Germany The championships finals will be as follows: In any event, Sofia dispatches

Open Division

said that Bulgaria, with Italian and German backing, now is trying to Lane, 114, of Wilmington, vs. Benget British-allied Turkey to prom- nett Kirby, 111, of Lumberton. ise not to fight if the Germans

(Continued on Page Ten; Col. 5) start through Bulgaria toward the



enlarging its (the Axis') sphere (f (Continued on Page Twelve; Col. 2) garia and Yugoslavia was seen in an announcement that Nazi-con-trolled Rumania had agreed to (Continued on Page Twelve; Col. 2) (Continued on Page Three; Col. 4) FORECAST North Carolina: Mostly cloudy with showers Friday and in extreme east por-tion Friday night; colder Friday night and Saturday and in west portion Fri-day.

Cape Fear river stage at Fayette-ville on Feb. 13, at 8 a. m., 10.30 feet.

(Continued on Page Five; Col. 6)



New progress in the 3-column Brit-FLYWEIGHT - Donald Ray

Low 6:28a 7:00p 3:18a

sumption.

to pieces was reported today by the any opposition to the legislation, middle eastern command, and the one of whom was Honorable Harry Royal Air force told of a bombing Gardner, a member of the Board offensive extending from the Island of County Commissioners.

Will Be Boosted Soon

FORT JACKSON, S. C., Feb.

13. - (AP) - Post officials an-

nounced today that Fort Jack-

son would by increased in March

and June from the present 32,500

be due to the activation of 18 ad-

ditional units and the assign-

ment of selective service men to

the 18th division and the 102nd

New Jersey, which is now sta-

tioned at the post, will receive

258 selectees from New Jersey

BRITAIN'S ERITREA

DRIVE PROGRESSES

The 102nd cavalry regiment of

This increase, they said, will

officers and men, to 43,000.

cavalry regiment.

around March 1.

of Rhodes to the Eritrean front. "We have read with much in-British columns besieging terest the article appearing on the Cheren, which commands the ap- front page of the Wilmington Star, proaches to Asmara, the Eritrean dated February 11, wherein at a capitol, were said to have im- County Board meeting, Commis proved their positions in the hills sioner Gardner bitterly opposed covering the town by successful the salary increases we had re

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 2) (Continued on Page Five; Col. 2)



RALEIGH, Feb. 13-(P- North | 2.-Give cities and counties 75 Carolina's tax bill, 'designed to per cent of the state-collected in- on that game board point increas raise a record-shattering sum of tangibles tax. At present, the lo-\$163,600,000 during the next bien- cal units get only 60 per cent. nium, won unanimous approval in Paradoxically, although those ranean, as the scene of the next the house of representatives today, two changes could seem to have dramatic war development.

and was sent to the senate. the effect of cutting receipts, the The measure, which actually is new tax measure is expected to goslavian government leaders in was made by Senator Roy Rowe, Eure for signature. group of amendments to the bring in enough money to finance Germany, presumably to be told of Burgaw.

continuing revenue act, would the largest spending program in the role they are expected to play make these two basic changes in the state's history. This is ex- in what is coming, headlines the the state's tax structure: plained in the fact that better news. Whether it means that both motion the machinery by which the lower house early this week. It was

Answer County Commis-

sioner Who Expressed Op-

position to Pay Boosts

to Harry Gardner, county com-

missioner, who recently expressed

that we would ask our representa-

tives in the legislature for an in

crease in our respective salaries

and at the same time we set ou

in detail our reasons for the re

ary increases.

follows in full:

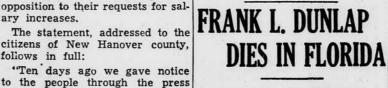
all foods bought for home con-

offer with Lieut. John Sutherlin, Greeks said that their repulse of

housing officer, located in the base- the counter-attacks in the past month ment of the Wilmington postoffice. had caused the fascists to fall back Listings should be made in person to the defensive and prepare a new rather than via the telephone in line running from Valona to Berati. order to minimize possibility of This apparently means the Italians intend to abandon all the Tepeleni error

Judge Alton A. Lennon and So-At the present time there are area, where Greek fighters have inless than 100 commissioned officers filtrated along the mountain ridges licitor Winfield Smith, of recorder's court, yesterday, in a stateand non-coms here, yet the housing until they are on both sides of that problem is considered "acute" by key town, Greeks said. ment read in open court, replied

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 5)



Highway Commissioner Planned Saturday

quest. This public notice through the press was an unusual procedure and one not heretofore pracnor Broughton and a large num- south of Tirana, the capital.

ticed, but we believed it to be er of state officials will attend British Columns Besieging the only method that should be the funeral in Wadesboro of Frank the only method that should be used in our democratic form of L. Dunlap, chairman of the state GERMANS DESTROY government. Every citizen in New highway and public works com-Hanover county was invited to ex- mission, who died late last night press any opposition he or she at Welaka, Fla., of a heart atmight have to this legislation. tack.

"On Tuesday of this week our The services will be held at 11 representatives informed us that o'clock Saturday morning at the Nazis May Be Gathering ish drive to cut Italian Eritrea only three people had expressed Calvary Episcopal church. Dunlap was on a 90-day leave

of absence from his duties as com-(Continued on Page Five; Col. 1)

War Interpretive

By KIRKE L. SIMPSON Despite the elaborate windo dressing provided for the Musso lini-Franco conference there are no real signs that Mussolini or anyone else expects important military developments to flow from the meeting immediately. The Balkans still are the prime

centre of interest. German movs ingly to southeastern Europe, not Albania, Africa or the Mediter. special election in the city of Wil-

A command appearance by Yu-

1.-Exempt from the sales tax business conditions are swelling Yugoslavia and Bulgaria are to citizens of the Port City will decide some time next month whether or

RALEIGH, Feb. 13-Without a ing under its existing commission dissenting vote, the state senate to- government, or adopt the city manaday ratified the bill providing for a ger type of municipal operation.

Probably not later than Monda; mington on the city manager form of next week, and possibly before of government. that date, the ratified bill will be The motion to ratify the measure sent to Secretary of State Thad

Opens Way For Vote By its action, the senate set in

Representatives Jack LeGrand and John Morris of New Hanover county presented the measure to the passed through that branch of the

(Continued on Page Five; Col. 4) (Continued on Page Eleven; Col. 2) not the city will continue function- (Continued on Page Twelve; Col. 4)

argely dependent on weather conditions and the availability of labor, the official indicated.

For the convenience of the Camp Davis workers, all four of the banks in the city will remain open from 6 to 9 o'clock tonight, and longer if necessary. As no charge will be made for

ashing Camp Davis pay roll checks, this service will be strictly an acommodation

Station to Service Craft

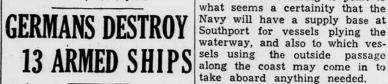
Using Waterway

The Italians stubbornly defended (Continued on Page Three; Col. 3) their positions in heights about Va lona, on the Adriatic coast, it was re-SOUTHPORT SUPPLY ported, but suffered severe losses

from an intense artillery bombardment and yielded before Greek bayo-**BASE IS INDICATED** net charges. The Greeks previously have been

eported near the southern side of Valona Bay, which is about eight Navy Expected to Establish Funeral Services for State miles wide. (British artillery batteries have been shelling the city, say dispatches from Yugoslav border oints.)

Berati, through which the new line was reported to run, is about 30 miles SOUTHPORT, Feb. 13 -- Indi-RALEIGH, Feb. 13 .- IF-Gover- northeast of Tepeleni and 45 miles cations are increasing to point to



Last week two boats of the Mosquito Fleet had trouble getting a considerable supply of aviation **Resources** for a Violent gas of a high grade. Other things needed were also unavailable. Drive on British Craft Monday of this week a local or-

ganization was notified by Washington that until arrangements BERLIN, Feb. 13 .- (P)-The dewere made, government vessels struction of 13 armed merchantmen by German warships in the scheduled to arrive here and Atlantic was officially announced needing supplies of any sort, today under circumstances sugwould advise the local organizagesting that the Germans were tion in advance of their arrival. gathering their resources for the This will permit of supplies being arranged for and ready when the

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 4) boats come.



include Bob Moore and Red **Cheren** Improve Their **Positions in Hills**