

The Week in Washington

A RESUME OF GOVERNMENTAL HAPPENINGS IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

Washington, Dec. 13.—Overshadowing every other subject of discussion in the national capital is that of American preparedness for war.

It is still too early to estimate the extent of the support which the new congress will give to the far-reaching and elaborate plans of the administration.

The objective which President Roosevelt envisions is that of an American League of Nations, bound together by the common tie of democracy.

Estimated at Two Billion—As the senators and representatives, new and old, begin to arrive in Washington for the session which will begin January 3rd, questions as to how necessary the proposals for such an increase in the nation's fighting strength really are, and how much it is all going to cost are at the tip of their tongues.

It is easier to answer the question of cost than that of necessity. The tentative estimates for additional expenditures for army, navy and air forces run to about two billion dollars.

By spending another two billions in the course of the next two or three years, army and navy men figure that America would be able on a few hours' notice to mobilize an effective, well-equipped army, to put more than ten thousand fighting planes into the air, to patrol both oceans with the most powerful navy in the world, and provide adequate defense of both coasts against air raids by an enemy power.

There is noticeable among the members of congress who will have this defense program laid in their laps, a disposition to question the need of such extensive preparations for war at this time.

Many Aware of Danger—There is another large element in both houses which is ready to go along with the administration in any kind of defense program, some merely because it is what the administration wants, and probably more because they sincerely believe that American liberty and American ideals

BOONE TRAIL IS TO BE RELOCATED

Four Miles of New Construction West of City to Be Let to Contract in Spring

That the contract for rebuilding four miles of the Boone Trail highway, west of the city, will be let early next spring, seems practically certain as Engineer Guy Lillard and his locating party proceed with re-establishing the route of the roadway.

Mr. Lillard and his crew will complete estimates and plans this winter so that the contract for construction may be let without delay when better weather arrives.

BURLEY GROWERS WILL DECIDE ON MARKET QUOTAS

Tobacco Farmers of County to Vote Saturday Whether They Will Market Their 1939 Crop With or Without Use of Marketing Quotas

Growers of burley tobacco have a choice to make on Saturday. They will decide whether to market their 1939 crop with or without the use of marketing quotas.

The marketing quota plan is a part of the agricultural adjustment act program. Acreage allotments and soil-building practices are in this program. If all burley tobacco farmers planted within their acreage allotments, marketing quotas would not be necessary in most years.

The law specifies when marketing quotas will be announced, but farmers themselves decide whether the quota will be applied. Under the farm act of 1938, marketing quotas are announced when the supply of burley tobacco is above the level defined as the amount needed for use in this country and for export.

Farmers voting must approve marketing quotas by a two-thirds majority before they become effective in 1939.

The burley supply is above the quota level by more than it was when the 1938 was announced. The referendum which approved 1938 quotas was held last April 9, and of the 7,183 growers who voted in the 16 counties in this state 6,262 or then, or 73.5 per cent, approved the quota plan.

It now appears that the 1938 crop will be about 50,000,000 pounds above the consumption level. This is largely due to the unusually high yield per acre in 1938. If there had been no marketing quota this year, the total supply would be materially larger than at the present time.

Polling places for the December 17 referendum in the county are as follows:

Courthouse at Boone; Victor Ward's store in Laurel Creek; Bethel school building in Beaver Dam; James Mast's store in Cove Creek; W. W. Mast's store in Watauga. The polls will be open from 9 a. m. until sundown.

Any farmer in the county who has grown burley tobacco in 1938 may vote.

Funeral Is Held For A. G. Story

Funeral services were conducted at Tryon, N. C., on the fifth for A. G. Story, former citizen of Watauga county, but for the past few years a resident of Lynn, Polk county. Mr. Story died on the fourth after a period of falling health extending over about three years.

The regular funeral services were held at Vilas in Watauga county on the afternoon of the sixth at 2:30 o'clock, and interment was in the Story cemetery.

Mr. Story, who was well known in Watauga county, and a splendid citizen, had been connected with his son, C. O. Story, in the grocery business at Lynn since 1935. His son is the only survivor.

Bridge at Deep Gap Is to Be Widened

The 18-foot bridge across Gap Creek at Deep Gap, which in the past has been a source of much annoyance to travelers, is to be widened and made into a standard 30-foot structure, according to word coming from state highway officers the first of the week.

ALERT CLASS DOWNS FLEETWOOD 39 TO 16

The basketball team composed of members of the Alert Sunday school class defeated Fleetwood high school in a game here Saturday by a score of 39 to 16.

WHEN SANTA CLAUS VISITED THE CITY



Pictured here is Santa Claus and a few of the hundreds of children who thronged the streets of Boone to share his benevolence Saturday evening.

Stores To Remain Open in Evenings

Beginning Monday evening stores of the city are to remain open each night until 9 o'clock, so as to give shoppers the opportunity of taking care of their holiday buying even after closing hours.

EMPTY STOCKING FUND IS SMALL

Little Interest Is Shown in Effort to Provide Cheer for Destitute Children

Four readers of The Democrat, out of a likely ninety-five hundred, have responded to the appeal made by The Democrat last week, for contributions with which to fill stockings in this immediate vicinity, which except for the thoughtfulness of we more fortunate, will hang empty by a chilled hearthstone on Christmas morning.

In former years, this appeal has met with a ready response from the people, and it is hoped that yet sufficient contributions will be made to insure a glad Christmas morning for some hapless youngsters who, through no fault of their own, or of their parents, are not accorded more pleasure than is contained in the bare necessities of life.

Those interested in the empty stocking fund may leave their donations at The Democrat office, with Mayor Gragg or with Pat McGuire, chief of the fire department.

The contributions as of today are as follows: Watauga Democrat \$10.00, Mrs. T. M. Greer .50, Edwin N. Hahn 2.00, Mrs. Edwin N. Hahn 1.00, M. W. Beach 1.00, Total \$14.50

Merchants Co-operate In Decorating City

Due to a misunderstanding, officials of the local merchants association, through its membership, is being credited with having financed the decoration of the streets of the city for the holiday shopping season.

HOLLY AVAILABLE

Mayor Gragg states that a considerable quantity of holly for decorative purposes will be at the city hall next Saturday, and asks residents of the community to call for same at that time.

rites for JOHN E. BROWN FRIDAY

Funeral for Prominent Attorney and Leading Citizen of County Largely Attended

Funeral services were conducted from the Boone Baptist church Friday morning for John E. Brown, 86, whose death in Washington City from a stroke of paralysis, was chronicled last week.

The rites were largely attended and the profuse floral offerings attested the esteem in which the former state senator and Boone postmaster, was held in this locality.

COLLEGE CLOSES NEXT WEDNESDAY

Students to Return From Christmas Holidays Jan. 3, County Schools Close 2nd

Students at Appalachian College will be dismissed at 12 o'clock next Wednesday for their holiday vacation, and will return to the campus in time to resume their classroom duties on the third day of January.

The Boone high school and demonstration school will observe the same holiday period as does the college, while the county schools will dismiss for Christmas next Thursday and reopen January 2nd.

NEW FURNITURE STORE IS OPENED IN BOONE

The Boone Furniture Company is the name of Boone's newest store, which has opened for business in the Hahn building, with Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Winters of Todd, as owners and managers.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

On Wednesday evening, December 21, at 7:30 o'clock, students of the Mabel public school will appear in a Christmas pageant.

A Correction

In last week's issue of The Democrat, the name of Spainhour's store was, through error, left from an advertisement by the Merchants association.

Deceased Attorney



John E. Brown, Boone attorney and former member of the state senate, who died in Washington City last week from a paralytic stroke.

Paper to Be Issued Tuesday Next Week

The Democrat will go to press next week Tuesday evening, rather than on Wednesday, in order that the force may have a longer vacation period for Christmas.

Pension Checks Are Ready For Delivery

Clerk of the Court Austin E. South announces that the pension checks for Confederate veterans and widows have arrived at his office, and may be delivered to their owners or agents, at any time.

MANY T.B. EXAMINATIONS ARE CONDUCTED TUESDAY

About thirty-five examinations were completed at the tuberculosis clinic being conducted here, up until Tuesday evening.

Tentative plans call for holding a second clinic shortly after the first of the year, at which time the work will be confined to Appalachian College students.

SANTA CLAUS GETS BIG HAND ON TRIP HERE SATURDAY

Holiday Shopping Season is Officially Opened Saturday Evening; Santa Distributes Gifts to Hundreds of Children Along Gaily Decorated Streets

A huge crowd gathered Saturday evening to greet Santa Claus on his trip to the city, to wait for the lighting of the Christmas decorations along the street, to enjoy the music and to inspect the elegant array of Christmas merchandise in the various stores and shops of the city.

Santa Claus, rotund and genial, came to town in an ancient T model Ford, packed high with cartons of Yuletide goodies, and children from the town and county pressed good-natured St. Nick to the point of suffocation as he handed out gift packages galore.

The streets contain more than twice the decorative materials used a year ago, and the holiday lights are generously employed, making the shopping district comparable to the best to be found in any of the smaller cities.

BURLEY BRINGS GOOD RETURNS

Grady Bradley Makes First Report on Weed Sale; Heavily Favors Federal Control

Mr. Grady Bradley of Vilas, comes forward with the first report on burley tobacco sales for the season in this county, having disposed of 1,192 pounds on last Monday for an average of 25 1/2 cents a pound or a total of \$302.85.

Mr. Bradley tells The Democrat that he is heartily in favor of the present program of government control of the production of tobacco, but doubts the passage of the proposal when the matter is submitted to a vote of the farmers next Saturday.

The well-known and prosperous farmer says that for the three years previous to the federal tobacco quota program, his farm records indicate that the proceeds from 2.7 acres brought him an average of exactly 9 2-3 cents a pound, or a total of \$236. For the past three crops, under the "quota system," Mr. Bradley sold from 2.6 acres \$1,528.75 worth of the weed for an average of 37 cents a pound.

Mr. Bradley, who states that he has made more money in the past four years from his farming activities than in any similar period in his life, believes that in rejecting the tobacco program, the farmers will revert to unwieldy crops of the weed at extremely low prices.

Other Red Cross Members Reported

Following is an additional list of members of the Red Cross, which have not been hitherto reported: Beaver Dam

Mrs. Clyde Perry, Clyde Perry, Rooy Vines, Valle Crucis (Incomplete)

W. W. Mast, Mrs. R. A. Farthing, Miss Virginia Bouldin, Miss Adelaide Smith. Contributions from Miss Mary Potter, Mrs. Emily T. Hopkins, Nancy Taylor.

Boone E. F. Troutman, Carolina Cafe, Robert Agie, C. H. Trotter, J. S. Geley.

Seeks Whereabouts of Owners of Checks

Mr. Marion Thomas, manager of Rich Mountain Mortgages, states that he holds eleven dividend checks which he is unable to deliver to stockholders, due to the fact that their places of residence are unknown to him.

Mrs. Fannie Watson, Riley Club, Fred Greene, Ester Hancock, Beatrice Benson, Ola Watson, S. K. Phillips, Evelyn Hicks, Vilas Ward, C. L. Gentry, Howard Coffey.