

# THE ALAMANCE GLEANER

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## News Review of Current Events

### WAGE BILL JUGGLING

Conferees Agree on Compromise Terms Which Leave the Southerners Angry and Highly Dissatisfied



Scene near the French-Spanish border where bombing planes, supposedly from Franco's forces, invaded France to attack the railroad that carries supplies from Toulouse to the Loyalists in Barcelona.

**Edward W. Pickard**  
SUMMARIZES THE WORLD'S WEEK  
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#### Wage-Hour Compromise

CONFEREES of senate and house who were trying to draft a compromise wage-hour bill that both bodies would accept defied threats of a filibuster by Southerners and agreed on wage and hour provisions which met some of the Southerners' demands but left them still dissatisfied and angry.

Overriding protests that the wage scale agreed upon will re-establish the outlawed national recovery administration, the conferees adopted provisions calling for:

Establishment of a 25 cents per hour minimum wage for the first year and increasing to 30 cents in the second year.

Establishment of industrial boards and an administrator to fix wages between 30 cents and the ultimate goal of 40 cents during the next five years.

Providing for a flat 40-cent minimum after seven years unless an industry gave adequate proof that such a rate was unsound economically and would "substantially curtail employment opportunities."

Establishment of a maximum work week of 44 hours during the first year, reducing to 42 hours in the second year and to 40 hours thereafter.

The work week would not apply where union contracts already in effect permit hours in excess of the maximum fixed in the bill.

#### Plan Relief Politics Quiz

HARRY HOPKINS, head of the WPA, asserted that the renomination of Senator Gillette by Iowa Democrats showed that his vast organization was not playing politics. But prominent Democratic senators are not so sure this is true, or will be true during the remainder of the year. Ten of them signed a resolution, introduced by Millard E. Tydings of Maryland, calling for the appointment of a senatorial committee of three to investigate any charges of politics in relief that may arise during the 1938 election campaign. The resolution made no reference to the Iowa primary in which Hopkins backed Otha Wearin, the loser.

The ten signers of the resolution, including both supporters and critics of the Roosevelt administration, were, besides Tydings: Adams of Colorado, Bulkley of Ohio, Burke of Nebraska, George of Georgia, Gerry of Rhode Island, Hatch of New Mexico, King of Utah, McAdoo of California and Wagner of New York.

Senator Hatch said he would try again at the next session to impose restrictions on participation by relief workers in party conventions or other political activities.

UNANIMOUS approval was given by the senate to the \$37,000,000 rivers and harbors bill, but provisions giving the War department sole jurisdiction over water developments were eliminated. These projects were left under the control of the federal power commission.

The senate accepted an amendment by Senator Norris of Nebraska exempting the Tennessee Valley authority from the jurisdiction of the secretary of war.

#### House Ousts Jenks

ARTHUR B. JENKS, Republican, who had served 18 months of his term as representative from New Hampshire, was unseated by the house and replaced by Alphonse Roy, Democrat, who was declared defeated in the 1936 election. The vote to oust Jenks was 214 to 122. When it was announced, all the Republicans, Progressives and Farmer-Laborites and some Democrats marched out in a body as a gesture of protest.

This action by the house was ap-

parently taken to aid the campaign of Senator Fred Brown of New Hampshire for renomination. Roy has a large following among the French population of Manchester, N. H.

#### Wheat Allotment Check

FIELD representatives of the agricultural adjustment administration began checking farmer participation in the AAA program to determine 1939 wheat allotments in the ten north central states. The check also will determine eligibility of farms for wheat loans and for premiums on farms covered by crop insurance.

Officials of the AAA in Washington indicated that rates for loans on the forthcoming wheat crop may range from 60 to 86 cents a bushel, depending on grade and distance from markets.

Authorized under the new farm law to set the rates between 52 and 75 per cent of a "variety" price, which government economists have placed at \$1.15 a bushel, the officials said the "base" rate, the amount to be paid on a standard grade of wheat at a definite market, would be close to 60 cents a bushel.

Loan rates will be lower with the distance from central markets, AAA spokesmen indicating that the loan rate in western Kansas, for example, might be as low as 40 or 45 cents.

#### Wearin Loses in Iowa

OTHA WEARIN, Iowa representative favored by the Roosevelt administration for the Democratic senatorial nomination, was defeated in the primaries. Running far ahead of him was Senator Guy M. Gillette, who had been marked for elimination because he voted against the court packing bill.

Gillette supporters said President Roosevelt maintained neutrality in the contest, but Wearin had received the approval of Harry Hopkins, WPA administrator, and of James Roosevelt, the President's son and secretary. Also, Thomas G. Corcoran, the President's political adviser, was known to have worked for Wearin's cause, or perhaps it should be put, against Gillette.

Gillette sought renomination for the senate on a platform of loyalty to President Roosevelt, but said he would retain the right to judge each New Deal proposal on its individual merits if he is re-elected. He was one of the foes of the President's court reform plan; but supported the reorganization bill and other administration measures.

In the Republican side of the primary Former Senator L. J. Dickinson, uncompromising foe of the New Deal, defeated Representative Lloyd Thurston.

#### For Rivers and Harbors

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#### Kidnaped Boy Dead

LITTLE James Bailey Cash, five years old, who was kidnaped from his home in Princeton, Fla., was found dead by federal agents, his body lying in a clump of palmetto. The \$10,000 which his father had paid for the lad's ransom was recovered.

J. Edgar Hoover, head of the G-men, who had taken charge of the case, announced that Franklin Pierce McCall, twenty-one, a truck driver, was under arrest and had admitted writing the three ransom notes and collecting the money.

#### Portland Hotel Strike

MARCHING pickets and bewildered, stair-climbing guests, marked a strike which drew 1,250 employees from work in eight of the largest hotels of Portland, Ore., at the opening of the annual Rose festival.

Elevator operators, switchboard girls, bellhops, dining room and kitchen employees, clerks, chambermaids and porters—all joined the walkout to force union recognition from employers.

No hotels were closed and all attempted to keep up a semblance of service.

#### Canton Made a Shambles

UTTERLY ignoring emphatic protests by the United States and Great Britain against the bombing of civilians, the Japanese continued their daily raids on the great city of Canton, southern China port. Their squadrons of planes rained death on the city ruthlessly, until it was a veritable shambles. Probably as many as 5,000 persons were killed and the wounded were much more numerous. The attacks were directed mainly at government buildings, railway stations and power plants, the purpose being to destroy Canton's usefulness as a gateway for Chinese war supplies.

In Spain, also, there was no cessation of the air attacks by Franco's forces on loyalist cities and towns.

America's condemnation of the bombing of civilians was contained in a statement by Undersecretary of State Sumner Welles which was issued with the approval of President Roosevelt. It asserted that the American public considers such warfare barbarous and appealed for an immediate end of the practice in China and Spain. Britain officially protested against the bombings and asked the United States to co-operate in the formation of a neutral commission to decide whether the objectives of Spanish rebel air raids on loyalist territory have any military character.

About the same time Secretary of State Hull in a speech at Nashville, Tenn., expressed the hope of the United States for disarmament and the humanizing of war. Summaries of this address were broadcast throughout Europe by radio.

#### Propagandist Register

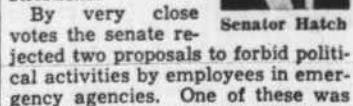
PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT signed a bill to force propagandists for Nazi, Communist and other so-called un-American groups in the United States to register with the secretary of state. The measure was drafted on recommendation of a special congressional committee inquiring into foreign propaganda activities in the United States and passed unanimously by both houses. The bill was said to be regarded as far-reaching and important by the White House.

#### Senate Passes Priming Bill

BY A vote of 60 to 10 the senate passed the President's \$3,617,905,000 pump-priming bill and sent it back to the house, after which it went to conference.

Seven Republicans and three Democrats were recorded against the measure. The opponents of the spending program lost every attempt to earmark the funds or impose other restrictions.

By very close votes the senate rejected two proposals to forbid political activities by employees in emergency agencies. One of these was offered by Sen. Carl M. Hatch of New Mexico. It would have insulated WPA officials and administrative employees from politics, either in connection with primaries, general elections, or national conventions. It would have prohibited public utterances such as the one recently made by WPA Administrator Harry L. Hopkins endorsing the candidacy of Rep. Otha D. Wearin of Iowa against Sen. Guy M. Gillette.



Senator Hatch



## ANTI-A.W.O.L. AGENTS



### Here's a New Red Cross Function: Solving the Soldier's Personal Problems, Paying Mortgages and Caring for Friend Wife!

By ALWYN W. KNIGHT

THE doughboy told his hard-luck story to the Red Cross field director stationed at Governor's island. The yarn had a Nick Carter ring, but the man in uniform was so in earnest you had to believe him. He said his father lived in Fayetteville, N. C. He said his father was out of work and was about to be put on the street. In fact the sheriff, so the story went, was as good as on the doorstep with the foreclosure papers in his hand.

Listening, you almost expected to hear a bugle call and the thunder of hoofs as the proverbial cavalry troop galloped to the rescue.

But this was melodrama plus. The skein of plausibility was there because the thing was so imminent. Actually there was but a day or so left before the foreclosure; and watching the boy's worried eyes helped visualize a dusty street in a sleepy southern town, and on it an elderly man surrounded by hand-me-down furniture with nothing left but the threadbare remnants of a tattered dignity.

The name of the Red Cross field director was J. F. O'Brien. Sitting behind his desk in the Red Cross house—a few steps from the ferry slip servicing Governor's island and Fort Jay—he heard the boy through without a word. Now he asked questions, then picked up a phone. Subsequently it all turned out right; that figurative cavalry troop, underwritten by the Red Cross, did gallop to the rescue.

O'Brien contacted the Red Cross chapter in the town where the boy's father lived, instructing the chapter to verify the boy's story (routine) and advance money at once.

#### Melodramatic Finale.

So the old homestead was saved. And the doughboy repaid O'Brien out of his pay, and O'Brien repaid the chapter. It was the sort of job other Red Cross field directors in other military posts were doing all over the country that same morning for enlisted men of the army, navy, marine corps and coast guard.

This Red Cross help for the enlisted man and his family is an ambitious undertaking. It began when the country entered the World war. Now more than 60 men like O'Brien are stationed throughout the nation. These trained workers and their assistants "cover" 206 army posts and 8 army general hospitals. They cover 408 coast guard stations; 127 navy and marine corps stations; 10 navy general hospitals and St. Elizabeth's hospital in Washington, D. C.

O'Brien leaned back, frowning. "Just what do we do?" he echoed my question thoughtfully. "Well, we act as link between the enlisted man and his superior officer. And we also act as link between the enlisted man and his family. When the boys get in trouble, they come to us. They know that their confidences will never be violated!"

"Sort of an anti-A. W. O. L. agency," I suggested. "Not exactly. Although there would undoubtedly be a lot more absent-without-leaves if it were not for the work we do."

"What," I asked, "are some of the contributing factors which cause a man to pick up and walk out—without the formality of asking permission?"

"Trouble at home, for one thing."

"Trouble at home?"

O'Brien thumbed through the papers on his desk. "Here's a job we did yesterday. A boy whose sister was critically ill. We arranged a furlough so he could go home and give a blood transfusion on

John O'Brien, Red Cross field director at Governor's island, New York, hears from Lieut. Thomas J. Marnane how his organization can best serve the enlisted man.

"Your card gave me the will to go on living," she wrote. "My boy just disappeared, and not knowing he had enlisted, I thought he was dead, or alone and sick."

I talked with O'Brien a while longer, then went over the island's prison, the Atlantic branch, United States disciplinary base, and the only military prison in the country. I was introduced to Major Christian, adjutant of the prison.

"The army couldn't get along without the Red Cross," he said. "The work it does can not be done by anyone else. Mr. O'Brien and your other field directors supply the warm, personal touch which it is not feasible for the army itself to do."

#### Red Cross and the Navy.

To further pursue my investigation of the anti-A. W. O. L. artillery of the Red Cross, I left Governor's island and went to the New York navy yard at Brooklyn. There Red Cross Field Director Henry W. Rogers told me that peace-of-mind is as essential as discipline in the production of efficiency.

"If our bluejackets start worrying over family and personal troubles," he said, "they can't do the



Harvey Bruggie, former Purdue football star, hears the grief of an enlisted man at Red Cross house, Governor's island.

post Red Cross men do is contact the family of newly enlisted men. A card sent to a mother, and picked at random, gives this information:

"We advise that your son has enlisted and has been assigned for duty with the infantry in China. He is now at Fort Slocum waiting to sail which will probably be January 6, 1938, and until then address your letters to him care Overseas Recruit Depot, Second Recruit Co., Fort Slocum, N. Y. After he sails, address your letters care Commanding Officer, U. S. Troops in China, American Barracks, Tientsin, China. If further information is required, return this card with your query."

Last year the Red Cross at Governor's island sent 10,000 of these cards to next-of-kin of men recruited for overseas service. There is no measuring stick to tell what these routine notifications mean to the folks back home, but the reply of one mother is a conservative indica-

#### Cat Mixed in Mails Forced to Walk Home

Regina, Sask.—Peter, a Manx cat belonging to Postmaster R. Jarvis, of Hudson Bay Junction, has no more love for travel.

Peter was sealed in a mailbag by mistake and discovered later when the clerk started to sort the mail on the train. Minus stamps or address, Peter was unceremoniously dumped out at the next station and compelled to walk home.

The cat got home, but could not be coaxed into the post office for several days.

#### SAME "TOUCH" NOTE USED FOR 40 YEARS

#### Bad Poem Goes With Plea for Family of Sender.

London.—The archbishop of Canterbury told the British Charity Organization society the other day that, in spite of what he might call "family evidence" to the contrary, letter writing was by no means a lost art, to which fact begging letters received by the society bore ample testimony.

Later an official told a representative of the Observer of London about the more ingenious and important members of the craft.

Many years ago, possibly in the nineties, a certain peer received by post a poem called "An Evening Prayer." It was a very bad poem indeed; but the letter accompanying it was effective. The author, it seemed, had to appeal for contributions to support his wife and children; his position was desperate.

Today, 40 years on, the same poem and the same letter pass regularly through the post. The author, who writes openly from his own address, has long exhausted Burke and DeBrett and descended to commoners. At present he is working steadily through another alphabetical list, and the C. O. S., which frequently receives inquiries about him, has discovered that he now employs a secretary to send out his poems.

Another writer, with a shorter record than the poet's, has specialized in members of parliament. This man, who works under three names and who uses a South London "Poste Restante" address, has a remarkable knowledge of the country. He writes to a member, claiming to be a constituent, supplying confirmatory detail, and saying that as he has received an offer of work in Bradford on the following Monday (he encloses the firm's telephone number) he would be grateful for money to pay his fare. On one occasion; the society found, he was a constituent of four different M. P.'s within two days.

"If our bluejackets start worrying over family and personal troubles," he said, "they can't do the

#### Wives Are Told "Don'ts" That Make Hubby Happy

London.—Husbands of England passed a vote of thanks to Dr. Ethel Dukes, noted co-director of the British Institute of Child Psychology.

Giving hints on "The Successful Wives," Dr. Dukes declared that successful marriages depend on 12 drastic "don'ts" which should be observed by wives.

According to her, the wife who wishes to succeed WILL NOT:

Domineer over her husband.

Criticize him in the presence of others.

Insist on changing him.

Refuse to be friends with his friends.

Try to show him off.

Make him into a cushion carrier or an additional servant.

Insist on constant entertaining in the house and out of it when he is tired and wants a smoke and his slippers.

Despite his homespun qualities when she has had time to improve her cultural and social qualities while he has been hard at work.

Run down his mother or other relatives.

Get into debt.

Refuse to have children if he wants them and there is no medical reason why she should not.

Use any feminine wiles or neurotic illnesses to make him subservient to her.

#### One-Man Police Force Too Busy to Round Up Skunks

New Philadelphia, Ohio.—"A one-man police department can't round up skunks," Chief Emery Gintz advised a harassed home owner when the latter appealed for aid in removing a skunk from his coal bin.

"But I can't fire the furnace," the voice on the other end of the wire pleaded.

"That's your problem," Chief Gintz answered finally.

He is the only man on daytime duty since the force was cut to two members a month ago, because of lack of funds.