

Aid Authorized To Dependents Of Drafted Men

Washington—Seeking to ease the financial burdens of men drafted for military training, the Senate voted into the census tax bill yesterday broad authority for the President to establish allowances for dependents.

He also would be empowered to establish an insurance system for the men and make modifications in the present social security regulations for their benefit.

HAPPENINGS ON STONY FORK ON AUGUST 13th

Their points of origin. The greatest tragedy in the little community of five homes of Greens, all kinmen, was the death of four members of the family of Andrew Green. A few hundred yards above where his seven-room residence stood still stands the home of Lawrence Green. It escaped the waters and the avalanche because the stream near his house was made into a deep canyon which held all the water and its masses of earth and stone.

Lawrence Green's home stands several hundred yards further down the valley, a considerable distance from the foot of the steep slope of the main Blue Ridge formation and about 100 yards from the stream.

The first slide went down the creek past his house about 8:30, he said. The night was dark as pitch, he couldn't see but he heard sounds so terrifying that he never wants to hear them again. "It was like continuous thunder, only more harsh," he said.

He didn't know for some time what had happened on his mountain farm or on those of his neighbors because a short while after the turmoil he was stricken with a heart attack and was carried up the mountain to Deep Gap and to Boone for medical attention.

Through it all a lady service station operator on top of the mountain in the gap listened to

the thunderous and terrifying noise as the avalanche of mud and rocks, and "We'll never see our community like it was before tonight." Her place was only a short distance from where a tremendous slide went down the west side of Tompkins Knob, highest point on the Blue Ridge north of the Grandfather, and severed the Blue Ridge Parkway. The slide, however, spent its fury in Deep Gap valley without striking a residence.

Grim tragedy struck most fiercely on the home of Andrew Green and family. The residence was several yards from the small stream which swelled to gigantic proportions when the slides came down. Only three of the family of seven lived to tell the story and they had little to tell because they didn't have time to realize what happened. The first big slide going down the little valley literally smashed the house to bits. They felt the house shake and then it went to pieces in the avalanche.

Of the three survivors perhaps B. L. Green, age seven, had the most terrible experience. He caught to a sapling down stream and clung to the tree for dear life. Just as he got a firm hold on the tree he heard a scream just below. The next morning the dead body of Velma Lee, his sister, was found at the base of the tree. He stayed in the tree all night and at daylight when the water in the stream had subsided he crawled out and began the lonesome trek back upstream alone. He couldn't even recognize the place where the home had stood the night before and would not have known it was the same place had it not been for part of a potato patch, which he recognized as having been directly across the stream in front of the house.

On up stream he crossed the canyon made by the flood and slides on the trunk of a fallen tree and walked into the home of Lawrence Green, the only home left. He told the family there that he did not know what had become of his dad, mother, brothers or sisters.

His mother badly injured, had been rescued from a drift farther down stream. Hooper Green, his 17-year-old brother, also escaped. The bodies of his father and three sisters, Velma Lee, Venette and Cleola were taken from the debris down stream.

The next house below that of Andrew Green did not meet such a disastrous fate, although it was in the middle of the little valley. It was occupied by Mrs. Bessie Green and five children. The house, a seven room residence, had been built by the people of Stony Fork Baptist church for Mrs. Green and children following the death of her husband some time ago.

The entire family was asleep in the house when the slides reached that point in the valley. The house was picked up, carried about two hundred yards and lodged behind the trunk of a sugar maple which the stream had uprooted a half mile above that point. The tree trunk, fully six feet in diameter, had been broken in the torrent but had lodged against some huge boulders. The house did not collapse and the family was awakened when it stopped. They remained in the house until waters subsided about an hour later.

The oldest boy, age 17, was the first to awaken. He looked out the upstairs window and saw the dim outline of the barn. But the barn was away upstream instead of being only a few steps from the house. He could hear the terrifying roar but for an instant couldn't fathom what had happened.

A mile below that point is Stony Fork church, which was literally packed with refugees the night of the disaster. Many of the group were injured.

Just below the church is the home of Zeb Green, where a double tragedy occurred. He heard the noise of the stream and he

First Lady Meets 'Hemisphere' Girl Scouts



Left: Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt is introduced to the 194 Girl Scouts and Girl Guides from all sections of North, South and Central America, recently assembled at Camp Andrew Clark, in Pleasantville, N. Y., for "Western Hemisphere encampment to promote friendship with all countries on this side of the world." Right: First lady talks with Laura Tapia, Girl Scout from Panama. Laura is clad in pretty Panamanian native dress

and a visiting girl, Nina Todd, with Worth Green stepped out on the porch. A tree in the stream made an abrupt turn and swept him and the girl off the porch. Their bodies were found near Ferguson on the Yackin river 15 miles from his home.

Worth Green said some peculiar force first pressed him against the wall of the house and a few seconds later he too was swept into the stream but he caught to a tree in the yard and later got back to the house. The others in the house were not hurt and the house remained on its foundation. It was badly battered in places by trees, logs and stones. Although two miles below the nearest of the five big slides on the headwaters of the little stream, it was the slides which caused the damage there because of the immense force of the dirt, stones and logs forced along at a high rate of speed in the valley by the water.

Slides which wiped out two homes and a service station, killing Johnny Miller, 9, and Mrs. Jonah Bumgarner, whose body has never been found, occurred on the slope of Tompkins Knob on highway 421.

The little valleys along the small streams which are the headwaters of Stony Fork were verdant and beautiful on August 13. Now even the land is totally wrecked and strewn with boulders, some with a weight of many tons. That land is of no use to the people anywhere. Someone suggested that the government might buy the lands laid waste by the water and slides and help the present owners to locate elsewhere. Sadly surveying the scene this patriotic owner said: "The government could have no use for a pile of rocks."

The residents of the upper Stony Fork valley, who have made their living by cultivating the little bottom lands and grazing the slopes, will never forget that terrible night. Lawrence Green's memory of how his home shook and trembled like a giant locomotive was crossing the lawn will never grow dim. For generations to come there will be plenty of evidence in the valley of what happened when the torrents descended on the black night of August 13, 1940.

McNEILL SPEAKS AT MEETING OF YOUNG G. O. P.

(Continued from page one)

R. Bryan, the duty of the committee, he said, will be to organize clubs in every precinct. Following the organization part of the meeting N. B. Smith, chairman of the Republican executive committee in Wilkes, was presented and received a big round of applause when he said that "our government is gradual-

ly moving from Wilkesboro to Raleigh and Washington. We got the wrong end of the cow. We keep feeding her but somebody else gets the milk. We get only a little whey." He said that Roosevelt hasn't done anything because the people owe for everything that has been done and much that has not been accomplished. He introduced McNeill as the man who "is going to take the lid off a very black political corruption pot at Raleigh and let the people know what has been going on."

Before speaking McNeill presented John Kermit Blackburn, of North Wilkesboro, who brought a long round of applause when he sang "God Bless America." Discussing national politics first, McNeill said that he was not drafted for the job of running for governor any more than Roosevelt was for president. He said he went after the job, the difference being that Roosevelt was after a third term as president and he was after a first term as governor. He expressed appreciation for 90 per cent of the Wilkes Republican vote in

the primary. He refuted the Democratic admonition not to change horses in the middle of the stream by pointing out that the English people in the midst of a war changed from the inefficiency Chamberlain to the dynamic Winston Churchill to head their government and that the American people would dare to do what they know is necessary for national security by putting Wendell Willkie in charge. He spoke ironically of Roosevelt as the "indispensable man who claimed to know what was going on in Europe" but who nevertheless had done little toward national defense in seven years and had encouraged strife among classes in this nation in the meantime.

He said that under present policies of the national administration that the man "who won't work is being supported by the man who will work" and advocated a doctrine of plenty as against one of scarcity. He spoke favoring greater production of farm products and sale abroad at whatever price the surplus will bring, the government paying farmers the difference instead of paying for non-production.

Turning to Wilkes county issues, he said that the law passed

by the last legislature districting the county for vote on commissioners was a distinct form of disfranchisement and that the people of Wilkes would not even be allowed to elect a representative were it not for the constitution. He also called "the infamous injection of the dirty hand system of Wilkes county" a disgrace of politics into the public school and said he would be sorely disappointed if the people of Wilkes did not elect T. E. Story, who was ousted as principal of Wilkesboro schools for what he said was purely political reasons, as representative by at least 2,500 majority.

McNeill rapped the state administration for increased taxation, saying that Governor McLean ran the state on a budget of 17 millions yearly while the administration of Governor Hoey is spending 80 millions annually. He said that Broughton's failure to meet him in joint debate was because Broughton could not answer the challenges on state issues. He predicted that 100,000 Democrats will join Republicans in helping to carry the state this year and that Willkie, by vote of people who want to save America, the last refuge of liberty, will sweep the country.

STATEMENT ALAMANCE FARMERS MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

Table with financial data for Alamance Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Company. Includes columns for Condition December 31, 1939, Amount of Capital paid up in cash, Amount of Ledger Assets, and various asset and liability categories.

STATEMENT WASHINGTON NATIONAL (Accy Dept.) INSURANCE COMPANY

Table with financial data for Washington National (Accy Dept.) Insurance Company. Includes columns for Condition December 31, 1939, Amount of Capital paid up in cash, Amount of Ledger Assets, and various asset and liability categories.

COFFON SLIGHT MISFIT The U. S. Department of Agriculture has forecast this year's cotton crop at 12,773,000 bales of 500 pounds apiece, weighing based on conditions prevailing September 1. Farmer: "You say you have been around everywhere and you can't find a thing to do?" Hilber: "Yes, but, damn it, I'm jes' too heavy for light work an' jes' too light for heavy work."

STATEMENT WORLD FIRE & MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY

Table with financial data for World Fire & Marine Insurance Company. Includes columns for Condition December 31, 1939, Amount of Capital paid up in cash, Amount of Ledger Assets, and various asset and liability categories.

Advertisement for KNOX "MEALMASTER" range. Features an image of the stove and text: "TRADE US YOUR OLD STOVE", "FOR THIS NEW KNOX 'MEALMASTER'", "BUILT TO MEET THE MOST EXACTING REQUIREMENTS", "HERE IS A RANGE WE ARE PROUD TO OFFER— and one that you will be proud to own, because of the many features built into it that guarantee satisfaction. Construction (one of the partly hidden qualities) is where the long life of this Range makes it a kitchen asset that will perform faithfully for many, many years. It is a Range built as YOU would design one for YOUR OWN use; built upon scientific principles resulting from laboratory tests to discover any weak points—and then eliminating them! And the Mealmaster is finished to harmonize beautifully in your kitchen. Perhaps you don't think you need to trade your old Range, but we urge you to come in and see the Mealmaster and study it from every angle as compared to the baking and cooking results you are now obtaining. Since good food costs money, why waste either food or money by being unable to cook it properly? You'll enjoy your meals so much better when prepared on the new Mealmaster, because it is built to handle all classes of cooking and baking at correct temperatures and with heat properly confined to give maximum heat from minimum fuel—either coal or wood. WE WON'T ATTEMPT to describe or price any particular size Range here, for they are built in several sizes and styles, with or without reservoirs, warming closets, etc., and of materials to meet the demands of each particular user. They are the last word in cooking economy and cooking perfection, yet sell at a very reasonable price. LIBERAL TRADE-INS We Will Make a Liberal Allowance For Your Old Stove or Range, and Arrange Easy Terms On New Range Balance Rhodes-Day Furniture Co. 'Complete Furnishers Of The Home' Phone 424 North Wilkesboro, N. C.

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