

War News

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War Department Explains Status Of Flood Control Proposal

London, Feb. 14.—Fear of a world-wide conflagration involving a German invasion of Britain, a Japanese grab for Singapore and a Japanese grab for Singapore increased among diplomatic and military authorities tonight.

Investor of this island remained the No. 1 consideration in discussions of a possible plan of grandiose proportions to seize at one sweep three of the world's most strategic positions—Gibraltar, Suez and Singapore—while the German army and air force try to break England.

Despite continuous and growing alarms in the Balkans and London in the far east, Britons remember well that all surface signs pointed to a Nazi thrust toward southeastern Europe just before Adolf Hitler launched his overpowering drive into Norway and through the lowlands and France last April and May.

The gradual tightening of British censorship is viewed by foreign observers as one sign that the British are not allowing the present clamor in the Balkans to divert their attention from the perils of an invasion of England.

Not since Nazi bombers hammered Coventry and submarines ranged the north Atlantic in packs last fall has it been so difficult to assess—for publication—the British Empire's position.

Rome, Feb. 14.—The capture of a group of heavily-armed British paratroopers said to have floated down through the moonlight on southern Italy with the intention of dynamiting the regional waterworks and communications system was claimed today by the Italian high command.

They landed Monday night and early Tuesday morning, the high command reported, in the provinces of Calabria and Lucania—where the Apulian aqueduct, the biggest in the world, runs to supply 2,677,000 Italians with drinking water—but all were captured "before they could cause the serious damage which they intended." In this area are two big hydroelectric plants which supply power for railroads in southern Italy.

Dr. Dragisa Cvetkovic said tonight that Yugoslavia would accede to Adolf Hitler's wishes after the return tomorrow of her statesmen from a conference with the fuhrer.

This country is expected to accept what were described as comparatively favorable terms in order to keep out of active warfare. These terms, while not yet known, are expected to call for active participation by Yugoslavia in Hitler's "new order" for Europe.

Thoroughly informed sources interpreted the Yugoslav's journey to Germany as meaning that the government of Yugoslavia had been driven into a corner as a result of Bulgaria's bowing to German wishes and Russia's non-intervention policy in the Balkans.

Drive For Library Membership Is On

All Are Asked To Join Library Association In Drive Beginning Here Today

Annual drive for memberships in the Wilkes County Library association began today and will continue throughout the week.

The membership campaign has a two-fold purpose, to form an organization of people interested in promotion of the library and to obtain funds with which to purchase books for the institution and keep it up-to-date.

The minimum membership fee has been set at 25 cents each but no limit has been placed on the amount any individual may give. The library association can use any amount of funds thus derived to continue the growth and progress of the library, which, despite its growth, has been handicapped because of lack of funds.

Stockholders Farm Loan Meet Feb. 22

Annual stockholders meeting of the Moravian National Farm Loan association will be held at the town hall in North Wilkesboro on Saturday, February 22, 10 a. m., according to an announcement by O. H. Bracey, secretary.

An interesting program has been planned for the meeting and large attendance is urged. Mr. Bracey said.

Mr. J. D. Gettys, who has been ill with pneumonia, is reported to be recovering rapidly.

Lord Halifax Gets Acquainted With Wallace



Viscount Halifax, member of the British war cabinet, and his majesty's new ambassador to the United States, has been making the rounds of Washington, getting acquainted and urging his country's cause. The tall, angular Briton is shown chatting with Vice President Wallace in this picture, which was snapped in the vice president's office.

Poultry School Conference Legion Conducted Today Of Moose In City At The Courthouse Is Well Attended

Poultrymen Of Wilkes And Adjoining Counties Hear State Specialists

Poultrymen and extension workers of Wilkes and several adjoining counties gathered at the courthouse in Wilkesboro today for a regional poultry school. The school was well attended and the program was interesting as well as containing instructions relative to successful operation of poultry farms and the production of poultry as a sideline on farm practicing diversified agriculture.

Extension specialists who discussed separate phases of poultry production and marketing were C. F. Parrish, C. J. Mannin, Dr. Roy Dearstine and T. T. Brown. An egg show with many entries was held in connection with the school and Mr. Brown conducted a grading demonstration.

Library Talked At Kiwanis Meet

Library Association Membership Drive Beginning Today Is Explained

Program Friday noon at the North Wilkesboro Kiwanis club meeting was centered on the theme of support for the Wilkes County Public Library.

W. K. Sturdivant was in charge of the program, presenting Mrs. J. F. Armfield, of Statesville, library project district supervisor, and Mrs. C. F. Jones, of Lenoir. Mrs. Jones gave a history of the Wilkes County Public Library since it was formed March 20, 1937.

Mrs. Armfield explained the membership drive, which began today and will continue throughout the week. She stated that the minimum membership fee is 25 cents per year for the library association and that any individual may contribute as much as he sees fit, all of which will be used for the support and growth of the library.

Dr. E. N. Phillips spoke briefly, saying that he had found people in all parts of the county "hungry for good reading matter" and urged full support of the library membership drive.

Prior to the library discussions, Paul S. Cragan, school superintendent, presented on behalf of the boys of the Industrial Arts department of the school a beautifully framed sketching of The Pledge to the Flag.

At the meeting Friday Ralph Spillman was a guest of Paul S. Cragan. Mrs. J. C. Reins and Mrs. L. G. Critcher were guests of W. K. Sturdivant. J. D. Holcomb, of Elkin, and W. E. Stevens, of Lenoir, were visiting Kiwanians.

ONLY A STARTER With young folks the mistletoe plays havoc. Can you doubt it? For kissing, started by its aid, soon gets along without it.

Two-Day Gathering of Members From Three States Outstanding Success

First mid-winter conference of the Carolinas Legion of the Moose, which is the second degree of the order, was held very successfully in North Wilkesboro Saturday and Sunday with a large attendance from many lodges in the state and from neighboring states.

A large class of Moose from many lodges, including 15 of the North Wilkesboro lodge, were advanced into the second degree. The conference began with registration at Hotel Wilkes Saturday evening, continued with a dance Saturday night at the Woman's club house, a fellowship breakfast on Sunday morning, a banquet at Hotel Wilkes at one p. m., followed by a meeting of the Legion and Women of the Legion.

Speakers at the banquet were: R. T. McNeil, mayor of North Wilkesboro, who welcomed the visiting Moose; U. S. Shepherd, of Wilson; E. D. Clutter, of Danville, Va.; M. P. Shiplett, of High Point; H. Way Russel, of Thomasville; Charles C. Ricker, of Asheville; R. E. Moore, of Asheville; S. M. Mayhew, of the Tarheel Legion; Charles A. Kirby, regional director of Moose; Walter York, of High Point, master of ceremonies; and Dr. Bowler, of G. L. Va.

The initiatory work was put on by the "Baby team of Moose-edom," of North Wilkesboro lodge, composed of C. Jack Swofford, Arvel Dyer, Chalmer Dyer, J. Coit Dyer, Tam Shoemaker, Maurice Walsh. The opinion was expressed that the team "will be hard to beat" at the annual convocation of Carolinas Moose association to be held here in August.

At the fellowship breakfast plans were made and committees were named for the annual convocation to be held here August 30, 31 and September 1. Outline of activities was given by W. H. Dublin, of this city, president of the Carolinas Moose association.

The women of the Moose held a well attended meeting under direction of Charlotte chapter number 164.

Taking part in this meeting were Bessie Lineberry, senior regent; Rosa Lee Lewis, junior regent; May Sanderson and Mrs. Moore, of Asheville; and the principal speaker was Mrs. Goldia Dean, state dean of Women of the Moose, highest honor in the association.

All phases of the conference were carried out in splendid manner and the visiting members promised to be back here in August to attend the annual convocation, which is expected to be one of the largest conventions ever held in North Wilkesboro.

Garage Attendant: "What kind of gasolins do you want?" Lady Motorist: "I think I'll have it out of that blue pump to match the car."

Officers For Home Guard Unit Here Are Recommended

The Committee Recommends Harry Pearson, Former Marine, As Captain

A committee appointed in a mass meeting here a few weeks ago to recommend men to be appointed as officers of a Home Guard unit to be organized in North Wilkesboro has made its recommendations.

J. B. McCoy, chairman of the committee, said today that the group has recommended to Adjutant General J. Van B. Metts that Harry Pearson, of this city, be selected as captain; Baxter Wyatt as first lieutenant; and John Wells as second lieutenant.

Each of the men recommended for appointment as officers are well experienced in the service. Mr. Pearson was in the U. S. Marine corps for six years, during which time he served at Marine posts in all parts of the world and left the service six years ago with rank of first line sergeant.

Mr. Wyatt was a second lieutenant in Company A, 105th Engineers of the National Guard, until the guard went into training for one year last fall at Fort Jackson, S. C. Mr. Wells is also a former officer in Guard Company A.

Commenting on the recommendations, Mr. McCoy said the committee was glad to be able to recommend the appointment of able men with military experience and that these men had agreed to accept the positions if tendered them, although no provision is made for pay for officers or men of Home Guard units and that they would be sacrificing their time in devotion to duty.

At the citizens' meeting called here by Mayor McNeil after North Wilkesboro was selected by Adjutant General Metts as proposed location for a Home guard unit, sentiment was expressed unanimously in favor of the proposal and a committee composed of J. B. McCoy, A. F. Kilby, W. G. Gabriel and Mayor R. T. McNeil was named to recommend men for officers.

Grange Continues Working On Plans Cold Storage Plant

People Who Are Interested In Renting Lockers May Write Committee

Wilkesboro Grange is going ahead with its plans for the establishment of a cold storage plant here. It was learned today from Lawrence Miller, master.

The Grange has sponsored erection of a plant, which would be used by individuals, stores, orchardists and poultrymen.

A committee composed of C. F. Bretholl, J. B. Snipes and Carl E. VanDeman was appointed at a previous meeting to investigate the possibilities of a plant here and made their report at the February meeting.

The plant would contain lockers of family size, larger ones for commercial firms and still larger rooms for storing apples, eggs, etc.

Lockers would rent from \$10 to \$12 per year. Persons who are interested in the lease of lockers and who could use them to advantage are asked by the Grange to contact either member of the committee as soon as possible. Meanwhile the committee will inspect proposed sites and will investigate methods of financing construction of the plant.

Due to the fact that Wilkes is a leading county in apple and poultry production, it is expected that the cold storage plant proposal will meet with much favorable response.

Fidelis Class Meeting

Fidelis class of the Wilkesboro Baptist church will meet Thursday night, 7:30 o'clock, at the home of Mrs. Edith Foster Brown instead of Friday night, the regular meeting time.

American Ambassador Welcomed to Vichy



Admiral William Leahy, U.S.N., the newly appointed American ambassador to the French Vichy government, is shown in this picture, at the right, with Marshal Philippe Petain, French chief of state, as he was welcomed to Vichy on his arrival there to take up his official duties.

Father And Son Banquet Climax Boy Scout Week

Banks Newman Is Principal Speaker At Banquet Friday Night; 80 Attend

Boy Scout Week in observance of the 31st anniversary of Scouting was climaxed here on Friday night with a Father and Son Banquet at the Woman's Club house on Trogdon street with 80 Scouts, fathers and Scout leaders in attendance.

Put Williams was toastmaster at the banquet, which opened with Grant Stewart leading the assembly in the Scout oath, followed by invocation by J. B. McCoy, Tom Holder, a Winston-Salem Scout leader, rendered an accordion number.

Isaac Duncan, troop 35 Scoutmaster, welcomed the fathers with very appropriate words, to which a fitting response was made by W. D. Halfacre, Effner Eller, assistant Scoutmaster. Introduced the principal speaker of the evening, Banks Newman, of Winston-Salem.

His subject was "I Will Do My Best." He emphasized that one's best is not that of another and are not comparable. He outlined the following essentials in doing "our best": knowledge, self-discipline and recognition of constituted authority; alertness, determination and unselfishness. "Your best is your challenge, your gift, your talent, yours to do as you will," was his concluding statement.

After the address Tom Holder led in singing "Home On the Range" and "God Bless America," after which he conducted a quiz on Scout subjects with Scouts Pat Hunt, Jimmie Moore, John Justice and Bobby Hubbard volunteering to take part. It was a double or nothing quiz and Jimmie Moore won first prize.

Scoutmaster Gordon Finley, of troop 36, introduced W. E. Vaughn-Lloyd, Scout Executive, who spoke briefly, recognizing the organization of an Explorer patrol in troop 35 composed of D. T. Bush, leader, Effner Eller, advisor, Hill Carlton, Jr., and Alvin Sturdivant, Jr.

He also presented a pin to D. T. Bush for having been voted the best all round Scout in Troop 35.

Of the 80 in attendance, 45 were Scouts from troops 35 and 36.

Morrison Pen Is Stolen From Home

Pen Taken By Thief But Money And Other Valuables Were Not Taken

Morrison fountain pens, which are given free with subscriptions to The Journal-Patriot, are so good that thieves break into homes to get them.

James Somers And Combs Youth Hurt In Auto Accident

Somers Sustains Fracture Of Vertebrae In Accident On Highway 115

James H. Somers, a member of the Yadkin Valley Motor company firm, was seriously injured Thursday afternoon in an automobile accident on highway 115 10 miles south of this city.

His car ran into the road bank and overturned while he was attempting to miss Harvey Combs, Jr., age 15, who was on a bicycle. The boy's ankle was broken and he received severe laceration, and bruises but was able to leave the hospital Sunday.

Mr. Somers said that he was meeting a truck when the bicycle emerged from behind the truck as if to pass. In an attempt to miss the boy on the bicycle he ran out of the road and his car overturned. He and the boy were brought to the Wilkes hospital.

Examination showed a fracture of a vertebrae in his spinal column but there were no other serious injuries. Physicians expressed the opinion that he may recover but will be confined in a cast for six months or longer.

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Morrison fountain pens, which are given free with subscriptions to The Journal-Patriot, are so good that thieves break into homes to get them.

That happened at the home of Leke Messick on Purlear route one last Sunday while Mr. Messick and family were attending church service.

Someone cut a window screen gained entrance through the window and took two fountain pens, one of which was a Morrison pen which Mr. Messick had received when he renewed his subscription to The Journal-Patriot.

Other objects taken included a box of 22 calibre cartridges, some .32 calibre cartridges and one bottle of shaving lotion.

Things easily accessible and which were not taken included a .22 rifle, a good revolver and a pocketbook containing about \$2.25 in cash.

Mr. Messick said he could not very well get along without a Morrison fountain pen and he renewed his subscription for another year in advance and received another.

Chief Engineer Says Reports To Be Ready July 1

Surveys And Comprehensive Reports Will Be Ready for Congress This Year

Assurance has been given local leaders here by Representative R. L. Doughton that he and Representative W. O. Burgin will faithfully seek government flood control on the Yadkin river.

In letters to Mayor R. C. McNeil and to W. H. McElwee, local attorney, who recently wrote a letter to the representatives on behalf of the Commerce Bureau here and who conferred with the representatives in Washington recently, Representative Doughton enclosed a letter from Major-General J. L. Schley, Chief of Engineers of the War Department, setting forth the status of the proposal to construct flood control facilities near Wilkesboro.

The letter of the Chief of Engineers, who gave his permission for its publication as a matter of information to the interested public, he said that extensive surveys are now being made of the valley, including the proposed site of a flood control dam near Wilkesboro, and that comprehensive surveys and reports will be available for the War Department to study by July 1, after which the department would recommend to congress what it considered advisable to be accomplished.

In his letter he said that the surveys will include a full report of flood damage which occurred in August, 1940, and that the department would expedite its reports and recommendations as much as possible consistent with thoroughness.

The letter of Major-General Schley to Representative Doughton follows in full:

"Reference is made to your conference in this office today relative to the Department's present survey of the proposed Wilkesboro Dam on the Yadkin River, N. C., and to its other investigations of the Yadkin-Pegee River System. At that time you expressed your intense interest in early submission to Congress of the Department's reports on these investigations. I refer also to your numerous previous inquiries as to the progress of these investigations and your statements of your desire that the reports of the Department be expedited. In compliance with your request it is a pleasure to furnish you the following data pertaining to the present status of these surveys and reports.

"The investigation and report which the Department is now making on the proposed Wilkesboro Dam is in accordance with an item contained in the Flood Control Act approved June 22, 1936, which authorized the continuation of surveys, studies, and reports on that project. Investigations of other portions of the Yadkin-Pegee River System are also in progress at the present time pursuant to several authorizations from Congress. Because the numerous water problems throughout the Yadkin-Pegee River System are closely interrelated.

Curtis Bridge On Yadkin Replaced

Bridge Near Wilkesboro Is Opened For Travel; Two Bridges Remain Out

State highway commission bridge forces have replaced Curtis bridge across the Yadkin near Wilkesboro.

The old bridge at that site was completely destroyed in the August flood and traffic from the vicinity of Wilkesboro and west of that town, including Wilkesboro rural mail route number one, had been forced to detour through North Wilkesboro.

Construction of Curtis bridge has reduced to two the number of bridges across the Yadkin which have not been replaced. The two are the Adley bridge at the Brown's Ford and the bridge at Goshes.