

ROOSEVELT IS ENTERED IN ILLINOIS PRIMARY

26 DEATHS RESULT FROM RAGING FIRES IN EASTERN CITIES

Lakewood, N. J. Hotel Blaze Accounts for 15 Dead and at Least 20 More Injured

FIVE DEAD IN FIRE IN NEW YORK CAFE

Four in Family Perish in Minnesota Home and Explosion in Chicago Takes Two Lives; Investigation Begun of Restaurant Blaze in New York City

(By The Associated Press) Twenty-six deaths and 71 injured, many of them seriously, were listed today as the result of four fires and an explosion. A fire that turned a merry-making throng in a New York restaurant into a fear-maddened mob left five dead and 41 injured before it was brought under control today. At Lakewood, N. J., the official count of deaths resulting from the burning of the Victoria mansion hotel was increased today to 15. At least 20 other persons were injured in the blaze yesterday. Four members of the Paul Foleart family died in flames that consumed their farm home at Jackson, Minn. Two workmen were killed and seven others injured in an explosion that wrecked a portion of a tunnel being dug for a new sewer in Chicago last night. Three nuns were burned as a fire swept a convent at Montreal.

INVESTIGATION STARTED OF NEW YORK HOLOCAUST New York, Feb. 13 (AP)—Investigators sought today to place the blame for a fire that trapped guests at a gay dinner dance in a Chinese-American restaurant, leaving five dead and 41 injured.

While several of the injured were reported near death in hospitals, the city fire marshal called Lam Fong, proprietor of the restaurant, and Harry Hicker, real estate man, before a board of investigation. Three men and two women died in the flames, which swept into the sec-

No Traces As Yet To Baker Body

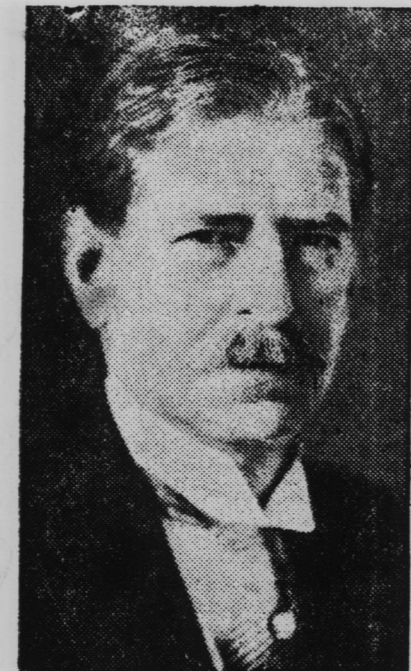
Raleigh, Feb. 13.—(AP)—Efforts to find some trace of Henry K. Baker, wealthy Zebulon farmer, believed to have drowned in the Neuse river six miles from here Monday night continued today without avail. Klare Everts, deep sea diver, of Norfolk, Va., was brought here yesterday by Baker's family, but, after surveying the scene, he said he could be of no help and returned home today.

The theory that Baker was robbed, murdered and then thrown into the stream was openly advanced by some of the rescue workers, but Coroner L. M. Waring and other Wake county officials continued to express the opinion the man fell into the stream while in a dazed condition after his automobile struck an abutment of a bridge over the river. Dynamiting and dragging of the stream since Tuesday have failed to show any trace of the man, and a net of wire has been placed across the river a mile from the bridge.

AAA Preparing Payments To Farmers Of All Sums Unpaid Under Crop Plan

Washington, Feb. 13.—With the approval of the secretary of agriculture, the Agricultural Adjustment Administration took the first steps today looking toward payment, as soon as possible, of obligations to farmers growing out of the production adjustment programs under the agricultural adjustment act. This action followed the approval by the President of HR 10464 which provided \$296,135,000 to make payments to producers for performance in connection with the adjustment programs. The appropriation and authority for payment from Congress

Seriously Ill



CLAUDE A. SWANSON, Secretary of the Navy

Washington, Feb. 13 (AP)—Secretary Swanson, who is ill of pleurisy at the naval hospital, was said at 11 a. m. to be in a "serious but not hopeless" condition. A bulletin issued at that hour by Dr. G. C. Thomas, commandant of the hospital, said "the secretary is better now than at 6 o'clock this morning." Washington, Feb. 13.—(AP)—Secretary Swanson, who suffered a fractured rib in a fall at his home a week ago—has developed pleurisy—and a brother has been summoned to his bedside at naval hospital. Hospital officials said Mrs. Swanson this morning summoned H. C. Swanson, brother of the 74-year-old secretary of the navy, from his home at Danville, Va. Swanson's condition was described as "serious, but not immediately alarming." His age was a factor that caused some worry.

2 Continents Battle With Storms, Fire

Bitter Cold, Snow, Fire, Gales Sweep Portions of North America, Europe

(By The Associated Press.) Continents of the northern hemisphere were racked by the elements today as bitter cold, drifting snow, fire and winds of gale or tornado proportions brought death, destruction and privation.

North America counted at least 26 burned to death in fires, at Lakewood, N. J., Jackson, Minn., New York and Montreal. In Southern California, tornadoes twisted through four cities, injuring six persons, while floods and fires added to property damage estimated at \$100,000.

Iowa highways, already blocked by snow and with lower forecasts, were unavailable for coal deliveries, and the fuel shortage was so serious that

AAA Preparing Payments To Farmers Of All Sums Unpaid Under Crop Plan

was necessary because of the decision of the Supreme Court on January 6 which declared the production control provisions of the Agricultural Adjustment Act unconstitutional. "The work which must be done both here and in the field before the payments can be made began immediately after we were notified that the President had approved the measure carrying the required funds," Chester C. Davis, administrator of the Agricultural Adjustment Act, said. "Employees in the field and producer

Games Cancelled At State College

Raleigh, Feb. 13 (AP)—All inter-collegiate athletic contests scheduled for the North Carolina State College campus for the remainder of this week have been cancelled upon orders of Dr. A. C. Bulla, Wake county health officer, due to a case of meningitis and the prevalence of influenza among the students. The action resulted in calling off the State-North Carolina basketball game set for tomorrow night, the State-Florida game scheduled for Saturday, and the Duke-State wrestling meet set for Saturday afternoon.

FOSTER RELATIVES CLOSE EVIDENCE IN STATLER WILL CASE

Want Set Aside \$560,000 Will of Bradley Davidson's Wife of Only Two Months

PREACHER RELATES WOMAN'S CONDITION

Says Mrs. Davidson, Heiress to Statler Hotel Fortune, Was Melancholy at Dance at Pinehurst Night Before Her Dead Body Was Found in Garage

Carthage, Feb. 13.—(AP)—Evidence upon which foster relatives of Mrs. Elva Statler Davidson are asking the court to set aside her will, leaving the bulk of her \$560,000 estate to her husband, H. Bradley Davidson, Jr., was completed today. The case of the objectors was rested at 10:20 a. m. in Moore County Superior Court here. Immediately after the objectors rested, counsel for H. Bradley Davidson, Jr., her husband, requested a 30-minute recess for a conference, and Judge Don Phillips granted the request.

The executors closed their case after calling four minor witnesses. One of these, the Rev. T. A. Cheatham, of Pinehurst, added to previous testimony that the young and attractive Statler heiress was depressed the night before she was found dead of carbon monoxide gas in the garage of her Pinehurst home last February 27, less than two months after her marriage to Davidson.

Mr. Cheatham said he saw Mrs. Davidson at a charity ball at the Pinehurst country club, and described her as "melancholy and depressed." Prior to the recess, counsel for Davidson, the principal beneficiary under the contested will, declined to say whether they would offer rebuttal testimony, but promised only a short time would be required if they did.

FARLEY BECOMING MENACE TO PARTY

Norris Opinion He Should Quit Cabinet Shared by Many Democrats

By CHARLES F. STEWART Central Press Staff Writer Washington, Feb. 13.—Senator George W. Norris' warning that James A. Farley as postmaster general, will cost President Roosevelt "millions of votes" next November is a suggestion that plenty of Democratic politicians wish the White House would heed.

On the other hand there are competent political judges who believe it is too late to unload Farley now. They wanted him jettisoned a couple of years ago, which would have given the public time to forget his cabinet connection. At the present writing however, they reason that the damage he has done cannot be repaired, and that dumping him overboard simply would amount to an admission that it ought to have been done sooner.

NORRIS IS IMPARTIAL No one else could have deplored the postmaster generally nearly as effectively as the Nebraska senator. Pro-administration Democrats cannot afford to deplore him at all.

It is taken for granted that insurgent Democratic statesmanship will deplore him; that brand of criticism discounts itself. Republican criticism also is recognized as to be expected.

But Senator Norris certainly is impartial. I'd use the word "honest," but I don't like to imply that the others are dishonest. Rather they are open

Pilot Flies With Death to Succor Islanders



An unusual picture showing a giant army bomber dropping one of fifteen fifty-pound cartons of food to the ice-locked residents of Tangier Island on Chesapeake Bay. The plane seems to be suspended above the ground as the pilot flirts with death to avoid dropping the package from a height and smashing the cargo. (Central Press)

Tax Lien On Cotton Now Is Repealed

Nullifying of Bankhead Act Carried That Provision, Congressman Says

Washington, Feb. 13 (AP)—Officials of the AAA cotton section said today they had been informed by the Bureau of Internal Revenue that cotton on which there was a tax lien as a result of the Bankhead act can be sold freely without paying the tax.

This development followed an assertion by Representative Chandler, Democrat, Tennessee, in a message to the Memphis Cotton Exchange, that Congress intended to cancel the tax and lien when it repealed the Bankhead law, and that he would introduce a clarifying resolution if the Treasury did not concur in his interpretation.

A spokesman for the Internal Revenue Bureau told reporters that taxes which became due under the Bankhead act, and were never paid are still due. He said, however, that Congress had repealed the provision that cotton could not be sold, transported or opened unless it had a tag showing it as tax-paid or entitled to tax exemption. This will permit the cotton to be sold freely without payment of the tax.

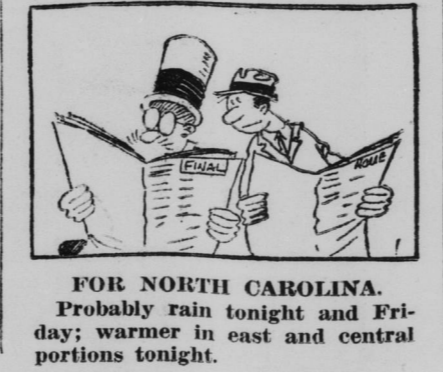
As to whether Bankhead act taxes paid by farmers would be refunded, government lawyers said today the levies would be kept by the government "unless the tax is declared invalid."

DRIVE BEGUN FOR GAS TAX SLASHES

Big Distributing Companies Have Started Propaganda Already

Daily Dispatch Bureau, In The Sir Walter Hotel, By J. C. BASKERVILLE Raleigh, Feb. 13.—The gasoline and oil trust, working through the American Petroleum Industries Committee of New York and the North Carolina Petroleum Industries Committee, is already starting its campaign for lower gasoline taxes in North Carolina. Thousands of pieces of literature designed to stir up opposition to the present State tax on gasoline, likewise the Federal tax, are being sent out from the new offices of the North

OUR WEATHER MAN



FOR NORTH CAROLINA. Probably rain tonight and Friday; warmer in east and central portions tonight. (Continued on Page Two.)

Coalition Cabinet If FDR Loses Out

Washington, Feb. 13.—(AP)—Henry P. Fletcher, Republican National chairman, said today he had heard talk about a coalition cabinet if the New Deal is defeated in November. He declined to discuss the subject.

U. S. COURSE MAY PREVENT OIL BANS

League Committee at Geneva May Decide Effort Futile Otherwise

Geneva, Feb. 13 (AP)—Advices from Washington that congressional legislation to authorize an oil embargo seemed improbable strengthened today a general Geneva belief that application of a League of Nations oil sanction against Italy appeared unlikely.

The League committee of experts, in its report on the possibilities of enforcement of an oil sanction, had ruled that unless the United States participated, the extension of penalties upon Italy in its war upon Ethiopia would fail.

A report on the possibilities of enforcing an oil sanction, drawn up by the committee after many hesitations and repeated changes, particularly with reference to the position of the United States and Venezuela, now goes to the League of governments.

SAYS PEOPLE ARE GREATLY CONFUSED

So Many Divergent Views One Scarcely Knows Which Way To Leap

By LESLIE EICHEL Central Press Staff Writer New York, Feb. 13.—Are people becoming confused by the mass of opinions being offered them? That is the question posed by G. J. Kochenderfer editor of the Mansfield, O., News-Journal. The News-Journal, in an editorial headed, "Seek the Safer, Sounder Middle Ground," remarks: "Small wonder that many millions of persons in America are confused by what is going on around them—the things they are reading in newspapers, magazines and books and hearing discussed at meetings or listening to over the radio."

The editorial, after relating some of the arguments presented, makes these conclusions: "In the speed with which material advancement has been made during the past half century an impatience has developed among many people who seem to think that some form of magic can be submitted for slow growth and that the present generation is competent to make greater improvement in human relations than was accomplished during the preceding ten thousand years."

"It is a long stretch of mental vision from the extreme of optimism represented by the Townsend Plan and the extreme of pessimism which sees Moscow as the future capital of the United States."

"Somewhere between these two extremes is the sound, sane, sensible

Far Eastern Situation Of Graver Turn

Manchukuo Sees Clashes as Worst Yet; Japan-Russia In Background

Tokyo, Feb. 13.—(AP)—The Manchukuoan government took a most grave view of the latest border clash, with Soviet-influenced Outer Mongolia, a Domei (Japanese) News Agency dispatch said today, especially since the enemy allegedly used bombing planes.

The dispatch from Heinking, capital of the Japanese-adviced state of Manchukuo, quoting a spokesman for the Manchukuoan foreign office, said the encounter yesterday at Olahodka was the most serious thus far of the last year's frontier incidents.

Military reports from the border confirmed reports that planes attempted to bomb the Japanese Manchukuoan column involved, but failed to inflict casualties, the dispatch said. Accounts differed as to whether two or three planes took part in the engagement, and as to whether they were Russian or Outer Mongolian.

Ethiopia Claims Recaptures Along Southern Frontier

Addis Ababa, Feb. 13 (AP)—An Ethiopian government communique announced confirmation today of the reported recapture of Kora Ali, south of Sasa Bameh, on the southern front, from the Italians.

Ras Nasibu, Ethiopian commander-in-chief of the south, said "an important Italian garrison in the region of Gurati was dispersed with heavy losses."

"Our troops captured much booty. Details will follow," the communique announced.

Sales Tax Secret Ruling Is Resented By Merchants

Attorney General Held Mer chants Must Get Money for Sales Sent Out of State; Dowell Says Court Action Likely Unless Ruling Is Changed Soon

Daily Dispatch Bureau, In The Sir Walter Hotel, By J. C. BASKERVILLE Raleigh, Feb. 13.—A recent ruling by the Department of Revenue, credited by it to the attorney general and which has so far not been made public to the newspapers here, to the effect that merchants must collect the State sales tax on purchases made by and shipped to customers in other states, was vigorously protested by the board of directors of the North Carolina Merchants Association, which met here in an all day session Wednesday. It was revealed today by Willard L. Dowell secretary of the association. The protest is being conveyed to Commissioner of Revenue A. J. Maxwell and if the ruling is not changed, it was intimated that court action might follow.

"It is our understanding that no state has the power to levy a tax on interstate commerce," Dowell said. "But if a customer comes into a store in North Carolina, buys a quantity of goods and asks the merchant to ship them to him in Virginia, Tennessee, or South Carolina, our contention is that this transaction immediately becomes one in interstate commerce and that this customer is not required to pay the sales tax. If the purchaser takes the goods bought with him, he is of course liable for the tax and must pay it. But if the purchaser lives in another state, order the goods by telephone, telegraph, by mail or in person and the merchant delivers them in the other state, we cannot see how the purchaser could possibly be required to pay the sales tax or how the merchant can be required to collect

PRESIDENT, ALONG WITH BORAH, WILL ENTER ALL LISTS

President Not Expected To Have Any Opposition on Illinois Democratic Ballot

ROBINSON TALKED FOR KEYNOTE JOB

Will Likely Make Chief Address at Democratic Convention in Philadelphia in June; Republicans Attack New Deal Widely in Lincoln Day Address

Springfield, Ill., Feb. 13.—(AP)—Petitions entering President Roosevelt in the April 14 Illinois Democratic presidential preferential primary were filed today at the office of Secretary of State Edward J. Hughes. The President's signed declaration of his candidacy for a second term was received by mail from Chicago. The petitions were circulated by National Committeeman Patrick A. Nash, who conferred at Washington this week with Postmaster General Farley.

Democratic leaders here said they expected President Roosevelt would be unopposed in the primary. Two Republican candidates, Senator William E. Borah, of Idaho, and Colonel Frank Knox, of Chicago, filed yesterday.

ROOSEVELT AND BORAH TO ENTER IN MOST PRIMARIES Washington, Feb. 13.—(AP)—In the aftermath of political fires kindled on Lincoln Day by both major parties, the New Dealers and their foes warmed up today for impending primary and election struggles.

While Republicans, led by former President Hoover, assailed the administration, the New Deal leadership moved quietly about the business of crystallizing plans for the June convention at Philadelphia. It was said that Senator Robinson, of Arkansas, might be selected as the

(Continued on Page Three.)

Bruno Not To Change His Story

Trenton, N. J., Feb. 13 (AP)—The chief of Bruno Richard Hauptmann's defense staff, C. Lloyd Fisher, welcomed today the entrance of Samuel S. Leibowitz, New York criminal lawyer, into the celebrated case, but expressed doubt of Leibowitz's usefulness.

Fisher, who was associated with the defense of the Bronx carpenter through his Fleming trial for the kidnap-murder of Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh's first son, said he doubted the condemned man would change his plea of innocence.

"Hauptmann has only one story to tell," said Fisher. "That is the story he told me the day of his arrest, at his trial at Flemington, and has told me fifty times since. That is the story I believe to be true."

"If Mr. Leibowitz can't depend on the story as told by Hauptmann, I don't see how he can be of much help."

(Continued on Page Two.)