

FLOOD DAMAGE NOW PUT AT 300 MILLIONS

Super-League Of Nations Now New Goal Of Europe

NATIONS TO TALK PROBLEMS ARISING SINCE WORLD WAR

Situation Developed by Germany's March Across the Rhine To Be Threshed Out

HOME GOVERNMENTS ASKED TO APPROVE

United States and Other Powers To Be Invited To Meeting, Probably in May, To Iron Out Sore Spots; New Order for Peace in Europe Is Proposed

London, March 20 (AP)—A virtual super-League of Nations was disclosed by French headquarters today as the ultimate goal of a proposed international conference to be called to consider the situation arising out of Germany's march on the Rhine.

Open Up All Problems

The whole accumulation of Europe problems arising and left over from the World War would go under examination by the conference.

The French announced the summary of the agenda for the proposed parley, which included in its suggestions for discussion the modernization of the covenant of the League of Nations and a consideration of far-reaching economic, financial and security problems.

Outsiders Invited

The Council of the League would send invitations "to the powers of the world" to attend the conference. This would permit non-members of the League, such as Japan, the United States and Brazil, to send observers.

The cabinets of Great Britain and France, supporting the four-power Locarno proposals for a way out of the Rhineland impasse, dispatched the suggestions for a European political deal to their parliaments for formal approval.

Government heads started plans for laying the foundations for a new order of peace for Europe in an international conference, which they

(Continued on Page Three.)

Cashier And One Bandit Killed In Indiana Robbery

Bloomington, Ind., March 20.—Wood Carter, assistant cashier, and an unidentified bandit were shot and killed in a gun-fight during the hold-up of the Bank of Bloomington today.

Carter was ambushed by the bandits when he arrived at the bank this morning.

Police said the hold-up men apparently were hidden in the bank, having obtained entrance during the night.

As far as known, there were no witnesses to the shooting.

Alliance Of Four Nations Is Hinted At

Britain, France, Belgium, Italy to Unite if Hitler Refuses To Consider

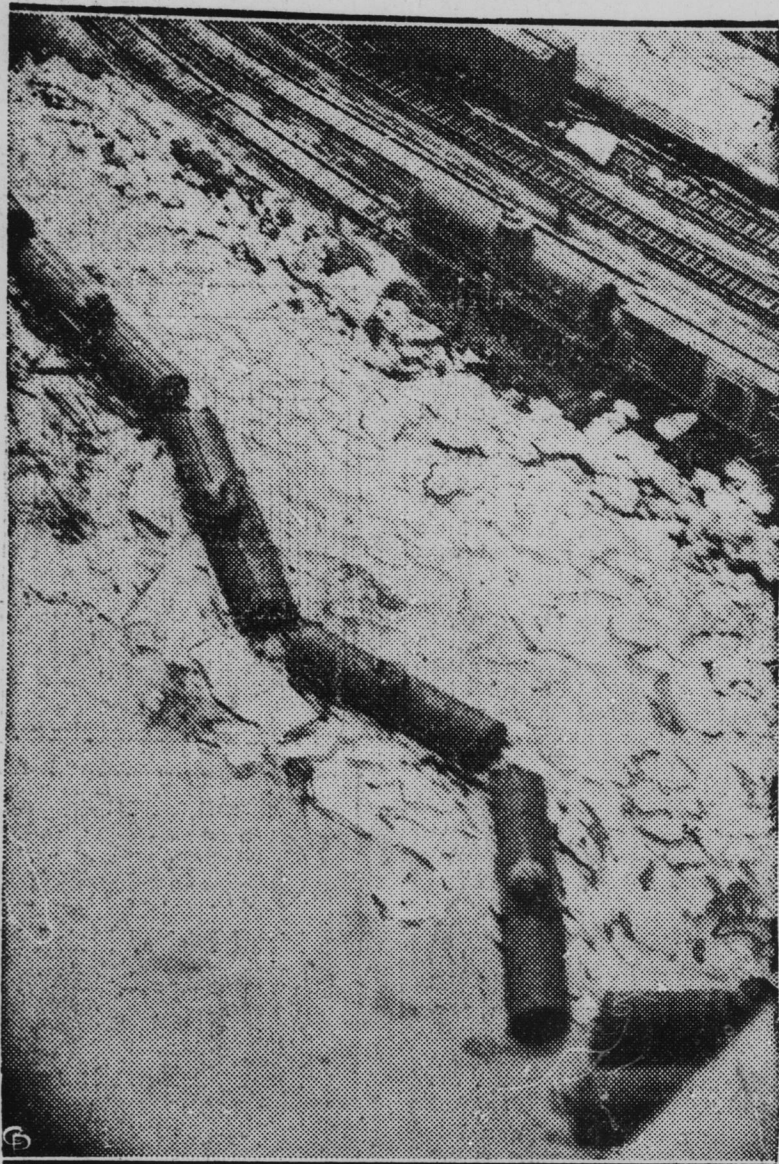
London, March 20.—(AP)—The House of Commons was told today that the four remaining Locarno powers have agreed to join in a virtual military alliance if Adolf Hitler refuses to consider proposals to re-establish the security powers have agreed to join in of Europe.

The proposals, agreed to by Great Britain, France, Belgium and Italy, were published in a white paper issued to the Commons as Anthony Eden, the foreign secretary, began an explanation to the lower house.

A German spokesman, shortly after the proposals were made public said the plan "might" form a basis for

(Continued on Page Five)

TANK CARS TOPPLED BY ICE, FLOOD



What the ice and flood did to tank cars. These tank cars were toppled off the track by flood waters and ice of the Kennebec river near Richmond, Me. Property damage in Maine alone was estimated at \$10,000,000.

Europe Will Not Fight This Year, Babson Says

Armies and Navies Not Only Trumps in Today's Gigantic Card Game; Aces in Hole Are Economic Forces That Dictate Every Move; Conditions Are Reviewed

BY ROGER W. BABSON, Copyright 1936, Publishers Financial Bureau, Inc. Babson Park, Fla., March 20.—Newspaper headlines and radio flashes tell only part of the story about international affairs. Armies and navies are not the only trumps in today's gigantic card game. The aces-in-the-hole are the economic forces which really dictate these international maneuvers. Hence, I am giving below a snapshot summary of conditions in the leading nations today.

DOUBLE-SLAYER IS EXECUTED AT PEN

Ed Hester, 19, Gaston White Man, Electrocuted For Killing Prisoner

Raleigh, March 20.—(AP)—Ed Hester, 19-year-old Gaston county, twice-convicted killer, was electrocuted at State's Prison today.

Hester died for the slaying of a fellow prisoner, Paul Hunnicut, at the Camp Polk farm last year, while he was serving a term for the slaying of John C. Abernethy, of High Shoals, his brother-in-law.

The execution marked the first time since the electric chair was installed in 1900 that it had been used on successive days.

Hester was the 164th victim of the electric chair. Yesterday Hester told Coroner L. M. Waring of Wake county and Warden H. H. Honeycutt he killed Hunnicut without provocation while he was "mad." He reiterated the story to newsmen this morning, denying his earlier statements he and Hunnicut had trouble before the slaying.

Entering the death chamber at 10:31 with Father McMillan, of the Catholic Apostolate, Hester said he had told the truth about what had happened and thanked Warden Honeycutt and the priest for their kindness to him.

Two shocks were given. Dr. G. S. Coleman, prison physician, pronounced him dead at 10:41 a. m.

(Continued on Page Two.)

S. C. Tobacco Bill Is Referred Back

Columbia, S. C., March 20 (AP) A tobacco crop control bill reported "without recommendation" by the Senate Agriculture Committee today was immediately sent back to the committee today for a hearing next Wednesday.

22 1-2 PERCENT. TAX DECIDED UPON FOR LIMITED DIVIDEND

Favored Treatment Where Payments to Stockholders Are Restricted by Government

HILL STATES RATE IS NOT CONCLUSIVE

Decided Upon To Provide Working Basis; Sub-Committee Chairman Had No Information on Number of Corporations Under Restrictions on Dividends

Washington, March 20 (AP)—The House Ways and Means sub-committee decided tentatively today to apply a flat 22 1-2 percent tax on the net income of corporations limited in paying out dividends "by reason of State and Federal or contractual strictures."

Corporations in this category would not be subject to the proposed new levy on undistributed corporate profits.

Chairman Samuel B. Hill, Democrat Washington, said the rate was not conclusive, but was decided upon to provide a working basis. Details still remain to be worked out, he said.

Hill had no estimates on the number of corporations now under limitations as to issuance of dividends. He said the 22 1-2 percent was an arbitrary rate, that the sub-committee felt if it were too low it might offer an inducement to some corporations to show a capital deficit on their books in order to keep free of the tax on undivided corporation earnings.

STRIKE POINTS TO STRUGGLE OF LIFE

Both Sides Lose Sight of Possibility of Crash Without Amity

By LESLIE EICHEL More words have been directed at this writer on the recent strike of New York building employes than on any other subject in recent weeks. That may be because New Yorkers consider everything that occurs in New York of greater importance than that which occurs anywhere else. And it may be, too, because citizens of the remainder of the United States shudder when the "average New Yorker" is discommoded.

Strikers—any troubles, for that matter—are viewed from an angle as they personally affect us. For the moment, the persons affected forget that these clashes between groups on one side and groups on another side are part of a major struggle for existence—a struggle that has existed since life began, a struggle that has molded society through

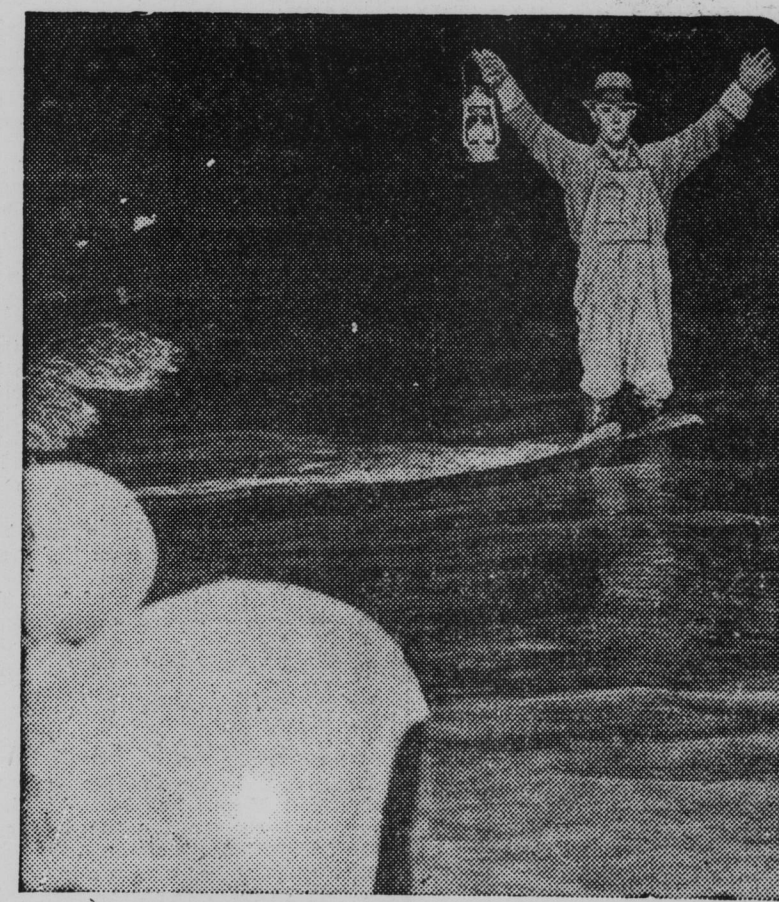
(Continued on Page Two.)

OUR WEATHER MAN



FOR NORTH CAROLINA. Occasional rains this afternoon, changing to snow flurries in extreme west portion; Saturday partly cloudy; colder in east and south portions tonight and on north coast Saturday.

Directing Flood Traffic



Night traveling presented difficulties in Maryland as swollen rivers threatened to engulf the highways. This highway guard at Clear Springs, Md., is flagging motorists to stop before getting caught in the flood. (Central Press)

50,000 Would Have Right To Old Age Pensions For \$9,000,000 Cost To State

Third of Number Would Be Negroes and Few Have Incomes Over \$15 Per Month; Heavy Taxes From Source Would Be Necessary If State Raised Money

Daily Dispatch Bureau, In The Sir Walter Hotel, By J. C. BASKERVILLE Raleigh, March 20.—There are approximately 50,000 persons in North Carolina 65 years old and older who could probably qualify for old age benefits, if the State should enact a law to qualify for Federal aid of \$15 per month per person, according to figures contained in a survey just completed by the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare and made public today by Governor J. C. B. Ehringhaus.

Cost Would Be \$9,000,000. If the State should agree to match the Federal allotment of \$15 per person eligible, dollar for dollar—and it is generally conceded that it would have to do this or be accused of be-

THIRD CANDIDATE SEEKS SCHOOL JOB

Unknown Gilbert Craig, of Hillsboro, Files and Pays His State Fee

Daily Dispatch Bureau, In The Sir Walter Hotel, By J. C. BASKERVILLE Raleigh, March 10.—Another candidate for the Democratic nomination for State superintendent of public instruction has plunked over \$60 and filed with the State Board of Elections. There are rumors afloat that there may be still another candidate before many more weeks.

The latest candidate to file is Gilbert Craig, of Hillsboro, who at the present time seems to be pretty much of a dark horse, as no one here seems to know much about him. It is understood that he was at one time the principal of the high school at Taylorsville, Alexander county. But so far as can be learned here today, he is not teaching at the present time. He paid his fee and formally filed Thursday.

The day before, Superintendent A. B. Alderman, of the Greene county schools, who announced as a candidate several months ago, filed with the State Board of Elections. State Superintendent of Public Instruction Clyde A. Erwin, has not yet paid his fee and filed, although it is generally conceded that he is a candidate to succeed himself and has been actively campaigning for many months.

Job in Demand. The fact that Superintendent Erwin already has two opponents and may have a third, is regarded as indicating that his job is more in demand than usual, since this is the first time in 35 years a State superintendent has ever had any opposition in a Demo-

(Continued on Page Three.)

SWIRLING WATERS CRUSH THOUSANDS OF HUMBLE HOMES

Pennsylvania Area Getting Some Relief as Sections Further Downstream Menaced

WASHINGTON SAVED FROM THE POTOMAC

Huge Bridge at Pittsburgh Goes Out With Heavy Loss While President Roosevelt Defers Vacation in Florida To Direct Activities for Flood Relief

Washington, March 20 (AP)—President Roosevelt today postponed for at least another 24 hours his trip to Florida in order to check flood developments from the White House.

While reports this morning indicated to the President that the crest on the eastern seaboard had passed, he determined to remain here until tomorrow to make sure Federal relief agencies are fully coordinated.

Pittsburgh, March 20.—(AP)—The big sixteenth street bridge over the Allegheny river was reported to have collapsed early today. First reports did not say whether any street cars or other traffic was crossing at the time.

(By The Associated Press.)

Panic and desperation built new and grave problems today for the civil and military authorities of the eastern states, struggling amid still rising flood waters which left the populace miserable and homeless by the hundreds of thousands and estimated \$300,000,000 in property damage and at least 136 dead.

In New England and the Ohio Valley through Pennsylvania and New York and the region of the Potomac the flood raged on, submerging industrial cities, ousting householders and spreading ruin.

The New Deal, with President Roosevelt directing the disaster-fight

THREE ARE KILLED IN TEXAS TRAGEDY

Fire Follows Explosion at Texarkana in Early Morning, With Disasterous Results

Texarkana, Texas, March 20.—(AP)—Three persons were killed today when an explosion followed by fire wrecked six business concerns in the Sandflat business district here, causing a loss estimated at \$75,000.

A fortune teller named Van Zan was the only identified victim. He lived in an apartment above a grocery store. The other two bodies were found in the rear of the same store.

Firemen were searching the ruins for other possible victims.

The neighborhood surrounding the district was jarred at 1:55 a. m. with a violent blast.

Within a few minutes, witnesses said, several buildings were a mass of flames.

Roosevelt Makes Plea To Farmers

President Asks Crop Curtailment in Interest of Growers and the Nation

Washington, March 20.—(AP)—President Roosevelt heralded the beginning of the New Deal's \$440,000,000 farm program today with an appeal to farmers to cooperate and curb production of commercial cash crops.

Mr. Roosevelt was expected to sign before the day was out an independent offices appropriation bill carrying \$440,000,000 for the first year's efforts. The AAA moved to make details of the program public late this afternoon.

Declaring that government reports

(Continued on Page Three.)

FINAL FIGURES ON 1935 COTTON GIVEN

Washington, March 20 (AP)—The cotton crop of 1935 was reported today by the Census Bureau to have totaled 10,417,237 running bales, counting round as half bales, or 10,635,156 equivalent 500-pound bales, in the final ginning canvass. North Carolina registered 573,361 bales.