

BRITAIN, FRANCE SEEK DEAL WITH FRANCO

Marriage Bills Are Given Legislature By Long, Of Halifax

Veteran Hospital Bids Are Ordered

Washington, Feb. 8.—(AP)—The Veterans Administration announced today bids would be opened here March 28 for construction of a new \$1,500,000 veterans hospital in Fayetteville, N. C.

Senators To Back Fund On Advertising

Daily Dispatch Bureau, In the Sir Walter Hotel.

Raleigh, Feb. 8.—Organization of a militant Senate group to fight proposed slashing of appropriations for the State advertising program is well under way, and there promises to develop one of the keener skirmishes of the General Assembly's current session.

Logically interested in the matter by virtue of his post as chairman of the Senate Committee on Conservation and Development, State Senator Emmett H. Bellamy, of New Hanover, today announced that he will actively campaign to restore the \$50,000 cut from the \$250,000 recommended by the budget commission for advertising the State during the next biennium.

The Bellamy announcement brought immediate and favorable reaction from a number of senators—among them D. E. Fearing, of Dare, and S. Bunn Frink, of Brunswick, both from small counties which have been greatly benefited by the advertising program begun by North Carolina under 1937 appropriation of \$250,000.

"North Carolina has by far too large a stake in travel promotion and in attracting new industries to give up its current advertising program or even to curtail it to any marked extent," said Senator Bellamy.

"We have in North Carolina the chance to become the most popular of all short-vacation states. Here's an amazing thing. Federal officials think our Great Smokies National Park will be the most popular in America, until the Seashore park is opened. They think the Seashore, because of its uniqueness, will withdraw any attraction in America.

"Thus there unfolds this prospect, a State bounded on one side by the most popular area for vacationists, the other by the second most popular recreation area, with the world's most magnificent highway (the Blue Ridge

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Last Two of Four Escaped Convicts Are Re-Captured

Raleigh, Feb. 8.—(AP)—The last two of four prisoners who escaped from a road gang near South Mills, in Camden county, January 31, have been recaptured, Oscar Pitts, penal director, said today.

He said John Sanders, serving up to 20 years from Gaston county, imposed in June for manslaughter, and Erwin Long, sent up from Alamance in August, 1936, to seven to ten years for manslaughter, were captured last night near where their companions were caught. He had no further details.

Pitt Legislator Plans To Seek Warren's Seat

Raleigh, Feb. 8.—(AP)—Legislators got warning today from a Pitt county representative that he expected to "go to Congress."

The House Education Committee was discussing the Woodhouse bill to provide payment by the Yadin County Education Board of reasonable boarding expenses of Negroes going from the county to high schools outside, until the county provides them a school. The bill won a favorable report.

"I think we ought to do something

Physical Examinations Would Be Made Rigid; Limitation of Magistrates Provided in Measure; New State Bank Commission Is Proposed

Raleigh, Feb. 8.—(AP)—The General Assembly received from Senator Long, of Halifax, today a bill to require that all applicants for marriage licenses in North Carolina must pass physical examinations. The measure would require persons to be free of venereal disease, and physicians could refuse them certificates also when tuberculosis, epilepsy or mental unbalance is found.

Senator Long also sent in a bill to require immunization of all children against diphtheria, and one to require blood tests of all expectant mothers as a venereal control measure.

Each division received bills to abolish the present State Advisory Bank Commission, and create a new State Bank Commission clothed with most of the power now resting solely in the bank commissioner. The bank commissioner would become executive officer of the commission, which would consist of the State treasurer, attorney general, four bankers and a business man, with the last five being appointed by the governor. It was understood the bill bore administrative backing.

Those members got from Taylor, of Wayne, Thornton, of Forsyth, and others, a bill to limit the number of justices of the peace. After this year one justice would be elected in each township, with an additional one allowed if the population is between 5,000 and 15,000. In townships with population in excess of 15,000, one could be elected for each 20,000 persons. Vacancies would be filled by appointment of clerks of superior court. The governor's power of appointment would be terminated except for continuing in office "in the public interest" justices holding commissions January 1, 1939.

William Cummings, Noted Auto Racer, Dies of Accident

Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 8.—(AP)—William C. (Wild Bill) Cummings, whose daring prowess was well known on automobile race tracks from coast to coast, died today of injuries suffered Monday night when his automobile skidded from a highway at the approach of a bridge, hurtled 50 feet across a creek and landed in the water 15 below the highway. He was 32 years old.

The accident occurred while Cummings was driving alone from Indianapolis to his suburban home south of the city.

Steamer Sinking 1,200 Miles Out In Mid-Atlantic

Thomaston, Maine, Feb. 8.—(AP)—Mackay Radio reported today it had intercepted an SOS from the freighter Maria de Larrinaga, declaring she was "sinking" 1,200 miles east of New York. Mackay said the master of the freighter radioed the Cunard liner Arava in the vicinity to come to the stricken ship's assistance. The freighter reported her position.

Mackay said the call was intercepted at 1 p. m. The ship in trouble, British-owned, is of 3,984 net tons. She left Houston, Texas January 24, for Cobb, Ireland.

Main Street Becomes Main Stream in Mountain City



A general view of Main Street in Middlesboro, Ky., as mountain streams reported from areas adjacent to tributaries flowing into the Ohio River from the Cumberlands became raging torrents. Much damage has been done from the south. (Central Press)

Serums Are Offered In Flood Areas

Pneumonia, Typhoid and Influenza Are More Feared Than Water in Ohio Region

Louisville, Ky., Feb. 8.—(AP)—Health authorities immunized today thousands of eastern Kentucky mountain people against pneumonia, influenza and typhoid—more feared than the overflowing streams which swept the hill country and flooded lowlands.

As rehabilitation progressed and the crest of the Ohio river slowly moved toward the Mississippi, the WPA was criticized by Representative May, Democrat, Kentucky, for "its indefensible refusal to cooperate" in aiding flood sufferers.

E. A. Marze, divisional WPA director here, said, however, that the agency's workers were assisting in evacuation of refugees, cleaning polluted wells and cisterns and aiding in the repair of utilities, bridges and water lines.

Vaccine for 250,000 persons was rushed into the 23 flood-stricken mountain counties yesterday by Red Cross and Kentucky health department authorities.

The Ohio dropped at Huntington, W. Va., and Cincinnati and rose slightly here and at down-river points in Kentucky and Indiana. Scores were driven from their southern Indiana homes.

At Huntington, the river was at 48 feet early today and dropping .25 feet an hour. The stage at Cincinnati was 58 1-4 feet and falling slowly.

Election Law Reforms Soon To Be Ready

Daily Dispatch Bureau, In the Sir Walter Hotel. By HENRY AVERILL

Raleigh, Feb. 8.—Earliest birds of the legislature are members of the sub-committee from the House Elections and Election Law committee.

This group, headed by Guilford's Joe Carruthers, is meeting each morning at 8:30 o'clock, and present indications are that it will have a report ready for the full committee by the end of this week, always barring more complications and arguments over the absentee ballot than are now looked for.

Already the seven-member unit (Carruthers, Odus Mull of Cleveland, Frank Taylor of Wayne, Lacy McBryde of Cumberland, J. B. Vogler of Mecklenburg, William Marshall of Stokes, John Kerr, Jr., of Warren) has about decided what to do with the matters of less controversial nature than the absentee ballot.

The statewide registration bill, "suggested" by the State Board of Elections and introduced by Mr. Taylor, met with no opposition in principle, but has been amended by the sub-committee so as to permit illiterate candidates to be eligible by the "grandfather" clause to get on the new books.

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Republicans Fail In Effort For Choking Off Labor Board

Spanish Government Is Established On Border As Fighting Is Renewed

Le Perthus, France, Feb. 8.—(AP)—Spanish government Premier Negrin established temporary headquarters today in the "last house in Spain" which is one foot from the French frontier.

Accompanied by several members of his cabinet and a military staff, Negrin had to cross temporarily into France to enter his new headquarters. But when he walked inside the doorway, he was again in his own country.

"The house is on the Spanish side of Le Perthus and is known as the 'last house in Spain'."

UNEXPECTED FIGHTING IN BORDER AREA BREAKS OUT Perpignan, France, Feb. 8.—(AP)—Unexpected fighting broke out today between Spanish insurgent forces and retreating government troops in the puigcerda region, near the French frontier.

The renewed fighting followed the breakdown of peace efforts yesterday and a declaration by Dr. Negrin, premier of government Spain, that he would fight to the finish rather than submit to insurgent demands for unconditional surrender.

The action drew artillery and war planes into battle in the snow-covered Pyrenees, from which government militiamen, including cavalry and infantry units, were withdrawing into France. Reports reaching the border said the battle started with an exchange of shots between the government rear guard and insurgent field gun units, which were approaching Quicrda.

Shortly afterwards, insurgent planes joined the fight, strafing the north-bound militiamen, while government artillery poured shells into insurgent positions.

London, Feb. 8.—(AP)—A British cruiser arrived today at Minorca, disputed island in the Spanish Balearics, while the London cabinet considered measures to prevent Italy and Germany from obtaining control of the islands. At the same time officials acknowledged that Britain had asked Spanish insurgent General Franco to agree to a truce in the civil war. But they declined to disclose whether Franco had replied, or if he had, what his answer was.

It was officially announced that the 9,750-ton cruiser Devonshire had dropped anchor at Port Mahon, strategic and well fortified harbor of Minorca, only island of the Balearics, which the Spanish government has held since early in the war.

Neither the Admiralty nor the foreign office would discuss the Devonshire's mission at Minorca. However, there have been reports that Britain

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WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA Mostly cloudy, with occasional showers tonight and Thursday; slightly warmer in east and north central portion tonight; colder in north portion Thursday.

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Paroles, Probation System Is Beaten In South Carolina

Columbia, S. C., Feb. 8.—(AP)—The Senate killed by a 22 to 13 vote today a proposal to set up a State probation and parole system in place of the present pardons board. Also, a proposal to repeal the prohibitive license imposed on operators of warehouses handling ungraded tobacco, was introduced in the House of Representatives.

Proposal Offered To Withhold All Funds Until Law Can Be Amended in Fairness to Industry; New \$150,000,000 Relief Bill Waited

Washington, Feb. 8.—(AP)—The House overwhelmingly defeated a Republican attempt today to cripple the National Labor Relations Board by eliminating its \$3,039,800 appropriation for the next fiscal year. The standing vote, announced as 186 to 5, came after House Majority Leader Rayburn had taken the floor and appealed to the membership not to "assassinate" the board in such a manner.

Representative Tabor, Republican, New York, senior minority member of the House Appropriations Committee, led the fight to strike out the item with the declaration that the funds should be withheld until the labor relations law can be amended so both industry and labor would be assured a "square deal."

Congress, meanwhile, awaited the introduction of legislation to provide the additional \$150,000,000 asked by President Roosevelt for work relief. The chief executive himself called to the White House for a luncheon conference Senator Byrns, Democrat, South Carolina, and Colonel F. C. Harrington, WPA administrator.

Other developments: Thomas R. Amie, told the Senate committee inquiring into his qualifications to be an Interstate commerce commissioner that he had addressed the congress against war and fascism in Chicago in 1934, where he may have been introduced as "Comrade Amie," but he denied he was ever a member of either the communist or socialist parties.

Secretary Perkins denied flatly charge that she had failed to enforce the deportation laws. Appearing before the House Judiciary Committee considering an impeachment declaration against her, the secretary said:

"I feel confident that whether examined minutely or at large, my record

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Money For Rebuilding Is Offered

Franco Would Be Required To Oust Italian and German Influence, and if Dictators Refused, France and Britain Would Then Intervene

Rome, Feb. 8.—(AP)—The fascist press declared today it is "too late" for eleventh hour moves to recognize insurgent General Franco by nations wanting to get on "good terms" with "new Spain."

The press statements appeared as reports were circulated abroad that Britain and France might offer loans to Franco.

Paris, Feb. 8.—(AP)—France and Great Britain were reported in diplomatic circles today to have offered a bargain to insurgent General Franco which would eliminate Italian influence in Spain after the Spanish civil war is ended.

French Foreign Office quarters left no doubt that they considered a Franco victory inevitable within several months. As a consequence, it was indicated by diplomatic sources that France and Britain have offered an "understanding" in Burgos.

This understanding, it was indicated, was the basis of talks between Senator Berrard, semi-official French envoy to the insurgent capital, and Foreign Minister Bonnet on Berrard's return yesterday from Burgos, where he sounded out insurgent leaders on possible establishment of diplomatic relations between France and Franco's regime.

Berrard said he received an "excellent impression" there. The reported understanding was said to include:

1. Franco would see that all Italian and German influence be eliminated from Spain as soon as the war is over.

2. As a reward for this, France and Britain would grant Franco the large loans that he must have to rebuild Spain, after the devastation of the war, and which, it was thought here, Germany and Italy would not be able to give the insurgent leader.

Economy Bloc Falters On UNC Support

Daily Dispatch Bureau, In the Sir Walter Hotel. BY G. LYNN NISBET.

Raleigh, Feb. 8.—The so-called "economy bloc" in the appropriations committee ran into more resistance on the part of friends of the Consolidated University than they have encountered on other appropriations. The budget commission's recommendations also fared worse on this point than on several others. Net result of committee deliberations yesterday afternoon, culminating three weeks more or less intensive study of the proposition to increase tuition rates at all State institutions of higher learning, was an increase of about a quarter of a million dollars in the appropriation for the university, over budget commission figures.

The committee figures might have been larger had not Senator Rodman, head of the Senate appropriations

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Secret Conferences Make Trouble for President

By CHARLES P. STEWART Central Press Columnist

Washington, Feb. 8.—Of course President Roosevelt should not have made a secret of that conference of his with the Senate Military Affairs Committee. He might have known that the senators who attended it would tell about it to the newspapermen as soon as they got out of the White House. Maybe he did know it.

Plenty of commentators suspect that he insisted on secrecy simply to intensify interest in the event, thereby getting still more publicity out of it. However, he evidently did not foresee that the 16 or 17 senators present would be fairly sure to disclose differing and possibly conflicting stories. If the whole out-door had been

invited in, there could not be any dispute as to the correct answer to the question, "Did or didn't 'F. D.' say that Uncle Sam's 'frontier' or 'first line of defense' is 'on the Rhine' or 'in France and England'?" Too many people would have heard him say it or not say it—and there'd be a stenographic record.

Driven to Extreme. As it is, the President is driven to the extreme of declaring that the yarn referred to is a "deliberate lie"—maddening strong language. "Teddy" Roosevelt used to speak of "liars," but he was not quite that emphatic.

And an additional trouble is that at least five of the 16 or 17 senators pre-

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