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# Henderson Daily Dispatch

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## ABSENTEE VOTE BAN REPORTED FAVORABLY

### 1400-Mile Chinese Back Door



China's answer to blockade by Japan is this new 1,400-mile highway from Kweichow into Yunnan province and on to Burma, built by Chinese peasants and providing a backdoor for entrance of munitions. This view indicates the mountainous terrain the road-builders encountered. The road is called one of the greatest engineering feats of modern times. (Central Press)

## General Assembly So Far Has Done About Nothing

### Charlotte Junket Over, Solons Enter 44th Legislative Day Still Facing Major Problems of Session; Some of Them Are Enumerated

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

Raleigh, Feb. 23.—The Charlotte junket over, members of the General Assembly today began business of the 44th legislative day without the comforting thought of having settled even one of the major issues which confronted it on opening day, January 4.

This is not said in any carpingly critical spirit, but is a simple, factual statement of the situation. Foremost among the problems, of course, is charting the State's financial course for the next two years, and at the moment this is written the legislators have not even decided upon the type compass they will use.

Perhaps by the time the finance committee has gotten round to voting on the report, its sub-committee made Tuesday—this vote will likely be reached late this afternoon—there

will be something more definite to say; but no matter what the result of that vote, there now exists the certainty of a long, arduous floor fight on a number of revenue and appropriations items.

Since last week, when the sub-committees of finance and appropriations locked their doors and went into extra-executive sessions there have been clear evidences that the nominal leaders have been applying strong pressure in an effort to get back to the general scheme of the Advisory Budget Commission's recommendations.

Report of the sub-committees Tuesday indicated that so far as these groups go that pressure has been effective. The finance sub-group has fronted right manfully for the undisguised desires of Senate Fi-

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## "Fair Trade" Bill Hurting Sandy Graham

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

Raleigh, Feb. 23.—Sandy Graham may be getting a nice, fat fee for representing wholesale grocers and lobbying so hard for the bill variously denominated "fair trade" and "price fixing", but he is doing himself less than no good at all politically by his activities.

That appears the practically unanimous conclusion, gleeful on the part of his enemies, regretful on the part of friends of the former lieutenant governor, who carried a score of counties in the 1936 governor's primary.

Of course, it is admitted on all sides that as an attorney Sandy is entirely within his rights, both legal and ethical, in representing his clients and representing them to the very limit of his outstanding and conceded ability.

Nevertheless and notwithstanding, there is a widespread impression that these lobbying activities will prove very undesirable chickens when they come home to roost, as they most certainly will if ever the

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## CHIEF OF POLICE OF WILSON BURIED

Wilson, Feb. 23.—(AP)—A funeral service was held today for Police Chief John Rufus Gurley, 54, who came here in 1925 from the Greenville police department. Gurley died yesterday.

## Would Apply To Primary, Not Election

### Senate Passes on Second Reading Bill for Compulsory Diphtheria Immunization; Tax on Illegal Liquor Seizures Is Proposed

Raleigh, Feb. 23.—(AP)—The House Elections Committee voted today to report favorably to the floor a bill to abolish absentee voting in primaries and tighten absentee voting regulations in general elections. A favorable report was given overwhelmingly on an oral vote.

Representatives Pickens, of Guilford, and Kerr, of Warren, led the opposition.

A motion by Pickens to abolish absentee voting entirely was rejected, as was a move by Kerr to retain the privilege in both primaries and elections. There was extended discussion before the votes were taken. The bill approved was drafted by a sub-committee and was referred to as a "compromise" during the debate.

The committee will meet tonight to act on other measures drafted by the sub-committee which provide a new statewide registration, require splitting up precincts in which more than 1,000 persons voted in the last gubernatorial election, and abolish use of markers.

The absentee voting bill requires that persons must apply for official ballots in the period from 30 days to two days before an election. Agents getting relatives are prohibited from getting ballots, and the county elections chairman is solely responsible for handling the ballots. All ballots must be delivered to the county chairman by noon of election day. The chairman must turn over the registrars the day before election any ballots he has received, and none may be received after noon of election day.

Kerr attacked the position of Representative Mull, of Cleveland, a former State Democratic chairman,

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## Fayetteville Wages-Hours Suit Settled

Washington, Feb. 23.—(AP)—The wage-hour administration announced today that its first injunction suit to enforce provisions of the fair labor standards act had been settled in North Carolina by the signing of a consent decree.

Federal Judge I. M. Meekins signed the consent decree at Elizabeth City, N. C., officials said, permanently enjoining the Central Weaving and Spinning Company of Fayetteville from paying less than the 25 cents an hour minimum required by the wage-hour law.

Consent decrees enjoining violations of the fair labor standards act also have been obtained in two other

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## Four Deaths From Storm In Windsor

Windsor, Feb. 23.—(AP)—Mrs. J. S. Mizelle, 65, died today of injuries she suffered in the tornado which struck the Green's Cross Roads community of Bertie county late Tuesday. Her death was the fourth attributed to the wind storm which did damage unofficially estimated at \$50,000 to \$75,000.

Meantime, relief and rehabilitation activities continued, with Red Cross representatives from Norfolk, Va., and officers of the State Highway Patrol assisting local agencies. A survey showed a number of dwellings destroyed or damaged, and 96 persons affected.

Besides Mrs. Mizelle, the dead were: Robert Lawrence, Mrs. Brown, Lawrence and John W. Brown, police chief at Colerain.

Brown's death was attributed to the storm, although he was fatally hurt in an automobile wreck.

R. S. Mizelle was originally reported dead, but the report was erroneous. He was released from the hospital yesterday after treatment for injuries.

## Span's Dictator and Premier?



Reports reaching France indicate that General Francisco Franco (left) will establish a new government in Spain with himself as dictator and his brother-in-law, Serrano Suner (right), as premier. Suner is a leader of the pro-Italian, pro-German Spanish fascists. (Central Press)

## Japan Is Demanding Partial Control Of Foreign Settlement

### Request Presented United States Authorities in Shanghai After Laying Plans Before Other Powers In Conquered Chinese Port

Shanghai, Feb. 23.—(AP)—Japanese authorities, seeking a stronger hand in the administration of the international settlement of Shanghai, turned today to the commanders of the United States armed forces for presentation of their requests.

The Japanese arranged to see Admiral Harry Yarnell, commander-in-chief of the United States Asiatic fleet, and Colonel Joseph Feagan, commanding the fourth regiment of Marines stationed here.

The Japanese already had conferred with civil authorities of the settlement and with the commanders of British and Italian defense forces. Japanese marines yesterday, with Italian consent, took over part of the Italian defense sector in the northwest corner of the city.

Because the Italian defense zone lies outside the permanent boundaries of the settlement, this occupation was not regarded as invasion of the settlement itself.

The Japanese ascribed their pressure for a greater hand in the internationally-administered settlement to the necessity of suppressing a wave of crime, including assassinations of pro-Japanese Chinese.

The Japanese explained they refrained from seeking Yarnell and Feagan yesterday because it was Washington's birthday and a holiday

## France Takes Firmer Stand On Dictators

Paris, Feb. 23.—(AP)—France, with what Frenchmen considered implied American and British support, today took the firmest stand for "peace with honor" that she has adopted since Italy started the campaign for a share of French African colonies.

Premier Daladier in a pointed address last night to the American club of Paris, made plain his government's policy of spending every reasonable effort to maintain peace, but refusing to yield to "blackmail."

"We reject any idea of surrender," Daladier declared. "We cannot admit

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## WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA.  
Fair, not quite so cold tonight; Friday partly cloudy and warmer.

## Roll Call Ordered On Bill To Fortify Island In Pacific

### Wallace Outlines Three Plans To Solve Cotton Problem; Morgenthau Says Business Need Fear No New Taxes; May Cut Some Down

Washington, Feb. 23.—(AP)—Leaders forced a roll call when the House convened today to bring out maximum voting strength for the administration's proposed \$5,000,000 naval development on the Pacific island of Guam.

Chairman Vinson, Democrat, Georgia, of the House Naval Committee, demanded the roll call when only a handful of members appeared just before the scheduled vote on the controversial Guam project—a part of a general measure authorizing the building and development of naval bases.

Other developments: Secretary Wallace outlined to the Senate Agriculture Committee three possible plans for dealing with the large surplus of American cotton. The three ways of dealing with the surplus problem, Wallace said, were:

1. To continue the present loan program and find some way to replace American cotton in world markets "on a competitive basis."
2. A program of increasing cotton growers' income so they would give up government loans and permit a large amount of cotton to flow into domestic and foreign channels.
3. A plan for fixing a high price on domestic cotton that will let the surplus flow into world markets for what it would bring.

The Senate passed a House-approved bill to continue from next June 30 to June 30, 1941, the operations of the Export-Import Bank and the Commodity Credit Corporation. Secretary Morgenthau said at his press conference that business men not only need not worry about new

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## Doomed Kidnaper Given Sanity Test Before Zero Hour

Raiford, Fla., Feb. 23.—(AP)—Three physicians and three attorneys conducted a sanity test of ransom kidnaper Franklin P. McCall today in his death row cell at the State Prison here. The result of their test was not announced immediately.

Meanwhile, McCall, scheduled to die in the electric chair tomorrow at 11 a. m., lost in one last-minute court plea for a reprieve and awaited word of the outcome of another. At New Orleans, Judge Rufus Foster, of the fifth United States Circuit Court of Appeals denied today an application for a writ of habeas corpus to stay tomorrow's execution of the 22-year-old confessed kidnaper of little Jimmy Cash, of Princeton, Fla., last April.

## TAR HEEL GIRL IN SERIOUS CONDITION

Mattick, Mass., Feb. 23.—(AP)—A 23-year-old North Carolina girl collapsed today while walking along the Worcester turnpike and was brought to a hospital suffering from pneumonia. Police said she gave her name as Margaret Sprain, of 418 South Fourth Street, Wilmington, N. C., and that she was trying to get to Buffalo by hitch-hiking. She had been employed in Boston until recently, officers said.

## German Offer Is Rejected By Mexicans

Mexico City, Feb. 23.—(AP)—United States Ambassador Joseph Daniels announced today he had been informed the Mexican government had rejected a proposal to purchase 17 German planes in a barter deal for Mexican oil.

It was understood on good authority that Daniels, learning of the projected trade, had registered objections.

Since Mexico last March 18 expropriated oil properties of 17 American and British companies, Germany has become a leading market

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## Insurgent Diplomat



Francisco Gomez Jordana, foreign minister of Spain's insurgent government, is conferring with Senator Leon Berard of France in Burgos, Spain, completing negotiations for full recognition of the Franco government. Britain is expected to follow France's lead in the matter. (Central Press)

## Russia Will Have Fleet "Invincible"

### Soviet Construction Program Revealed at Moscow With Big Ships and Big Guns

Moscow, Feb. 23.—(AP)—An invincible Soviet Russian fleet was forecast today by navy commander M. P. Frinovsky in a statement published on the occasion of the 21st anniversary of the red army and navy.

"We are constructing a large, powerful fleet to defend the country's wealth and the peaceful labor of citizens of the Soviet Union," Frinovsky wrote. "While pursuing a constant policy of peace, demonstrating repeatedly to all countries an aim to safeguard peace, the Soviet Union cannot remain passive and indifferent in the face of the furious armament race carried on by capitalist countries."

"Our own industry during recent years has built and armed many new ships for the navy, which in military quality, are not only equal to the ships of imperialistic navies, but even superior to them."

"During the third five-year plan

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## Chamberlain May Mediate Between France and Italy

Rome, Feb. 23.—(AP)—Hints of mediation by British Prime Minister Chamberlain of the differences arising from Italian aspirations toward French territory appeared today in two Italian newspapers.

Il Popolo di Roma, in a dispatch from London, said Chamberlain was preparing a plan to settle Italy's as yet unofficial claims for French colonial aspirations.

Il Resto del Carlino of Bologna one of Italy's leading provincial organs, at the same time listed fascist obstacles to mediation by Chamberlain, and said Italy would prefer Chancellor Hitler of Germany to Chamberlain, "but sincerely hoped for success" on Britain's part.

(Confirmation was lacking in official British quarters in London. The British view, as explained there, had been that Italy and France should deal directly.)