

# Henderson Daily Dispatch

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## Axis Partners Agree On Policy

### Senate Passes Hatch Anti-Politics Measure

**Amendment Curb's  
Assessment of State  
Employees for Political  
Contributions; Ap-  
proval in House Be-  
lieved Uncertain.**

Washington, March 18.—(AP)—The Senate today passed legislation making the Hatch anti-politics law apply to an estimated 300,000 employees in state and local governments.

The vote was 58 to 28. The bill now goes to the House where only today Speaker Bankhead said he was "not in favor" of it. There, opponents have to pigeonhole it for the session.

Sponsored by Senator Hatch, Democrat, New Mexico, the measure would apply to state employees paid partly from federal funds the same restrictions against political activity which now are applied to federal employees.

The bill, which brought a sharp split in Democratic ranks during two days of bitter debate, contains: A provision limiting individual campaign contributions to \$5,000 a year.

A provision against state-federal employees using their official influence to effect an election or cause their subordinates.

Authorization for the civil service commission to determine when a federal-state worker has engaged in political activity and then to inform other government agencies. It would issue orders and grants to withhold a portion of the federal pay unless a worker who participated in politics is dismissed. The money withheld would be equal to the annual salary of the state-federal worker involved.

Governors, lieutenant-governors, mayors, city managers and heads of state and city executive departments would be exempt from the legislation.

Employees accused of political activity would have the right to appeal to the courts.

Washington, March 18.—(AP)—The Senate, moving toward a vote on legislation to expand the Hatch anti-politics law, approved today an amendment to curb the assessment of state employees for political contributions.

The amendment offered by Senator Neely, Democrat, West Virginia, would prevent any employee paid partly from federal funds from using his influence to obtain political contributions from other state workers.

Neely told the Senate the proposal was designed to "stop those who are assessing state employees as some do in West Virginia."

Senator Norris, Independent, Nebraska, and Senator Hatch supported the amendment, Norris declared.

"I can't see anything wrong with the proposal. It is a good one. All we are conscientiously in favor of is that all will vote for it."

Vice-President Garner then quickly disposed of the proposal by announcing "without objection the amendment is approved."

The bill would apply to state employees.

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### Increases In Farm Funds To Be Approved

Washington, March 18.—(AP)—On the farm front, Speaker Bankhead predicted that the House would agree to a prospective \$300,000,000 increase in next year's farm supply bill which will come up in the Senate, probably tomorrow.

The bill carried \$713,000,000 when it passed the House but the Senate Appropriations Committee added \$200,000,000 for parity payments and increases in funds for surplus commodity removal.

E. F. Creekmore, manager of the American Cotton Cooperative association, urged a House agriculture committee to approve legislation which would authorize a \$1,695,441 appropriation to discharge a federal obligation to 13 cotton cooperatives chartered under the old farm board act years ago.

A Senate-House conference committee failed to reach an agreement on provisions which the Senate made in the first deficiency bill which provided among other items \$60,000,000 for delayed soil conservation payments to farmers who complied with the new agriculture program.

### Seeks Defense Pact



C. J. Hambro

First definite step toward negotiation of a Scandinavian defense alliance is seen in the arrival at Stockholm, Sweden, of C. J. Hambro, president of the Norwegian Parliament. He represents Norway, seeking a pact for mutual defense of Norway, Sweden and Finland.

(Central Press)

### Congress Cool To Wallace Trade Plan

By CHARLES P. STEWART  
Central Press Columnist

Washington, March 18.—Farm Secretary Henry A. Wallace's plan for an increase in trade between the United States and the Latin American seems likely to be up against a dead end at this session of Congress because the lawmakers are too economy-minded at present to finance it.

They're a peculiar bunch on Capitol Hill. They groan, to be sure, about the billions of dollars they're called upon to appropriate for other purposes. Nevertheless, they go ahead and do the appropriating.

All Wallace needs, for his scheme, is a mere handful of a very few hundreds of thousands. But the legislators can't stand that much. Of course the explanation's obvious. When the solons appropriate a billion, they do it under pressure from the voters. When something in six figures is asked for nobody's at hand to insist on it. True, it isn't worth

saving, but it isn't worth appropriating, either—not from the political standpoint, anyway.

The fact is that Secretary Wallace has a dandy idea, which would pay hugely in the long run. And it could be developed by comparatively so small investment that private capital (not to mention government money) probably would be attracted

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the Hotel Sir Walter where the headquarters are located and not of their relative standings—are found J. M. Broughton, Raleigh lawyer, on the mezzanine, with Emery Denny of Gastonia as state manager and John Peele of Elizabeth City as publicity chief.

On floor five is Lee Gravelly, with Crayton C. Efrid, Albermarle business man, in active charge, and Vernon M. Sechrist as chief news man.

Floor six has the headquarters of Allen J. Maxwell, the on-leave Commissioner of Revenue. Here Asheville's Burgin Pennell is field marshal while Ronald Wilson and Lyn Nisbet do the press work.

On the ninth is Lieutenant Governor W. P. Horton with Judge Daniel Bell doing the masterminding and Granberry Dickson the publicity chores.

That's the physical setup and from now to then there will be more speculating, and planning and working in this hotel than anywhere in North Carolina.

### Hope For 71 Miners Is Abandoned

**Rescue Crews Con-  
tinue Efforts To Reach  
Trapped Men; Bodies  
of Two Men Recovered;  
Two Rescue  
Workers Die**

St. Clairsville, Ohio, March 18.—(AP)—All 73 victims of the Willow Grove mine explosion were given up for dead today and the state prepared to pay death claims of nearly \$400,000.

Hope for 69 entombed coal miners faded 48 hours after the explosion. Four others were known dead. Officials reported that in another 24 hours they could break through the poisonous gases and rock barriers which blanketed the trapped dead.

More than 100 other miners, most of them gassed or injured, were rescued.

St. Clairsville, Ohio, March 18.—(AP)—Hope virtually was abandoned today for 71 miners trapped since Saturday in the Willow Grove coal mines.

Nevertheless, rescue crews continued their efforts to penetrate the mass of slate blocking the chambers in which the men were caught by a mighty explosion attributed by mine workers either to gas or to coal dust.

The bodies of John Marks, a motorman, and Boss McFadden were removed from the mine early today. They were the first of the entombed men to be recovered.

Coroner C. G. Hardesty immediately began an inquest.

More than 100 miners reached the surface safely shortly after the blast. Two men lost their lives breathing poisonous afterdamp fumes, in a futile attempt to reach the others.

John Owens, president of the Ohio district of the United Mine Workers, surveyed the wrecked tunnels last night and declared he held "no hope whatsoever" that any of the entombed miners were alive.

"However, nothing is being left undone to recover the men as soon as possible," he said, adding that they probably would not be reached before this afternoon.

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### Philadelphia First With Floods



A turbulent Schuylkill River went over its banks at several places in the Philadelphia area after heavy rains battered the eastern seaboard. Pontoon boats have been more useful than wheels to this car, found engulfed on the River Road near Flat Rock Dam. The water overflowed the banks three feet in some places.

### Most Activity On Western Front Sunday Since Hostilities Began

#### State Income Tax Collections Set Record Saturday

Raleigh, March 18.—(AP)—Income tax receipts for the fiscal year today had reached \$19,037,348.99 to exceed by \$250,000 the \$9,783,000 collected by the state during the entire fiscal year 1938-39.

Receipts tabulated through receipts Saturday put the total for March at \$8,047,209.17, compared with \$6,684,649.24 during the month last year.

The record for income tax payments in a fiscal year was set at \$11,385,000 in 1937-38 and revenue officials expect this to be exceeded this year.

### Union Vote Is April 17

**Is Estimated 125,000  
General Motors Em-  
ployees To Vote On  
Representation.**

Detroit, March 18.—(AP)—The National Labor Relations Board today set April 17 for election at which an estimated 125,000 employees of 59 General Motors Corporation plants throughout the country will vote on bargaining representation.

The election will be the largest in NLRB history.

In most plants the contest for designation as bargaining representatives is between CIO and the AFL unions known as the United Auto Workers of America. Workers also may indicate a desire for neither union.

In some instances where AFL craft unions or independent groups have a place on the ballot a bargaining unit for a single department may be chosen.

The NLRB regional office here said General Motors had agreed to set up booths in the plant, employees casting their votes during working hours. The vote will be counted on the following day.

### Roosevelt Still Suffering From Cold And Fever

Washington, March 18.—(AP)—Still suffering from a head cold and a temperature, President Roosevelt was ordered by his physician today to remain in the White House residential quarters until he recovers.

Dr. Ross McIntire said the Chief Executive's condition was not serious but that "precautionary" measures were necessary.

### German Attacks West of Vosges and East of Moselle Were Turned Back, French Report, With "Cruel Losses" To German Forces

Paris, March 18.—(AP)—German attacks with the largest number of men put into action since the war started were reported by military quarters today to have been turned back by French machine gun and artillery fire.

German patrols operating Sunday in separated sectors west of the Vosges mountains and east of the Moselle river sustained what military sources described as "cruel losses" in extended operations.

The first of three attacks came at dawn Sunday when French artillery observers moving forward to posts which are not manned during the night found Germans installed in them. The French attacked with automatic light arms. The Germans finally withdrew, it was said.

In the second engagement the Germans sent about 300 men to meet a French patrol operating in the Vosges.

The French unit replied to enemy fire and repulsed waves of Germans seeking to take outlying positions.

Heavy bursts of machine gunning were succeeded by fire from the artillery which blasted German troops.

Shell explosions ripped through the Germans causing a large number of dead and wounded. Military sources said Nazi losses were heavy. Concerning themselves the French reported "two disappeared."

### Weather

FOR NORTH CAROLINA.  
Mostly cloudy, probably occasional showers in east portion tonight and Tuesday and in west portion tonight; considerably colder Tuesday.

### Reports Of Wage-Hour Law Injury To Farm Income To Be Investigated At Once

Washington, March 18.—(AP)—Col. Philip B. Fleming, wage-hour administrator, ordered his field force today to investigate complaints that the wage-hour act had reduced farm income.

Fleming said the investigation would determine whether his agency should redefine the "area of production," the area within which the processing of farm products is exempt from the act.

The law set a minimum wage of 30 cents an hour and a maximum work week of 42 hours. Farmers have complained that processing houses outside the area of production are offsetting their increased labor cost by cutting prices to farmers. Also, farm cooperatives are said to have had their cost raised.

### British Ship Ministry Is Under Attack

London, March 18.—(AP)—Asserting that Britain may starve to death unless her ship building program is speeded up, Emanuel Shinwell, laborite, member of parliament, asked the House of Commons today for a vote censuring the shipping ministry.

Shinwell took the floor to press his demand for a vote. He scored the shipping ministry for delays he said were due to lack of organization and declared that complaints were rolling in.

The effective cargo-carrying tonnage of the British merchant marine is only about 10,000,000 tons at present, he said, and not "18,000,000 tons as Mr. Churchill (First Lord of the Admiralty Winston Churchill) would have claimed."

He declared the available tonnage had been depleted both because the Queen Mary and other large ships are now tied up and because a number of other vessels have been taken over by the admiralty.

### Former Missouri WPA Head Given Two-Year Term

Kansas City, March 18.—(AP)—Matthew S. Murray, former Missouri WPA administrator, today was sentenced to two years in federal prison for income tax evasion.

Murray, who held a city position in the Tom Pendergast machine in addition to his WPA post, was convicted of evading taxes on \$69,691.

At his trial before Judge Albert Reeves he claimed \$49,800 of that amount was in "gifts" and "gratuities" from Pendergast and J. J. Pryor, a contractor, and were tax exempt.

### Welles Calls On Pope Pius

Vatican City, March 18.—(AP)—Sumner Welles was received by Pope Pius XII in his private library today at the moment that Adolf Hitler and Mussolini were conferring in the Brenner Pass.

The possibilities of peace were believed to have been the principal topics of both conversations.

Welles was accompanied to the last scheduled conference of his tour by Myron Taylor, the President's special ambassador to the Vatican.

### Italy To Join Nazis When Time Comes

**In the Meantime, In-  
formed Sources Say,  
Italy Will Lose No Op-  
portunity To Demon-  
strate That She Is Ger-  
many's Ally**

Berlin, March 16.—(AP)—Extension of the Rome-Berlin axis to Moscow and possible eventual participation of Italy in the European war on Germany's side were cited today by excellently informed Berlin circles as the main apparent results of today's historic Brenner Pass meeting between Adolf Hitler and Premier Mussolini.

The two statesmen appeared to have worked on plans for a complete reorganization of Europe with Soviet Russia as their partner.

Berlin was filled with rumors that German foreign minister Joachim von Ribbentrop would confer with Russian premier foreign commissar Vyacheslav Molotov as soon as possible, either in Berlin or Moscow.

Hitler and Mussolini were said to have agreed on ultimate participation of Italy in the European war on Germany's side and when such a course should be deemed preferable to the present status of Italy as "not neutral and yet not waging war."

(The only interpretation given in Italy up to the same time to the meeting between the two leaders at the Brenner pass was that their conference was "cordial.")

Until the time should come for filling in the date for a declaration of war, it was said, Italy would lose no opportunity to demonstrate to the western powers that she is Germany's ally economically, politically and ideologically.

Italy, for instance, abruptly ceased furnishing certain implements of war to France as she had done hitherto.

The present German-Italian coal agreement will be followed by other agreements for putting resources of each at disposal of the other axis partner.

(The coal agreement to furnish the major part of Italy's coal needs by rail followed upon the British blockade of German coal being shipped by water.)

In the event of Italy's entering the war, it was said, Germany would supply her partner with all the

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### Allies Talk Aid To Turks

**Britain, France And  
Turkey Consult On  
Aid To Be Given In  
Event of War**

London, March 18.—(AP)—Great Britain, France and Turkey are consulting on the form of aid the western powers should give their eastern ally in event she becomes involved in hostilities. Foreign Undersecretary R. A. Butler told the House of Commons today.

The British government at the same time turned down a suggestion that it ask the League of Nations to set up a neutral commission to examine responsible proposals for peace in the European conflict.

The suggestion was made by Laborite Arthur Woodburn and Butler rejected it, declaring Foreign Secretary Lord Halifax is "not convinced" that adoption of the proposal "would be best in the present circumstances."

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