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Axis Heads May Meet Sunday

Glass Favors U. S. War Declaration

Virginian Says Stand Is Personal

Question of Declaration of War Against Germany Should be Decided by Experts of State, War and Navy Departments.

Washington, Jan. 18.—(AP)—Senator Glass, Democrat, Virginia, said today that it was his personal view that the United States should declare war on Germany now, but, he added, the question was one which should be determined primarily by policy experts in the State, War and Navy departments.

The 62-year-old Virginian, who has criticized many administration measures but has supported President Roosevelt's foreign policy, was selected by the Democratic steering committee yesterday for membership on the foreign relations committee which will handle the administration's aid-to-Britain legislation in the Senate.

In an interview he declared that he would like to declare war on Germany at once "so far as I am personally concerned."

"But I don't know whether that would be strategically advisable," he continued. "It is a matter primarily for the experts of the State department and the Army and Navy."

The Virginia senator previously has expressed the view that this nation would be justified in sending its vessels into war zones. He also has argued that the United States justifiably could escort convoys of supply ships to Great Britain.

Meanwhile, Senator Nye, Republican, North Dakota, reiterated his contention that 30 senators would vote now for a declaration of war if the President asked it.

But he declared, the country's feeling is growing against war. This gradually will bring about a change in congressional sentiment, he declared.

Epidemic Reaches Peak In Some Areas

Charlotte, Jan. 18.—(AP)—Scores of cities and communities in North Carolina fought the raging flu epidemic today by closing schools and taking other precautions as the outbreak seemed to be reaching a peak in some sections.

At Charlotte, Dr. G. E. Rea, city health officer, estimated that ten percent of Charlotte's 100,000 population was down with the infection and added that the number of cases might be even higher.

Schools both in Charlotte and Mecklenburg county were closed until January 27 and many churches decided not to hold services tomorrow.

Although schools were still closed in Greensboro and Guilford county, health authorities expressed the opinion that the epidemic in that area was definitely past the peak.

With the epidemic apparently growing worse at Gastonia, Dr. L. N. Patrick, city physician, announced that theatres would close beginning today and that uptown churches had agreed to cancel all services tomorrow. The schools there will remain closed.

Schools in Lumberton were closed until January 27 after 30 percent of the pupils were reported absent.

Mooresville and Kannapolis schools were among the latest to be closed, along with several county schools in Rowan county.

Cotton Closes 2 To 4 Lower

New York, Jan. 18.—(AP)—Cotton futures opened 1 higher to 1 lower. Prices at the finish were 2 to 4 points lower, middling spot 10.59, off 3.

Congressmen Clash at Lend-Lease Hearing



Words fly thick and fast as Representatives Sol Bloom, chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and Hamilton Fish, of New York, stage a verbal battle at hearing on the President's lend-lease bill. Secretary of War Stimson had just left the witness stand when Bloom accused Fish, ranking Republican on the committee, of overstepping his authority in inviting Willkie, Kennedy and other dignitaries to testify, and scored him for referring to the bill as the "President's dictator bill." Left to right, standing: Representatives Bloom, Fish, and George E. Tinkham (bearded) of Massachusetts, the isolationist.

Gayda Blasts At U. S.

Farm Income Is Greater

Cash Receipts For First Ten Months of 1940 Exceed That of Same 1939 Period.

Daily Dispatch Bureau, In The St. Walter Hotel, By LYNN NISBET.

Raleigh, Jan. 18.—Cash income from the sale of principal farm products in North Carolina for the first ten months of 1940 was 9 percent greater than for the corresponding period in 1939, according to R. P. Handy, junior agricultural statistician in the department of Agriculture. Income from government payments was 23 percent less, leaving a net total increase for the January-October period of 5.4 percent.

Actual income figures were estimated at \$158,731,000 and \$145,023,000, exclusive of government payments. The increase was caused mainly by the much larger cotton crop and by better prices for many commodities. Tobacco, however, shows a loss of some 37 million dollars.

Cash income from the sale of livestock and livestock products for the first ten months of 1940 was 13 percent above the level of the same months in 1939.

Of the total farm income for these months 74 percent was from the sale of crops, 19 percent from livestock, and livestock products. The other 8 percent was made up of the various benefit payments received from the Federal government.

Cash income from the sale of all farm products in the United States from January through October is estimated at \$7,315,124,000. This is about 7 percent above the previous year for the nation, as compared with 5.4 percent in this state, which would seem to indicate that states with more general diversification fared better than North Carolina, depending largely upon cotton and tobacco for cash farm income.

Strike Settlement May Be Agreed On

San Diego, Cal., Jan. 18.—(AP)—New hope that a strike at the Ryan Aeronautical Company plant here may be averted rose with word today that company and CIO United Automobile Workers union negotiators would meet again today.

Shortly after arising from another deadlocked session last night, the negotiators announced through Harry Malcolm, Federal conciliator, their agreement to meet again to seek a solution of the wage dispute.

With the strike deadline set for next Tuesday by union vote, Malcolm said he had a plan to prevent the walkout which would effect 1,600 workmen and the plant's \$11,400,000 government plant order.

Party Dress



Carolyn Lee

Film starlet Carolyn Lee, 6, poses in New York in the party dress she bought especially to wear at the President's Ball on January 30th in Washington. The pretty little lady favors black ribbons and eyelet embroidery.

French Ship Halted

Buenos Aires, Jan. 18.—(AP)—The 3,199-ton French freighter Mendoza, which has been trying to get through the British blockade to France, was reliably reported today to have been halted and probably seized by a British warship off the lower Brazilian coast.

The report said the British ship took action while the freighter was attempting to edge northward along the coastline.

The Mendoza was reported to have left Porto Bello, Brazil, early today, sailing slowly through the dangerous Brazilian territorial waters, where it was presumed that under international law she would be safe from search and seizure.

Weather

FOR NORTH CAROLINA. Mostly cloudy and colder tonight, much colder in extreme west, preceded by snow flurries this afternoon or tonight in mountains. Sunday clearing and much colder.

Says U. S. Seeks War

Italian Editor Declares "Interventionists Headed by Roosevelt" Want War.

Rome, Jan. 18.—(AP)—The authoritative fascist editor Virginio Gayda accused American "interventionists headed by Roosevelt" today of seeking to provoke Germany and Italy into some action which would justify the United States in going to war against the axis.

With an editorial in his Rome newspaper, Gayda cited the United States Senate naval construction bill passed last May 13 as "betraying" the argument that an axis victory over Britain would endanger America.

"The axis powers are following firmly and tranquilly developments in the North American war movement which can worry American people more than the war method," Gayda stated.

Interventionists, Gayda declared, are "throwing themselves into chaotic intervention with every means in open provocation with the utmost violation of international law, hoping that the limit of the axis powers' toleration and war desire necessity will finally be reached and that reactions will come from them which will then be passed off as a new aggressive move to which the United States would have to reply with force."

Two Dead In Hotel Fire

Spokane, Wash., Jan. 18.—(AP)—Fire in a six-story hotel last night took two lives, injured at least ten other guests and put every available piece of the city's fire equipment into the fight against the wind-fanned flames.

Dead were a man and a woman, neither of whom could be identified immediately because of burns.

BIG U. S. BOMBER REPORTED LOST

McChord Field, Wash., Jan. 18.—(AP)—Army planes in California and Washington searched along half the length of the Pacific coast today for a twin-motored bomber missing two days with seven men aboard. Army officers hoped for a break in the stormy weather that forced searching planes back to their bases yesterday.

School Bill Challenges Vogler Bill

Addition of Extra Month to School Term Estimated to Cost About Same Amount As Would Be Lost by Sales Tax Exemptions

Raleigh, Jan. 18.—(AP)—Legislative observers today saw in the Unstead-Pritchett nine months school bill, introduced in the House yesterday, the first real challenge to the Vogler bill removing all foods from the sales tax.

Representative Unstead of Orange, co-author of the school bill, said addition of the extra month to the present eight month term would cost "about \$1,500,000 a year."

Revenue Commissioner A. J. Maxwell previously had told the joint finance committee that the loss of revenue resulting from the removal of food items from the sales tax list would "be about a million and a half a year—but improved business is expected to make up that loss through increased collections on other items."

"We (backers of the nine months school term) just want to see whether the people of North Carolina had rather have a longer uniform school term or cut down their present sources of revenue," Unstead said.

"I don't understand how you can get everything you ask for and at the same time cut down revenue."

Each house of the General Assembly passed one local bill at brief sessions today and then recessed until 8 o'clock Monday night.

London Again Has Daylight Bombing

London, Jan. 18.—(AP)—Five bombs fell in a London residential district this afternoon when German bombers made their first daylight raid on the capital in twelve days. The raiders were met by the fire of ground batteries.

Earlier, German aircraft had been reported over northwest England and several towns in the industrial midlands.

The port of Swansea in South Wales bore the brunt of German aerial attack on Britain last night.

Inauguration Crowd Begins To Gather

Washington, Jan. 18.—(AP)—The bustle of carnival crowds overshadowed somber defense preparations today in the nation's capital, splashed with banners and bunting for the precedent-shattering third inauguration of Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Cheered by a forecast of fair—though cold—weather for Monday's ceremonies, weary officials announced that everything was complete for welcoming a record throng of 250,000 or more visitors.

By auto, plane and train, sight-seers were arriving hourly for the festivities, unique in American history because no president has held office for two terms.

At the White House the President kept appointments to a minimum in order to finish his inaugural address. He gave no hint of its length or contents.

It will be delivered after he takes the oath Monday noon on a simple platform built over the Capitol steps—where in 1939 he told a solemn gathering that he would seek broad emergency powers if necessary to fight the depression.

Now the emphasis is on grave foreign and military problems with Congress debating whether to give Mr. Roosevelt new emergency authority to rush help to embattled Britain.

Ready for Work



Henry A. Wallace

Vice President-elect Henry Agard Wallace is shown with the gavel he will wield as president of the Senate when he takes office following President Roosevelt's history-making third-term inauguration. (Central Press)

Roosevelt's Health "Best In Many Years"

Washington, Jan. 18.—(AP)—The physical condition of President Roosevelt as he faces four more years in the White House was described today as "the best in many years."

Rear Admiral Ross T. McIntire, the President's personal physician and the Navy's surgeon general, said "eight years as chief executive have done nothing to him but make him eight years older."

"One of the grand things about him," McIntire said in an interview, "is that he can relax. Of course, when things blew up in Europe and his telephone was ringing at all hours, no one could relax."

"But in the main he has the ability to put his troubles aside when he shouldn't carry them with him."

NAZI ACTIVITY.

Belgrade, Jan. 18.—(AP)—Intensive German air force preparations at more than a dozen large landing fields in southern Rumania led to predictions today that the nazis may be arranging hopping off places for new action in the Mediterranean area.

Earlier, German aircraft had been reported over northwest England and several towns in the industrial midlands.

The port of Swansea in South Wales bore the brunt of German aerial attack on Britain last night.

Constitutional Amendment To Alter Senate Districts May Be Offered Assembly

Daily Dispatch Bureau, In The St. Walter Hotel, By HENRY AVERILL.

Raleigh, Jan. 18.—It appears quite likely that there will be introduced in the current reapportionment session a Constitutional amendment to rework the present system of Senatorial districting.

Proposal of such an amendment will be based on the contention that the present method of districting is absolutely out of harmony with the spirit of the letter of the constitution as it now stands. Its proponents will insist that the intent of the organic law is that there shall be fifty districts, with one senator elected from each.

Their amendment will be drawn along that line of thought. It has not yet been drafted, and the whole matter is in something of the formative stage. Those behind the idea come from counties which will lose seats under the almost certain reapportionment of representation in the House.

These legislators are of the opinion that the present method of Senatorial districting is probably unconstitutional. They point to this clause in support of their contention:

"The Senate districts x x x shall contain, as near as may be, an equal number of inhabitants x x x."

They then point out that there isn't even a pretense that the present "districts" meet any such constitutional test. For instance the existing Seventeenth Senatorial district (Guilford and Rockingham) contains 210,132 inhabitants, according to the preliminary census figures which do not vary essentially from the final official revision. That's the largest.

At the other end the Twenty-ninth district (Alleghany, Ashe and Watauga) contains only 49,994. That's

Reports Say Hitler Seeks Peace Move

Hitler Believed Seeking End to Greek-Italian War; British Civilians Rounded Up In Occupied France; Other War News.

(By The Associated Press.) Diplomatic quarters at Bern, Switzerland, heard reports today that a full dress conference of Adolf Hitler and Benito Mussolini, with their principal military, diplomatic, and economic aides, is set for Sunday.

A reliable informant in Sofia, Bulgaria, said Germany was trying to bring about peace in the Italian-Greek war and that the concentration of German troops in southern Rumania was part of the "argument" aimed at Greece.

A fresh roundup of British civilians in Nazi-occupied France, where military and naval bases are the targets of royal air force bombers, was disclosed today as a factor in the wintery cross-channel warfare.

"Military necessity," Germans said, was the reason for the internment of 5,000 British subjects, men, women and children, living in the French area—which might become either the jumping off place for an attempted invasion of England or a foothold for a new British expeditionary force.

German action to restrict espionage has been reported from other occupied areas facing England—Norway, the Netherlands and Belgium. It was understood in Berlin that the roundup was in part a reprisal for internment of Germans in Britain.

Bombers exchanged aerial blows in the night despite bad weather. German fliers set fires in a raid on docks and storehouses at Swansea, South Wales port which is a copper and fuel center. The British government said casualties there were "not large."

British warplanes attacked the ports of Brest and Cherbourg and two airdromes in occupied France. Axis shipping was bombed and machine gunned off the Dutch coast yesterday, the British air ministry said, and four ships were hit.

Greece announced the capture of 1,000 Italians of the crack "Wolves of Tuscany" division in Albania and the torpedoing of two Italian ships in the Adriatic sea.

Prime Minister Churchill declared in an unexpected speech last night in Glasgow that Britain did not require "large armies from overseas" in 1941 but did need "far more ships, airplanes and supplies from America than she could pay for."

While it is true that the Seventeenth elects two senators and the Twenty-ninth only one, the fact remains that the gross discrepancy in population between the two proves beyond even the proverbial "reasonable doubt" that there has been no effort whatsoever to follow the existing constitutional provision that the districts "shall contain, as near as may be, an equal number of inhabitants."

Even on the assumption that the population per senator and not the population per district should be the test, there still remains an astounding gap between the Seventeenth and the Twenty-ninth. In the former there is one senator for every 105,000 of population, in the latter one for the less than 50,000.

The unfairness in the case of these two districts is the rule rather than the exception with practically all the other districts of the state; and it is to remedy such glaring enormities that a new constitutional provision is being considered.

The proposal would be brief and to the point. It would provide that the State be divided into "fifty Senatorial districts, each electing one State Senator," with the usual proviso that these districts shall be as nearly equal in population as may be.

Proponents of the amendment, however, are likely to throw in one sop to the smaller counties, by way of getting it passed. There will be added, according to present plans, a provision that no county shall have more than one Senator—a provision which right now would be directly aimed at Guilford and Mecklenburg

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