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The Farmville Enterprise

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FARMVILLE, PITT COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 1931

NUMBER ELEVEN

VOLUME THIRTY-TWO

HOPKINS AND STALIN CONFER ON AMERICAN AID TO RUSSIA

Russians Reiterate Military Success Claims; Germans Say Fall of Leningrad Is Near

Moscow, July 30.—Harry L. Hopkins heard from Joseph Stalin in a Kremlin conference tonight what kind of American equipment would help the Red Army, whose bayonet counter-charges were reported to have put the Germans on the defensive in some sectors.

The Lease-Lend Administrator talked with Stalin as President Roosevelt's personal representative a short time after arriving in Moscow by plane. There was no immediate announcement on the outcome of the conference on purchase and delivery of American war materials.

Acting Secretary of State Sumner Welles said in Washington that lease-lend aid was not contemplated in Russian war orders now being placed in Washington.

Hopkins' visit came as Moscow read the most heartening military news in days. The Communist newspaper Pravda said Soviet troops beat repeatedly at the invaders in a series of far-spread attacks, turning some Nazi thrusts into slow and bloody retirement after checking drives on Moscow, Kiev and Leningrad.

Pravda listed as typical an attack by a Red army unit which waded chin-deep through a swamp and charged a German battalion with bayonets. The Germans were said to have been routed.

Although it did not comment directly on Hopkins' arrival, a Pravda article by Alexei Tolstoy, well-known Soviet author, said Germany would be "helpless to halt the unwinding springs of American war industry."

He added that Britain determination to continue the Western fight, growing Red military strength and American production would thwart Hitler's Russian plans. The German Fuehrer, he said, had counted on an English desire for peace and unwillingness of the United States to become involved in Europe to aid the blitzkrieg drive.

There was no claim that a Russian general offensive was under way, but Pravda said Russia's aim now was to "convert the checking of the German offensive into defeat of Hitler's armies."

State Ends Year With \$7,280,272 In Cash Balance

Appropriations For 1941-42, However, Exceed Revenues by \$6,150,000

Raleigh, July 31.—The State of North Carolina closed the 1940-41 fiscal year with a general fund balance of \$7,280,272—largest surplus in State history—but at the same time embarked on a year of spending that is scheduled to dissipate all except \$260,000 of that balance by June 30, 1942, the Budget Bureau reported yesterday.

The final statement of condition of the general fund as of June 30 showed all-time high spending of \$43,815,955 and record collections of \$47,280,139. The seven million dollar balance compared with a \$3,016,938 balance at the beginning of the year.

"This is a very gratifying statement and shows the State to be in a sound and financially healthy condition," said Governor Broughton, director of the budget.

Warning Given. At the same time, the Governor warned that it did not mean a "green light" for extravagant or reckless spending.

He no doubt had in mind that the 1941 General Assembly appropriated money permitting the expenditure of \$47,188,768 during the current year and levied taxes estimated to yield only \$44,699,411. Unless revenues exceed these estimates, the State must dip into the cash balance for \$6,000,000 and take \$1,150,000 more from highway funds — in the name of a sales tax on gasoline.

The Highway Commission yesterday had not provided the figures on which the Budget Bureau might compile an annual statement of condition of the highway fund. The delay may prevent its release before Friday or possibly next week.

The General Assembly, which constantly revised its estimates until the eve of adjournment last March, did not anticipate revenues that will protect in its entirety the balance form 1940-41. Law-makers estimated the exemption of foods for home consumption would reduce the sales tax from \$14,246,428 last year to \$13,100,000 this year, that fortified wine restrictions would reduce beverage revenues from \$2,610,185 to \$2,121,000, that the decrease in the State's share of intangible taxes would cut that revenue from \$673,064 to \$350,000 and that the inheritance tax would yield \$750,000, compared with \$1,821,924 last year.

Income Increase Expected. The only substantial increase expected in revenues for 1941-42 was estimated in the income tax, placed at \$15,090,000, compared with the already record-breaking collections of \$14,401,255 last year.

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While refraining from seeking authority to put a limit on wages, he said he expected the voluntary cooperation of labor to prevent labor costs from rising abnormally.

"Labor," Mr. Roosevelt said, "has far more to gain from price stability than from abnormal wage increases. For these are likely to be illusory, and quickly overtaken by sharp rises in living costs which fall with particular hardship on the least fortunate of our workers and our old people."

The message went to a Congress sharply divided on the question of price-fixing. Already a Senate farm bloc has served notice it would oppose limits on agricultural prices and only yesterday won Senate approval of a bill preventing the marketing during the emergency of government owned stocks of wheat and cotton.

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A bill to carry out the president's request is expected to be introduced in both houses shortly. Leon Henderson, head of the Office of Price Administration and civilian supply, has been working on the legislation for weeks with bill-framing experts.

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The 1940 census shows that the number of farm households declining during the 1930-1931 period, according to preliminary reports, is the largest in any year since the first census in 1790.

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