

North Carolina: Mostly cloudy tonight and Thursday, rain or snow Thursday night and possibly in west. Not so cold Thurs.

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TAX PLANS AND NEUTRALITY IN CAPITAL SPOTLIGHT

Highway Forces Work Overtime To Repair Damages Of \$100,000

Will Soon Have 1200 Miles Of Rural Roads Passable; Superintendent Broadway Says It Is Worst In 28 Years

Cars, trucks and school busses were rapidly being permitted to resume normal traffic on the 1200 miles of rural roads in Cleveland county today as crews of the state highway department dumped load after load of sand and gravel into muddy ruts and sought to repair what is thought to be nearly \$100,000 damage to the roads.

A statement today from W. A. Broadway, district supervisor in charge of roads in Cleveland county indicated that the condition of the roads for the past two months "is the worst in the 28 years I have been connected with road work."

Only one school bus was reported unable to make the grade yesterday and it was soon extracted from the mud and sent on its way.

Need Sunshine Mr. Broadway said that while it is impossible with his present machinery to cover the entire county so quickly after a rain or snow, that "with a few more days of fair weather we will have every road in the county passable again."

Seven regular sections, two state highway sections, two extra sections with six extra trucks, comprising about 40 or more men, with the aid of 103 prisoners are now working full time on the roads. All the drags and motors in the county are being used.

While the prisoners are not allowed to run machinery, they are helpful in shoveling the sand, opening drains and side ditches.

Surfaced Roads Suffer The clay roads are not the only ones in the county which have suffered greatly from the cold weather. The surfaced roads, especially the gravel and tar roads have been

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Shelby Teachers Exchange Pupils For Entire Day

"Exchange day" is being set this week by teachers in the Shelby school system, in which all the teachers are allowed at least one day to teach some other class other than his or her own, which practice is found to be quite stimulating both to pupils and teachers.

B. L. Smith, superintendent, said today that he allowed the exchanges to be made during one week at this time of the year. One half of the teachers changed places Tuesday and the other half will change Thursday.

Effort is made to let the teacher perform in a different subject and altogether different age of pupils than she has been accustomed to teaching. The schedule is so arranged that one teacher from each school will exchange with some one in every other school.

Supt. Smith said that insofar as the knows Shelby is the only school in the state that uses this plan to promote a wider understanding of educational responsibility.

Morning Cotton LETTER

NEW YORK, Feb. 19.—Trading narrow and principally for trade accounts. Reports received of continued selling of spot cotton by producers pool, contracts taken by trade. Also reports of arbitrage buying of July in this market against sales same month in Liverpool, differences between these options showing slight narrowing. Less emphasis is being placed on retroactive taxes to cover unconstitutional processing taxes but until this matter is finally settled goods business likely to lag. Trading market seems only immediate prospect.—E. A. Elliott & Co.

THE MARKETS Cotton, spot ----- 11 1/4 to 12 1/4 Cotton seed, wagon, ton ----- \$33.00 Cotton seed, car lot, ton ----- \$36.00

New York cotton at 2:30: Jan. 10.25, Mar. 11.28, May 10.90, July 10.61, Oct. 10.26, Dec. 10.24.

Italians Conquer



Solid line indicates position of Italian legions before huge offensive in which 5,000 Ethiopians are reported killed. The broken line shows extent of the advance made by two divisions of Italian white soldiers.

Candidate McRae For Local Option In Liquor Control

Opens Campaign For Nomination In Mecklenburg Courthouse.

CHARLOTTE, Feb. 19.—Advocating among other things the adoption of a local option State control liquor store act analogous to the Virginia control plan, John A. McRae of Charlotte in an address last night to a large crowd at the Mecklenburg courthouse formally launched his campaign for the Democratic nomination for Governor.

Mr. McRae's position upon the liquor question was clear-cut, unequivocal. "We are confronted with a practical situation and it must be dealt with in a practical way," he declared in prefacing the principle underlying his plan.

No Sales Tax Advocate. On the sales tax he was also clear in his position. "Were I a member of the General Assembly in 1937, I would vote to abolish the sales tax, if we could balance the budget without this tax and without placing back upon real estate and without hampering industry by destructive

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Get Out The Old Rod And Reel As Fishing Time's Almost Here

"Hunting season is over and it is time to get out your rod and reel," said H. C. Long, county game warden as he made a few seasonal comments about the condition of game birds and animals after coming through a hard winter.

"I really think they are in better condition and we have a larger number at the close of the year than we would have had, if the weather had been better—it has been so bad hunters have been unable to hunt very much."

Mr. Long continued by saying that while game birds and animals

Free Fertilizer Under The T. V. A. Farm Topic Today

Applications Being Received

Raspberries Being Revived Again As Expert Is Expected Thursday.

Today's farm story is about free fertilizer under the TVA, last payment on rental checks, electric power and raspberries.

Nearly a score of applications for their farms to become demonstration units under the Tennessee Valley Authority have been received by the farm extension department, according to John S. Wilkins, and all these farms are being visited this week and inspected and examined.

Crop Rotation After all applications are in, the farms will be selected, one in each township, by the Soil Erosion Committee, after which they will be accepted by the TVA to work out a rotation, soil erosion and conservation policy for the next few years.

Free fertilizer for the pasture, legume and improvement crops will be furnished.

As for the raspberries, growth of which last year took Cleveland by storm: H. R. Niswonger, of the come in the regular allotments county Thursday and make inpection of the vines. He will go with Mr. Wilkins and other agents in this district Thursday night for a meeting to discuss 1936 marketing outlooks and policies.

The last rental checks for Cleveland county were given out this week, and the local office has not a one left, but there are several scores of checks which did not come in the regular allotments which have not as yet been sent out from Washington. A Washington report said today that the last work was being done on the delayed checks, and it is hoped that all will be sent in the next few days.

4 Firemen Die In Columbus, O.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Feb. 19.—(AP)—Four firemen lost their lives, one was missing, and at least 12 injured in a spectacular early morning fire that left a 72-year-old lodge hall in tattered ruins.

A falling wall killed Captain Otto Ignatz and Robert Welch and firemen Herbert Harrington after the three alarm blaze, which threatened an entire block, had been brought under control. Lieutenant Harry McFadden died in a hospital.

Fifty workmen dug into a huge pile of brick seeking the body of another fireman, missing since a rear wall of the three-story lodge hall, a block from the Ohio capitol, caved in. Firemen continued to pour water on the smoldering ruins.

Observe Holiday On February 22nd

All banks of the city and the post office will suspend operations Saturday, February 22 as part of the celebration of the national holiday—the birthday of George Washington, the first president.

There will be no rural free delivery or city delivery on that day. It is understood, however, that building and loan associations will remain open on that day for the regular transaction of business.

Seniors Link Scholarship With Dignity For Honors

Mid-Term List Of Students On Honor Roll Released By School Officials; Sophomore Class Ranks Second

Combining scholarship with proverbial senior dignity, the members of the senior class led the entire school during the first four months of the school year. The mid-term honor roll has just been released by school officials for the entire Shelby school system.

The sophomore class was second best with 19 percent of its members taking honor. Eighteen percent of the first year students were on the list and the junior class tagged with 16 per cent.

Students who made the top in grades are:

Eighth Grade. Thelma Bumgardner, Carolyn Carrick, Barbara Cooke, Ina Lewis Forney, Sara Hamrick, Josephine McWhirter, Sara Mull, Sara Newton, Elise Putnam, Betsy Roberts, Elva Ann Thompson, Phyllis Yates, Billy Richbourg, Benjamin Smith, Charles William Webb, Arthur Grigg, Walter Laughridge, Mary Ella Apple, Mildred Bates, Catharine Dendy, Mable Wray Doggett.

Two Main Objectives Set By 500 In PTA Gathering

Editor's Widow Will Come East Following Trial

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Feb. 19.—(AP)—Saying she would have only about a month to live should she carry on with her slain husband's weekly newspaper, Mrs. Edith Liggett, publisher of the Minneapolis Star, said today that she was going east to "rest a job as soon as possible" and that it was fear for her children's future rather than her own personal safety that prompted her decision.

Her statement followed the acquittal last night of Isadore Blumenfeld, former bootlegger, found innocent of the murder of Liggett by a jury in district court.

MINNEAPOLIS, Feb. 19.—(AP)—A district court jury tonight absolved Isadore (Kid Cann) Blumenfeld, liquor salesman and convicted bootlegger, of a first degree murder charge in connection with the assassination of Walter W. Liggett, crusading weekly newspaper publisher, last December 9.

Tears filled the eyes of the pallid Blumenfeld as the verdict was read by Judge Arthur Selover. Dabbing at his face with a handkerchief, Blumenfeld shook hands with the judge and kissed the hands of the four women jurors.

So intense was "Cann's" eagerness as the verdict was read that his counsel, Thomas McMeekin, was obliged to restrain him by tugging at his coat. McMeekin and Blumenfeld's wife likewise showed emotional strain, both brushing away tears and the latter burying her face in her hands.

Scarcely had Judge Selover pronounced the words "not guilty" before the handful of spectators, mostly relatives and friends of Blumenfeld, cheered and rushed toward the defendant and jury.

The jurors, it was reported, reached their verdict on the first ballot after three and one-half hours' deliberation.

Blumenfeld placed his reliance on the alibi that he was in a downtown Minneapolis barber shop at 6:45 p. m. the time the militant editor was machine-gunned in an alley behind his apartment home.

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1 Dead, 3 Injured In Goldsboro Fire As Truck Wrecks

Tries To Miss Child On Highway

W. W. Woodward Of Durham Is Burned To Death; Two Others Are Critical.

GOLDSBORO, Feb. 19.—(AP)—W. W. Woodward of Durham was burned to death near here and three other persons were injured, two critically, in a wreck and explosion of an oil truck trying to avoid striking a child.

Samuel W. Whitaker and Charles Olive, both of Durham, riding with Woodward, said to be the driver of an independent oil truck, owned by the father of Whitaker, as well as Ralph Hood, four years old, of near Goldsboro, were in a hospital here. All except Olive were said to be critically injured with little hope held for Whitaker.

Darts In Front Witnesses said Ralph, son of Leslie Hood, owner of a nearby filling station, darted across the highway six miles south of here, directly in front of the truck.

Woodward they said, in an effort to miss the child, steered the truck suddenly off the road where it crashed with an explosion and took fire.

Woodward was burned almost beyond recognition. Hospital attendants said the child suffered a fractured shoulder and leg as well as a possibly fractured skull.

Bank Deposits Bigger Than Ever

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—(AP)—The comptroller of the currency reported today that national bank deposits of \$24,847,733,000 at the close of 1935 were the largest in history.

The total shown in condition statements of 5,392 active institutions last December 31 exceeded by 2.06 per cent the previous peak by \$800,383,000. That was established December 31, 1928, when 7,835 active banks reported.

Officials attributed the upturn primarily to heavy government spending.

On June 30, 1932, date of the first call for bank condition reports after the banking holiday, 4,903 licensed national banks had deposits of \$16,774,115,000.

A gain of 3.39 per cent, or \$814,497,000 in deposits was reflected December 31, over the previous report on November 1, 1935. The total also was 14.63 per cent or \$3,171,430,000 higher than on December 31, 1934.

New Explosion Imperils Utica

UTICA, N. Y., Feb. 19.—(AP)—A new underground gas explosion momentarily imperiled the lives of several telephone linemen in downtown Utica, where all business had been practically at a standstill since the series of explosions yesterday. All downtown buildings had stood empty since 11 a. m. yesterday when the first explosion occurred.

A dozen city officials, including the police chief, were standing 15 feet from the telephone tunnel in which the new explosion occurred. Six linemen in the tunnel escaped injury.

George Gettys, Nabbed 4th Time, Gaily Pays Fine With \$100 Bill

Faunting a \$100 bill as payment of his fine, George Gettys, 30 year old convicted bootlegger, was in the Cleveland county court yesterday for the fourth time in as many months after he was caught with "the goods" the night before.

Furthermore, the arrests for the most part have been made by two city officers, Paul Stamey and Knox Hardin, and on at least two occasions the liquor hauler has jumped from the car and escaped, but came the following day and surrendered.

All told, yesterday's action cost Gettys \$170.20 counting the court costs and the appraisal fee for his auto. He was freed on the county's charge after willingly paying the

Roosevelt Sees Action On Farm Plan, Taxes In Very Short Time

Congressmen Eager To Go Home To Begin Work On Campaigns; TVA Decision In Conflicting Interpretations

(By Associated Press) WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 19.—In a stormy sea of tax plans, conflicting interpretations of the TVA decision, the traditional policy of the freedom of the seas and the wish of congressmen to go home to campaign, President Roosevelt today launched into the breach of the legislative guns.

Most of the conflict on the TVA swirled about the busy W. E. Borah of Idaho; the senate almost unanimously completed its congressional action on the compromise neutrality bill and final action was expected today on the 500 million farm program and possibly on the money for the veterans' bonus.

Farm Program A conference with Representative Bankhead of Alabama, Democratic floor leader, enabled him to ascertain how legislators feel about levies under consideration to finance the new 500 million dollar farm program and possibly bonus payment expenses.

Whether this action really came up was not immediately apparent. Summoned to talk taxes with the president after the Bankhead visit were Secretary Morgenthau, W. C. Taylor, sworn in only this morning as assistant secretary of the treasury, Herman Oliphant, treasury counsel, and Daniel Bell, acting budget director.

Speaker Byrnes indicated that congress might be able to adjourn by April 15 and said a new tax bill would be given right-of-way when it comes along in an attempt to speed adjournment.

The senate took the day off while house leaders hoped current debate for the soil conservation subsidy brand of farm aid already passed by the senate would lead to final approval by Friday. A proposal for investment of the Townsend old age pension movement was also up for consideration.

France Asks U. S. For Reduction Of Battleship Sizes

French Ambassador Present Question To The Under Secretary.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 19.—(AP)—The French ambassador, Andre de Laboulaye, formally has presented his government's request, directly to the United States government, for its consent for a reduction to the size of battleships, a question now before the London naval conference.

A French representation was presented late yesterday to William Phillips, under-secretary of State who participated for awhile in the London deliberations as a member of the American delegation.

Over Davis' Head. In doing so the French government went over the heads of Norman Davis, head of the American delegation at the conference, and Admiral W. H. Standley, the chief naval representative.

Under Secretary Phillips declined (Continued on page ten.)

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Late Bulletins

Still In Charge LONDON, Feb. 19.—(AP)—Despite efforts by the French government to go over his head, Norman H. Davis, chief of the U. S. delegation to the International Naval Conference, was informed by the government at Washington today that he was still in charge of naval negotiations and all French representations would be referred to him.

Government Resigns

MADRID, Feb. 19.—(AP)—The Spanish government resigned today in the face of an apparent election victory by radical parties.

Quotes Hauptmann

TRENTON, N. J., Feb. 19.—(AP)—A source who heard the death house interview Sunday between Bruno Richard Hauptmann and Attorney Samuel Leibowitz quoted Hauptmann today as having said, "I guess my story sounds pretty weak."

3 Point Agreement

FLORENCE, Italy, Feb. 19.—(AP)—A high authority disclosed tonight that a 3-point agreement among Italy, Germany and Austria is in process of formulation.

S. C. Youth Killed

SAN ANTONIO, Texas, Feb. 19.—(AP)—Flying Cadet W. S. Barnett of Greenville, S. C., a student at Randolph field was killed in a plane crash near here today.