

## LOOKING AT WASHINGTON

By Hugo S. Sims, Washington Correspondent

**DANGER IN FAR EAST. JAPAN PUSHES PROGRAM. LIMIT APPEARS IN SIGHT. DEFENSE IS UNDERWAY. REAL PROGRESS MADE. WILKIE SPLITS G. O. P. HOOVER FOOD PLANS. BRITISH OBJECTIONS. WAR CONTRACTS INQUIRY.**

While the long squabble over the lease-lend bill has attracted the greater public attention the interest of officials has been centered upon activity in the Far East, where there is more than a possibility that the United States will find itself engaged in open hostilities.

The situation was tense, when Australian troops landed at Singapore and Japanese naval vessels were crowding into the Gulf of Siam, but it eased of a bit as Japanese sources indicated that there was no reason to expect warfare. Tokyo statesmen, however, have not abandoned any of their ambitions. What they seek is a "better understanding" of their motives to the leaders of other lands.

That the United States and Great Britain have about reached the limit of their complacent attitude toward Japanese aggression is apparent. The two nations have gone far in an effort to give the Japanese a chance to blow out but they are now convinced that only a show of force will be sufficient to protect any of their rights in the Far East.

The Japanese have no great relish for a scrap with the United States. The keystone of their diplomacy has been to avoid a conflict with this country which they realize, is in a position to throttle them economically, and, if necessary, defeat them in a war. Great Britain, at this time, feeling that the empire has more than it can attend to in Europe and the Mediterranean and counting on a German victory to prevent retaliation after the war.

Admiral Nomura, new Japanese Ambassador, was surprised upon his arrival to note the changed attitude of the people of the United States toward Japan. He took due note of the astonishing reversal in Congress where a House that had twice refused to approve naval improvement of the harbor at Guam voted almost unanimously to appropriate the necessary funds. Even so, the Japanese diplomat, in his recent press conference, pulled no punches intimating quite plainly that settlement of Far Eastern questions peaceably was largely up to the nations other than Japan.

The defense program of the United States is not yet satisfactory but, just the same, it is nothing like the failure some persons assert. The months that have elapsed since the fall of France, and the real beginning of our present undertaking, have enabled the government, with the assistance of private companies, to lay the ground-work for vastly increased output of everything needed for the defense of the United States. New plants are not only under contract but some of them are nearing completion and a few are actually producing the stuff.

The average citizen must not expect to be advised, with complete definiteness, as to the manufacture of planes, tanks, and other instruments of war. There will be occasional flashes of publicity, highlighting the completion of battleships, and such items, but, in the main, the work proceeds slowly and without much advertisement. There have been delays and some labor difficulties. There has also been some trouble with the manufacturers and the sellers of raw materials as to delivery and price. Nevertheless, we think the average American can take much pride in what has been accomplished since June 1940.

The wide-open advocacy of the lease-lend bill by Wendell Willkie has created something of a problem within the ranks of the Republican party. Whether one agrees with the position taken by the presidential candidate of last Fall, one must pay just tribute to his refusal to seek political advantage by obstructionist tactics. Of course, Mr. Willkie is not without ultimate political purposes. He thinks that the Republican party must eschew its isolationist views in order to eventually gain control of the government.

There are eminent Republicans who follow the Willkie leadership in this matter but there are many others of equal eminence, who do not accept his reasoning or his conclusions. This has produced a real division inside the Republican party which, although largely under cover now, will eventually produce a spirited party battle. Generally, we believe, from our study of events, that Eastern Republicans are inclined to agree with the position taken by Mr. Willkie, while Western Republicans, as a whole, are less inclined to follow his views on international affairs.

There is no reason to expect that the State Department will attempt to exert pressure upon the British government to permit the supervised feeding of 3,000,000 Belgians, as suggested by former President Herbert Hoover, who has been working steadily in an effort to provide some relief for the unfortunate victims of aggression who now live in occupied

areas. Mr. Hoover asserts that a famine of swifter and far greater proportions than that of the World War era is threatened and unless something is done promptly millions of civilians will suffer from lack of food. The British resolutely maintain their position that the blockade will not be lowered to permit food supplies to reach the Germans or the conquered peoples whom Germany is under the obligation of providing for. The argument is that every ton of food delivered to conquered peoples, will release an equivalent amount of food, or fats, for Germany's war effort.

The U. S. government will not make the matter a serious issue between the two governments. Some supplies continue to go to Spain, a non-belligerent nation, and to unoccupied France, largely in the form of medicines and milk and other food for children. The supplies to France are arranged through the Red Cross which recently reported that it had furnished \$19,496,805 in money and supplies to relieve suffering abroad in the first year and a half of the war.

Incidentally, the Red Cross gets its funds from two sources, the \$21,827,608 war relief fund subscribed by the public and an \$18,000,000 allotment provided by Congress out of an appropriation of \$50,000,000 for foreign war relief.

An investigation of alleged discrimination in awarding rearmament contracts will be undertaken by the Senate, where the Military Affairs Committee has unanimously approved such an inquiry by a subcommittee. Senator Truman, of Missouri, Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts, and others, have been seeking such an investigation. There has been complaint that the award of contracts has revealed discrimination among regions.

### Good Soil Needed For Good Pastures

Although the 1940 census showed 2,500,000 acres of open pasture land in North Carolina, much of this area is providing but little grazing, says F. R. Farnham, extension dairyman of N. C. State College.

Generally, from four to six acres are required to furnish sufficient pasture for one cow. Yet, the State College man pointed out, one acre of good pasture is ample.

For the most part, the low quality of the average North Carolina pasture is due to poor soil, made poor by continuous cropping with soil-depleting crops such as corn and tobacco before the pasture was started. A good growth of pasture crops cannot be secured on this soil. The best pasture sods in the State are found on rather heavy soils that are fertile and well supplied with moisture. Such soils are dark in color, indicating a high content of organic matter.

Usually, it is a waste of time and money to seed a pasture on poor land, Farnham said. Unless the old land is of medium to good fertility, it would be advisable to clear up new land.

For best results, the seeding of permanent pasture should be completed around the first of March in the Coastal Plain and Piedmont areas and by March 15 in the mountain section.

The way the seed bed is prepared has much to do with the stand obtained. Farnham advises that the seed bed be pulverized thoroughly to a depth of two to three inches. This job can be accomplished usually with a disc harrow. Lining and fertilizing are necessary as well as 30 to 40 pounds of seed to the acre.

### BURGESS CLUB MEETS

Burgess Home Demonstration Club met at the home of Mrs. C. B. Parker on Wednesday afternoon. The meeting was called to order by the president and the club sang "Amer-

## Railway Crossings Still Danger Spot

"If the present trend in auto-train collisions continues throughout the year, more than a hundred persons will be killed in railroad crossing crashes in North Carolina in 1941," Ronald Hocutt, director of the Highway Safety Division, said this week.

Records of the safety division show that 15 persons were killed in crossing accidents during the first 60 days of 1941. Since January and February fatalities ordinarily run below the yearly average, it is apparent that a continuation of the present trend will mean that 100 or more people will be killed at railroad crossings in this state this year. Only 35 persons were killed in accidents of this type last year, according to the records of the safety division.

Since it costs approximately \$150,000 to construct an overpass, the railroad crossing accident problem in North Carolina is not likely to be solved for many years to come through the elimination of grade crossings.

A majority of the more dangerous crossings in the State are equipped with automatic warning devices, but this doesn't seem to solve the problem, either, as records show that a number of drivers in this State last year either drove right into the path of trains or ran into the side of trains at crossings where automatic signal devices were functioning. Also, most of the crossings afford unobstructed views.

"Apparently, drivers who run into trains or directly in front of trains must be dozing at the wheel, must not have their minds on their driving, or must be deliberately taking a chance on beating the train to the crossing," said Director Hocutt. "What to do about accidents of this type is just another of the many headaches faced by those of us who are seeking to reduce accidents on North Carolina streets and highways

ica, the Beautiful," after which the Collect was repeated. The roll was called and the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. A new member, Mrs. Charles Ward, Sr., was added to the roll.

Miss Maness made several announcements of interest to the club members.

Mrs. C. D. Rountree gave an interesting and helpful reading on "Preparing the Garden Soil."

Miss Maness' demonstration was "A Pleasant Place To Eat," talking on the subject and showing pictures of various types of dining rooms.

During the social hour Mrs. Sidney Layden conducted a game of bingo with Mrs. Josiah Proctor winning the prize.

Those present were Mrs. Louis Proctor, Mrs. Sidney Layden, Mrs. Walton Lane, Mrs. C. B. Parker, Mrs. Winston Lane, Mrs. J. B. Basnight, Mrs. Tommy Matthews, Mrs. Josiah Proctor, Mrs. Chas. Ward, Sr., Mrs. C. D. Rountree, Miss Frances Maness and Mrs. Seaton Davenport. The hostess served fruits and candies.

### Guilford Twins Win Outstanding Award

Trying to decide which of the Wagoner twins had submitted the better 4-H Club records proved as difficult as telling them apart for L. R. Harrill, 4-H Club leader of the N. C. State College Extension Service.

That the twins had submitted the best records ever turned into his office, Harrill had no doubt. But he had to select the better of the two, because a four-year scholarship to State College was at stake.

A careful examination and re-examination of the records proved one to be as good as the other. Finally, Harrill, with Solomon-like wisdom, decided to split the scholarship between the Guilford County twins, announcing that "the outstanding 4-H Club boy in North Car-

## Ginnings BY COTTON JOE



As long as we've got high tariffs, high freight rates, an' high taxes on cottonseed margarine, looks like us cotton farmers won't have much worryin' to do about our income tax.

olina for 1940 is twins." John B. and Fred Wagoner have been members of the Gibsonville club for the past seven years. Each has carried projects with dairy calves, cotton, corn, soybeans, oats, gardens and lespedeza. During the period, Fred made a net profit of \$1,066.13 from his projects, while John made \$1,353.49. Because the twins had carried

## TAYLOR THEATRE

EDENTON, N. C.  
WE HAVE THE SHOWS

Friday, March 7—  
Cary Grant, Katharine Hepburn, James Stewart and Ruth Hussey in "THE PHILADELPHIA STORY"  
Matinee 10c and 25c  
Night 10c and 35c This Picture

Saturday, March 8—  
Charles Starrett in "THE PINTO KID"

Sunday, March 9—  
Bonnie Baker, Orrin Tucker and Orchestra in "YOU'RE THE ONE"

Monday and Tuesday, March 10-11  
Robert Young, Randolph Scott, Virginia Gilmore, Dean Jagger in "WESTERN UNION"  
Technicolor — Regular Admission

Wednesday, March 12—  
Double Feature 10c and 20c  
Tim Holt and Virginia Gilmore in "LADDIE"  
John Howard in "THE MAD DOCTOR"

Coming Thursday and Friday, March 13-14—  
Mickey Rooney and Lewis Stone in "Andy Hardy's Private Secretary"

identical projects, the task of selecting the better one of the two records was made almost impossible, Harrill said. In addition, both had held various club offices and both had attended the same 4-H short courses and club camps.

The four-year scholarship was made possible by A. G. Floyd, State director for the Chilean Nitrate of Soda Educational Bureau and himself a State College graduate. While this is the top-ranking prize, Mr. Floyd makes available a large number of other prizes for 4-H Club members during the year.

### BUSY STORK

Kalamazoo, Mich. — During 1940 the stork paid a visit to the home of every one of the five Haywood brothers. Brother Max started the ball rolling when he became a father early in 1940 and before the end of the year, there was a baby in every brother's home.

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