

Roosevelt Back At Desk After Fishing Trip

Summons Speaker Byrns And Rep. R. L. Doughton For Conference About Economic Security Bill

RETURNS TUESDAY

Finds Secretary Howe, Who Had Been Seriously Ill, Considerably Better. Signs War Dept. Bill

Washington, April 9.—President Roosevelt returned to the capital today to supervise the task of putting 7,000,000 unemployed Americans to work and announced he would hold a dozen or more conferences before determining the set up under which \$4,000,000,000 will be spent to try to do it.

So far the only thing definite about administration, the White House said, is that Mr. Roosevelt will be the active as well as titular head of the program.

But it was learned authoritatively that Relief Administrator Harry L. Hopkins and Under-Secretary of Agriculture Rexford G. Tugwell will have an important part in distributing the fund.

After the announcement the President summoned Speaker Joseph W. Byrns and Chairman Robert L. Doughton, of the House ways and means committee, for a conference at 9 p. m., but it was to discuss the economic security bill, next on the House program.

Earlier the President had conferred with Hopkins, his first caller after the return.

Secretary Stephen T. Early emphasized that Mr. Roosevelt will not announce details of the relief administration until the projected conferences are concluded. Several drafts of executive orders setting up the administration are under consideration and the President expects to study them all before reaching a final decision.

Mr. Roosevelt found his senior secretary, Louis McHenry Howe, considerably improved. Howe has been critically ill for three weeks with chronic asthma and heart disease. The President was described as delighted with his improvement. He visited Howe for half an hour before plunging into his duties.

One of his first official acts was to sign the War Department appropriation bill, issuing a statement calling attention to the increase in enlisted strength of the army.

Bill Would Effect Fishing, Squirrel Hunting In County

On April 2, a bill was introduced in the House of Representatives at Raleigh in regard to the regulation of fishing and killing of squirrels in Alleghany county. The measure was placed on the calendar after its introduction.

The bill would fix the season for fishing for trout with hook and line from April 1 to September 1, and would fix the squirrel season from September 1 to January 1.

House Bill 811, which would provide a four-year term for Registers of Deeds, was amended to exempt a number of counties from its provisions, among which are Alleghany and Ashe counties. Senate Bill 324 was amended to permit Commissioners of Alleghany county, to fix the Sheriff's salary at from \$1,500 to \$1,800, instead of from \$1,500 to \$2,500.

Alleghany Has 273 More Farms Than In 1930

According to a preliminary announcement made by George F. McAllister, of Statesville, Supervisor of the Farm Census in the Eighth district of North Carolina, the number of farms in Alleghany county, as of January 1, is 1,657, as compared with 1,384 on April 1, 1930.

These figures are shown by a preliminary count of the returns of the Supervisor. It is pointed out however, that these figures, which show an increase of 273 farms in the four-year period, are preliminary and subject to correction.

Glade Valley "Hi" Seniors Are Given Theatre Party Here

The senior class of Glade Valley high school was entertained at a theatre party at the Spartan theatre by the junior class on Monday night of this week. The entire group of about 40 persons greatly enjoyed the picture, "The County Chairman," in which Will Rogers starred.

The group was chaperoned by Miss Annabell Corry, E. B. Eldridge, and Rev. C. W. Ervin and Rev. J. H. Berry, who assisted in transporting the students to Sparta.

Various Kinds Of Weather Reported Over The Nation

Floods In California Valley Leave More Than Score Of Persons Dead. Ky. Rivers On Rampage

The elements cracked down on several parts of the nation Tuesday, causing widespread damage. A northeaster battered the Eastern seaboard, floods plagued California and menaced the lower Mississippi Valley, dust storms raged through the Southwest.

Summer homes along the Long Island and Jersey coasts were jeopardized by pounding seas. Sleet and chilling rain swept in with the wind.

Silt clouds rolling across Western Kansas and Northwestern Oklahoma cut visibility to 100 yds. and forced many highway travelers to postpone their journeys. Dust also spread over parts of the Texas Panhandle. Some hope for relief was raised, however, by weather bureau predictions of general precipitation over the North Central states.

Nebraskans' prayers were partially answered by light snow, sleet and showers, although the rain passed the most arid region of the state and was insufficient in other areas.

California counted more than a dozen dead after record-smashing rains. The storm also had a tragic corollary in the deaths of 10 section hands who were killed by a gravel train near Roseville while en route to repair a railroad line. Homes, farms, stores, crops, highways and railways were damaged, especially in the Sacramento valley.

(continued on back page)

President Signs Work Relief Bill As He Goes North

Aboard Roosevelt Special En Route to New York, April 8.—A few strokes of President Roosevelt's pen on the \$4,880,000,000 work-relief bill today set in motion use of history's largest lump sum appropriation to put 3,500,000 men to work and end the depression.

The bill was sent to Jacksonville, Fla., by courier after being enacted by Congress in a 75-day battle. Mr. Roosevelt signed it as he sped northward, refreshed and rested from his fishing trip in Caribbean waters, to attend the funeral tomorrow of his cousin, Warren Delano Robbins, in New York. Robbins, minister to Canada, died yesterday of pneumonia.

Immediately after signing the bill, the President signed two allocations from the amount appropriated under the new law. The first allocated \$125,000,000 to the administrator of the federal emergency relief administration, in order that relief may not stop.

The long delay in the senate has made necessary the transfer of many millions of dollars previously allocated to highly useful, permanent projects to immediate emergency relief work, the President indicated. This money came from the recovery act appropriation of 1933. Many of the projects which have been cancelled because of this cannot now be continued under the terms of the new law.

Dr. Ernest Baker Dies Sunday In Morristown, Tenn.

Deceased Was Brother Of Mrs. B. O. Choate. Funeral Held Monday By Drs. Sells And Shugart

News was received Sunday in Sparta of the death of Dr. Robert Ernest Baker, 47, of Morristown, Tenn., and youngest brother of one of the most prominent local women, Mrs. B. O. Choate.

Dr. Baker passed away early Sunday morning in George Ben Johnston Memorial hospital, Abingdon, Va., after having been ill for only a few days with pneumonia.

The deceased was a veterinary surgeon at Morristown.

Surviving are the widow, who was, prior to her marriage, Miss May Cole, Chilhowie, Va.; an adopted daughter, Miss Helen Franklin Baker; two sisters, Mrs. Choate, Sparta, and Mrs. Emma Dotson, Charlotte; four brothers, Dr. Charles H. Baker, Chilhowie, Va., Joseph Baker, Roanoke, Va., Frank Baker, Richmond, Va., and Eugene J. Baker, Secretary of the Y. M. C. A. at Fries, Va., and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George W. Baker, Fries, Va., formerly of Wythe county, who are of noted Virginia parentage.

Dr. Baker attended V. P. I., Blacksburg, Va., and was a graduate of the United States College of Veterinary and Surgery, Washington. He had practiced in Morristown since 1915. He was Secretary of the East Tennessee Veterinary association, and served as president of the state organization in 1934.

Funeral services were conducted Monday afternoon in the Morristown Methodist church by the pastor, Dr. B. T. Sells, assisted by Dr. E. A. Shugart, presiding elder of the Morristown district.

Son Of Sparta Woman Is Memphis Radio Entertainer

George Bledsoe, of Memphis, Tenn., who broadcasts a program of songs regularly every Sunday afternoon over a radio station in that city, is the son of Mrs. Dema Bledsoe, Sparta.

Mr. Bledsoe has a good voice and is a very popular singer as is attested by the number of requests for songs and notes of praise that are received at the station.

Through State Capital Keyholes

By Bess Hinton Silver

TOUCHY—As the length of the General Assembly grows members are beginning to display evidence of developing "nerves." Arising to points of personal privilege to "bawl out" some members or some newspaper editor, are becoming numerous as they have a habit of doing in sessions that run into the payless period beyond the constitutional 60 days. Fingering and fist-shaking will soon be the order of the days if the boys don't get their troubles ironed out and go back home.

LITTLE CHANCE—A private poll of the Legislature reveals that the batch of bills sent down from Washington by Secretary Ickes designated to put cities and counties in the business of generating and selling power have little chance of passage. Two measures, drawn by the State Rural Electrification Commission, are much more modest and have the backing of the Ehringhaus administration. However, if they get by it will be a close squeeze.

LIQUOR—There can be no doubt that sentiment in favor of the Hill liquor bill is growing among members of the Legislature. It still appears doomed but only a few converts are needed to put the measure across. Members show a decided notion not to cut the appropriations bill drastically and if these troubles over taxes are not settled pretty soon you are going to see a great

Bureau Of Roads Finds It Hard To Get Right-Of-Way

Congressman Feels That Work On National Parkway Is Not Progressing As Fast As It Should

Washington, April 9.—Feeling that the work on the Great Smoky Mountain national parkway is not progressing as rapidly as it should, Representative Zebulon Weaver recently called on Thomas H. MacDonald, director of the bureau of public roads, to determine just what plans are under consideration for the immediate future.

Weaver is anxious to get "dirt moving" on the parkway. "There is a feeling here and in North Carolina that we ought to go forward with the parkway and not let the spring and summer pass without getting construction under way," Weaver said.

The Western North Carolina congressman was not over optimistic after his talk with MacDonald, but stated that with passage of the \$4,880,000,000 work relief bill a matter of days, he was hopeful that some steps would be taken to get certain portions of the scenic highway under construction. He said that so far as he could learn nothing has been done except the running of flag lines.

It is understood that the bureau of public roads is running into some difficulties in obtaining rights-of-ways for the parkway. The bureau is insisting on a 1,000 foot right-of-way to protect the parkway against erection of sign boards and hot dog stands. Under the agreement the states are to furnish the right-of-way. A large portion of the parkway will run through federal forests and other land already owned by the government and, of course, there will be no difficulty in this respect.

Some of the property owners along the proposed parkway route are not willing to dispose of land for the right-of-way, it was learned. One wealthy Virginian is understood to have forced a relocation of the parkway because he did not want it to split his property.

The government by condemnation proceedings can secure the right-of-way, but this results in delay.

DENIES HE OWES TAXES
Washington, April 9.—Bruno Hauptmann today denied that he owed the federal government \$9,678.30 for back income taxes, penalties and fines.

Grayson Jury Decides That Delp Must Die In Electric Chair For Murder Of Galax Police Chief; To Appeal Case

Condemned Man Is Taken To Roanoke And Lodged In City Jail To Await His Removal To Death House

SENATOR REYNOLDS MAY HAVE OPPONENT
Raleigh, N. C., April 9.—Representative Thomas C. (Tom) Bowie of Ashe county, is seriously considering making the race for United States senator against Senator Robert S. Reynolds in 1938, he said a few days ago.

Bowie expressed the belief that "Reynolds is a one-term, and if things do not change I shall probably enter the contest for his seat in the Senate."

Junior Class Of Sparta "Hi" Gives Seniors Reception

Informal Affair Held Friday Night In Local School Gymnasium Is Delightful Event

An informal reception was given by the Junior class of Sparta high school for the Senior class last Friday night in the gymnasium.

Woodrow Richardson, Junior class president, and his various committees, it is said, deserve special commendation for their efficient work in making the event a very delightful one.

Louise Monhallen, Susie Osborne, Carolyn Maxwell, Wayne Irwin and Junior Wagoner, members of the Decoration committee, decorated the building for the occasion very effectively. The Senior class colors, green and white, were used predominantly.

Entertainment was under the direction of Mary Cecile Higgins, Josephine Inskip and Florence Warren, and appetizing refreshments were served by Mary Bennett, Malalay Wagoner and Thelma Hendrix.

Practically all members of both the Junior and Senior classes, as well as the members of the high school faculty, were in attendance at the reception.

House Decides Wars Should Be Fought In U. S.

Washington, April 8.—American soldiers will never again set foot on foreign soil and will wear arms only in defense of the borders of the United States under an amendment to the McSwain bill, approved by the House Friday.

The McSwain measure, designed to take the profit out of war, calls for universal conscription of manpower in event of war, but under Friday's amendment it would never again be possible to send millions of men across the ocean as the United States did in the last war.

The House accepted the amendment—a joint enterprise of Rep. Gerald Boileau (P), Wis., and Charles V. Traux (D), Ohio—without a dissenting voice.

Earlier jealousy between two committees blocked an attempt in the House Friday night to put teeth into the McSwain bill.

It was a weird legislative session, congressmen raced down the aisles, all shouting at once. Half the members were puzzled as to the exact parliamentary status in which the House had entangled itself, and the gavel thundered from the speaker's dais for five minutes before order was restored.

Everybody was in favor of the McSwain bill—as far as it went. The complaint was that it doesn't go far enough, because it does not contain a provision for taking away excess earnings from profiteers. What is needed, everybody agreed, is an amendment imposing a tax on excess profits in war time.

TRIAL ENDS APRIL 3

Lawyers Wage Vigorous Fight For And Against Defendant. Insanity Is Chief Plea Of Defense

Howard Delp was sentenced late Wednesday, April 3, by Judge Horace Sutherland, to die in the electric chair for the murder of the late Chief of Police Posey Martin, of Galax, pursuant to the verdict of a jury in Grayson county circuit court at Independence, where Delp's trial for murder had been in progress since the previous Saturday. Judge Sutherland fixed Friday, June 28, as the date for his electrocution at the Virginia state penitentiary in Richmond.

Delp was taken the following day, in the custody of Deputy Sheriff W. C. Ward, of Independence, and Officer Marvin Evans, Galax, to the Roanoke city jail, where he is to remain until June 10, when, unless some move on the part of defense counsel prevents it, he will be taken to the death house in Richmond to await execution.

The murder trial followed closely a hearing given the defendant in the Grayson court to determine whether or not he was insane, as the defense contended. The jury which heard the evidence in this hearing rendered a verdict that he was sane, following which Judge Sutherland immediately ordered trial on the murder charge.

Delp maintained an attitude of blankness and indifference, throughout practically all of both hearings. The prosecution contended that these actions were merely feigned, basing their claims, to a large extent, on the fact that no witnesses were produced, except members of the defendant's family, who told of ever having observed anything abnormal about him prior to his arrest and incarceration in Wytheville jail following the murder of the Galax officer.

A large number of witnesses were put on the stand by both sides and eloquent pleas to the jury were made by S. Floyd Landreth, Galax, and Commonwealth's Attorney H. P. Burnett, of Grayson county, for the prosecution.

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R. E. Black Is New Farm Agent For Alleghany

R. E. Black, teacher of vocational agriculture in Piney Creek high school, has been appointed Alleghany county farm agent to succeed W. B. Collins, who recently resigned to accept a similar position in Watauga county.

Mr. Black holds an exceptionally good record as a teacher of agriculture and his knowledge of practical farming, it is thought, will be of great assistance to the farmers of the county.

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ALMANAC

EMPTY AGAIN BUT I WON'T TAKE A JOB BENEATH MY STATION!

"There is nothing agrees worse than a proud mind and a beggar's purse."

APRIL

9—C. P. Steinmetz, electrical wizard, born 1865.

10—Nebraska is first state to celebrate Arbor Day, 1872.

11—Mt. Vesuvius erupts and destroys seven towns, 1905.

12—The Republic of Switzerland is organized, 1798.

13—Westinghouse secures his patent on the air brake, 1869.

14—S. S. Titanic strikes iceberg and sinks, 1,517 die, 1912.

15—World exposition at Paris opened to public, 1905.