

TODAY'S THOUGHT
 "Want and sorrow are the wages that folly earn for itself."—Schubart.

Subscription Price
\$1 a year
 in advance
 in Alleghany county only

DEVOTED TO THE CIVIC, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF ALLEGANY COUNTY

By Hugo Sims, Washington Correspondent

GALAX, VA. (Published for Sparta, N. C.) THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1937. EIGHT PAGES

Number 5.

FIGHTING THE FLOOD
 The surging flood waters of the Ohio, moving relentlessly toward the Mississippi, attracted major attention in Washington as officials anxiously scanned reports that brought information about the extent of the disaster. With thousands homeless and many others certain to be affected before the wall of water flows to the Gulf of Mexico, every source of the Government was thrown into the work of rescue. Leads of relief agencies were contacted a special flood board and Harry L. Hopkins given an office at the White House to coordinate activities.

The War Department, bearing the major brunt of the fight against flood waters, went on a 24-hour basis, using all equipment prepared to utilize all resources. The Red Cross, a semi-official organization, was in charge of relief to victims aided by the Army, the Coast Guard, the CCC, the WPA and the Public Health Service. Power boats, airplanes, communication trucks, serums, medicines, food, clothing and other supplies were rushed into the affected area. Every effort was being made to avert an epidemic of influenza and to ward off typhoid and other diseases likely to follow the high water.

WHOLE NATION AROUSED
 Last week the Ohio river valley area saw its worst. This week it is determined whether the giant Mississippi, with its latest flood control measures, can handle the total volume of water poured into the banks at Cairo. Army engineers, working feverishly ahead of the crest, built up emergency levees last week, hoping to prevent serious breaks in the protective levees along the great river, but with full knowledge that such factors, such as a rampage by the Arkansas river, may mean far more serious difficulties and far greater human suffering. Meanwhile the nation gave its sympathy and sent its cash to provide relief and hoped that further damage would be forestalled.

THIS WEEK TO TELL
 John L. Lewis, militant President of the United Mine Workers, has been an ardent advocate of the New Deal and a determined supporter of the President. Mr. Lewis is leading a bitter fight against the American Federation of Labor trying to convert it from its unionism to the "vertical" system. His own organization and other powerful unions formed a Committee for Industrial Organization and launched a drive to organize the millions of mass production workers. The C. I. O. sponsored strikes which closed down the General Motors plants, involving 139,312 employees.

LEWIS' TACTICAL ERROR
 Mr. Lewis is generally considered an astute leader but the consensus of opinion is that he made a blunder in telling a press conference that his organization looked to the president for aid. Bluntly he declared, "we have advised administration . . . that for months the economic royalists represented by General Motors distributed their money and used their energy to drive the administration out of power. The Administration asked labor for help to repel this attack and labor gave its help. The same economic royalists now have their fangs in labor. The workers of this country expect the Administration to help the workers in every legal way." Subsequently, Mr. Roosevelt said, "I think, in the interest of the people there come moments when statements, conversations and headlines are not in order."

LEWIS' INEFFECTIVE
 Apparently Mr. Lewis was demanding that the President pay a debt to laborers represented by his faction, assuming that the President owed his re-election to Lewis support. Of course, such a claim is not sustained by election figures but even if it were the blunt statement of Mr. Lewis would hinder rather than create presidential interference in behalf of labor. It should be remembered that there is a serious division of labor strength in the American Federation of Labor containing that the Lewis faction does not represent even the workers of the United States.

In fact, the craft unions claim the right to organize labor in the automobile plants and it is known that many members of the A. F. L. also supported the President. Lewis, involved in a battle
 (Turn to Page 5, Please)

Injunction Orders Sit-down Strikers To Leave Plants

Circuit Judge Paul Gadola Issues Order For Men To Leave Plants Before 3 P. M. (EST) Tuesday

EXPECT NEGOTIATIONS

General Motors Official Is Willing To Meet With Labor Representatives If Strikers Leave Plants

Flint, Mich., Feb. 2.—Hundreds of striking automobile workers in possession of two Fisher Body company plants here since December 30 heard tonight the order of a circuit court judge that they evacuate by 3 p. m., eastern standard time, tomorrow.

Sheriff Thomas Wolcott, carrying a copy of the injunction issued on petition of General Motors corporation by Judge Paul V. Gadola, went first to plant No. 2 and then to No. 1, reading its terms to the sit-down strikers who listened in orderly silence.

Good-natured boeing accompanied the sheriff's departure from the No. 1 plant, where he had been shouted down January 2 when he tried to read a previous injunction.

Statements looking toward negotiations to settle the nationwide strikes that have slashed deeply into General Motors production came from both sides tonight.

William S. Knudsen, executive vice-president of the corporation, said that as soon as the plants have been "restored to our possession" General Motors will negotiate with the United Automobile Workers of America on the eight union demands made January 4, and added:

"We will do all that lies in our power to make a prompt and honorable settlement."

At Baltimore, en route to Detroit to assume personal command of the strikes, which his Committee for Industrial Organization has supported, John L. Lewis said:

"Every moral and logical consideration indicates a conference between the contending parties. After all, that is the only way to settle a controversy unless it is desirable to await the exhaustion of one of the contestants or until one adversary beats the other down."

Lewis declined comment on the injunction ordering evacuation of the plants. Homer Martin, U. A. W. A. president at Detroit, said that "we will not fight the government."

James F. Dewey, federal labor department conciliator en route to Flint, arrived in Detroit and conferred at dinner tonight with Gov. Frank Murphy. Before Lewis left Washington, Edward F. McGrady, assistant secretary of labor, advised him to see Murphy on his arrival tomorrow.

The injunction issued by Judge Gadola directed the strikers, whose occupancy of the Fisher plants has blocked every effort of conciliators so far, to cease occupying the factories, to vacate the premises by 3 p. m. February 3, and to refrain from picketing at the plant or loitering at any places where non-striking employees "enter or alight from conveyances en route from or to said plants."

To Hold Church Benefit Rummage Sale Here Saturday

A large collection of second-hand clothing, consisting of dresses, hats, shoes, overcoats, and many other things, will be offered for sale in Sparta at bargain prices on Saturday, February 6, from 10 a. m. until 5 p. m.

The sale will be held in the vacant room opposite Attorney George Cheek's law office. The proceeds will go to the new Presbyterian church of Sparta and everyone is invited to attend.

1,000,000 Homeless in Nation's Flood Zone Along Great Rivers



NEWS PICTURES of flood scenes, Pittsburgh to New Orleans, down the Ohio and Mississippi river basins, all tell the same story of record flood peaks, loss of lives and great property damage. Fires, started from toppling and bursting oil tanks in Cincinnati but added new horrors and losses. . . Photo at upper left shows raging fires, caused by oil and gas spreading over the flood water from burst tanks there. . . At upper right is shown a thrilling rescue of a critically ill citizen from flooded home. . . Lower left shows a crew of a Coast Guard unit leaving Chicago for flood duty. 800 Coast Guards, 200 boats, 12 airplanes and 24 portable communication outfits were sent into flood territories; the biggest mobilization of Coast Guard for flood relief in history. . . At lower right is a typical scene in all flooded towns as citizens flee to the hills for safety.

Reynolds-Harlow Kiss Starts Buzz In Washington

Washington, Feb. 2.—Washington has been buzzing since Friday with comment on pictures published in capital city newspapers showing Sen. Robert R. Reynolds of North Carolina, kissing Jean Harlow, Hollywood's glamorous blond movie star, on the Capitol steps.

Opinion differed as to the propriety of a senator being photographed in an arm with an actress, some taking the position that senatorial dignity would suffer, while others commended the North Carolinian for dropping the curtain of formality and demonstrating in public his acting ability even if it did involve what the senator calls "Hollywood technique." All agree Reynolds is a super show-man.

A preview of the moving pictures made of the Reynolds-Harlow act at the Capitol Friday further reveal the senator's acting ability. Carter Barron, manager of the Lowe's theatrical business here and former Georgia Tech football player, told friends that the Reynolds-Harlow kiss was the longest on record. Since the censors have a time limit on kisses there is a possibility that the films may be cut or deleted.

Meanwhile, Senator Reynolds was the object of much attention on Capitol Hill Saturday. When he, Representative Starnes, and
 (Turn to page 8, Please)

Sen. Bailey Would Limit Federal Aid To Cities, Counties

Washington, Feb. 2.—When the Senate was at the point of final passage of the deficiency appropriation bill, including \$789,000,000 to continue relief between now and June 30, Senator Josiah W. Bailey, of North Carolina, arose from his seat late this afternoon and dropped a small bombshell into the proceedings by proposing an amendment which would require a state or political subdivision to take what is equivalent to a pauper's oath before being qualified to receive further relief funds.

Sen. Borah Defends Supreme Court In Speech Mon. Night

Washington, Feb. 2.—Senator Borah (R., Idaho) defended the supreme court last night and criticized what he termed the "purloining" of state powers by the federal government. A constitutional amendment would be necessary, he said, to authorize any further expansion of federal powers.

Response To Flood Relief Appeal In Alleghany Is Good

Citizens of Sparta and Alleghany county have responded very generously to the appeal sent out by the Red Cross for funds to alleviate the suffering and distress among the people who are victims of the flood-awolven Ohio and Mississippi rivers.

Rev. R. L. Berry, pastor of the Sparta and Glade Valley Presbyterian churches, is chairman of the local Red Cross organization, and T. J. Carson is secretary-treasurer.

Thus far, contributions have been received from a number of persons, some of whom contributed \$1.00, some \$2.00, some \$5.00 and others contributed various other amounts.

Those who contributed \$5.00 each follow: Miss Pearl Fields, C. C. Castevens and E. W. Thompson.

Those contributing \$2.00 each are: Mrs. W. B. Estep, Mrs. A. B. O'Mahandra, W. B. Estep, Pete Redoff, Ed Rizoti, J. C. Linehan, F. W. Cheek, George Cheek, Sparta Garage, Dr. B. O. Choate and James H. Toms.

Charlie Rose gave \$1.50 and Rev. R. L. Berry contributed \$1.15.

High Court Again Refuses To Pass On Social Security

Washington, Feb. 2.—The Supreme Court refused today for the second time to pass on litigation involving the social security act.

A final ruling on this prime new deal legislation was thus postponed indefinitely.

The court declined to review an appeal brought by Howes Brothers Company of Boston, Mass. The petition challenged both the Massachusetts unemployment insurance law and the federal act, which the state statute complements. The Howes company contended the state act was inoperative because the federal law was unconstitutional. The Massachusetts supreme judicial court had dismissed the litigation. No reason for the highest court's refusal to review the case was given.

More Than 5,000 Roosevelt Dances Held Sat. Night

Washington, Feb. 2.—An unseen guest at more than 5,000 parties Saturday night—President Roosevelt—told participants that in contributing to the fight against infantile paralysis they were presenting "the finest birthday present which you could possibly give me."

The president, 55 years old Saturday spoke by radio to parties in cities and towns throughout the country.

The birthday balls reaped a harvest of dollars for the nation's fight against the disease which crippled the president and now afflicts 300,000 young Americans.

In an eight-minute talk heard over coast-to-coast networks the president also acknowledged "with pride and with satisfaction" the "splendid response the nation has made in answering the call of suffering which comes to us from the Ohio and Mississippi valleys."

Alleghany Schools Remain Open Despite Bad Road Conditions

Although some of the schools in Ashe, Surry, Wilkes and other counties have had to close for at least a few days during the past month on account of the impassable condition of the roads, all of the schools in Alleghany county have remained open.

It was found necessary to make two minor temporary changes in bus routes.

WEATHER MAN KIDDED BY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Washington, Feb. 2.—President Roosevelt is still kidding the weather bureau about the rain-storm that drenched his second inauguration.

Introduced today to W. J. Moxom, acting chief of the bureau's river and flood division, the president said with mock seriousness: "You're the man I've been looking for ever since the inauguration."

Mighty Ohio River Rises Again At Cairo, Illinois

Probable Rains In Areas Including Tributaries Of Mississippi Bring Threat Of More Danger

LEVEE WORKERS DIE

President Roosevelt, In Recognition Of Great Catastrophe, Proclaims Flood "Emergency"

Dumping its biggest flood of all time into the ever-rising Mississippi, the Ohio river brought new menace Tuesday night to Cairo, Ill., just as the men of that city had thought they had won a long and hard fight against the river.

The Ohio, lapping up close to the top of the city's 60-foot seawall, for 15 straight hours had stood stationary. Suddenly, it began rearing a new crest; pushed the stage to 59.54 feet, only 5 1/2 inches short of the bulwark, which, however, had a temporary superstructure of three feet.

The mayor already had warned against "premature rejoicing," and at this change in affairs the coast guard, standing by with 55 rescue boats, ordered for the first time an all-night watch.

To the south, the flooded upper Mississippi at some points had been swept by high, levee-menacing winds which in the night were abating.

A feared eventuality in the Mississippi river was general rain over major tributaries before the volume poured into the river by the Ohio could be cleared through.

Such rains, said a government engineer at Baton Rouge, La., might bring about a flood on the lower river—presently not regarded in danger—"even greater than 1927." Officials said that without such an eventuality, the big levee line in all probability would hold.

Far upstream, flood-menaced New Madrid, Mo., heard with sorrow that at least 13 levee workers had lost their lives in trying to protect that area. The discovery that that number—and perhaps more—had drowned in a large submersion came after earlier belief that only six had been lost.

The plight of flood refugees was nowhere reported more uncomfortable than in East Arkansas, where thousands huddled on a ridge in tents, or spent waking hours in heated public buildings, in sub-freezing weather.

Between that ridge and the river itself water released by tributary levee breaks crept coldly southward.

Elsewhere in the Mississippi valley—where the Red Cross said some 200,000 lowlanders already were homeless, the wind-disturbed waters broke a secondary dike, at the hamlet of Bessie, Tenn., for a fourth time.

Nearby Tiptonville, Tenn., was threatened with isolation. Hickman, Ky., behind a wall and sand-bag barricade, was for a time in danger—again from the wind's action—before the blow subsided.

This threat has been recognized by army engineers as the worst
 (Turn to page 8, Please)

ALMANAC

"Few are they who seek their own faults."

FEBRUARY

- 1—Roger Williams, dissident, arrives in America, 1633.
- 2—Shear de la Salle began his descent of the Mississippi river, 1682.
- 3—Russo-Japanese War started after much diplomatic wrangling, 1904.
- 4—All public lands withdrawn from use by President Roosevelt, 1905.
- 5—Federal prisoners from Nevada freed from Libby prison, 1864.
- 10—Upper and Lower Canada united into one, 1841.
- 11—Abraham Lincoln became President of Washington, 1861.