



TODAY'S THOUGHT
 "If you would know the value of a dollar try to borrow one."—Franklin.

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

AGAINST NEW TAXES

Recent suggestions that threat of inflation should be controlled by increased profits and income taxes to balance the Federal budget, as advanced by Mammner 'S. es, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, coupled with indications that Treasury expectations will not be met by the income tax collections during March focused limelight on the subject of new taxes.

President Roosevelt, while facing the situation with a view of taking measures, if necessary, to prevent runaway prices and an inflationary boom, does not believe that there will be an increase of taxes at the current session of Congress. His views are made known following post-statements to this effect by Senator Harrison, chairman of the Finance committee, and Representative Doughton, chairman of the Finance and Means Committee of the House. This statement does not apply to the "nuisance" taxes which expire in June but which probably will be renewed, with some exceptions.

Local officials believe that the tax can and should be balanced as closely as possible for the years 1937-38. In fact, with contemplated expenditure of over seven billion dollars next year they do not foresee a discrepancy larger than one or two hundred millions, which would be enough to consider practically a balanced budget. Relief is not entirely known and some are certain that new sums will be needed for this purpose by June 30 and that the agencies will start the next year without much cash.

TAX YIELD
 A return of prosperity was expected upon to bring tax receipts up considerably and thus the balance desired. However, income tax payments in 1937, it seems, will be more than \$100,000,000 less than the \$1,000,000,000 expected, that the collections will also be short of the year's taxes will not add up to the \$2,373,000,000 reported by the President in January. Whether later returns alter this outlook remains uncertain.

GETS FUNDS
 Naval Appropriations bill, providing more than five hundred million dollars for the fiscal year 1938, has been passed by both houses, and although minor differences remained to be agreed upon, it is a continuation of the preservation policy of the United States. The bill provides \$130,000,000 for the construction of a fleet of 35 battle ships, eight new destroyers, four submarines and the cost of construction during the next fiscal year total of eighty-one ships of various types. The battleships, to be constructed in many ways, will cost about \$50,000,000 each but only \$15,179,000 is needed to cover the initial cost.

The opposition was voiced but, as a whole, the overwhelming sentiment of Congress is behind appropriations. Meanwhile, the Navy Department began its use of steel for construction, beginning its first contract in seven months, thus securing enough to begin construction on six destroyers and three submarines had been delayed because contractors refused to bid on contracts under the terms of the Walsh-Healy Act.

The new policy on Federal aid in financing projects, initiated recently by the President, is to mean the virtual termination of the Public Works Administration. Hereafter, Federal aid will be devoted only to the payment of labor taken from the rolls and the PWA will provide \$115 to the labor cost of \$150 for every \$100 spent on taken from the relief rolls. Forty-five per cent of the cost of the project. In brief, the grants will stipulate that no of the Federal money may be used for labor not taken from rolls.

CY MAY END PWA
 Therefore the policy has been to employ employment of relief "where available" and workers could meet certain standards of efficiency. Even so, however, contractors' four relief unsatisfactory and often refused such men for only a short before replacing them with men not secured through the PWA. The reader probably understands that when the PWA

Series 1937

Piney Creek H. S. Commencement To Begin On April 9

Two Grade Operettas To Be Presented That Night. Graduation Exercises Scheduled For April 16

TO HOLD STYLE SHOW

Dickens' "Oliver Twist" To Be Given On Saturday Night, April 17. Sermon To Graduates April 18

On Saturday night, April 17, the Senior students of Piney Creek high school, as a part of the commencement exercises, bringing the 1936-37 term of the school to a close, will present the play, "Oliver Twist."

Many persons of the Piney Creek and surrounding communities are looking forward with much pleasure to having an opportunity to see the famous Dickens story right there among them by the boys and girls they know.

Miss Edna Collins will be seen as the pathetic little Oliver, who is born and raised in a workhouse. Quentin Fender will appear as the wily old Fagin, the leader of a gang of pick-pockets and "just between us," said an interested person recently, "he can fill the bill." His friends, it is said, can hardly wait for the performance to see Chap Hampton, as blustering Bill Sikes, glower at his wife, Nancy, and the latter part will be played by Miss Blanche Busic. Then there is the rich comedy part of the "Artful Dodger," said to be one of the funniest parts ever written. Basil Landreth will play this part, and the person previously referred to said in reference to this part: "You will laugh; strike me pink if you don't."

This play was written by William Linda and is to be produced at Piney Creek by special arrangements with a Minneapolis, Minn., concern.

When "Oliver Twist" first appeared as a novel, the good people of England were quite horrified. Charles Dickens had delved into the slums of London in order to point a great moral, and there were certain people who were greatly offended, or appeared to be so. Mr. Dickens, hearing of the criticism raised by his novel, answered them in part in the newspapers as follows:

"I confess that I have yet to learn that a lesson of the purest good may not be drawn from the vilest evil. I have always believed this to be a recognized and established truth, laid down by the greatest men the world has ever known, constantly acted upon by the best and wisest natures," he wrote, "I saw no reason when I wrote this book why the very dregs of life, so long as their speech did not offend the ear, should not serve the purpose of a moral, at least as well as life's froth and cream. In this spirit, when I wished to show, in little Oliver, the principal of good surviving through every adverse circumstance and triumphing at last—it appeared to me to do this would be to attempt something which was greatly needed and which would be of service to society. And therefore I did my best."

As soon as the above article appeared in the papers people began to see "Oliver" in a new light. They came to the great

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Sparta Women Are Active In D. A. R. Work

Mrs. Edwin Duncan, Sparta, prepared a report of the past year's activities of the Jonathan Hunt chapter, D. A. R. (Daughters of the American Revolution) read at a meeting of the organization held last Thursday afternoon in Elk, at the home of Mrs. W. R. Wellborn. Mrs. Duncan was chapter regent for the last year.

Mrs. R. A. Doughton, also of Sparta, was selected chapter historian to serve during the ensuing year. Mrs. Duncan was elected a delegate to attend the annual D. A. R. meeting to be held in Charlotte.

Welcoming Spring With Music



LOS ANGELES. Now we know that Spring is here. These young violinists are part of the 1,500 piece children's orchestra got together for an outdoor rehearsal. They are members of the Junior Musicians of America, a non-profit organization that has over 5,000 members in Los Angeles alone.

Rites In Memory Of Blast Victims Held Easter Sun.

President Roosevelt Sends Message, Which Is Read At Service Held At Scene Of Great School Disaster

New London, Tex., Mar. 30.—Hundreds of sorrowing relatives and friends stood solemnly with moist eyes in crisp, bright weather Easter Sunday afternoon and heard comforting words in a memorial service for the estimated 455 who died in a school gas explosion 10 days earlier.

Gathered at the scene of the world's greatest child disaster, with the gaping foundation of the wrecked school in the foreground, they heard read the condolences of the president of the United States and the spoken word of the governor of Texas, via radio.

In nearby cemeteries where blooming redbud and dogwood already are beginning to color the derrick dotted landscape, were hundreds of fresh graves.

Opening the service at 3:05 p. m., the estimated time of the terrific blast which turned a spring-like day into one of the saddest for Texas, Gov. James V. Allred, speaking from Austin, read a message from President Roosevelt and expressed his own sympathy for the grief-stricken community.

"Unbelievable and unbearable, the disaster stunned the world and struck calamity to the hearts of friends, relatives and the universe," Gov. Allred said. "No tragedy since that on the cross has so swiftly struck the helpless as the pure of heart, the innocent, as the tragedy of New London."

At the start of his brief address, the governor said he had a message from President Roosevelt. In it the president said he mourned with those who are grieved. He said Mrs. Roosevelt joined him in an assurance of sincere sympathy.

Following the governor's message there was a moment of silent prayer.

Prayer was offered and a memorial address was made. A quartet sang "Abide With Me."

The sympathy of 8,000,000 school children of the nation was expressed in the presentation of a large floral cross of red carnations on a white background.

Improvements Are Made By Reeves At Spartan Theatre

In keeping with the constant efforts of Ben G. Reeves, manager of the Spartan theatre, to give the public the very best in theatre entertainment, one of the most modern, up-to-date, sound systems has recently been installed, including new sound heads, new amplifiers and new speakers. Interior sound improvements have also been made on the building.

Mr. Reeves states that the new equipment will make the Spartan theatre equal to the best in sound and screen reproduction.

Swift Waugh and Floyd Sutphin Die In Galax Shooting Saturday; Assailant Then Commits Suicide

Senator Glass, Of Va., Attacks Court Proposal

Senior Va. Senator Makes First Major Radio Talk Since 1932 Campaign. Robinson Makes Reply

Washington, Mar. 30.—President Roosevelt's court legislation proposal is an "abominable" attempt to replace representative government with an autocracy, said Senator Carter Glass (D., Va.) in a radio address delivered here last night.

In his first major radio address since he urged Mr. Roosevelt's election in 1932, Glass said: "No threat to representative democracy since the foundation of the republic has exceeded in its evil portents this attempt to pack the Supreme Court of the United States and thus destroy the purity and independence of this tribunal of last resort."

The 79-year-old Democrat, who was secretary of the treasury under Woodrow Wilson, contended no question of party loyalty is involved.

"The talk about 'party loyalty' being involved in the opposition to this extraordinary scheme is a familiar species of coercion," he continued. "It is sheer poppycock. No political party since the establishment of the government ever dared make an issue of packing the Supreme Court."

The proposal to reorganize the high tribunal was not mentioned in the administration in the campaign last fall, Glass declared, adding:

"We know there has been no mandate from the people to rape the Supreme Court or to tamper with the constitution."

He said the proposed reorganization is exactly what Woodrow Wilson called "an outrage upon constitutional morality."

Mr. Roosevelt himself, Glass asserted, warned in a speech made in 1930 that centralization of all authority and control in the national government was an essential to bringing about "government by oligarchy, masquerading as democracy."

"When before, may I venture to ask, in the history of the country has this nation more nearly approached the situation thus depicted?" Glass demanded.

Washington, Mar. 30.—Senator Robinson, the Democratic leader, loosed a caustic attack tonight upon three principal critics of the Roosevelt court legislation and asserted the Supreme Court itself "has proved that the president is right."

He said that Associate Justice McReynolds stands "condemned by his own test as a poor sportsman," upbraided Senator Borah (R., Ida.) with charges of inconsistency, and accused Glass (D., Va.) of using "vitriolic and extravagant language."

Tactically, the majority leader made it abundantly clear that the court's about-face on the minimum wage issue has not diminished the administration's determination that the court legislation shall be enacted. He turned its decision, in fact, to the purposes of his own argument.

"The chief executive has based the reorganization program on the premise that the social and economic needs of the present can be adequately dealt with by reasonable interpretation of the constitution," Robinson declared in a radio address.

HOUSE DESTROYED BY FIRE FRIDAY MORNING

The John Irwin house, located near Prathers Creek church, was destroyed by fire early Friday morning. The building, which was vacant, was owned by Wiley Irwin.

The fire is thought to have been of incendiary origin.

Tragedy Is Distinct Shock To Community; Reason For Man's Rash Act Is Mystery

Perhaps the most shocking tragedy ever to happen in Galax or surrounding section took place there last Saturday morning (March 27) when Swift Waugh and Floyd Sutphin were shot down in Belk's Department store, in which they were employed. The distressing occurrence took place about 8:30 a. m. The fatal shots were fired from an automatic pistol in the hand of Thomas Nail, of Woodlawn, who was owner of the building in which a part of the store is operated. Nail, after the shooting, was found by Chief of Police J. O. Jones lying in a parking lot back of the store building near death from a bullet wound in the head. Authorities said this wound was self-inflicted. He was taken immediately to Galax hospital, where he lingered throughout the rest of the day and until 11:30 Saturday night, when he died.

According to women employees of the store who were on duty at the time of the tragedy, Mr. Nail entered the store, as he had often done, and one or more of the employees expressed pleasure that he had come in again, as he had not been in the store for sometime. However, he made no reply, it is said, and one of some carpenters who were doing some work overhead in the store dropped a bolt near him and asked him to hand the bolt up to them. They, also, received no response, and thinking he had not heard them, repeated the request, with the same result. Nail walked directly toward the rear of the storeroom, where Mr. Waugh and Mr. Sutphin were, they having come in for work only a short while before.

Officers Destroy Distilleries In Alleghany County

Agents of the Federal Alcohol Tax Unit, working in conjunction with Sheriff Walter M. Irwin, made a raid in the Bull Head section of Alleghany county on Thursday, destroying two large steam distilleries.

John Crouse was arrested at one of the "stills" and brought before Commissioner George Cheek. On posting a five-hundred dollar bond for his appearance at the next term of Federal court at North Wilkesboro, Crouse was released.

On Tuesday, Sheriff Irwin, accompanied by deputy sheriff Royal and Chief of Police R. D. Gentry, destroyed a medium sized steam outfit about two miles south of Sparta. Several hundred gallons of mash were poured out.

Miss Inskeep Is Popular Student At Va. College

Miss Josephine Inskeep, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Inskeep, Roaring Gap, who is majoring in physical education at Fredericksburg State Teachers college, Fredericksburg, Virginia, last fall made the soccer and hockey teams, and this spring the indoor baseball team and the basketball team, on which she plays the position of left forward.

This freshman basketball team has yet to lose a game this season, and is eligible for the school championship.

Miss Inskeep has made the 100 points required for membership in the Athletic Association of the school.

Church Council Makes Appeal Against Liquor

Greensboro, Mar. 30.—On behalf of the executive committee of the North Carolina Council of Churches, a state-wide interchurch organization, "an appeal to the Christian people of North Carolina" was issued here today by Bishop Paul B. Kern, of Davidson, and Rev. W. W. Paele, D. D., of Greensboro.

Almost immediately, the clerks toward the front of the store heard shots but, in the excitement that followed the outbreak of firing, none of them, it seems, knew whether Mr. Waugh or Mr. Sutphin was shot first. Mr. Sutphin's son, Sherman, was near his father at the time of the shooting, but he was so excited, it is said, that he, too, is unable to tell which of the men was shot first.

Three bullets entered the right side of Mr. Sutphin's chest and Mr. Waugh was shot under the left arm. Mr. Waugh walked several steps forward, after he was shot, falling in the shoe department, near the cashier's office. Mr. Sutphin was found lying near the cellar stairway. He apparently fell where he was shot.

No motive for the slaying has been advanced, as no one seems to be able to think it possible that the slayer had any ill feeling toward either of the men he shot. In fact, it is said that he was heard by someone only a few days ago to comment on the uprightness of and fine qualities possessed by the two men he slew, both of whom were classed among the very best of citizens by everyone who has been heard to comment in any way concerning their lives and the shocking way in which they went to their deaths.

The only words that Nail was heard to utter either before or

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ALMANAC

HOW LONG?

He that waits for dead men's shoes may long go barefoot.

APRIL

- The dollar, half dollar and quarter dollar were authorized coined, 1792.
- Planes cross Mt. Everest for the first time, 1933.
- Henry Hudson sailed from Holland on an exploring expedition, 1609.
- \$4,860,000,000 Work Relief bill passed by Congress, 1935.
- The North Pole was reached by Commander Robert E. Peary, 1909.
- Peri Sumter, S. C. attached in an unsuccessful attempt to take Charleston, 1863.
- Planes do loop landed in Florida, 1933.