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

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FILIBUSTER WINS

After being laid aside for a few days, while the Senate acted on the Administration housing bill the anti-lynching bill was before the Senate again last week. Apparently the chances of final passage were hopelessly blasted when the Senate refused by a vote of 51 to 37 to apply cloture, which would have restricted debate. The motion for cloture failed to secure a majority when a two-thirds majority was necessary to cut off the flow of oratory that continued to roll from Southern Senators, determined to prevent passage of the bill.

"LITTLE" BUSINESS

Following his conference with big business men, the President saw to it that small business men were invited to Washington for a conference and a chance to put themselves on the record. It is undoubtedly a fact that many so-called small business men, in many so-called small cities, are worried by threatened competition from bigger companies. For this reason they hesitate to make improvements and hold down inventories to as small a volume as possible.

As one such business man said to the writer last week, these small merchants, wholesalers and operators of independent business ventures, have a keen fear of an invasion of their field by a highly centralized group, which will know them under. Some of them insist that present methods of stock selling, plus convenient bankruptcies, enable big concerns to crush out competition, even at a loss. Then the inside boys reorganize and take the field of goods inasmuch as the small business man has lost his capital in the fight and has no source from which to get additional funds. The picture may be a little bit hard to catch but there are many readers of this column who will understand exactly what the "little" business man had in mind.

HOUSING BILL

The first piece of major legislation to go to the White House was the housing bill, sent to the President last week when the Senate, by a close vote, eliminated the much-debated "prevailing wage" amendment sponsored by Senator Lodge. The FHA will insure mortgages covering 90 per cent, on homes costing up to \$6,000 and 80 per cent. of the additional cost up to \$10,000. Down payments will have to be ten per cent. and the borrower will have 25 years in which to pay the balance.

GREETINGS TO SPAIN

Twenty-six Senators and thirty-four members of the House have transmitted a message of greeting and sympathy to the Spanish Cortes, meeting at Barcelona, and praised the fight that the loyalist members of the Spanish parliament are making to "save the democratic institutions" of the Spanish Republic from its enemies, "both within and without Spain." Party lines were disregarded, with six Republican Senators and two Republicans in the House, and one Progressive joining a number of Democrats in signing the document made public by the Spanish Embassy.

BORAH'S WARNING

The foreign policy of the United States will be thoroughly debated in the Senate. Last week discussion got off to a good start when Senator Borah warned that the nation was risking war by permitting the world to believe that it was in an alliance with Great Britain and that the two powers are building up their navies under a "tacit alliance." The result, according to the Idahoan, was a world "practically gone mad" in an armament race similar to that which preceded the World War.

Undoubtedly the foreign policies of the United States and Great Britain are developing along parallel lines. That this is due to any sub rosa agreement is doubtful in view of the ample justification for their course in the light of existing world conditions. That the world is in an armaments race is undeniable but that the scramble to build ships is the result, even in part, of the American building program, is not clear when one studies the past record of this country in attempting to promote disarmament and in allowing its navy to be much lower than treaty strength.

MORE ABOUT FLEETS

Senator Pitman, of Nevada, insisted that this country was avoiding an alliance, pointing out that naval construction was necessitated by the very fact that we have

Roosevelt plans to launch a new program

—of public works shortly, it was indicated Tuesday. The new program will be to create jobs for some of the estimated 11,000,000 jobless in the nation.

Following a parley with administration relief chiefs and four midwestern mayors, the President told his press conference the situation is under study. He stated an announcement will be forthcoming within a few days.

He emphasized the approach would be from the standpoint of relieving human wants, not of priming the industrial pump. He indicated the outlays will take the form of loans to states and localities for self-liquidating projects, guaranteeing the return to the Treasury of the principal, if not the interest, on the loans over a long period of years.

He declined to say whether the announcement would take the form of a message to Congress, which wrote into the 1937-38 relief appropriation act an amendment requiring the \$1,500,000,000 appropriation to last until the fiscal year ends next June 30. Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau, a luncheon guest, remained through the conference in which R. F. C. Chairman Jesse Jones and Acting WPA Administrator Aubrey Williams participated with Mayors Kelly, Chicago; Reading, Detroit; Burton, Cleveland; and Dickman, St. Louis.

Another of Tuesday's callers was Owen D. Young, chairman of the General Electric Company, who had urged the resumption of spending during a previous visit with the President in company with C. I. O. Chairman John L. Lewis and Thomas W. Lamont, Morgan bank partner.

Many Republicans are expected in Greensboro Sat.

—night for the ninth annual state-wide Lincoln Day dinner. Congressman Hamilton Fish, Jr., of New York, will be the chief speaker at the dinner. Worth D. Henderson is chairman of the arrangements committee and the event will be held under the joint sponsorship of the North Carolina Young Republicans and the Republican state executive committee.

King George VI and Queen Elizabeth will visit France

—for four days this summer, and the stay will be the first state visit of the couple to a foreign country since their accession to the throne in December, 1936.

Announcement issued at Buckingham palace said the king and queen had accepted an invitation from President Albert Lebrun of France to visit Paris from June 28 to July 1.

Plans for the trip were arranged carefully before the announcement was made and speculation arose immediately whether the king and queen might be embarrassed because of the Duke and Duchess of Windsor who just moved into a villa outside the French capital.

Dr. McDonald's father passed away Tuesday

—at Paradise, Ark., at the age of 61 years. George L. McDonald, whose son, Dr. Ralph McDonald, of Winston-Salem, opposed Clyde R. Hoey, of Shelby, for the North Carolina gubernatorial nomination in 1936, was prominent in Masonic and Junior Order circles of his state. He had been ill only a short time, pneumonia being the cause of death.

In addition to the son, Dr. McDonald, the deceased is survived by the widow and three daughters. Two daughters, Miss Hildred McDonald, of Winston-Salem, and Miss Agnes McDonald, Washington, D. C., left yesterday for Arkansas to attend the funeral of their father.

The world was invited to join in a big effort

—to promote peace and economic prosperity in a radio address delivered Sunday night in Washington, D. C., by Secretary of State Cordell Hull, who said that this nation stands ready at any time to help bring about arms limitation consultations.

Tremendous significance was attached to the cabinet officer's remarks which came 24 hours after the United States, Great Britain and France demanded that Japan reveal her naval building program or agree to limitation consultations. In this connection, a decided yesterday that the emporium of Japan's highest naval officials is reported to have decided Sunday that the empire's naval building program would not be disclosed to the United States, Great Britain and France.

Hull spoke over a nation-wide radio hook-up. The speech ostensibly was a defense of the administration's reciprocal trade treaty program which, he said, "is a standing offer to other nations to join with us in a determined effort to promote economic appeasement and security through making possible the expansion of the international trade, along lines of constructive peaceful effort and upon the friendly and universally beneficial basis of equal treatment."

Then he added significantly: "While compelled, in a world in which increased construction of armaments is a regrettable fact, to render adequate our military and naval establishment, we are ready at any time to join with other nations in a common effort to bring about a general limitation and reduction of armaments."

This was a reiteration of statements Hull made several months ago when other powers were agitating for an international economic and disarmament conference which it was suggested the United States should call. Both the cabinet officer and President Roosevelt declined, saying the world rearmament race made such consultation inadvisable.

Four men from as many counties were advanced

—Tuesday as possible candidates to succeed Representative Walter Lambeth, of Thomasville, who announced Monday that he would not be a candidate for reelection to his seat in Congress.

Friends of J. Gordon Hackett of North Wilkesboro, eighth district highway commissioner, urged him to make the race. They pointed out he was well qualified and started to boost his name.

Hackett, asked if he had decided to become a candidate said he was "more interested in building roads."

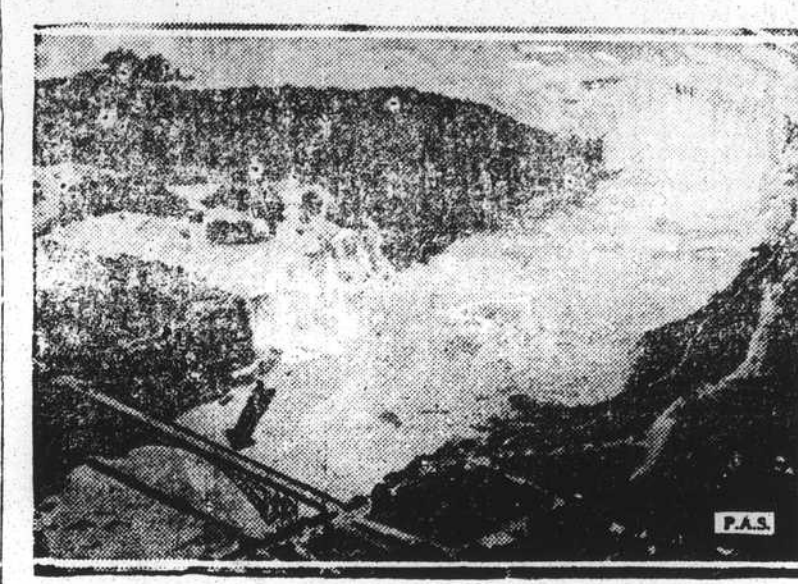
At first he said, "I am not going to run for Congress. Let the young bucks make the race."

But later he admitted he might become a candidate if he was urged strongly.

"I won't say I wouldn't run, but I will say I am not a candidate," Hackett said.

Wilkes county friends of Hackett point out that Wilkes has not been represented in Congress since the days of the late Richard N. Hackett.

Report Plans For New Niagara Span



NIAGARA FALLS . . . No sooner had echoes of the crash of the Falls View bridge (arrow) ceased to reverberate between the canyon-like walls of the ice-jammed Niagara River than plans were reported under way for a new span to link the United States and Canada at this famous mecca for millions of honeymooners. The 40-year-old structure afforded tourists their best view of the falls, 1,000 feet away. It crumpled under impact of a record 100-foot ice-pack recently.

Al Capone was under observation in the hospital

—ward at bleak Alcatraz prison Tuesday night. To reports that the one-time leader of the country's most notorious mob was suffering a mental breakdown, federal officials gave only a terse "no comment." However, they did not deny it.

From the justice department it was learned Capone had been confined to the hospital since Saturday; that physicians considered his removal to a prison affording better medical facilities.

Thus "Scarface Al," hated by fellow convicts, once the personification of gangster power, had reached a condition where it was impossible for him to continue even his ordinary duties of picking up debris in the prison yard.

At the time news of Capone's illness came out, Abraham Tietelbaum, his attorney, asked the United States supreme court to set aside a one-year sentence in the Cook county (Chicago) jail and a fine of \$20,000. This sentence awaits Capone on his scheduled release from Alcatraz next January.

Capone was received at Alcatraz August 22, 1934. Ten months later he was put in solitary confinement after a fist fight. In June, 1936, he was wounded in the back by another convict wielding a scissors.

Alf M. Landon spoke Saturday in Chicago

—during the closing session of the United Methodist council, representing the three great branches of the church soon to be formally consolidated.

The former Kansas governor declared that "Christianity has a great stake in the preservation of democracy. Only by a vigorous and prophetic church," said the 1936 Republican standard bearer, "may we retain democracy."

Landon said that "today the ancient theory of absolute government is abroad in the world, not only does it threaten democratic and representative government, it threatens the church itself."

He called for an awareness of events abroad, adding:

"We cannot live on a high plateau, above and away from all other nations. Even if our conscience would permit us to take such a stand, it would not be practical, in a world that is made small by modern methods of communication and transportation."

The council session drew more than 4,000 ministers and laymen from the three branches—the Methodist Episcopal church, Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and the Methodist Protestant church.

Simone Simon was much improved from an illness

—Friday in Hollywood, Calif., where she is confined to a hospital with pneumonia, according to a statement by Dr. Max W. Bay. Dr. Bay added that her temperature had dropped to 99 degrees. It was 103 Thursday when she was taken from her home to the hospital.

The French star who played in "Girls' Dormitory" for the first time as a star player, became ill while working on a picture at the Twentieth Century studio.

The U. S. has no secret alliance with England

—as to what the two powers should do in case of war or the possibility of war, Secretary of State Cordell

Hull stated Tuesday in reply to a senatorial query. "The answer is no." This flat assertion was made by Secretary Hull.

He replied with the same blunt negative to questions whether this country has any agreement "express, or implied" for the use of the American navy in conjunction with that of any other nation, or for the policing of any section of the seas by American fighting ships.

His assertions, contained in a letter to Chairman Pittman of the senate foreign relations committee, were in answer to a resolution by Senator Johnson (R., Calif.), specifically presenting these three questions.

In turn, the Johnson measure had summoned up rumors and reports circulating persistently in Washington for several weeks, and repeatedly mentioned in connection with the bill for an \$800,000,000 expansion of the national defense, now pending in the house naval committee.

Apparently Hull's denial of these reports satisfied most of those who had been withholding their support of this measure until they could learn what use was intended for an increased navy.

Johnson introduced his resolution yesterday after much discussion of the nation's foreign policy. Hull hastened to reply, even in advance of its consideration. At the outset of today's senate session, Pittman arose to read the secretary's letter.

A new standard is expected to be put into use

—by President Roosevelt in making any additional Supreme court appointments, it is thought by political

authorities in the nation's capital. The effect on the relative strength of the court's so-called liberal and conservative groups was the point of interest when Justices Black and Reed were nominated. The potential effect on the practical politics of this year and 1940 will be the first to be appraised by all observers in the not unlikely event that Mr. Roosevelt makes further appointments at an early date.

Upon confirmation of Black and Reed, the probable "liberal" trend of the court became too pronounced for any increase in the number of "liberal" justices to do more than enlarge an existing majority. It is wholly possible, however, that important considerations of party strategy and maneuvering to close rifts in key states could play an important part in pointing the way to future selections. No president would admit political maneuvering of that sort; but federal judicial appointments, from the Supreme Court down, have figured in big league political strategy before this.

Predictions of additional Supreme court vacancies in the near future are based largely on the desire of Justice McReynolds to retire, now that he has passed his 76th birthday, and to doubts whether Justice Cardozo's health will permit him to resume his duties.

After dinner he complained of indigestion. A physician was called but the complaint apparently was not considered serious. Mr. Firestone arrived from Akron this season on his birthday, December 20.

Rev. Dumont Clark, of Asheville, is to speak here

—in the Sparta Methodist church tomorrow (Friday) afternoon, at 3:30 o'clock, and will give an illustrated

lecture. At seven o'clock tomorrow night he will deliver the same lecture in the Piney Creek Methodist church.

For several years, the Rev. Mr. Clarke has been working in connection with the Farmers federation at Asheville, as director of the Lord's Acre plan in Western North Carolina.

In his lecture the Rev. Mr. Clarke will explain the Lord's Acre plan and will show stereoscopic slides illustrating the work that has been done where the plan has been adopted. This plan, it is said, has proved to be both a spiritual and a financial uplift where it has been given a chance.

Church leaders of Alleghany county are eager to have the Lord's Acres plan introduced here, it is reported, and the public is invited to attend these lectures. It is hoped that all denominations will be represented.

The stars of "A Star is Born" were included

—in nominations made Sunday night in Hollywood, for the acting awards of merit given annually by the

Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. Janet Gaynor and Frederic March, stars of the 1937 technicolor triumph, "A Star is Born," along with the defending "champions," Paul Muni and Luise Rainer, and Charles Boyer, Robert Montgomery, Spencer Tracy, Irene Dunn, Greta Garbo and Barbara Stanwyck, were included in the list of five actors and five actresses nominated for the award.

Spencer Tracy, who was rewarded for his acting in "Captains Courageous," also played in "Libeled Lady," with the late Jean Harlow, Myrna Loy and William Powell. In an earlier production, Miss Gaynor won wide recognition in "State Fair," with the late Will Rogers, which was shown at the Spartan theatre last September 6 and 7.

Approximately 15,000 members of the industry will vote to select two winners, who will be announced at the annual academy banquet on March 3.

Members of the Screen Actors' Guild made the nominations by secret ballot.

Muni, who captured the male award last year for his work in "The Story of Louis Pasteur," was nominated for his performance in "The Life of Emile Zola," which was shown at the Spartan Monday and Tuesday of this week.

Nominated for other "best performances" were Boyer in "Conquest," and Montgomery in "Night Must Fall." Miss Dunne in "The Awful Truth," Garbo in "Camille," and Miss Stanwyck in "Stella Dallas."

Ten pictures were nominated as the "best" of 1937. They were "The Awful Truth," "Captains Courageous," "Dead End," "The Good Earth," "In Old Chicago," "The Life of Emile Zola," "Lost Horizon," "One Hundred Men and a Girl," "Stage Door" and "A Star is Born."

From this group, one production will be selected as the outstanding one of them all.

Alice Faye and Tony Martin were robbed of jewels

—and other valuables worth \$6,000, they reported to police in Beverly Hills, Calif., Tuesday. The valuables were stolen from their home in Beverly Hills while the popular movie couple, who were married last summer, were week-ending on the desert.

The burglar took a mink coat, a sable jacket, several pieces of luggage and a box containing a diamond and platinum bracelet—and a handful of paste jewels Alice wears on the screen.