

President Roosevelt, in discussing his national defense policy, insists that the United States in its naval construction program, must keep in mind the necessity of a fleet capable of defending both its coasts rather than become confused over the ratio of its fleet to those of other nations. At a press conference, he declared that the consensus among those who know most about problems of national defense and who have given it greatest thought, is that we cannot rely on a single defense in one ocean. Mr. Roosevelt declared that we might be faced with a war on both sides of the Continent but quickly added that this was all he would say on the subject.

**PRESERVES ISOLATION**

Naturally the President cannot go into elaborate details, but, in view of his long advocacy of peace and his undoubted sincerity in wanting to avoid war, his utterances are extremely pointed, to say the least. In fact, close observers believe that while Mr. Roosevelt has no specific threat in mind, he is greatly concerned over the disordered state of the world and the aggressive use of military and naval power to gain national ends. Apparently convinced that the people of the United States desire to preserve its traditional isolation, the Chief Executive realizes that the nation must be prepared to defend itself single-handed against aggressors in whatever combination they may present themselves.

Moreover, should the nation at a later date decide to enter into some agreement with other powers in regard to future contingencies, there are many who doubt that complete reliance could be placed upon even a strict offensive and defensive alliance. Therefore, under present conditions, there is no other course but to assume the burden of additional land and sea armaments which will, as far as possible, guarantee the safety of this country.

**WORLD CONDITIONS**

There is no reason to believe that Mr. Roosevelt is more militarist than when he took the oath of office as President and enunciated his "good-will" policy. Those who see him regularly accept his word that no aggressive intent is involved in the naval and army plans now under consideration. Despite doubts expressed by some public men, the general belief is that there is no arrangement with Great Britain or any other country which can lighten the country's burden of defense. It is admitted that while officially at peace with all the world, the relations of the United States with Japan, Germany and Italy are not on the same plane as with other nations. This is not because the United States has discriminated against the totalitarian states but because the three aggressor nations have elected to stand apart from the rest of the world.

**SINGAPORE BASE**

The presence of three American cruisers, only foreign vessels at the opening of the British Naval Base at Singapore, has excited the pacifists in the United States, although this Government took particular pains to stress the fact that the American warships were only paying a friendly visit. Nevertheless, in the eyes of foreign statesmen throughout the world, the fact that our vessels were present by invitation and those of no other nation invited, is taken to indicate some degree of coordination between the two fleets.

The British had 24 warships of the East Indies and China squadrons, together with many troops and several squadrons of airplanes. The new base is expected to solidify British prestige in the Far East. It affords almost complete facilities, being equipped with the largest naval drydock in the world, capable of handling warships up to 55,000 tons. The base is generally considered the most powerful in the world and is ideally located for defense against the air, on the land and in the water. It has 18-inch guns with a range of forty miles.

**INCOME PAID OUT**

While there is no satisfactory basis for determining the total national income produced in a given year, the Department of Commerce annually estimates the national income paid out. The total represents all compensation in the form of wages, salaries, interest, dividends, entrepreneurial withdrawals, and net rents and royalties paid to individuals for services rendered. The estimate for 1937, \$67,500,000,000, represents (Turn to page five, please)

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**An outstanding scenic area is being made**

—accessible in the Blue Ridge mountains of southern Alleghany county and northern Wilkes county by the Blue Ridge parkway.

Park service engineers and directors in routing the parkway were quick to recognize the scenic value of this area and have purchased 7,000 acres to be developed into the leading wayside park on the parkway north of the Grandfather.

From the summit of the Blue Ridge which rises abruptly about 2,000 feet above the hills and valleys of Wilkes the parkway traveler will have before him an awe-inspiring panorama of Blue Ridge foothills and piedmont North Carolina. Before him to the South will be the beautiful Yadkin River valley and in the same distance the Brushy Mountains. To the east, the view of the piedmont section is limited only by the ability of his eyes to penetrate the atmosphere.

This park was named Bluff Park because of the rugged character of the mountains. This area was one of the last spots of refuge for the Indians because of its myriads of hiding places. Tradition says that it was headquarters for a tribe, as numerous Indian relics have been gathered from the cliffs.

When the Indians finally abandoned the spot to seek happier hunting grounds toward the setting sun and to get away from the advance of the pale face it became the refuge of wild animals, particularly black bears and wild cats. Within the memory of the present generation wildcats were plentiful in what is now the Bluff Park and were a menace to small farm animals and poultry. Among the early settlers in that part of the Blue Ridge, the man who killed the greatest number of wild cats was considered a hero.

Wildcat Rock, a sheer precipice on the south side of the Blue Ridge rising to a height of 500 feet almost perpendicular, was named for the animals it harbored at its base. At the top of this precipice the park service has selected a site for a hotel or lodge as an overnight stopping place for parkway travelers. It is understood that the site will be leased to some private individual or company with the provision that the building will be according to park designs.

Bluff Park is not all rugged. Its topography is immensely varied. While the greater part of the area on the southern side of the Blue Ridge summit resembles the Rockies, there is plateau country on top and on the northern side are beautiful valleys covered with grass and now dot. (Turn to page five, please)

**Herbert Hoover participated in the observance**

—of the fourth anniversary of the death of the late King Albert, of Belgium, on last Thursday. The

former president arrived in France Wednesday from New York and proceeded by automobile to Belgium, where he had not visited in nearly 20 years. He placed a wreath in Laeken Crypt on the tomb of the king who was his friend during the World War when Hoover was chairman of the commission for relief in Belgium.

During his visit in Belgium the former president and his companions will occupy the second floor guest rooms at the United States embassy, above the ambassador's bedroom where King Leopold was born.

The embassy formerly was the residence of the late King Albert and Queen Mother Elizabeth. Early Thursday the king, his children, his mother and his brother, Prince Charles, went to the royal crypt to kneel in front of Albert's tomb and hear mass celebrated.

This was a private ceremony and later the crypt was visited by cabinet ministers, diplomats, provincial governors, burgomasters and other dignitaries.

**Changes have been made in rental fees**

—at the Public Library here for books on the rental shelf, recently. The rental books will be charged for at the rate of three cents a day. For each day that a book, from the rental shelf, is overdue, the charge will be five cents.

Books on the free shelves will be lent for only a week, but may be renewed. The overdue charges on these books will be two cents a day.

The Public Library will be opened at 12:15 o'clock instead of 1 o'clock, thus giving the school children an opportunity to visit the library during the noon hour.

**The anti-lynch bill was abandoned**

—Monday by the United States Senate in Washington, after fuming and fussing since January 6. The

agreement to abandon the measure was reached by a vote of 58 to 22, and the senate turned to consideration of other legislation.

The vote came on a motion by Democratic Floor Leader Barkley to displace the Wagner-Van Nuys measure with the \$250,000,000 relief deficiency bill.

Despite the threat of Senator Robert F. Wagner (D), New York, to take the issue to the country and then later during the present session ask for another cloture vote, the action of the Senate Monday was generally interpreted as spelling doom for the legislation and a complete victory for the South.

A review of the 141 hours' debate on the anti-lynching bill will show that the most potent argument of the southern senators was the fact that under state action lynchings had been reduced to eight. If the South maintains this record and there arises no wave of lynchings in the country, it is extremely doubtful of any further move to enact federal legislation on the subject will receive serious consideration.

The bill now goes back on the Senate calendar where it has no preferred status but may be called up again by a majority vote.

The high light of the closing hours of debate on the Wagner-Van Nuys bill was a speech by Senator George Norris (I), Nebraska. He based his opposition to the legislation on what he termed the "wonderful progress" made by the South in wiping out lynching.

"I think the bill is constitutional," Senator Norris said, "but I am opposed to it because it will have a tendency to again arouse the sleeping monster which caused the Civil War."

As the vote was taken today, Walter White the Negro lobbyist of the Association for Advancement of Colored People, sat in the gallery. Just what plans he and Senator Wagner have for arousing sentiment against those senators who opposed cloture is not known. Southern senators told Wagner they would welcome the opportunity to go to the country on the question of invoking cloture to pass the anti-lynching measure.

**The Young Women's Circle held a meeting Thursday**

—night of last week at the home of Miss Marie Perry, with Mrs. P. H. Tompkins, as associate hostess.

Following the business meeting, during which the president, Miss Perry, presided, Mrs. James Toms, assisted by Mrs. Harry Vaughan and Mrs. P. H. Tompkins, Jr., presented an interesting program on the subject "The World Community in American Cities."

During the social hour, the hostesses served ice cream and cake to sixteen guests.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Misses Vancine and Wanda Choate.

**GENERAL PERSHING IS SERIOUSLY ILL**

—in Tucson, Ariz. The 77-year old general of the armies of the United States suffered a relapse Tuesday after being confined to bed for a week with a cold and rheumatism.

**Out For The Family Groceries**



FOX LAKE, Ill. . . Swollen waters have made a rowboat the only practical vehicle for a shopping tour for Mrs. Frank Meisner, shown leaving her home to replenish food supplies. Flood waters throughout Illinois, Wisconsin and Michigan have made hundreds homeless, have thrown factory workers out of employment in inundated industrial centers, isolated houses and blocked roads over a wide area.

**Secretary Hull urged American cooperation**

—among American republics "to the exclusion of political principles and problems which are alien to this

hemisphere," in a statement issued Monday. At the same time, the secretary of State made public a message from President Roosevelt to the president of Argentina, expressing eagerness to assist in the furtherance of inter-American solidarity.

Hull held aloof publicly from the European ferment stirred by Adolph Hitler's bristling foreign policy speech and British moves to negotiate a new friendship with Italy.

His expression concerning the desirability of solidarity on this continent were linked with that situation, however, in the minds of many students of foreign affairs. They were read with special interest in view of a prediction by Senator King (D) Utah, that Germany had become the most powerful nation in Europe.

"This is disturbing to me," said King, "because it means she will push her economic policies in Latin-America, and two nations there have many German citizens already. I refer to Brazil and Argentina."

"It means that she (Germany) will adopt a policy that will seek to undermine the influence of the United States in Latin-America, as well as to undermine the Monroe Doctrine."

That doctrine is that the western hemisphere is closed to further colonization by European powers.

Many members of Congress commented that Chancellor Hitler's speech would increase sentiment for the Roosevelt administration's \$1,050,000,000 naval expansion policy.

"It may not be absolutely necessary, but it certainly appears to be advisable that our navy be big enough to protect both our coasts," commented Senator Adams (D), Colorado.

**The Woman's Club will hold a meeting**

—in the Sparta high school auditorium tomorrow (Friday) afternoon, at 2:30 o'clock. The Fifth grade pupils, under the direction of Mrs. Vance Choate, will present the following Washington's Birthday program:

Song, "Washington," by class; Poem, "The New George Washington," Edward Rizoti, Jr.; Poem, "Which General," Billy Hardin; Flag Drill, eleven girls; Poem "Washington," written by Thomas Zack Osborne; Play, "Why George Washington Did Not Become a Sailor," Five pupils; Poem, "Washington," written by Patsy Roy Burgess and song, "Contentment," by class.

All members are urged to attend this meeting as some important matters will be considered at this time.

REV. R. L. BERRY WILL PREACH SUN. MORNING —at eleven o'clock, in the Baptist church, and again Sunday night, at 7:15 o'clock.

**Circles of the Baptist W. M. U. met recently**

—for the regular gatherings of the organizations. Circle No. 1 met last Thursday at the home of Mrs.

C. A. Reeves. In the absence of the president, Mrs. George Crutchfield, vice-president presided. Mrs. A. O. Joines was the program leader, presenting the topic "The Homeland."

At the business session, delegates were elected to the State convention at Asheville. Mrs. Bayne Doughton was appointed chairman of the Mission Study Committee. It was also decided to observe the March Week of Prayer for Home Missions.

During the social hour the hostess served sandwiches, pickles, ice cream, cake, and coffee to the sixteen present.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. P. L. Choate, with Mrs. R. A. Wagoner associate hostess.

Circle No. 2 met at the home of Mrs. Ralph Parker on Tuesday night of last week, with the president, Mrs. Duke Bledsoe, presiding. Mrs. C. A. Miles, program leader, was assisted by a number of members in presenting the topic for the month.

It was decided to hold the final meeting of the Week of Prayer at the church on Thursday night, March 3. The circle will meet next month at the new home of the president.

At the close of the meeting, the hostess served delicious ice cream and cake to thirteen guests.

**The upward trend in N. C. births held its own**

—during the first month of 1938, according to the January report of the State Board of Health's Vital

Statistics division, of which Dr. R. T. Stimson is director. The trend was maintained during 1937. The number of deaths, however, was also greater in January last year.

The first month of 1938 was marked by the birth of 6,395 little Tar Heels as compared with 6,103 a year ago, while deaths numbered 3,098 against 2,796 reported the first month of 1937.

There was a slight decrease in the number of deaths among babies under a year old, however, the number this January having been 411, as compared with 420 last year, but an increase of four in the number of maternal deaths.

"We always keep an eye on these figures," said Dr. G. M. Cooper, director of the Division of Preventive Medicine, who gives much attention to maternal and child clinics. "It is gratifying to note," he continued, "that there was a decrease in the number of pellagra deaths in January, the total having been only 15, against 25 last year." Increases were noted in deaths (turn to page five, please)

**Governor Hoey Declared In A Speech Tuesday Night U. S. Is On The Threshold**

—of a great advance and that the boys of the hour will be the leaders of the advance. The chief executive spoke in Winston-Salem at the annual Y. M. C. A. Father-and-Son banquet. Upward of 450 fathers and sons heard the governor speak on "The Future of the Nation" and pay tribute to George Wash-

**'Antics of Andrew' will be presented by the Junior**

—class of Sparta high school, in the high school auditorium, on Saturday night, February 26, at 7:30 o'clock.

Commenting recently on the forthcoming presentation of this play, an interested person had the following to say:

"For genuine comedy, and wholesome fun, this play promises to be one of the best amateur performances seen in Sparta for a long time."

"The jolly, wise-cracking young collegians who never let school work interfere with their social activities get into 'hot water,' as one of them remarks, 'clear up to their plucked eyebrows' constantly. Andrew, played by Lewis Irwin, is always in trouble from leaping before thinking, while his pals, played by Charles Dean Choate and Charles Pugh, succeed in getting themselves into screamingly funny predicaments because they are masquerading as Andrew's wife and mother-in-law. Uncle Isaac, eccentric, bull-headed and stubborn, but friendly and rich, provides laugh after laugh as he shocks the college group with his manners and determined ideas."

"Petunia, the cook, played by Shirley McMillan, and Jacques, the French valet, played by Frank Osborne, hate each other vehemently, and they'll have you roaring with laughter one minute and trembling the next for fear they actually will annihilate each other."

**England's House of Commons voted confidence**

—overwhelmingly Tuesday in Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain's direct bargaining with Europe's dictators after he warned that Britain is being swept toward war by the "shams" of League of Nations policies.

The vote was 330 to 168, with National Liberals joining with the Conservative majority in giving the mandate to Chamberlain to pursue negotiations with Premier Benito Mussolini, and later with Fuehrer Adolph Hitler, on a plan of general European appeasement.

The Prime Minister had been accused in wild debate of "stabbing Anthony Eden in the back with an Italian dagger" and forcing the latter's resignation as foreign secretary, after the government's promise that any failure of the direct dealings with the dictators will bring enormous war preparations.

"If conciliation fails our people when rearmad will be in position to make it difficult to attack," said William S. Morrison, prominent conservative, in the last speech of the debate.

The vote of confidence, taken shortly after 11 p. m. following hours of bitter attacks upon Chamberlain by such fiery orators as David Lloyd George and Winston Churchill, consisted of rejecting a Laborite motion of censure.

**A SURPRISE PACKAGE SALE AND PIE SUPPER**

—will be held on Thursday night March 3, at 7:30 o'clock in the court room of the Alleghany county court house here. The event will be sponsored by the Library committee of the Woman's club. Proceeds are to be used to purchase new books for the library.

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ington, whose birthday was celebrated Tuesday, as "a man who possessed the attributes and virtues of the model father."

"This nation has not gone on the toboggan slide," said Governor Hoey, "and it is not going there. We have by no means forgot our heritage and that it will carry us on and upward in making this a greater and more substantial country."

A few minutes before the speech the Governor was ganged by at least 100 boys who wanted his autograph. Smiling and gracious he signed autograph books, wrote his name on envelopes and banquet menus until he was due to go on the air. His talk was broadcast over radio station WSJS so that other father-and-son banquets throughout the city and Forsyth county could listen in.

"I know of no finer thing than for a man to be the father of a son," said Governor Hoey. "George Washington didn't have that fatherhood. Yet, his whole character and bearing emphasized his appreciation of childhood and youth and his understandings of the problems of family life. I am sure he would have made a great father."

He urged every father to avail himself of the "high privilege of being a priest in his own home." The demands of business, said the Governor, should not be permitted "to rob either father or son" of companionship.

The Governor told the gathered fathers and sons how the Constitution of the United States was written 150 years ago, how it had braved wars and economic struggles.

"Our Constitution is unchanged and the government is unimpaired," declared Governor Hoey. "It is still your country and mine."

"Our people have been brought up on heritage of courage, character and common sense. It is ours to keep."

The Governor sat down as the banquet hall was swept with applause. Thurmond Chatham, president of the Y. M. C. A., adjourned the meeting and then the boys swarmed over Governor Hoey again, asking for autographs. He signed a few, not all, for he was rushed to the Patterson Avenue Negro Y. M. C. A., where another Father-and-son banquet was in session.

Governor Hoey was introduced by Dr. Howard E. Rondthaler, president of Salem college.

**The Methodist W. M. S. held its Feb. meeting**

—on Friday afternoon, February 18, at the home of Mrs. R. H. Hackler, with eighteen members present.

The president, Mrs. J. T. Inskoop, presided during the business session. Mrs. Robert M. Gambill, program leader, presented the topic, "The World Community in American Cities," and Mrs. Jay Hardin discussed the subject, "Thy Neighbor as Thyself." The hostess served a salad and sweet course, with coffee.

The March meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. R. E. Black.

**R. E. BLACK, COUNTY AGENT, HAS ANNOUNCED**

—that J. L. Rowell, extension entomologist, of State college, Raleigh, will be at Turkey Knob tomorrow (Friday), at 3:30 p. m., to assist the tobacco farmers in plant bed pest control. It is pointed out that more damage is done by plant bed pests than many farmers realize and it is highly important that good strong plants be produced if the farmer is to have a good crop of tobacco. Mr. Rowell is in position to give the farmers first hand information on getting their plant beds started off in the right way.