

by Hugo S. Sims,
Washington Correspondent
The congressional elections are less than seven months away but already the political campaign is under full sway. The issues can be boiled down to a single question: "Are you for or against President Roosevelt?"

For several weeks the country has witnessed an amazing barrage of opposition directed against the Reorganization Bill. The intensity of the struggle was amazing, equalling anything that Congress has seen in many a year. Frankly, in the opinion of most observers, the furor was entirely out of proportion to the measure involved.

Repeating 1934 and 1936
The meaning of it all is simply this, that in the fall of this year, the voters will be asked again to approve or disapprove the policies of the New Deal. The present campaign is preliminary to a larger manoeuvre designed to convince the people of this country that the President has too much power, that he is threatening Democracy and that a dictator may result some day in the future. Lined up against him are the same elements that participated in the battles at the polls in 1934 and 1936.

Of course, the author of this column has no way of knowing how the people of this country would vote in an election today. At the same time, it is evident that the tactics of his opposition are the same which President Roosevelt overcame in earlier elections. Present observations indicate that he has lost some ground but there is no reason to suppose that this has been anything like what his enemies claim.

Party Lines Shattered
The Republicans are somewhat unified in their concerted opposition to the President, but show a tendency to divide rather easily in attempts to define definite future policies. In his own party ranks, President Roosevelt is faced with considerable opposition, usually led by the anti-Court Bill group, which shows a willingness to display a surprising independence at times. In some instances party lines are divided and instead of a line-up on the basis of previous party policies, one finds the division strictly based on the President and his New Deal politics.

The current business recession, is, of course, counted upon as an asset to the opposition. If it continues until this fall, political observers expect the voters to register their dislike of "hard times." It is too early, however, to predict the economic state of the country in the fall and this factor remains uncertain. What the government will do to assist business and improve economic conditions remains to be seen.

Early Forecasts
While most of the election forecasts currently assume that the Republicans will make wide gains in Congress, some asserting that they will gain from fifty to eighty seats in the House, it is entirely too early for such calculations. In most cases the prediction represents wishful thinking. At any rate, they are along the same line and from the same sources that made similar predictions in 1934. Meanwhile, it is to be noted that the opponents of the measures recommended by the President seldom fail to refer to President Roosevelt in complimentary terms. This is taken to be a recognition of his continuous personal popularity among the people of the country. So far, he has given no indication whatever of abandoning his program and it is safe to say that he will be militant in the advocacy of the New Deal before the campaign comes to a conclusion. Then it will be up to the voters and after the ballots have been counted the prophets will find out whether the New Deal has the continued approval of the American people. Until then, we must wait.

The seizure of foreign oil properties by the Mexican Government created a grave situation, not only in regard to our relations with Mexico, but also in the possible effect upon other Central and South American nations.

To understand this, it is necessary to realize that, in the past, the United States has repeatedly been accused of using its power to protect the activities of American investors in other countries. It is not necessary to condemn the attitude of this country in the past or to pass judgment upon the activities of its nationals abroad. Nevertheless, one can realize that our attitude and the activities of

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Governor Hoey has allocated for improvement

—of secondary, or farm-to-market roads, the sum of \$2,000,000 from the highway fund surplus. This was the second time in less than a year that such action has been taken. The chief executive made the allocation Monday.

The appropriation, the governor said, was made possible because of a large highway surplus and "because the state generally is in good financial shape." He added, however, that it still was likely that some highway money would be diverted for general fund expenses before the end of the 1937-39 biennium.

Governor Hoey estimated that the highway surplus now totaled more than \$9,000,000, but pointed out that \$1,500,000 of the sum represented road machinery and that \$2,000,000 in cash always was needed for current operating expenses. In addition, projects contracted for but not actually under way accounted for several million dollars of the surplus.

Last July, the governor allocated \$2,000,000 from the surplus for secondary road improvement. Both allocations are in addition to the regular legislative appropriation of \$5,800,000 for maintenance of farm-to-market roads.

Highway department officials said the new appropriation would put secondary roads in the best condition in the history of the state. Improvement of county roads was part of Governor Hoey's "must" program, outlined in his inauguration address.

The State Highway and Public Works commission will meet today (Thursday) to decide how and where the \$2,000,000 shall be spent. Hoey said the appropriation was made at this time "so that the commission will have opportunity to make plans for the proper allotment of this fund and its expenditures during the summer and fall, as best results can be obtained in working on the county roads at that time.

The allotment will enable certain WPA road betterment projects to be carried out, the governor said, since a portion of the money will be spent to supplement WPA funds.

"There will be no further allotment (from the highway fund) for WPA assistance," he added.

The legislature earmarked \$15,750,000 to be spent during the current fiscal year on roads. In addition, the federal government put up \$4,842,707, including \$1,244,662 for grade-crossing elimination work.

Bids on 11 new highway projects, to cost approximately \$680,000 were to be opened Tuesday morning. The highway commission is expected to award contracts today.

The Honor Roll for the 7th month at Piney Creek "H"

—is as follows:

First Grade—Gayle Billings, Jimmie Weaver, John Franklin McMillan, Josephine Blackburn, Susie Halsey, Joyce Osborne and Dorothy Wheatley.

Second Grade—Mary Frances Parsons, Leta Faye Woodie, Wanzoleen Landreth, Doris Southern, Raline Barr, Herbert Barr, Robert Caudill, Billy Halsey and Dean Cox.

Third Grade—Evelyn Brown, Ozena Landreth, June Hash, Lois Finney, Harold Reed and Hurley Blackburn.

Fourth Grade—Bytha Sturgill, Edwin Wyatt, Mary Frances Richardson, Mildred Blackburn, Edward Woodie and Fred Pugh.

Fifth Grade—Evon Jenkins and Lucy Lee Weaver.

Sixth Grade—Georgia Cox, Carolyn Billings, Jacqueline Bare, Dorothy Brown, Bruce Whiteley and Jesse Cox.

Seventh Grade—Mildred Wyatt, Betty Mae Wagoner, Logene Pugh, Ella Phipps, Burton Landreth, Helen Halsey and Margaret Bedwell.

Eighth Grade—Louise Perry, Bina Collins and Maxine Jenkins.

Ninth Grade—Mattilene Gambill, Elizabeth Cook and Mary Kennedy.

Commencement at Piney Creek H. S. is to begin

—on Saturday night, April 23, when the Senior play, "Huckleberry Finn," will be presented. This play is based on Mark Twain's famous book, "Huckleberry Finn," which has received world-wide acclaim.

In regard to the coming presentation of this production at Piney Creek, an interested person commented recently as follows: "Plays come and plays go; some are good, some are bad, but no play has ever attracted such widespread interest at Piney Creek as has 'Huckleberry Finn'." Don't miss seeing acted before your very eyes the boy or girl that once was you, vividly portrayed by Miss Eva Weaver as Mary Jane, and Riley Austin in the character role as the immortal Huckleberry.

"Don't forget the date, and be prepared for an evening of bright, clean, sparkling entertainment. Even surpassing 'Oh, Doctor,' our hit of the winter season, 'Huckleberry Finn' will live in your heart long after the final curtain has fallen at Piney Creek."

The cast of characters is as follows:

Aunt Polly (Mariah Watson)—who is "so nervous," Miss Emoline Finney; Ruth Watson—her sister, Miss Gena Sue Gambill; Mary Jane—their young niece, Miss Eva Weaver; Fred Raymond—in love with Ruth, Clay Joines; Melba White—colored maid at the Watson's, Miss Zollie Souther; Clara Woppinger—Deaconess of the church, Miss Grace Hoppers; Amy Woppinger—her irrepressible sister, Miss Ellen Collins; Huckleberry Finn—who loves to play pranks, Riley Austin; John Finn—his father, Keith Danielson, and Tom Sawyer—Huck's pal and comrade, Astor Joines.

On Sunday morning, April 24, at eleven o'clock, the commencement sermon to the graduating class is to be preached by Rev. Howard J. Ford, pastor of the Sparta Baptist church.

A Grade program, consisting of an operetta, is to be presented on Wednesday night, April 27.

Graduating exercises are scheduled for Thursday night, April 28, at 7:30 o'clock. The name of the speaker who will deliver the literary address to the graduates will be announced later.

Senator Byrd took a firm stand Sunday

—night against a renewal of "pump priming" and said that authoritative reports indicated that "the administration will recommend another huge new spending program of four billion dollars in an effort to again 'prime the pump' and spend ourselves back to prosperity on borrowed money."

The Virginia senator, Democratic critic of some salient items of the Roosevelt program, said "the consequences of another huge spending program pyramiding the public debt are so serious that the country should promptly take stock of the situation."

Spending of borrowed money, Byrd said, may bring the day when taxes alone are insufficient to maintain federal solvency—"which means the confiscation of property and the destruction of our system of private ownership."

He also contended that machinery to distribute eight billion dollars already used in the fight against depression had created a "bureaucracy so wasteful and so powerfully entrenched that little short of a political revolution will be necessary to dismantle its vast operations."

Byrd said previous pump-priming failed. It brought, he said, only a "transient and artificial prosperity."

The senator did not indicate just how the administration intends to spend the four billion dollars he mentioned. Previous reports, however, have been that \$1,500,000,000 might be sought for a program of public works, and that perhaps \$2,000,000,000 might be spent for work relief in the next fiscal year.

Police, Strikers Clash In Labor War



DETROIT, Mich. . . Again Michigan is the scene of labor war. Throughout the state, strikers in possession of strategically located electric plants threatened to turn off power but acceded to a last-minute settlement after Governor Murphy had rushed here from a Florida vacation to take charge of the situation. Here, at the Federal Screw Works, police charge into strikers picketing the plant.

The president and his aides talked Tuesday

—night for three hours about the first rough draft of a forthcoming message to congress covering the entire economic situation. Cabinet members and other high officials left the White House declining to discuss details of the message to be sent to the Capitol today (Thursday) by President Roosevelt.

But it was strongly indicated in authoritative circles that a proposal for new public works would be submitted.

In addition to dealing with domestic subjects, the message, it was said, would touch upon foreign angles, particularly in a comparison of conditions here and abroad.

Originally announced as a message dealing with the relief situation and the general economic situation, the document apparently has grown into a discussion of many pressing questions. Some who knew the nature of tonight's conference said the president displayed a thorough recognition of the seriousness of the economic situation and the necessity for remedial measures.

Mr. Roosevelt's consultants were limited to his assistants in the executive branch of the government, excluding his lieutenants in Congress and Vice President Garner. It had been reported that the president and Garner had disagreed Monday over "pump-priming" expenditures and other matters, but the president denied the accuracy of such reports at a press conference Tuesday afternoon.

Although numerous figures have been mentioned as the amount likely to be recommended for public works, it was reported reliably that the figure now in mind was \$1,500,000,000.

Herschel Anderson, of the Bullhead section, was taken

—into custody on Saturday, April 9, charged with stealing and butchering a cow belonging to J. G. Rash of the Bullhead community.

Mr. Rash reported that he saw Anderson, who was carrying a shotgun, driving the cow away from the former's home late Friday afternoon. The head, hide and other parts of the butchered animal, which had been shot in the head with a shotgun, were found Friday morning a short distance from Mr. Rash's home, in a laurel thicket.

Upon investigation, Sheriff Walter M. Irwin found half the beef hidden in a thicket about a mile from the home of Anderson, and approximately the same distance from the place where the cow was butchered.

Anderson gave bond Tuesday for his appearance at the May term of Superior Court in Alleghany county to answer these charges. He is also under bond for a capias served on him for his failure to appear at the last term of court in Alleghany county for larceny of some sheep.

Closing exercises were held April 8 at Rich Hill

—school, at which time a program was given, beginning with two songs which were sung by the entire student body. After the vocal numbers were rendered, prayer was offered by Rev. Howard J. Ford, pastor of the Sparta Baptist church.

Next on the program were the numbers presented by the following girls and boys, comprising the Seventh grade graduating class: Evon Hendrix, Pearl Collins, Mabel Collins, John Free, Fender and Clifford Brooks. The exercises were very impressive and, it has been said, reflected a very high degree of training.

After the class program was presented, Isom W. Wagoner, local rural letter carrier, delivered a literary address, using as his subject: "Preparation for Citizenship." Mr. Wagoner spoke at length on the development of those essential qualities requisite to the citizenship of a great nation.

Following Mr. Wagoner, the Rev. Mr. Ford preached a very inspiring sermon, stressing the importance of "A True Christian Life," which the speaker said is necessary if we expect to have life more abundant.

After the sermon, certificates of graduation were presented to the members of the class by the principal of the school. The principal also presented to 19 other girls and boys—perfect attendance certificates and, along with these as complimentary awards, each of the 19 received a greenback dollar.

A large fountain pen, a reward for most improvement, was won by Clifford Brooks. Two other fountain pens, given for quietness and courtesy in the school, were won by Mabel Collins and Dennis Franklin, respectively.

After the awarding of the certificates, rewards, report cards, etc., the exercises were brought to a close by a benediction pronounced by the Rev. Mr. Ford.

The principal of the school, T. C. Osborne, and the assistant, Miss Blanche Joines, seemed to be well pleased with the splendid spirit of cooperation existing throughout the two years that they have taught at Rich Hill, and praised the children highly for their good work.

A CONTEST WAS HELD AMONG MUSIC STUDENTS
—of Sparta high school recently, closing on April 1. The contest was sponsored by the Music teacher, Miss Nellie Ruth Kreger.

Miss Mildred Wagoner was the winner in the advanced group. Miss Wanda Choate received honorable mention in this group.

In the beginners' group, Miss Ruth Pugh was the winner, and Mavis Moxley received honorable mention.

Prizes were awarded the winners.

THE BAPTIST W. M. U. IS SCHEDULED TO MEET
—this (Thursday) afternoon, at two o'clock, in the home of Mrs. C. A. Reeves.

"Star In My Kitchen," the free movie Cooking School, will be presented in Galax

—on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, April 18, 19 and 20, at 2:30 o'clock, in the Colonial theatre, sponsored by the Gazette

Printing and Publishing company, publishers of The Alleghany Times and the Galax Gazette. This picture will be a grand treat for every woman of Alleghany county, North Carolina, and Grayson and Carroll counties, Virginia, and no woman should miss it.

Tom Bungardner died April 6 in Washington, D. C.

—at the age of 54 years. He was clerk of the House Ways and Means committee, of which Congressman Robert L. Doughton, of Alleghany, is chairman. Death came to the committee clerk, who, like the chairman of the body, was a North Carolinian, in Sibley Memorial hospital after a short illness from pneumonia.

A native of Taylorsville, Mr. Bungardner was educated in the Taylorsville public school, later attending Oak Ridge academy, at Oak Ridge. From 1906 to 1908, he served as secretary to Congressman Richard Hackett, a predecessor of Congressman Doughton. Two years later, he went to Albemarle, where he was employed for the next twelve years in the offices of Wiscasset Mills company, and also served one term in the state legislature.

Mr. Bungardner again went to Washington in 1933 as assistant clerk of the House Ways and Means committee.

Surviving are the widow, Mrs. Roberta Bungardner; three brothers, Lindsey Bungardner, Asheville; E. D. Bungardner, Taylorsville, and W. J. Bungardner, Jr., Charlotte; two sisters, Mrs. T. C. Barnes and Mrs. J. C. Fortner, both of Taylorsville, and one daughter, Mrs. R. M. Hauss, of Rameur.

Funeral services in the capital city were conducted on Thursday afternoon, the 7th, at Ryan's Funeral home by Dr. John W. Rustin, pastor of Mount Vernon Place Methodist church, assisted by Dr. James Shera Montgomery, chaplain of the House of Representatives.

The body was taken to Albemarle, where last rites were held Friday afternoon, at 2:30 o'clock, in Central Methodist church. Interment was in Albemarle cemetery.

Roosevelt seems to have lost his control

—of Congress as evidenced by an historic upsurge of opposition which appeared in the national capital

Saturday night and forced administration leaders to abandon hope of regaining control of the 75th congress.

The administration took a terrific beating Friday night when the house rose up against the government reorganization bill and sent it back to a special reorganization committee. Democratic leaders had admitted even before the vote that that action would kill the bill. They said it would be interpreted as meaning that the house had voted a lack of confidence in the president.

It was the third major setback the house had handed the administration since December. The first was when it recommitted the wage-hour bill, the second, when it revolted against placing a special surtax on family-owned and closely-held corporations.

Friday night's vote was announced by Speaker Bankhead as 204 to 196. He and Majority Leader Rayburn, just before the roll was called, had marched dramatically down into the well of the chamber to assert with all the fervency they could command that Democrats, by their vote, should not send over the nation a message that the president no longer was leader of his party.

Tom Bungardner died April 6 in Washington, D. C.

There will be absolutely no admission charge—seats in the Colonial theatre will be free to all for the showing of this feature picture—and, in addition, a number of valuable free gifts will be distributed each day to persons in the audience.

Many of the scenes in "Star in My Kitchen" are in technicolor, adding much to the attractiveness and interest of this new picture.

Seats in the back row will be as good as those in the front row—the motion picture permits everyone to hear and see every trick in frosting a cake, making a pie or cooking bananas.

Experienced housekeeping will thrill to the adventures of the young Dede Abbot, who, just out of college, suddenly finds herself with a large home to manage and several mouths to feed—as well as a handsome young movie actor to impress.

All of the practical equipment is seen in use and because "seeing is believing" the audience will soon learn that pies and cakes and salads can make them "stars in their kitchens."

It won't be necessary to carry pad and pencil and try to scribble measurements in the darkened theatre because free recipe sheets with complete formulas for many of the delicious dishes prepared in this Motion Picture Cooking school will be distributed daily.

No one interested in home problems can afford to miss this Free Motion Picture Cooking school, starting Monday afternoon, April 18, and continuing Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, at 2:30 o'clock, at the Colonial theatre, in Galax.

The 28th annual commencement at Glade Valley

—high school is to begin on Saturday night, April 23, when the initial program will be presented, in the form of a musical recital.

On Sunday morning, April 24, at eleven o'clock, the commencement sermon will be preached, and graduation exercises are to be held on Monday morning, April 25, at ten o'clock.

Speakers for the commencement service Sunday, and for the graduation exercises are expected to be announced next week.

The commencement will come to a close on Monday night, April 25, with the Senior class play, "The Time of His Life."

The Seniors have been practicing for some time on this play, which is a comedy in three acts. Tom Carter, played by Bill Spencer, versed in the art of "make-up" and fresh from college theatricals, slips into the place of an absent Negro butler when his sister is confronted with the necessity of entertaining guests at a moment when all the household servants are "off" for the

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