

Every once in a while the author of this column feels like saying a few words directly to the thousands of readers who see it each week. The writer recognizes and accepts a responsibility not only to the newspapers which publish this column, but also to the people who read it. Consequently, it might be a good idea for a change to outline some of the ideas behind "Looking at Washington."

This column undertakes, during the course of a year, to keep its readers informed as to what is taking place in Washington. It does not attempt to handle "spot" news. It discusses the trends in the broad political field. It also undertakes, at times, to explain pending legislation and political situations. It tries to inform and explain so that the reader may understand all issues. Furthermore, it would reflect an accurate picture of political conditions in the country from time to time.

**Election Forecasts**  
Inasmuch as 1938 is an election year, this column will, before the November election, attempt to advise the reader as to the probable outcome. In 1934 and 1936, our efforts were particularly successful. How accurate our 1938 forecasts will be, no one knows, but the writer can assure all readers, regardless of party, that the forecast in this column will be based upon impartial study of all available facts and represent an effort to reach a correct conclusion.

**Roosevelt Dominant**  
Readers might as well recognize that the writer who comments upon events at Washington finds himself compelled to center much attention upon President Roosevelt. Regardless of what one thinks of the President, he is the dominant, if not the overwhelming, factor in American political life today. What the President thinks, what he plans, and what he does is of far more political significance than the similar thoughts, plans and actions of any other person. Despite temporary setbacks to his program, apparent rebuffs and reported loss of popularity, President Roosevelt is the man who makes political news. He creates issues and he chooses positions. Around him, to an amazing degree, centers the political life of the United States.

**New Deal Popular**  
Since 1933, the country has witnessed the development and enlargement of what is called the "New Deal." It is the Roosevelt program. The elections of 1934 and 1936 demonstrate that it has amazing popular support. The cold facts today is that there is slight concrete evidence that it has lost much of its appeal to the American people. The writer says this, because, as an honest reporter, he must write what he concludes is the truth. It may be good news or bad news to the reader, depending upon what the reader thinks of the policies in question and the conclusion may be different in the Fall, but, today, the President is almost as dominant as ever.

Very often it happens that the reader keeps up so closely with current affairs that he loses sight of longer and more sweeping trends. In affairs, political, this is easy. Therefore, the writer is going to review the political situation in the United States today. The following appraisal is built on careful study of many factors. It does not represent the views of one individual. Naturally, it is not infallible; it merely represents an honest effort to reflect the party picture as it appears to an observer who is trying very hard to be conscientious and fair.

**Third Party Wobbles**  
As a beginning, let us take up the recent third party movement, launched by Governor LaFollette, of Wisconsin. Up to this time, it has signally failed to make any substantial progress. There has been no rush of "liberals" to support the new banner. There has been a marked reluctance on the part of "liberals" to abandon the leadership of President Roosevelt. In fact, on the basis of the situation today, the new third party may be written off as a national proposition; it may have considerable importance in several states.

**Republicans Hopeful**  
The Republican Party, under new leadership, is showing considerable activity. It has yet, however, to clearly delineate a program of opposition that can rest upon fundamental differences of principle when contrasted with the so-called New Deal. There con-

## Commencement at Sparta H. S. is to open Saturday

—morning, May 21, at ten o'clock, when the annual high school debate is to be held. The question for this year's debate is: "Resolved, that the several states should adopt a unicameral system of legislation." Speakers in this debate are to be as follows: Affirmative—Dan Rector and Harrell Joines. Negative—Misses Lila Lyons and Lucille Pugh.

The debate will be followed by the presentation of Seventh grade certificates, and also the perfect-attendance certificates.

On Saturday afternoon, at 1:30 o'clock, the annual high school recitation and declamation contests are to be held. Those who are to participate in the recitation contest are Misses Texie Hoppers, Elvira Wagoner, Treva Jarvis and Georgene Mitchell. Those scheduled for participation in the declamation contest are Dan Rector, Harrell Joines, Kyle Atwood and Ralph Redd.

"Spooky Tavern," the Senior class play, is to be presented Saturday night, at eight o'clock. The cast of characters follows: Lon Hacker—owner of Spooky Tavern, Earl Richardson; Ghost Woman—who haunts Spooky Tavern, Miss Edna Edwards; Lucy Hacker—a spiritualistic medium, Miss Lila Lyons; Joyce Wingate—a resourceful college girl, Miss Pauline Edwards; Florabel Wingate—her younger sister, Miss Edith Rizoti; Bedelia—the girls' colored mammy, Miss Virginia Joines; Ralph Channing—a Senior in love with Joyce, E. J. Richardson; Terry Tanner—a Junior in the same fix, Ray Lundy; Wiley Wargle—a stuttering Freshman, afraid of ghosts, Wade McMillan; Blackie Simms—Earone's henchman, Doris Jones, and Earone—known as "The Creeper," Dan Rector.

The commencement sermon to the graduating class is to be preached on Sunday morning, May 22, at eleven o'clock, by Rev. D. Sidney McCarty, pastor of the Galax (Va.) Presbyterian church.

Graduation exercises are to be held on Monday morning, May 23, at ten o'clock, at the Galax (Va.) Presbyterian church.

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## Diplomas will be conferred upon 297 Seniors at the Women's College, U. N. C.

—in Greensboro, at graduating exercises to be held on Monday, June 6. The 46th commencement is scheduled to begin on Friday, June 3.

Diplomas will be presented by Dr. Frank P. Graham, president of the Greater University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Other officials who are expected to attend the exercises include Governor Clyde R. Hoey and Dr. W. C. Jackson, dean of administration of Woman's college.

Dr. Robert E. Speer, of New York, will deliver the baccalaureate sermon Sunday morning, June 5, in Aycock Auditorium. George M. Thompson, of the school of music, will direct the college choir in an afternoon concert, after which an informal meeting will be held for seniors, parents, alumnae and friends.

## Finals are to begin May 27 at Lees-McRae

—college, Banner Elk, and close on Monday, May 30. The commencement activities will come to a close with presentation of diplomas to more than 50 Seniors.

Dr. Wilbert C. Davidson, dean of Duke University medical school, will deliver the graduation address. Rev. Robert L. McLeod, of New York, member of the National Board of missions of the Presbyterian church, will preach the baccalaureate sermon Sunday, May 29.

## Senator Reynolds opened his campaign Tuesday

—night with a radio address in Raleigh, in which he predicted he would be returned to office by an overwhelming majority, and asserted that his reelection would be a victory for President Roosevelt.

In the speech, announced as his first political address of the current campaign, Reynolds said he would win a "victory unsurpassed" in the Democratic primary of June 4. A majority in the primary would be tantamount to election.

Reynolds' claim was in direct conflict with that of Representative Frank W. Hancock, Jr., of Oxford, his Democratic opponent, who predicted Saturday that he would win the nomination in a landslide.

Reynolds did not mention his opponent's name and referred to Hancock by innuendo only in statements to the effect that "new members of the Senate must start at the bottom regardless of previous service in Congress," and that seniority in the Senate was of great importance.

Stating that President Roosevelt "has brought the government to the people," the Asheville senator said the record would show that he had stood "solidly behind the

## A large number of children have been examined

—during the past year by the Alleghany county health nurse, Mrs. Virginia Ashley Greene. A total of 1,155 grade school children in the 28 schools of Alleghany county have been examined. Of this number, 879 had diseased tonsils, 901 had decayed teeth, and 79 had defective vision. The greater part of these defects, it has been pointed out, were due to diseased tonsils.

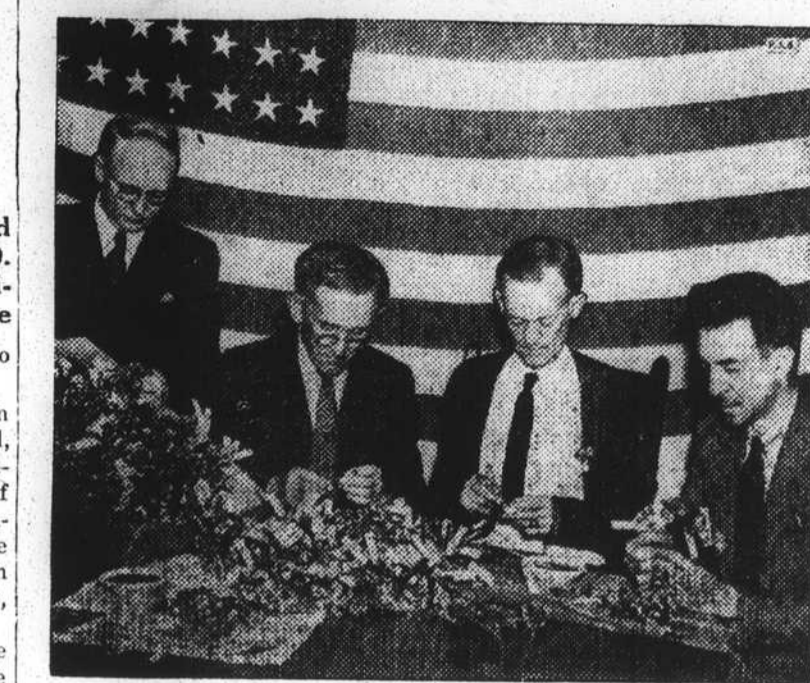
Three hundred and thirty-seven were underweight; 453 had defective breathing, and 585 had unclean teeth. A total of 183 other children had miscellaneous defects, such as abscessed gums, skin diseases, etc.

Since last year, of 1,200 children, 308 either had tonsils removed, or teeth filled. Seventy-five of these had tonsil operations performed at Roaring Gap free clinic, by an eye, ear, nose and throat specialist, of Winston-Salem.

Sanitary conditions in eighteen of the twenty-eight schools in this county have been condemned. Four schools have no toilet facilities. Only four schools in the county have a safe water supply.

Within the last two years, the county health nurse has immunized 1,045 persons in Alleghany county against diphtheria, 325 against smallpox, and 760 against typhoid fever.

## Remember The Vets—Buy A Poppy



"Buy a poppy, Buddy?"—of course you will!—and the Buddy Poppy you wear may be one of these that have been completed by the ex-doughboys of the Menlo Park, New Jersey, Home for Disabled Veterans. Throughout the nation more than six million poppies are sold annually during Memorial Week beginning this year May 21.

## Josephus Daniels made an address in Charlotte

—Tuesday night. In his address, the United States ambassador to Mexico said "the only thing this old world needs is to apply the teachings of Jesus Christ to business, to industry, and to politics."

"We are coming to a day," he added, "when we must have social justice. . . Fifty years from today you will have no slums in Charlotte."

Daniels' address launched the Charlotte Y. M. C. A.'s \$100,000 building modernization campaign.

"The best investment, the one which will pay the largest dividends, that can be made in Charlotte today," he said, "is in the character of the youth of this city."

"The Y. M. C. A. is based on the essentials of the Christian religion; take that out and it would be only a gymnasium or club and it would soon pass away. . . It is your responsibility to throw around these young people of Charlotte who are to be your leaders tomorrow the safeguards of the Christian religion."

## This Week Features You Will Like

The Chinese defenders of South Shantung, strategic point in the war in China, are shown in a graphic trench picture in our news photo section.

How does the Bible interpret good citizenship? Rev. Harold L. Lundquist discusses this in his Sunday School lesson text from Mark 12:13-17. In this week's issue.

Willie Wimpus shows Pop simplified method of exercising in "S'Matter Pop." See the funny page in this issue.

Shakespeare's Lord Macbeth is compared to a modern gangster by Elizabeth C. James in our literary feature this week.

Another installment of "To Ride the River With," William MacLeod Raine's pulsating story of Jeff Gray, mystery man of the West.

Drew Pearson and Robert S. Allen tell of interesting happenings in Washington in the "Weekly Washington Merry-Go-Round."

"The fate of the Democratic Party is inextricably bound up in the program of President Roosevelt," says Hugo S. Sims, in the feature "Looking at Washington" in this issue.

## THE HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS WERE ENTERTAINED

—by C. R. Roe, principal of the school, and Mrs. Roe, on Monday night, May 16, with a theatre party.

## Great Britain considered the Mexican situation

—yesterday and pondered what course to pursue. This consideration was given the question by a government already deeply concerned over the European and Far Eastern situations. The Mexican situation was thrust upon the London government recently by the severance of diplomatic relations between England and Mexico, which took place during the latter part of last week.

Viscount Halifax, Britain's foreign secretary, began study of the problem after returning from Geneva where he engineered the British about-face to recognize Italy's conquest of Ethiopia.

The foreign office declined comment on the Mexican situation or any intimation of what the next step might be. But one important factor in the situation from the British standpoint will be consideration of her oil supply if war should come.

Britain might have to depend principally on South and Central American fuel in wartime, an eventuality for his majesty's government to consider in seeking means of preventing further embitterment of Anglo-Mexican relations.

Mexico in the past has furnished Britain only six per cent of her oil imports, a quantity that totalled 176,000,000 gallons in 1936, but war would increase that amount.

The reason is that in peacetime the British get about 18 per cent of their oil from Iran (Persia) and five per cent from Iraq. Most of this oil is piped thousands of miles along lines that could be disrupted quickly.

Also in wartime Rumanian oil sources might no longer be available.

Informed sources said Britain thus might be forced to convoy almost her entire oil supply across the Atlantic. Already 38.3 per cent comes from Venezuela and the Netherlands West Indies.

## There are still three vacancies in Alleghany

—county's quota for enrollment of trainees for attendance at the Citizens Military Training camp to be held at Fort Bragg June 16 to July 15.

Claude William Andrews, of Sparta, has already qualified for attendance at this year's camp. It is urged that young men between the ages of seventeen and twenty-nine desiring attendance at this year's camp send in their applications without delay. Lieutenant R. E. Black, Sparta, who is county chairman for this county will render all assistance necessary to expedite applications and the following physicians have volunteered to examine prospective trainees free of charge: Dr. C. A. Thompson and Dr. B. O. Choate, both of Sparta.

Information and application blanks may also be obtained by correspondence direct with The C. M. T. C. Officer, Fort Bragg, N. C.

## The annual FFA party was held Tuesday, May 10

—in the afternoon, at the Sparta high school gymnasium, by F. H. Jackson, Agriculture teacher in the school, and his FFA boys. The party was attended by approximately 30 couples, and many new games were enjoyed by those present.

Delightful refreshments were served.

## A colorful Gypsy wedding was solemnized

—in Charlotte Tuesday when Rachel Mitchell and Coster Johnston, betrothed at the age of three years, were united in marriage, in a ceremony that continued for nine hours. The two are members of a Gypsy band. Both are 19.

The Mitchell and Johnston tribes are two of the oldest, largest and richest in the United States.

The Mitchells came from Brazil about 200 years ago. The Johnstons came from Serbia about the same time. The heads of the tribes became friends and intertribe marriages have taken place since that time.

The bridegroom is a copper-smith and a very good one, his friends say. But he has only food and clothing given him from his father's camp and the amount of the "settlement" for the bride.

A few months ago "Father" Johnston, wrote "Father Mitchell" that the money which would allow his son to care for his wife was ready. So wedding plans went forward.

The Mitchell tribe already was there—had been for 13 years. (Turn to page eight, please)

## Undercover men are unauthorized to carry on

—activities of enforcement of the prohibition law in North Carolina's 73 dry counties, according to a ruling released Tuesday by Attorney General Harry McMullan in Raleigh.

Cutlar Moore, liquor commission chairman, requested the ruling after being informed by the U. S. Treasury Department that thousands of cases of whisky were being shipped monthly into dry counties.

The attorney-general pointed out that the salaries of the undercover men were paid from profits of liquor sold in the state's 27 wet counties and held that the men must confine their activities to those 27 counties.

"It is my opinion that your board does not have any jurisdiction or authority in dry counties to engage in enforcing the violations of the prohibition laws in such counties," McMullan wrote.

"I am discussing only the question of the authority of your board to engage and employ police officers to enforce violations of laws against the sale of intoxicating liquors in dry counties, and those counties which have voted in favor of county stores. I am not discussing other features of the act which have no reference to the police powers of your board."

McMullan said that the local option liquor law, passed in 1937, did not directly authorize the appointment of undercover men. He added, however, that the authorization might be inferred, since the commission was instructed "to see that all the laws relating to the sale and control of alcoholic beverages are observed."

## Dr. L. R. Scarborough, of Texas, was named president by Southern Baptists

—Friday at the Southern Baptist convention in Richmond, and selected Oklahoma City as the 1939 meeting site. Plans also were made for an "extensive and intensive sou-winning campaign."

Dr. Scarborough, president of the Southeastern Seminary at Seminary Hill, Tex., succeeded Dr. John R. Sampey, of Louisville, Ky., as leader of more than 5,000,000 Southern Baptists in 18 states and the District of Columbia.

A resolution presented by Dr. Charles E. Maddy, executive secretary of the foreign mission board, asked the convention to support the board in its effort to seek indemnification from the Japanese government for mission property destroyed in "the ruthless undeclared war in China."

The proposal was referred to the resolutions committee after a move to have it tabled failed. John W. Inzer, Asheville, N. C., expressing the opinion that Baptist work in Japan might suffer if the resolution was approved as presented, urged that it be tabled.

Dr. Maddy asked the endorsement of the convention and the "incident publicity to strengthen our hands when we go to Washington to see the state department next week." He added that 123 foreign mission boards of other denominations were also pressing for the same general demands on the Japanese government.

Delegates pointed out that Dr. Scarborough, himself a noted evangelist, was deeply interested in this phase of religion, as were others among the major convention officers, all of whom were reelected.

They include: Ralph A. Her-ring, Winston-Salem, N. C., first vice president; Dr. W. W. Hamilton, New Orleans, second vice president; Hight C. Moore, Nashville, Tenn., returned as senior secretary for the 26th year, and J. Henry Burnett, Macon, Ga., junior secretary.

Dr. S. F. Lowe, Atlanta, was named chairman of a new committee to study the possibility of using radio in promoting Baptist work.

Five thousand representatives of Southern Baptists solemnly rose en masse Thursday in their huge, dim-lit convention hall to disapprove the proposed organic union of all Christian denominations. (Turn to page five, please)

## The House voted an appropriation for the relief

—measure advocated by President Roosevelt Thursday night, in the amount of \$3,000,000,000, to be expended in the proposed lending-spending campaign against the depression. The chamber's huge Democratic majority was strongly aligned behind the chief executive once more, in the voting on the relief appropriation.

Virginia's delegation in the House split evenly on the relief bill with only Representative Flannagan, of Bristol, not voting. Woodrum, Hamilton and Satterfield voted for the measure, while Bland was paired for it. Burch Drewry, Robertson and Smith voted against the measure.

Shattered earlier in the session by the wage-hour issue and the reorganization bill, the party lines reformed, to the delight of administration leaders, to repulse repeated efforts to amend or recommit the bill and finally to pass it, 329 to 70.

The measure, appropriating \$1,250,000,000 for work relief, \$965,000,000 for public works, \$175,000,000 for the farm security administration, \$75,000,000 for the national youth administration, and lesser sums for administration leaders are, nevertheless, highly confident of the outcome.

The \$3,000,000,000 in the bill is an integral part of the program of \$4,500,000,000 in loans and expenditures which President Roosevelt proposed several weeks ago as a means of increasing general purchasing power. The remaining \$1,500,000,000 was provided in previous legislation for highway building for CCC camps and for loans by the Reconstruction Finance corporation.