

Business conditions are now encouraging to economists connected with the Government. They are quite positive that the downward cycle has been reversed and that improvement for business and industry is assured for the months just ahead.

WPA TO REDUCE.

Already the results of this belief are apparent in Government policies. The WPA has been advised to make its remaining money last until next March 1st. This will require some reductions in the 3,130,000 individuals now drawing WPA checks, but the increase in employment is expected to take care of the slack.

The Treasury Department, it is reported, is looking for larger incomes from taxes and a smaller deficit next July than the \$4,000,000,000 predicted is likely, if the spending can be checked.

INDUSTRY PICKING UP.

If Government spending is to be slowed down, it is necessary for industry to assume the burden of giving employment to workers. There are signs that this will not be impossible. Automobiles are being made at an increasing rate, with good sales reports coming in. Steel production has risen above fifty per cent. of capacity and this is expected to go higher in view of the reductions recently made in the price of steel of the type used in the automobile industries. Residential construction is showing a good gain over last year and machine tool orders are rising to give optimists additional encouragement.

The recent action of one of the largest utility systems to reorganize under the Public Utility Act is taken to indicate the development of cooperation between industry and the Government. The conviction is spreading that the Government will be reasonable in regard to the so-called "death sentence" clause in the Act. Moreover, labor relationships are somewhat improved in basic industries and the likelihood of damaging strikes is somewhat removed.

DEFENSE PLAN AIDS

Probably the major factor in the present picture is the program of national defense which is expected to have important effects upon three large industries, utilities, railroads and aviation, with lesser effect upon other scattered industries that are related to defense problems.

Expansion in the utility industry has already been discussed with speculation about a billion-dollar program, privately financed, to eliminate bottle-necks by the construction of transmission lines and the building of steam-generating plants in certain key cities.

Reorganization and modernization of the railroad systems, partly financed by public funds, will not only serve the national defense, but, it is felt, revive the falling industry.

In the field of aviation, large Government orders for airplanes will increase activity. Whether the industry will be able to organize itself on a mass production basis is uncertain because, heretofore, American airplanes have been made on the basis of quality rather than quantity.

FOREIGN DEMAND.

The fact that the Munich Agreement, while producing temporary peace in Europe, has resulted in a feverish renewal of the race in armament means that foreign nations will continue to require American machinery and raw materials. Moreover, in South America, observers report a swing towards the United States, with some evidence that this may mean a better market for American products.

RETAIL TRADE:

On the other side of the picture is the admitted fact that retail trade has not been up to expectations. While the unseasonable weather is blamed in some sections, the major part of the drop is attributed to lower farm income. Returns to farmers from the sale of products is off and naturally retail sales show the result of this fact. However, it seems to be taken for granted that Congress and the Chief Executive will take steps to improve farm income in the near future.

The Wages and Hours Law, which went into effect on Monday, October 24th, will be slowly applied to regulate the nation's industrial structure. Elmer F. Andrews, Administrator, has first attention. Hampered by a small appropriation, he will recruit a staff of about 1,000 persons, all (Turn to page four, please)

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Music lovers of this section are eagerly awaiting

—the singing convention and musical program, which is to be held next Sunday, October 30, in the Sparta Methodist Church.

At the Baptist Church, at 10:45 a. m., the male chorus from St. Paul's Methodist Church, Wytheville, Va., will render two numbers. Also, members of the Wytheville group will render special music at the Methodist Sunday School.

At eleven o'clock, at the Methodist Church the Wytheville chorus, with P. A. Spence, director, will sing several sacred numbers, alternating with Mrs. Riley, instructor in the Federal Hawaiian School of Music, of Pulaski and Wytheville, who, with some of her pupils, will render hymns on Hawaiian guitars. Also, Willard Sharitz will play hymns on the handsaw. The morning program will close at 12:30 o'clock.

Everyone is invited to attend this program, and is requested to take a basket lunch.

The afternoon program, which will begin at 1:30 o'clock, will be held in the Sparta High School auditorium, where there will be more room for the large crowd that is expected to attend. A variety of hymns and Hawaiian songs will be played on guitars and handsaws at this time. Also, a number of hymns will be sung. The public is cordially invited to attend these programs.

National And World NEWS At A Glance

MISSING GIRL RETURNS
Walnut Cove, N. C., Oct. 19.—Missing for more than 10 days, Nell Mabe, 15-year-old Walnut Cove grade-school student, believed kidnaped, came home today unharmed and reluctant to talk about her "adventure."

HITLER IN AUSTRIA
Vienna, Oct. 19.—Chancellor Adolf Hitler arrived in Austria tonight on a visit which many observers believed might develop into a personal investigation of the recent anti-Catholic disorders and a new wave of violence against Jews.

CATHOLICS END MEET
New Orleans, Oct. 20.—Eighty thousand Catholics marching twelve abreast today staged the greatest religious demonstration in the city's history at the conclusion of the eighth national Eucharistic congress.

JAPAN HAS TYPHOON
Tokyo, Oct. 21.—An unseasonable typhoon sweeping in from the sea today killed at least 226 persons, injured more than 590 and left 35,000 homeless. About 230 persons were missing.

WILL AID JEWS
Hyde Park, N. Y., Oct. 22.—The United States government will "do everything in its power to maintain Palestine as a national home for Jewish people," Senator Wagner (D., N. Y.) said he had been assured today by President Roosevelt.

SEES RELIEF DECLINE
Hyde Park, N. Y., Oct. 23.—Harry L. Hopkins, federal relief director, after a week of conferences with President Roosevelt, said today he expected to see the "relief curve go down" and predicted a smaller WPA appropriation for next year.

ACTRESS LOSES APPEAL
San Francisco, Oct. 24.—Barbara Stanwyck, film actress, lost her appeal today in the California Supreme Court to prevent her former husband, Frank Fay, from visiting their six-year-old child, Dion Anthony Fay.

HALIFAX DISCUSSES CRISIS
Edinburgh, Scotland, Oct. 24.—Viscount Halifax, British foreign secretary, declared today that Britain, France, and the United States and their allies could not have saved Czechoslovakia from destruction by the German army if war had started in central Europe.

It was the foreign secretary's first speech since the international crisis.

Monroe Adams will speak in Sparta on October 29

—at 7:30 o'clock, in the Court House, instead of on October 22, as was inadvertently stated in last week's issue of THE TIMES.

Mr. Adams will speak in the interest of his candidacy, on the Republican ticket, for Congress from the Ninth Congressional District of North Carolina.

Mrs. Ellen Parks has resigned as Librarian

—at the Sparta Public Library, after having served in this capacity since the library was opened, about a year and a half ago.

Under the guidance of Mrs. Parks the library has grown from a small beginning of forty books to its present size. The library which now owns seven hundred and fifty volumes has been recognized by the North Carolina State Library Commission, and is listed in statistics compiled by the commission of North Carolina Public Libraries.

The Sparta Public Library is one of the few in the state that are self-supporting.

Mrs. Parks, it has been said, is to be commended for the interest she has shown in the library. She has devoted much extra time and energy to this work, and it is felt that the rapid growth of the library was due in great part to her.

Mrs. Lola White will take over at an early date the position from which Mrs. Parks is resigning.

Meets Tragic Death



John L. Reeves (above), of Independence, who was fatally injured Tuesday in an accident caused by a run-away team. Death came a short time after the accident, in Galax Hospital. Mr. Reeves was Chairman of the Grayson County School Board and of the Grayson County Democratic Committee. — Photo Courtesy The Roanoke Times.

Sparta High School was dismissed Friday

—in order that some of the teachers might attend the annual meeting of the Northwestern District Teachers Association, held at the Senior High School in Greensboro.

Teachers who attended were Mrs. C. R. Roe, Mrs. Rebecca Choate, Mrs. Grace Rector, Misses Elma Waddell, Gertrude Andrews, Lois Roberts, Polly Daugherty and Aileen Penry, C. R. Roe, Burton McCann, Bryan Taylor and Arnold Jones. They reported that the meeting was both interesting and helpful.

Friday morning, at 10 o'clock, a general assembly was held in the auditorium and an interesting program was given.

Committees were appointed on resolutions and elections and officers were elected for the coming year as follows: president, T. E. Storry, principal of North Wilkesboro High School, and secretary, Miss Ethel Perkins.

Dr. Clyde A. Erwin, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Raleigh, introduced the principal speaker, Dr. Elbert K. Fretwell, Professor of Education at Columbia University, New York. Dr. Fretwell gave a very interesting address on "Democracy in Education."

Friday afternoon, the teachers assembled to their departmental meetings, and on Friday night a second general assembly was held.

Mrs. Chamberlain — Symbol Of Peace



LONDON, England . . . Mrs. Neville Chamberlain, the wife of the Prime Minister, who was acclaimed almost as widely as her husband in London peace celebrations, after the four-power conference which averted a general European war, still is cheered by throngs when she appears on the streets.

P. L. Harrington died at his home in Independence

—about four o'clock Saturday afternoon, October 22. Mr. Harrington, who was Commonwealth's Attorney

of Grayson County, had been in poor health for more than a year, but had been critically ill for only a few days preceding his death.

The deceased is survived by the Widow, Mrs. Clyde Higgins, Harrington, formerly of Ennice, and one son, Tom Vaughan Harrington, of Goldsboro. Beaugard Harrington and Peyton W. Harrington, of near Comer's Rock, Va., are surviving brothers. A sister and other near relatives also survive.

One of the largest assemblages ever seen in Independence for a funeral gathered there Sunday afternoon, for the last rites for Mr. Harrington. The services were held at two o'clock, in the Independence Methodist Church, and were in charge of the pastor, Rev. L. D. Mayberry. Rev. T. C. Vaughan, Spring Valley, offered a prayer, after a scripture reading by the Rev. Mr. Mayberry at the beginning of the services.

An obituary sketch had been prepared by Judge J. C. Padgett, Independence, and was read by Judge Padgett at the funeral.

The Rev. Mr. Mayberry made a talk concerning the life of the deceased, in which he spoke in very high terms of the life of service lived by the deceased, and the good traits of character that Mr. Harrington possessed.

Among the songs sung by the choir were "Asleep In Jesus," "The Beautiful Garden of Prayer," "The Old Rugged Cross" and "Abide With Me."

The list of honorary pallbearers follows: J. M. Parsons, T. X. Parsons, Judge John S. Draper, S. Floyd Landreth, M. A. Higgins, Rev. T. C. Vaughan, W. E. Taylor, Dr. Glenn Ward Phipps, T. E. Brannock, Eugene Shuler, C. M. Vaughan, Sr., Alex Reeves, Marvin Doughton, H. P. Burnett, H. A. Bedwell, Steve Browning, Judge Horace Sutherland, Early Rhudy, Letcher C. Wingate, J. P. Bartlett, Judge J. C. Padgett, Dr. J. C. Moxley, Dr. E. Scott Elliott, Grey Anderson and W. P. Parsons.

Active pallbearers were: Joe W. Parsons, Wheeler Day, Dr. R. H. Harrington, Bayard Taylor, Berket Taylor, Glenn Harrington, Herbert Harrington and Maiden Harrington.

The abundance of exceedingly beautiful floral offerings were carried by the following flower bearers: Mrs. Virgie Harrington, Mrs. Walter Roberts, Mrs. Gurney Hash, Mrs. Worley Delp, Mrs. Burrell Delp, Mrs. Wheeler Day, Mrs. Wiley Taylor, Mrs. Camet Cox, Mrs. Berket Taylor, Mrs. Maiden Harrington, Mrs. Bayard Taylor, Mrs. Herbert Harrington, Mrs. Glenn Harrington, Mrs. Horace Porter, Mrs. Norman E. Davis, Mrs. R. H. Harrington, Mrs. W. J. Roberts, Mrs. Early Rhudy, Mrs. Paul Bolt, Mrs. Eldon Harrington and the Misses Margaret Harrington, Katherine Harrington, Ruby Harrington, Ola Mae Harrington, Juanita Lundy and Helen Day.

The body was interred in the Independence cemetery, where Masonic services were held at the grave, led by Judge J. C. Padgett.

John L. Reeves was fatally injured Tuesday

—afternoon in a tragic farm accident while working with his brother on their farm a few miles south of Independence, and died about 6:30 o'clock Tuesday night in Galax Hospital, where he was rushed immediately after the accident.

Mr. Reeves, with his brother, George Reeves, was hauling rails when the team of young horses they were working bolted, causing the wagon to run him down, a wheel passing over his body. It is understood that Mr. Reeves' injuries included a crushed chest and a lung puncture.

The deceased man, who was 61 years of age, was a very prominent citizen of Grayson County, and was Chairman of the Grayson County School Board and also Chairman of the Grayson County Democratic Executive Committee. He was very active in Democratic party circles, and other enterprises, being a member of the Board of Directors of the Grayson County National Bank, Independence.

Mr. Reeves is survived by his father, Preston B. Reeves, with whom the deceased resided at the family home alongside New River. Also surviving are the brother, George, and four sisters, Mrs. Bina Hawthorne, Mrs. Oscar Smith and Mrs. Bays Bryant, Independence and Mrs. Lyde Hale, Spring Valley, widow of the late June P. Hale. Mr. Reeves' mother died two or three years ago.

Funeral services are to be conducted this (Thursday) afternoon, at two o'clock, at the home, by Rev. L. D. Mayberry, pastor of the Independence Methodist Circuit, and Elder J. D. Vass, Fancy Gap.

Interment will follow in the family cemetery.

Three counties have been combed in a search

—for John Davis, of High Point, sought as the driver of the car which crashed with an automobile Saturday night, near Boonville, killing Arthur Matthews, Boonville Township Constable.

Matthews' widow is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Cheek, Sparta, and a sister of Mrs. A. O. Joines, Sparta.

Matthews was killed when his car crashed into the rear of a liquor car during a chase. Officers said the driver of the liquor car slammed on his brakes while both cars were traveling at a high rate of speed. Matthews' car crashed into the rear of the machine.

The funeral for Matthews was held Monday morning at Union Grove Baptist Church, between East Bend and Boonville. Rev. Lee K. Burrus and Rev. Ellis Norman conducted the services. Burial was in the church cemetery.

A HALLOWE'EN SQUARE DANCE WILL BE GIVEN

—in the Laurel Springs School auditorium tomorrow (Friday) night, beginning at eight o'clock.

Music will be rendered by a six-piece string band from the National Park CCC Camp, near Laurel Springs.

Rev. L. F. Strader was named pastor of the local Methodist charge Monday in Charlotte

by Bishop Clare Purcell at the final session of the annual gathering

—of the Western North Carolina Conference, which had been in session there since Thursday of last week. Rev. A. B. Bruton, who had been pastor here for the past three years, was appointed pastor at Micaville, in the Asheville District. Regret at the departure from Sparta of Rev. Mr. Bruton and wife

Presides At Meet



Bishop Clare Purcell, (above), of Charlotte, who presided over the annual sessions of the Western North Carolina Methodist Conference, in First Church, Charlotte, October 20-24.

Alleghany and Ashe counties have been given

—\$377,000, in an allocation made to the two counties by the Rural Electrification Administration, for the purpose

of constructing 276 miles of rural electric line in these counties, serving more than 1,500 farms.

Approximately 115 miles of this line will be built in Alleghany county and will serve over 550 customers. The line in Alleghany and Ashe is a continuation or expansion of the system in Caldwell County, and, when approved, made the system one of the largest R. E. A. projects in the United States.

The swift approval of the project was made possible by the cooperative efforts of the boards in the two counties working in conjunction with the Caldwell Mutual Corporation. These boards had the support of interested citizens, who canvassed the counties getting the signatures of prospective users of the current.

Congressman R. L. Doughton, it has been said, rendered invaluable assistance in obtaining approval of this project. He made numerous trips in the interest of the proposal, including a special trip to Washington, D. C., where he contacted REA officials, and urged immediate approval of the project. His advice was at all times available to the local promoters. It is doubtful whether the project would have been approved without the support of Mr. Doughton, it is said.

R. E. Black, county agent of Alleghany, as well as members of the various committees, it has also been said, deserves much credit for securing this project. It was he who conceived the idea, collected information, held educational meetings, directed the making of surveys, and carried material to Washington, D. C., after county maps were made. Mr. Black, Congressman Doughton and all others who aided in this work are to be congratulated on their efforts in promoting and getting this project approved, it is pointed out.

Work on the line will begin as soon as the \$5.00 membership fees are collected, the rights-of-way obtained and the necessary surveys made.

FIRE SWEEPED BELOW DECKS ON THE DEUTSCHLAND

—German Liner, Tuesday, imperiling the lives of 1,000 persons in a North Atlantic storm off Newfoundland, before it was controlled. Aboard the ship were 591 passengers and about 40 crew members. Included among the passengers were 350 Americans.

has been expressed by members of the charge and the local people as a whole, who also extend a cordial welcome to the Rev. Mr. Strader and wife. In regard to the Rev. Mr. Bruton and wife, it is felt here that their lives while living in Sparta have been great influences for good. In particular, the Rev. Mr. Bruton's work among the young people will be greatly missed, it has been said.

Other appointments in the Statesville District, to which Rev. John Hoyle, Jr., was returned as presiding elder, follow: Balls Creek, H. H. Robbins; Bethel-Fairgrove, J. P. Hornbuckle; Catawba, W. Q. Grigg; Cool Springs, J. O. Banks; Creston, M. B. Shives; Davidson-Fairview, R. B. Shumaker; Elkin, P. W. Tucker; Elmwood, G. F. Houck; Green Valley, M. L. Chappell; Helton-Lansing, R. J. Starling and W. W. Hager.

Hickory—First Church, W. A. Rollins; Highland-Rhodiss, H. M. Wellman; Westview, H. L. Powell; Hiddenite, C. R. Ross; Jefferson, J. A. Howell; Jonesville, D. B. Mullis; Laurel Springs, T. A. Plyler, Jr.; Maiden, J. G. Winkler; Mooresville—Broad Street, V. R. Masters; Mooresville—Central W. A. Kale; Mooresville—Jones Memorial, G. S. Miller; Mooresville Circuit, B. M. Crosby; Moravian Falls, J. M. Green; Newton, W. B. Davis; North Wilkesboro, A. L. Aycock; Olin, D. H. Rhinehart; Shepherd, A. G. Lackey; South Irwell, J. O. Cox. Statesville—Broad Street, A. C. Gibbs; Statesville—Race Street, G. W. Vick; Statesville Circuit, J. E. Tabor, Jr.; Stony Point, C. H. Peace; Taylorsville, W. A. Kerr; Todd, H. O. Huss; Troutman, J. M. Varner; Warrensville, J. G. Wooten, Jr.; West Jefferson, W. J. Huneycutt, and Wilkesboro, A. W. Lynch.

Rev. J. Clark Cornett, a former pastor at Sparta, was appointed by Bishop Purcell as presiding elder of the Marion District, after having been pastor for the past year at Hickory, in the Statesville District.

Dr. W. A. Jenkins was transferred from Elkin Station to Marion Station, and Dr. W. J. Miller was returned to Central Church, Mount Airy. All the other Mount Airy pastors were returned to their charges for another year.

Dr. G. Ray Jordan was returned to Centenary Church, Winston-Salem, and Dr. J. B. Craven was returned to West Market Street Church, Greensboro, where the 1939 session of the conference is to be held. Dr. L. B. Hayes was transferred from Hawthorne Lane Church, Charlotte to Greensboro, where he is the new presiding elder of the Greensboro District.

A tobacco-grading demonstration is to be held Monday

—October 31, at 9:30 a. m., at E. C. Wyatt's, it has been announced by R. E. Black, Alleghany County

farm agent. This demonstration will be conducted by L. T. Weeks, Tobacco Extension Specialist from State College, Raleigh, in cooperation with a tobacco grader from the United States Department of Agriculture.

Commenting on plans for the demonstration, Mr. Black had the following to say: "We feel that many farmers lose quite a lot of money after their Burley tobacco is grown by not having it properly graded. . . .

"New growers, especially, should attend this meeting and we feel that old growers can also gain some valuable information on grading and handling their tobacco after it is produced."