

**CONGRESS SETTLES DOWN
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
ABOUT DEFENSE PLANS
ARMS COSTS YOU \$10.54
WPA NEEDS FUNDS
HOPKINS DEFENDS COURSE
GIVEN NEW TASKS
AMBASSADORS TALK WAR
GROUP OPPOSES ARMS
BITTER BATTLE ON SPAIN**

By Hugo S. Sims,
Washington Correspondent

The Seventy-Sixth Congress is slowly settling down to the real work of the session. Few definite trends are positively apparent and while public interviews give an inkling that the congressmen have made up their minds to take charge of legislation and to direct the policies of the Government, it is too early to be sure that this will happen.

Reaction to the President's address on the state of the union has been good, although some critics find fault with the Chief Executive for attempting to link domestic reforms with national preparedness. The portion of the presidential message that related to the condition of world affairs and the necessity for the United States to arm itself to meet possible eventualities caused considerable dispute, although there is a determined group of congressmen definitely opposed to any large-scale expenditures for the Army and the Navy. In the air, it seems, there is general assent that the aerial fighting arm of the United States must be greatly enlarged.

The President's annual message on the budget, taking up the fiscal affairs of the nation for the year which will begin on July 1, next, indicated the spending program in the 1940 fiscal year. Of a total of nine billion dollars, recovery and relief were allotted \$2,266,165,000. An indicated deficit of about \$3,326,000,000 is foreseen, making the tenth Federal deficit in a row. This compares with a deficit of \$3,972,000,000 estimated for the present year. These deficits are forecast in spite of the increased revenues expected to result from better business and, by the end of 1940, the Federal debt is expected to reach an all-time high of \$44,458,000,000.

Some indication of the Administration's defense plans came from the Army and Navy section of the budget message. This carried total national defense expenditures of \$1,319,558,000, an increase of \$309,351,000 over the previous year. Altogether, about twenty-two per cent, of the estimated receipts from all sources of revenue will be used for defense. It figures down to about \$10.54 for every man, woman and child in the country. These figures do not include any sums recommended by the President in his special message.

In the budget estimate submitted by the President, \$720,987,403 represents the regular naval estimate, an increase of almost \$162,000,000 over the present year. Three items largely account for the increase—a \$116,000,000 increase for the construction of new vessels, a \$26,000,000 increase to the Bureau of Aeronautics of the Navy Department for strengthening of the aerial arm, and a \$9,000,000 increase to provide 448 more officers, 1,000 more Marines and an additional 5,000 enlisted men. Included in the estimate is money for the construction of two larger battleships, probably of 45,000 tons; two more 6-inch gun cruisers of 8,000 tons each; eight submarines and eight destroyers, two small seaplane tenders, one repair ship and the completion of another carrier of larger size.

The regular budget figure for the military establishment is \$461,710,990, plus \$20,700,000 of contract authorizations, and \$8,594,000 of Public Works funds for housing of veterans. This figure is slightly under that of the present year's total, but is expected to be increased sharply by special provision for additional anti-aircraft guns and the construction of many new airplanes.

The President's special message, asking for \$875,000,000 supplementary appropriation to carry the WPA to the end of the fiscal year, met with some resistance on the part of congressmen who announced that the sum would be trimmed. With more than 3,000,000 workers on its rolls, the WPA has become an object of controversy, with heavy fire directed to its participation in politics and a stout counter-charge being made by a group, headed by the mayors of large cities, who insist that it must be continued without curtailment.

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A bill to abolish the "gas chamber" was turned down

—by a House legislative committee in Raleigh Tuesday. Capital punishment and highway diversion occupied the North Carolina legislative spotlight Tuesday, stealing the center of the stage from the joint budget committees, which continued grinding away on the state's proposed \$154,000,000 tax-spending program for the 1939-41 biennium.

Both in a committee meeting and on the floor of the house, the capital punishment question played a major role.

Following a lengthy hearing on a proposal that the state scrap its lethal gas chamber and return to electrocution as a method of executing capital offenders, a House judiciary committee voted to pigeonhole the measure.

A few moments later the House received a bill from Representative Roper, of Lincoln, to abolish capital punishment in North Carolina. The measure stated that all crimes now punishable by death should carry life imprisonment terms, instead.

Opponents of highway diversion lost their second skirmish in as many days when the senate decided to send an anti-diversion measure to the finance committee, instead of the roads committee.

Legislators generally conceded that the roads committee would have been sympathetic to the anti-diversionists. The finance committee, on the other hand, is understood to favor the transfer, if necessary, of funds from the highway to the general fund.

Two highway safety bills were introduced in the senate today by Senator Corey, of Pitt. One provided for the addition of 80 men to the present state highway patrol staff of 120, and the other prescribed a mandatory prison sentence of 60 days for persons convicted twice of drunken driving.

Capital punishment, highway diversion and highway safety were major points of Governor Hoy's biennial address to the lawmakers.

The Governor advised the legislature to study capital punishment from two angles: First, whether asphyxiation is more humane than electrocution; and, second, whether the sentencing of capital felons to death or life-imprisonment should be discretionary with judges. At present, the death sentence is mandatory in first-degree crimes.

The Governor's message placed the Chief Executive on record as opposed to a constitutional amendment banning diversion, and advocated the addition of 50 men to the highway patrol.

A fight on vice in Kansas City has been launched

—under the direction of Governor Lloyd C. Stark, of Missouri. The word went around the city Tuesday night for the gambling spots to keep their doors locked, for the strip-tease dancers to keep their clothes on and for the bars to close promptly at 1 a. m., as state laws say they must.

It was an unusual situation—one brought about by a series of gambling house raids Monday night—in a city that has been wide open for years. Gambling equipment was part of almost every night club, as were the strip-tease dancers to keep their eyes on the patrons.

It was the latest step in the bitter fight between Governor Stark and Boss Thomas J. Pendergast, once close friends but now outspoken enemies. Their clashes have become more frequent lately, foreshadowing an ultimate showdown that might possibly come while the grand jury is in session.

Work is rapidly going forward on the WPA sewer

—project for the Town of Sparta, which will cost \$45,000. Approximately 150 men have been assigned to this project, and they are now busy digging the ditches and laying the sewer line. A septic tank will be constructed on state property, near the State Prison Camp.

The Virginia Machinery and Well Company, of Richmond, Virginia, is now engaged in drilling the two 300-foot wells, which will supply Sparta with water. Bonds for this WPA project have been sold, and it is expected that work on the water lines will begin at an early date.

Regulations of traffic have but one purpose

—on any highway and that is the safety of those using the highway, it has been pointed out recently by National Park Service officials.

The Blue Ridge Parkway was designed for the pleasure of the motoring public and to make accessible to them the beautiful views and mountain scenery that is not generally found along the route of the ordinary highway. This Parkway road differs from the regular public highway because it is not designed to take you from one town to another over the most direct and least expensive route, nor is it designed to carry great volumes of commercial traffic at high speed between such points. The Parkway motor road was planned primarily so that the public could enjoy the natural scenery without encountering commercial traffic hazards and unsightly roadside developments.

For those who wish to drive the Parkway at this time it is necessary to use every means possible to safeguard them against accident. In addition to certain technical reasons this speed restriction of thirty-five (35) miles per hour has been placed on the Parkway traffic at this time because the curves are unmarked, the shoulders especially on fills have not sufficiently settled and are still soft, the centerline stripe has not been placed, guard rails have not been set up, and the banks through cuts have not been sloped to their final position which will allow proper sight distance. These factors should be considered if one has a tendency to want to "step on the gas" in places where it might look safe to those who have not considered the absence of these safety provisions.

A wholesale and retail Shell station has been constructed

—in Sparta recently, on the site of the old baseball diamond, and the official opening of the service station will take place on Saturday, January 21. The station is under the management of R. W. Colvard, and is operated by Bob Nichols.

On the opening day one can of Shell Spot Remover will be given free with each purchase of five gallons of gasoline, and one McClaren tire, of any size, will be given free with each purchase of three automobile or truck tires.

Shell certified rest room facilities, for both men and women, have been provided for the convenience of the public.

White Tollett was executed Wednesday, Jan. 11, in Nashville

—Tenn., for the dynamite deaths of three small Elizabethton, Tenn., girls. Unwavering in his insistence that he was innocent, Tollett, who was 28 years of age, walked to the electric chair.

Attorney Roy C. Nelson, of Elizabethton, whose wife is the former Miss Alene Cornett, of Spring Valley, Va., daughter of Glenn C. Cornett, now of Fries, assisted in the prosecution during the trial of the bombing cases.

Tollett was sentenced to die in connection with the blasting of the home of Harmon Gouge near Elizabethton last January which killed Gouge's three small daughters and injured his wife.

Rose Queen And Her Court



PASADENA, Calif.—Rose Tournament Queen, Barbara Virginia Dougall (center) and her court make their official appearance in their coronation gowns, at Pasadena, Calif. Left to right (standing): Gladys Hadley, Eleanor Wennerberg, Queen Barbara Virginia Dougall, Bernice Mongreig, Peggy Lynn Ingham; (seated, l.-r.): Peggy Lou Anderson and Roberta Scott.

Howard Delp was taken to the penitentiary

—in Richmond, Va., Tuesday to await electrocution for the murder of Chief of Police Posey Martin, of Galax, which occurred on February 21, 1935. The date for Delp's execution is to be set soon by Judge John S. Draper, Pulaski, Va.

The journey to Richmond was completed Tuesday, after an overnight stop had been made Monday night in Roanoke. The prisoner was confined in the Roanoke City Jail Monday night. Delp was one of 13 prisoners transferred from the Roanoke jail to the state prison.

The condemned man was taken to Roanoke Monday night from Wytheville, where he was taken last Friday from Southwestern State Hospital, Marion, where he had been confined since shortly after his conviction, and where psychiatrists in recent months had adjudged Delp as being sane. The prisoner was removed from Marion to Wytheville by State Trooper Ira Ratliff, Marion; Sheriff W. C. Ward, of Grayson County, and Deputy Sheriff Hurley Hall, of Grayson. The trip to Roanoke was postponed Friday and the prisoner placed in the Wythe County Jail, in Wytheville, because of icy roads.

Delp was recently denied a new trial by the Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals.

Prentice Cooper became the new Governor of Tenn.

—Monday when inaugural ceremonies were held in Nashville. Cooper became the 38th chief executive of

the Volunteer state amid oratory and acts which served to fan the flames of Democratic strife that marked the administration of the retiring governor, Gordon Browning.

Extending his best wishes to the new governor, Browning, nevertheless, utilized the solemn inaugural ceremony to fire a parting shot at political dictators.

It was clear to his listeners that he referred to the potent political organization at Memphis headed by Democratic National Committeeman Edward H. Crump. In his turn, Cooper expressed belief that his party again was united, but when he had completed his oath he immediately signed a commission appointing a successor to U. S. Senator A. T. Stewart as district attorney general at Winchester.

Stewart, who teamed with Cooper in the Democratic primary, delayed taking his oath until after Cooper's inauguration in order that the new governor could appoint his successor. Browning named Tom C. Kelly, of Jasper, to the office last week. A court struggle may ensue.

LOBBYISTS WERE BANNED

—from the floor of Pennsylvania legislature Tuesday night.

Burnet Maybank was inaugurated Governor Tuesday

—in Columbia, S. C., with a keynote that "we must go forward." After Burnet R. Hett Maybank, scion

of Charleston aristocracy, became the chief executive of the Palmetto state, the first to congratulate him was Olin D. Johnston, the former cotton mill boy from the Piedmont, whom Maybank succeeded in the governor's mansion.

A crowd estimated at between 10,000 and 15,000 saw the 39-year-old former mayor of Charleston take the oath of office before Chief Justice John G. Stabler on the broad steps of the historic state house. He was the first resident of his city to assume the governorship since the Civil war.

Maybank saw "our primary problem" as financial and called emphatically for "a sound fiscal policy" and "a sound tax structure" so that "we can go forward with our program to bring new industries" into the state.

"Until we put our financial house in order we are both wasting and losing time in attaining our desired end," he said.

Appealing for an end to "prejudice and sectional ill-feeling within the borders of the state of South Carolina" because "we owe it to ourselves and our children to unite for the common good," (Turn to page Eight, please)

Pennsylvania and Texas inaugurated new governors

—Tuesday, in Harrisburg and Austin, respectively. In Texas, W. Lee O'Daniel was inaugurated, and in Pennsylvania, Arthur H. James took over the reins of government.

O'Daniel, flour salesman, poet, radio singer and song writer, stood on a goal line in his State University's football bowl and became the 34th Governor of the Lone Star state.

The 48-year-old mill executive, his goal attained by wooing votes with a fiddle band screeching "Please Pass the Biscuits Pappy," dined his oath and set a new course with:

"I pray that glamour and color will be eliminated from our legislative sessions and that seriousness and dignity will reign supreme."

Inside the stadium O'Daniel was a study in dignity. He stood on a rostrum with five former governors and told his people he came to them "untarnished politically, and by the grace of God, I hope to remain forever in that category." He pointed out the richness of the state's natural resources, and stressed again his campaign plank of industrialization of Texas.

Thousands of school children joined in when he concluded his address, turned to his hillbilly band on the platform with him, and asked for "Beautiful Texas," the song he composed. Pennsylvania will be put (turn to page five, please)

Many Students In The State Have Gone on Record Against Increased Rates Of Tuition

—at the three units of the Greater University of North Carolina. More than 2,000 students at the Woman's College of the University of North

Carolina, Greensboro, during a mass meeting Tuesday night, passed a resolution requesting the legislature not to increase tuition fees at the college. The three units of the Greater University are the university proper, at Chapel Hill, State College, Raleigh, and the Woman's College, Greensboro.

The girls at the Greensboro branch of the state university, representing practically every county in the state, also asked the General Assembly to make adequate appropriations to give young women of North Carolina a university education equivalent to that offered women of other states.

Students representing many of the self-help groups on the campus, others representing departments, some speaking as the member of a family sending several children to state institutions, spoke spontaneously and to much applause against the proposed 100 per cent increase in tuition which they claimed would handicap the girls least able to pay for their education.

THE TIMES is in receipt of a letter from Dale Gambill, a student at State College, Raleigh, from Alleghany County, which letter is accompanied by a copy of a letter which has been given to all students of State College, to be sent to their parents. The letters are in regard to the proposed increase in tuition rates.

The letter written for the parents, relatives and friends of the students follows:

January 13, 1939
To Parents, Relatives and Friends of Students at State College:

Unless action is taken at once to restore to the State Budget the cuts in educational appropriation as recommended by the Budget Commission to the 1939 General Assembly, students at Chapel Hill, State College, and the Woman's College will be faced with a \$50 increase in tuition next year. This means fifty additional dollars out of your pocket, and so we appeal to you to act immediately. This is a matter of life and death.

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Frankfurter and Murphy received Senate approval

—Tuesday in Washington, D. C. The upper house of the nation's legislative body confirmed President Roosevelt's nomination of Frank

Murphy to be Attorney General over the bitter protest of a tiny minority which insisted that, as Governor of Michigan, he had "condoned" the sit-down strike and "set aside the law" on behalf of sit-down strikers. The vote was 78 to 7.

Just previously, the senate approved the appointment of Felix Frankfurter to the supreme court. This action, which placed an outstanding liberal and student of the law upon the nation's high tribunal, was taken without discussion and without a single negative vote.

Meanwhile, it became evident that Republican senators were almost a unit in opposing the confirmation of Harry L. Hopkins, former WPA administrator, to be secretary of commerce. Administration leaders were confident, however, that more than enough Democrats were backing the Hopkins appointment to assure a favorable vote.

The senate commerce committee which last week questioned Hopkins severely on charges of politics in relief, planned to vote on the nomination Wednesday. It was scheduled to reach the senate today (Thursday.)

SIX NEW BOOKS WERE PRESENTED RECENTLY

—to the Sparta Public Library. All of these books are "best sellers," having been chosen as "Books of the Month."

Approximately 600 books were circulated in the town and county, and in the schools, during the month of December, according to the librarian, Mrs. Lola White.

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