

The Alleghany Times
 Alleghany County's Only Newspaper
 Published every Thursday by the
 Gazette Printing & Publishing Co.
 117 W. Grayson St. Galax, Virginia
 Sparta Office in Transou Building

H. B. Zabriske Editor
 Mrs. Robert M. Gambill Local News Editor

Subscription Rates—Strictly In Advance
 In Alleghany County One Year \$1.00
 Six Months \$.50
 In North Carolina (outside of Alleghany
 County) and Virginia One Year \$1.25
 Elsewhere in United States One Year \$1.50

This paper charges for the insertion of Obituaries, Resolutions, Cards of Thanks, etc. Obituaries occupying not more than eight inches of space, \$1; longer ones in proportion. Cards of Thanks, 35 cents. Cash or stamps must accompany the copy.

Entered at the Post Office at Galax, Virginia as Second Class Matter under the Act of Congress of March 8, 1872.

Sparta, N. C., Thursday, June 29, 1939.

In addition, the records of the American Medical Association show nearly 8,000 serious injuries of all kinds from fireworks accidents during the observance of Independence Day last year. Among the accidents were 300 eye injuries, 43 of which resulted in blindness in one or both eyes.

The indiscriminate use of fireworks, particularly by young children, is dangerous. The explosives used are powerful enough to maim and injure human beings. Because of this fact, hundreds of cities and towns have laws prohibiting the sale of fireworks.

It has been suggested that the people of a community celebrate the Fourth of July, if they desire to do so, with community celebrations, including pyrotechnic displays under the supervision of experts. This will eliminate most of the accidents in connection with fireworks, give the people of the community a more entertaining spectacle and do as much to observe the day that marks the anniversary of American independence.

What Other Editors Say

Payment Without Work
 From The Christian Science Monitor

Some of the good will among nations which the New York World's Fair was designed to produce seems to have been dissipated temporarily when commissioners for foreign nations checked up what it had cost them to install the exhibits in their buildings. These costs in the aggregate are said to have run millions of dollars over the estimates, and one of the principal, or at least most protested, items was the American workmen who under union rules were required to stand around and draw their pay while native workers did special jobs for which they had been brought over.

Of course, it may be that the commissioners forgot the premiums they paid willingly in attracting workers to finish up their buildings in time for the opening. But American employers have had experience with union rules which require payment not for work done but as an assertion of right to particular jobs. Like monopolies of special advantages in many fields, this prerogative is often abused. Trade unions in the United States could do with a little more friendly public understanding than they seem to have enjoyed the last two or three years. Perhaps a self-helpful course for them to take, as for manufacturers, merchants and professional people, would be to lay emphasis on giving full value for every dollar along with getting the dollar.

The Low Down From Hickory Grove

A feller does not need much of a memory to hark back to when it was next door neighbor to being a disgrace, to be a beggar.

But this world, she moves, and fast. And times change. And now, being a beggar, it is a badge of distinction. Like if you are a Mayor of some city and you go down to Wash. and you tell 'em there how many votes you can scare up for them, and they give you 2 millions to build a bigger fish-pond in your park, you are some pumpkins. And you get re-elected your ownself—at next election.

And if you only get one million instead of 2 million, you are a poor excuse of Mayor.

And with Governors, it is likewise. And the money they dish up down there in Old Bazoo City, it is our own money in the first place. We are a great outfit, thinking we are getting something from the other guy.

It is a kind of ring-around-the-rosey—like back in P. T. Barnum's time; and when we get home, we are the yokel again—and our watch and chain, they are missing.

Yours, with the low down,

Soil Erosion

By Kelly O'Kelly

Civilization has flourished, declined, and disappeared in various parts of the world. Babylon, Greece, Southern Italy, Central Asia, and many other sections had a day of greatness.

Scientists have been at a loss in many of these cases as to the cause of the fall of these peoples. Some attribute the decline to war, disease, moral decay, poor government, or the immigration of other nations.

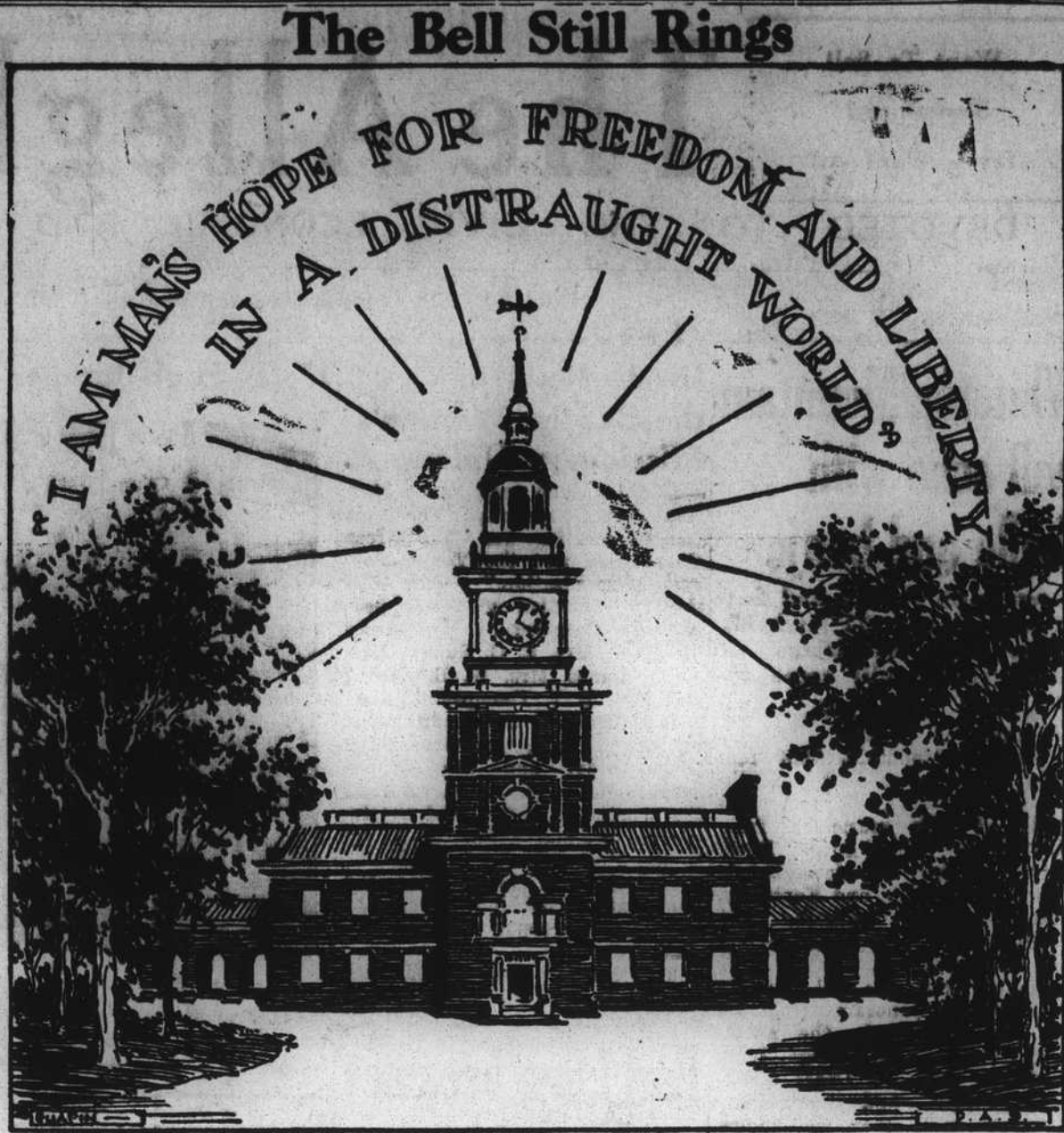
There is one aspect, often overlooked but probably fundamental, to this problem of the decline of nations, and that is the depletion of the soil—the mother of all races. The intelligence and growth of a people depend to a great extent upon their physical welfare which in turn depends upon the food supply. Civilized nations tend to deplete the soil of its all-important mineral food substances which are available to plants. Trees are cut; land is intensely cultivated; rains leach and wash away the valuable topsoil; the quality of the food goes down, and the health of the people deteriorates with the consequent moral decay and loss of an adequate intelligence to cope with the problems of life. The finale is written by war and invasion by a more healthful tribe, and a once-great nation is no more. This is the history of many countries.

It would seem, then, that soil erosion is the most fundamental problem America has today. Especially is this true of the South. All one has to do to see the results of erosion is to look at the many tree-denuded hill sides of Alleghany County. Gullies are cut; topsoil is gone and grass will not grow. Will erosion be permitted to work to its natural end in this, the fairest of lands?

Fireworks Dangerous

Early next month the people of the United States will celebrate Independence Day. Some of them will give vent to their feelings through the use of fireworks.

It may be worthwhile, in this connection, to point out that in 1938 there were eighteen deaths due to the celebration of the Fourth of July with fireworks and other explosives and seven additional deaths indirectly due to the same cause.



Weekly Washington Merry-Go-Round

(Trade Mark Registered)

by Drew Pearson and Robert S. Allen

Anti-Roosevelt Leaders Want Silence On Third Term Issue Till 1940; Wallace Winning In Cabinet Battle With Hull Over Export Subsidies; Fascist Influence In Mexico Increasing As Oil Controversy Worsens; Maverick Finds Texas Company Loyalty To Garner Less Than FDR's Popularity.

WASHINGTON—They are not advertising the fact, but both Republican and anti-Roosevelt Democratic leaders in Congress are trying to put a quietus on blasts against a third term.

The boys are afraid that too much argument over the issue now will detract from its effectiveness next year, should the President run again. Their idea is to soft-pedal third term discussion so as to keep it fresh for campaign purposes.

The decision to lay off was reached at a secret conference several weeks ago in the Senate Office Building. It is significant that since the meeting, there has been a marked decrease in anti-third term talk in both GOP and anti-New Deal Democratic quarters. Not an important figure in either group has sounded off publicly on the subject.

Texas Maverick

When Mayor Mavery Maverick of San Antonio was in Washington recently, he went around to see some of his old Texas friends in Congress, among them Sam Rayburn, astute Democratic leader of the House.

"Maury," counseled Sam, "you'd better quit kicking Jack Garner around. It isn't going to do you any good if you want to go places in Texas."

"Listen," replied the hard-hitting new Mayor, "you're up here in Washington and I'm down in Texas. You know what's good for the nation, but I know what's good for Texas."

"When I was a baby Congressman and had my first diaper changed, Garner started fighting me, and he's been fighting me ever since. Now I'm fighting him. 'Furthermore,' concluded Maverick, 'the people of Texas aren't particularly loyal to any Texan. But first, last and foremost they're for Franklin D. Roosevelt.'

Hull vs. Wallace

A significant intra-Cabinet row has developed over the question of export subsidies. Chief opponents are Cordell Hull on one side and Henry Wallace on the other. Other members of the Cabinet have also taken sides—largely supporting Wallace.

Seeds of the row were planted a long time ago when George Peek, AAA Administrator and later Export-Import Bank head, wanted to subsidize cotton and wheat exports to foreign countries. Hull vigorously opposed—and won.

However, Henry Wallace has been more subtle in his opposition, and gradually has won where Peek failed.

First Wallace secured an export subsidy on walnuts. Hull opposed this, but because it was relatively insignificant, finally yielded. Then Wallace got a temporary subsidy for wheat, now plans to continue it another year.

Later came the export subsidy for cotton, and then as a climax, Wallace prepared an export subsidy for land.

Pressure within the Cabinet became so severe that finally Hull and Wallace patched up a temporary truce, by which Hull agrees that the cotton subsidy may be necessary as a temporary expedient but emphatically does not endorse subsidies as a general policy. The truce was inspired by fear that continued inner-Cabinet hostilities would prejudice the agricultural appropriation bill still before Congress.

Meanwhile, Hull's friend, Henry Grady of the Tariff Commission, has written an opinion—Hull's request—emphatically supporting him. Grady has reported that extension of export subsidies would wreck Hull's trade agreements, would be utterly inconsistent with U. S. policy during the past six years, and that if there is to be any change of policy it should be frankly recognized as such, instead of camouflaged.

Grady has gone even further and suggested that export subsidies make Uncle Sam a two-faced Janus, since we penalize other countries for doing what we do ourselves.

However, Wallace maintains that he must get rid of farm surpluses, and that he is going to continue subsidies until he has won back part of this country's farm markets.

Third Term Teaching

The teachers of the District of Columbia may not have realized what they were doing, but they have stepped squarely into the third term wrangle.

A text prepared by some of them for use in Washington, D. C., civic classes discusses the executive branch of the Government and states, "Length of Term—'Unwritten law'—, no president runs for a third term."

Under The Dome

Federal Theatre got the axe in the new WPA appropriation partly because Mrs. Hallie Flanagan, Project Director, made a poor impression before congressional committees.

Henry Alsberg, Director of Federal Writers Project, saved his bureau from the axe, then offered his resignation. Support of Senator Cotton Ed Smith is less of a blessing than a curse to Charles E. Jackson, Deputy Commissioner of Fisheries. A South Carolinian, he was appointed to the Bureau with Smith's backing, has proved a good man, and could fill the now vacant job of Commissioner. But the White House is reluctant to boost any appointee of unpurged Cotton Ed.

Crownless King

The recent royal visitation may have been the thrill of a lifetime to the rest of Washington, but to

seven-year-old Patricia McDowell, daughter of Pennsylvania's young Republican Congressman, it was a terrific flop.

The one thing above all else that interested the young lady in the King and Queen was their crowns. She was sure they would wear them and couldn't wait until she had witnessed the breath-taking spectacle. So it was with great excitement that she accompanied her mother to Capitol Hill the morning their Majesties came to the Rotunda.

Seated with her mother with the "families of members" in the Plaza facing the Capitol's main stairway, Patricia impatiently popped up and down in her chair. Finally she spotted what she thought was her father in striped trousers and cutaway at the top of the steps. At that moment the King and Queen arrived.

Taking a good look at the royal couple, Miss McDowell jumped up, pointed an accusing finger at their Majesties, and cried at the top of her lungs:

"Oh, Daddy! You were all wrong; they aren't wearing crowns at all!"

It was a toss-up whether Patricia or the King and Queen carried off the honors as far as the congressional reception was concerned.

Poor Neighbor Policy

Donald Richberg sat in a State Department anteroom the other day waiting to see Cordell Hull. His coat was hanging on a chair and he was smoking a cigar, but he was far from comfortable. His discomfort was a symbol of the crisis which has come about in U. S.-Mexican affairs.

A few weeks ago a settlement of the oil controversy seemed imminent. Today it seems further off than ever. Simultaneously, there are signs of a Fascist movement in Mexico, plus increased sales of oil to Germany, plus a move to build a railway across lower Mexico to the Pacific in order to sell oil to Japan.

It was these factors that caused Roosevelt to jump into the Mexican situation with both feet the other day. Summoning the Mexican Ambassador to the White House, the President expressed keen concern over the oil controversy. He admitted Mexico's right to expropriate the wells, but insisted that she pay for the wells after taking them.

This is the chief stumbling block between Mexico and the oil companies. The latter want a long term lease during which part of the profits would go to them, part to Mexico. Cardenas, however, wants to talk about an immediate payment, which the oil companies shun, knowing that Mexico has no money to pay.

Meanwhile it is a sure bet that relations between the United States and Mexico—already a blot on the Good Neighbor policy—will get worse before they get better.

Trade Secrets

Most candid witness so far appearing before the monopoly committee was Robert L. Cooney, Atlanta, Ga., inspector of agencies of the New York Life Insurance Company. A witty

Southerner, he talked with such frankness that the committee was able to uncover certain secret insurance practices.

One of these was the interesting "You say Myrtle inherited her beauty?"

"Yes, her mother left her a cosmetic shop."

ing custom of retaining, for local court cases, "smart lawyer" members of state legislatures who had displayed friendliness toward legislation favoring insurance companies.

Senator Joe O'Mahoney, chairman of the committee and one of the ablest legal minds in Congress, evinced great interest in this canny practice and questioned Cooney at length about it. The exchange between them was as follows:

O'Mahoney: "Do I understand that it has been your practice on occasion to attempt to work out an arrangement which will give legal business to some member of the legislature in order that you may win friendship?"

Cooney: "When we find a smart lawyer in the legislature and we are unable to show him that our particular proposition was correct, I have told our General Counsel to take that man into any local litigation that we might have."

O'Mahoney: "Do you find a smart lawyer there very often?"

Cooney: "When I say a smart lawyer, I mean one that agrees with me."

O'Mahoney: "Do you regard that to be a sound principle for insurance companies, to retain lawyers in their litigation because of the influence they are going to exert in future legislation before the legislature? You can answer that question yes or no."

Cooney: "I don't think I can . . . if your question is, do I think it is a proper thing to do, I am compelled to answer yes, from my standpoint."

O'Mahoney: "That is what I thought you would answer, and that is exactly the point that I wanted to bring out. Not only is it true that you regard that to be a proper method of influencing legislatures, but that is true of the entire national industrial system. . . ."

Cooney: "I can't argue that with you, sir."

O'Mahoney: "Of course you can't argue it, because that is the fact and we all recognize it." (Copyright, 1939, by United Feature Syndicate, Inc.)

THE DOCTOR Tells the Story
 by W.E. AUGHINBAUGH M.D.

TUBERCULOSIS

For more than ten years the Henry Phipps Institute outpatient department has been making a study of tuberculosis in families and the manner in which it is spread.

One thousand families were studied and every member examined and tested for tuberculosis by being given a tuberculin test to define the incidence of infection; a roentgenological examination to show the anatomic extent to which the disease had progressed, as well as for the purpose of studying the lesions, and a physical examination to observe functional disturbances.

The doctors conducting this test took into consideration the number of tubercle bacilli in the sputum and the manner in which the victims coughed and disposed of the expectorate.

It was definitely established that inadequate food and overwork favored the development of this disease.

In one family where the father had tuberculosis and died, the mother and daughter contracted the same ailment, but proper treatment arrested its going into the dangerous stage and they are now well.

In nine families in which the fathers had consumption, none of the children, due to proper sanitation, food and exercise, developed an acute condition but five exhibited preliminary symptoms, with infected lungs which were ultimately healed.

It was also definitely established that tuberculosis was not inherited, but transmitted by the victim, to others, through intimate contact. Where patients had heavily infected sputum, the young contracted the disease at an earlier age than similarly infected families, with no tubercle bacilli discoverable in the expectorate.

The absolute value of a negative tuberculin reaction was most convincing. In one series of such patients 29 out of 577 persons had recognizable lesions.

Approximately one-third of the children exposed to open tuberculosis acquired calcified nodules of lungs or lymph nodes apparent during life. It was also ascertained that the spread of tuberculosis (turn to page 3, please)

Two Sides To Every Question by Lytle Hull

NEUTRALITY

Congress wants to go home, but they've got to pass some "must" legislation before they leave. That's tough on Congress! When the American citizen first reads, each year, that Congress is beginning to make noises like a homing pigeon; upon that instant said American citizen—if he cares anything about what happens to his country—should start paying careful attention to the matters which are being discussed by our lawmakers in Washington. Usually at this time there is some vital bill under consideration and Congress has often rushed such bills through without the thorough consideration which they deserve. This is not from lack of patriotism but usually from sheer fatigue, boredom and the prospect of the joys of home, holiday and rest. The Congressman is an ordinary, normal human being—not a super-man. And that's tough on us!

At this moment, the "Neutrality Act of 1938" is the fly in the late Spring ointment. This Neutrality Act however, is no "fly" to the people of this country—it is a great big American Eagle. It is so vast in fact that it casts a shadow over every other interest which we have today, for upon this act, when and if it becomes law, may depend the future of our country and of everyone in it. Unfortunately this law is being formulated in a time of great stress—when the nations of Europe are rattling sabers and beat-

ing war drums. But even if this were not so and peace prevailed all over the world, this law—which is to govern the actions of the United States toward other nations in time of war—is of the utmost importance to us and to others and embraces within its scope possibilities of terrible import.

The preamble to this so-called Administration Act—which was first introduced in the House of Representatives by Congressman Bloom on May 29th—reads as follows:

Whereas, The policy of the United States, in foreign wars not affecting the defence of the United States, is a policy of neutrality in accordance with the rules of international law; and

Whereas, The United States stands for restating and strengthening the rights of neutrals at the earliest practicable time; and

Whereas, It seems advisable, until these rights can be restated, to diminish the risk of this nation becoming involved in foreign wars by restricting the exercise of certain neutral rights of our citizens; therefore, be it resolved, etc.

And so, to all appearances, the intent is to be honestly neutral and keep this country out of other people's wars.

At the time of this writing the Bill has just come out of committee and is before the House. Already the fight has centered upon certain main phases. First—the duty of the President in event of a war—in which we are

neutral—to define certain combat areas into which American ships and American citizens would penetrate only at their own risk. Second—the requirement that foreign purchasers take title to goods before those goods leave this country, which, to some extent, re-enacts the "cash and carry" provisions of the old law. Third—the repeal of the embargo on the shipment of arms and munitions of war. Fourth—the contention that the entire act places our neutrality in the hands of the President instead of in the Congress.

Because of the explosive conditions abroad the passage of a neutrality law is one of the most complicated and vital pieces of legislation ever to come before our Congress. Every citizen of this country should obtain from his newspaper a copy of the proposed Act and should follow every move which is made in connection therewith; and if he believes that a fatal error is about to be committed, he should wire or write his congressman and state his views in no uncertain terms.

It will be a cruel act toward the people of this country if their representatives in Congress allow partisan politics or a desire to end the session and go home, or any other conceivable reason, to rush them through this legislation without giving it their most ardent, intense, and unbiased concentration and their most patriotic judgment when they vote upon its final passage.