

Washington, Sept. 13 (AS)—

In the diplomatic moves and parleys which have kept the whole world stirred up for the past few weeks the United States has played a far more important part than is generally realized. Its influence has been thrown on the side of England and France and definitely against Germany, to the point where the European democracies are beginning to feel that this country is definitely committed to give them the fullest support to the very end.

That is distinctly a wrong impression. No commitment to take up arms to fight the battles of any other nation has been made and none can be made by any authority but the Congress of the United States.

It would take a great deal more provocation than has been given so far to arouse the American people to the point of going to war. But in definitely showing sympathy with the democratic powers as against the dictatorships, the Administration's moves have had the effect of strengthening the morale of Britain and France and, it is believed by highly-placed men in the State Department, of breaking down the morale of Hitler and Mussolini.

To Prevent War

The purpose of this Government is to prevent war, if that is possible, while at the same time preparing our national defense in case we should be dragged into war, and formulating a definite foreign policy which would be acceptable to everybody, a policy which would tend to keep us out of war rather than drive us toward it.

Nobody can say with certainty how much the several appeals for peace sent to the Central Powers by President Roosevelt have had a definite influence.

The general approval of the President's urgent plea for conference and negotiation between the conflicting interests in Europe is believed to have had considerable effect.

The President's direct appeal to the King of Italy has served to remind many Americans who had almost forgotten it that Italy is, after all, a sovereignity with a king at its head and that Mussolini is merely the king's prime minister, who can be dismissed without notice at any time if he gets the nation into trouble.

The information which Washington gets from Europe indicates that the Italian government is beginning to realize that it is on the spot, if and when a general war begins, and that its continued support of Hitler is increasingly doubtful.

Historically, northern Italy has always been a major battleground for every great European war. And the action of the President in denouncing the treaty between the United States and Japan has made Italy's coast defense a very serious problem.

Explains Attitude

That takes a little explaining. As the foreign experts in Washington figure it, Japan, as an ally of Germany and Italy, undertook to make such demonstrations against British interests in China and the Far East that it would be necessary for the British fleet to be divided, to protect the strategic outposts of the Empire. That would prevent the concentration of British warships in the Mediterranean, and leave Italy free to lend a hand to Hitler.

But when the United States took a strong attitude in opposition to Japan, the whole picture changed. Japan realized that it might have to face the United States fleet, not the British, and immediately began to pull in its horns.

Aggressions against the British in China slackened or ceased entirely, and the Japanese government began to make extraordinary efforts to cultivate American friendship anew. On top of that came the announcement of an alliance between Germany and Russia.

Enemy of Japan

Now, Russia is the traditional enemy of Japan, and the Japanese government is not at all happy over the idea of continuing an alliance with Germany while Russia is in the same picture.

Therefore, Japan has begun to sing small, the British have not found it necessary to send any part of their Mediterranean fleet into Chinese waters, and Italy, almost an island, is surrounded by the ships of the most powerful seapower in the world, with France ready to jump her from the northwest at the first crack of a gun.

That is the way the diplomatic soothsayers in the State Department (turn to page 5, please)

Dr. Robert R. King will be at five points in Alleghany

—next week for the purpose of vaccinating against smallpox, typhoid and diphtheria, and also to perform

Schick tuberculin tests. Dr. King is the health officer for the Alleghany-Ashe-Watauga District Health Department.

The Schick test is for the purpose of determining whether or not a child is immune to diphtheria. The law requires that all children between the ages of six months and seven years have the diphtheria vaccine, and later the Schick test.

There is no excuse for any child having diphtheria or membranous croup, according to Dr. King. A clinic will be held in every school in the county, it is said, in order that parents may take their children who are under six years of age to the one nearest them. All principals of schools will be notified of the dates and asked to announce the clinics in their schools, so the children may tell their parents when the clinics are to be held.

Dr. King's dates for next week are as follows: Monday, September 18—Cherry Lane Post Office, 2:30 to 4:00 p. m.

Wednesday, September 20—Piney Creek High School, 1:00 to 4:00 p. m.

Thursday, September 21—Blevins X Roads, 10:00 to 11:00 a. m., and Laurel Springs 1:00 to 4:00 p. m.

Friday, September 22—Sparta High School, 9:00 to 12:00 a. m.

Answers Last "Taps"



John Collins (above), of Baywood, who died early Tuesday morning, September 12. He would have been 100 years of age December 14. Mr. Collins served throughout the Civil War in Company C, 8th Virginia Cavalry, having volunteered at the outbreak of the war. He was one of the very few of the "boys in gray" left in this entire section.

D. E. Jones, of State College, will be here

—tomorrow (Friday) to assist farmers of Alleghany County in the selection and the use of electrical appliances.

Mr. Jones is a specialist in Rural Electrification.

Meetings have been arranged for Mr. Jones' conferences with farmers in the county as follows: 9:30 a. m., Piney Creek High School; 1:00 p. m., Sparta High School; and 3:30 p. m., Laurel Springs School.

Farmers and farm women of the county who have not already purchased their electrical appliances or farm motors should receive some valuable information from Mr. Jones, it is said, and are urged to attend one of these meetings, in order that they may receive information that will probably prevent them making mistakes in buying their electrical equipment.

A young people's revival will begin at the Methodist

—Church here Sunday night, September 17, at eight o'clock. The pastor, Rev. L. F. Strader, will be assisted by Rev. M. T. Hippius, of Statesville.

Rev. R. W. McCullye, of Duke University, Durham, will have charge of the singing. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Roosevelt gave Germany an indirect warning

—Tuesday to the effect that the Nazis would not be permitted to seize any British or French territory on this side of the Atlantic. Restating the Monroe Doctrine, President Roosevelt made it plain to a press conference that the United States, for its own protection, would be bound to resist such a move.

At the same time, Mr. Roosevelt said he would have an announcement "soon," on the calling of a special session of Congress to revise the neutrality act. Although Chairman Sabath (D., Ill.) of the House rules committee left the presidential office a few hours earlier predicting the session would convene about October 1, Mr. Roosevelt did not set a date. He merely said that Sabath's guess was as good as that of any of the reporters present.

The discussion of the Monroe doctrine arose when a correspondent began questioning the president about his speech made at Kingston, Ont., last year saying that "the people of the United States will not stand idly by if domination of Canadian soil is threatened by any other empire (than the British empire)." The position of the United States toward Canada, in the light of the Monroe doctrine and of that statement of the president, has been the subject of much conversation and speculation in Washington, since Canada joined the rest of the British empire Sunday in declaring war on Germany.

But even more intensively some conversations have dealt with what the United States would do should a victorious Germany seize British and French holdings near the Panama canal, and thereby enable themselves to construct naval and air bases close to that vital passageway.

Alleghany County received a total of \$1,351.50

—of combined county, state and federal funds in August, for distribution to 213 recipients under the North Carolina public assistance program, it has been learned from Nathan H. Yelton, Director of Public Assistance.

To 115 needy aged in the county went a total of \$813.50, giving them an average grant for the month of \$7.07, while 90 dependent children received average grants of \$3.76 to make a total expenditure for that purpose of \$338.00.

Yelton's information showed there were eight widows of Confederate veterans in the county drawing old-age assistance payments under the legislative act transferring them, if eligible, to the public assistance rolls.

The widows received a total payment of \$200.00, or an average of \$25.00.

State-wide average payments to needy old people was \$9.58, to dependent children \$5.91, and to pensioners \$25.31. A total of 55,283 persons over the state received \$463,118.82 in August while for the fiscal year through August state totals were: old age assistance, \$635,140.16; aid to dependent children, \$249,194.54; Confederate widows on the public assistance rolls, \$33,221.26.

THE METHODIST W. M. S. WILL HOLD ITS MEETING

—for September at the Methodist Church here tomorrow (Friday) night, at 7:30 o'clock.

Mrs. Jay Hardin will be program leader.

Discusses War Situation With Press



WASHINGTON, D. C.—Photo shows President Roosevelt as he answered the questions of Washington newspapermen regarding the European situation at his Press Conference here which was attended by more than one hundred reporters.

National And World NEWS At A Glance

GERMANS PLAN ADVANCE
Berlin, Sept. 12.—Germany, authoritative sources said tonight, intends to fight across Poland all the way to the Russian border, if this should be necessary, to render the entire Polish army harmless.

Entrance of France and Britain into the war has changed the picture, it was said, so that the high command wants to eliminate completely the possibility of having to fight for long on two fronts at the same time.

SHIP HALTING ALLOWED
Washington, Sept. 12.—If Germany stops American shipments of contraband articles to Britain, as dispatches from Berlin say she intends to do, Uncle Sam's voice probably will not be raised in anger.

The reason given by responsible persons here is that the announcement from Berlin says Germany will use the same contraband list as Britain, and the British list is, almost word for word, the same list the United States announced after it entered the World War in 1917.

GREAT ARTILLERY DUEL
Basel, Switzerland, Sept. 13.—(Wednesday)—Reports reaching Switzerland early today indicated one of the greatest artillery duels in history began during the night in the eastern Moselle valley between Germany's Siegfried and France's Maginot lines.

Shells shrieked high over the border hills.

READY FOR SQUALUS LIFT
Pittsburgh, N. H., Sept. 12.—All was ready tonight for a start at daybreak to lift the Squalus to the surface of the Atlantic and tow her nine miles into the navy yard.

CANADIAN BUDGET DRAWN
Ottawa, Sept. 12.—Determined on a "pay as you go" policy as far as possible in financing war costs, the Canadian government today presented the house of commons a war-time budget calling for increased taxes on incomes, luxuries and excess profits.

In presenting the budget, Revenue Minister J. L. Ilsley told the house the government believed every citizen should be ready to share the cost of the war. Parliament already has voted \$100,000,000 for war purposes.

"Rural Mail Box Improvement Week" is being observed

—this week. In observance of this week, the Post Office Department urged that all unsightly mail boxes, that detract from the beauty of highways and dwellings, be removed and set up in more pleasant surroundings. Repainting of boxes and displaying of owners' names where the name can be plainly seen was also advocated.

THE YOUNG WOMEN'S CIRCLE WILL MEET AT 6:45 O'CLOCK

—tonight (Thursday) at the home of Miss Lillie Ervin with Mrs. P. H. Tompkins as associate hostess.

Miss Mary Warren will have charge of the program.

A Bingo Party will be given at Four Oaks Tavern

—in the dining room, tomorrow (Friday) night, at eight o'clock. Proceeds will be used for the benefit of Sparta High School, and the public is invited to attend.

Governor Rivers, of Georgia, was in North Carolina

—this week for a conference in Raleigh yesterday (Wednesday) with Governor Clyde Roark Hoey, of North Carolina, about unfair freight rates. Governor Euthis D. Rivers arrived in Raleigh Tuesday night.

Out of the long black car with the bright yellow Georgia No. 1 license popped a short, alert man in a black suit and wearing a black hat just as black night was falling on Raleigh.

Despite all the blackness, there was no dark mystery about it. The man in the black suit in the black car was Governor Rivers, arriving unannounced to get a night's rest before conferring with Governor Hoey yesterday on a subject dear to both their hearts. That subject is getting the South an even break on freight rates.

"This is just a general conference on the subject," said Governor Rivers as he paused for a moment to talk with the reporter, "on the way up I stopped in Columbia and talked for several hours with Governor Maybank."

Governor Rivers was accompanied by John B. Spivey, president of the Georgia senate, and Roy V. Harris, speaker of the Georgia house of representatives. They were joined yesterday morning by Walter McDonald, chairman of the Georgia public service commission.

Nine German divisions have been diverted

—from the siege of Warsaw to the western European and Vista fronts, an official Warsaw radio broadcast said early yesterday (Wednesday). The broadcast also said that the German invaders of the Polish capital city then were definitely "on the run."

Warsaw began the fifth day of siege with the announcer's statement that the invaders had been stopped and hurled back. The pressure on the city probably had been decreased because of the withdrawal of the divisions, and that the Germans had been driven back about six miles.

Martial music blared from the Warsaw station Tuesday night to tell Europe the dogged defenders of Poland's capital clung to their heavily-shelled positions.

Tuesday's losses were said to be insignificant for the first time since the siege began—only 16 army casualties being listed. Only three air raids were reported in the city.

Polish Staff Captain Vaclay Lipski in an announcement said the German onslaught with tanks and motorized corps had failed and air raids no longer were a danger to the morale of the people.

Thousands who fled the city were said to be returning and volunteering for defense duty. The announcement did not estimate the number of German troops withdrawn from the siege but a division normally runs between 10,000 and 12,000 men.

Meantime, meagre reports from announcers and Polish army headquarters at Lwow (Lemberg) indicated:

1—German attack has intensified pressure of the giant nutcracker around Warsaw, while the direct drive from the west continues.

2—Warsaw's defenders are holding grimly to the gains they reported in pushing German advance troops back from the city's suburbs.

3—Reinforcements determined not to lose their beloved capital are being rushed to the defense through a narrowing lane from the southeast.

A meeting was held by the Glade Valley

—Presbyterian Church Women's Auxiliary, at the home of Mrs. Rush Thompson, on Wednesday afternoon, September 6, at 3:30 o'clock. In the absence of the president, Mrs. Ralph Gentry, vice president, presided.

Miss Lillian Cooper, of Richmond, Va., conducted the devotional, basing her talk on "The Gospel by John," the Bible study for the year.

Mrs. Rush Thompson was leader of the program, using the topic "Suppose our church stopped teaching." Those taking part on the program and their topics are as follows: "We Would Lose Our Identity in the World," Evon Eldridge; "We Would Lose Our Heritage," Mrs. R. L. Berry; "Riches to Share," Mrs. Walter Taylor. The closing prayer was offered by Mrs. Clay Thompson.

The Auxiliary voted to have its meetings at night, rather than in the afternoon, since so many of the members are school teachers, the new schedule to take effect in October.

Mrs. Gentry cordially invited the Auxiliary to meet with her in October. Rev. R. L. Berry, the pastor, will conduct the Bible study at that time.

The hostess, assisted by Mrs. Bruce Wagoner, served refreshments to ten members and one visitor, Mrs. Clifton Thompson, of Maryland.

Racket-Busters . . .



LAKESIDE, Mich.—Thomas E. Dewey, District Attorney of New York and Republican presidential possibility, meets another notable racket-buster—Judge George E. Q. Johnson, former U. S. District Attorney, of Chicago, who prosecuted Al Capone, notorious Chicago racketeer.

Canada followed England into the European war

—Sunday, September 10, by just a week, when she formally declared war on Germany. It was the first time in history that the senior domain of the British Commonwealth, on its own account and by its own will, exercised this prerogative of nationhood by declaring a state of war. The government merely published the British war proclamation in 1914 when it entered the World War.

Thirteen hours after the House of Commons approved the government's proposal to throw Canadian men and resources into war for the second time in 25 years, Lord Tweedsmuir, governor-general, issued a royal proclamation.

On the authority of King George VI, it announced that a state of war exists with Germany as of and from Sunday.

The declaration was cabled to London for King George's signature, in his capacity as the king of Canada.

At 1:10 p. m. (12:10 e. s. t.) the office of Prime Minister Mackenzie King sent a copy of a special edition of the Canadian official Gazette containing the declaration to the Canadian press.

The prime minister's course in following Britain's action was approved by Parliament Saturday night. First the senate, by a unanimous vote, and later the commons, (turn to page 6, please)