

Washington, Sept. 27 (AS)—Those who have been in the best position to sound out the temper of Congress are swinging toward the belief that the outcome of the special session which began on September 21 will be a complete repeal of the whole Neutrality Act of 1937. In any event, that part of the existing law to which the President objects most strongly, the prohibition against selling arms and munitions to any nation at war, will be wiped off the statute books, appears practically certain.

That this would work to the advantage of the British and French and to the disadvantage of Germany is conceded by the supporters of both sides of the controversy. That aid to the democracies against the dictatorships is the purpose of the Administration is also conceded by both sides.

But the President and the others who favor repeal of the present law say that the United States will be more truly neutral if it makes no attempt whatever by law to discriminate between warring nations, but spreads its war supplies on the counter and says to all concerned "come and get it." If Germany can't pay for the merchandise of death and take it away, that's Germany's hard luck and not our fault.

Taking Sides

The opponents of the repeal of the Neutrality law contend that to let down the embargo on armaments would amount to taking sides in a war which may involve the United States in any event, but would be much more certain to involve us if we removed the legal barriers to furnishing weapons for either side.

The whole question, as Washington observers see it, is clouded by third-term politics. A considerable proportion of the Senators and Representatives who believe that the United States should not discriminate between customers for war supplies are opposing the plan to repeal the arms embargo because of their fear that public sentiment could be swayed by the ancient plea, "Never swap horses while crossing a stream," and so be inclined to keep the Executive of the moment in power.

There is no possible doubt of the earnest desire of every member of the Government, Senators, Representatives and the President and all of his aides, to keep America out of the war. The only argument is how best to do that.

In his recent radio address, Col. Charles A. Lindbergh surveyed the European situation unemotionally and expressed with great clearness the reasons why America should not let itself become involved in Europe's quarrels. He was expressing his own personal views, and neither advocated nor opposed changing the present neutrality laws. That his appeal is being quoted by both sides in the present controversy in support of their respective beliefs is as good an illustration as any of the confusion of thinking on the part of the men who will have to make the decision in Congress.

Avoiding 'Incidents'

Numerous "Diplomatic incidents" arose in the early days of the World War from the detention by the British of American ships carrying cargoes to neutral countries, and the seizure of many of such cargoes as contraband of war.

The Administration is determined that there shall be no such "incidents" in this war. No protest has been made, for example, against the action of the British in taking several American ships into port and searching them, and the seizure of a shipment of American phosphates carried in an American ship but destined for Germany.

President Roosevelt pointed out in a press conference that the doctrine of the right of a nation at war to seize merchandise intended for the enemy, even though it was first shipped to a neutral nation, was an American doctrine, first promulgated by the United States in our own Civil War, to justify the seizure of supplies intended for the Confederacy, although they had been delivered in Bermuda or the Bahamas. This doctrine is now an accepted tenet of international law, and it is upon the general principles of the law of nations that President Roosevelt prefers to stand, rather than on the Neutrality Act with its embargo provisions.

Preparations for war, meanwhile, are continuing at a pace which reflects a genuine fear of being called upon to fight for American rights, though nothing which has occurred in Europe thus far suggests any intention or desire on the part of any (turn to page 5, please)

Germany is now convinced that a real war exists

—with Britain and France is a certainty, it is apparent in Berlin, where Nazis had expressed hope that the

British and French would accept Germany's conquest of Poland as an accomplished fact and let matters rest there without pushing the conflict on the western front.

But it was reliably learned Sunday that the German high command has taken a significant step by starting construction of a bombproof great army headquarters "s o m e w h e r e" apparently in preparation for prolonged warfare.

This information said the German "G.H.Q." (grosses haupt quartier) was being built on a mountain in such a manner as to be invulnerable to enemy bombs dropped from above.

The German high command seemed convinced Britain did not intend to start fighting in earnest until spring and that there was plenty of time, therefore, for army construction work.

It is known in Berlin that increasing numbers of the British expeditionary force are reaching and if past events on the eastern front can be used as a standard, it may be expected that German bombers soon will strike at encampments of these British units.

In addition, if the policy thus far followed is unchanged, it may be expected the French will be left unmolested, more or less, in the hope of weaning the French away from their British allies.

German army communiques reporting progress of the war have paid scant attention to the western front.

The Piney Creek High School Fair is to be held

—on Saturday, October 7, preceded on Friday night, the 6th, with a musical program in the high school auditorium, beginning at 7:30 o'clock. The music will be furnished by a group of musicians who broadcast from radio station WJHF, in Johnson City, Tenn.

Baseball games are scheduled for Friday and Saturday afternoons, with Oak Hill School and Sparta High School, respectively, playing Piney Creek High School.

A box supper will be given Saturday night, at 7:30 o'clock. All entries, except livestock, should be in place by 1:30 o'clock Friday afternoon, and livestock by 9:30 o'clock Saturday morning. No exhibit may be removed before 3:30 o'clock Saturday afternoon.

The Piney Creek fair will be primarily an agricultural fair, largely under the direction of L. K. Boyer, Agriculture teacher in Piney Creek High School Agriculture students and Home "Ec" girls.

A big road celebration is being planned

—tentatively for Friday, October 20, at **Norvale Crags, on the top of the Blue Ridge Mountain, about six miles south of Galax.** The occasion is to celebrate the completion of construction and surfacing of the road leading from Mount Airy, by way of Low Gap, toward Galax, connecting with the surfaced road at the state line, near the top of the mountain.

A meeting of civic organization leaders of Galax and representatives of similar civic organizations of Mount Airy was held yesterday (Wednesday) morning, in the Municipal Building in Galax, with Warren B. Giersch, president of the Galax Association of Commerce, as general chairman, for the purpose of discussing plans for this celebration.

It is expected that Sparta and other nearby towns will take part (turn to page 6, please)

Plowing Champion



WHEATLAND, Ill.—Here is Carl Hageman, of Wheatland, who won the plowing championship of the world in the 62nd annual competition here recently. Hageman also won the title in 1923.

"We shall not go to foreign shores," said Gov. Hoey

—Monday night in a speech in Raleigh, "but we shall maintain and defend our rights at home." Governor

Hoey was urging modification of "our present unneutral neutrality law."

Speaking at a banquet meeting of the 20th Carolina Kiwanis Club district convention, the chief executive said he did not subscribe "to the view that this country will inevitably be drawn into this war."

"Our previous experience should guide us along the definite pathways of peace," he reasoned. "I know the difficulties to be encountered in maintaining our peace when the whole world is aflame with the war spirit, but we should realize the necessity of weighing dispassionately every situation as it develops and be prepared to safeguard our nation against any precipitous action as the result of studied propaganda or organized effort to force the United States into this conflict."

Expressing the opinion modification of the neutrality law would "make for our peace and the peace of the world," the Governor termed as unconvincing arguments that such changes would be a step in the direction of war and would benefit munitions manufacturers.

"The present law distinctly favors Germany and Russia," he said. "Why should it be considered a move in the direction of war to remove a discrimination from our statute books against England and France, our friends and the friends of popular government?"

"We are not going to have a war with France and England and they are not going to menace our peace. If they can win this war then we shall not be subjected to the hazard of Hitler in the future. Should we be willing to deny to any nations the benefits of geography and their own sea power when the other nations at war with them have the full benefit of their location on the continent and the developed land forces?"

"I would prefer to sell supplies rather than send men to fight Europe's battles. We have a right to follow international law."

"I am not ready for Hitler to dictate the policy of America. I believe in building our defenses at home so strong that we can take care of ourselves in any war that might be forced upon us."

"The argument about munitions manufacturers is merely an appeal to the antipathy to wartime profits and the psychology of opposition to making money out of munitions of death. The gist of it is that we should deny to our customers the right to purchase what they most need."

The NYA office will be closed after Saturday

—September 30, and Leo M. Woodruff announces that he will be in the office of the Superintendent of Public Welfare on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 11:00 to 12:00 o'clock, to interview applicants.

Boys and girls wishing to register for NYA work may see Mr. Woodruff there.

Several Alleghany persons attended "High School" Day

—at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, Saturday, September 23. The trip to Chapel Hill has

been described by one who went from Alleghany County as having been a very successful and pleasant one.

The Alleghany group arrived in Chapel Hill about eleven o'clock Saturday morning, had lunch, which was provided by the University, and then attended the football game between The Citadel and the University, which was also free to the high school seniors and chaperones.

Such outstanding features as the concerts given by bands from several North Carolina high schools, the very gorgeous parade of the platoon from The Citadel, the inspiring words from such notables as Governor Clyde Roark Hoey and President Frank P. Graham, of the University, and the game itself, which ended in a 50-0 victory in favor of Carolina, made the day one to be long remembered.

The following made the trip: Misses Myrtle Truitt, Hattaline Edwards, Elvira Wagoner, Texie Hoppers, Marjorie Halsey, Marjorie McMillan, Mattie McMillan, Rose Wagoner, Nella Goodman, Ruby Atwood, Wanda Choate and Lois Reeves, Page Andrews, Howard Moxley, Lon Reeves, Don Miller, Guy McCann and Hugh Perry, all high school students, and C. R. Roe, principal of Sparta High School; Harold H. Higgins, Agriculture teacher in Sparta High School; Thomas Haigwood, W. B. Taylor, B. F. McCann and Misses Nina Gray Liles, Gertrude Andrews and Aileen Perry, of the Sparta schools faculty, Miss Nina Edwards, Miss Truitt and Dean Andrews.

Work on the play, "A Poor Married Man," to be given

—within the next few weeks by members of the faculty of Sparta High School, has started. This play, which is a refined comedy, is expected to be very interesting, with action as the dominant keynote.

The characters range, in type, from the "poor married man," who is encumbered with a mother-in-law, to his Negro servant, a real black trump. After two hours of fun and ludicrous adventures, all ends happily and marriage is pronounced a distinct success.

In a sermon to World War veterans— Bishop James E. Freeman said that world peace may be determined

—"by the strong moral stand we now take." The Rt. Rev. Freeman, bishop of the Washington, D. C., Episcopal diocese, delivered his sermon to thousands of World War veterans who had converged on Chicago for the annual American Legion convention which officially began there Monday, scheduled to continue through today. The sermon was preached at religious and patriotic services held Sunday night in Grant Park, overlooking Lake Michigan.

"Some part of this earth must be kept free from the bloody shambles of war" and "some ideals that are indispensable to the ways of orderly living must be preserved."

Citizens of the United States, he said, "have a trusteeship for what we hold of justice and right in all human relations that we will not sacrifice or abandon. We refuse to be cajoled or coerced by the opinions of those who are not of our ways of thinking and living."

"We may by every reasonable and consistent means give our strong moral aid, if need be, our material wealth to set forward the cause of democracy. Once peace is restored we shall be the better prepared to lend our aid in rebuilding the orderly ways of life if we maintain unimpaired the standards and ideals of our national life."

Bishop Freeman said "we have unmistakable evidence" that American neutrality in the European war "is the determined will of our people."

"It is not a cowardly course,

Miss America, 1939



ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.—Introducing Miss Patricia Donnelly of Detroit, Mich., winner of the annual Atlantic City beauty contest for Miss America.

National And World NEWS At A Glance

RUSSO-GERMAN ARMS PACT? MOSCOW, Sept. 26.—Soviet Russia announced tonight the expected arrival of German Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop tomorrow for a second history-making visit which diplomatic quarters predicted might lead to a Russian-German military pact.

U. S. PROPOSES PROGRAM PANAMA, Panama, Sept. 26.—The United States today proposed to the inter-American neutrality conference a sweeping program designed to keep the European war at a distance from the western hemisphere.

The program, which would be undertaken in cooperation with the other American republics, was presented by the chief United States delegate, Sumner Welles, under-secretary of state.

REPORTS "SUBS" CHECKED LONDON, Sept. 26.—Great Britain's first lord of the admiralty, Winston Churchill, today told the nation that enemy submarines were being checked with greater success than in the World War and that the empire's merchant marine was being armed for a fight that "is only just beginning."

Speaking in the house of commons immediately after Prime Minister Chamberlain had made his fourth report on the war's progress, Churchill stole the show from his chief.

Three persons were injured on Friday, September 22

—when the automobile in which they were riding crashed into the rear of a truck, near John Anderson Osborne's store. The injured persons were Royce Lookabill, Galax, and Dwight Greene and Claude Crouse.

Mr. Greene, who was driving, was blinded by the rising sun, it is said, and failed to see the truck in time to avoid striking it.

REV. L. F. STRADER WILL PREACH SUNDAY MORNING—October 1, at eleven o'clock, in the Sparta Methodist Church, of which he is pastor.

REV. HOWARD J. FORD IS SCHEDULED TO PREACH—here at the Baptist Church, of which he is pastor, Sunday night, October 1, at 7:30 o'clock.

A number of cases have been disposed of in Alleghany Superior Court this week

—since the September term opened in the Court House here on Monday

—morning with Judge Felix E. Alley, of Waynesville, on the bench. Solicitor J. Earle McMichael, of Winston-Salem, is prosecuting for the state, and Miss Wilma Crouse is acting as court stenographer. The following men are serving as jurors: R. G. Cox, Connie Edwards, Mack Wagoner, T. A. Edwards, Fred

L. Andrews, Rufus Joines, Alex Coomes, A. M. Osborne, Glenn Edwards, Jones Tilley, L. V. Joines, E. E. Caudill, W. F. Doughton, J. A. McCann, J. T. Miles and Elmer Edwards.

The Grand Jury is composed of the following: Fred Collins, John Richardson, James W. Wagoner, J. F. Busic, C. C. Reeves, R. T. Landreth, G. N. Evans, Fred Brown, Robert Taylor, A. A. Ayers, Arol Choate, M. S. Reeves, C. G. Mitchell, Van Miller, Fred Handy, John T. Choate, J. M. Doughton and John C. Church. The officer in charge is Wiley Irwin.

Cases disposed of were as follows: John Taylor, Jr., drunken driving. Alias capias issued. Boyce Royal, non payment of cost. Case left open. Capias to be issued in 15 days unless costs are paid. W. A. Coomes pleaded guilty of assault. Prayer for judgment continued two years on payment of costs. P. L. Billings, driving drunk. Nol pros with leave. Charlie Harris, driving drunk. Alias capias.

Robert Sexton, carrying concealed weapon. Alias capias. George Whitaker, assault. Prayer for judgment continued five years on condition that defendant support wife and child, and not assault them, costs to be paid before next term of court. Johnnie Myers and Robert Myers, public nuisance. Case removed to Ashe County for trial. Woodrow Billings, driving drunk. Judgment nisi sci fa instanter process.

Handy Murphy, driving drunk. Defendant to pay costs and serve ninety days on roads, latter sentence to go into effect if at any time during the next five years he violates any of the traffic laws of the state. Edna Woods, defendant sentenced to be imprisoned in the State Prison of North Carolina for 18 months, this sentence not to go into effect unless defendant is found in Alleghany County within five years. Frank Hodge, no bill found. Everette Fortner, driving drunk. Sentenced to work on roads for ninety days. Ralph O'Neal and Jeff O'Neal, violating prohibition law. Each defendant fined \$15.00 and costs. Sentenced to work on roads for 12 months if guilty of any violation of prohibition law. Jesse Mc Todd, driving drunk. Fined \$50.00 and costs. A 90-day road sentence to be invoked if defendant is guilty of violating traffic laws of state. Surrendered driver's license.

Robert McMillan (Colored), charged with committing perjury. Put under probation for six months, suspended upon payment of the costs. Odell Holbrook, driving drunk, continued. Bill McCann, prayer for judgment continued upon payment of the costs, the Court reserving the right to pronounce judgment at any subsequent term. W. M. Smith, assault. Defendant to pay \$150.00 for reimbursement of Walter Spurlin, and the costs. A twelve months road sentence suspended for five years, to be invoked if defendant is guilty of violating any of the laws of the state. Dillon Sidden, driving drunk. Fined \$50.00 and costs. 90-day suspended road sentence, to go into effect if during the next five years the defendant is found guilty of violation of any traffic laws of the state. Driver's license revoked. A. M. Whitford (Col.), driving drunk. Fined \$50.00 and costs, and a 90-day suspended road sentence. Driver's license revoked. Fred Murphy, driving drunk. Fined \$50 and costs. Suspended road sentence. Driver's license revoked. Hasten Bell, driving drunk. Fined \$50 and costs. 4-months (turn to page 6, please)