

Washington, Oct. 4. (AS)—The final answer of Congress to President Roosevelt's plea to repeal the embargo on arms and ammunitions to belligerent nations hinges, in the long run, on public sentiment; and Senators and Representatives began, as soon as they had convened in special session, to get expressions of public sentiment which were quite opposite of what the President and most of the members of Congress had believed was the way the people of the United States felt.

The President's clearly stated desire to keep the United States out of war met with an overwhelming response of approval. Almost as unanimous are the expressions of sympathy with the Allied cause as against Hitler, which are included in the record-breaking volume of mail and telegrams addressed to the White House and the Capitol. No such voluminous and widespread public interest has been shown in any question with which Congress has had to deal at any time in the past.

Literally hundreds of thousands of letters have poured in. On the first day after the historic special session opened, one Senator alone received more than 28,000 letters from the people of his state.

Favor Embargo

But while the President's mail and telegrams were almost unanimous in their praise of his speech to the Congress, with its repeated declaration that the purpose of the American people is to keep out of war, and his assertion that the way to be truly neutral is to repeal the arms embargo provisions, at least, of the present neutrality law, the tenor of the letters which came to Capitol Hill is a stout denial that the President's program will keep us out of war, and an appeal to retain the arms embargo as a safeguard of peace.

From some sections of the country the ratio of letters favoring the retention of the present law is as high as a hundred against repeal to one in favor of it. In no section of the nation is the majority against repeal, as expressed in letters from constituents, less than ten to one.

Some of the letters indicate clearly that they have been inspired by different "peace blocs," but a surprisingly large proportion are spontaneous, individual communications from people who earnestly believe that the Neutrality Act as it stands insures American neutrality in the European conflict and so will keep us out of war.

Polls Differ

The latest nation-wide polls of public opinion by the agencies engaged in checking up on what people think tell a somewhat different story, with as high as 53 percent of voters in favor of amending the Neutrality Act, or repealing it entirely.

All of these expressions and reports of public opinion are being carefully studied by both the Executive and the Legislative branches of the Government. They will be reflected in the debate in the Senate, where the battle will be waged most bitterly, and will influence the final vote of Congress. Those debates will be influenced, as doubtless many of the expressions by voters are influenced, by partisan political considerations.

In his address to Congress the President took pains to disclaim any partisan point of view. He took the unprecedented step of calling into conference at the White House, before he prepared his speech not only the leaders of the Opposition in Congress but the titular heads of the Republican Party, Gov. Alf M. Landon and Col. Frank Knox, the candidates for President and Vice-President in 1936. He called on the American people to act as a unit without regard to political affiliations.

Landon's Statement

Governor Landon, in a public statement, declared that the grave national issue of keeping out of war is clouded by the shadow of the widespread belief that the President desires a third term in his high office. There is no doubt that some of the opposition in the public mind and among Senators and Representatives to adoption of the President's program is based upon the belief that, in one way or another, it might be used to further his candidacy for a third term in the White House.

The dominant belief here is that when it comes to a showdown in Congress the President will get what he asked for. In that case a rush of war orders from Europe is expected and

Every day will be 4-H Day at the 1939 State Fair

—in Raleigh October 10-14, said L. R. Harrill, State 4-H Club leader recently, but all 4-H members and their coaches will be admitted free to the grounds on Friday, October 13. Harrill is director of the club department of the fair, assisted by Miss Frances MacGregor and H. B. James.

On Friday, the 4-H members will engage in seed, livestock and poultry judging contests, and members of the teams will be feted Friday night at a banquet in the State College dining hall. The 4-H Jersey cattle show will be held Tuesday morning, and the 4-H pig show and judging is scheduled for Tuesday afternoon. On Wednesday the club Guernsey show will be held in the morning, and the baby beef show is set for the afternoon.

In addition, a special 4-H educational exhibit is planned, and the girls will have special exhibits of their handiwork and will compete in a canning contest.

The war will end when Hitler has "had enough"

—boldly declared Winston Churchill, first lord of the British admiralty, in an empire broadcast Sunday, at 3:15 (EST), in London. Great Britain's king summoned together 250,000 men to the colors Sunday night as Churchill made his speech.

The admiralty chief declared that "Russia has warned Hitler of his eastern dreams." But he added that he could not forecast Russia's next move, terming it a "riddle wrapped in mystery of an enigma."

Shortly before the Churchill speech King George VI called to armed service all British men between the ages of 20 and 22 years "with certain exceptions." Some 240,000 youths aged 20 were called up last June. Yesterday's proclamation applies to those in the 21-year age group and those who have become 20 since June 5.

Churchill told the empire "it was for Hitler to say when the war would begin but it is not for him or his successors to say when it will end."

TOM HARRIS, GLADE VALLEY, SUFFERED A

—badly mangled hand last week, while operating a threshing machine.

He was taken to the Elkin hospital, where it was found necessary to amputate the hand above the wrist.

With many added attractions scheduled—The Piney Creek Community Fair October 7 is being looked forward to

—with much genuine pleasure by hundreds of persons of the Piney Creek and adjoining sections of Alleghany County, as well as many persons from elsewhere. The fair will actually get under way tomorrow (Friday) night, when Lon Durham and his orchestra, from radio station WJHL, Johnson City, Tenn., will present a musical program at eight o'clock. For this program, a nominal admission charge will be made.

Exhibits will open at 9:30 o'clock Saturday morning, and livestock judging will take place during the morning. Amusements of various types will be provided for the entertainment of those attending the fair Saturday afternoon, and at night a box supper will be given at eight o'clock.

Music will be rendered by the Piney Creek High School band. The fair is being sponsored by the Piney Creek High School Agriculture boys, under the direction of the teacher, L. K. Boyer, in cooperation with Home Economics girls of the school.

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

All entries, except livestock, should be in place by 1:30 o'clock tomorrow afternoon, and livestock exhibits should be on the grounds by 9:30 Saturday morning. No exhibit may be removed before 8:30 o'clock Saturday afternoon.

J. F. Bust was foreman of the Grand Jury.

Senator Norris advocated the embargo repeal

—of the neutrality act sought by President Roosevelt, in a radio speech delivered Tuesday night

from Washington, D. C. The veteran Nebraska Independent asserted that England and France were fighting "the battle of humanity and civilization" against "ruthless and murderous" foes.

Speaking to a radio audience while the senate's youngest member, Rush D. Holt, (D., W. Va.), was advocating over another network that the embargo be retained, the elderly Norris said the guiding theory of Adolf Hitler and "other dictators" would mean the end of existing civilization if carried to its logical conclusion.

Norris said it had been argued that the administration-supported bill to repeal the arms ban and forbid American ships to carry any goods to the belligerents would favor England and France, because they would control the seas and prevent Germany from making any purchases in this country.

"But it is equally true," he contended, "that if we fail to take the course I have outlined, and the present embargo law is kept intact, such action will be favorable to Hitler and other dictators."

It was fortunate, Norris added, that "in following our legal rights as universally recognized, we are able to enact a law which will more likely keep us out of the war and at the same time put us on the side of humanity and civilization."

Holt, whose family was on Norris' side in the controversy over America's entrance into the World War (he relates that his home was stoned and his mother injured because his father opposed this country's going into the conflict), contended that a "cash and carry" system of general trade with Europe's warring nations could be established by congress without repeal of the arms embargo. If the ban on arms sales were lifted, he predicted, American money and troops would follow American arms into the war.

Holt argued that his country wanted no "blood-stained dollars" from arms sales to Europe's warring nations.

"I cannot subscribe to the theory that the powers of Europe are fighting our war," the West Virginian said. "To the contrary, they desire us to fight their war. We have enough to do here. We have a task uncompleted here in America, putting those men to (turn to page 6, please)

New Section Of The Skyline Drive



Richmond, September 27.—The vanguard of autumn beauty lovers seeking panoramas of breathtaking loveliness, touched with the autumn brush of mother nature, are finding the just completed southern end of Skyline Drive in Shenandoah National Park all that can be desired. The area already has the reputation of being the most beautiful of all sections of the Drive. It stretches from Swift Run Gap (U. S. 33) southward to Rockfish Gap, near Afton (with the aid of a short part of Blue Ridge Parkway just completed).

A total of 668 forest fires burned in western

—North Carolina during the first six months of 1939, according to R. D. Gentry, Alleghany County Forest Warden. Of these, one was caused by lightning. In other words, 667 of these fires were man-caused and thereby preventable.

These 667 man-caused fires cost the state and counties of western North Carolina thousands of dollars in damage to timber and wild life, to say nothing of the effect that fires have on soil erosion and the aesthetic value of the woodland.

One hundred and fifty-seven of these fires were caused by brush burning fires, or fires that were caused by persons burning brush or other forms of debris. In other words, 157 fires were caused by some person who was careless or used bad judgment in burning brush, sedge and various forms of litter and debris.

Already, with the first signs of Fall, the grasses in the forests are dying and the foliage is losing its glossy green color and beginning to fall. Therefore, the floor of the forest will soon be covered with a layer of dead and highly inflammable material subject again to the risk of more man-caused forest fires.

It is encouraging, however, to know that the number of man-caused fires in western North Carolina for the past several years have been steadily decreasing.

A few ways in which citizens can help in preventing forest fires are:

1. Don't toss a lighted cigarette or match out of your car. If you do so, your cigarette and match might land in inflammable material causing a disastrous fire.
2. While hunting, be sure that your match and cigarette are fully extinguished before you throw them away. Also be sure, that when your pipe is emptied, the contents are completely extinguished.
3. In building warming and camping fires, be sure that you have complied with the State laws. To build such a fire, the State law requires that you clear away all inflammable and combustible material for a space of 10 feet surrounding the place where such fire is kindled and that the fire be fully extinguished before leaving.
4. Before burning debris of any kind, secure from your County Forest Warden, or one of his authorized representatives, a burning permit.
5. After securing your burning permit, notify your adjoining landowner that you intend to do such burning.
6. Maintain careful and competent watch over your fire and never leave your fire until it is completely out.
7. Never burn near the woods or where fire can reach the woods when conditions are dangerously dry.

A "peace plan" described as "seductive"

—whereby Nazi Germany hopes to end the European war on its own terms was seen Tuesday by an American newspaper correspondent who learned from a responsible authority that a five-point plan is being prepared by Adolf Hitler, while the fuhrer's troop trains rumble menacingly toward the West and sharp patrol clashes occur on the Franco-German frontier.

"Seductive" was the term used in describing the plan. For, under any other circumstances, and coming from any government whose pledged word enjoyed international trust, it would be difficult to reject.

Briefly, here are the proposals that, at the present moment at least, Hitler plans to make in his speech before the Reichstag late this week:

- 1—Creation of a Polish buffer state, with Warsaw as the capital, to be carved out of the present German portion of the partitioned country and mutually guaranteed by Germany and Soviet Russia.
- 2—World-wide disarmament, with establishment of some form of international control to insure that each nation abides by the provisions to be laid down.
- 3—Redistribution of raw materials on the lines of League of Nations proposals made years ago.
- 4—Guarantee of the status quo of all existing European frontiers by means of a collective security pact embracing every willing signatory.
- 5—Examination of the colonial problem with a view to eventual redistribution.

As the authority who described the plan put it:

"If these proposals were advanced under any other conditions than over the body of a mutilated ally, or by a statesman (turn to page 6, please)

Al Smith spoke Sunday night in favor of revision

—of the neutrality act, and appealed to Americans to "stand solidly behind" President Roosevelt in his effort to have the neutrality act amended because "he is so clearly right."

Speaking over a nation-wide radio network, Smith added: "I urge this with all the sincerity I possess with the profound conviction that I speak for the good of the nation which we all love."

It was the "Happy Warrior's" first public utterance favoring an administration policy since he "took a walk" from the Democratic party in the 1936 presidential election and campaigned against Mr. Roosevelt, his former close personal and political friend.

The 1928 Democratic presidential nominee declared bluntly "the present neutrality act does not work," and added: "It has been weighed in the balance and found wanting."

"I believe that we should prevent the transportation in American ships of any goods in any kind, war goods or other goods, contraband or non-contraband or any passengers to the warring nations."

"It is undoubtedly the absence of such a law in 1917 that brought us into the World War. There is only one way of avoiding a repetition of this experience and that is by keeping American ships and American passengers out of trade with belligerents."

The president's suggested amendments are "so clearly right, so obviously on the side of common sense and sound judgment and of patriotism," Smith asserted, "that only those who lack an understanding of the issue will oppose them."

Smith said he was not interested personally in arguments for

With entertainment for the entire day—The Grassy Creek Agricultural Fair is to be held on Saturday, October 7

—on the grounds of Virginia-Carolina High School, Grassy Creek. In addition to the interest that is expected to be aroused among the hundreds attending by the many and varied agricultural, livestock, garden and domestic manufacture exhibits, many other entertainment features will be provided.

Two ball games—a girls' softball game and a boys' baseball game—will be played with visiting teams.

A very outstanding feature, and one that is expected to gain widespread commendation by many persons attending the fair, is the magicians' show to be presented, both morning and afternoon, in one of the Grassy Creek churches, by the Karnaks. These musicians are said to have performed before thousands at the White House Easter Egg Hunt in 1936, and to have been praised by Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt. Much favorable comment was heard after their performance at the recent Elk Creek fair. A very small charge will be made for this very clever and thoroughly entertaining program of magic.

Contests in nail driving (for women only), horseshoe pitching, cow and hog calling (women and men), and probably athletic contests, such as jumping, running, etc., are also planned.

Other entertainment features of the fair will be a bingo stand, Chinese Checkers, etc., as well as fortune telling. Citizens of the Grassy Creek section and adjoining territory in Grayson and Ashe counties are urgently requested to attend and enter exhibits.

Skyland Beauty Shoppe, Galax, has donated a premium in the form of a \$3.50 permanent for the most points scored at the fair in embroidery work.

Reins-Sturdivant Funeral Home, West Jefferson, N. C., donated \$3.00 to be given the F. F. A. boy turning in the most points at the fair.

The Carnation Company, Galax, has donated a \$3.00 milk pail for the best dairy cow (any breed) at the fair, and one bag of calf manna for the best dairy calf.

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New Love Story To Begin In TIMES Oct. 12

The TIMES will begin publication, in its issue of Thursday, October 12, one of the best love stories in years, by the world-popular author, Temple Bailey. The title of this thrilling new serial story is "Tomorrow's Promise," and no reader of the TIMES will want to miss a single installment.

Watch for the first installment next Thursday, and follow the story in Thursday issues until it is concluded. Don't miss this literary treat.