



Washington, D. C.—An unprecedented phenomenon took place in Washington last week when some 65 members of Congress discarded party lines to participate voluntarily in a survey of the unemployment situation. We are not sufficiently naive to believe that this move, which may have far-reaching significance, is wholly altruistic on their part. Some of these gentlemen are undoubtedly gathering tools for political fence-mending in the next election campaign. Most, however, are going forward with the study, despite the realization that their efforts may be forgotten in the growing preoccupation with the European war and the national defense program.

A committee's preliminary report recommends a vast housing program, and warns that while "military expenditures may temporarily ease the relief burden to some extent, they are not a solution to our problem."

Further endeavors may suggest a working approach to the unemployment problem. At least they will indicate an awareness of the situation and a desire on the part of our lawmakers to do something about it.

When the Wright brothers made their first successful airplane flight back in 1903, little did they dream that they had created what was to become the most terrible instrument of destruction the world has ever known.

Experts claim the plane of tomorrow will do 800 miles per hour—placing America but four hours away from Europe, and thereby giving it reason to fear a German victory. At the same time, military advisers here say that the United States will remain secure from any but a "stunt" attack from abroad for some years to come. That security, however, will depend on the certainty that this Government will permit no foreign power to gain any base for operation on or near the American coasts—a fact that explains the sudden interest here in Bermuda, Trinidad and Greenland, as well as in the islands of the Pacific.

Three weeks of action by the Hitler hordes in Western Europe have transformed the internal situation within the United States. What had been a national need for 5,000 warplanes has now become a demand for 50,000 per year. What had been a trickle of letters urging members of Congress to revise the neutrality laws to permit loans to the Allies has now become a deluge of telegrams demanding immediate participation in the war. Representatives of thirty denominations, meeting in Philadelphia in a National Study Conference on the Churches and the Industrial Situation, concluded "that it is impossible wholly to divorce foreign policy from domestic policy and that any comprehensive program for peace must contain a synthesis of both."

And what the public reaction is to the possibility of a German victory has been made clear to Congress. Suggestions for adjournment of domestic politics are being made, but responsible leaders know that Congress is in no mood to retreat from isolation at present. What its mood will be in six months from now may be an entirely different story.

Snap Shots and Sun Spots

We had a fire in Sparta last week, and the whine of the siren was sweet music, for we knew a group of young men were instantly in action to get hose attached to hydrant and a stream of water flowing onto the blaze. It was even so, and the fire was soon conquered. Very fine for Sparta. Both life and property are more safe than before! But, in the happy state of having a good Fire Department let us not one whit relax our vigilance to keep fires from starting. Remember, the ounce of prevention which outweighs a pound of cure.

Alleghany County sure had a primary election Saturday, and lo, the same county that went for McDonald in '36, went for Gravelly this time, by some 58 votes ahead of Broughton, the statewide favorite. But of far greater interest were the county contests, in which four candidates were seeking the nomination as representative of the county and two as senator for this 9th district, of Alleghany, Ashe and Watauga. The latter was taken

Our world...

Belgian King Surrenders To Hitler

London, May 28.—Leopold III, King of the Belgians, has surrendered his nation to Nazi forces, and ordered his half million men to cease fighting. Belgium thus becomes the sixth nation to fall under Hitler's blitzkrieg blows in less than nine months, following the fate of Poland, Norway, Denmark, Luxembourg and Holland.

Belgian Collapse A Sad Loss

London, May 29.—Collapse of Belgian resistance to Germany, under orders of a nerve-racked young king already disowned by his ministers, has all but robbed half a million Franco-British troops in Flanders of hope of escape. Only a military miracle can save them from a fast-closing German trap.

Army Seeks Escape From Flanders

London, May 29.—An encircled army of 400,000 British and French troops, deserted by their Belgian allies on the blood-drenched fields of Flanders, battled today to break a tightening Nazi grip of strangulation and abandon the war on Belgian soil.

Italy Expected To Enter War

Rome, May 29.—Civilians began taking over some posts left by men called to arms today, as the Belgian collapse on the northern front heightened Italy's war fervor and made active Italian intervention appear to be only a question of days. The doors for unrestricted departure from Italy were closed tonight on British and French nationals, in what some observers took for another step toward war.

Belgians Propose To Fight On

Paris, May 28.—The refugee Belgian government today disowned King Leopold III as a traitor to his people because of his surrender to the Nazi blitzkrieg, and announced that a new Belgian army will be raised "to fight on to victory alongside the Allies."

Australia Promises Unlimited Aid

Sydney, May 28.—Prime Minister R. G. Menzies said in a speech here tonight that the Australian government will send men, munitions, and war supplies without limit in support of the Empire's war effort.

Roosevelt Names Seven For Defense

Washington, May 28.—President Roosevelt named a national defense commission of seven, drawn from government, business and labor, to gear the nation to top-speed production of planes, engines, guns and other defense implements. One of the seven is Miss Harriet Elliott, dean of women at the University of North Carolina, to advise on consumer problems.

by Eugene Transou, with practically double the number of votes given to his competitor. A table of the vote by townships is given elsewhere, as also a short sketch of Mr. Transou's public life.

In the race for the nomination as representative Robert Eender came within 42 votes of a tie with the top man of the four, W. Bert Edwards. That he frankly advocated the idea of allowing the top man to have the nomination is a matter of record, and that he should be runner-up is doubly interesting.

It is indeed good news that Tom Greene has come home from the hospital, restored to the devoted mother that needs him. He was terribly injured in that insane car wreck a few Saturday nights ago, and it is almost miraculous that he has lived. Has a civilized community no suggestion for the prevention of such driving, that tears down telegraph poles and strews human beings about like discarded toys?

Annual Reunion of Gilliam family

—will be held Sunday, June 9th, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Reece Gilham one and one-half miles west of Sparta on U. S. Route 21.

Prominent speakers will be present to address the gathering. The following quartets have been invited to sing: Southern Harmonizers from North Wilkesboro, The Wilkesboro Friendly Four and Yaddin Valley Four from Elkin, and the Jones Family, Ronda.

All relatives are urged to attend and friends are invited. Everyone bring a picnic basket to supplement the lunch that will be served.

J. A. Gilliam, North Wilkesboro, chairman, Mrs. W. H. Jones, Ronda, secretary.

New Hope

New Hope, May 28.—Mrs. W. R. Jones visited her sister, Mrs. Bessie Critcher last week. Louise and Reba Sue Rouse, Alene and Donald Musgrove and Bruce Williams visited friends in Galax Sunday.

Mrs. Bessie Critcher is visiting her sister, Mrs. Lena T. Billings, of Laurel Springs, this week.

Mrs. Wiley Irwin spent Saturday night with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alex Osborne.

Several persons attended the sheep-dipping demonstration held at D. J. Jones' Saturday afternoon.

Mrs. Frank Jones has been very sick for the past week.

Sunday School is progressing nicely at New Hope.

A Word To The Wise And The Foolish

The difference between safety and accidents is often common sense.

A safe driver is ready for any emergency.

Every time is train time at a grade crossing.

Drive as though your child walked ahead.

ALLEGHANY STAR TIMES

THE STAR, established 1889 — THE ALLEGHANY TIMES, established 1925.

Vol. 16 No. 3. Sparta, N. C. Thursday, May 30, 1940.



Appeal for Mercy

Urgent needs of war-stricken civilians throughout Europe have prompted the American Red Cross to issue its first war relief appeal since the World War. A drive is now under way throughout the country to raise a minimum of \$10,000,000 to purchase all kinds of relief supplies. The above poster has been selected to carry the appeals to the nation.

Many Interesting Memoirs

—will be brought up by the following list of Postmasters who have served Alleghany folk since the United States Post Office was first established at Gap Civil in May, 1860. This list has been obtained through the courtesy of the present Postmaster, G. Glenn Nichols.

Gap Civil, Alleghany County, N. C.

POSTMASTER	DATE APPOINTED
James H. Parks	May 2, 1860
Mrs. Catherine E. Vaughan	March 16, 1866
David R. Gentry	May 23, 1870
Willie E. Hudson	August 18, 1871
William P. Holbrooke	June 13, 1873
John O. Edwards	June 30, 1876
Isaiah M. Brown	March 9, 1877
William L. Norman	December 31, 1878
Name of office changed to Sparta	June 24, 1879
William L. Norman	June 24, 1879
Rufus K. Parks	July 9, 1879
Washington K. Holbrook	June 13, 1881
Berry Edwards	January 30, 1882
Joseph C. Welch	April 17, 1882
Robert H. Hackler	June 5, 1884
Westley W. Naylor	July 20, 1889
John C. Edwards	December 5, 1889
Hugh K. Boyer *	January 30, 1880
Hugh Hanks	April 10, 1897
David M. Beck *	May 25, 1900
Mervyn Jones *	April 2, 1903
(Name changed by marriage to Mervyn Cheek)	
Mervyn Cheek	July 21, 1903
Jonathan H. Gentry *	April 16, 1914
Robert H. Hackler	March 27, 1915
Mrs. Lula M. Choate *	September 22, 1922
George Glenn Nichols *	March 12, 1935

Those names marked with an asterisk are believed to be the only ones still living.

James H. Parks, the first Postmaster appointed at Gap Civil, was the father of Mrs. R. A. Doughton, and the grandfather of D. C. Shores, both of Sparta today.

Rufus Parks, who was appointed Postmaster in July 1879 was Mrs. Doughton's brother.

And doubtless many, many more family connections will be recalled and noted by the appearance of this list.



Thursday at 2 o'clock the Camp Fire Girls met for the third meeting at the Methodist Church. After some preliminary business we decided to assume responsibility for raising five dollars toward the Red Cross Relief Fund.

We started on a jaunt into the meadow to seek knowledge and beauty (one of our aims as Camp Fire Girls). We each endeavored to learn new things in our various fields of work. We learned of the origin of flowers by listening to some interesting stories told by Mrs. Hardin. We found that there were about 12

First fire call for Sparta's new apparatus

—came last Thursday at 10 a. m. when fire in the kitchen of Vance Choate's home got beyond control. The Volunteer firemen responded quickly to the siren alarm and soon had the hose attached to a hydrant and a stream of water playing on the blaze. The fire was soon under control, and the first real battle of the Sparta Fire Department a matter of record. Some considerable damage was done by fire, smoke, and water, but the home was not destroyed.

Surprise birthday dinner was set Sunday, May 19th

—to honor Aunt Cynthia Crouse Cox, who was 82, having been born near Hooker on May 16, 1858. Dinner was set at her old home, in Vox community, which is now occupied by her son, Gwynn Cox.

In 1881 she was married to Robert David Cox. He passed away in 1935, at the age of 77. Of six children there are four living, Lentus and Gwynn, of Sparta, Dewey of Aberdeen, Wash., and Mrs. T. R. Crouse, of Sparta.

Attending the dinner were some 200 guests, who came afoot and in 35 cars and trucks. A number of nice gifts were presented.

Before dinner Rev. John Williams, J. C. Sparks and William Andrews gave interesting talks.

Those coming from away were Mr. and Mrs. Fred Weaver, of Peden, Mr. and Mrs. John Rhudy Crouse and daughter, and Mr. and Mrs. Willard Cox from Galax.

Among the guests nearing or about the age of 80 were M. B. Cox, J. W. Maines, Mrs. Ellen Crouse, Alice Toliver, Martha Edwards (89) and Almada Shores.

Among guests from Sparta were Eugene Transou, Floyd Crouse, W. F. Osborne, Dr. Doughton, Mrs. Mattie Choate, Mr. and Mrs. Rex Evans, Dewey Truitt and daughter, Anna Mae, Frances Wrench, Mr. and Mrs. G. Glenn Nichols and Opal, and many more.

Conference Called On Religious Liberty

About 200 Protestant ministers and Jewish Rabbis of Washington, D. C., have called upon the Christian ministers of the United States who believe in complete separation of Church and State to attend a Conference on Religious Liberty in Washington on June 11th. The purpose is to define and defend the religious liberty upon which all democratic institutions are built.

The Conference will discuss the taxing of churches in connection with social security legislation, the appropriation of tax-raised funds for sectarian purposes, the appointment of Myron C. Taylor as President Roosevelt's personal representative to the Vatican, the use of pressure and violence for the purpose of limiting religious liberty in social, economic and political realms of American life, and actions by the government of both the nation and the states that violate the spirit, if not the letter, of Constitutional guarantees of freedom of religion, speech, press or assembly.

Outstanding national leaders in the defense of religious liberty will address the closing session of the Conference, which will take the form of a mass meeting in Constitution Hall. Seminars on the above subjects will be conducted by well-known experts during daytime meetings.

Topia

Topia, May 27.—Mrs. Mallie Weaver, Peden, visited friends in this community last Wednesday.

Miss Ruby Faircloth, Scottville, spent a few days last week with Mrs. Belle Blevins.

Misses Dorothy Brown and Octavia McMillan, Crumpler, were guests of Miss Mozelle Blevins, Saturday night.

Mrs. Josie Dowell, Piney Creek, visited Mr. and Mrs. W. I. Caudill, recently.

Miss Rena Fitzgerald visited Miss Fairry Lee Black Friday.

Guests of Misses Beulah and Grace Fields Sunday night were Misses Irene, Doris and Grace Blevins.

Enemies Within Our Gates

It is believed there are a good many undesirable aliens, and a lot of bad natives in the United States, who are trying to "re-make America," and whose plans and purposes are dangerous. Nearly every Government activity that tries to run down these people is being attacked and misrepresented. For instance, the Dies Committee—but more specifically the Hoover G-man against whom strong sentiment was developed because they were detecting Communists, crooks, racketeers and traitors by the police method of tapping their telephone lines. A terrible hurrah was raised about this practice, despite the fact that such a method in police and Government bureaus has long been recognized as a legitimate method. Experienced newsmen in Washington have defended the G-men and praised their sleuthing-plans to bring crooks to time.

To My Friends And Supporters Of Alleghany County:

Words fail me to express adequately my gratitude to you for your active and loyal support in the primary race just closed. As you well know, the place was not of my seeking. Nevertheless you insisted it was my duty to run for it. My belief even now is that it was not simply me you voted for, but for a return to the supremacy of democracy. I accept your mandate, and promise that to the extent of my ability my every energy shall be devoted to serving my county and my district as a loyal and intelligent people wish me to.

Sincerely,
EUGENE TRANSOU

May 28, 1940.

J. M. Broughton, of Raleigh, will be next Governor

—of North Carolina unless there is sharp reversal of form, for, since 1916 when the present primary system was established, the high man in the first gubernatorial primary invariably has defeated the runner-up. In all cases but one he not only achieved victory but increased his margin between the first and second primaries.

The exception came in 1932 when Dick Fountain cut the Ehringhaus lead from 47,371 to 13,084 in the runoff primary. In that campaign there was a clear issue between Fountain and Ehringhaus.

In all other second primary battles the winner of the first primary has been swept into office by a sizeable margin. In the famous 1920 campaign, for instance, Cameron Morrison led O. Max Gardner by less than 100 votes in the first gubernatorial primary. Four weeks later in the runoff the margin was increased to 9,259 votes.

In 1924 A. W. McLean defeated Josiah W. Bailey decisively. In 1928 Gardner was nominated without opposition. Then followed the Ehringhaus-Fountain battle of 1932. Four years later in 1936 Clyde R. Hoey increased his first primary lead of 4,468 votes over Dr. Ralph McDonald to 51,940 in the runoff primary.

In Saturday's gubernatorial primary Mr. Broughton, running against six opponents, polled approximately a third of the entire vote and ran more than 30,000 votes ahead of his closest rival. His margin of victory was the greatest ever polled in a multiple contest such as was conducted last Saturday.