



Washington, D. C.—According to foreign observers, something more than the long arm of coincidence lies behind Italy's drive in Egypt. Ribbentrop's talk with Mussolini, and the hints in the Nazi press that the invasion of Britain may be postponed until 1941. All signs point to the Mediterranean as the next scene of violent operations. But the British know from past experience that when Hitler begins pointing in one direction an alert eye must be kept in the other.

This probability explains why the Royal Air Force relentlessly pursues its pounding of German-held ports in France, Belgium and Holland, instead of scattering its strength to meet attacks elsewhere.

Should the invasion of Britain continue to be baffled, however, Hitler must attempt a spectacular maneuver in some other area—probably Gibraltar. Germany is already on the Franco-Spanish border, and troops can be quickly moved southward. Sovereignty over the Rock will be the bait held out to Franco for his cooperation.

The Spaniards have little sympathy for Hitler and no enthusiasm for another war in their country. But Spain is in no position to shape its own destiny at present, and Axis pressure may constrain it to enter the conflict.

One evidence of how closely the Roosevelt-Willkie contest is progressing came to light today in a canvass of Washington newsmen, polled by Look Magazine. Of fourteen well-known Washington correspondents questioned only two predicted victory for Roosevelt, while two others granted Willkie "a slight edge".

The statements of the other ten correspondents bristled with "ifs" and "that depends." Four called the contest "even" at this point. Jay Franklin said: "Roosevelt and Wallace should win after a hard and seemingly close struggle." Drew Pearson and Robert S. Allen were the writers who granted Willkie "a slight edge."

Common sense is beginning to make itself felt against emotional hysteria in some Congressional quarters!

That's news. It means that if the trend away from emotionalism and toward logic continues, the nation may yet be able to arm itself for satisfactory defense.

Legislative debate over conscription of men led to pure hysteria in which some solons talked unthinkingly of conscripting wealth and industry. Now, they are beginning to realize that conscription of industry and wealth would mean conscription of the whole nation.

The sounder thinkers are now convinced that only the unwilling industries and dollars should be confiscated. They realize that if "wealth" is conscripted it means forcing everybody to buy government bonds even if they do it. And, they say, they can get the unwilling dollars through taxation.

Better Farming In North Carolina
The North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service has recently issued a circular entitled Fundamental Principles Essential to the Development of Agriculture in North Carolina. This bulletin should be widely distributed.

It is claimed that if the program recommended is followed the gross income of North Carolina farmers can be increased by 200 million dollars a year by the end of a decade. The following is quoted from this bulletin:

It is the belief of the Extension Service that probably at no other time in the history of this state has there been a more opportune time for a definite and concerted effort fully to develop the vast agricultural resources of this important state.

The tobacco grower, the cotton grower, the potato grower, the commercial truck or vegetable grower and others are all faced at times with the necessity for making adjustments in their plans to meet a changing demand for their products. These growers recognize this fact and they are keenly interested in some plan or program which may offer a solution to the problem.

Our world...

British and French Battle Fiercely

London, Sept. 25.—Open but undeclared warfare between British and French forces has broken out in Africa. British warships shelled the French West African port of Dakar and then attempted to land an expeditionary force. The French claimed the landing parties were repulsed with heavy losses. Fighting side by side with the British were "free French" soldiers led by Gen. Charles de Gaulle who has been condemned to death as a traitor by the Petain government of France. Meanwhile 120 French war planes were reported to have launched an attack on Gibraltar, Great Britain's stronghold at the western entrance to the Mediterranean.

Hitler's Frenzy Increases

London, Sept. 25.—Unloading huge "super bombs" that demolished historic buildings and heaped streets with debris, Adolf Hitler's air force early today turned its fury upon virtually all of this world's greatest metropolis with an attack that blasted more than 45 separate districts. Fires were started in the heart of the city by "breadbasket" clusters of blazing explosives, but for the most part they were extinguished by fire-fighting crews. With what appeared to be a savagery unprecedented in London's 18 days and nights of seige from the sky, world-famous buildings and office structures were crushed by the new "super bombs."

Gibraltar Bombed Heavily

Gibraltar, Sept. 25.—War planes of France, Britain's Nazi-subjugated ally, heavily bombed Gibraltar for four hours and five minutes Tuesday, inflicting death, injuries, property damage and fires on this vital British fortress at the western head of the Mediterranean. One hundred or more bombs were hurled by 20 or more planes in the longest and heaviest air raid ever experienced by "The Rock," which often has been raided by Italian bombers.

British Bombers Busy

London, Sept. 26.—Cutting a fiery swath of destruction across Western Europe in their mightiest assault of the war, British bombers blasted Berlin yesterday and early today and sank five Nazi torpedo boats along the French coast where many German troops were reported killed during "invasion" rehearsals.

Townsend to Stump for Willkie

New York—Dr. Francis E. Townsend, leader of the old age pension movement which bears his name, announced he would campaign actively for the Willkie-McNary ticket. He said at a press conference that he planned to leave at once on a 6,000-mile tour through New York, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, Montana, Washington, Oregon and California. He added he expected to swing between 10,000,000 and 12,000,000 votes, half of whom are Democrats.

Politics as the Women See It

Washington.—Miss Harriet Elliott, North Carolina member of the national defense commission, yesterday became the unwitting focal point of a political tirade launched against the New Deal by Miss Marion E. Martin, head of the Republican national committee's women's division. Pointing directly to Miss Elliott's recent statement which held one-third of the nation to be undernourished, Miss Martin claimed it to be a "severe indictment" of President Roosevelt.

grower, the potato grower, the commercial truck or vegetable grower and others are all faced at times with the necessity for making adjustments in their plans to meet a changing demand for their products. These growers recognize this fact and they are keenly interested in some plan or program which may offer a solution to the problem.

To meet this situation there is a need for a definite program simple in its operation and based on actual needs. Such a program, considered essential for every farm, could be embraced in the following:

- 1.—A plan for producing the food for the family and feed for the livestock.
- 2.—A plan of cropping system and fertilizer practices that would maintain the soil in a highly productive condition.
- 3.—The production of cash crops combined with sound livestock, dairy, and poultry activities in such degree as will supply the cash needed by the family.

Should every farm in North Carolina be handled according to these three conditions, a standard of living would exist in this state higher and more satisfactory than its people have ever known before. The farm people would have an adequate food supply and would have more money.

Anglo-American Amity is Growing

It is becoming more and more evident that the United States and England are drawing closer together.

This is natural, seeing that the English-speaking part of the British Empire and the United States represent something entirely different from any other nations in the world.

That "different" thing is the Anglo-American ideal of personal liberty, belief in the right of private property, freedom of religious belief and liberty of thought and expression.

The traditions of the United States, England, Scotland, Australia, New Zealand and Canada are in this respect practically the same.

So what we see today is a natural, and automatic warming up to one another when a common danger threatens.

The bond of a common language, of a common cultural ancestry, of a common meaning of the word "freedom" is greater in

52nd Year. No. 6. Sparta, N. C. Thursday, September 26, 1940.

Full Program Of Sports and Entertainment

The Alleghany County Fair, to be held Friday and Saturday, will provide not only fine agricultural and stock exhibits but also a full program of entertainment.

On Friday night, September 27, at eight o'clock in the School Auditorium the Moose Melody Boys will present a Musical Jamboree. This group of musicians contains several of the best players in string bands and comedians of this vicinity. There will be a variety of entertainment such as Hillbilly Music, instrumental and vocal duets, quartets, group singing, and novelty acts. Snow Ball, a black-face comedian, will be master of ceremonies, and will be assisted by his partner, Uncle Ezra. This team adds fun and pep to the program. Grandpappy, a fiddlin' and dancing champion, will present his famous Night Raiders. To add variety the "Royal Hawaiians", under the leadership of Cliff Simms, will be present with the best Hawaiian Music.

Saturday's program will consist of athletic contests, a display of exhibits, and dinner served by the Woman's Club. On Saturday at 10:30 a. m. the following contests will be held: 50 yard dash, potato race, egg race, sack race, and a Three leg race, and a 200 yard relay race will be held for elementary and high school boys and girls. There will be a 100 yard dash for high school and elementary boys. All schools in the county are invited to participate in these contests. The following will be for the women: egg race, rolling pin throwing contest and nail driving contest. For the men there will be hog calling contest, horse shoe pitching and 50 yard dash (for men over 30).

Saturday afternoon at 2:30 there will be a baseball game between the Sparta team and some semi-pro team.

Saturday night—An Old Time Square Dance will be held from 8 until 11:30. Music for this dance will be furnished by the Alleghany String Band, composed of Howard Joines, violin, Paul Miles, banjo, Wade Miles, mandolin, Clifton Evans, guitar, and Vernon Miles, guitar.

They Say - - -

"Our constant goal of a higher standard of living requires the wise use and conservation of our public funds. Waste and extravagance should find no place in government expenditures. Economy in government is the path to lower taxes."

H. Smith Richardson
Chairman, Vick Chemical Co.

its strength and more binding than any "pact," "union" or treaty between the two countries could be.

The United States and England today are "democratic" in the meaning that John Locke, William Pitt, Thomas Jefferson and Abraham Lincoln defined it.

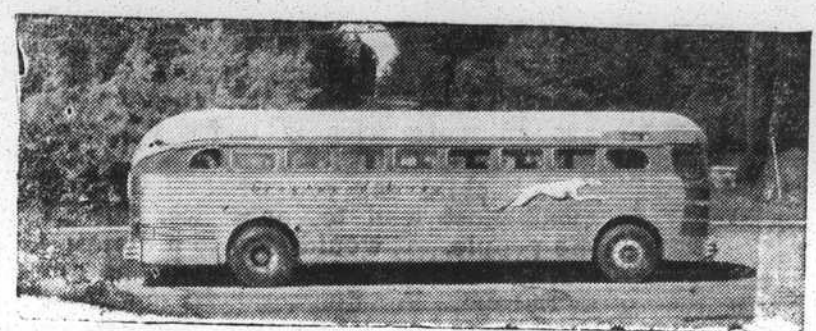
Thus the greatest revelation of this war so far has been the profound psychological oneness of all English-speaking peoples.

What greater catastrophe could happen than the conquest and obliteration of English-speaking culture and democracy by the barbarians led by Stalin, Hitler, Mussolini and Japan?

It would be NIGHT.

—Benjamin De Casseres
in Baltimore News-Post.

New Type Buses Introduced



A fleet of 350 radically new Greyhound buses, like the one pictured here, is now being delivered throughout the United States. A large number will be placed on bus schedules operating through the Atlantic Greyhound territory, states Mr. Arthur M. Hill, president of the Atlantic Greyhound Corporation in Charleston, W. Va. Each coach of the fleet will be air-conditioned, and approximately half of them will be powered by powerful 2-cycle Diesel motors. There are numerous improvements in the coach such as new-type reclining easy chairs, directed-beam reading lights, and retractable steps for easy boarding. The new buses are built largely of tough aluminum alloys, and cost about \$20,000 each.

Robert McNeill and Monroe Adams to Speak Tonight

Sparta Court House will be the scene tonight of a public discussion of campaign issues by two Republican candidates for office. Robert H. McNeill of Statesville, an attorney of many years experience, is candidate for governor of North Carolina.

Monroe Adams, also of Statesville, is candidate for the office of representative of the Ninth N. C. District in the National Congress, the place now held by R. L. Doughton of Alleghany County.

The Presbyterian Annual Sunday School Picnic

Thompson's picnic grounds at Glade Valley was the scene of merriment Tuesday evening when some sixty people, of all ages, gathered for the annual Sunday School picnic of the Presbyterian Church.

While the Younger set enjoyed games the women of the church prepared a bountiful meal on the open furnace, and all enjoyed a delicious supper.

To Help Celebrate Her 78th Birthday

A surprise birthday dinner was set for Mrs. Ennice Pollard on Sunday, September 22nd, at her home near New River Baptist church. Following the morning service at the church relatives, neighbors and friends began to gather at Mrs. Pollard's home with well-filled baskets. Short talks were made by four of the leaders, Taylor, Stamper, Billings, and Edwards, and all joined in to make the day a happy one.

If every child in America had a wholesome sandwich for lunch every day, there would be no wheat surplus.

Coming Events

- CAMPAIGN ISSUES
Sparta Court House, Sept. 26
- ALLEGHANY COUNTY FAIR
Sparta, Sept. 27, 28
- 84th ANNUAL STATE FAIR
Raleigh, Oct. 8 to 12

A New Naval Reserve Radio School

Need for more radio operators has caused a new school to be established at the Navy Yard, Charleston, S. C. Funds have been provided for training three classes of approximately 35 men each for a period of four months. The first class is expected to assemble on October 1, 1941 and June 1, 1941.

Amateur, commercial, and CCC Camp radio operators with valid licenses or permits, or others who have the ability to send and receive code at the rate of 12 wpm, who wish to enlist in the Naval Communication Reserve, Class V-3, for this training in active duty status, are invited to submit written applications to the Officer-in-Charge Naval Reserve Radio School, Navy Yard, Charleston, S. C. Application blanks are available at the Salisbury Navy Recruiting Station.

Applicants must be between the ages of 17 and 35, of good moral character, and possess specified physical requirements for enlistment.

Commercial radio telegraph operators with first or second class licenses or operators permits, and amateurs with Class "A" or "B" licenses may be enlisted as First Class Seaman with pay of \$54 per month, while training. Class "C" amateurs will be enlisted as Second Class Seaman with pay of \$36, and qualified applicants without licenses will be enlisted as Apprentice Seaman with pay of \$21 per month while in training.

Applicants enlisted in the Naval Communication Reserve for this training will be ordered to active duty for four months, transferred by commercial transportation to Charleston, and there provided with food and quarters, and their initial outfit of uniforms, clothing, and such books and equipment as may be necessary. Upon completion of this training, they will be afforded opportunity to volunteer for additional duty at sea.

Men enlisted in the Naval Communication Reserve will be exempt from conscriptive military training.

Mt. Zion Services And Baptizing

Rev. W. H. Caldwell, Baptist minister of Independence, will preach at Mt. Zion Methodist Church the fifth Sunday, September 29th, at 11 o'clock. In the afternoon at 2 o'clock there will be a baptizing in New River, at the Mouth of Prathers Creek when some 20 persons will receive the rite.

Congressman Bob Doughton Will Open the Campaign

The Ninth District Democratic meeting will be held at Salisbury on October 3, at which time Congressman Doughton will open the Democratic campaign in the district.

A business session will be held at 10:30 a. m. and speaking at 2 o'clock.

Governor Hoey, Democratic candidate J. M. Broughton, State chairman E. B. Denny, and Hon. Cameron Morrison plan to be present. Everyone is invited, and a large delegation from Congressman Doughton's home county is looked for by the Ninth District chairman, William D. Kizziah. Alleghany County chairman for the Ninth District Executive Committee is Edwin Duncan.

A Red Cross Public Meeting Is Called

Rev. Mr. Berry, the Alleghany County Red Cross Chairman, is calling a public meeting in the Register of Deeds office on Monday morning at 10 o'clock for the election of officers. All present officers and those interested in Red Cross work are asked to be present.

Court Week Has Been Unique

Under Judge Will J. Pless of Marion, N. C. of the 18th Judicial District, and with a very small court calendar, some thought one day might see everything finished. With only seven civil cases and ten criminal cases it appears now (Wed.) that most of the civil cases will be carried over. The one civil case that has occupied so much attention in the court room and has drawn the public in off the streets very noticeably is that of Earnest Hoppers and wife versus Johnson Wyatt. It is said to be no very new case, and the chances are it will not be settled suddenly. The other six civil cases listed may be compromised and settled or held over.

Of the criminal cases, that against Arlie Maines for manufacturing whiskey drew a fine of \$50 and costs.

Charlie Wright was fined \$50 and costs for drunken driving.

Talmadge Williams was fined \$50 and cost for drunken driving.

Everett Hoppers was fined \$50 and costs for drunken driving.

Arlie Crouse, for manufacturing whiskey, was sentenced to 12 months on the roads.

Bert Hendrix, charged with forgery, was let off with paying the court costs and the amount of \$26.65 to John Miles for the check he forged.

Robert Greer was adjudged not guilty, and the case against Junior Wright, Coy Kirby and Hopkins Brannock was continued for the defendants.

North Carolina's 84th annual State Fair will be held at Raleigh October 8 through 12.

To-Night

THURSDAY

At the Court House

Addresses by —
Robert H. McNeill
Republican Candidate for Governor

Monroe Adams
Republican Candidate for Congress

Public Discussion of Campaign Issues

NAPPY

COME ON SON, 'FESS UP!! YOU CAN TELL ME!! AFTER ALL, WE'RE PALS, AREN'T WE?

WELL...I'M TRVIN' T' START A TRAININ' CAMP LIKE TUFFY'S AN' I CAN'T EVEN GET ONE FIGHTER!

LOOK SON! JACK DEMPSEY ONCE TOLD ME, IF A FELLOW HAS NO CONFIDENCE IN HIMSELF, HE'S LICKED BEFORE HE STARTS!

GOSH POP! DID YOU KNOW JACK DEMPSEY?

GEE DAD! JUS' WAIT TILL I TELL TH' FELLERS ABOUT THIS

WELL, DON'T TELL THEM I CAN FIGHT AS WELL AS DEMPSEY, 'CAUSE I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO PROVE IT!!

By Irv Tirman