

Washington, D. C.—Guy T. Helvering, Commissioner of Internal Revenue, indicates that if you thought you had to pay a high income tax this year, you "ain't heard nothing yet." Plans are already being made for higher tax rates in 1941, with a probable increase of the normal tax from 4 to 6 percent. Tax rates will also probably jump on beer, liquor, tobacco, motor vehicles, theatre admissions and other luxuries; and the idea of a federal sales tax is being toyed with.

The Treasury Department has almost completely abandoned the idea of balancing the budget, and with vast government expenditures scheduled for 1941, Americans can look forward to the trend toward the high British tax rates. A comparison of the present British and American rates show that a married American with two children and an income of \$5,000 has to pay about \$75 in federal income tax, while an Englishman with the same income pays over \$1,000.

President Roosevelt, who can safely be called America's busiest man, has also the five busiest executive assistants. These men, who the President stated must have a "passion for anonymity," take a great deal of routine from the Chief Executive's shoulders and also venture out as special presidential trouble-shooters. One assistant, Lauchlin Currie, is now back from his economic mission to the Chinese government of Chiang-Kai-Shek. Another, Lowell Mellett, former newspaperman, is the Executive's press adviser and sits at his side during the famous Roosevelt press conferences. Mr. Mellett, our informant believes, is slated for the role of "director of public information," if press censorship should ever be imposed during the emergency. James H. Rowe, a disciple of Justice Felix Frankfurter, is Roosevelt's confidential legal consultant, and William H. McReynolds of Michigan holds a position which may be called "personnel adviser." The fifth and latest executive assistant is former Senator Sherman Minton of Indiana, who will probably be liaison officer between the Executive and key men in the Senate.

Zero Hour Near In the Balkans

British observers say that the zero hour is near in the Balkans and that Britain is ready to give Greece all-out support in meeting an expected thrust. Backed by the assurance of American aid in the form of planes, guns, tanks, and Greek troops, the British air force is holding its ground in Albania and is prepared to defend Salonika in the impending clash of war machines on ancient Macedonian battlefields.

The uninterrupted flow of German troops and munitions down the Danube Valley to Bulgaria indicated the eruption of violence will come soon, observers declared, and predicted the RAF, royal navy and British land forces will deal heavy blows the moment Hitler strikes.

Sweet Blitzkreig

A haughty German girl was attending a celebration in a certain town where both the British and German flags were displayed. As they floated in the breeze side by side the German Miss said in disdain, "Oh what a silly-looking rag the English flag is. It reminds me of nothing so much as that cheap striped candy they sell at the stores."

"Slim Jim"

So many enquiries come to the Star-Times about Slim Jim and His Gang, and so many walls because he does not appear, that at least a word of explanation is due. Oh no indeed, Slim Jim is not lost or stolen or forgotten. When circumstances necessitated the Star-Times confining itself to four pages it was thought that the half page required by Slim Jim was not justified. It has been the plan all the while to resume six pages each week and include Slim Jim just as soon as practicable. Present plans and hopes are that six pages and Slim Jim will be the program very soon. Slim Jim is still with us. Words of appreciation, or criticism are welcomed by the editor, who seeks to put out a worthy paper for Alleghany people. The large staff of loyal local correspondents is one of the great delights of this editor's experience.

Our world...

England Now Drafts the Women

London.—Ernest Bevin, minister of labor, announced in a nation-wide broadcast that for the first time in British history women will be conscripted for wartime service. All women 20 and 21 years old—married or single—must register for compulsory national service.

One Blitzkrieg That Backfired

Athens.—At least 50,000 Italian soldiers in a Fascist army of 120,000 were thrown out of action and Premier Mussolini's personally-directed "blitzkrieg," aimed to smash the Greeks at all costs, turned into what his own men bitterly called a "real massacre," authoritative Greek sources declare.

But Italy Beggars For One More Chance

Belgrade, Yugoslavia.—Italy has begged Germany not to strike the Greeks until she herself has one more chance at an impressive victory in Albania, various sources indicated last night, while the British are making good use of the time to concentrate on air defense of the Greek mainland.

Germany Desperate To Do Something

Belgrade.—Germany has turned Bulgaria into a huge arsenal manned by an estimated 500,000 troops in preparation for a drive to cut the Mediterranean in two and carry the war to the British in Africa, reports reaching well-informed quarters here say. To put this plan into execution, Germany's most urgent aim is to force Greece to capitulate. Once installed on the Peloponnesus Peninsula, the Germans would be less than 250 miles from the African coast and, according to these reports, it is Germany's aim to bridge the Mediterranean at this point and cut Britain's communications with the Near East.

Jugoslavia Acts To Resist The Axis

Istanbul, Turkey.—Diplomatic sources say that Jugoslavia is massing troops along a southeastern defense line paralleling the Bulgarian frontier to resist any German thrust from that newly-occupied neighboring state.

Fate Of Italy In Africa Is Sealed

Cairo.—New British victories in Eritrea and British Somaliland last night were believed virtually to have sealed the fate of Italy's East African empire comprising 1,725,300 square miles and 12,100,000 persons.

Seven Billion Dollars For Aid Fund

Washington.—House passage of the \$7 billion British aid fund by an overwhelming vote seemed assured after Republican leaders had joined with Democrats in defending the lease-lend program as the nemesis of the axis powers. Anticipating early approval by both chambers of the huge appropriation, President Roosevelt revealed at his press conference that part of it will be used to send foodstuffs and agricultural commodities to Great Britain, and possibly Spain and unoccupied France.

North Carolina Firm To Build 25 Ships

Washington.—The maritime commission announced yesterday that the first of seven contracts for the construction of 200 merchant ships in the President's emergency program had been awarded to the North Carolina Shipbuilding Company, Wilmington, N. C. The contract is for 25 ships at an aggregate estimated base cost of \$37,500,000. Delivery of the first vessel is called for within 287 days and all 25 vessels are to be delivered within 731 days.

North Carolina Income Tax \$14 Million

Raleigh.—Indications that North Carolina this fiscal year would realize \$14,000,000 from its income tax were seen as it was announced that through Monday receipts had climbed a quarter of a million dollars above returns for the whole record-setting year of 1939-40.

Twin Oaks

Twin Oaks, March 16.—Curtis Horton and family have moved to Radford, Va., where Mr. Horton is employed.

Mrs. Victor Kutherford, who has been ill for several weeks, does not seem to improve much.

The people of this community feel they have lost a real friend by the sudden death of A. A. Woodruff.

Mrs. Lebert Petty and children spent the week-end with her sister, Mrs. Lon Reeves.

Elder Gilbert Osborne, of North Wilkesboro, and Rev. John Bowie, of Glendale Springs preached at New Haven church last Sunday.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Whittaker burned down Saturday and was a complete loss. Kerosene was poured on the fire in the stove by one of the little boys while the mother went out to get milk for her children. The sleeping eight-months-old baby could not be saved though the mother tried frantically to reach it.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Sexton, who occupied the cabin at the Shell station for a time have moved back to their home.

Mr. and Mrs. Grady Irwin and children visited relatives in Galax during the week-end.

Miss Emoryetta Reeves had the cast changed on her leg last Thursday. The doctor reported that she was getting along fine.

Mr. and Mrs. Reece Phipps visited Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Sexton Sunday night.

Mrs. Cleo Jones and Mrs. Annie Shepherd, of Furches, visited Mrs. R. H. Sheets Saturday. The Young People's Class Meeting of New Haven church was

That Whitehead Auto Accident Of March 2nd

In addition to the main facts carried in last week's issue of the Star-Times regarding the auto accident at Whitehead on March 2nd, it appears that the car going north was driven by Dean Lyles, and was occupied by Lewis Kitchin, Earl Lyles and Ray Eller. As they are employed at Radford and needed to be at work on Monday they urged an immediate trial.

Patrolman Griggs says he made no arrest at the scene of the accident. Those involved wanted it settled on the spot but the Patrolman said unless they could settle it themselves it would need to go before a Justice of the Peace. Also, Patrolman Griggs reports that Hoppers apparently attempted to make a left turn too soon, before coming into the intersection, and without giving sufficient signal.

Nazis Wonder Where to Strike

Britain pours more mechanized troops into the Balkan area as the feeling increases in diplomatic quarters that apparent Nazi hesitation to attack Greece at once might be due to anxiety over Russia.

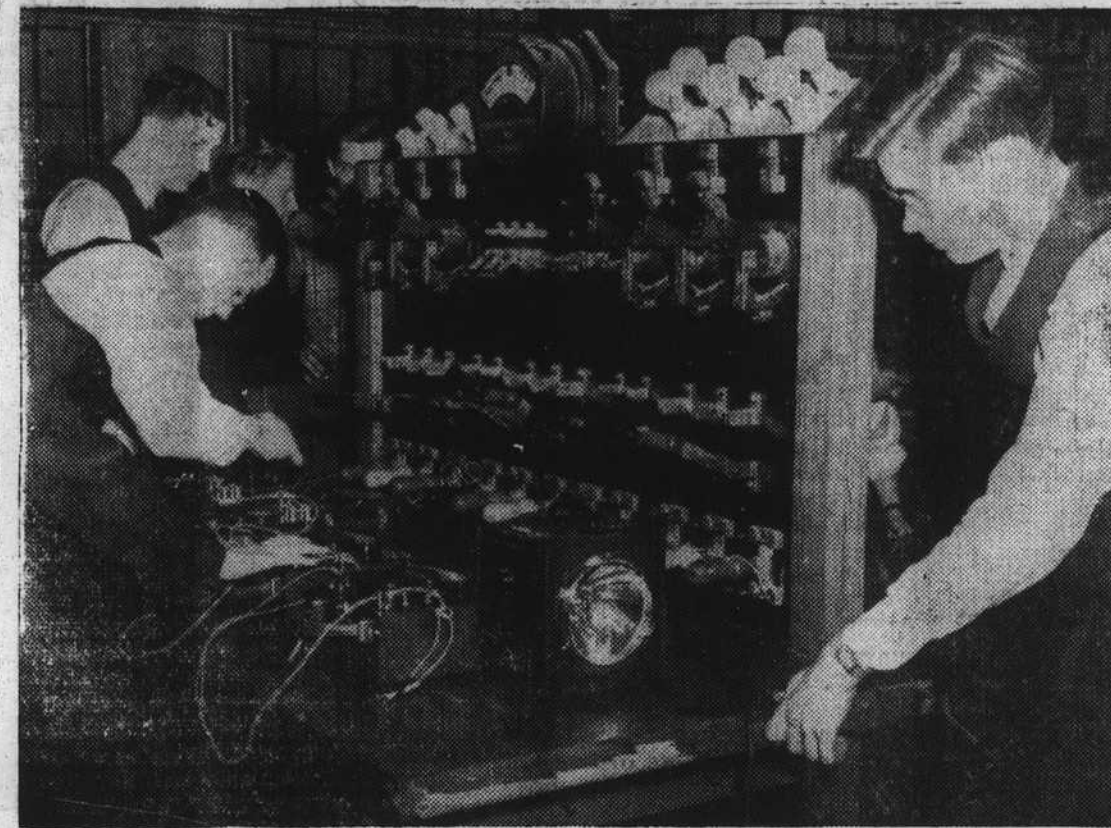
held Friday night at the home of Nan Reed. After devotionals, open forum and business discussion, the class enjoyed a social half-hour. Refreshments were served to 22 members. The meeting was directed by Miss Frances Wrench.

52nd. Year - No. 30.

Sparta, N. C.

Thursday, March 20, 1941.

High School Students Invited To Engineers Fair



Students in the School of Engineering at N. C. State College are busily preparing (as shown here) the scores of exhibits which they will display in the annual Engineers Fair April 18. High school students throughout North Carolina are being invited to the fair, which will last one day only. Miracles of modern science will be displayed in each of the eight departments of the School of Engineering. In this picture, electrical engineering students are preparing one of their displays. The fair attracts thousands of visitors to the State College campus annually.

Hitler Predicts Complete Victory For Axis Powers

The world was told on Sunday by Adolf Hitler that no amount of additional outside help for Britain can wrest final victory from the Axis powers.

Germany's armed forces, he said in a Memorial Day speech in the historic Zeughaus, or army museum, will take the lead during the spring and summer from the Italians, who bore the brunt through the winter, in wearing Britain down and winning ultimate victory.

Facing some 150 field marshals, generals, admirals, higher staff officers and about 100 cabinet members, reich leaders, gauleiters, blackshirt and brownshirt chiefs and party bigwigs, the Fuehrer spoke not in his usual fervent manner, of a man trying to win the German people over to his viewpoint. Instead he spoke calmly, almost monotonously—as though he were once again restating what his thinking is long accustomed to—German victory.

Wearing a grayish, long weather overcoat from which his rank was not discernible, but keeping on his gold-braided cap with the insignia of chief commander throughout the address he spoke for 13 minutes.

Meeting of Liberty W. M. S.

Liberty W. M. S. met last Saturday at the church with the president presiding. After the singing of the hymn of the year and a Scripture reading taken from Isaiah 54, Mrs. W. P. Maxwell led in prayer. Mrs. J. T. Fender gave the secretary's report.

"The Urgent Gospel—Need of the Homeland" was given by Mrs. William Wagoner, Mrs. James McD. Wagoner, Miss Mae Caudill, Mrs. Maxwell and Mrs. Joines. An offering was given for Home Missions and the Co-operative program.

It was announced that the services of a Young People's leader could be secured this summer for a short period of time.

Mrs. Jettie Matthews was among the visitors present.

Mussolini At The Front

At least 50,000 Italian soldiers in a Fascist army of 120,000 were thrown out of action and Premier Mussolini's personally-directed "blitzkrieg" aimed to smash the Greeks at all costs turned into what his own men bitterly called a "real massacre," authoritative Greek sources declared.

Ernest Edwards New Register Of Deeds

The County Commissioners did a gracious thing when they appointed Ernest Edwards to the place left vacant by the death of T. M. Gambill. Mr. Edwards had been the assistant for many months, was well acquainted with the work, and should make an excellent Register of Deeds for the county.

Death Claims An Outstanding Man, Alex Woodruff

Easily one of Alleghany's outstanding citizens, Alex A. Woodruff slipped away last Monday morning about five o'clock, at his home on New River, five miles north of Sparta, into the peaceful sleep of death, at the age of 85 years and five months. For years he had not been in robust health and yet he was indeed an active man. Nor had he been recently in very bad health except for a cold. But Monday morning, with very little indication that the end was near, he quietly breathed his last.

Mr. Woodruff had been in usual health the day before the end came. He had fed his highly-prized saddle horse and draft team at the barn the evening before, had listened to the radio, listened to his daughter read, chatted and laughed with the family until nine o'clock and had rested well up until 5 o'clock Monday morning, when the end came. He awakened his wife with slight choking noise, but never moved.

Mr. Woodruff was a member of one of the leading families of the county. He was born and reared near Cherry Lane and was the last of his family to go. Mr. Woodruff was a large land owner and breeder of live stock, of which he was very fond. His pure-bred sheep had won many blue ribbons at the State fair at Raleigh. His friends were many, he having entertained four governors of North Carolina in his home.

He is survived by his wife, nee Miss Edith Woodruff, one son, Herbert, of Cherry Lane, four daughters, Misses Pearl and Ruby Woodruff, of Sparta, Mrs. Carl Hash, of Piney Creek, and Mrs. Nannie McCann, of Cherry Lane, and eight grandchildren.

Mrs. Woodruff and the two daughters, Misses Pearl and Ruby and one grandson, Alex McCann, composed the home, the daughters having adopted the grandson as their heir.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday, March 19th, at Woodruff Primitive Baptist church near Cherry Lane by Rev. Grant Cothran, and Elder John Crouse and interment was in the church cemetery.

Home and Child Destroyed by Fire At Twin Oaks

Last Saturday about midday the home of Arthur Whitaker at Twin Oaks, located off the highway beyond Goodman's mill, caught fire and was completely destroyed. And the fire also burned to death little eight-months-old Genevieve, youngest of the three children. Everything in the home was a complete loss.

Just after noon, Mrs. Whitaker went across to a neighbor, a very short distance, for some milk for her children who were not well. Before she returned she heard screams from the direction of home and looked out to see the building in flames. When she reached the house she was able to rescue one little boy about three, but the fire was too fierce for her to reach the baby.

A four-year-old boy ran out himself. Mrs. Whitaker tried to get at the baby through a side window but it collapsed in front of her.

It seems that while the mother was away the four-year-old boy decided to encourage the fire with the can of kerosene. Lacking experience with kerosene, he got much too much fire.

Funeral services for little Genevieve was on Sunday at 2 o'clock at Shiloh, conducted by Rev. W. H. Handy.

This is the fourth life to be taken by fire in this county in two months.

Mrs. F. N. Roupe Passed Away Wednesday

Another of Sparta's outstanding citizens slipped away very early Wednesday morning, March 19th, when Mrs. Norman Roupe answered the call of death.

She had been unwell for some little time, but her death came as a shock, nevertheless.

Her husband, F. Norman Roupe, passed away only about a year ago.

Mrs. Roupe leaves two daughters, Mrs. Mamie Halsey, of Sparta, and Mrs. Nannie Hash, of Piney Creek, and four sons, Lester, Leonard, Howard, and George, who is superintendent of the Washington State Reformatory at Monroe, Wash.

The metal-working industry, in the United States, it is reported, uses more than a million and a quarter machine tools of various kinds—an investment worth billions of dollars, and much of it of great use in the present national defense effort.

Roosevelt Warns Of Sacrifices to Come in the U. S.

In an address delivered before the White House Correspondents association Saturday night in Washington, D. C., President Franklin D. Roosevelt warned the people of the United States that the path of sacrifice and inconvenience lies ahead for all, and made a "total victory" over the dictators the objective of an American "total effort," unflinchingly sustained, to place the implements of warfare in the hands of nations resisting aggression.

"You will feel the impact of this gigantic effort in your daily lives," he said in his address. "You will feel it in a way that will cause you many inconveniences."

The nation must be prepared for lower profits and longer hours of labor, he said. The arms program must not be obstructed by "unnecessary strikes." The idea of "normalcy" and "business as usual" must be abandoned. There must be "no war profiteering."

And, he hailed the passage of the lease-lend bill by congress as a decision ending "any attempts at appeasement in our land; the end of urging us to get along with the dictators; the end of compromise with tyranny and the forces of oppression."

The address was one of the president's most vigorous utterances, a speech bristling with determination to eliminate Nazism as a world force, and dedicating the material and industrial resources of the country anew to that purpose. It had been expected and awaited for days.

As a sort of "studio audience" for his grim remarks, the chief executive chose the annual dinner of the correspondents association, a gay affair, which the president always attended but never before has addressed. From the ballroom of the Willard hotel, his words went out, not only to the people of this country but by short wave in 14 languages, including those of all the German-occupied nations.

As the president spoke, he stood between two flags—the American flag and the blue flag that symbolizes the highest office in the land. He was frequently interrupted by applause, and particularly when he said that arms production should not be obstructed by "unnecessary strikes" or by "short-sighted management."

Reaching the middle portions of his address, his voice began to rise, in contrast with the previous portion which had been delivered in a low intimate tone. Through the latter passages, he spoke emphatically with his head bobbing from side to side in his own characteristic fashion.

When he called for sacrifices to help the democracies, and added that higher taxes might be involved and longer hours and lower profits, he smiled. Then quickly, he aroused his audience to applause with his quickly added statement that sacrifices did not mean the loss of any fundamental rights.

Two highly interested spectators were Wendell L. Willkie, last year's Republican presidential nominee, and a strong supporter of help for Britain, and Lord Halifax, seated just in front of and below the president, listened intently, but discreetly refrained from joining in the applause.

Woman's Club Meets Friday

Tomorrow afternoon, Friday, at 3 o'clock the Woman's Club will meet in the Community Building with Mrs. C. A. Thompson, Mrs. R. L. Berry and Mrs. Harry Vaughan as hostesses. As the topic for the meeting is "Art" each member will be asked to respond at roll call with the name of an artist.

Rome Imagines U. S. A. in Action

The official Rome radio says that President Roosevelt's speech promising all-out aid to Britain, Greece and China, could be interpreted as an announcement that "American soldiers will take a direct part in the war and in two continents—in Europe and in Asia."