

DEATH SENTENCE UPHeld BY COURT

Alex Harris, Hoke County, Raymond Granger, Negro, Will Be Executed

RALEIGH, Dec. 15.—(AP)—The state supreme court today upheld death sentences in two capital cases and ruled in another opinion that a county does not have the right to levy more than five cents tax for its county poor fund.

No error was found in conviction of Alex Harris in Hoke county last January of first degree murder in the death of Mrs. E. A. Bill, and the execution date was automatically set for December 31.

Harris was charged with the triple slaying of Mrs. Bill, her son, Eugene Bill, and her daughter, Mrs. Estelle Wilson, at a filling station near Raeford August 27, 1942. He was tried and convicted however only in the case of Mrs. Bill.

The defense claimed temporary insanity. Also no error was found in conviction and sentencing to death in Columbus county last February of Wayman Grainger, Negro, for the first degree murder of Harry V. Phipps.

Testimony at the superior court trial was to the effect that Phipps had remarked that he would tell Grainger's wife about the latter "walking around with other women and killed Phipps."

The execution date also was set automatically at December 31. The supreme court upheld the action of Cumberland county superior court in ordering R. E. Nichols county treasurer to refund \$2,467.07 alleged overpayment of poor fund taxes to the Atlantic Coast Line railroad.

ACL contended that the Cumberland poor fund tax rate of 17 cents per hundred dollars evaluation was 12 cents more than the state law authorized. The lower court ruled in favor of ACL and the supreme court affirmed the decision.

The high court also affirmed the action of the Richmond county superior court in holding that H. B. Brown was not entitled to additional payment as judge of municipal court since the court was established by legislative act in 1939. Brown contended that he was due payment for the remainder of the term to which he was elected.

No error was found in the conviction in March 1943 in Guilford county of Tom Case for manslaughter in the death of A. C. Swain. Case was sentenced to five to seven years.

Other opinions: Cannon et al. v. Cannon et al. Cabarrus reversed. Williams admr. v. Rand et als. Wake affirmed. Utilities Commission v. Trucking Co. Mecklenburg affirmed.

Nebel v. Nebel Mecklenburg no error. State v. Rising New Hanover no error. Corbett v. Lumber Co. New Hanover affirmed.

State v. Clarence Hill et al. Guilford new trial. State v. Epps Robeson no error. State v. Numa Hill Guilford no error. State v. Cummings Robeson no error. Baird v. Baird Guilford no error. Green v. Chrismon et als. Guilford affirmed.

Chason v. Marley Robeson modified and affirmed.

RAIL BROTHERHOODS CALL 3-DAY STRIKE (Continued from Page One)

lieve that swollen railroad earnings larcenous profiteering soaring prices and depressed real wages are necessities of the war effort.

"They inhere in the nature of things only when Congress passes bad laws and administrators interpret good ones wrongly and execute them badly. All the frantic and cheap appeals to patriotism issued by the offices of war mobilization and war stabilization cannot obscure this issue. If there is any lack of patriotism in this country the public may look for it not among the war workers in industry and transportation but in Washington and in the swivel chair propagandists of the government itself.

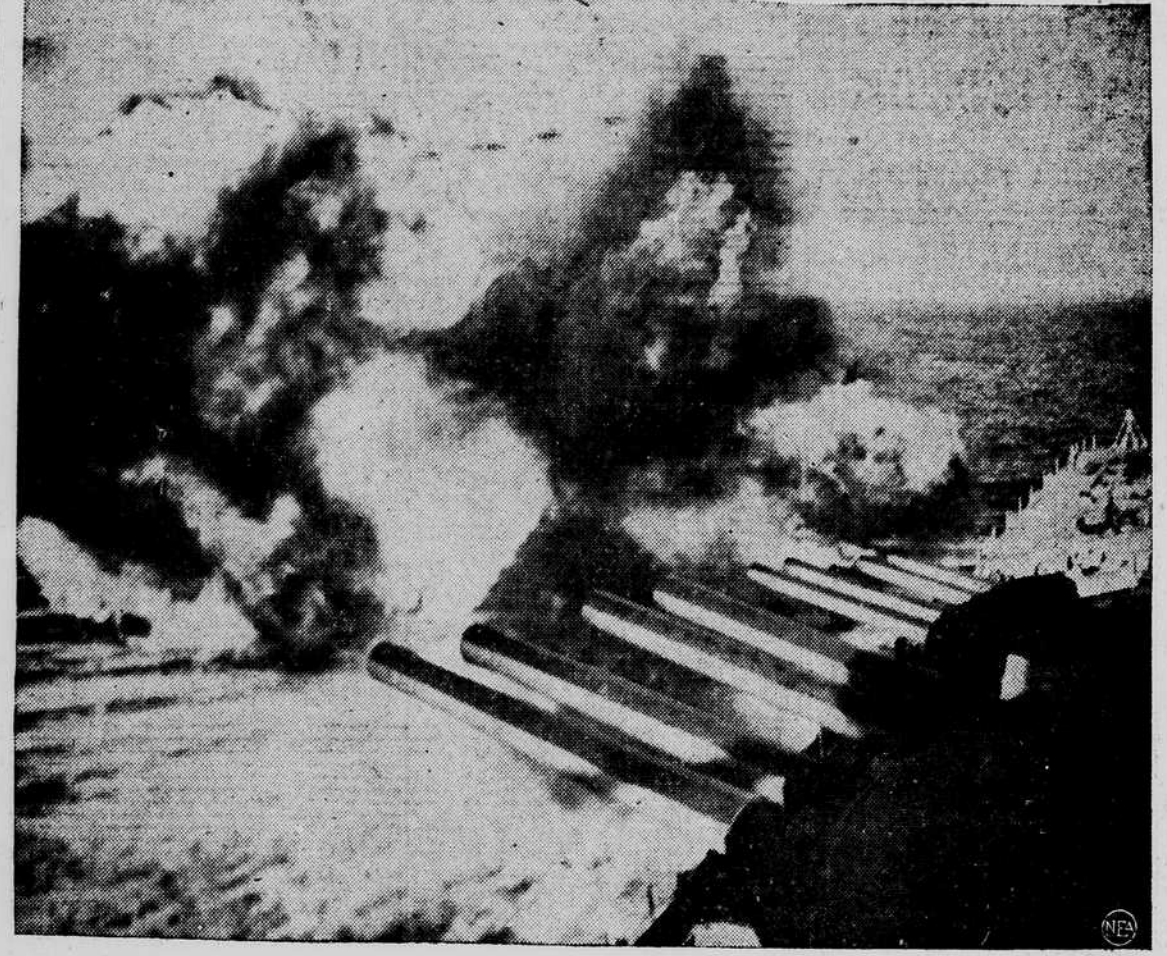
The strike was ordered to start at 6 a. m. on Thursday Dec. 30 affecting approximately "one-fourth of the nation's railroads," and to spread to other selected groups of railroads the same time each of the three succeeding days. Such plans now are being printed and will be mailed tomorrow to union officials the brotherhoods announced.

How To Relieve Bronchitis

Cremulson relieves promptly because it goes right to the seat of the trouble to help loosen and expel germ laden phlegm, and aid nature to soothe and heal raw, tender, inflamed bronchial mucous membranes. Tell your druggist to sell you a bottle of Cremulson with the understanding you must like the way it quickly allays the cough or you are to have your money back.

CREMULSION for Coughs, Chest Colds, Bronchitis

The Guns of France Speak Again



Mighty broadside from the guns of the reconditioned French battleship Richelieu symbolizes the rebirth of France as an active fighter against Germany. The big warship is in North Africa after refitting in U. S.

WILMINGTON HIT BY 5 INCH SNOW

(Continued from Page One)

not to venture on the highways. If cause should arise to re-estimate highway travel drivers are warned to proceed slowly.

All public schools of Wilmington and New Hanover county will be closed Thursday, but will be opened Friday unless further notice is given Thursday afternoon, according to announcement by Dr. John Hoggard, chairman of the county board of education.

St. Mary's Catholic school will also be closed Thursday, it was announced Wednesday night. The Atlantic Coastline Railroad company reported that train No. 42, which was due to leave here at 7:15 p. m. Wednesday night was almost two hours late in departing. It is expected that the prevalence of influenza would handicap the company's efforts to keep trains on schedule quite as much as the inclement weather.

The Atlantic Coastline agents at Rocky Mount and Florence reported heavy snow, but were worried more about the flu than the element.

It was stressed that every man absent because of exposure to the storm would be the man liable to become ill and remain off the job. Dr. A. H. Elliot, city-county health officer, declared that the severe weather would promote the spread of influenza here.

"I would like to emphasize the importance of trying to avoid exposure. Avoid wet feet and wet clothes," Dr. Elliot commented.

SNOWFALL GENERAL

RALEIGH, Dec. 15.—(AP)—North Carolina shivered today as temperatures tumbled after snow had blanketed most of the state.

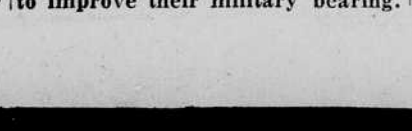
It was the first snowfall of the year for most of the state. In Charlotte, the flakes started shortly before last midnight and continued until nearly an inch lightly clothed the area.

In the vicinity of Raleigh the depth was two inches. The Durham area was barely covered while Greensboro had none, although the weather there was the coldest of the winter. The snow was continuing around Kinston at nightfall, and predictions were that a four-inch layer would cover the area.

The precipitation was followed by sharp drops in temperature at most places.

Predictions at Greensboro were

Twin Bracers



Enrolled in the same officer candidate class at the Anti-Aircraft Artillery School, Camp Davis, N. C., twins Mitchell, left, and Lynn Farrar, of Berkeley, Calif., practice the famous OCS "brace" to improve their military bearing.

Obituaries

MISS MARY WILLIAMSON TABOR CITY, Dec. 15.—Mrs. Emma Williamson, 62, died Tuesday afternoon at 3 o'clock after an illness of four days in Rogers hospital in Loris, S. C. She was a resident of the Oakdale community of Horry county. Funeral arrangements are not complete, pending arrival of a son from California.

Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. Eva Mae Sarvis and Mrs. Maggie Williamson, Route 1, Tabor City; five sons, W. K. Williamson and J. C. Williamson, Hopewell, Va.; J. H. Williamson of Tabor City; D. H. Williamson, Norfolk, Va.; and Thomas H. Williamson, U. S. Army, stationed in California; three sisters, Mrs. Maggie Nobles, Hopewell, Va., Mrs. Annie Bozeman, Mrs. Nancy Soles, Tabor City; and one brother, Willie Cartrette of Tabor City.

U. S. FLIERS BOMB BASES IN GREECE

(Continued from Page One)

islands by sea. The several hundred islands in the Aegean, with innumerable bays and landing fields, constitute the Germans' principal barrier to any offensive the Allies might open from the Middle East into the Balkans.

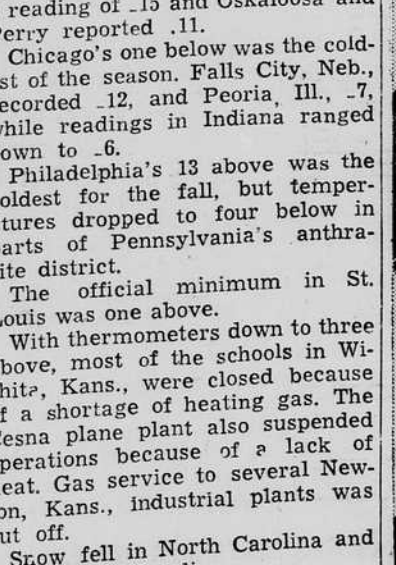
Clouds prevented full observation of the attack on Piraeus, but an official release said "many small vessels were believed to have been hit." One hangar at Tatoi airdrome was left in a cloud of smoke and fire and two others were covered by a sheet of flame. Bursts also were observed from Tatoi railroad station and railway tracks bordering the airdrome.

The co-ordinated attacks by waves of bombers constituted the same type of knock-out tactics used by the German air force during the invasion of Greece in 1941, when British planes stationed at the same airdromes around Athens virtually were wiped out.

Until yesterday, the largest blow struck by the Allies at the Balkans was that of last Aug. 1, when 177 Liberators flew at tree-top level to blast and burn the Ploesti oil fields. This was the first time four targets in Greece had been hit simultaneously.

Piraeus harbor virtually was destroyed on the first day of the German invasion of Greece, when a Nazi bomber hit a British ship loaded with TNT in the harbor and the explosion sank 22 ships and completely wrecked the harbor installations. Yesterday's attack indicated that the Nazis after two and a half years finally had been able to repair the port.

Pilots President



As a flyer, Major Otis Bryan, above, just has to be good—for the big Douglas C-54 transport he pilots often carries a precious cargo. He's President Roosevelt's personal pilot, and flew the Commander-in-Chief on his recent Africa-Near East trips.

GILMORE CITY, Ia., Dec. 15.—(AP)—Mrs. Alama Edgington, 50-year old high school principal, gave her life yesterday when she burned to death in a blazing schoolhouse because she wanted to be certain all of the 215 pupils had escaped from the burning two-story building.

CONTEST POSTPONED

Due to the weather, the Recitation - Declaration contest scheduled for Wednesday evening has been postponed until after the Christmas holidays, according to Mrs. Ruth Warren, chairman of the project.

SUPPER PLANNED

The Men's Club of St. John's Parish will have their annual Christmas supper meeting, as planned tonight (Thursday) at 6:15 p. m. in the Parish House.

PAGEANT POSTPONED

The Forest Hills School pageant planned for Thursday evening has been postponed until Friday at 10 a. m. if school opens then.

City Briefs

HOLD RAZOR, BOOK An electric razor and book were taken from the automobile towed in, and later released, by police from Second and Dock streets, December 10. The owner of the vehicle may claim the articles by calling at police headquarters and identifying them.

THALIAN PLAY The Thalian play, "Accent on Youth," which was cancelled Wednesday night due to prevailing weather conditions, will play its last performance Thursday night at 8:30 o'clock in Thalian hall.

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MARRIAGE LICENSES Marriage Licenses were issued in New Hanover county Wednesday by Adrain B. Rhodes, registrar of deeds, to Hermon Bollenger, Acme, and Bess L. Mallard, Wilmington; John L. Berg, Hoimen, Wis., and Bernie Alberta Bouché, Independence, Wis.; Myron D. Yantis, Camp Davis, and Norma Hott, Champaign, Ill.

NAZIS ANNOUNCE 2 NEW RED DRIVES (Continued from Page One)

sians attacked with perhaps 60,000 men, and three tank brigades in the area south of Nevel where the Red army was but 70 miles from the Latvian border, a Nazi broadcast said. The Germans admitted 16 waves of attack in one sector and conceded some breaches made in their lines. These, they said, were "sealed off."

The second attack was in southern White Russia, where the Red Army forces which captured Gornel were reported to have begun a thrust with 100,000 infantrymen and two tank brigades toward the rail junction of Zhlobin, ten miles west of advanced Russian positions.

The Germans claimed a "fall defense success" on the first day of this drive. On these German reports the Russians maintained silence—their customary procedure at the beginning of any drive. But Moscow radio, in a broadcast to the Red Army, made an ominous promise.

"This winter will see a Soviet offensive on a larger scale than ever before," it said. "Winter is the most convenient time for Red Army operations as the past two war winters have shown. It is the best time for outflanking movement, surprise raids, encirclement and annihilation of the enemy."

Berlin radio and Stockholm dispatches said the Germans viewed the Russian offensive south of Nevel as a preliminary to a tremendous winter offensive on the northern front below Leningrad in an effort to drive a wedge through to the Baltic.

"Activity is increasing hourly" in this area, Berlin said, and it quoted some military circles as seeing an effort to lay the groundwork for other offensive thrusts by American and British troops into northern Europe.

The Germans were said to be mobilizing in Estonia and Latvia to meet the expected drive and it was admitted that a successful Soviet push would influence their position in Finland, for it would give the Soviets a stronger position on the Baltic sea. Even supply lines to Norway might be endangered.

In fact, there were indications that the Germans, preparing to meet Allied pushes from the west and south, hoped for nothing more than holding actions in Russia during the next few months. Stockholm reports said the Germans hope to hold the Dnieper river line and prevent a Soviet breakthrough into Rumania, keeping forces to flank any Russian amphibious attack through the Black Sea against Rumania and Bulgaria.

Moscow radio noted an increase in Soviet aerial activity at Leningrad, where Red bombers soared out to wreck German ammunition dumps, artillery batteries and fortifications. The renewed Soviet push toward Zhlobin, on the railroad from Gornel to Minsk, came from the southwest. Berlin said 40 Russian tanks were destroyed but admitted "temporary Russian penetrations" which it declared were beaten back in a counter-attack.

DISCOVERY OF THIS COLDS' RELIEF

(home medicated mutton suet)—which grandmas used for coughing—nasal congestion, muscle aches of colds—teaches modern mothers to follow her example. So their families get relief from these colds' miseries with Penetro, the saline with modern medication in a base containing old fashioned mutton suet. 25c. double supply 35c. Demand Penetro.

TAFT ATTEMPTS SUBSIDY PEACE

(Continued from Page One)

plan are those to curtail pork prices, at an estimated cost of \$200,000,000 yearly the \$100,000,000 wheat flour payments to control bread prices; and those on soybeans, prunes and raisins, canned fruits and vegetables, cheese, dried beans, potatoes, peanuts, sugar beets, truck crops, shortening and feed wheat.

The Taft bill provides that maximum prices established for farm products shall not be below the government support price. If the market price fell below the support price, the government, through the Commodity Credit Corporation, would be authorized to buy for resale to processors.

In its executive session today the banking committee considered the Taft amendment but took no vote on it. It is to be considered in the reconvened session tomorrow along with a bill by Senator Bankhead (D-Ala) to eliminate subsidies and require upward price adjustments.

The Bankhead measure is similar to the House subsidy repealer except that it would permit liquidation of existing subsidies up to June 30, 1944, whereas the bill would cut off the payments January 1.

8TH. ARMY SECURES NEW BRIDGEHEAD

(Continued from Page One)

Army sector still was confined to patrol clashes. It was a Nazi prisoner seized in one of these "feeler" stabs by Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark's troops who winced at the mention of Texas.

During questioning, he declared that Germans fighting in the St. Louis to the House subsidy repealer except that it would permit liquidation of existing subsidies up to June 30, 1944, whereas the bill would cut off the payments January 1.

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- JAYSON SHIRTS \$2.25 and \$2.50
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