

MIAMI TO FIGHT FOR AIR ROUTES

MIAMI, Fla., Jan. 1.—(P)—City Manager A. B. Curry and Miami officials today drafted final plans for a conference with mayors of Southern and Middle-Western cities to determine ways of maintaining Miami's position as air gateway to South America and the continents across the Atlantic.

The agenda for the conference, scheduled to get under way tomorrow morning, was discussed by the city manager, Mayor Leonard K. Thompson, and Washington attorney for the Miami Port Authority, George M. Morris.

Emphasis was given the importance of Miami as a commercial air terminus today by Mayor James D. Stewart, of Cincinnati. "Our main business is with the South," Mayor Stewart declared. "Cincinnati is the greatest city in this country for producing tool machinery. It has high priority. In peace time it would be shipped by air whenever machinery or parts are needed quickly in South America."

He noted that flights from and to Miami this week-end had maintained schedule while those out of New York were grounded by weather.

OPA ESTABLISHES ACCOUNTING UNIT UNDER PAUL GREEN

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—(UP)—Administrator Chester Bowles tonight announced establishment of an Office of Price Administration Accounting Department headed by Paul M. Green as deputy administrator for accounting.

He said that elevation of the Office of Accounting service to the rank of department did not constitute a change in basic OPA policy since the accounting staff always has functioned as an independent firm of public accountants and will continue to do so. Green has been head of the OPA accounting staff since July, 1943.

It also was announced that Clive F. Marshall, Chicago, has been named price executive of the cereals, feeds and agricultural chemicals branch of OPA's Food Price Division. He replaces Colin S. Gordon who is returning to private business in Chicago.

Ground Forces Personnel Swapped For Army Fliers

ASHEVILLE, Jan. 1.—(P)—Army Ground and Service Forces redistribution stations are assigning ground forces personnel to the Army Air Forces in return for more than 50,000 Air Forces soldiers who have been transferred to the Ground Forces for combat duty. It was announced here today by Col. Ulric N. James, commanding officer of the redistribution station here.

The men transferred from the Ground to the Air Forces at the station here, Col. James pointed out, will be confined to those who no longer are physically capable of combat duty. They will be given short periods of conversion training, he added, at Biloxi, Miss., and then assigned to duty with Air Corps installations.

Charlotte Bank Clearings Reach All-Time Top In '44

CHARLOTTE, Jan. 1.—(UP)—Charlotte bank clearings since 1935 have increased steadily, with the total for 1944 reaching an all-time peak over \$2,000,000,000, it was announced today by Oscar W. Bush, head of the Charlotte Clearing House Association.

Bush said the bank clearings in 1944 were \$1,868,817,878, while year-to-date clearings have climbed to \$2,022,448,100 this past year from \$553,471,400 in 1935.

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U. S. Pacific Sea Caravan Moves Against Japs



American seamen aboard a Coast Guard patrol frigate look across a vast expanse of the Pacific and count 32 ships, part of a mighty caravan of reinforcements and supplies for forces under General MacArthur. The patrol vessel is one of many covering the flanks of the huge convoy as it moves westward with men and material against the Japanese. This is an official U. S. Coast Guard photo. (International)

Battle To Be Opened For House Leadership

RALEIGH, Jan. 1.—(P)—Two remaining majority candidates for speaker of the 1945 House, opened separate headquarters here today as they prepared for a final drive for votes both expressing confidence of victory at a caucus to be held tomorrow night.

The two candidates, Oscar Richardson of Union and George Uzzell of Rowan, apparently had the field to themselves. All other prospective and announced candidates dropped out of the race months ago and no prospective candidates were expected on the scene.

Richardson reiterated a statement made several days ago that he would win the majority nomination. He claimed 71 votes, of which only 52 would be needed to win. Uzzell, while declining to reveal his vote pledges, said he "had enough pledges to win."

Veteran House members said they expected the speakership fight to go to caucus unless Governor-Elect R. Gregg Cherry expressed a preference for one or the other of the candidates. Cherry previously had said he would remain neutral.

Caucuses to be held by the House and Senate Democrats and by the minority House group tomorrow night will precede the official opening of the 1945 biennial Legislature by less than 24 hours.

The first General Assembly session will get underway at noon Wednesday, with the principal business scheduled to be the election and seating of officers and clerks.

The Senate caucus is expected to be a routine affair. Archie Gay

of Northampton, apparently is unopposed for president-protem, and Ray Byrley of Lee county, is unopposed for principal clerk. No opposition has been announced against W. H. Scott of Chatham for Senate sergeant-at-arms.

The minority Republican House group will hold its caucus at 6:30, and eight constitutional officers, along with two associate justices of the Supreme Court, also will take the oath of office.

The General Assembly will meet Thursday at 11 a. m. for a short session and will recess to reconvene for the inauguration ceremonies at Memorial Auditorium at 12 p. m.

The inauguration itself probably will have all the pomp and ceremony of pre-war inaugurations. At least six military and civilian bands are scheduled to march in a two-mile long parade beginning at 11:15 a. m. and other marching units will include military groups from Fort Bragg, Camp Butler, ORD at Greensboro, State College, the State Guard, and Cherry's old war-time battalion, the 15th machine-gun section of the 30th Division, which will hold a reunion in connection with the event.

TAX DEDUCTION ADVICE ISSUED

Two pieces of cautionary advice about income tax deductions were issued to local taxpayers yesterday by the office of Raymond D. Christian, chief zone deputy of the Internal Revenue bureau.

The first warning was aimed at the man or woman who has heard about the Bureau's Form W-2, to file which requires nearly no work whatever, since it consists in effect of a receipt for withholding taxes already collected.

To salaried workers who have paid out heavily through the year on medical services, losses, alimony and other deductible expenses, it was pointed out, W-2 can be a trap as easily as it can be a boon to others. It allows only a 10-per cent automatic deduction. Form 1040, last year's short form and this year's only fill-out type return blank, allows legitimate deductions to mount without limit. Taxpayers in any doubt as to whether or not their deductions may run over 1 per cent are advised to apply for the form and try a comparison.

At war workers who do this, the second caution is aimed. It is no longer permissible, they are told to deduct rent, board or other living expenses incurred in the locality where they work. In contrast to last year's ruling, a home maintained elsewhere does not enable a worker in Wilmington to count his living costs here as a traveling expense.

The Form 1040, to be used this year also as worksheet for 1945 estimates, furnishes a graduated table as alternate money-saving device for non-salaried, agricultural and professional workers whose deductible expenses run less than the automatic 10 per cent to which every earner of less than \$5,000 annually is entitled. The table is used to show the amount of the 10 per cent deduction from an adjusted gross income, that is, an income from which business losses have already been subtracted.

Earners of more than \$5,000 annually receive an automatic \$500 deduction but have also the opportunity to use the 1040 deductible expense list, whether or not they are subject to withholding taxes.

THREE PERSONS ARE INJURED IN AUTO ACCIDENTS

Injuries were sustained by three Wilmingtonians in New Year's week-end holiday automobile accidents, City police reported yesterday.

Admitted to James Walker Memorial hospital with possible internal injuries was E. L. Lewis, of 44 Spofford Village, who was injured "when something went wrong with the front end of his car causing him to turn over" at Thirteenth and Marstell streets, police said.

Mrs. Frank Thomas, of 510 North Fourth street, was hospitalized for bruises and contusions of a minor nature after she was struck down by a vehicle, operated by Irving Hewlett of Summer Hill. Hewlett told police he could not avoid hitting the woman as she started across the street, changed her mind, and headed back.

Seven-year-old Bobby Ward, of 214 1/2 Castle street, received face bruises when the bicycle on which he was riding with his 12-year-old brother, Harlee, traveled through a red signal light at Third and Castle street and crashed into an automobile, driven by W. G. Hedgepath, of Whiteville. Police reported that the boy was treated and released from James Walker hospital.

Thousand British Troops Home From Western Front

LONDON, Jan. 1.—(P)—A thousand Tommies returned to Britain today on home leave from the Western Front. Relatives thronged railway stations to greet them.

They will have nine days in Britain—seven with their families and two for travel to and from ports. Today's group was composed of veterans of the D-Day landings. Other contingents are expected almost daily under the home leave rotation plan, announced several weeks ago.

LT. GEORGE GAREY, USCG, IS PROMOTED

The promotion of Lt. George A. Garey, U.S.C.G., of Wilmington, to the rank of lieutenant commander was announced yesterday by the office of the Captain of the Port.

Commander Garey, who served as chief petty officer in World War I and was commissioned as a lieutenant, senior grade, in the Coast Guard late in 1942, is on temporary duty here with the Captain of the Port's office. He organized and commanded the beach patrol in the Wilmington area during its operation here from 1942 to 1944, following which he was transferred to Charleston.

Commander Garey, whose wife and younger son reside in the city, was employed by the Wilmington Printing Co. prior to his call to active duty in this war. His older son is serving with the Army Air Forces in the Pacific theater.

ARNALL TO AID IN RATE BATTLE

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—(P)—Confident of victory, Georgia's Governor Ellis Arnall prepared today to wage a legal battle he termed "one of the most important in history to my State and the South."

The governor said that "because of the tremendously high stakes involved" he would personally argue before the Supreme Court tomorrow his plea for equalization of Southern freight rates.

Arnall declared the case "far exceeds in importance" a similar request pending before the Interstate Commerce Commission.

"The ICC matter is just a drop in the bucket compared to our Supreme Court action," he told a reporter "in our brief filed with the court we charge a conspiracy of railroads in fixing rates.

If we can rectify that situation the rates will take care of themselves."

Arnall asserted "it will be the first time on record a governor has presented his state's case before the court personally but this matter is so important to me that I decided to revert to my former role of lawyer. I am confident we will get a favorable verdict."

The governor said he would be flanked by Attorney General Biddle and Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge, but that they would be "listeners and advisors only."

The Justice Department in a brief filed as a friend of the court laws support the relief sought.

Milwaukee Police Teach Youths Respect For Law

MILWAUKEE, Jan. 1.—(UP)—Chief of Police Joseph T. Kluchesky and his assistants are teaching teen-aged youngsters in Milwaukee public and parochial schools the meaning of law and order.

The new educational program is changing the old method whereby according to Kluchesky, the first and perhaps only time most children came in contact with officers of the law occurred when they got into trouble.

Now, however, the youngsters, in groups of 50 to 100, meet every Saturday morning with police officers and observe the functions of the police department at the safety building.

"Besides serving as a crime prevention movement, the program will help the youngsters in becoming law-abiding citizens," the police chief explained. "Movies and talks will instill in them the importance of respecting other people's property and the penalties for vandalism."

Emphasizing the necessity of obeying bicycle traffic laws for their own protection, the children will learn early in life to acquire good traffic habits for they are the future motorists of the community, Kluchesky said.

CHURCH CRUSADE TO BE STARTED

CHARLOTTE, Jan. 1.—(UP)—A 1945 crusade for Christ will be initiated by two teams of outstanding speakers in a series of rallies to be held in western North Carolina beginning January 8, it was announced today by the Methodist church here.

Among the aims of the crusade, according to Dr. Embree H. Blackard of Charlotte, chairman of the publicity program, are to raise the Western Conference's quota of \$575,925 for world relief and reconstruction, and to "mobilize Christian sentiment for a new world order."

A few of the outstanding speakers who will speak during the crusade will be Bishop Schuyler E. Garth of Madison, Wis.; Miss Ruth Lawrence, missionary to Poland; Edwin L. Jones of Charlotte, Methodist Layman; and Dr. B. G. Childs of Duke University, all on team one.

Speakers to tour with team two will be Bishop Clare Purcell of Charlotte area of Methodist church; Dr. Y. C. Yang, president of Soochow University, China; Dr. Walter C. Gum, of Norfolk, Va.; Dr. Charles P. Bowles, of Statesville, and Dr. G. Ray Jordan of Charlotte.

The crusade will open in the Thomasville and Waynesville districts on January 8, and go to Winston-Salem and Asheville January 9. The crusade also will tour Greensboro and Marion districts on January 10, Charlotte and Statesville on January 11, and Salisbury and Gastonia on January 12.

Couple Asphyxiated In Parked Automobile

LOWELL, Mass., Jan. 1.—(UP)—Accidental asphyxiation was blamed tonight for the death of a Lowell woman war worker and her fiancé whose bodies were found in a parked automobile in a tragic climax of a New Year's eve celebration.

Police said Miss Lena McGrail, 45, and Francis E. Sousa, 42, a railroad mechanic, apparently drove into the latter's garage and kept the motor running to operate the car's heater. Summoned by neighbors, police hacked their way into the garage, which was locked from the inside, and found the couple slumped on the front seat.

Medical Examiner Marshall L. Alling reported that the two had succumbed to carbon monoxide fumes only a few minutes before police arrived.

German Doctors Allowed To Treat Nazis Captured By Americans At Front

WITH ALLIED FORCES, Western Front, Dec. 31.—(Correct)—German doctors were permitted to enter American lines and treat their wounded yesterday following a skirmish inside the Reich, it now may be disclosed.

The agreement, made between the opposing commanders, enabled German medical officers to cross no-man's-land unmolested, treat their injured soldiers and then return to their own lines.

URGES AIR RULES REVISION

NEW YORK, Jan. 1.—(UP)—"Sweeping revision" of the "hundreds of cumbersome, conflicting and out-of-date rules and regulations" that hamper aviation must take place if postwar aviation is to grow, Sydney Nesbitt, aircraft radio sales manager of Lear, Inc., and a member of the newly formed Civil Aviation Joint Legislative Committee, said recently. The committee is co-operating with both houses of Congress to improve legislation regulating private flying.

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Map of Burma showing British gains. Locations marked include: WARONG, NSOPZUP, YUNGLUNG TALI, MOGAUNG, MYITKYINA, TENGUEH, BHAMO, PINGKA, KANBALU, IRRAWADDY R., LASHIO, BURMA ROAD, MANDALAY. Legend: CHINA, BURMA. Scale: 0 to 100 MILES.