

North Carolina—Fair and mild Sunday and Sunday night with slightly lower temperatures north and east portions. Monday increasing cloudiness and slightly warmer north and east portions. Additional Weather Data on Page Two.

U. S. Drafts New Plan For Spanish Probe

Believed To Have Good Chance For Adoption By UN Security Council

GOING TO BYRNES

Most Delegations Awaiting Home Instructions On Australian Proposal

By CHARLES M. McCANN United Press Staff Correspondent NEW YORK, April 20.—(U.P.)—United States experts are working out a revised plan for a United Nations Security Council investigation of Franco Spain, it was understood today.

The new plan, based on Australia's proposal that a five-man committee study conditions and report May 17, was believed to have an excellent chance of adoption. The United States draft may take the form of suggestive changes in the plan of Australian Delegate Col. W. R. Hodgson or may develop into a complete substitute plan, it was understood. In either event it would naturally be subject to new suggestions by other delegates and meantime it would be submitted to Secretary of State James F. Byrnes for his approval.

Await Instructions Most delegations, including the key ones of Great Britain and Poland, awaited instructions they had asked of their home governments regarding the Australian plan to investigate the Polish charge that the regime of Generalissimo Francisco Franco continues to be a Fascist one and that Germans are active in Spain.

It was indicated that whatever plan for an investigation of Spain may finally be decided upon might be reasonably sure of eight out of 21 council votes—United States, Britain, China, Australia, Brazil, Egypt, Mexico and Netherlands. France is tentatively in favor of it, subject to instructions from Paris.

The Poles, realizing that their own demand for a United Nations break with Spain was doomed to failure, are expected to support the plan.

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COLORFUL PREVUE TO OPEN FESTIVAL

Lovely Entrants In Strawberry 'Queen' Contest To Highlight Event

WALLACE, April 20.—The Sixth Annual North Carolina Strawberry Festival—which will be held in Wallace from May 1 through May 11—is scheduled to make its public debut with a colorful prevue Saturday evening April 27, at 8 o'clock in the main exhibition building.

A beauteous pageant and parade, with dozens of Southeastern North Carolina's most striking beauties competing for the coveted title of "Strawberry Queen," will feature the prevue.

Contest judges include representatives from Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, United Artists and Paramount pictures studios, who will come here to select the "American Beauty" from the swim suit-clad girls. Judging will be on the basis of beauty, shape and measurements.

The winner will be photographed for movie magazines in an original costume from the M-G-M technical film, "Ziegfeld Follies." She will be officially crowned North Carolina Strawberry queen on the evening of May 7 by Gov. R. Gregg Cherry.

Trip To Hollywood On May 8, she and her court will reign supreme over the glittering Strawberry Queen's ball. She also will receive a full trip to Hollywood, breakfast at Tom Breneman's, and will be given the opportunity to visit the famous Hollywood sign.

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Louis O. Fonvielle, publicity chairman; Ira D. Ferrell, treasurer of the building fund; the Rev. W. J. Stephenson, pastor; W. A. Walker, chairman of the board of deacons; C. G. Gilbert, church treasurer; C. W. Boyette, chairman for "initial gifts"; L. W. Moore, chairman, church-at-large; Mrs. C. H. Hayes, chairman of the Women's Missionary Union; T. T. Hamilton, chairman of the Sunday school and Ed West, chairman of the Baptist Training Union.

Members of the general committee plan to reach every member of the building fund; the Rev. W. J. Stephenson, pastor; W. A. Walker, chairman of the board of deacons; C. G. Gilbert, church treasurer; C. W. Boyette, chairman for "initial gifts"; L. W. Moore, chairman, church-at-large; Mrs. C. H. Hayes, chairman of the Women's Missionary Union; T. T. Hamilton, chairman of the Sunday school and Ed West, chairman of the Baptist Training Union.



Churches To Lead Easter Observance

TWO-DAY HOLIDAY Four Sunrise Services Scheduled As Community Marks The Event

Wilmington and New Hanover county residents, from the youngest to the oldest, today will join in the celebration of their first peaceful Easter since 1941.

Starting with the sunrise services scheduled this morning at 5:30 o'clock on the steps of New Hanover high school, and continuing through the day with special church services, family gatherings and egg hunts by the youngsters, the day promises to be one to be remembered.

Observance of Easter will take on a two-day phase with all retail stores to be closed tomorrow. Federal employees will be at their desks, although state, county and city offices will be closed during the day. Banks will also observe Easter Monday by remaining closed.

With fair and moderate weather predicted by Weatherman Paul Hess, many persons are expected to take advantage of the day and visit Carolina and Wrightsville Beaches and scenic spots in the vicinity.

James Longworth, publicity director, Carolina Beach and Walter J. Cartier, Wrightsville Beach Chamber of Commerce secretary, were both planning for large pre-season crowds as many concessions and cottages have already been readied for the summer.

The two-day holiday will also find many persons taking advantage of the entertainment features of the Cape Fear Country club and municipal golf courses.

Fishing Parties Planned Plans have been readied by the owners of Lumina and Atlantic View piers at Wrightsville Beach and Kure's pier at Kure beach to care for a large holiday crowd of fishermen.

Many parties have also been planned by fishing groups who will take advantage of the opportunity for deep-sea fishing parties. Disappointed, to a small degree, will be the youngsters who has yet to celebrate an Easter with chocolate bunnies, eggs and baskets. War conditions still make those who are unable to purchase them.

Members of the general committee plan to reach every member of the building fund; the Rev. W. J. Stephenson, pastor; W. A. Walker, chairman of the board of deacons; C. G. Gilbert, church treasurer; C. W. Boyette, chairman for "initial gifts"; L. W. Moore, chairman, church-at-large; Mrs. C. H. Hayes, chairman of the Women's Missionary Union; T. T. Hamilton, chairman of the Sunday school and Ed West, chairman of the Baptist Training Union.

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Further Slash Bread Diet As Indicated

Expected Unless Bonus Brings Rush Of Stored Wheat From The Farms

SOME MILLS CLOSE

Re-Routing Of Grain Ships To Urgent European Hunger Spots Planned

CHICAGO, April 20.—(U.P.)—Americans may have to cut their consumption of bread and other wheat products even more than the 25 per cent ordered by the government unless a Federal bonus inducement brings a rush of stored wheat from the farms, milling sources indicated today.

A survey of the government's program for a 25 per cent slash in flour consumption to combat famine in Europe brought these reactions:

1—C. D. McKenzie, president of the Miller's National federation, said unless farmers release their stores of wheat it is "extremely doubtful" sufficient grain would be available at the mills to produce 75 per cent of the flour they turned out last year.

Sees Big Reduction 2—Dr. Franklin Bing, director of the American Institute of Baking, the scientific and educational arm of the American baking industry, said the wheat slash probably would mean a horizontal one-fourth reduction in all products containing flour. There was no prospect, he added, that bread production could be kept up with a corresponding additional reduction in other bakery goods.

3—Most farmer, milling and grain trading sources said they believed the plan for a bonus payment of 30 cents a bushel would succeed in bringing stored grain from the farms although a "wait and see" attitude was taken by some.

4—Dr. Morris Fishbein, editor of the Journal of the American Medical Association, said the slash in wheat consumption would "do more good than harm" for the average American. Dr. Fishbein said the nutritional value of wheat products was available in other foods and that overeating was an important contributing factor in shortening longevity after middle age.

"Everything possible" must be done to bring wheat from the farms, McKenzie said, and if present measures don't turn the trick "we must seek out and institute others."

The government is seeking to draw off 160,000,000 bushels of wheat from American farms during the present food crisis. Some mills already have been closed.

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PEACEFUL WORLD OBSERVES EASTER

Russians Celebrate Season For First Time Since The Revolution

By The Associated Press A world at peace for the first time in nearly a decade today celebrated the joyous Christian festival of Easter.

The feast fell on the same date in both Eastern and Western churches for the first time since 1943.

The difference in calendars used by the East and the Georgian in the West—brought Easter to the Eastern churches on May 6 last year, while the West celebrated on April 1. The year before the East observed the holiday on April 16 and the West on April 9.

The celebration came to Russians for the first time since the Russian revolution.

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Chinese Communists Plan To Lay Siege To Harbin

CHUNGKING, April 20.—(U.P.)—Chinese communists encircling Harbin declared today they intended to lay siege to that north Manchurian metropolis, which the government indicated it would not even try to defend.

A government spokesman said the situation in central Manchuria was "very grave" now that communist troops have taken Chungking, the capital, 150 miles southwest of Harbin.

A Communist spokesman warned that the encircling troops would seize Harbin when the Russian army pulls out next Thursday "if a status of civil war still prevails in Manchuria."

That would give General Marshall, special U. S. envoy to China, only five more days to work out a truce first between the warring factions.

Marshall was in almost continuous conferences with both government and communist officials. He had not scheduled a meeting of his truce committee of three, which earlier this year worked out an armistice for the rest of China outside Manchuria.

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U. S. ORDERS REDUCED COST CEILINGS FOR NEW HOUSES; FOURTH MUST BE FOR RENT

Truman Discusses Coal Strike With Lewis And Schwollenbach

BY NORMAN WALKER WASHINGTON, April 20.—(U.P.)—President Truman took a hand in the 20-day soft coal strike today in an unheralded White House talk with John L. Lewis and Secretary of Labor Schwollenbach.

The two had a 15-minute conference with Mr. Truman and reversion director John W. Snyder but the White House said afterward the meeting had been without any "conclusive result."

Nevertheless Lewis and Schwollenbach left the meeting in obvious good humor and the labor secretary said he intended to get in touch with Ezra Van Horn, chairman of the mine operators' joint negotiating committee.

It was considered probable the president had asked Lewis, chief of the 400,000 idle United Mine Workers, to resume joint negotiations with the mine owners. However, Charles G. Ross, White House press secretary, told reporters he could neither confirm nor deny whether the president had made any proposal.

In response to questions Schwollenbach declared there would be no resumption of strike negotiations, either with both sides separately or together, until next Tuesday at the earliest. Lewis has a date Wednesday at Hazelton, Pa., to attend the meeting called to form UMW's new contract demands for 72,000 anthracite miners. The hard coal contract expires May 31.

The bituminous, or soft coal, situation has been at an impasse since April 10 when Lewis walked out of joint negotiations with the operators. He said further talks were useless. Lewis wants a settlement of his demand for a union-administered health and welfare fund for miners financed by tonnage levy on coal production, and also for improved safety conditions.

The operators have insisted on settling wage and hour issues before discussing anything else with Lewis. Schwollenbach has been trying, without success so far, to get both sides to a meeting.

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Spain Reported Manning 'Little' Maginot Line On French Border

NEWSMAN SEES FORTS Republicans Claim Nazi Refugees Helping Train Franco's Armies

By EDWARD V. ROBERTS United Press Staff Correspondent LONDON, April 20.—(U.P.)—Frontier dispatches from the Pyrenees said today that Spain was building a "little" Maginot line along the French border and was manning it with as many troops as would be required to hold a front line in wartime.

These reports, credited to Spanish republican fighters in southern France, were relayed by correspondent Colin Wills of the London New Chronicle. Wills declared he had toured the French side of the border with Spanish maquisards and had seen the new fortifications.

Great Strength Wills said the Maquisards told him that on parts of the border the "strength of Spanish troops was as great as would be deployed in holding a front line in war."

He said the republicans reiterated charges that Nazi refugees were helping train the Spanish army.

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JAPANESE CRISIS NEARS SHOWDOWN

Premier May Step Down To Become Foreign Minister In New Cabinet

TOKYO, April 20.—(U.P.)—Japan's latest political crisis moved toward a showdown tonight as a spokesman hinted that Premier Kijuro Shidehara might resign to become foreign minister in a new cabinet.

Heretofore the 73-year-old baron has steadfastly rejected demands that he step down, and recently let it be known he would try to form a coalition government from among Conservatives elected to the new diet.

Tonight, however, his principal spokesman—cabinet secretary Wataru Narahashi—intimated the position.

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 2)

Did The Census Man Miss Your Household? If you have a son or daughter away at school who was not enumerated in the special census which is being completed here, it is still possible to have the student included in the population total.

Unofficial estimates indicate a population of 46,882 persons living in Wilmington on April 1, official census date.

Through a misunderstanding of instructions, some enumerators failed to list students attending school away from home. If a member of your family was missed, you are urged to telephone 2-8738 immediately, or clip and mail the census coupon which appears on Page Five, Section A in today's Star-News.

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