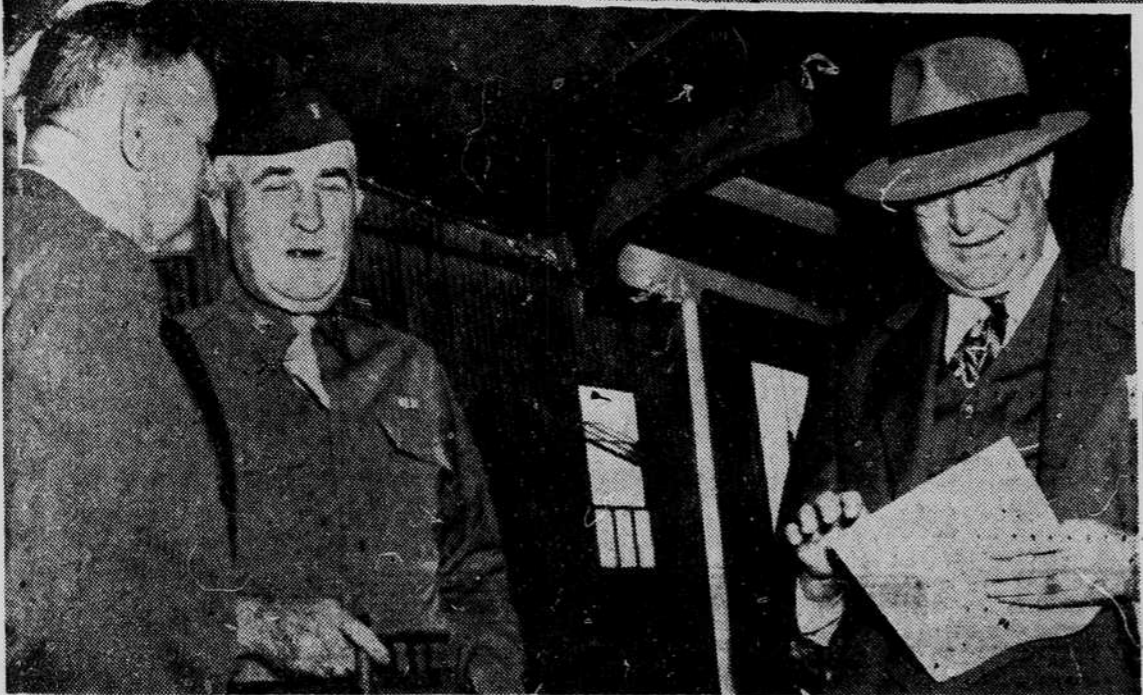


The Vision Of A Greater Port For Wilmington



DAILY & SUN. Carrie I. Houghton Complete Library Complimentary



On the trip up and down the Cape Fear river yesterday inspecting future possibilities were, in the top picture, standing, E. C. Snead, assistant Collector of Customs for the North Carolina district; Louis Hanson, J. Douglas Taylor, and Hamilton Hicks. Seated, J. E. L. Wade, J. T. Hiers, and Alfred E. Jones. In the bottom picture, Oscar Breese, Fayetteville; Col. George Gillette, and W. W. Storm.—STAR STAFF PHOTO BY PETE KNIGHT.

AUSTRALIAN WOOL WILL VIE WITH GAS AS PORT LEADER; WALLACE SET FOR FESTIVAL

25,000 Crowd Expected For Parade Today

Decorated Floats, Army Troops, Bands Will Take Part In March

QUEEN WILL LEAD

On Eve Of Festivities, Mayor Predicts Best Festival In History

WALLACE, April 30.—This Southeastern North Carolina market town of 2,500 population finished preparation Tuesday night for the greatest of its six annual Strawberry Festivals with over 25,000 persons expected for the kickoff of the 10-day celebration at 11 a. m. Wednesday. A two-mile parade, composed of 25 floats from this section of the state, high school bands from Wilmington, Oxford and New Bern and troops from Fort Bragg will officially open the Festival which is reigned over by Miss Charlotte Russ, Wilmington, who was selected by Kay Kyser, famous band leader, as Strawberry Queen.

Troops in the parade will be members of the 82nd Airborne division, 30th Field Artillery and the band of the 53rd division. A spectacular demonstration of paratrooper operations by members of the famed airborne division will also be a feature of the opening day.

Biggest, Best Commenting on the Festival, the first to be held since the outbreak of the war, Mayor Aubrey J. Harrell, Wallace, predicted that "This will be the biggest annual event we have ever had." Senator Clyde Hoey and Representative Graham Barden will be in attendance and more than 60 mayors of North Carolina cities invited by Mayor Harrell to attend the festivities.

Barbecue To Top Following the parade an open-air See 25000 on Page Three

ENGINEERS LIKELY TO SUPERVISE JOB

Ship-Basin Dredging Project May Be Turned Over To Them

Supervision of the Brunswick river surplus-ship storage-basin project will "in all probability" be turned over to the U. S. Engineers, a spokesman of that office disclosed yesterday afternoon. The disclosure followed a private morning conference between Col. George W. Gillette, district chief of engineers, and J. W. Armbrust, U. S. Maritime commission official. "A few details of the proposal are still to be ironed out," the spokesman said, "but it is almost definite that the engineers will assume the task of inspecting and supervising the remainder of the project."

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See CAPE FEAR on Page Three

Old Friends Meet Here



Believe it or not, Robert Ripley, the "Believe or Not" man came through Wilmington yesterday and he was caught—his picture—as he renewed friendship with Boyden Sparkes, the writer who is getting to be quite a native of here. Sparkes is shown at the left above. And, of course, the other gentleman is Mr. Ripley. STAR STAFF PHOTO BY BOB HODGKIN.

HE SLEPT HERE! Bob Ripley Praises Wrightsville Beach

Famous Cartoonist-Traveler Arrives Here Aboard Chinese Junk; Cabins Have Carving, Smiling Gods

By MEARES HARRISS Yes, "Believe it or Not", Robert Ripley slept here last night. And even more unusual, he was traveling, quite in keeping with his business of collecting oddities, in a Chinese junk, which he bought about a year ago. Moreover, Ripley says he believes it is the only one cruising waters nearer than China.

To top the whole matter off, Ripley ran into an old friend, Author Boyden Sparkes, whom he didn't know lived at Wrightsville.

PALESTINE REPORT URGES OPEN DOOR

Anglo-American Group Would Allow Entry Of 100,000 Jews In '46

WASHINGTON, April 30.—(AP)—An official British-United States committee of inquiry on Palestine recommended Tuesday that the gates of the Holy Land be thrown open immediately to 100,000 European Jews—homeless victims of Axis persecution. In a 30-page report on its four-month investigation, the committee went firmly on record against making Palestine either a Jewish or an Arab state, and said that the government ultimately established there "under international guarantees" must protect Christian, Jew and Moslem.

Continue Mandate It called for continuance of Palestine under a mandate—held by Britain, since 1922—"pending the execution of a trusteeship agreement under the United Nations." This, it accepted, would nullify Britain's plan to terminate the mandate by establishment of an independent Palestine state. See PALESTINE on Page Three

Wilmington Doctors Plan To Attend State Meeting

Twenty-two local doctors will attend a three-day meeting of the North Carolina Medical Society in Pinehurst today, tomorrow and Thursday. Dr. Charles Graham, secretary of the New Hanover Medical association said last night. The doctors will not attend the meeting en masse, it was explained by Dr. Watts Farthing, former president of the local society, as the meetings will be scheduled so that the medical section can attend today's meeting; the surgical section can attend tomorrow's meeting, and the specialties section will be held on Wednesday. See DOCTORS on Page Three

Possibilities Of State Port Are Enormous

Leaders In Development Guests Of Col. Gillette On River Trip

CUSTOMS MAY RISE

Chatham Mills At Elkin Would Have Raw Material Shipped By Boat

A port of Wilmington in the future into which will come millions of pounds of wool from Australia, sugar from Cuba and the Philippines, tobacco from the Middle East, as well as the gasoline from Gulf ports was envisioned yesterday as leaders in the development of State ports made an inspection trip up and down the Cape Fear river. The leaders interested in the development of the State ports were the guests of Col. George Gillette, district engineer of the U. S. Army, aboard the Kitty Hawk. The group inspected the Cape Fear and the Northeast branch.

Wool From Australia A prediction that \$1,500,000 in customs would accrue to the federal government in the State from wool shipped here from Australia was made. Major part of this shipment would be consigned to the Chatham mills in Elkin, it was learned. Prior to the war, Chatham had purchased wool through See POSSIBILITIES on Page Three

MANY INDUSTRIES MAY LOCATE HERE

Farrell Cites Total Of 21 Possibilities To Rotary Club Monday

At least 21 northern manufacturing firms of good standing are interested in taking up a Wilmington location, John Farrell, city industrial agent, and secretary of the Chamber of Commerce disclosed when speaking at yesterday's meeting of the Rotary club. Farrell said that he had been in communication with many firms that are casting an eye on expanding, transportation rich Wilmington. One Committed One good sized industry is already committed to a Wilmington location, said Farrell. He added that recent talks with New York business men showed several to be inclined toward this city as a possible site for industrial colonization. The Maffitt Village community building has lately been inspected by a New York firm interested in southward extension. See INDUSTRIES on Page Three

HAMBONE'S MEDITATIONS By Alley

FOLKS UP NAWTH CLAIMS US IS BACKWARD, BUT HITS A FUNNY THING DAT IN DEY FOR'ARD PROGRESS, DEYS COMIN' DOWN HEAH!



NAVY SHIP BLAST INJURES SCORES

Officer, Six Men Missing Following Explosion On U. S. S. Solar

EARLE N. J., April 30.—(AP)—A series of three explosions followed by fire wrecked a Navy destroyer escort, the U. S. S. Solar, while it was unloading ammunition at the Navy's Earle depot pier in lower New York bay Friday, putting one officer and six enlisted men on the missing list and injuring scores of others. The Thirtieth Naval District headquarters in New York city said 29 were in hospitals, two seriously injured and three in critical condition. A Navy spokesman at Earle said at least 60 were treated and discharged there at the dispensary and by first aid teams. The navy ammunition depot dispensary here had 21 of the injured, the other, were at the Fort Hancock hospital.

How Sheared The bow was sheared from the ship by the force of the blasts and she lay partly submerged, a blackened, twisted wreck alongside the pier.

The blasts detonated an ammunition-loaded railroad car on the pier, destroyed a pier-based warehouse, set fire to the pier, which stretches two and a half miles into the bay, and tore a gaping hole in the concrete structure.

Blown Into Air A Navy spokesman at the depot here said several men aboard the ship, which carried a complement of 14 officers and 125 men, were See SHIP BLAST on Page Three

And So To Bed

The citizens of Wallace really put up a united front at strawberry-time.

A Wilmington man journeyed to Wallace last week-end to confer with officials about the big strawberry festival.

As he drove down Wallace's main street he saw about 20 smoked hams hanging in a restaurant window.

Grown somewhat ham-hungry during the current meat shortage, he rushed into a butcher shop. "I'd like about two or three hams to take back with me to Wilmington," he said to the butcher. "I'm all sold out of hams," answered the butcher. "Could I interest you in a couple of crates of strawberries?"

The Weather

FORECAST North Carolina—Partly cloudy and continued warm Wednesday, scattered thundershowers west portion in afternoon. South Carolina—Partly cloudy and continued warm Wednesday, scattered thundershowers over northwest portion in afternoon. (Eastern Standard Time) (By U. S. Weather Bureau) Meteorological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m. yesterday. Temperatures 1:30 a. m. 66; 7:30 a. m. 67; 1:30 p. m. 76; 7:30 p. m. 70. Maximum 78; Minimum 62; Mean 70; Normal 66. Humidity 1:30 a. m. 56; 7:30 a. m. 73; 1:30 p. m. 56; 7:30 p. m. 61. Precipitation Total for 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m. — 0.00 inches. Total since the first of the month— 3.52 inches. Tides For Today (From the Tide Tables published by U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey). Low High Wilmington ——— 5:41 a. m. 4:30 a. m. 10:06 p. m. 4:33 p. m. Masonboro Inlet — 7:22 a. m. 1:22 a. m. Sunrise 5:23 a. m.; Sunset 8:38 p. m.; Moonrise 5:38 a. m.; Moonset 7:17 p. m. River Stage at Fayetteville, N. C. at 8 a. m. Tuesday, 15.1 feet.

SCHOOL MAY QUEENS TO BE BEACH GUESTS FOR SEASON OPENER

May Queens selected in state schools and universities are to receive a courtesy weekend at Carolina Beach at the opening of the resort's season on May 31 and June 1 and 2, it was announced yesterday by James L. Longworth, beach publicity director. Longworth said invitations are being extended to selecting committees of the various schools offering a weekend at the beach at the expense of the Chamber of Commerce. Plans for a complete week-end in which the girls will be feted by the management of various beach concessions will be highlighted by a dance which the May Queens will attend en masse. See KIPNIS on Page Three

Merchants Planning Poll On Daylight Saving Time

A movement for the possible enactment of summer daylight saving time into a state law at the January meeting of the state legislature is being planned by the North Carolina Merchants association. Willard Dowell, association secretary, disclosed to The Star yesterday. "We plan to take a poll of the 50 local merchants associations throughout the state this summer," Dowell said. "If a majority favors daylight saving time for the summer months, we shall endeavor to have the state legislature enact the measure into a state-wide law at next January's session." After Convention The poll, Dowell said, would be taken this summer after the association's annual convention at Wrightsville Beach on June 10 and 11. The Wilmington Merchants association, one of the 50 local organizations referred to by Dowell, is already strongly in favor of the state-wide adoption of summer daylight saving time. E. W. See MERCHANTS on Page Three

KIPNIS CAPTURES AUDIENCE HERE

Metropolitan Opera Singer Draws Crowd To Him Here

Alexander Kipnis, bass baritone star of the Metropolitan Opera Company, who brought the current season of the Community Concert Association to a close at the High school auditorium last night, and who proved that he can qualify as a basso profundo under proper provocation, captured his auditors from the moment he walked upon the stage, but for this reporter he proved a problem child. His histrionic and vocal talents are so evenly balanced it was impossible to determine with any certitude whether he is an acting singer or a singing actor.

Without Makeup For example, his pantomime in the waltz scene from Der Rosenkavalier, from a strictly artistic viewpoint, was as fine as his music, and in the serenade which Mephistopheles sings at Marguerite's window biddin gher to keep Faust off it was all but possible to smell the brimstone. The dramatics in these two arias, as well as the Catalogue song from Don Giovanni, were so superb the spectator was unconscious that Kipnis was entirely without makeup. Only a profound interpreter and great musician could do a thing like that.

Let these remarks seem to imply that Mr. Kipnis is notable only for sheer virtuosity, we hasten to add that in the plenitude of his powers he obviously has subjected himself to rigid self-criticism. See KIPNIS on Page Three

WILMINGTON WILL LOSE U. S. OFFICE

District Attorney Manning To Move To Capital By June 1

The home office of the United States attorney, Eastern district of North Carolina, will be moved from Wilmington to Raleigh by June 1, Col. John Hall Manning, district attorney, disclosed yesterday.

"The offices of the clerk of the Eastern district, the U. S. marshal, and the probation officer are located in Raleigh," Colonel Manning explained, "and it is believed that the business of the government can be more efficiently and expeditiously handled if the attorney's office is also stationed there."

The Wilmington offices, established here in 1926, will be retained for use of routine work and for the regular terms of Federal court, Colonel Manning said. Whether any of the Wilmington personnel will be transferred to Raleigh has not yet been decided.

BUTCHERS TO POST CEILING PRICES IN THE SHOPS TODAY

WASHINGTON, April 30.—(AP)—OPA Chief Paul Porter announced Tuesday night that beginning Wednesday butcher shops would post new retail meat price lists to help stores and housewives "in fighting off the black market."

Porter said these lists would show recently increased retail prices for every grade and cut of meat. "If the consumer will help to get compliance with ceiling prices at the retail level," he said, "he will help keep prices stable at all levels of distributions—all the way back to the livestock producer himself."

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