

Wilmington and vicinity—Widely scattered thundershowers and not much change in temperatures Tuesday.

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ESTABLISHED 1867

Farrell Mum Over Council Agency Order

Secretary Declines Comment On Chamber Termination Decision

UP TO PRESIDENT

Usually Reliable Source Sees Leave Of Absence As Compromise

John H. Farrell, executive secretary of the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce, said he had "no personal comment" to make last night on the city council's resolution, adopted yesterday morning, which requires that he terminate his chamber job in order to continue in his position as city industrial agent.

"Any comment on the matter will have to come from E. L. White, chamber president," Farrell said.

Since White is reported to be "out of town on business" for the entire week, the final decision on whether Farrell will follow the council's order or give up the industrial agent's job in favor of retaining his chamber secretary post, remains up in the air.

Farrell does accept the council's ruling, it is possible that the chamber will grant him "a year's leave of absence" from his chamber job in order that he might come back to it after the main phase of the industrial agent's task is completed, according to a usually reliable source.

The council came to the decision on Farrell's position at its special budget meeting yesterday morning. Acting on the recommendation of City Manager J. R. Benson, the council voted an appropriation of \$10,500 to finance the industrial agent for the fiscal year 1946-47. A sum of \$5,000 was also voted to help finance the Wilmington Port Traffic association, which is controlled by traffic manager Henry E. Boyd.

After granting the two appropriations, the council directed City Attorney W. B. Campbell to draft a bill which would consolidate the two organizations. This merger was requested both by the chamber of commerce and the traffic association several months ago.

See FARRELL on Page Two

The Weather

FORECAST
North and South Carolina—Partly cloudy and not much change in temperature Tuesday; widely scattered thundershowers.
(By U. S. Weather Bureau)
Meteorological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m. yesterday.
Temperatures
1:30 a. m. 74; 7:30 a. m. 74; 1:30 p. m. 78; 7:30 p. m. 80.
Maximum 85; Minimum 71; Mean 75; Normal 75.
Humidity
1:30 a. m. 91; 7:30 a. m. 95; 1:30 p. m. 87; 7:30 p. m. 81.
Precipitation
Total for 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m.—0.08 inches.
Total since the first of the month—2.4 inches.
Tides For Today
(From the Tide Tables published by U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.)
Wilmington High 5:07 p. m.; Low 11:43 a. m.
Masonboro Inlet High 5:22 a. m.; Low 8:28 a. m.
Sunrise 5:27; Sunset 7:08; Moonrise 12:22 p. m.; Moonset 12:09 a. m.
River Stage at Fayetteville, N. C. at 8 a. m., Monday, 9.7 feet.
See THE WEATHER on Page Two

HAMBONE'S MEDITATIONS

By Alley
NO WONDUH DE OLE OMAN WANTER GO TO HEB'N...HITS DE ONLIES' PLACE SHE KIN BE HAPPY WIDOUT AHGNYIN' !!



FOR BETTER SERVICE

Group Seeks To Increase Traffic At Bluetherenthal

The masterbrief which the City of Wilmington and New Hanover county will submit to the Civil Aeronautics board in a demand for increased interstate air service through Bluetherenthal airport is almost completed, it was disclosed yesterday by Henry E. Boyd, traffic manager of the Wilmington Port Traffic association.

August 12 Deadline
Boyd, together with John H. Farrell, City industrial agent, and Jesse C. Parker, Jr., airport manager, will have the document finished and signed by Mayor W. Ronald Lané and Chief County Commissioner Addison Hewlett well in advance of the August 12 deadline, the traffic manager said.

The brief's description of the city and the county—the industries, the rail traffic, and the port, and it stresses the lack of adequate interstate air service for "North Carolina's chief seaport." Committee To Capital
Meanwhile, as the brief nears completion, a special three-man delegation is scheduled to leave for Washington, D. C., tonight on a one-day mission. See FLYING On Page Two

COMMISSION GETS BASIN FOR SHIPS

USES Begins Employing Personnel To Operate Brunswick Basin

The Brunswick river surplus-shipping basin was officially taken over by the U. S. Maritime commission at 10 o'clock yesterday morning, with Capt. Alfred G. Ford as chief of operations. Hiring Personnel
The local United States Employment office has already started hiring personnel to operate the basin, according to Harold M. Hinkle, USES office manager. Among the first to be hired will be male stenographers and clerks, Hinkle said.

Also needed soon for employment at the huge basin are tugboat operators, launchboat crews, a fleet engineer, and a fleet captain. As more ships come into the basin, more personnel will be hired accordingly, Hinkle said.

Ships Here Soon
The first batch of ships is scheduled to arrive here in about 10 days, according to reports from Maritime commission headquarters in Washington, D. C.

Medical Bulletin War

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5.—(U.P.)—Representative Anlew J. May, (D. Ky.) remained incommunicado in his Prestonburg, Ky., home Monday while physicians waged a war of medical bulletins over whether his ailing heart would permit him to testify before the Senate War Investigating committee.

In Washington Dr. Henry M. Lowden Mays capital physician for the past decade, told reporters he was baffled by the sudden departure of his celebrated patient. He said May left the capital with his knowledge and against his advice and that he knew of no reason why the Kentuckian should not be able to go before the committee Friday and tell all about his connections with the Garsson munitions combine.

Warning Issued

CHERRY POINT, Aug. 5.—(Special) — A live photoflash bomb dropped dud from a marine airplane over a target area near Hog Island in Pamlico Sound, it was announced Monday by the public relations office at the Marine Air station here. Warning was issued that extreme caution should be used by all persons or vessels passing in the vicinity of latitude 34 degrees and 36 minutes and longitude 76 degrees, twenty one minutes and 30 seconds.

LONG, LONG AFTERWARD

LONDON, Aug. 6 (Tuesday)—(P)—The silk-clad body of Ramendra Narayan Roy, Rajah of Bhowal, who took 25 years to prove his remains had not been burned in a similar ceremonial blaze in 1909—was cremated on a funeral pyre Sunday before an audience of 200,000 persons, the Exchange Telegraph agency said Monday in a delayed dispatch from Calcutta.

Today and Tomorrow

Editor's Note: Joseph Alsop is carrying on while Mr. Lippmann is away on his vacation.

BY JOSEPH ALSOP
LONDON, Aug. 5.—A second sight of London after Paris produces even more forcibly the impression of violent contrast. In this dubious summer of the first post-war year Paris is like an exquisitely beautiful fruit perfect in all its contours, perfect in its rose and gold but with a worm within. London is like a fruit gnarled and weather-damaged but sound and of food flavor. Some time passed here before the peace conference left a conflict of impressions which return as

MOLOTOV CHARGES ANTI-SOVIET BLOC

Red Says Anglo-Saxons Attempting To Dominate Conference

PARIS, Aug. 5.—(U.P.)—Russian Foreign Minister Molotov charged angrily Monday that an "Anglo-Saxon bloc" was trying to dominate the peace conference and "certain people" were urging preparation for World War III. Molotov attacked Secretary of State James F. Byrnes for promising to support any recommendation which the conference made by a two-thirds vote for changes in the draft treaties prepared by the "Big Four" foreign ministers for five German satellite countries.

"Proof Enough"
The Russian chief delegate said he had "proof enough" that an Anglo-Saxon bloc existed and he said it was strong enough to command 12 or 13 votes out of the total of 21 in the conference.

Molotov insisted that any suggested change in treaty drafts should be approved by a two-thirds vote and Byrnes was pledged to oppose even those suggestions if they were contrary to previous Big Four decisions. Molotov made his statement at the second of three meetings of the rules committee of the conference.

Try To Adopt Rules
The third meeting, started at 9:30 p. m. (4:30 p. m. EDT) was called in an attempt to get the rules for the conference adopted and to get the conference itself down to the serious discussion in detail of peace treaties for Italy, Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria and Finland.

At the end of his statement, Molotov made a concession. He suggested that countries which voted for any treaty change which did not get a two-thirds vote in the conference might refer the question to the "Big Four."

Byrnes Offers Support
Before Molotov spoke, Byrnes told the rules committee that he would support in the "Big Four" foreign ministerial council any suggested treaty change which the conference approved by a two-thirds vote.

Byrnes also said he would vote for a British proposal that any question could be referred to the council by the conference as a whole on the basis of a simple majority vote. The whole argument was a throwback to the formative days of the United Nations, at San Francisco, and the fight there over the power of the "Big Five" nations to veto any Security Council decision. It was a preview also of the fight to come this fall at the annual general UN assembly.

Reds Seek Veto Power
Russia is fighting at this and every other international conference to preserve the veto power or lacking that to insure that the "Russian bloc" will have votes enough, by a two-thirds rule, to prevent any action which the Soviet Union opposes. The general situation as regards See MOLOTOV On Page Two

MILLION DOLLAR CAPE FEAR PROJECT GETS OFFICIAL NOD IN WASHINGTON; TOBACCO PRICES SOAR TO '46 RECORD

All Grades Show Rises In Section

Average Gains Vary From Two To 14 Cents Per Pound In Area

QUALITIES INCREASE

Several Markets In Belt Report Better Than 80-Cent Tobacco

BY PHIL WRIGHT

Tobacco auction prices on the North Carolina Border Belt markets sky-rocketed yesterday as high as \$86 per hundred, following a week-end holiday, with steady gains of two to 14 cents per pound being paid. The \$86 price, reported by Fairmont, was believed a record for 1946.

Low quality orange lugs soared as much as 14 cents per pound upward on some markets, the biggest gain of the day. Other inferior quality lugs and primings, which still predominate, realized approximate gains.

Growers Jubilant

Meantime, tobacco growers throughout the belt remained jubilant as they pocketed the "fabulous sums" paid for their tobacco, and prepared to "settle all old bills," and start tomorrow's marketing with a "clean slate."

A sharp increase in the percentages of fair qualities was noted, but the general quality of leaf continued to decline as planters marketed their tips simultaneously with their lower grades.

Up To \$82 At Tabor City
In Tabor City, Willard G. Cole, supervisor of sales, reported 309. See TOBACCO On Page Two

LEVEES AT KELLY TO BE REPAIRED

Work To Begin In September On Dikes Guarding Farm Lands

The Cape Fear river dikes in the vicinity of Kelly, severely damaged by last fall's floods, will undergo a complete repair job beginning about the middle of September and ending about the middle of December, about the mid-district office of the U. S. Army Engineers announced yesterday. The project, slated to cost "many thousands of dollars," will be done by private contractors under the engineers' supervision.

Survey At Once
The engineers will make a survey and draw up plans and specifications for the task as soon as possible in order that bids may be advertised and the contract awarded by the September starting date.

The work will center on the White Oak levee and the White Oak dam located about five miles above Lock No. One on the north side of the river. The levee runs approximately parallel with the See LEVEES On Page Two

HIGH CASUALTIES FEARED

Four Reported Killed In Tidal Wave's Wake

BY LOUIS MIURA

United Press Staff Correspondent
CIUDAD TRUJILLO, Dominican Republic, Aug. 5.—(U.P.)—Four persons Monday were reported killed and heavy damage inflicted along the northern shore of Santo Domingo in Sunday's earthquake which launched a tidal wave virtually destroying two small seacoast towns.

Total Fatalities Unknown
An American official here said that four were believed dead up to 5 p. m. EDT but that total fatalities were unknown because communications still were broken from the hard-hit Escocesa Bay area.

The earthquakes were most severe in the Cibao valley and along Santo Domingo's northeast coast, he said. Damage in Ciudad Trujillo itself was slight he said. Houses collapsed and other damage was inflicted at Santiago, Moca and San Francisco de Macoris, he said.

Tidal Wave Hits

It was feared there may have been high casualties and severe damage in the area inundated by the tidal wave.

EARTHQUAKE CENTERED IN ATLANTIC OCEAN

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
The earthquake apparently was centered in the deepest point in the Atlantic ocean, approximately 50 miles off the northeastern coast of the Dominican Republic, and was so intense it knocked out a seismograph in St. Louis, Mo., more than 2,000 miles away.

(In New York the Fordham university observatory said the shock was the most severe See WAVE On Page Two

VOTERS TO TEST TRUMAN'S POWER

Question Of 'Purge' Comes Up Today In Missouri Race

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5.—(U.P.)—Missouri voters go to the polls Tuesday to decide one of the most important issues in the 1946 off-year congressional campaign—is President Truman strong enough within his own party to "purge" a Democrat from Congress?

The late President Roosevelt tried a "purge" in 1938—directed against conservative Democratic senators who balked his Supreme Court reorganization plan—and failed dismally.

The question is: Does the President have a sufficient following among Democrats in his own state to oust Representative Roger C. Slaughter, outspoken opponent of Mr. Truman's legislative program, and swing the Democrat nomination to Enos Axtell, who is backed also by the powerful Kansas City Pendergast machine and the CIO's political action committee?

On election eve, Slaughter has reiterated his claim that "communists and fellow travelers from the East" are seeking to remove him from the house.

Results Count

Slaughter renewed his acceptance of the President's challenge, made at a recent White House press conference at which Mr. Truman endorsed Axtell and commented that if Slaughter is right, then I'm wrong. The youthful Missourian said the country would be guided by the results in judging the future course of the Democratic party.

Since arriving at his Independence, Mo., home to vote in the primary—he can not vote against Slaughter because his residence is in an adjoining district—the Chief Executive has carefully refrained from participating openly in the Slaughter-Axtell fight. He conferred briefly on his arrival with Jim Pendergast, present head of the Kansas City machine once controlled by his uncle, the late Tom Pendergast, but made no statements on the election. See TRUMAN On Page Two

SQUABBLE BREWS OVER SALVAGING

Admiralty Case Looms In Claiming "Prize" Of American Farmer

LONDON, Aug. 5.—(U.P.)—American action in cutting a British towline aboard the \$4,500,000 derelict prize ship American Farmer was described as "High-handed" Monday by representatives of the British ship which first reached the fabulous prize, drifting helplessly on the high seas southwest of Britain.

With the American prize crew still aboard, the American Farmer was steaming slowly under her own power for a British port Monday night, heading directly into what may be the most complicated salvage dispute the British Admiralty courts have seen in recent years.

Took Over Anyway
The Americans took the derelict with a crew heavily outnumbering the Britons despite a signal from the British crew already aboard saying "hands off, this prize is mine," according to the British version of the battle.

This version said the 2,000-ton British tramp steamer Elizabeth, commanded by Capt. E. Millers, 65, won the race to the derelict Sunday night, sent a crew aboard with a line and took the 8,000-ton American Farmer in Tow.

The Elizabeth, with a cargo of pitprops (mine timbers) from Newfoundland for the United Kingdom, is owned by the British transport ministry and managed by the Hudson Steamship Co.

Ranger Races Up
Soon after the sister ship of the American Farmer, the American Ranger—both owned by the United States Lines—raced up accompanied by the U. S. destroyer Perry.

Then, according to radio messages from Captain Millers disclosed by a spokesman for the Hudson company, the American Ranger put a superior crew aboard the Farmer, cut the British towline, hauled down the British flag and ordered the British crew off the ship. The British crew left, Captain Millers said.

"High-handed Action"
"There seems to be little doubt that the derelict is our prize and we have reported all the facts of the high-handed action to the admiralty and to treasury solicitors," See SALVAGE On Page Two

Work On 32-Foot Channel May Start In September

Minor Details Remain To Be "Straightened Out", Engineer's Office Reports; Includes 400 Feet Width

BY LARRY HIRSCH
The million dollar project of dredging the Cape Fear river channel to 32 feet deep and 400 feet wide got the nod of official approval yesterday from the Washington, D. C. headquarters of the U. S. Army Engineers, the Wilmington district engineers' office disclosed last night.

Although a few "very minor details" remained to be straightened out, the plans and specifications are expected to be returned to the local office from Washington this week, the office said.

SHIP DESTROYED IN LIGHTNING HIT

Eight Crewmen Unaccounted For After Fire In Jacksonville

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Aug. 5.—(P)—Twenty-two crewmen were reported injured and eight unaccounted for Monday when fire swept the 10,000 ton tanker Homestead after it was struck by lightning while unloading gasoline at the Standard Oil company docks here.

Most of the injured received minor or no injuries, some six requiring hospital treatment. Four hours after the blaze eight of the 54 crewmen were unaccounted for. Ship's officers said some of the crew had gone ashore soon after the vessel docked Monday, hampering efforts to determine whether any were lost.

Gasoline Catches Fire
Witnesses said lightning struck the 550-foot ship less than two hours after it arrived here from Savannah. Gasoline spilled into the St. Johns river and caught fire and the flames soon spread to the dock. A dense flame of smoke billowed hundreds of feet into the air and was visible for more than 20 miles.

Eleven city fire companies responded to a three-alarm signal and were joined by two fire boats. The ship listed to port an hour after the blaze began and its stern later settled.

Terrific Explosion
"There was a terrific explosion during the height of the blaze that shook all buildings around us," said B. S. Grantham, an engineer with the Texas Oil company whose offices adjoin the Standard docks. Unloading of the Homestead's cargo was approximately 30,000 barrels of gasoline had begun about See SHIP On Page Two

PLANE PILOT DIES OF CRASH INJURY

Columbus Accident Takes Second Life; Death Unexpected

Special to The Star
WHITEVILLE, Aug. 5.—The plane crash which took the life of Dozier Norris, 30-year-old tobacco farmer of near Tabor City, late Sunday afternoon at the Dulah airfield, claimed another victim at 12:30 a. m. Monday morning when F. J. Petrik, the death plane's pilot, died unexpectedly in the Whiteville hospital.

Petrik, sustaining a broken hip and leg in the accident, was termed "very much alive" and "resting comfortably" by the attending physician shortly before death came.

Death Unexpected
The cause of the sudden reversal was not revealed.

Norris' five-year-old daughter, Shirley Anne, the third occupant of the plane which crashed "for unknown reasons" into the pine tree at the airfield, was reported in "fair condition" at the Whiteville hospital last night.

Petrik, a native of New Jersey, came to Whiteville in September of 1945 as flying instructor at the city's Sledge airfield. Thereafter he joined Harry Barclay, a Whiteville World War II veteran, as co See PILOT On Page Two

Along The Cape Fear

PUBLIC AUDITORIUM — Now that the city fathers are planning to construct a \$1,000,000 public auditorium, we find ourselves asking some questions which may or may not have any answers:
Did Wilmington once have a public auditorium (other than Thalian Hall, of course)?
Or did it not?
And if it did, where was it? And what happened to it? And why?
And if it didn't, why not?

MEMORY ARCHITECTS — We raise these questions because we have an idea that (1) Wilmington once did have a public auditorium and (2) you folks will be able to fill in the details on the lost plans, even though you may not be architects.
We mean "architects" in the professional sense of the word. What we are relying on is your wonderful architectural powers in reconstructing things out of the past from your equally wonderful memory.
Having flattered you (and you deserve it), let's explain why we think a public auditorium once existed.
THE WIGWAM — The other day an old Wilmingtonian came into our office and asked, right out of a blue sky (one of the few blue skies we've had lately): "Have you ever heard of the Wigwam?"
The sky clouded up immediately. We had never heard of the "Wigwam," and we knew instinctively that it had nothing to do with Indians.
Well, according to our informant, the Wigwam was a public auditorium located at Seventh and Castle streets. He can't remember when it was there or what it looked like.
So, how about it, folks? And did it cost \$1,000,000?

WISH YOU WERE HERE

Newsies Have Wonderful Time In Nation's Capital And So To Bed

The classic remark of a hawking evening was made last night shortly after the blaze on a burning oil truck was extinguished. (The story is recorded elsewhere in this morning's paper.)
Although the truck came near to exploding, and despite the fact that some \$1,000 worth of damage was sustained by the truck's cab, and even though the driver's hand was burned by flaming oil, the driver himself was angry about something else.
He borrowed a cigarette from the reporter covering the accident and then said: "I lost a brand new pack of cigarettes in that doggone fire."

Mr. Smith went to Washington, according to the Hollywood version but the odds are that he didn't have nearly as good a time as Master Phil Crowder and Master Dicky Paschall, according to the Wilmington version.

Reward For Efforts
Master Crowder and Master Paschall, Star-News newspaper carriers No. 27 and No. 57, followed in Mr. Smith's celebrated footsteps last week as a reward for (1) drumming up the largest amount of new newspaper subscribers and (2) keeping the largest amount of old newspaper subscribers satisfied with their services, in the Star-News Circulation department's contest.
Accompanied by an older member of the circulation department, Phil and Dicky (let's not be so formal) toured the Capital city all the way from the Washington monument to the Capitol building itself.
See NEWSIES On Page Two