

FORECAST

Wilmington and vicinity: Rain and slightly colder tonight; Thursday cloudy and continued cold with possible light snow.

Wilmington Morning Star

Served By Leased Wires of the UNITED PRESS and the ASSOCIATED PRESS With Complete Coverage of State and National News

VOL. 80.—NO. 67.

WILMINGTON, N. C., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 1947

ESTABLISHED 1867

HISTORIC ACT

Truman Shifts Atom Program To People

Executive Order Places Nation's Vast 'Energy' Facilities In Hands Of New Civilian Commission

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—(AP)—President Truman, in a historic year-end ceremony, Tuesday signed an executive order shifting control over the nation's \$2,250,000,000 atomic energy program from military to civilian hands.

Coinciding with his proclamation declaring the World War II "period of hostilities" ended, Mr. Truman turned over the Army's famed Manhattan project to the new Civilian Atomic Commission.

The order, effective at midnight, also transfers possession of atomic weapons, fissionable materials, equipment and research scattered over 18 states.

In the future, the President is empowered by Congress to authorize the production of atomic bombs or other atomic weapons, but Tuesday's ceremony placed emphasis on the

productive peace-time use of atomic energy.

Chairman David E. Lillenthal and other members of the civilian group looked on as Mr. Truman signed the formal order. Also present was Maj. Gen. Leslie Groves, head of the Army's wartime district which developed the atomic bomb. Groves' part in the program is now ended.

Conscious of the dramatic overtones, Lillenthal told newsmen:

"Tonight at midnight, the people of the United States turn over to five civilians the most potent weapon of all times. With a Congressional charter, they take direction of a program to develop the peaceful and beneficial possibilities of this great discovery developed before the war."

City Bond Sale Slated For Approval By Council

THOUSANDS GREET ARRIVAL OF 1947

Light Mist Fails To Dampen Celebration Here On New Year's Eve

A light mist was falling at the stroke of midnight last night, but the spirits of thousands of merry-makers were not dampened, as car after car passed along Front street with their horns blowing. Still hundreds of residents and service-men-visitors walked up and down the "main drag" blowing horns and taking advantage of other methods of making noise to usher in 1947.

While many lined the streets, other Wilmingtonians attend watch-night services in many churches throughout the city.

Night clubs reported a brisk business. Private parties were being held in many homes throughout the city.

Last night's celebration, the second New Year's since the end of World War II, was much larger than last year. More people, automobiles and more noise was noted in the downtown area.

Many retail stores and government offices will be closed today, it has been previously announced. The post office will observe the day by closing, although the parcel post window and the general delivery windows will be open from 10 a. m. until 12 o'clock noon. There will be no home deliveries by carriers. Postmaster Wilbur Dosher said.

The county courthouse, city hall and customhouse will join with the offices of the Community Chest, the Veterans administration, N. C. Veterans' commission and North Carolina Employment service in closing.

The Community Center will be closed for the day as the USO takes over to entertain visiting servicemen.

Many hunters are expected to take advantage of the extra day hunting allowed in lay-day counties.

(Continued On Page 2; Col. 4)

HAMBONE'S MEDITATIONS

By Alley

LOOK LAK A HEAP O' CANDIDATES DON' GIT MANY VOTES IN DEY HOME TOWN—TOO MANY KIN FOLKS, I RECK'N!



(Released by The Bell System, Inc.) Trade Mark U. S. Pat. Office

Peels Potatoes



Pvt. James M. Hill, 18, of Robinson, Ill., who earned the praise of his commanding officer by a tale of balking bandits attempting a payroll robbery at Hamilton Field, San Francisco, last night was doing KP after the FBI proved that his story was just brilliant imagination.

WOMAN WOUNDED BY FAKE CAMERA

Allegedly Hired By Man, To Take Picture, Blonde Shoots Young Wife

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—(AP)—An attractive blonde who said she apparently had been duped by a "fake" camera, was shot in the chest Tuesday night by a young woman who thought she was taking a picture of a crowded Times Square subway station.

Mrs. Olga Rocco, 28, her right thigh torn by the full charge from a 12 gauge sawed-off shotgun hidden in a package trimmed with gay Christmas wrappings, fell to the platform in an agonizing scream as startled subway passengers scurried to cover.

Police took into custody Miss Pearl Lusk, 19, a well-dressed, pretty blonde who, still standing stunned with the package in her hands, told them she thought she was taking a picture of Mrs. Rocco. Patrolman William Walsh, the first policeman on the scene, said he asked the wounded woman, "Why did this woman shoot you?"

Mrs. Rocco replied, he said: "You fool, she didn't shoot me. My husband did."

Police said Miss Lusk then said

(Continued On Page 2; Col. 5)

BIRD COUNT HERE MAY WIN TITLE

Local Club Tabulates 97 Species During Annual Census

Wilmington's chances of leading the entire state in the annual Christmas bird census for 1946 are extremely bright following the release last night of the report on the December 28 count made in this area.

Each year all over the nation local bird clubs, groups and individuals cooperate with the National Audubon society in making the Christmas count of the number and kinds of birds in their respective communities.

The count made here last week showed 97 species and 3402 individual birds, according to Mrs. Cecil Appleberry, president of the local bird club. Other officers in the organization are Miss Helen Lovering, vice president; Miss Marjory Voss, secretary; and R. Warwick Baker, treasurer.

In 1945 when the first bird census was taken here a total of 61 species was tabulated. And according to the current issue of "The Bird Club Bulletin,"

(Continued On Page 2, Col. 1)

Utility Firm Reveals Plan Of Expansion

One And A Half Million Dollar Program Told By Tide Water

RATES CUT TODAY

Consumers In Area To Save \$60,000 Under New Reduction Schedule

A new construction and general improvement program involving the expenditure of one and a half million dollars and covering all phases of operation in southeastern North Carolina was revealed yesterday by officials of the Tide Water Power company.

It was pointed out at the time of the announcement that plans for the program had been mapped for some time but delays followed on the heels of war and post-war shortage of materials and equipment.

At the same time, rate reductions effecting savings of \$60,000 a year to consumers was announced by company president Warren Bell, with the reduction to go into effect today.

The rate cut followed discussion by the city council of the utility's proposal for a reduction in the basic power rate on March 13 of this year. The proposal had been placed before the state utilities commission at an earlier date.

Four hundred and fifty miles of electrical service extensions, largely in rural areas, figure prominently in expansion plans announced by the company.

Among other major projects is

(Continued On Page 2; Col. 4)

NEW YEAR CALLED FINE OPPORTUNITY

Dr. John Glenn Addresses Methodist Youth At Night Services

"The New Year affords us the opportunity of making 1947 better than the past one," Dr. John C. Glenn, superintendent of the Wilmington District of the Methodist church, said in his New Year's message to the Methodist youth of Wilmington at a watch-night service in the Grace Methodist church here last night.

Dr. Glenn spoke on the subject: "1947—A Golden Gate of Opportunity."

"We are facing the new year in the midst of a world filled with many difficulties. The problems incident to the period of re-adjustment, strikes, civil wars in distant lands, universal peace efforts, and domestic ills have caused many Americans to degenerate into a hysteria of fear. They see only the black spots on the checker-board of life," Dr. Glenn stated.

"As we face 1947, let us learn the Master's secret. We cannot control international events, strikes, floods and earthquakes, but there are many things we can control. Here is where Christianity comes in," Dr. Glenn continued.

"We cannot control the length of our days, but we can determine the breadth and quality of life. No man can determine his physical height, but he has all to do with the height of his thoughts."

"Man cannot determine the physical atmosphere of his city or nation, but he can determine the moral atmosphere. It can be warm, radiant and pleasant, so I regard 1947 as the Golden Gate of Opportunity," Dr. Glenn concluded.

Along The Cape Fear

HAPPY NEW YEAR — Amid the usual undrains that Along The Cape Fear finds itself when we start the arduous task of making New Year resolutions, we wish to pause to wish each of you a most joyous New Year.

And we sincerely hope that high on your list of New Year resolutions is to continue the most gracious aid and assistance that you have given Along The Cape Fear.

Without the encouragement we receive in the form of letters, post cards, telephone calls, personal visits, and the loan of valuable old photographs and booklets, plus the kind words that float our way Along The Cape Fear's daily column would become a burden.

As it is, we look forward each day to seeing what local lore, in danger of being forgotten in the Port City, we can dish up for our readers.

So again let us extend a most hearty Happy New Year to you and yours.

(Continued On Page 5; Col. 3)

LABOR GOVERNMENT TAKES OVER BRITISH COAL MINES; TRUMAN ORDER CUTS TAXES

Proclamation By President Big Surprise

Presidential Action Yields Many Government War Powers At Midnight

CONTROL SCRAPPED

Unless Congress Acts, Revenues Will Be Lowered As Of June 30, 1947

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—

(AP)—President Truman

sprang a major New Year's Eve surprise Tuesday by yielding many of the government's war powers—an action which means a \$1,500,000,000 tax cut and scrapping of the biggest strike control weapon.

The White House bombshell took the form of a proclamation which declared that "hostilities of World War II" ceased as of noon Tuesday.

The result of this legal recognition that the shooting was over was that 18 extraordinary laws died with the proclamation. The proclamation also meant that 33 others are doomed to die next June 30, or later.

About \$1,500,000,000 a year will be knocked off the nation's tax bill six months hence—unless Congress legislates otherwise—by the

(Continued On Page 2; Col. 3)

GROUP TO LAUNCH FIGHT FOR FUNDS

Wilmington Port Commission Joins Forces With Other Eastern Ports

A proposal that the Wilmington Port Commission join other eastern ports in seeking the release of rivers and harbors funds, now frozen by the federal government, was adopted yesterday at a meeting of the commission.

Members of the group indicated their approval of a program initiated by the American Merchant Marine institute whereby all ports on the Atlantic combine forces in efforts to have money for port improvement released.

Meanwhile, the decision was reached to seek the aid of the North Carolina congressional delegation in filing a complaint that the local port has suffered from discrimination as concerns waterborne commerce.

The port commission is preparing to present a formal complaint to the Interstate Commerce commission charging that Wilmington is faced with discrimination by shippers as regards service and rates.

C. D. Hogue, chairman of the local body, suggested that a conference of tobacco and textile officials of the state might result in bringing more tonnage to Wilmington.

In Spotlight Show



These swans are one of the main feature attractions at the annual poultry show being held in Madison Square Garden, New York City. They were hatched in a special incubator. (International)

The Weather

FORECAST

South Carolina — Rain Wednesday and Thursday mixed with sleet and snow extreme northwest portion Wednesday night and Thursday. Slightly colder Wednesday and Thursday night and continued cold Thursday.

North Carolina — Rain on the coast and freezing rain in interior. Wednesday changing to snow in mountains Wednesday and over central portion Wednesday night. Slightly colder Wednesday and Thursday night. Thursday cloudy and continued cold with light snow.

(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. 42°; 7:30 a.m. 44°; 1:30 p.m. 48°; 7:30 p.m. 49°.
Maximum 50; Minimum 41; Mean 46; Normal 47.

Humidity
1:30 a.m. 82°; 7:30 a.m. 72°; 1:30 p.m. 74°; 7:30 p.m. 71°.

Precipitation
Total for 24 hours ending 7:30 p.m. — 0.00 inches.

Total since the first of the month — 2.10 inches.

Tides For Today

(From the Tide Tables published by U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.)

High Low

Wilmington — 4:06 a.m. 11:27 a.m.

4:28 p.m. 11:47 p.m.

Masonboro Inlet — 1:40 a.m. 8:03 a.m.

2:00 p.m. 8:32 p.m.

Sunrise 7:18; Sunset 5:14; Moonrise 12:55 p.m.; Moonset 12:58 a.m.

River stage at Fayetteville, N. C. at 8 a.m. Tuesday, 11.2 feet.

SNAPPY NEW YEAR GREETINGS AMERICA

Weatherman Offers Chilly Greeting To Most Of Nation Today

By The Associated Press

The weather man wished most of the nation a very snappy New Year today.

There was plenty of warmth—inside both America's homes and its citizens—but little Little Kid 1947 walked in on a chilly reception from mother nature.

The old year blustered out, leaving most of the country covered with a cold air mass stretching from the Rockies to the Atlantic coast and even dipping into some normally balmy areas.

Texas was gripped by one of its worst snow storms in recent years, with the heaviest fall reported as seven inches at Denison on the Red River in North Texas. Cotton Bowl fans at Dallas found numerous highways into the city impassable because of an icy coating.

Texas cities receiving sizable snowfalls included Fort Worth, Waco, San Antonio, Big Springs, Abilene and Brady.

Thanks to Forrest Hull writing in the current issue of "Tracks," we can bring you these notes on the early days of rail travel:

Strong drafts created by the great balloon or diamond-shaped smoke stacks of pre-War Between the States trains sent live sparks from the wood-burning fires flying over the countryside, setting fire to woods and fields, and also to clothing and whiskers of bearded passengers.

In those days trainmen refused to wear uniforms, objecting to them on the grounds that they smacked of English servants' "livery."

(Continued On Page 2, Col. 2)

GOP TO ATTEMPT OUSTER OF BILBO

Senate Steering Committee Votes To Start Proceedings Against 'The Man'

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—(AP)—

The Republican drive to bar Sen. Theodore G. Bilbo, D., Miss., from the Senate went into high gear Tuesday night with a unanimous decision by the GOP Steering committee to start ouster proceedings against "the man."

Sen. Robert A. Taft, R., O., chairman of the committee, said his group will make its recommendation to the POG conference when it meets Thursday afternoon.

The Ohioan said it is now "certain" that Bilbo's right to his seat will be challenged and that the only point unsettled is the timing of the move.

He said the Steering committee has not decided yet whether to challenge Bilbo before he is sworn in for his third Senate term Friday or to seek his removal after he is seated.

Taft said he intends to discuss the question with both Republican and Democratic Senators, including Senate Democrat Leader Alben W. Barkley of Kentucky.

Word of the GOP strategy leaders' decision came after the Senate Campaign Investigating committee divided along party lines on the question whether Bilbo should forfeit his place in Congress for raising the white supremacy issue in last July's Mississippi primary.

TWO BOYS BORN AFTER MIDNIGHT IN STORK DERBY

Baby boys were born at 12:01 a.m. this morning in James Walker Memorial hospital to share honors as Wilmington's first arrival for 1947.

Hospital attaches reported that both Mrs. Evelyn Bland, 231 Vance street, Maffitt Village, and Mrs. Daphne Scruggs, 23 North Jackson street gave birth to a son before the New Year was two minutes old.

Mrs. Bland was attended by Dr. William Doshier and Mrs. Scruggs by Dr. George Johnson.

Both mothers and sons were reported "doing fine" early this morning.

(Continued On Page 2; Col. 5)

Attlee Faces Supreme Test Of Socialism

World-Girdling Communications Network Also Passes To People

CABINET "HUDDLES"

Lord Hyndley Declares New Move Is "Great Adventure By Public"

LONDON, Dec. 31.—(AP)—

Ownership of Britain's vast coal industries and world-girdling communications network pass to the government as the New Year's bells ring Tuesday night, heralding a supreme test of socialism on which the Labor government will stand or fall.

Operating the coal mines successfully, in the face of an unprecedented shortage of fuel which has threatened to close down major industries, is the government's greatest challenge. And the government knows it.

In comparison, the public ownership of the communications of Cable and Wireless, Ltd., will pose few problems.

But coal is the bed rock of Britain's industrial economy, and the coal bin has been showing bare spots now for more than a month.

Government possession of the vast industry is the first major accomplishment in the Labor

(Continued On Page 2; Col. 4)

BENSON URGING TRAFFIC SAFETY

City Manager Cites Danger Arising From Faulty Turns In City

City Manager J. R. Benson yesterday appealed to Wilmington drivers to cease cutting across traffic lanes when turning at intersections within the city, and cited a series of accidents and near accidents to support his request.

The record shows accidents are caused by many drivers turning right from the inner traffic lane on four-lane streets instead of steering to the outside lane before making the turn. The same thing holds true, he said, when operators attempt to turn left at an intersection from the outside lane or the lane nearest to the curb.

Benson pointed out that these conditions are especially found at intersections on Market street and on Third street, the city's main traffic arteries.

Aside from the confusion and accidents resulting from the wrong turns, Benson explained that such traffic maneuvers were in violation of the law and called attention to section 19, chapter 14 of the city code and section 115 of the motor vehicle law of North Carolina.

These ordinances state that the driver of a vehicle intending to turn to the right at an intersection should approach this intersection in the lane nearest the right hand side of the street. When turning to the left, the law continues, the driver should approach the intersection immediately to the right of the street center line.

Frank LeRay, 1816 Caroline Beach road, is seeking the Good Samaritan who gave him a ride into town Monday.

Says, Mr. LeRay, waiting for the nice person who would give him a lift. We about the color and things like arrived at Fro Streets I got out.

But, the reason driver is because eye glasses in "And, I can't see Star without then

(Continued On Page 2; Col. 5)

Today And Tomorrow

By WALTER LIPPMANN

BARUCH'S EITHER—OR If it were true—as Mr. Baruch declared the other day—that "it is either — or," everlasting peace would be just around the corner. But in fact it is neither the one nor the other.

It is not true, and it was never true, that the Canadians, the British, and the French, who have been disposed towards "voting against our (Mr. Baruch's) position," thereby "agree that a criminal" should have the "right" to "nullification of punishment" by what can be called a subterfuge. Not even in the heat of debate was

Mr. Baruch entitled to suggest that General McNamouth, Sir Alexander Codogan, and M. Parodi have been trying to help criminal governments to resort to subterfuges.

Nor is his alternative — as Mr. Baruch has stated it — a true one. He said that he would not recommend to the Senate a treaty on atomic energy "which is open to nullification of punishment." His argument is that if "a violator" does "not have a veto to protect himself against the consequences

(Continued On Page 5; Col. 3)