

WILMINGTON AND VICINITY—Mostly cloudy, rather windy and continued unseasonably warm.

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WILMINGTON, N. C., THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 1947

## Action To Transfer Reserve Fund Balked

### Solons Interested In Increased Pay For Teachers And State Employees Win Postponement At Raleigh

RALEIGH, Jan. 29.—(AP)—Legislators interested in increased salaries for teachers and state employees and in increased appropriations to state institutions succeeded today in postponing the general assembly's joint appropriations committee's action on a bill that would transfer \$9,300,000 to the state's reserve fund.

The decision to postpone consideration of the bill which would increase the reserve fund to \$30,000,000 to protect appropriations from possible declining revenues came after sharp debate.

The debate arose after the bill had been amended to cut out a reference in its preamble to a 20 per cent wage increase which has been recommended by Governor Cherry and the advisory budget commission. This amendment was in line with the \$8,250,000 emergency salary bonus bill which was passed last week only after legislators who are fighting for larger pay boosts had succeeded in removing from the bill any reference to a 20 per cent increase.

The debate came after the state utilities commission, the adjutant general's office, the state school for the blind and deaf at Raleigh and the Western North Carolina sanatorium at Black Mountain had informed the committee that they were satisfied with the budgets recommended for them by the advisory budget commission.

Four other institutions, however, requested increases in operating funds and in permanent improvements totaling \$828,230.

Among the 36 bills poured into the house Wednesday was a measure by Reps. Harrison of Craven and Hunter of Onslow to prohibit payment of more than \$60 a month to school bus drivers, and to prohibit anyone under 21 years of age from driving a school bus.

Rep. Scott of Beaufort sent up a bill to amend the school machinery act providing for the enrollment of children in school only after they have reached six years of age the preceding January 1.

Another fireworks-banning measure was introduced by Rep. Blackwell of Forsyth. Blackwell's bill would prohibit the manufacture, sale, transportation or possession of fireworks.

A bill fixing the pay of county commissioners' chairmen at \$15 a day per session and that of members at \$10 a day except where otherwise fixed by law sent up by Rep. Tompkins of Jackson. He also presented a measure prohibiting commercial carnivals on school grounds.

Reps. Taylor of Wayne and Edwards of Durham submitted a measure relating to the inheritance rights of children.

Sen. Junius K. Powell of Columbus introduced a bill providing that a person leaving a child seven years of age or less confined in an automobile without someone at least 14 years old may be found guilty of misdemeanor.

Provisions for a board of examiners for licensing funeral directors were made in a bill sent up by Sen. Julian Allsbrook of Halifax.

Allsbrook's bill provides that the board be composed of five members with not less than five years experience each, elected by the N. C. Funeral Directors and Burial Associations, Inc. The proposed bill would outlaw directing or supervising a funeral without a license.

The house passed, 100 to 3, a measure by Rep. Uzzell of Rowan providing for a constitutional amendment vote on a proposal calling for a majority vote rule in special elections, as opposed to the present system of voting against the registration. Rep. Odus M. Uhl of Cleveland led opposition to the measure.

Commander Lewis E. Starr, National Commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars, addressed the house. Starr said: "We have faith that in the not too distant future, the United Nations will be able to prevent wars but until then, our armed forces must be second to none."

The March of Dimes Ball tonight at the Cape Fear Amory, Market street, will climax the New Hanover drive to raise \$8,200. The dance is to begin at 9 o'clock. The dance is optional, county chairman W. K. Rhodes, Jr., said last night.

Total contributions received thus far in the county drive amount to \$2,300, Rhodes said.

Music for the dance tonight will be provided by Gordon Simpkins orchestra. Special entertainment features have also been planned, including the presentation of the Queen of the Ball, 9-year-old Patsy Davenport, a former victim of Polio.

A survey of the ticket sales for the dance tonight was reported as "fair", but it was hoped that more will be sold today.

Included among those scheduled to attend the meeting are representatives of the furniture, tobacco and textile industries, who are expected to present their ideas for the expansion of the state's ports.

Accompanying Page to Raleigh from Wilmington will be W. C. Park and W. F. LaPorte, former officials of the North Carolina Shipbuilding company.

Members of the authority other than Page are W. O. Huske of Fayetteville, secretary-treasurer; A. G. Meyers, vice-president, Gastonia; and H. S. Gibbs, Morehead City. S. B. Frink, Southport; J. H. White, Winston-Salem; and Henry T. Wilson, Morganton.

## Wire On Track Wrecks Train;



Wrecking crewmen begin cleaning up the wreckage of the Pennsylvania Railroad's passenger train, "Pennsylvania Union", which was derailed near Walton, Ind., with the loss of six lives and more than a score injured. Indiana state police said the wreck was caused by a bale of fencing wire jammed into a switch. The FBI has joined an investigation to learn how the wire got on the track. (AP Wirephoto).

## Plans For Developing State's Ports To Be Outlined To Legislators Today

### POLIO CAMPAIGN ENDING TONIGHT

### March Of Dimes Ball To Be Featured Event In Drive

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### TERRORISTS FREE SECOND HOSTAGE

### British Banker Stumbles Into Jerusalem Clinic After Deadline

JERUSALEM, Jan. 29.—(AP)—An exhausted 48-year-old British banker, held prisoner by the Jewish underground for 78 hours, stumbled into a clinic in the heart of Jerusalem tonight and told police he had fought his way to freedom.

Taken promptly to a heavily-guarded government hospital, H. A. Collins, the second of two civilians kidnapped by the underground, was quoted by police as declaring: "I was badly treated."

Physicians at the hospital described his condition as "dangerous." Police with drawn revolvers rode the running boards of the ambulance which took him from the Hadassah clinic off Zion Square to the hospital. His head was bandaged, apparently from the axe handle blow he received when he was abducted Sunday night.

He appeared at the clinic—in a dazed condition and with his face bloody—at 11:05 p. m. (4:05 p. m. EST) a little more than six hours after the deadline fixed by British authorities for his return.

When that deadline passed the British threw into gear the machinery to impose statutory martial law on one-third of Palestine's Jewish population. It was understood, however, that the martial law order could be countermanded quickly.

The other abducted civilian, Judge Ralph Windham, was freed unharmed near Tel Aviv last night, and received an ovation when he returned to his court in that city this morning.

British authorities said Collins and Windham were seized by the Jewish underground in retaliation for the death sentence pronounced on Dov Bela Gruner, 33, who was convicted of participating in an attack on a Palestine police station. Tension was eased somewhat when the attorney for Gruner said he finally had agreed to appeal for clemency to the privy council in London.

Legal circles here said the appeal would automatically stay the execution until the council acted, and Jewish sources said a several weeks period of quiet might be expected in Palestine during the interim.

The Jerusalem office of the Hebrew newspaper, the Tel Aviv, said it had received an anonymous telephone call at the time Collins appeared at the clinic.

### South Atlantic Division Engineer To Address Raleigh Session

A meeting to acquaint members of the North Carolina General Assembly with the State Ports Authority's efforts towards the development of the state's ports is slated to be held in the Sir Walter hotel at Raleigh, this morning.

On hand to explain the progress of negotiations to purchase the former N. C. Shipbuilding yards in Wilmington will be members of the SPA, headed by R. B. Page, local publisher. Also included on the agenda will be a discussion of the benefits to be realized from the development of ports throughout the state.

An address by Col. George C. Gillette, chief of the South Atlantic division, Army Engineers, is scheduled to be heard. He will speak on the need for large scale engineering in gacivities and for deep basins in the area.

J. T. Hiers, executive secretary of the Wilmington Port Commission will attend the session to advise the assembly of some of the features of the local port.

Included among those scheduled to attend the meeting are representatives of the furniture, tobacco and textile industries, who are expected to present their ideas for the expansion of the state's ports.

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The Knutson income tax bill, which will come up later, got perhaps more attention in the debate than the excise measure that was before the house.

Freezing on the high excise indefinitely would prevent an automatic rollback July 1 that would cost the treasury \$1,300,000,000 annually. It was described by the bill's author, Rep. Grant (R-Ind.), as a means of making easier the job of slashing individual income taxes—as promised by some Republican leaders.

Necessary because many businesses are suffering because consumers are delaying purchases in anticipation of reduced excises in July.

Rep. Engel (R-Mich) declared Knutson's bill would give only meager tax relief to the poor, but large benefits to the rich, and declared its passage might "spell defeat" for the Republican party in 1948.

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### HOUSE SUPPORTS HIGH TAX LEVIES

### First Rollcall Vote Of New Congress Sees Wartime Excise Upheld

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—(AP)—The house voted overwhelmingly today, 373 to 35, to continue indefinitely the high wartime excise levies on liquors, furs, jewelry, and many other items.

It was the first major bill of the Republican-controlled congress.

The action, tossing the excise tax issue over to the senate, came after a sizzling debate marked by a rebellion in Republican ranks against another GOP-backed tax bill. This one, by Rep. Knutson (R-Minn), proposes a 20 percent reduction in income taxes.

Moreover, Rep. McCormack (D-Mass), the Democratic whip, said that the Republicans had reversed their position to support the excise tax freeze—requested by President Truman—"so they can put through a windfall tax reduction for the big taxpayers."

In the first rollcall vote of the 80th Congress, 224 Republicans and 149 Democrats joined in support of the excise freeze, while the bill was opposed by 8 Republicans, 26 Democrats and one republican party member.

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## Truman Halts Rent Boost; Sends Issue To Congress

### Farm Betterment Program Adopted At Session Here

### Over 40 Southeastern North Carolina Farm, Home Agents Present

A program of "Better Farming for Better Living" for 1947 was adopted by farm and home agents and assistants from 13 eastern North Carolina counties who met yesterday at Trail's End on the Sound.

The purpose of the program which is to be carried out is to encourage self sufficiency of the farm family, to maintain soil fertility and to promote community relationships among farm families. The program is based along the lines which have been promoted by the agricultural extension and experiment stations. Representatives of the agricultural extension service from the State College station in Raleigh met with the farm and home agents yesterday. The meeting consisted wholly of discussion of the 1947 program.

A county council will be set up in each county in this district which participates in the program and the council will be responsible for the enrollment of participants, working out the program and the completion of the projects. The council will also be in charge of scoring the various projects completed by each of the farm families.

The program is to be conducted as a contest with county, regional and district winners being determined from the points awarded the farm family on the completion of a project. The projects set up are: participation in community affairs; feeding my family; general appearance and efficiency of the farmstead; care of my land and farm practices; my farm production; and my farm business.

Achievement Day banquets are to be held in November, at which time the awards will be made. Blue, red, and white ribbon certificates will be presented to families securing the points necessary. Prizes of \$25 to the county winner, \$75 to the regional winner and \$100 to the district winner will be given by the agriculture department of the Tide Water Power company, who sponsored the initial meeting.

Those present at the meeting yesterday from the Agriculture Extension service of the State College Station in Raleigh were: John W. Goodman, assistant director; C. M. Brickhouse, district agent; Mrs. Mary L. McAllister, district agent; W. J. Rideout, agricultural engineer; and Jesse James, assistant 4-H club leader.

County Farm agents, assistant agents, Home Demonstration agents, and their assistants, who attended are as follows, in that order:

Elizabethtown—B. B. Harper, Mrs. Lillie L. Hester, and Miss Esther Giles.

Brunswick—J. E. Dodson, Mrs. Allen Mentz.

Beaufort—R. M. Williams and Miss Carrie Brewer.

Whiteville—C. D. Raper and Miss Nan Ratcliff.

New Bern—A. P. Jackson, Paul M. Cox, Miss Jessie Tronbridge, and Miss Caroline T. Jones.

Kenansville—L. F. Weeks, and Miss Hilda Clontz.

Trenton—A. B. Thomas, and assistant agent Wiggins.

Lenore county—Paul Holland and Miss Jean Murphy.

Wilmington—R. W. Galphin, C. R. Cook, Miss Ann Mason and Miss Nedding Ingram.

Jacksonville—C. C. Clark and Margaret Henderson.

Bayboro—R. R. Stovall.

Burgaw—R. R. Rich, W. G. Andrews, Mrs. Frances Register, and Miss Mary Lee Burns.

Representatives from the Tide Water present were W. W. Bell, G. D. Conant, Robert Andrews, Mrs. Loretta Johnson and Neil Bolton.

NEW YORK, Jan. 29.—(AP)—Robert R. Young, chairman of one of the nation's biggest railroad holding companies, today disclosed total purchase of 309,500 shares of New York Central stock in a declared effort to capture control of that far-flung rail system.

Cyrus S. Eaton, Cleveland financier and Young's intimate in many ventures, asserted flatly that this control had already been attained. He told newsmen in Cleveland that "from now on you can count New York Central as Robert R. Young property."

New York Central officials made no comment when informed of these developments.

Actually, the 309,500 shares of Central stock purchased by Alleghany Corp., of which Young is chairman, amount to only 4.8 percent of the shares so far issued by what historically has been known as "The Vanderbilt Road."

The Young group, nevertheless, becomes the biggest known stockholder. Harold S. Vanderbilt, chairman of the Central's board of directors, owns about 60,000 shares.

### COST OF MARRYING MAY BE REDUCED BY PROPOSED LAW

RALEIGH, Jan. 29.—(AP)—Under a bill introduced in the House of Representatives today by Representative Dan-Tompkins of Jackson, it will cost less to get married in North Carolina and the counties of the state would take in more money at the same time.

Tompkins' bill would reduce the marriage license tax from \$5 to \$4, but the counties would gain because the counties would get all the money instead of splitting with the state on a basis of \$2 for the county and \$3 for the state.

The state, however, would lose an estimated \$15,000 during the coming biennium.

### AMERICA ALTERS STAND ON CHINA

### Marshall Orders Marines Home In "Hands-Off" Policy

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—(AP)—Secretary of State George C. Marshall today abandoned hope of peacefully mediating China's civil war and gave the signal to yank all U. S. Marines from the war-torn country.

His decision has the immediate effect of letting Chiang Kai-Shek's nationalist government and the Chinese communists "stew in their own juice."

His long-range strategy is that withdrawal of all American "good" offices may cause both sides to recede from their uncompromising attitudes.

Immediate effect of the move will be:

1. "Return home orders" for an estimated 10,000 Marines and about 2,000 U. S. Army officers at the executive headquarters which was established by Marshall to maintain the truce he negotiated a year ago.

2. Possible resignation of Ambassador J. Leighton Stuart, who was selected earlier this year because of his many years in the Orient and his long experience as a mediator with Chinese factions.

Recall of the Marines will ease increasing tension between the United States and Soviet Russia in that area. Soviet propagandists and officials for months have denounced the presence of the leathernecks. Russia withdrew her troops from Manchuria last spring.

It was Marshall's first major policy decision since he became secretary. But it was foreshadowed in his Jan. 7 "plague on both your houses" statement on China in which he accused extremists of both factions of sabotaging his efforts to end the civil war.

The decision shattered whatever lingering hope Chiang's government may have had in getting much-needed U. S. economic aid.

The long-pending \$500,000,000 loan to China was pushed far back into a niche. It has been promised only on condition that China moved "toward peace and unity."

Basic U. S. policy toward China remains unchanged. It still envisages and hopes for a democratic and unified China.

But American tactics will be changed drastically under the direction of Marshall who spent 13 months of fruitless effort in China trying to get the warring factions together.

His decision was announced at 5 p. m. E. S. T. Drawing on his past military techniques, he insisted that the statement for the press be marked "top secret" until delivered to Chinese officials.

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Taxes—The house voted 373-35 to continue indefinitely the wartime taxes on liquor, furs, jewelry and other items, estimated to yield \$1,300,000,000 a year to the treasury.

House republicans rebelled, however, against a proposal by Rep. Knutson (R-Minn) to cut income taxes 20 percent.

Labor—Chairman Hartley (R-NJ) said the house labor committee will write an "omnibus" labor bill by March 15, wrapping up the best features of many individual proposals for curbing labor-management strife. He said the bill will be "strong enough to pass over a veto, if necessary."

Veterans—The house passed a bill extending the period in which World War II veterans may reinstate some 10,000,000 government life insurance policies totaling \$80,000,000,000 which have been allowed to lapse.

Budget—Senator Wilson (R-Iowa) introduced a bill which would make it mandatory for congress to balance the budget.

Coup—Rep. Mundt (R-SD) told a startled house that Russians have detailed plans, including many aerial views, of all major U. S. industrial, transportation and utility installations. They were obtained "legally," he said, by visiting Soviets.

### INCREASE OF 10 PER CENT STALLS

### OPA Prepared To Release New Order When Action Came

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—(AP)—President Truman in a sudden last minute action today killed an order for a 10 percent boost in rent ceilings and passed on the Congress the responsibility for any general increase.

The OPA, under instructions from the office of temporary controls, had even gone so far as to prepare the increase order for the mimeograph room. Then a sudden "Hold" order came just as newsmen were expecting the release.

The White House said Mr. Truman believes any general revision of rents—which have been frozen in many sections since May, 1942—is a matter for congress to decide.

For a few hectic hours, however, it appeared that the lid was going to be lifted at least partially.

The sequence was this: In late afternoon OPA revealed that it had received an order to prepare a press release announcing the increase. The order had come about 4 p. m. from the office of temporary controls, an OPA official said.

Senator Fulbright (D-Ark) told reporters he understood the announcement would call for a 10 percent increase, with certain exceptions for veterans' housing.

Other legislators confirmed this, and OPA officials were busy filling reporters in on background, to go with the momentarily expected announcement.

But at 5:15 p. m., EST., OPA passed the word that there would be "no statement tonight."

Then Presidential Secretary Charles G. Ross hurriedly summoned newsmen to a conference. He said he had relayed to Mr. Truman a report that the President had approved a 10 percent rise in rents. The President told him in reply, Ross said, that he had not.

Ross added: The President's position is the same as he announced last week at a news conference. He feels the line ought to be held on rents, but that this is a matter for Congress.

From a man who sat in on conferences between Mr. Truman and Maj. Gen. Philip B. Fleming, head of the office of temporary controls, came the statement that in these there was no mention of any across the-board rent increase.

Fleming told reporters at the White House last week that OPA regional directors have been instructed to liberalize ceilings when a landlord is suffering hardship.

Ross said tonight that the policy is to permit rent increases on an individual basis only, and where landlord hardship can be shown.

OPA estimated that a 10 per cent rent hike would add \$76,000,000 a year to tenants' rent bills and would boost the cost of living index by about 1.3 per cent.

Housing constructed under the veterans emergency housing program would not be affected by the contemplated—and withdrawn—order, it was said.

OPA estimates that 16,000,000 houses and apartments are under control in 649 rental areas, and that 60,000,000 people live in controlled units.

### RESORT FORMING DRAINAGE GROUP

### Carolina Beach Residents Raise \$4,070 To Date For Project

A total of \$4,070 for the construction of a ditch and other drainage projects has been raised by residents of Carolina Beach, it was reported at a meeting in the resort town last night.

A non-profit organization, to be known as the Carolina Beach Drainage Project Corporation, was formed at the evening session for the purpose of letting contracts for the drainage work.

Glen Tucker, chairman of the group, said that the contract would be let as soon as final details for the forming of the corporation were completed.

### And So To Bed