

Wilmington and vicinity: Cloudy and rather cold with occasional rain today. Friday cloudy with occasional rain and slightly warmer.

# Wilmington Morning Star

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ESTABLISHED 1867

## Gurley Gives Evidence For Prosecution

### Grissett Trial Gets Underway After Completion Of Jury Late Yesterday

THIRD WITNESS

### Indicted Ex-Patrolman Places Defendant Behind Hardware Store In July

The state's star witness in the Wilmington ex-police officer's alleged thefts told a jury in New Hanover county Superior Court yesterday afternoon that he saw patrolman Roy Grissett walk from behind the Anchor Hardware store in July last year with a box which contained an "outboard motor."

The witness, H. L. Gurley, also a former policeman on the Wilmington force, and who also is under indictment of storebreaking, was the third witness to take the stand after selection of a jury had been completed at 3.45 p. m. After Gurley, an admittedly caught red-handed in a local grocery store, had been indicted he implicated Grissett in the store-breaking charge.

Gurley told the court that he and Grissett patrolled adjoining beats during the time of the alleged thefts "sometime" last July. He said that he saw Grissett, on or about the first of July, come from behind the Anchor Hardware store with a package.

It was about 2 a. m., he said. And he described the package as being about four feet long and two feet wide. He said he saw Grissett put the package down on the ground in the alley.

He said that Grissett came out to the street, and told him that "I have an outboard motor" and that he had "got it from the Anchor Hardware store." It was about an hour, he said, before he saw Grissett again. At that time Gurley quoted Grissett as saying "I have sent it away."

On cross-examination by Attorney Robert Brown, Gurley admitted that he did not, of his own knowledge, know what the box contained. And he said that he did not go back to the hardware store to see if it had been entered.

Under a heated cross examination (Continued on Page 2, Column 5)

## SELECTING JURY PROVES PROBLEM

### Many Are Called But Few Are Chosen In Grissett Case Here

There's really nothing unusual about selecting an ordinary jury for an ordinary court trial. But the story to follow is not about an ordinary jury, neither is it about an ordinary trial.

For qualifications sake, probably no other city in North Carolina ever before has had two of its policemen indicted simultaneously while members of the force; on charges on breaking and entering, and larceny.

That's one reason why this is not an unusual story. The second reason simply and factually is that few jurors ever have flatly admitted that they believe a defendant guilty and nothing the defense might offer would change their opinion.

That's exactly what happened in New Hanover County Superior Court yesterday afternoon when the trial of Roy Grissett got under way as story to the two former Wilmington policemen to face prosecution.

To begin with, practically every juror called said that they believed Grissett to be guilty as charged, but that if the defense offered sufficient evidence of his innocence they would change their mind. However, there were many exceptions. And that's what this story is about.

John Mercer, who is engaged in business at Wrightsville Beach, a (Continued on Page Two; Col. 4)

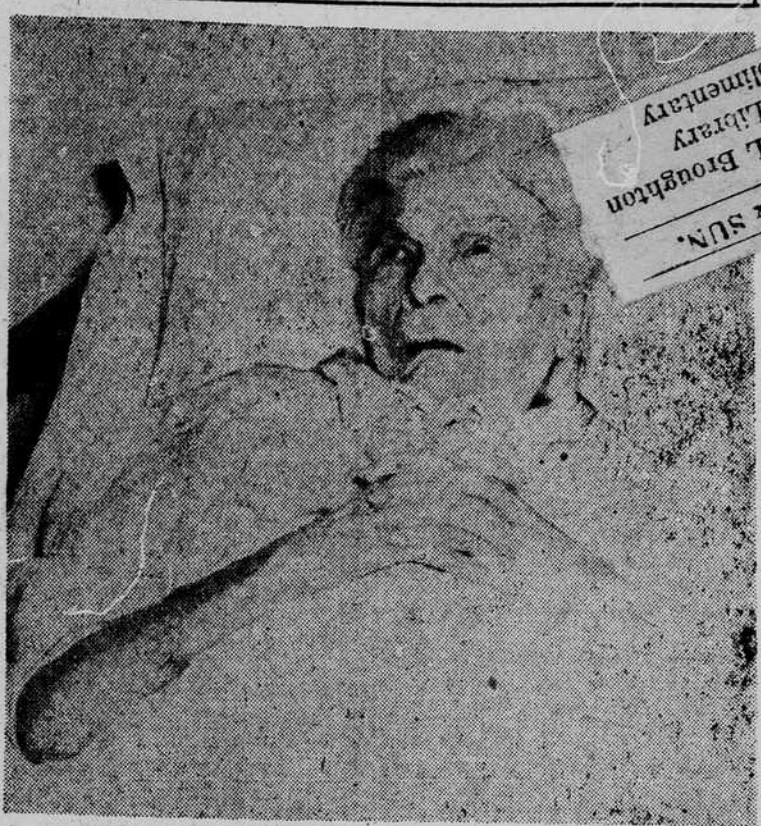
## BAMBONE'S MEDITATIONS

By Alley

CITY PAPUHS PRINTS POLITICS YOU CAIN' UNDERSTAN' NO-HOW, BUT A COUNTRY PAPUHU PRINT DE NENS 'BOUT FOLKS YOU KNOWS!

(Released by The Daily Star, Wilmington, N. C., Feb. 20, 1947)

## Granny Is 105 Now



Although bedridden because of a fractured hip, Granny Turner, above, is managing, she says, to enjoy life at the age of 105. A patient at the New Hanover county home, where she is officially registered as Martha Jane Turner, Granny bantered interviewers yesterday but concluded by singing them a song. (PHOTO BY CAROLINA CAMERA)

## Granny Turner, At 105, Sings To Interviewers

### Wilmington Woman Cheerful As She Recalls Days Of Happy Youth

Granny Turner, now in her 105th year, she says, smoothed her bright white hair against her pillow. She closed her wrinkled eyes, shutting off the mischievous gleam that lighted them, and lay lost for a moment in reverie in her bed at the New Hanover county home.

Then she opened her eyes again, carefully folded her thin hands across her breast, and began to laugh in a soft, silent chuckle.

"Where was I born, you wanted to know?"

"Yes, Grammy," said the reporter.

"Well, honey," she said, still chuckling silently, "I was mighty little then and don't remember much about it, but they told me it was in Bladen county, two miles this side of Elizabethtown."

Granny Turner, officially registered at the county home as Martha Jane Turner, was satisfied with her turnip. She had had her moment of amusement.

Now she was interested in other things. She wanted a fresh box of snuff.

"Call the doctor to bring it to me," she said, with the inflection of finality that was fashioned for women accustomed to getting their bidding.

The doctor brought the snuff to Granny. The "doctor" was Charles M. Carter, superintendent of the county home. The "doctor" is all that Granny has ever called him.

She can get away with that, and probably more, too, because Granny has a priority rating.

She has been at the New Hanover institution for about a year and a half, ever since she was taken (Continued on Page Two; Col. 6)

## PENSION BOARD GRANTS REQUEST

### Takes Action On Police Chief's Retirement; Thompson To Serve

Chief of Police Charles H. Casteen's request for retirement from the local police force was granted at a meeting of the police pension fund board yesterday afternoon.

## Adjourment Threat Halts Warm Debate

### Galleries Loudly Applaud Josephus Daniels' Defense Of Closed Shop MINISTER "BOOED"

### Dr. Frank P. Graham Hits At Attempt To Destroy Bargaining Rights

RALEIGH, Feb. 19 — (AP)—Amid contrasting tempers of boos and cheers, the House Committee on Manufacturing and Labor today heard proponents and opponents of a bill to outlaw the closed shop in North Carolina, in what observers called "one of the rowdiest legislative committee hearings on record."

The "boos" and cheers came after testimony by the Rev. F. T. Rose of Brevard on behalf of the bill, and were stopped only by constant pounding of the gavel by Rep. R. L. Harris of Person, chairman of the committee.

Harris said: "If we have any more of that, the meeting will adjourn. Make up your minds; this committee will accord each side the right to speak."

Rose said, "I come to you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ to speak for this anti-closed shop bill. I am a conscientious objector to being forced to join something un-democratic and unchristian."

He shouted that "never in the 11 years that I have been a child of God nor in the three years I have been a preacher, have I been forced to sign on a dotted line for labor dictatorships."

Loud applause, ringing in the galleries, came later when Josephus Daniels, editor and publisher of the Raleigh News and Observer, spoke against the bill, saying: "I am an employer who has operated under the closed shop for many years with nothing but good results."

"Any man who thinks he can regulate labor unions might just as soon try to push back the ocean," Daniels said, adding "it cannot be done."

He said the bill was "conceived in secrecy and came from an association that wants to destroy labor unions — not from dissatisfied unions themselves."

"The proposed bill would throw a firebrand into every industry in this state, North Carolina has been (Continued on Page Two; Col. 2)

## FOOD PRICES DIP COMES TO AN END

### Nation-Wide Survey Shows Retail Cost Of Many Items Soaring

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Indications that the brakes had been applied to a January dip in many food prices was given yesterday in a cross-country survey of a number of common items.

With weather and other seasonal factors coloring parts of the picture, price tags on some foods were shown to have been revised upward, at least temporarily, in several cities. Others held firm or showed signs of continuing a downward trend.

Against this checker-board pattern, in which prices frequently varied widely from city to city, there stood out the latest figures of the Federal Bureau of Labor statistics that if all food prices were considered in one lump the trend was up from last month's level.

Most meat prices in New York, for example, were advanced markedly over last week. The same was true in many other cities, but was not reported elsewhere. Freezing weather raised prices on citrus and fresh vegetables in some sections. Dropping butter prices firmed or went up in several cities.

Even when prices went down or held to recent lows, however, the survey showed that in most cases they were still considerably removed from one-time OPA price ceilings.

Clothing Up

The survey showed also that men's clothing prices in the nation's principal cities frequently were 10 to 20 percent above old OPA levels, and might go up before they came down. Women's medium priced dresses generally were up, from slightly to a lot, but with an improvement in quality and selection. Shoe prices had recorded a major advance also.

# TRUMAN ASKS CONGRESS FOR LAWS TO PERMIT EARLY EMERGENCY END; ROWDYISM MARKS "LABOR" HEARING

## Proposed Traffic Artery In City To Cost \$34,000

## The Weather

## Benson Makes Estimate Of Local Share In Seventh Street Route

## YARD CONFERENCE SET BY STEELMAN

## Clark To Speak

## Along The Cape Fear

## Aunt Ida Has Little Truck With Tingling Telephones

## Too Many Crosby Records Rouse Ire Of Scotchman

## WALTON TO JOIN ORPHANAGE STAFF

## HUBBARD TO HEAD DRIVE COMMITTEE

## Group Will Solicit Public Service Division For Red Cross

## WILMINGTON STAR

## WASHINGTON, Feb. 19 — (AP)—

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## "Red Arrow" Train Leaves Rails On Sharp Curve



On a steep bank beside sharp "Bennington Curve" near the Pennsylvania railroad's better known "Horseshoe Curve" lies wreckage of the fast Detroit-to-New York passenger train, the "Red Arrow." It left the rails a short distance from Altoona, Pa., killing at least 22 persons and injuring about 128. Smoke puffs come from a salvage train directly behind one of the "Red Arrow's" cars still on the roadbed. (AP Wirephoto)

## RED ARROW DEATH LIST FIXED AT 22

### Seven Of 128 Injured On Critical List In Altoona Hospitals

ALTOONA, Pa., Feb. 19 — (AP)—The dead from the plunge the Pennsylvania railroad's "Red Arrow" took down a 150-foot embankment in the pre-dawn hours yesterday was fixed at 22 today with seven of the 128 injured on the critical list.

The last of the dead were identified today by the railroad and Coroner Daniel M. Replogle of Blair county with one exception, Mrs. Lillian Pettigrew of Adele, Ga., was listed among the fatalities but there was belief the body may be that of her sister, Mrs. Beatrice White of Bridgeton, Mrs. Pettigrew's brother, Willie Seabrook of Bridgeton, was said to be enroute to establish definite identification.

Originally, the number of dead was thought to be 25 but was reduced as confusion over names was straightened out and badly mangled bodies were identified. There was a Mrs. Renetti listed among those dead but later the body was identified as that of Mrs. Innocente Brunatti of Wyandotte, Mich.

About 50 of the injured remained in either the Mercy or Altoona General hospitals. In addition to the seven listed in critical condition, five were reported serious and nine fair.

## HUBBARD TO HEAD DRIVE COMMITTEE

### Group Will Solicit Public Service Division For Red Cross

L. S. Hubbard, Jr., representative for Dunn and Bradstreet, will head the Public Service Division, to aid in the 1947 financial drive of the local Red Cross chapter. His appointment was announced last night by J. H. Carswell and N. A. Avera, co-chairmen of the drive.

Hubbard has appointed C. T. Burke and Cecil W. Henderson as the two team captains to head committees in the work of the Public Service Division. This division will solicit funds for the drive from personnel of local utility companies, banks, restaurants and other concerns.

All workers in the division will meet next week to get supplies and make last minute plans. Their work will begin shortly thereafter.

## Aunt Ida Has Little Truck With Tingling Telephones

Really, you ought to know Aunt Ida, in print at least. Aunt Ida is a character unique colored woman of firm and precise habits.

An imposition of years ago from the rolling farm lands of her native Georgia, she is employed here as a domestic-of-all-sorts by the prim landlady of a men's rooming house.

## President Would 'Keep' 16 Statues

### Immediate Repeal Of Many Wartime Measures Urged In New Message

### "SECOND" STEP

### White House Proposal May Return Coast Guard To Navy At Once

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19 — (AP)—In a major new stride toward normal national life, President Truman today asked legislation by Congress to permit "early ending" of the 7-1/2 year old "state of emergency."

The President's message urged extension of only 16 of the 102 emergency laws on the books, including the power to arm merchant ships and the maintenance of defense housing, now in use for veterans.

Congress was asked to repeal immediately 24 laws dealing with "problems of the war which no longer face us," such as the lease of public lands for arms production and the use of dollar-a-year men.

On his own, the Chief Executive ordered federal agencies to suspend activities under the emergency clauses of 36 permanent statutes at once or "in any event not later than March 15."

"The progress of reconversion now makes it possible to take an additional step toward freeing our economy of wartime controls," said the message sent to Capitol Hill.

## WALTON TO JOIN ORPHANAGE STAFF

### Southside Baptist Pastor Tenders Resignation Last Night

At a meeting last night in the Southside Baptist church, the Rev. J. O. Walton, pastor of the church for the past eight years, offered his resignation to become effective about April 8, to join the staff of the Baptist Orphanage at Thomasville.

The Rev. Mr. Walton's letter of resignation said in part: "After many days of constant prayer and the most careful consideration, I am tendering my resignation, effective about April 8."

"My reason for resigning: After looking at the matter in every way of which I can possibly conceive, it seems very clear to me that my service for the next while should be rendered at our Baptist Orphanage (Mills Home) in Thomasville."

He came to the Southside Baptist church, Nov. 9, 1938, from Windsor.

Members of the congregation, regretfully accepting his resignation, said that the church's financial condition at that time was bad. He celebrated his third year with the church, they said, by concluding a campaign to pay off all of its indebtedness.

"We deeply regret that he has seen fit to accept the Thomasville call," they said. "And in accepting his resignation we feel that we are making a sacrifice to the Mills Home and the Baptist denomination."

## And So To Bed

A lowly rat can be the source of trouble still.

The transmitter at police headquarters suddenly went on the blink last night and for several minutes contact between headquarters and patrol cars was broken. Try as he would, radio operator J. W. Wilson's efforts to "raise" the cars were to no avail.

The radio technician was summoned and in the transmitter, roasted and dead, was found the form of a lowly rat, evidently executed while trying to find a warm spot. To him went the honor for the breaking of the circuit.