WILMINGTON, N. C., SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 1947

SPECTACULAR FIRE COMPLETELY DESTROYS

GRACE METHODIST CHURCH, SUNDAY SCHOOL;

RSHALL SEEKING FEDERALIZED GERMANY

UNITED PRESS With Complete Coverage of State and National News

ESTABLISHED 1867

VOL. 80.-NO. 136.

## House GOP To Keep Pledges To Taxpayers

Speaker Martin Pledges This Following Committee Okay On Cuts

ADVANCE ANSWER

Republicans Clearly Recognized Necessity Of Lower Income Rates

WASHINGTON, March 21 -(U.P.)speaker Joseph W. Martin, Jr., tonight pledged House Republi cans to "keep faith with the people" by giving 50,000,000 income taxpayers cuts this year ranging from 20 to 30 per cent.

He said the plan, approved 16 to 9 by the House Ways and Means committee, was "entirely practicable" and urgently needed not only to increase the standstimulate a high level of national

His statement, which in effect as an advance answer to any new GOP program—a liberalized version of the Knutson 20 per cent across-the-board tax cut bill-as boon to low income groups "who must have relief from crushing and unbearably high

"If the government ever took over the financing of business and control of jobs and wages," he "we would have Communism or state Socialism before we knew it. Therefore, venture capital must have incentive tax cuts. It is just good common sense to do this now before it is too

To Keep Faith

recognized for a long time the dangers of excessive taxation and the absolute necessity for tax cuts. We promised the nation lower taxes-and we shall keep faith

The new program makes all tax tuts retroactive to Jan. 1 at an federal workers. stimated cost to the Treasury of 13.836,000,000 a year. Congression- limitations on the filing of future other ideology." per cent reduction provisions utes. income taxpayers

#### CAB WILL GRANT AIR FARE RAISE

#### Sixteen Lines To Get 10 faith," resulting from a wage-hour Per Cent Boost For Ninety-Day Period

WASHINGTON, March 21. -(U.P.) - The Civil Aeronautics board anmounced today that it was prepared to grant 16 domestic airlines a Moday, 10 per cent boost in passenger fares to combat increased operating costs.

It said it expected to receive a formal request for the increase by April 1. Existing airline income, it added, is unreasonably low in relation to operating costs despite an upward trend in passenger miles

After the boost is granted and er it should be made permanent. as soon as formal papers are fil-room of the New Hanover county ed, it will approve a small, tem-courthouse. porary hike in fares charged on States to foreign countries.

No Announcement It made no announcement on ticipated request from domestic

carrying rates.

American Airlines, Inc., Braniff Air Lines, Inc., Colonial Air Lines, ac., Delta Air Lines, Inc., Eastern Air Lines, Inc., Inland Air Lines,

nc.; Mid-Continental Airlines, Inc., National Airlines, Inc., Northeast Airlines, Inc., Northwest Airlines, nc., Pennsylvania Central Airlines Corp., Transcontinental & Western Air, Inc., United Air Lines, Inc., and Western Air Lines, Inc.

#### HAMBONE'S MEDITATIONS

GOOD BOOK SAY "GIVE" AN' HIT DON' SAY NOTHIN' NO-WHAR BOUT 'STRICTIN' IT TO JES' DE "DURATION"



The settlement also provides "fair compensation" to the Isbrandtsen company, the ship's operators, and reimbursement

for the delay.

The Martin Behrman's cargo of sugar and other commodities from Indonesian-held territor in Java was seized by Nether-lands authorities. The ship was taken under naval escourt from Cheribon, Java, to Batavia and

The Martin Behrman is com-manded by Capt. Rudy Gray of

#### SENATE OUTLAWS 'PORTAL' SUITS

GOP Majority Overrides Strong Democratic Protest To Pass Bill

WASHINGTON, March 21 -(U.P)ards of American livelihood but to The Senate overrode strong Democratic protests today and passed a bill outlawing \$6,000,000,000 in portal pay suits along with any back wage and overtime claims White House objections, hailed the filed under the Wage-Hour act and two other federal statutes.

The measure, which opponents claim would wreck existing labor day to authorize the Germans to laws, now goes to the House establish immediately a provisionwhich recently passed a more al government as the first step drastic version. If it turns down toward creating a federalized Gerthe Senate changes, agents or both many. chambers will have to work out a compromise.

been put under pressure by labor, man government which he said his Congressional lieutenants and should be started "at once so Wiley, R., Wis., of the Senate ment being drafted here. Judiciary committee, said he British Foreign Secretary Ernest doesn't think Mr. Truman will Bevin earleir had submitted a simitake his advice.

The Senate would: pay-past, present and future. 2. Ban nearly all claims for back pay and overtime under the

and Bason-Davis acts covering Germany should merely change 3. Clamp a two-year statute of party, nor Nazi ideology to some

il tax advisers figured that its 30 suits under the three federal stat

One-Year Limit "normal practice" of industry. Socialists. Employers would be relieved of

ruling or a court decision.

## CITIZENS' LEAGUE

#### Veterans Group Plans Campaign To Effect A Change In Personnel

The Progressive Citizens' League - for the present composed of vetput into effect, the CAB will un- erans, young and old — is out to dertake a study to determine wheth- effect a change in the city council. They made no bones about it at The board also announced that last night's meeting in the court

This was the third meeting of Constellations and DC-6 types of the veterans, in as many weeks, ircraft operating from the United and they will meet again next Friday night at 8 o'clock in the same place. Last night's meeting was no different from the others, insofar what it planned to do with an an- as their purposes are concerned.

However, last night they got airlines for an increase in mail down to the business of stating their aims and purposes, defining them, and naming a full slate of viously agreed among themselves officers "for at least 60 days or Beach as the site of the annual at the slaying resulted from a current problem. until after the primary."

And despite the fact that there sembly. Airways, Inc., Chicago & Southern was a fire — the burning of the Grace Methodist church and the Jaycee ministrel — the meeting attracted some 60 veterans from World War II back to the Spanish the members' respective business-American War.

Officers elected last night were: Chairman, C. L. Myers, Jr., vicechairman, Harry Latimer, Jr.; secretary, Mrs. Evelyn MacDonald; and treasurer, Marcus Goldstein.

Executive committee: Chairman, George E. Kidder, M. T. Craig, J. B. Hines, Solomon Sternberger, L. M. Snow, Jimmy Holden, William Rhodes, I. B. Grainger, and Col. Royce S. Mc-

Organization Aims "The purpose of this organization," the memorandum said, "shall be to stimulate an enlightened interest in governmental affairs of Robert R. Bellamy and Son, local rapid rate. wholesale drug firm, acting as The Wilm

#### Gray Gets Cargo

WASHINGTON, March 21-(AP) -The Netherlands government has agreed to let the American merchant ship Martin Behrman sail from Batavia with a duplicate of the cargo she previously was forced to unload, the State department said tonight.

the cargo unloaded there.

## U.S. Plan For Peace Regime

Secretary Asks Ministers to Authorize Provisional Government

WARNINGS SOUNDED

Bevin Tells Molotov Britain Will Not Tolerate One Party System

MOSCOW, March 21 .- (AP)-Secretary of State Marshall asked the Council of Foreign ministers to-

Marshall's request was included in a proposed three-point plan of President Truman already has procedure for setting up a Ger-Secretary of Labor Lewis B. there will be properly constituted Schwellenbach to veto the final German authorities" to carry out version. But Chairman Alexander the terms of the peace settle-

lar proposal but in much greater detailed, and warned Russia that 1. Prohibit all claims for portal Britain would not stand for any 'one party" system in Germany. Although not mentioning Communism by name, Bevin declared

wage - hour and the Walsh - Healy that the British "do not believe from the Nazi party to another

#### Inference Clear

The inference was clear, since The House bill provides only a the Russians in the Eastern zone one-year limit on future suits. ne-year limit on future suits.

Both versions would permit pay laims only when based on provisions of a contract or on the merger of the Communists and

Bevin's stand took special signifliability if their failure to make icance in view of French Foreign such payments was "in good Minister Georges Bidault's disclosure that Prime Minister Stalin in a recent interview had criticized Senate approval came after the the French stand for a federalized and decentralized Germany and (Continued On Page Two; Col. 8) urged a strong central administra-

> The British Foreign Secretary said that his country felt that the creation of a one party system n Germany along with a decentralized government which any one (Continued on Page Two; Col. 2)

#### PHARMACISTS OF DISTRICT MEET

#### Carolina Beach Considered As Site Of 1948 State Convention

The possibility that the 1948 convention of the North Carolina Pharmaceutical association will be held would not appeal the 30-year sentat Carolina Beach loomed following a meeting of pharmacists of the Ninth District in the Woodrow Wil-tion operator, was convicted of Although no official statement son hut yesterday afternoon.

president, said following the two Jacksonville drive-in attendant at hour session that present plans of his filling station last Oct. 29. the state organization include the Beach as the site of the annual as-

from Southeastern North Carolina were in attendance at yesterday's meeting, with problems faced by es the chief topic of discussion. current goods was also included the state penitentiary at hard among the topics and the presentation of the problems to the state

convention in Charlotte April 28, 29 and 30 figured among the plans formulated at the session. Another problem facing North Carolina Pharmacists, West said, was the matter of wages and hours among employes of the profession and some concrete action toward a

the association soon. The pharmacists were guests at City during the days when the rail- bia and Augusta railroad still an oyster roast last night, with road industry was expanding at a leaves its mark upon the Cape

(Continued On Page Two; Col. 5) host.

## Today And Tomorrow

By WALTER LIPPMANN

can be made about the debate on ward from Potsdam. reparations is that winning the present argument will not solve the problem. No doubt we have and if as is obvious there is no substantially the better of the ar- quick and easy answer to this gument in that an impartial tri- question, we can at least, I think, changing its name, the line then that he doubts seriously if there bunal would almost certainly hold turn from an endless and sterile started giving service direct to is any one now living who would that the Potsdam agreement su- debate about the old texts to a the Port City. perseded the Yalta agreement. But if, as Mr. Marshall put it, ments of the problem. we will not follow Mr. Molotov in a retreat from Potsdam to has been used so much that it is to the city via Navassa. Yalta," we had better recognize easy to forget what it means. It

The only certain prediction that Potsdam. We shall have to go for

The question is where and how, Augusta railroad. fresh consideration of the ele-

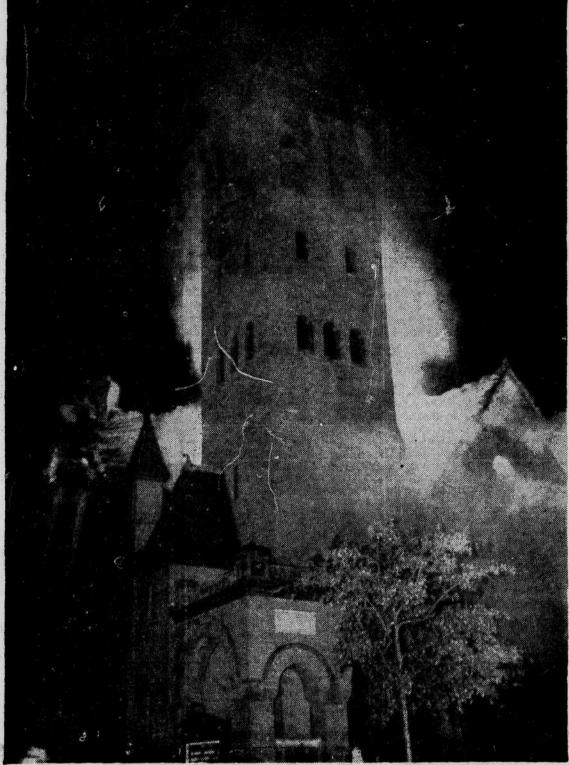
"Reparations" is a word that the river, the trains proceeded in-The Manchester railroad as it with him as we strongly contend that he is one of the line states, if we stand still at (Continued on Page Three, Col. 5)

We will immediately cast our lot with him as we strongly contend with him as we strongly contend that he is one of the best informed line in the South, Mr. Howell assures us.

And as a matter of fact, it played (Continued on Page Three, Col. 5)

We will immediately cast our lot with him as we strongly contend with him as we strongly contend that he is one of the best informed line in the South, Mr. Howell assures us.

And as a matter of fact, it played (Continued on Page Two; Col. 2) this month as were issued in Feb.



\$200,000 Fire Razes Grace Methodist Church

A spectacular fire last night completely destroyed the Grace Methodist Church at the corner of Fourth and Grace streets. The blaze was confined to the church building by the Wilmington fire department. The above picture was snapped by Jack Loughlin of the Carolina Camera company as the flames licked at the huge tower of the church. Additional pictures on page five.

### Civil Service Bill Adds Restrictions

#### **GANEY TO ACCEPT VERDICT BY COURT**

Attorneys Announce No Appeal From 30-Year Prison Term Planned

Attorneys Aaron Goldberg and Alton A. Lennon. David Sinclair, who successfully defended Guy Ganey on a first week's term of Superior Court, said yesterday that their client ence to the Supreme Court.

Ganey, 42, Seagate filling stathe second degree slaying of has been made by city officials W. L. West of Roseboro, district Julian Franklin Henderson, 27, about the matter, there was week-end party in which Miss

ticipated. of last week's court. Sinclair said that Ganey prob-The consideration of prices of Monday to begin his sentence in by the bill.

#### Lennon Introduces Compromise Measure Into State Legislature ice conference were yesterday af-

A revised civil service bill giving the governing body of the city of ternoon returning to their homes Wilmington the authority to name following the closing session of the a police chief from a source other than among the present members of the force was introduced in the

The measure carried the provian 18 month term only, thereby placing a definite curb on the authority which the city council and the city manager can exercise.

general feeling among observers here last night that the compromise According to testimony at the measure offered no solution to the The question uppermost in the

Rebecca Ganey, Mr. and Mrs. minds of many was whether the Approximately 25 pharmacists Earl Morton and Henderson, par-city council and th manager, if the decision to go outside the city for a police chief is made, could find a qualified man who would be willing to accept the position for ably would be carried to Raleigh the term of 18 months as specified

(Continued On Page Two; Col. 6)

## Along The Cape Fear

J. Howell was kind enough to tell of the Port city. us another interesting sidelight solution is expected to be taken by on the tremendous amount of enthusiasm demonstrated in the Port memory, the Wilmington, Colum-

> The Wilmington and Manchester railroad had its depot on the west through the swamp for those who bank of the Cape Fear River, being located almost opposite the foot of Princess street.

Hence that section of the water line," Mr. Howell told us. front opposite the Port City was beehive of activity. Soon after the War Between the States, the Wilmington and Manchester line changed its name to the Wilmington, Columbia and

MORE CHANGES-In addition to

ONE BUSY-The Rev. Andrew, a major role in the development STILL VISIBLE - Now only &

Fear area. The old roadbed is still visible

care to see it. "One can only picture the ghosts of the traffic that rolled over that

As to the importance of the line, the author of "The Book of Wilmington" points out that the traffic over that famous old line constituted the exchanges with Charleston, Columbia, Augusta, Savannah, Atlanta and further south.

LITTLE HOPE-Mr. Howell says anything from personal know Instead of stopping at the depot knowledge of this once famous and located on the opposite bank of important railroad line. And if Mr. Howell doubts it,

we will immediately cast our lot

three-day meet in Grace Methodist church yesterday morning. In less than 8 hours the scene of the statestate senate yesterday by Senator wide convention, was destroyed by During the meet, presided over

**DELEGATES CLOSE** 

STATE WSCS MEET

Thanks To City Read

At Final Session

Delegates to the North Carolina

Woman's Society of Christian Serv-

sion, however, that the man select- by Mrs. Gurney P. Hood, Raleigh, degree murder charge during last ed by the city could be named for conference president, representatives of the societies over the eastern part of the state heard talks arrived at the fire about 8:30 and company. Discussions have been by Dr. Gloria Wysner of the Meth- his statements concerning the in progress about five weeks.

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 1)

#### The Weather FORECAST:

North Carolina — Partly cloudy and not much change in temperature Saturday and Saturday night. Sunday fair day and Saturday and warmer.

(By U. S. Weather Bureau)

(By G. S. Weather Bureau)

ending 7:30 p. m. yesterday. TEMPERATURES 1:30 a. m. 44; 7:30 a. m. 42; 1:30 p. m. 61, 7:30 p. m. 56; Maximum 63; Minimum 41; Mean 52; Normal 54.

HUMIDITY a. m. 86; 7:30 a. m. 84; m. 34; 7:30 p. m. 57. PRECIPITATION Total since the first of the month 4.79

TIDES FOR TODAY 9:57p 7:27a Sunrise 6:13; Sunset 6:25; Moonrise 6:34p.
River stage at Fayetteville, N. C. at 8 a. m. Friday 14.4 feet.

is old stand, doing business at the marriage license books.

after an uneventful, dormant season during the winter months. Register of Deeds Adrian Rhodes'

times snow. more than twice as many marriage land's office quip; "Our business more than twice as many marriage also is getting better every day licenses already have been issued also is getting better every day.

ruary and the month has another

During the 21 days of March -L. Smith. 29. of Wilmington.

were stationed at Camp Davis."

## Damage To Edifice Exceeds \$200,000

By Blaze; Thousands Witness Firemen Battle Conflagration

dist church, located at the corner of Fourth and Grace streets, was almost completely destroyed by fire of an undetermined origin early last night. The blaze was discovered shortly after seven o'clock by

a troop of Boy Scouts and the alarm sounded but despite GRACE METHODIST CHURCH VICTIM

The Grace Methodist church, timate the damage, but indicated which was destroyed by fire early that the minimum loss would last night, was built as the result probably be well above \$200,000. of a fire which destroyed an The church was remodeled only

According to Wilmington history, a river steamboat, the Bladen, ing Inspector, said that in view caught fire while lying in the of the current construction costs Cape Fear river. It drifted into around \$500,000 would be needed the Chestnut street dock and soon to replace the half-block long flames were sweeping into the city. structure.

ed by the fire was estimated at ering spire might collapse. more than \$1,000,000.

## LANE EXPRESSES

Praises Fire Department destroyed, as were the large stained glass windows. Flames Controlled

Methodist church last night drew many city notables to witness the worst fire Wilmington has seen in many years. Mayor W. Ronald Lane was en-

Flames that consumed the Grace

countered in the midst of the activity and stated that this disaster was "most regrettable." "The firemen have done an ex-Resolutions Expressing cellent job, considering the complicated structure of the building. to the church and none of the sur-

rounding homes have been damaged," he added. Lane appeared on the scene about 8:30 o'clock, and immediately sent for a section of rope to keep observers from being endangered by the possible collapse of the bell tower. By-standers thronged the roped area, and had to be constantly ushered back by the police, highway patrol, and

City Manager J. R. Benson also event were very short. "No comment" he said.

Coy S. Bullard, city fire inspec-

tor told Lane that he couldn't de-

volunteer Marines who had their

hands full with the inqusitive ob-

termine the origin of the fire at the time but said he would inspect the building this morning and have his report ready for Benson before 12 o'clock. Chief Ludie Croom was a hard man to talk to during the height of activity, but toward the last,

he loosened up to say that he hadn't seen the beat of this one in a long time. The church was inspected by the fire department about 30 days ago, and found, at that time, to be safe, according to Chief Croom. It was noted in an inspection after the flames had died somewhat that the ceiling was com-

pletely destroyed, and fallen timbers and charred masses of debris Low bers and charred masses of debris
4:25a was very much in evidence.
4:44b Standing in the auditorium the stars could bee seen clearly through the skeleton-like frame (Continued On Page Two; Col. 7)

#### When Cupid Starts Firing 'Tis Sure Sign Of Spring

The sap is rising in the trees. The weatherman came through week to run. In February only eight couples with spring right on the dot. The register of deeds is back at bowed to the arrow of Dan'l Cupid.

at the close of business yesterday Those three — the trinity fused — 17 couples had bought licenses into one - makes Dan'l Cupid. And to marry. The 17th couple this the little devil once again is happy month was Karl F. Trefzer, 24, of Knoxville, Tenn., and Miss Francis

"Business is getting better every books show conclusively that spring day," the girls in the register of has been on its way for the past deeds' office said. "But we aren't 20 days despite the Weatherman's expecting the windfall this year predictions of cold, rain and some- that was the case when the boys A check yesterday revealed that To which the girls in A. L. Mey-

# Scene Of Three-Day State Convention Swept

Wilmington's historic and towering Grace street Metho-

the efforts of the fire department, which rushed every available piece of equipment to the scene, the fire spread rapidly throughout the entire structure OF EARLY FIRE The Rev. J. A. Russell, pastor, said it was very difficult to es-

earlier Methodist church on Sunday two months ago at a cost of \$14,afternoon, Feb. 21, 1886. Gilbert F. Morton, City Build-

The fire burned so rapidly, records show, that a large portion of flocked to the scene as word the city up to Wilmington and Spread of the fire. Police threw Weldon railroad was consumed. The Front Street Methodist in an effort to keep the throngs church, at Front and Walnut streets at a safe distance since it was was consumed. The total ross caus- believed for a while that the tow-

Several reasons for the start Records reveal that a "sort of martial law was established in the first declined to attribute the fire to any one cause. He (Continued on Page Two; Col. 3) did say, however, that the flames apparently started in the roof at the rear of the building. The belief was expressed by one fireman that faulty wiring might have been the cause of the blaze. Feared almost completely ruin ed by the heat and water was the church's \$20,000 organ. The

> Lost also was Mr. Russell's personal library, which was collected during his many years in the min-

istry.
The North Carolina Woman's Society of Christian Service had (Continued on Page Five; Col. 1)

#### PHONE EMPLOYES **FAVOR STRIKING**

#### The damage has been restricted Preliminary Tabulat ion Shows Southern Workers Ready to Walkout

ATLANTA, March 21-(A)-H. F. Tweedy, vice president of the Southern Federation of Telephone workers, announced today that preliminary tabulation of a strike vote among members of the union showed 21,046 in favor of striking against 1,130 in oppositin.

Bell Telephone and Telegraph Tweedy described the vote result as "staggering" and added, "it's a clear indication that something is wrong in the industry.' Southern Bell, Tweedy declared.

The vote was taken in connection

with current wage negotiations be-

tween the union and the Southern

"has offered their employes a big, round nothing in the way of wage improvements.' "Their proposal to continue the present contract for one year amounts to nothing more than a backhand slap, in the light of the skyrocketing living costs being faced by the workers," he said

Original demands of the union called for wage increases ranging from \$15 to \$20 per week but these have been scaled down slightly. The telephone company, however, has declared itself financially unable to meet the demands without making a substantial increase in telephone service rates.

Demands Scaled

The Southern federation, an independent union, is affiliated with the National Federation of Telephone workers and covers the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North and South Carolina, and Ten-

The National federation has served tentative notice of a general strike for April 7.

## And So To Bed

While the volunteer fire department at a nearby resort was going through its practice paces some distance from the fire station yesterday afternoon, fire struck at the fire station itself.

'A water heater located at the side of the building was attributed as the cause of the blaze. The alarm was sounded but the wind was against the volun-

teers and the siren was not Upon their return to the headquarters, they neighbors had extinguished the