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Phone Unions Reject Wages Pailey Plan

Proposal To Arbitrate Differences From Six Bell Companies Declined

WALKOUTS PLANNED

Beirne Says Speculation Rife That A T & T Is Stalling For Time

WASHINGTON, March 25-(P)-The National Federation of Telephone workers tonight turned down proposals by six companies of the Bell system for local arbitration of the union's wage demands, saying it would create a "crazy quilt" of pay and working

The NFTW, an independent federation, is scheduled to begin a nationwide walkout at 6 a.m. April 7 in support of ten demands, including one for a general pay boost of \$12 a week.

President Joseph A. Beirne told news conference at the conclusion of a meeting of the union's policy committee that offers to arbitrate wages had been received from Bell companies in Ohio. New Jersey, Illinois, Wisconsin, New York and Michigan. Beirne said that arbitration of

wages would not settle the dispute of 39 member unions, involving 287.000 workers.

The union head said also that the companies, in almost identieal proposals, suggested that the wage demand be viewed in the light of comparable pay for comparable work in each community

he rne said there was speculation in the union that the American Telephone and Telegraph company might be "stalling" in the hope that Congress would enact legislation to prevent strikes in public utilities.

New Jersey has a law dealing with disputes in public utilities, which strongly recommends use of the state mediation board before a strike, and provides for seiure by the governor in event

of a walkout, Beirne said.

COLUMBUS VOTES FOR SCHOOL BOND

ment Program Wins By Slim Margin

Special to The Star WHITEVILLE, March 25—With

12 out of 23 precincts reported, the million dollar school improve- at the time. ment program for Columbus county was approved by a slim maority of 183 votes.

Unofficial returns, with only one small precinct not reported were as follows: For 1,589 Against 1,404

Observers here tonight said the lone precinct would have little beairing on the final tabulation. The largest maority in favor of the expansion program was reported from Tabor City, where 410 votes were cast in favor of the measure while only 22 opposed. Chadbourn voted against the program 321 against to 69 for. In Whiteville the voters favored the expansion plan over 3 to 1. At Fair Bluff the vote was five to one in favor of the program.

The election climaxed at least tix months of reparation during which time the local school committeemen, board of education and Superintendent of Education J. M. Hough, have made a survey of the

The program, which the voters approved today, has been worked out as follows:

Whiteville - 15 classrooms; Chadbourn-8 clasrooms and al-

terations; Cerro Gordo - 6 class- gir Saturday of this week. (Continued On Page Two; Col. 8)

HAMBONE'S MEDITATIONS

By Alley OLE TOM CLAIM HE DIFF'UNT FUM EVY-

BODY ELSE EN I RECKON EVYBODY ELSE HOPE DATS 50



Celebrate 126 Years Of Freedom



Wearing native dress of Greek mountain troops, John Fouros, and Anastasia Vagionis, 5 strut up Fifth Avenue in New York, in parade celebrating the 126th anniversary of Greek independence. More than 50,000 spectators watched the hour-long parade. (International)

\$48,000,000 Improvments Bill Roars Through House

COUNCIL RENEWS PLEA FOR CHANGE

Administration Displeased With Measure Now In Legislature

The NFTW policy committee day as the city council, meeting beer in those and six other coun-The NFTW policy committee day as the city council, included to ties.

In this stage of the game is opposed to anything less than system-wide bargaining," Beirne told reporters. Negotiations companytor A. Lennon and now is in com- provided that the hospital-medical mittee for study. Lennon has al- school could not be started until ready issued a statement to the the Medical Care commission's

Million Dollar Improve- been considered one of the lead- cate funds for the construction of mington chief, was nominated for combe county; and Rep. Tompinformed the councilmen that he soundly defeated. was not prepared to name any recommendations for the position

> Councilman nominated Etheridge for the position and asked that his action be noted in the council minutes

(Continued On Page Two; Col. 8) YOPP ANNOUNCES

FOR CITY POST HILL.

Councilman Becomes Second For Renomination In April Primary

W. E. Yopp became the second member of the city council to reveal personal plans for the forthcoming city, elections when he announced yesterday that he would definitely be a candidate

for re-election to the post. Councilman Harriss Newman HIDES OPIUM CACHE; not seek to be returned to the CHINESE BOY NABBED American note urged that Russia commissioners, one each

position. Five candidates are due to be elected to city council positions at the May 6 general elections. The primary date has been set for April 21, with registration to be-

Mayor W. Ronald Lane has not as yet made his final intentions known, saying that he has not made up his mind. He did say, however that as far as he knew

ne would be a candidate. The filing deadline is April 10, and between now and that date several more candidates are expected formally to announce for the positions.

The present make-up of the council, in addition to Lane, New- packages of opium,

RALEIGH, March 25- (AP) -The \$48,000,000 permanent improvements bill, carrying with it an appropriation to be matched with federal funds for the establish-ment of a teaching hospital, nurses home and four - year medical school at the University of North Carolina, roared through House today and went to the Sen-

The House had its busiest day of the session, recessing until 5 Section seven of the controver- p.m., today for consideration of ment to assistant chief of equipsial civil service bill came in for bills to prohibit the sale of wine ment. another dose of criticism yester- in 17 counties and regulation of

The bill was introduced in the ments were voted down. Rep. enate last Friday by Senator Al-Hardison of Craven would have sponsor or support any further and medical centers over the legislation relative to the bill. In the course of yesterday's ses- Fisher of Buncombe would have sion Lt. Coy Etheridge, who has required the commission to alloing contenders for the post of Wil- a large regional hospital in Bunthe post but the council declined kins of Jackson would have reto take any action on the matter quired the medical school-hospital after City Manager J. R. Benson be located at Asheville All were

Highest In History supplemental spending measure would increase the Robert LeGwin state's spending during the next seridge for the po-biennium to about \$360,000,000 highest in North Carolina history. It contains \$6,000,000 to be matched by local and federal subsidies for construction of medical centers and hospitals in needy state areas; and \$3,790,000 to be matched with \$1,500,000 in federal funds to enable the expansion at Chapel

> The anti-wine and beer bills, if passed, will cost the state about \$2,000,000 in revenue in 1947-49. The anti-wine section would apply to Gaston, Davidson, Davie, Macon, Cherokee, Yadkin, Cleveland, Anson, Harnett, Haywood, Jackson, Lee, Randolph, Robeson, Sampson, Scotland and Transylvania, with county commissioners having authority to outlaw beer

(Continued On Page Two; Col. 7)

HUMP ON 'HUNCHBACK'

BALTIMORE, March 24 - (AP)-Port Patrol Officer William C. Martin, 57, shaid today he examined a Chinese "Hunchback" and found four and a half pounds of opium destined for Baltimore dens. "The hump was too low down-

over his kidneys," Martin said. Martin, one of 41 patrolmen due to be released from the customs service here on Friday as part of a nationwide customs payrool cut, said he had picked up Ting Ah Chwee, 47, as the seaman walked off the Liberty ship William L. McLean, inbound from Rotterdam. Martin said Ting had three "more than man and Yopp, is Robert S. Le- a thousand pipefuls," and valued at Gwin, James E. L. Wade, Gar- about \$5,000 at opium den prices, land S. Currin, and R. L. Bur- strapped to his back with a gauze

Today And Tomorrow

By WALTER LIPPMANN

A policy, as distinguished from destination is Chicago, St. Louis, crusade, may be said to have San Francisco, or Honolulu. dedefinit aims, which can be stated concretely, and achieved if the estimate of the situation is correct. A crusade, on the other crystalize out of the general conother hand, is an adventure which, even if its intentions are tives. It is, I believe, possible to good, has no limits because there

is no concrete program. To have a policy is like saying that you mean to go from New York to Chicago, traveling by the that they will reduce rather than Pennsylvania Railroad. To go aggravate the embittered division crusading is like saying you in- of mankind. To substitute specific tend to go west from New York,

In our dealings with the Soviets it is now most necessary to flict a progra mof definite objecdo that. These objectives will be unpalatable to the Soviet government. But if they are sufficiently concrete, there is reason to think

THREATEN FLOODWALL AT HUNTINGTON, W. VA

HUNTINGTON, W. Va., March 25.—(P)— Rats, pigs and dogs are giving Huntington said today.

get at the rats.

High water, Tomkies said, would enlarge the holes further, seriously endangering the wall. The mayor indicated that if the pig-growers persist, they're going to be forced to remove their porkers from near the

ACL ANNOUNCES 21 PROMOTIONS

Key Personnel Jobs: In Effect Now

offices here.

All of the advancements are ef fective as of this week, according to J. D. Loftis, chief of motive power and equipment.

W. J. Crabbs, from mechanical tive power and equipment.

C. J. Oldenbuttel, from chief

general superintendent of motive explosion which killed at least power to assistant to chief of moive power and equipment.

H. J. Stein, from electrical engineer to mechanical engineer. W. D. Quarles, from superinten dent of diesel performance to assistant chief of motive power. H. G. Moore, from assistant superintendent of the car depart-

V. Oldenbuttel, Jr., from (Continued on Page Two; Col. 2)

PORT OF DAIREN

effect that he would not introduce, good health program of hospitals Moscow Finally Agrees To Turn Control Of City Over To Chinese

> WASHINGTON, March 25-(AP)-A Russian promise to wind up the Red army's 19-month control of the Manchurian port city of Dairen was disclosed today. This indicated a possible settlement of one sore issue of Soviet-American relations.

merce as a free port.

The transfer was agred to by Russia in the V-J day treaty of Moscow but this and other prosions of the pact have never

the city at the close of the war with Japan, American businessmen and other visitors have been barred. An American courier ship, the Navy's LC- 1090, wasforced to leave the port in December

The Soviet promise of "appro-Moscow and Nanking following sfactory situation" at Dairen.

was also made public today. I said China had made earnest ef-forts to reach an agreemnt with three cities and the county will Moscow and would continue to do

ASSURED BY BIG MAJORITIES;

WILMINGTON, N. C., WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 1947

a flood wall problem to solve, Mayor Douglas C. Tomkies

His honor explained it this

Some householders along the earthen levee section of the \$78,000,00° wall have gone into pig raising. The pigs attract the rats which bore into the levee, and the rats attract the dogs which enlarge the holes to

Squads Back

Coast Line Changes Affect

Twenty-one major promotions affecting key personnel of the At-lantic Coast Line Railroad company's organization were an nounced yesterday at the general

The promotions were announced

engineer to assistant chief of momechanical accountant to assistant to chief of motive power and equipment.

The State department an nounced that Russia in response to diplomatic prodding from the United States, has advised that she is ready to take "appropriate steps" toward turning over the city to Chinese administration and opening it to international com-

been carried out.

Visitors Barred Since the Russians moved into upon expiration ot its authorized 48-hour stay.

The substance of China's reply

EXPLOSION TRAPS 125 MINERS Gas Seepages Drive Rescue

Many Known Dead, Three Injured By Blast At Centralia, Ill., Mine

RED CROSS ON JOB

Many Of Victims Reported To Be 540 Feet Underground, 4 Miles Back

CENTRALIA, Ill., March 25. -(A)-Twenty-two coal miners were reported tonight to have been killed in an underground explosion in mid-afternoon, and rescue teams were trying to get to scores of others trapped 540 feet below the surface. Twenty - four miners had

been brought out alive by 10:80

p. m. (CST), leaving 85 men unaccounted for. A total of 131 miners were in the mine when the explosion occured. _ (AP) - Between 100 to 125 coal miners were trapped 540 feet G. G. Lynch, from assistant to underground today in a

1:30 a. m. 63; 7:30 a. m. 54; 1:30 p. m. 56; 7:30 p. m. 53; Maximum 67; Minimum 51; Mean 59; Normal 56.

HUMIDITY

1:30 a. m. 93; 7:30 a. m. 52; 1:30 p. m. 25; 7:30 p. m. 31.

PRECIPTATION

Total for 24 hours ending 7:20 p. m. 0 inches one man and injured three others and the Red Cross said reports from the scene five hours later indicated gas was forcing back rescue teams Gas seeped from the mine as rescue squads, protected by heavy clothing and long - snouted gas masks, roamed through the

single level mine in a search for the trapped men They were reported to have contacted "three or four" of the miners. The report that gas was hampering rescue efforts came from Robert Edson, midwestern dis-

aster relief director for the Red Cross in St. Louis. The explosion, believed cause by dust, temporarily disabled the mine elevator and broke off telephone connection with the men. Elevator service was restored later and rescue workers de-scended into the shaft.

H. F. Mc Donald, president of (Continued on Page Two; Col. 2)

KERMON OFFERS **MERGER MEASURE**

Bill Would Create Commission To Study New Hanover Consolidation

A bill calling for the appointment of a special commission to study the possible consolidation of the governments of the cities of Wilmington, Wrightsville Beach Carolina Beach and New Hanover county was introduced in the General Assembly yesterday by Representative Robert M. Kermon. The issue of consolidation of the four governmental units will be submitted to the people of the county during the primary election of June, 1948 if the commission approves the move, the bill

stipulates. Comprising the 13 man-committee will be the mayors of Wilmington, Wrightsville Beach, priate steps" was contained in a Carolina Beach and the chairman eply received Feb. 27 to a note of the New Hanover board of sent by the United States to both county commissioners; two persons selected by the Wilmington the courier ship incident. The City council, two by the county and China act to end the "unsat- governing bodies of Wrightsville Beach and Carolina Beach, and three other persons named by the town and county group.

(Continued On Page Two; Col. 8)

Along The Cape Fear

ary 21 and 22 in the Library of "Smiley's Falls," with a canal of Congress an hour ago, I found steamboat proportions. reference to railroad history in "This immense ditch your column of especial interest, seen today 'along the Cape Fear, so that your invitation to comment along which hand-drilled awakened this response," so ready for the charges of black N. C., from the national capital. rocky way for river boats to Hay "Necessity for transportation of wood, Lockville and Egypt. coal mothered the first rails of the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley time and labor resulted in an at-

'A coal mine was producing at therein, the other reached the up Egypt, now Cumnock, in the early per river, but no return through 850's, some twelve miles up Deep the canal was ever attempted River above where its junction The boat plied between Lillington Cape Fear at Haywood, the promising, town of that day which lost tr Joel Lane's location as the Cap-

REASON ENOUGH - "Fayetteville was the head of navigation on the Cape Fear, then as "Wealthy ante-bellum plantation Collector of Customs at the Port emergency.

INTEREST MOUNTS - 'Read- rupted themselves in the attempt ing copies of The Star of Febru- to detour these rapids, known as "This immense ditch may

M .McDonald of Olivia, powder that were to open the "This expenditure of money, Cumberland county, in this tempt to pass two boats through this canal. One of these grounded

with the Haw River forms the and Lockville until it rotted . STILL A PROBLEM-"So, then, there was the coal 41 miles overital of North Carolina by only one land from Fayetteville, and the thriving seaport of Wilmington de-

"The enterprising citizens of now, because of seven miles of rocky rapids between Swansboro and what is now Lillington.

With a \$100,000 bond issue, which as the strike spread in Tangipahoa McCaskill, whose son, W. H. and Washington parishes, urged the strikers, denied this. They strict conservation during the said the truck drivers had even

The Weather SHIPYARD PARLEY North Caroling Fair and continued cool but not quite so windy Wednesday. Rather cold Wednesday night with frost. Thursday fair and warmer. South Carolina — Fair and slightly warmer not so windy Wednesday. Rather cool Wednesday night with scattered frost. Thursday fair and warmer. (Eastern Standard Time) (By U. S. Weather Bureau) Meteorological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m. yesterday. 1:30 a. m. 63: 7:30 a. m. 54: 1:80 p. m.

Tabulation Of Votes

1st. pct. _____ 127 76
2nd pct. ____ 218 188
Sixth Ward ____ 219 154

1st pct. _____ 133
2nd pct. _____ 336
Cape Fear _____ 99
Seven Mile Post ____ 45
East Wilmington ____ 33
Winter Park _____ 176
Seconds _____ 169

Total since the first of the month 4.94

TIDES FOR TODAY

10:41 pm Sunrise 6:07; Sunset 6:28;

:38a; conset 10:58p.
River stage at Faxetteville, N.
. m. Tuesday 12.8 feet.

Of Drive For Early

Reconstruction

A specially called quarterly con-

ference of Grace Methodist Epis-

eading civil engineer of Wilming

ton, pointed out that the first im-

mediate task ahead of the under

taking is the raising of reconstruc-

In the light of this view, the

church membership will hold a

"kickoff" meeting at 4 p.m. Sat

day in the parish house of .St

Paul's Lutheran church, where

At that time, as now contem-

plated, the financial goal of the

campaign will be announced and

details of a plan for an every-

member canvass scheduled to

take place between 2 p.m. and 5

p.m. Sunday will be discussed.

These portions of the plan of

procedure are. Lander explained

subject to the approval of a proj-

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 1)

The six-week deadline for hatch-

ng is fast approaching. If two

They are expecting.

ful tropical flora.

year failed to hatch.

the conference met last night.

Friday night.

tion funds.

Representative Clark Predicts Decision On Facliities Here Soon

WASHINGTON, March 25 .- (P)-Rep. Clark (D-NC) predicted to- county's 22 voted against the isnight that negotations between the sues. That precinct, Seven Miles North Carolina Ports authority and Post in Harnett township, just the federal government for dis- failed to vote in proportion to the posal of the North Carolina Ship- voters who signified their intenbuilding company yards at Wiltion of participating in the elec-mington will be completed tomor-

commissión.

erence with Presidential Assistant exercising their right. John R. Steelman, Ports Authority Chairman, R. B. Page, Wilmington ficials expressed pleasure that the newspaper publisher; C. W. Park, measures had been carried. formerly associated with the shipand himself hes been set for New Hanover county, and

Wednesday. At this conference he said the Grace Church Names Head authority will present a counterproposal to one made a few days ago by the commission. Within the next ten days, he said, Steelman is expected to make recommendations to President Truman about disposal of the yards. The authority earlier offered to copal church last night elected M. buy the yards for \$1,200,000 and at the University of North Caro-H. Lander general chairman of a the entire North Carolina delegaunified reconstruction project and tion in congress asked President set in motion a firm resolve to Truman to expedite the purchase

damaged by a disastrous fire læs Lander, chairman of the SPRING WEATHER Lander, chairman of the

the immediate restoration although the commission had re-

Freezing Temperatures Due In State: Heavy Damage Over Nation

By The Associated Press Spring weather took a 40-degree turn for the worse in North Carolina today as temperatures dropped to freezing over the state. Freezing minimums of 27-32 were predicted for the Western part of the state and 32-36 in the East. Scattered frosts were predicted tonight, with slowly rising temperatures Thursday and Fri-

Yesterday wind gusts of 65 miles an hour were reported at the Charlotte airport. Gusts up to 60 PENGUINS EYE EGGS miles were reported at Winston-Salem and Raleigh, 55 at Greens-AS DEADLINE NEARS boro and Asheville. The 250-foot steel tower of radio station WBUY MIAMI, Fla., March 25-(P)-A in Lexington toppled yesterday, pair of Antartic Penguins eyed a silencing the station for a few hours until a temporary antenna could be installed.

The cold, windy snap was in contrast to temperatures in the 70's over the state Monday. Down From Canada

tiny Penguins emerge, it will be A low pressure air mass moved one of the few times for such an down from Northwest Canada occurence outside the frigid Antoverspreading yesterday, Great Lakes region and the At-The parents and the eggs are lantic seaboard. Eastern Air Lines under constant watch on fashionsaid that flights betweeh able Star Island-in the center of Carolinas and New York were con-Biscayne bay—where they live amid waving palm trees and colortinuing but might be a little behind schedule if head winds were encountered. Flights were cancel- airport. Two eggs laid by the mother last (Continued on Page Two; Col. 3)

Louisiana Bayous, Ditches Run With Milk; Strike On

NEW ORLEANS, March 25 .- (U.P.) | stood 14 inches deep in a 4,000 -Louisiana bayous and roadside foot ditch along the Amite-Frank gallons rather than see it sold for Tangipahoa river. reduced prices at the New Orleans

milkshed.

ditches ran with milk today as lin highway. At Independence, irate union dairymen, some re- six miles from Amite, strikers portedly armed-seized dairy tank seized 700 gallons at a pasteurizatrucks and dumped some 50,000 tion plant and dumped it into the

Eyewitnesses reported the strik-Milk dealers in this city of half and ditched their cargo near Amite Cumberland entered the breach with a \$100,000 bond issue, which drop of 50 per cent of their supply rifles but spokesmen of the AFL joined the strike.

(Continued On Page Two; Col. 6) owners of the Averasboro section above Fayetteville had bank- (Continued on Page Two; Col. 3) miles north of New Orleans, milk (Continued on Page Two; Col. 3)

Tax Proposal **Endorsed By** Local Voters

Little Opposition Recorded At Ballot Boxes Against Projects

LARGE VOTE CAST

Only One Precinct Out Of 22 In County Fails To Come Through

urns from yesterday's county. wide election New Hanover county is assured a junior college, tuberculosis hospital and a five cent SCHEDULED TODAY tax levy on the \$100 property valuation.

On the basis of unofficial re-

A tally of the votes cast showed that 73.6 per cent of the registered voters gave the three propositions the "go ahead signal." The votes will be canvassed Thursday at 11 a.m. in the county

commissioners' offices. Only one precinct out

Fifty citizens registered to vote Clark declined to say what the for both the school and the tax. prospects are of the authority buy- However, only 22 votes were cast ng the yards from the maritime for the hospital and 21 for the tax. Forty-five persons registered He said a final White House con- to vote for the college, with 18 Meanwhile, city and county of-

Supt. of schools H. M. Roland building corporation, maritime said the vote was a challenge to com m ission officials, Senators the county to provide a 'commun-Hoey (D-NC) and Umstead (D-NC) ity college' for the community of widen the 'scope of our activity.' To Start Soon

He said he expected the indus-

trial work of the school to start

within the next few months, and pointed out that the high school equipment was sufficient to carry on the school. He said that a number of the

heads of the different departments lina had visited the high school (Continued on Page Two; Col. 2)

of the historic institution, heavily jected the offer and proposed a PARKER TO LEAVE damaged by a disastrous fire lass lease. **AIRPORT POSITION**

THROWN FOR LOSS Manager To Bow To Request Of County Commissioners In April

> Jesse Parker, who was asked by the Airport Committee of the New Hanover board of county commissioners yesterday to resign his position as manager of Bluethenthal airfield, said last night that as far as he knew his connection with the airport would end around April 1.

> He said that he had invited th members of the committee to vsiit Bluethenthal today in order that he might fully acquaint them with situations there. Parker explained that he had

no wish to become a figure m

any disagreement with members

of the committee and was accept ing their request for his resignation without argument. He was appointed by the reabolished Wilmington cently ew Hanover Airport Authority to operate the large field and he endicated last night that the request by the airport committee

for his resignation came as no surprise to him. There has been wide disagreement between the county commissioners and the now defunct airport authority over operation of the field and policies to be followed in fuutre plans. Four of the members of the authority recently submitted their resignations and a fifth member Hamilton Hicks, was requested to act sioners in the operation of the

So far Hicks has made no state ment as to his intentions regarding the commissioners request.

And So To Bed

There was plenty "gnashing" of teeth in yesterday's election. Officials around the courthouse last night were telling the story of one election worker, name of Nash, who was driving a car by the same

The car stalled on Third street, so they said, and was causing quite a traffic jam. Some kindly soul rushed into a nearby restaurant where a mechanic was having his midafternoon coffee and solicited his aid in getting the balking car moving again.

Said the officials, "there was plenty of g-nashing of Moth