

Grissett Trial Jury To Get Case Today

Judge Clawson L. Williams Will Charge Panel When Court Reconvenes This Morning; Long Arguments Presented

BY EARL HOWARD
Star Staff Writer

The trial of Roy Grissett on a charge of storebreaking, larceny and receiving, drew near the finish line yesterday with the completion of arguments by prosecution and defense attorneys, and the jury is scheduled to receive the case sometime this morning.

Judge Clawson L. Williams is slated to deliver his charge to the jury as soon as this morning's session begins and is expected to finish his talk sometime before noon.

The hearing of evidence was completed yesterday morning and the afternoon taken up with oral arguments by District Attorney Moore and Emmett Bellamy and James S. Brown, S. Bunton, Jr., for prosecution and Elbert Brown, S. Bunton, Jr., for defense.

The defense surprised by announcing at the end of the state's case motions for a plea of former jeopardy, to dismiss the charge of breaking and

PHONE COMPANIES REJECT LATEST WAGE OFFER AS SETTLEMENT BASIS; TRUMAN TO REVIEW FOREIGN POLICY

Marshall Now On Way Home

Secretary Of State To Report To President, Leaders Sunday Night

WASHINGTON, April 25—(AP)—President Truman today invited Congressional leaders of both parties to a White House conference Sunday night with Secretary of State Marshall to review foreign policy developments.

Marshall, returning from the Moscow Foreign Ministers conference tomorrow, is expected to give the Congressional leaders a detailed report on American relations with Russia in advance of a radio address to the nation from 8:30 to 9 p. m., Eastern Standard Time, Monday night over major networks.

Marshall will be met at the airport here tomorrow by the President. Mr. Truman left the White House this evening to spend the night on the Presidential yacht Williamsburg on the Potomac but will interrupt his cruise to greet his secretary of state.

Plans Uncertain

Whether the President himself will hear what Marshall has to report before the session with the congressional leaders remained uncertain. No plans were announced for Marshall to join the President on his cruise, which is to continue until Sunday evening, and Mr. Truman may thus receive Marshall Briefing simultaneously with the Congressmen.

Among those invited to the Sunday night meeting was Senator Taft (R-Ohio), chairman of the GOP Policy committee who voted for the Greek-Turkish aid measure "reluctantly" when it passed the Senate this week.

Chairman Vandenberg (R-Mich.) of the State Foreign Relations committee and Senator Barkley of Kentucky, the Democratic leader, are expected to head the Senate delegation.

Mr. Barkley returns from abroad in time.

The conference will be the first Mr. Truman has held with the legislators since he discussed the \$400,000,000 Greece-Turkey measure with them in advance of his address to a joint session of Congress March 12.

That legislation is now well on the way to final passage but two other administration proposals have met some questioning in Congress since Marshall left for Moscow—the Italian peace treaty and the \$350,000,000 relief program for liberated lands.



PICTURED ABOVE are crew members, including a Wilmington man, of the Army Air Forces' C-82 Packet which will take off late this month from Fairfield-Suisun (Calif.) Army Air Base on a 60-day orientation flight to Japan and the Far East to demonstrate to troop carrier and airborne units the newest developments in equipment and techniques used in airborne operations. Shown left to right, standing, are: Lt. Col. William F. Mandt of Charleston, W. Va.; Capt. Albert T. Ward of San Francisco, Calif.; Capt. James A. Roberts, Henderson, Ky.; Capt. William Cronkite, Easton, Pa.; and Calvin Evans of Scranton, Pa. Seated are: Lt. Col. Robert H. Henderson, Henderson, N. C.; T-Sgt. James W. Thompson, Wilmington, N. C.; and Sgt. Everett Caulder of St. Pauls, N. C. Col. Mandt, Capt. Ward and Capt. Roberts were members of the crew that flew a troop carrier C-82 to AAF bases in 12 European countries last summer.

Union Urges \$6 Pay Raise

Little Progress Reported Following Meeting Of Negotiating Group

WASHINGTON, April 25—(AP)—The American Telephone & Telegraph company tonight rejected a compromise offer by its striking telephone workers to return to work for a wage increase of \$6 a week—half of the strikers' original demand.

The company's rejection of the revised demand of the National Federation of Telephone Workers was announced by George S. Dring, assistant vice president of the A. T. & T. long-lines division after an extraordinary two-hour night bargaining session at the Labor department.

Dring told newsmen the Bell system just could not meet the union's new demand.

John J. Moran, chief of the long-lines union, said the company refused to make any counter-offer. He said that negotiators obviously had made little progress at the night meeting.

Meet Again Today

Government conciliators, who said that the wage issue was the major item of business at the government-sponsored meeting, said that negotiations would be resumed at 10 a. m. tomorrow.

The NFWW, meanwhile, announced that it had received a strike contribution of \$10,000 from President Daniel J. Tobin of the AFL Teamsters union.

Tobin advised NFWW Joseph Beirne that his union would match the contribution every two weeks if the strike continues.

Beirne had announced that the NFWW would call off the strike against any company willing to settle the wage controversy with a \$6 a week increase. Although NFWW hopes were high, government conciliators were frankly pessimistic that the wage cut would make any progress toward settling the 19-day-old walkout.

AFTER COURTING 60 YEARS, LOVELY LADY WEDS BALTIMORE LAD

BALTIMORE, April 25—(AP)—Miss Frances Lurman, known as one of Baltimore's "ten loveliest ladies," and Dorsey Williams, retired master of hounds of the famed Patapsco hunt, were married in her hospital room after a courtship of 60 years.

Miss Lurman sat in a wheelchair for the nuptials. She has been hospitalized since January.

The bride was one of those chosen when a wealthy citizen left funds for a Johns Hopkins university mural to depict "the ten loveliest women in Baltimore."

The socially prominent couple smilingly shrugged off inquiries about their long courtship.

Their ages? "About 78."

WMFD TO INCREASE STATION WATTAGE

Local Radio Station Granted Permission To Increase To 1,000 Watts

The Federal Communication Commission yesterday granted R. A. Dunlea, owner-manager, radio station WMFD, a permit to increase the power of the station from 250 watts to 1,000 watts. This increase in power, Dunlea said, will give WMFD a complete coverage of southeastern and eastern North Carolina.

Notification of the increased power was sent to Dunlea in a telegram from Washington, D. C., last yesterday afternoon. The telegram, in part, stated:

"The federal Communications Commission announced this morning that radio station WMFD, Wilmington, had been granted an application for a regional frequency of 1,000 watts on 630 kc for unlimited time."

In a statement to The Star, Dunlea said, "We are overjoyed that the Commission saw fit to grant our application. During the 12 years we have served the people in this area we have attempted in every way possible to bring the listening audience the best in entertainment radio had to offer."

Reach Wide Audience

"With our increased power we will be able to reach a wider audience, and in so doing bring to the listeners a greater variety of local talent."

"It has always been the policy of WMFD to present, whenever possible, local shows. This will continue to do in addition to airing the ABC network. In our years of operation we have used the operating force behind the station and the staff."

With the increase in power, WMFD will cover an area north of New Bern and Moorehead city and west almost into Fayetteville. To the south, the increased power, according to estimates, will carry the voice of WMFD will go on the air with increased power he did indicate that it probably would be this fall.

SENATORS IGNORE THREAT OF VETO

Taft, Ball Open Drive To Toughen Up Senate Bill Curbing Unions

WASHINGTON, April 25—(AP)—Senators Taft (R-Ohio) and Ball (R-Minn.), ignoring talk of a Presidential veto, today opened a drive to toughen the Senate's labor bill in its curbs on unions.

The move promptly collided with opposition from Senators Ives (R-NY), Pepper (D-Fla.) and Murray (D-Mont.).

All five senators are members of the Labor committee, and the fight on the floor brought into the open a wrangle that developed while the committee was writing the bill.

The measure is generally milder than the one the house passed last week by a top heavy vote. But both would ban the closed shop, authorize court injunctions to block strikes affecting the general welfare, create a new federal mediation service and make unions subject to federal court suits.

SEABREEZE NEGRO HELD IN SHOOTING

Willis Freeman, 26, Died On Way To Hospital Of Pistol Wound

Willis Freeman, 26 year-old Negro of Seabreeze died enroute to local hospital last night about seven o'clock, Sheriff F. Porter Davis said last night, and his brother, Jessie Freeman, 35, is being held in New Hanover county jail pending a coroner's inquest.

Sheriff Davis said that upon arrival of deputies T. Butler and E. Priest, accompanied by Coroner Gordon Doran, they found Willis Freeman had been shot between the eyes with a pistol. He was rushed to the hospital but died enroute.

According to the investigating officers the two brothers had been engaged in a heated argument shortly before the shooting took place.

DUKE FIREBUG IS CAPTURED

Nurses Surprised Man After Two Fires Had Been Started Last Night

DURHAM, April 25. — (AP)—Duke University hospital's firebug broke loose again about 11 o'clock tonight, starting at least two blazes, according to unofficial information.

Reports also said that a nurse, who surprised a stranger in one of the hospital rooms, was hit on the head.

The assailant was cornered and turned over to police. His identity was not immediately learned.

Telephone information from the hospital said that "there is considerable smoke out here." However, it was not believed the fire had done much damage, having been extinguished before it could spread.

Firemen were called to the hospital shortly before 11 o'clock, and half an hour later were still on the job.

Earlier in the night they investigated a call to the hospital but found "nothing more than a big blaze in the incinerator," officials reported.

HAL LOVE BEATEN FOR PRESIDENCY

State Jaycees Elect Edward T. Ellis Of Charlotte On First Ballot

BY ALCOCK BROWN
ATLANTIC BEACH, April 25—Edward Taylor Ellis, of Charlotte, today was elected president of the North Carolina Junior Chamber of Commerce at its 12th annual convention here.

Tomorrow night, during an inaugural banquet to be followed by a ball in the Surf club here, Ellis will be formally ushered into office. During the past year, Odell Lambeth, of Greensboro, has held the post.

The Charlotte business man, who is regional director of McCormick and company, won on the first ballot.

Twenty-three clubs out of 48 in North Carolina represented at the convention gave him a total vote of 88. Runnerup in the brisk voting was Hal Love, of Wilmington, who received a total of 39 votes from 11 clubs. Bob Williams, of Asheville, candidates for the office, got 37 votes from 15 clubs.

Twelve of the state's 60 Jaycee organizations were not represented at the convention, which was presided over by Lambeth, the retiring president.

President's Home Town Lets Him Down On Plan

INDEPENDENCE, Mo., April 25.—(AP)—Merchants in President Truman's home town today almost unanimously rejected his proposal that retailers make a 10 per cent price cut to fight inflation.

Even his old friend, Mayor Roger T. Sermon, couldn't see how the President's plan could succeed in his town.

Sermon, mayor here for more than 20 years and a veteran grocery store operator, said:

Along The Cape Fear

MORE HISTORY — The history of the Hook and Ladder company is continued today from facts set "Along the Cape Fear" by C. C. Chadbourn.

His recollections are that the fire truck was pulled by hand and steered by a long lever in the rear. He says that the "man who got the red ball had the privilege of steering the truck which was allowed to use the sidewalk."

"On one occasion," he said, "the truck was passing my home with S. H. Fishblate at the wheel. The turn at Third and Orange was too short with the result that the helmsman was thrown out into the street. Later a large horse was provided to pull the truck."

THE ALARM — A bell on the market house — then occupying the center of Market street between Front and Water — was sounded to give an alarm. Another means of calling out the department was by ringing the bell in the steeple of the First Presbyterian church. There were six wards.

FIRE BELL — He says the fire bell would be struck rapidly, then there would be a pause and then the bell would sound the number of the ward in which the fire was located.

As this system depended largely upon the judgment and sense of direction of the person giving the alarm, there often was considerable delay in reaching the scene of the fire.

WATER SYSTEM — Water was used from cisterns strategically located throughout the city. When the cistern was out of water, the burning house was out of luck, he says.

PRESENT SYSTEM — The comparison, he says, between the present highly efficient department and the old Volunteer system and the cause for and developments leading to the paid system is interesting. That story will be told at another time.

TEN LOSE LIVES IN INDIA RIOTING

Communal Strife At Calcutta Also Takes Toll Of Over 75 Injured

CALCUTTA, April 25 — (AP)—At least 10 persons were killed and more than 75 injured today in one of the worst communal fights between Hindus and Moslems here in a month.

Violence was concentrated in the Eastern and central sections of the city and carried into the border areas of the congested business district near Clive street, the "Wall Street of India."

The victims were killed or maimed by bombs, acid, daggers and other weapons. In some cases, the rioters fired against the police.

One hysterical Hindu, stabbed several times, told how he was pursued down the street by a number of assailants. Another victim, a Moslem with blood-covered face, said he was set upon from a lane while other Hindus watched at a distance. A Hindu doctor was shot in his office.

MUST READ BOOKS

CLEVELAND, April 25.—(AP)—Four boys accused of burning a dog to death were ordered to read animal books and to join the YMCA and Boy Scouts.

Judge Harry L. Eastman mentioned "Bat, the Story of a Bull Terrier," "Call of the Wild," "Heroes All," "More Tales of Dogs," and "How To Raise Your Puppy" as examples of the literature he had in mind.

Juvenile officers said the boys, ranging from seven to 14, tied a terrier dog to a banana stalk and tossed him into a bonfire last month.

SALE OF LIQUOR DROPS IN COUNTY

Report For Period Shows ABC Business Off 7.17 Per Cent

New Hanover county's liquor sales last month amounted to \$245,698.30, according to a report yesterday from Raleigh by the state ABC board.

Meanwhile, the New Hanover county ABC board yesterday released the auditor's report covering the nine months period ending March 31.

According to the local report sales in New Hanover county have decreased 7.17 percent with the cash profit during the period dropping 8.40 percent.

The net profits during the nine month period in 1946 were \$391,690.97. During the same period in 1947 the profits were \$358,796.13. City Gets \$150,000

The report, compiled by J. Nevland Brand, Jr., local CPA, reveals that the state of North Carolina received \$206,043.01 of the net profits New Hanover county received \$80,000 and the city of Wilmington \$150,000. Carolina Beach received \$12,000 and Wrightsville Beach \$8,000. The Wilmington Port Development commission received \$7,317.38. A total of \$13,592.37 was allocated to the ABC law enforcement board.

Officials of the ABC board said yesterday afternoon that \$100,000 has been turned over to the four local governments since the audit was made. Of this amount the city received \$50,000, county \$40,000, Wrightsville Beach and Carolina Beach \$5,000 each.

UNCLE SAM SEEKS FREIGHT REBATES

Justice Department To Take Action Against Railroads On "Charges"

WASHINGTON, April 25.—(AP)—An action to recover possibly "millions of dollars" from the railroads in the wartime handling of Army-Navy freight was announced today by the Justice department.

Attorney General Clark said the proceeding will be brought Monday before the Interstate Commerce commission in a complaint alleging the government was overcharged on shipments from June 3, 1941 to Oct. 1, 1946. The complaint, he said, names 964 railroads as defendants.

Department officials declined to estimate definitely the refund exacted, but Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge said in a statement that they "could run into millions of dollars."

The government will go before the ICC in its capacity as a shipper, using commission proceedings which are open to all users of transportation who desire to complain against a common carrier.

Storage Privileges

The department announcement said the railroads had long maintained special rates which permit shippers to store freight designed for export at ports at low charges when ship space is not immediately available.

During the wartime traffic congestion, when port facilities were jammed, vast quantities of military and naval freight for overseas shipment were stored at interior points. Clark said the government seeks to have the low export rates applied to such interior storage. He alleged the railroads made this concession to private shippers but refused it on the Army-Navy traffic. The explanation, Clark said, was that the plan would entail other rate revisions under the old government land grant tariffs.

REPORT SCORCHES CUSTOMS BUREAU

Senate Expenditures Committee Charges Unit Guilty Of Incompetence

WASHINGTON, April 25. — (AP)—A charge that the U. S. Customs bureau is guilty of "gross incompetence" and that it made a "bald attempt" to defeat Congressional economy by pressure tactics was made today by the Senate Expenditures committee.

The committee recommended that the bureau be reorganized and forced to live within its House-approved appropriation of \$32,500,000 for the year beginning July 1.

That figure is \$3,500,000 less than the bureau told Congress it needs. When the House made the cut, the bureau gave dismissal notices to some 1,500 Canadian border and port patrol officers.

Congress got a barrage of protests from port and border cities. The Expenditures committee, headed by Senator Bridges (R-W.Va.) and the Appropriations committee, headed by Senator Bridgeman (R-NH), each made investigations.

"Unwarranted"

Aiken read to the Senate a report from his committee which says the discharges were "completely unwarranted" and constituted "a bald attempt to arouse the public into demanding a restoration of the reduction in expenditures."

To help cure the bureau's troubles, Aiken said the committee will offer legislation under which employees may rotate their 40-hour work week. He said this would save a \$350,000 in overtime payments. In addition, he said the bill would seek to wipe out a \$300,000 fund for paying overtime in advance, with importers later reimbursing the bureau.

STATE WILL DROP MILK PRICE CASE

Attorney General McMullan Says Evidence Don't Warrant Prosecution

RALEIGH, April 24. — (AP)—In a statement which avoided any reference as to guilt of conspiracy or collusion in connection with the raising of the price of milk in the state, the attorney general's office today said that due to lack of sufficient evidence it would not institute prosecution.

The statement was released late today following a conference by Attorney General Harry McMullan and Solicitors William Y. Bickett of Raleigh and William H. Murdock of Durham with SBI Director Walter F. Anderson.

The attorney general, with the aid of the SBI, last fall began a probe of the raising of the price of milk in several areas in the state to see if there was any evidence of violating the state's anti-trust law.

The Weather

FORECAST:—Somewhat cooler today with occasional rain in afternoon, clearing in afternoon followed by fair and cooler weather Sunday fair with rising temperatures.

(By U. S. Weather Bureau)

Wilmington 7:30 p. m. yesterday: 73°; 7:30 a. m. today: 73°; 12:00 a. m. today: 73°; 6:00 a. m. today: 73°; 12:00 p. m. today: 73°; 6:00 p. m. today: 73°.

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

TIDES FOR TODAY:—(From the Tide Tables published by U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.)

High	Low
Wilmington 1:11 p.m. 9:23 p.m.	4:11 a.m. 10:23 a.m.
Morehead City 12:08 a.m. 6:03 a.m.	3:08 a.m. 9:18 a.m.
Surf City 12:08 a.m. 6:03 a.m.	3:08 a.m. 9:18 a.m.
Swainsboro 12:08 a.m. 6:03 a.m.	3:08 a.m. 9:18 a.m.
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More weather on Page Two.

And So To Bed

While digging around in their records, the National Selected Morticians have come up with the very disturbing information that it even costs more to die nowadays than it used to. The charge for funerals in the United States in 1946 was \$375 on the average, which is \$42 more than it cost the year before.

There are grave implications to this. Although we can't think of any way out of it, maybe someone should appeal to the government. If the thing were worked out right, they might decide to keep some form of the OPA after the June 30 deadline they've set for its demise.

Before, the OPA couldn't do much about the cost of living. Perhaps they may be able to work something out on the cost of dying. Otherwise, our "economic mind" Republican Congress may have to shell out \$375 bucks for the OPA's funeral.

Witness Says May Got Cash

Washington Banker Testifies Ex-Congressman Cashed Garsson Check

WASHINGTON, April 25.—(AP)—A gruff, weather-beaten Ken-neson today related that he pulled out of a wartime lumber deal with Andrew J. May, then House military committee chairman, because "I decided there was something wrong."

Leroy W. Fields, 70, told a federal district court jury trying former Congressman Man and three others on war fraud charges that May failed to deliver 50 percent of the stock in the enterprise as promised.

"It was about 11 months later that I finally decided there was something wrong," Fields said. "I decided to get out because I never had received any of my stock."

The witness said he wrote and telephoned from his Whitesburg, Ky., home to May in the latter's office here in the national capital. "I've forgotten just how many times I asked him about it," Fields said.

"Did you ever get any satisfaction?" the witness was asked. "Never did, never did," Fields replied emphatically.

Sensational Day

Fields' story came near the end of a development-packed day in the trial of May and Henry and Murray Garsson, war manufacturers, and Joseph F. Freeman, Washington agent for the Garssons, on charges of conspiring to buy May's influence to get War department favors. There were these other highlights:

1. Two Washington bankers said May, or "an authorized agent" of his, cashed \$5,000 Garsson firm checks keeping \$1,000 cash and putting the \$4,000 balance in May's personal bank account here.

2. The comptroller of the Batavia, Ill., Metal Products company, headed by Henry Garsson, said the latter personally approved with the initials "Okay H. M. G." The payment of a \$1,500 draft May drew for that company for cash.

3. Fields said that he thought all along in dealing about the lumber firm with May, that May owned it. Fields said he never saw nor heard about the Garssons nor Freeman.

May's counsel has argued that May's only interest in the Cumberland Lumber company was to provide lumber for the war effort without profit to himself.

MURDER SUSPECT TAKES OWN LIFE

Body Of Disabled World War One Veteran Found Near Wendell

WENDELL, N.C., April 25.—(AP)—Luther Mumford, 52, disabled World War I veteran who was the chief of a search by Wake county officers in connection with the shot-run death yesterday of Mrs. Luther Strickland, 41, was found shot to death early today in nearby woods.

Wake County Coroner Irving M. Cheek said that Mumford obviously took his own life. Near Mumford's body was a single-barreled shotgun which officers identified as belonging to the dead woman's husband. Mumford's body was found by Alex Wall, Wendell, chief of police.

Cheek said that Mumford pulled the trigger of the shotgun in one of the long forested sticks in order to send a 12-gauge load through his chest. It was at about the same point, Cheek said, that Mrs. Strickland had been struck with a similar load yesterday.

House Handyman

Mumford, Cheek said, served as a handyman around the Strickland home for about three years by doing cooking and other chores due to Mrs. Strickland's prolonged illness.

According to neighbors, Cheek said, Mumford had been drinking heavily for several days, and it was known that he was to have been alone with Mrs. Strickland, mother of three children, shortly before she was found shot to death. He was seen by neighbors to have left the house alone. Cheek said, before other members of the family returned yesterday.

Last rites for Mrs. Strickland will be held tomorrow at 3 p. m. from the Wendell Baptist church. She is survived by her husband, a painter, two sons and a daughter. Funeral arrangements have not been completed for Mumford.