

Wilmington and vicinity: Partly cloudy today and Friday with not much change in temperature.

Served By Leased Wires of the ASSOCIATED PRESS and the UNITED PRESS With Complete Coverage of State and National News

Citizens Voice Need For Program Of Expansion At Local Air Field; U.S. Moves To Halt German Strike

Ideas Differ Over Methods

Man On Street In Accord That Progress At Blue-thenthal Necessary

By SUE MARSHALL Star Staff Writer The man on the street in Wilmington is definitely agreed on one thing, at least—and that is that something should be done to develop and expand Blumenthal airport, rather than let progress at the \$11,000,000 field remain stagnant.

Ideas as to what persons should operate and control the developments and activities at the field were not in unison, though they all said that "something very definitely should be done."

The opinions were given by persons stopped on the downtown streets of Wilmington late yesterday afternoon in answer to the query:

"What do you think of the present conditions at Blumenthal airport and of the proposal made by Horace Barnes, Lumberton airport operator, to lease the airport from the New Hanover county commissioners?"

Kenneth Eaton, local jeweler, expressed the opinion that "if they'd left the field with Parker (J. C. Parker, former airport manager), Hamilton Hicks and the other men (the airport authority), there'd be plenty of activity out there." Eaton, however, does not believe that "the field would be developed right if leased to an individual."

He believes that the solution to the problem would be to place control of the field into the hands of an "air-minded group of individuals to operate and control."

Favors County Control G. T. Sullivan, local insurance man, thinks that the county commissioners should keep control and that "they could do something about it, if they would and something gets to be done."

Jennings Otis, U. S. immigration official, said that "the county should be glad to get rid of it, if they (the county) get anything out of it."

He expressed the opinion that an individual, taking personal interest in the field, would develop it more. "Improved air service would be a great asset to Wilmington," he said, and added that he would like to see schedules operating to Cuba, Bermuda, and the Bahama Islands.

Russel Williams, 9 S. Washington, Sunset Park, thinks development of the field "would be a good thing."

CENTRALIA COAL FIRM INDICTED

Grand Jury Returns True Bills Growing Out Of Fatal Explosion

NASHVILLE, Ill., May 14.—(AP)—A Washington county grand jury today returned two indictments charging the Centralia Coal company with "willful neglect" in connection with the explosion in the company's mine No. 5 at Centralia March 25 in which 111 men died. The indictments charged the firm with failure to provide sufficient air for miners working underground and failure to adequately rock-dust the mine—a safety measure to reduce the spread of dust explosions.

The alleged violations of the Illinois state mining law are misdemeanors and carry a maximum punishment of \$500 each.

The grand jury found no basis for criminal action against five company officials for whom manslaughter indictments based on criminal negligence were sought by State's Attorney Wilbert L. Hohl. Neither was any action voted against Driscoll Scanlan, state mine inspector.

Fourteen witnesses were heard by the 23-member panel which investigated the disaster. The jury also studied evidence collected by other investigating groups.

And So To Bed

Yesterday afternoon the Wrightsville Beach police, under the direction of Chief W. R. Wiggs, Jr., were stopping cars on the west side of Banks channel bridge for routine inspections.

The telephone in the Star news room rang consistently during the early evening and many curious persons inquired what was going on at the beach.

"Why are they stopping all those cars," one lady asked. "Are they looking for a murder victim or something?" When informed it was a routine check, the lady replied, "Keep off the streets until I get it repaired."

Woman Admits Part In Murder "Pact"

Mrs. Mary Ellen Currin Miller, 24-Year-Old Mother Confesses To Complicity In Attempted Killing; Victim Improves

(Special To The Star) LUMBERTON, May 14.—Mrs. Mary Ellen Currin Miller, pretty 24-year-old mother of two children and wife of Dan Miller, prominent Robeson county store operator, admitted today to Sheriff Willis C. Britt that she hired Fred Wiggins, 24-year-old Negro farmer, to kill her husband and make it look like a suicide.

Technicality Knocks Out Voice Of America Setup

WASHINGTON, May 14.—(AP)—A technicality in the House today knocked flat efforts to rescue Secretary of State Marshall's cultural relations program and left it facing death June 30. But another try is in the making.

A point of order by Rep. Stefan (R-Neb.) blocked a motion by Rep. Gary (D-Ind.) to provide \$31,381,220 to continue the work beyond mid-year. Gary sought to restore the sum to the State department appropriation bill, from which a committee had deleted it.

But Stefan insisted that since the program has not been set up by separate law, the House cannot appropriate for it under its rules. Rep. Curtis (R-Neb.), presiding at the time, upheld Stefan. The House made no attempt to override the ruling.

MEDICAL SOCIETY NAMES ROBERTSON

Wilmington Physician Elected President Of N. C. Organization

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va., May 14.—(AP)—Re-election of Dr. Carl V. Reynolds as State Health officer for the next four years and the selection of Dr. James F. Robertson of Wilmington as president-elect featured closing sessions of the 93rd annual convention of the Medical Society of North Carolina here today.

Other officers elected included Dr. V. K. Hart, Charlotte, first vice-president; Dr. J. G. Raby, Tarboro, second vice-president. Dr. G. C. Dixon, Ayden, and Dr. J. Labrue Ward, Asheville, members of the State Board of Health for the next four years; and Dr. L. R. Hedgpech, Lumberton, member of the Hospital Savings Association.

Delegates Named Dr. P. Y. Joyner, Enfield, Dr. Alban Papineau, Plymouth, and Dr. Harry Johnson, Elkin, were designated delegates to the Medical Society of Virginia, while Dr. Frank Ward, Lumberton, Dr. Lewis Gaston, Albemarle, and Dr. C. H. Pugh, Gastonia, were named to represent the group before the South Carolina Society.

Georgia delegates are Dr. Robert Matthews, Greensboro, Dr. W. H. Hoover, Murphy, and Dr. Ben Kendall, Shelby. The Tennessee

MRS. TRUMAN TO SHAKE 5,000 HANDS IN NEXT TWO WEEKS

WASHINGTON, May 14.—(AP)—Mrs. Harry Truman in the next two weeks will have her busiest whirl since she and the President moved into the White House.

She will shake more hands, attend more teas and garden parties and be honor guest at more meals than in any previous fortnight. She will even squeeze in a breakfast and a picnic.

For one thing there's the annual convention of the Daughters of the American Revolution next week, and one of the high spots on the program will be a reception Friday, May 23, given by their fellow member, Mrs. Truman.

That means at least 3,000 hands to shake that afternoon. Another major event that will bring about 1,200 to the White House will be the garden party for veterans hospitalized in Washington, at which

WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH POLICE OPEN DRIVE AGAINST MOTORISTS

Thirteen persons were cited to court for not having drivers licenses and two others arrested for operating vehicles with improper license plates, yesterday afternoon as the Wrightsville Beach police department opened a drive on traffic violators.

Chief of Police W. R. Wiggs, Jr. said they were making a check on cars on the west side of Banks channel bridge. "We are checking cars for improper brakes, horns, lights, license plates and other faulty equipment," Wiggs said last night. The chief urged visitors to the beach to obey all traffic rules while driving on the beach.

400,000 Tons Food Ready

Patterson Announces Plan To Halt Unrest In U. S. Zone

WASHINGTON, May 14.—(AP)—Secretary of War Patterson said today that more than 400,000 tons of food will be sent to Germany this month, a similar amount in June and "even more" in July.

His announcement constituted the War department's response to complaints of short rations. There are threats of a general strike in Stuttgart May 22 if food conditions are not improved before then.

Referring to the survey and recommendations made by former President Herbert Hoover, Patterson said in a statement that shipments of food to Germany called for under the Hoover recommendations "have been met up to May 1, except for an amount equal to about one week's ration."

"Even this is only a delay, not a reduction," Patterson said. The planned shipments of food, the secretary said, "should be sufficient to maintain the ration (in Germany) from now on."

Substantially all the food imports into Germany have come from the United States "as the only available source, but they have been paid for jointly by the British and ourselves," Patterson said.

No Reference Patterson did not refer to reports in London that Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin will call Commons tomorrow that substantial relief from the food crisis in the British occupation zone in Germany cannot be expected until the summer harvest.

The food crisis in western Germany "has been a source of deep concern for weeks" to Gen. Lucius D. Clay, the American Military governor, to the War department and to himself, the secretary asserted.

"Every measure within our power has been taken to meet it," Patterson said. "Since last December, food shipments to Germany from the United States have been greater than ever before."

War department reports showed last December shipments a little over 300,000 tons. Patterson said that after Mr. Hoover left Germany it became evident that the breaking up of winter "that large amounts of food had been destroyed or would be required for re-seeding because of winter destruction of crops which had been sown in the fall."

He estimated these conditions reduced available local supplies by almost 200,000 tons. As part of the emergency program, Patterson said 74,000,000 pounds of dry skimmed milk have been procured and are about to be shipped to Germany.

Attributing the crisis to "the old faithful"

KEMMERER, Wyo., May 15.—(AP)—Old Dutch Setzke loved his employer and the livestock he was hired to tend.

Even with death approaching, Dutch was determined to take care of the stock. His boss, Bill Davison of Opal, related today that his reliable ranch hand fell ill and that he came upon him cawing on hands and knees to feed the animals. Dutch died shortly while afterward.

Setzke had worked 4 ranches in the Western Wyoming area for many years. He was believed to have been well past 80 years old.

45 Persons Lose Lives In Film Blast; 100-Year-Old Observatory Must Move

Dust, Radiation Makes Site At Washington Unfit For Clocks, Tec.

ROME, May 14.—(AP)—Police reported that at least 45 persons were known to have been killed or injured tonight by two violent explosions of movie film and a fierce fire in a five-story building. They feared that 60 or 70 other persons had been trapped and possibly killed.

These 60 or 70, police said, included about 20 women who were packing film. Searchlights were turned on the smouldering building, so that firemen could search the ruins for bodies.

The police reported that they had found more than 20 bodies under charred timbers and ashes. The first of these to be brought out was of a woman. Five bodies were recovered before the fire was brought under control. Twenty persons, burned or otherwise injured, were taken to hospitals.

Spectators heard trapped victims being rescued by firemen.



WAVING TO THE HUGE CROWD of well-wishers who assembled outside Buckingham Palace, London, to welcome them back to England, are members of the British Royal Family, just returned from their three-month tour of South Africa. Princess Elizabeth with royal household rumors say will soon be betrothed to Prince Phillip Mombhat ten is at left, and Margaret Rose is at right. (International Radiophoto).

Industrial Empire Visioned; President Signs Portal Bill

Truman Overrides Labor Protests To Outlaw Costly Suits

WASHINGTON, May 14.—(AP)—President Truman overrode the protests of organized labor and his own labor secretary today and signed the Republican-sponsored bill outlawing practically all past, present and future portal-to-portal pay claims.

He explained in an unusual memorandum to Congress that he acted in the firm belief that the \$6,000,000,000 bugaboo of portal suits now pending in the courts must be done away with to help restore economic stability and clear the way for full production and lower prices.

At the same time, he called upon Congress to balance this legislative boon to business with an immediate increase in the statutory national minimum wage from 40 to at least 65 cents an hour.

Aware that his approval of the controversial measure might bring threats of political reprisals from

GAS TANK BLAST, CRASH KILLS TWO

Mount Airy, Pilot Mountain Men Lose Lives In Collision On Bridge

PILOT MOUNTAIN, May 14.—(AP)—Theodore Russell Southern, 29, of Mount Airy and Mallory Jackson Whitaker, 33, of Pilot Mountain were killed when trucks they were driving collided head-on on a bridge, two miles north of here, at 4:10 p. m. today.

Southern was burned to death when the gasoline tank of his tractor-trailer type van exploded and ignited the cab. Whitaker was crushed to death.

L. A. Hair, who was driving a third truck directly behind Southern said it appeared that the van got out of control as it descended on an incline leading toward a small, concrete bridge. Whitaker, Hair said, tried to swerve out of the path of the run-away but was unable to do so.

Body Buried Southern was thrown half out of his cab by the explosion of the gas tank. His body was burned almost beyond recognition before would-be rescuers could reach him.

Investigating officers called an official of Bell Lines, a Winston-Salem trucking concern which owns

Along The Cape Fear

INDUSTRIAL EMPIRE — Former Governor Broughton was not looking through rose colored glasses yesterday when he pictured North Carolina as an industrial empire before members of the Kiwanis club.

Broughton, one of the state's best-informed business analysts, as well as attorneys, wove his talk around two recent incidents which had come to the state during the year.

First and foremost, he said, was the granting to the State Ports Authority \$100,000 by the General Assembly for its development. Broughton saw in this first grant by the state to the Authority its one big opportunity to forge ahead.

SECOND INCIDENT — Broughton likened the U. S. Supreme Court's decision lowering freight rates in the south to emancipation for the area. Industrial growth in the state should follow this decision, he predicted. And where there's industrial growth, there is progress.

With North Carolina now on an equal footing with the manufacturing centers of the Northeast, the state should assume the leadership.

PROGRESS — Wilmington, because of its location, should be the principal beneficiary in the work of the Authority. With the proper development of its present facilities, there's no reason why this city



J. MELVILLE BROUGHTON

DIRECTORS NAME MAJOR KINGSLEY

Washington Man Elected President Of Norfolk Southern Railway

NORFOLK, Va., May 14.—(AP)—Major Joseph P. Kingsley of Washington, who became a director of the Norfolk Southern Railway only two months ago, was elected its president today at the annual meeting of the board of directors.

He succeeded L. A. Beck who was re-elected to the directorate. Kingsley, who told a reporter several weeks ago he favored the policy of owner-management of railroads advocated by President Robert Young of the Chesapeake and Ohio, was succeeded as board chairman today by Patrick B. Mc-

CLERICAL ERROR AT HOSPITAL BRINGS SUIT FOR \$200,000

NEW YORK, May 14.—(AP)—A Bronx couple today accused a municipal hospital of substituting a boy for a girl following their child's birth there, but hospital Commissioner Edward M. Berneker termed the matter a "clerical error."

The couple Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Sosa, Puerto Ricans, made the charge in a claim for \$200,000 damages filed against the city with the corporation counsel and the city comptroller.

They charged the shift was made in Lincoln hospital subsequent to March 15 after they had been issued a birth certificate for a female child. They said the certificate was signed by the physician officiating the birth.

Berneker said the clerical error occurred in filling out an application form for a birth certificate and that nurses and physicians had listed the child as a male.

The couple took the boy home from the hospital, Mrs. Sosa said. "We like him, but he is not ours. We can give him no name. He is sickly, not like my strong girl. Mrs. Sosa said a girl was brought to her at the hospital for seven days after the birth March 13, but that on March 21 a nurse brought the boy instead.

Sixty To Seventy Others Believed Trapped In Building Ruins

WASHINGTON, May 14.—(AP)—Officials of the 100-year-old Naval Observatory here are looking for a new site for their clocks and telescopes.

Dust and heat radiation which have increased with the growth of the capital now seriously interfere with their precision time-keeping work, they explained to reporters today.

The main requirements of a new site were listed as: Location somewhere within a 275-mile wide belt across the nation (within 2 degrees of the present latitude of 38 degrees 55 minutes north.) Accessibility to good transportation; generally good weather, and a distance of at least 25 miles from a big city.

Former Gov. Broughton Says State Has Great Possibilities

North Carolina, backed by an abundance of skilled labor, ample local capital and ample power resources, now has an opportunity to build a great industrial empire second to none in the nation, former Gov. J. Melville Broughton told members of the Wilmington Kiwanis club yesterday at their weekly luncheon meeting at the Friendly.

Introduced by program chairman Aaron Goldberg as one of the best governors the state ever had, Broughton was guest speaker of the day and an exceptionally large number of members and guests were present to hear him.

Interspersing his remarks with a few stories that kept his audience in good humor throughout, Broughton at the outset of his address took occasion to pay tribute to his presiding over the May session of New Hanover Superior court this week. He then went on to tell of his first visit to Wilmington as a boy and a never-to-be-forgotten trip by ferry across the Cape Fear river.

In commenting on the establishment of the North Carolina State's Ports Authority by the 1945 General assembly, Broughton told Kiwanians that the authority, without as much as a postage stamp in capital, had been able to secure from the Works Progress Administration a grant of \$90,000 for the purpose of making a survey of port facilities within the state and future port needs.

This survey, now in preparation, the speaker said, will be of inestimable value in years to come.

Secures \$100,000 Continuing, he pointed out that the Ports Authority whose membership is state-wide in scope, had

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DEMOCRATS PROTEST HOLD UP BY GOP OF POSTMASTER AWARDS

WASHINGTON, May 14.—(AP)—Democrats shouted protests in the Senate today that Republicans are "arbitrarily" holding up action on 800 nominations for postmasters.

Senator Lucas (D-Ill.) announced he will make a speech every day until he gets a "showdown." He said it is "shameful and disgraceful" for Senator Langer (R-M.D.), chairman of the Civil Service committee, to hold up the nominations until \$35,000 is forthcoming for a Senate investigation of the method of appointing postmasters.

The nominations were made by President Truman, but the Senate must confirm the nominees.

Lucas, charging "politics of the cheapest kind," moved to take 37 Illinois postmaster nominations away from the committee. He said 23 of the 37 are war veterans, Senator Tydings (D-Md.), made a similar motion with regard to 14 Marylanders. The motions did not come to a vote.

VHF Opening Set By July 1

CAA Official Announces Compromise With Navy Allowing Operation

By FRANK VAN DER LINDEN Morning Star Washington Bureau WASHINGTON, May 14.—Very high frequency radio range equipment will be in operation by July 1 at Wilmington, New Bern, and Elizabeth City, N. C., to guide air planes on Norfolk-to-Charleston flights as Civil Aeronautics Administration official informed this bureau today as CAA frequency engineers approved a compromise route for the airway, by-passing a Navy bombing range on Albemarle Sound. By September 1, the official said, the CAA expects to certify carriers to cover this course route, if necessary, at any time day or night. Thus the Norfolk-Charleston route will be officially designated as a "civil airway"—the last link in the Jacksonville-Boston coastal airway.

New Postponement Its activation, already delayed several months by the conflict with the Navy over the bombing range, will be postponed further by the heavy work load of the technicians in the CAA's second regional office in Atlanta who will install the V. H. F. equipment.

Planes flying this route now are picking many miles inland to pick up the radio beam between Florence, S. C., and Raleigh, N. C. In the future, guided by the airway between Charleston, Myrtle Beach, Wilmington, New Bern, Elizabeth City and Norfolk, the planes can provide direct service to all these points regardless of weather, the CAA official stated.

To Circle Range They will circle the Navy bombing range on the New Bern-Elizabeth City hop, instead of going straight over Albemarle Sound as originally planned—a route which caused objections from the Navy.

Problems of the compromise, which has the approval of the Joint Air Coordination committee, a recommendation favoring it will be written by the Airspace Subcommittee Friday for acceptance by the agencies concerned.

NEGRO SENTENCED FOR \$2.00 THEFT

James Davis Draws Three To Five Year Term For Holdup On Streets

Six criminal actions were run in rapid fashion through New Hanover county's overcrowded court calendar yesterday before Judge Lawson L. Williams with as many convictions returned and prison and road terms passed out in four instances.

For the larceny of two dollars, James Davis, Negro drew three to five years in prison, the heaviest penalty of the day, after a jury found him guilty of stealing that amount from Richman Sidbury, another Negro.

Sidbury testified that last April 10, while returning to his home in the evening, he was set upon by a group of men on Dawson streets. Money was taken from him and the money removed from his pockets.

So hard was he hit, Sidbury told the jury that he was hospitalized and six stitches taken in his head. The complaining witness declared he approached the street intersection he saw Davis, a neighbor whose he knew, and two other men joining by a telephone pole.

"Here he comes now," Sidbury said Davis exclaimed before the Negro struck him with a garbage can. Police officer John Rich identified the assailant in a hearing that lasted less than a half hour. Davis admitted three prior convictions.

Two-Year Term Clammie Beatty, 60-year-old Negro, was sentenced to two years on the road after his attorneys Addison Hewlett, Jr., for the defendant in plea for leniency, told the court he had never felt so strongly in favor of a client. The attorney based his plea on what he said was his client's excellent record.

Beatty was found guilty by a jury of assault with a deadly weapon upon testimony of Lonnie Manning, Negro, who himself had received a two-year sentence on a similar charge. Manning related to the jury that Beatty shot him

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The Weather

FORECAST: North Carolina—Partly cloudy Thursday, Friday, not so warm Northeast Thursday, Friday. Little change in temperature.

South Carolina—Partly cloudy and warm Thursday and Friday. (Eastern Standard Time)

(By U. S. Weather Bureau) Meteorological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m. yesterday.

TEMPERATURE: 5:30 a. m. 65; 7:30 a. m. 68; 1:30 p. m. 75; 5:30 p. m. 75; Maximum 85; Minimum 64. Mean 74.

HUMIDITY: 7:30 a. m. 78; 1:30 p. m. 84; 7:30 a. m. 78; 1:30 p. m. 84.

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

WIND: Since the first of the month. Direction and force.

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

Wilmington: 5:16 a. m. 12:12 a. m. 5:51 p. m. 12:38 p. m. 9:30 a. m. 9:30 a. m. 3:30 p. m. 9:55 p. m.

Barbour: 5:10; Sunset 7:06; Moonrise 8:40; Moonset 2:50.

More weather on Page Two