



ESTABLISHED 1867

WILMINGTON, N. C., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1947

FORECAST:

Wilmington and vicinity: Rain and cool today; Sunday partly cloudy with occasional rains, moderate to strong winds, little change in temperatures.

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Meyers Firm Had Contract

Former Air Force Officer Linked With \$1,053,573 War Order

WASHINGTON, Nov. 14.—(AP)—Testimony that Maj. Gen. Bennett E. Meyers figured in the flow of \$1,053,573 in war-time subcontracts to a firm in which he once acknowledged part ownership—and later said was given today before Senate investigators.

Lawrence D. Bell, president of the Bell concern, said Meyers, who retired in 1945 after holding high Army purchasing posts during the war, suggested to him that Aviation Electric company might be interested in accepting a subcontract for materials for British planes which Bell had contracted to produce.

Aviation Electric company was given a subcontract, Bell said, and electrical wiring boxes it turned out was subsequently used for American planes as well as British.

Bell said Meyers also recommended other firms for subcontracts, but that a check showed these others were too busy to take the work.

The Senate War Investigating committee also produced further evidence to back its contention that the Army was "anemic" about investigating Meyers despite an anonymous tip that he made "immense" sums out of the war, rumors that he was playing poker for high stakes, and a plea by an unnamed major general that Meyers be kept out of control of surplus property.

Meanwhile the Justice Department informed reporters, without elaboration, that it has been "looking into" General Meyers' activities.

Meyers supplied one highlight of the day's developments. He told reporters that he had asked for a trial by court martial "to prove my innocence or guilt" of See MEYERS on Page Three

Ex-Wilmington Man Faces Murder Count

One of three men arrested on charges of murder and robbery in connection with the slaying of Clayton Hall, 55-year-old Crescent Beach, S. C., business man, at 7 a.m. last Sunday morning and the theft of \$25,000, has confessed, Sheriff C. E. Sasser of Conway, S. C., told the Star last night.

The confession implicated all three of the prisoners, the sheriff said. Being held without bond for the Horry county grand jury Joe Williamson, 35, Norfolk, Va., former Wilmington resident, Richard Ciesliski, 20, Monday, Va., and Edison, 24, Whiteville. All three worked here at the Wilm. shipyard during the way.

Law enforcement officers of three states worked with Sheriff Sasser in tracking down the men, he said last night. In Wilmington Deputy Sheriff C. D. Snow and Highway Patrolman R. C. Duncan assisted with the investigation.

Williamson's wife, who lives at Maffitt Village here and who has been separated from her husband for some time, helped break down his alibi, according to Sheriff Sasser, who said that Williamson told him that he spent Saturday night here with his wife. Mrs. Williamson denied it and told the officers Williamson had been here Friday night. Williamson left early Saturday morning.

Williamson and Ciesliski, of whom were employed as taxi drivers in Richmond, Va., before the crime, were arrested in Norfolk Thursday night by Sheriff Sasser, who was assisted by city police of Portsmouth and Norfolk. The sheriff said that he traced Williamson to the Statesville, N. C., area.

Aggie Agents Favor 1948 "Better Farms" Contest

COLLEGEVILLE, Pa., Nov. 14.—(AP)—Police Chief George Moyer reported late in 10 days dished up this menu for 33-year-old Charles Kulp: A left hand injury forced him to quit his foundry job. His wife left him. Two children were placed in homes of friends. His nearby Spring Mount home burned, destroying all his belongings and a pet dog. He lost control of his automobile, crashed into three bungalows, wrecked the machine. He was arrested on drunk driving charges and jailed for hearing.

Dean Schaub speaks at meeting held at Trail's End; Rules Talked

The agricultural agents and the home demonstration agents of the thirteen counties included in the "Better Farms For Better Living" contest conducted by the Tide Water Power Company Friday voted unanimously that the contest should be continued in 1948. The counties represented are: New Hanover, Brunswick, Columbus, Bladen, Pender, Duplin, Onslow, Lenoir, Green, Jones, Craven, Carteret and Pamlico.

The agents were guests Friday of the Tide Water Power Company at an all-day meeting held at Trail's End Inn at Masonboro Sound.

Dean I. O. Schaub, of the North Carolina State College Extension Service, emphasized that North Carolina is confronted with a crisis which is the result of an inefficient use of farm labor and of farm acreage. This crisis is taking the form of a thirty per cent reduction in tobacco and peanut acreage for 1948, or a loss of more than \$100,000,000 compared with 1947. This loss is intensified by a constantly increasing cost of production.

Knows No Substitute The dean stated that he knew no substitute for 1948, there being See AGENTS on Page Three

LOCAL CAB DRIVER ROBBED, BEATEN

J. H. Irving, Jr., Fears Vengeance Of Thugs Who Clubbed Him Friday

A Wilmington taxi driver, who was treated at James Walker Memorial hospital early Friday morning for a gashed head, had resigned his job here last night and living in fear of the vengeance of four thugs who clubbed him shot at him, and took his cab. Yellow Cab officials stated. J. H. Irving, Jr., told the story of his escape from the men who assaulted and robbed him under a fusillade of bullets from a pistol.

According to T. E. McCoy Jr., night manager of the Yellow Cab company, Irving told him that he picked up the four passengers who later clubbed him at the Cape Fear hotel at around 12.30 a. m. Friday. They asked him to take them to a roadhouse on the Navarra road between Highways 74 and 76 in Brunswick county, he said. After he had accommodated them by looking inside the place to see how many persons were there and had reported "five or six," they told him to drive them to another place, he said.

Irving had driven some distance of some three or four city blocks down the road when he was struck from behind by one of the men, he said. They robbed him of his wallet containing between \$10 and \$15, then told him they were going to drive him into the woods and kill him, the taxi driver related. He was then driven to a location near the Atlantic Coast Line crossing and signal light on the Arromor road, where the men forced him out of the cab and said See DRIVER on Page Three

Fayetteville Man Turns Himself In-He Stays, Too

Parker but held him for investigation. Butler said Parker told him of setting fire to the home of Roy Williams near Fayetteville by igniting oil and paper at a corner of the house. Police found that neighbors had quickly put out the fire and never reported it. Parker waived a preliminary hearing and will be held for grand jury action.

UN Assembly Approves U. S. Plan For Korean Independence Group; GOP Gives Aid Program Top Spot

Taft Agrees Help For Europe Acute

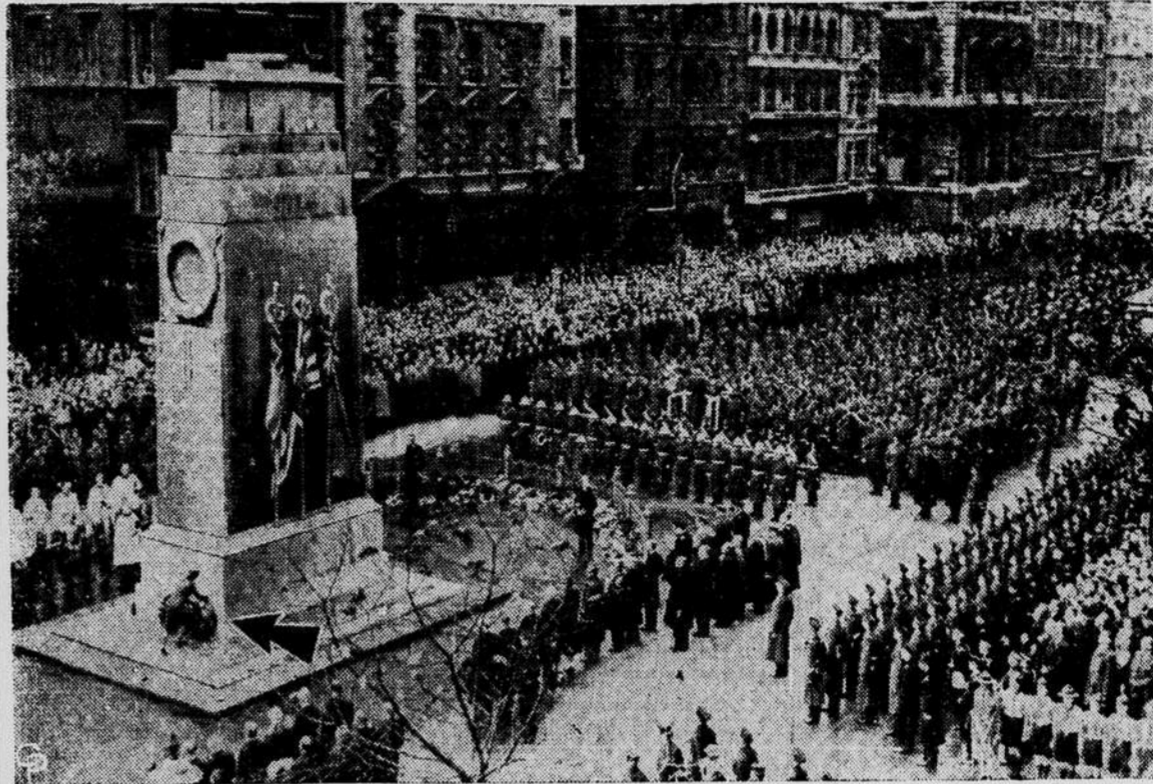
Republican Policy Committee Non-Committal On Amount Needed

Washington, Nov. 14.—(AP)—The Senate's powerful Republican policy committee gave top priority late today to legislation granting emergency aid to Europe at the special session of Congress beginning next Monday.

Chairman Taft (R-Ohio) said he agreed with President Truman that multi-billion dollar foreign spending must be paid for out of current taxes but declared that this does not necessarily rule out a 1948 income tax cut.

Taft, a candidate for the Republican Presidential nomination, said the 12-member committee agreed that help to Europe must be provided quickly. But he said there was no decision on how much aid the Republicans will approve.

Some members of both the Senate and the House Foreign Policy committees are seeking to reduce the amounts proposed by Secretary of State Marshall—\$597,000,000 to France, Italy See TAFT on Page Three



A NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER, Remembrance Day is observed by the British Royal Family during memorial services at the Cenotaph in London. Princess Elizabeth (arrow) is shown as she placed her wreath at the base of the monument. The king also placed a wreath in memory of the heroic dead.

Mayor Pays Tribute To Scouts At Encampment Opening Here

COOL-HEADED BUS DRIVER BACKS VEHICLE DOWN HILL TO SAFETY

POTTS TOWN, Pa., Nov. 14.—(AP)—"I was lucky," Driver Samuel Hanna explained modestly after he backed his wayward bus two blocks downhill through Pottstown's busiest intersection, looped it into a driveway and delivered 12 passengers to safety. "Keep cool! Keep seated!" Hanna instructed his passengers when the gears on his bus locked in neutral last night and the brakes failed.

PETTERSON TO HEAD NEW CIVITAN CLUB

Ogden-Middle Sound Group Organized At Meeting Last Night

The Ogden-Middle Sound Civitan club was organized Friday night by Lieutenant Governor John A. Courtney, Jr., of Whiteville, who was assisted by Paul Woodall, past lieutenant governor, Ralph Beason, secretary of the Whiteville Civitan club, and Eugene Porter, member of the Whiteville club.

TEACHERS ADOPT SALARY MINIMUM

North Central Group Passes Resolution Requesting \$2,400 Starting Pay

RALEIGH, Nov. 14.—(AP)—North Central District teachers today adopted a resolution for a starting teacher salary of \$2,400 annually, plus 16 years of increments at \$100 per year.

TORNADOS INJURE FIFTEEN PERSONS

Over 100 Homes Demolished In Louisiana, Texas Oil Towns

By The Associated Press. A tornado out of the Southwest cut a 60-yard path across Deridder, in Southwest Louisiana yesterday, injuring at least fifteen persons and leaving a trail of more than 100 demolished and damaged homes and other buildings.

Over 500 Boys Register For Three-Day Training At Lake Forest

More than 500 Scouts from nine southeastern North Carolina counties heard Mayor E. L. White's address of welcome officially opening the three-day encampment, culminating the Scout Round-up which began September 1, of the Cape Fear Area council, Boy Scouts of America, in the Lake Forest school area yesterday evening.

EAST CAROLINA RIVERS ON RISE

Weather Bureau Sees Little Chance Of Any Excessive Damage

RALEIGH, Nov. 14.—(AP)—Fed by heavy rains, major Eastern North Carolina rivers were rising at a number of places today although the possibility of extensive damage appeared slight.

Chicago Cabbie Caters Cigaretts, Cigars, Coffee

CHICAGO, Nov. 14.—(AP)—The lucky passenger who hails Edward Hamilton's taxicab gets more than a ride for his money. Hamilton offers, his fares a choice of Chicago newspapers, free cigars, matches, safety pins, cleansing tissue — and, if they ask for it, hot coffee.

Russians Confirm Boycott Of Plan

Delegates Vote 43 To 0 To Set Up Supervising Commission

NEW YORK, Nov. 14.—(AP)—A United Nations Korean Independence commission, the third and last big project put through the U. N. by Secretary of State Marshall, was approved finally today by the General Assembly.

The Soviet bloc immediately confirmed that it would boycott this group amidst indications that the Russians might bar the commission from the Soviet military occupation zone in Northern Korea.

The Russians and their supporters already have said they would boycott the two other Marshall proposals approved by the Assembly—the Balkans "watchdog" commission and the year-around "Little Assembly." The Assembly voted 43 to 0 for the U. S. plan for the commission created to supervise the setting up of an independent Korea.

TOBACCO PRICES VARY ON MARKETS

Common, Low Leaf Show Good Gains On Eastern Belt Warehouses

BY The Associated Press. All lower quality grades, with the exception of nondescript, posted price average gains yesterday on the Eastern North Carolina Flue-Cured Tobacco Belt, but prices on the Middle Belt cancelled out Thursday's gains while trends were irregular on the Old Belt.

Along The Cape Fear

ST. JAMES SENIOR WARDENS — Following the construction of the present St. James church building, Dr. Armand John deRosset, Sr., distinguished physician and citizen of Wilmington, was for the entire duration of his long and useful life an ardent worker and benefactor of the church.

The Weather

South Carolina and North Carolina — Rain and cool Saturday with thunderstorms in extreme west portion and ending in west portion late Saturday; Sunday partly cloudy and warmer west portion, with occasional rains and little change in temperature. East portion, moderate to fresh winds becoming strong along coast.

And So To Bed

A brave Army Veteran who saw action in China during the recent war was enroute to his home in Colonial Village the other night when he was called by three ladies. "Young man, we fear that someone is in our house," they pleaded for him to search for the intruder. Our hero looked at the ladies and not being armed with anything more powerful than a cigarette lighter he dashed to the next house for aid.

When he had successfully obtained another man to help him, the house was entered and searched from top to bottom, but no intruder was found. He comforted the ladies with the remark that a cat had knocked over a tub in the back yard. "Can't ever tell what you might find in a house," Our hero mused to the gentlemen he had gotten out of bed to aid in the search.