

FORECAST:

Wilmington and vicinity: Considerable cloudiness today, colder with occasional light rain tonight; Friday, considerable cloudiness and colder.

VOL. 81—NO. 90.

Troops Guard Assemblymen

French Lawmakers Move To Give Premier Power Over Strikes

PARIS, Dec. 3.—(P)—Debat- ing behind a cordon of steel-hel- meted troops and police, France's National Assembly prepared emergency legisla- tion tonight to arm the govern- ment against sabotage mass dem- onstrations and strikes.

Warned of a possible demon- stration against the government in the Place De La Concorde just in front of the Assembly building, a high police official said, the government stationed troops mobile guards and police in a five-square garden blocking off all traffic while the Assembly was in session.

Florentin Bonte, Communist deputy denied reports that the Communists had planned to march on the Assembly.

When no demonstrators ap- peared, traffic was again allowed to pass through the area, but the steel-helmeted forces, es- timated at several hundred, re- mained in place. Their show of strength seemed impressive enough to meet any eventuality.

First Duty
Jules Moch, interior minister, told the Assembly forces had been stationed around the build- ing to keep a certain number of strikers from surrounding the Bourb Palace (National Assem- bly).

"My first duty is to permit the National Assembly to delib- erate in tranquility," he said.

The rest of France, however, was not so calm.

Strong military forces were required during the day to west the Southern city of Beau- rieux from the control of several thousand strikers who last night after several hours battle had captured all public buildings ex- cept the city hall and the sub- post-office.

PALMETTO FARMER GIVEN JAIL TERM

Prize Court Convicts on Of Forcing Negro To Work

Florence, Dec. 3.—(U.P.)—John Ellis Wilhelm of Hartsville, S. C., accused of holding a Negro worker in virtual bondage for almost a year, drew a year and a day federal prison sentence and a \$500 fine today for violating the field hand's civil lib- erties.

Peonage and kidnapping charges against Wilhelm and his father, James Fred Wilhelm, both prosperous farmers, were dropped after the younger man pleaded guilty to a charge of violating the civil liberties statute.

Evidence brought out a hearing before U. S. District Judge J. Waites Waring showed that the Negro James Dewitt, quit as a field hand on the big Wil- helm farm in Darlington county about a year ago.

The younger Wilhelm had Dewitt arrested for "violation of a labor contract," witnesses tes- tified, but the Hartsville mag- istrate's court ruled such a pact illegal and Dewitt was freed.

Ten days later, however, it was charged, Wilhelm accosted

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The Weather

SUB FORECAST
8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.—Cloudy with occasional light rain. High 45. Low 35.
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.—Partly cloudy with occasional light rain. High 45. Low 35.
6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.—Partly cloudy with occasional light rain. High 45. Low 35.

18 SHOPPING DAYS LEFT
BUY CHRISTMAS SEALS

Services To Be Cut At Local Hospital

Board Issues Prepared Statement After Meeting Over Mass Resignations Of 38 Registered Nurses

The board of directors of the James Walker Memorial hospital here last night, after meeting in a closed session issued a prepared statement notifying the public that the "services of James Walker Memorial hospital will be necessarily curtailed on Dec. 18."

The statement followed notification by the 38 graduate nurses on the staff earlier today that they would re- sign in two weeks.

The statement continued that should the situation change in any respect, such information will be promptly

brought to the attention of the public."

The remainder of the four page statement only reiterated the hospital's stand on the question, and contained nothing new looking toward a set- tlement of the situation.

Meanwhile, the medical staff of the hospital issued a prepared statement condemning a "strike against the sick as unbecoming to the nursing profession."

The hospital's statement went on to quote a letter sent the nurses after it had received

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Week Of Rededication Proclaimed By Mayor

PARKING HALVED

RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 3.—(P)—The Department of Public Safety gave a nod to the inflationary spiral today.

It doubled the price — or halved the time, rather — on the downtown parking meters. Beginning at 9 a. m. tomorrow you'll get only 30 minutes parking for a nickel.

Safety Director Richard R. Roster said that "in effect we are doubling the amount of available parking space in the shopping area."

But not for the guy with two nickels.

White Calls On Citizens To Participate In Program Here

In connection with the release yesterday of the official program for the week of rededication prior to the arrival of the Freedom Train here Dec. 10, Mayor E. L. White issued a proclamation urging all citizens of the city to participate in the ceremonies and events constituting Wilmington Rededication week.

The mayor's proclamation fol- lows:

Whereas, the system of govern- ment which we enjoy as Americans is being tested by the historic events of this critical period of world history; and whereas, these times call for loyalty to American traditions and faith in their enduring character; and whereas, a national program of "Rededi- cation" to American ideals and principles is being conducted by a non-partisan citizens' move- ment known as The American Heritage Foundation, sponsored by the Attorney General of the United States and endorsed by the President of the United States; and

Whereas, said program was designed to create a greater awareness of the unique bless- ings of the American heritage and to raise the level of citizen- ship through more active participation by individuals in the affairs of their government; and whereas, said program in- cludes the tour of the Freedom Train, carrying the most signifi- cant exhibit of original American documents, and provides for "Rededication" programs by each community visited by the Freedom Train; Now, therefore, I, E. L. White, Mayor of Wilmington, do hereby pro- claim a week of rededication to American ideals and principles for the City of Wilmington to be- gin on December 4 and end on December 10 and to be known as "Wilmington Rededication week, and I do hereby urge all citizens and organizations in the City of Wilmington to participate in the ceremonies and events constituting Wilmington rededi- cation week.

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RUSSIANS START RUN ON BANKERS

Fear Of Ruble Devaluation Creates Feverish Buying Sprees

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—(P)—The State Department's "Voice of America" radio beamed over- seas in 23 languages tonight report that Russians have started wholesale runs on banks and stores in Moscow and other Soviet cities because of fear the ruble is losing its value.

The report was attributed to travelers just returned from Russia and was not immediately confirmed by Moscow news dis- patches or otherwise.

Crowds anxious to exchange the Soviet currency for any dur- able goods were besieging shops last week to buy dry goods, jewelry, rare books or any other physical goods, the report said.

Many stores were reported to have closed their doors for "re- pairs" or "inventories." Savings banks in Moscow, the radio said, have limited withdrawals to 200 rubles a day.

The radio said rumors were widespread in Russia that the Soviet government was prepar- ing to issue new currency, ef- fective Dec. 5, which would wipe out the present currency.

20-Cent Value
This has an official exchange rate of 20 cents in American money but has a varying pur- chase power.

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CAFE BLAST ENDS LIFE OF ONE MAN

Two Others Injured In Explosion At Charlotte's Rendezvous

CHARLOTTE, Dec. 3.—(P)—One person was killed and two others were injured one of them critically, tonight when an ex- plosion wrecked a small down- town cafe.

Oliver Kerr of Charlotte was pronounced dead on arrival at a hospital. His wife's condition was described as critical. The condition of Fred Azer, the third injured person, was not immedi- ately determined. All were from Charlotte.

The blast knocked out win- dows in the restaurant, known as the "Rendezvous," and in two adjoining buildings.

Cause of the explosion was not immediately determined. There was no fire.

BOMBER CRASHES NEAR RICHMOND

Four Men Jump Out Of Plane To Safety; One Found

RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 3.—(U.P.)—An Army B-25 bomber crashed 20 miles from here to- day after all four men aboard jumped by parachute but only one man was found immediately at the Richmond Army Air base announced tonight.

Capt. E. M. Branch, public re- lations officer, said the co-pilot whose name was withheld, was picked up by a motorist and driven to nearby Providence Forge.

Branch quoted the co-pilot as saying he bailed out with the pilot and two crewmen minutes before the Mitchell bomber crashed in a densely wooded area.

An air search for the three missing airmen was stopped by darkness soon after planes took off from the field here.

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British Use Gunfire To Break Up Arab Mob Assault On Jewish Area; House Group Clears Aid Measure

Rules Committee Sees Measure On

Warns That Russia Could Take All Europe In Day

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—The House Rules committee, prodded by warnings that Russia could take all Europe by force "within 24 hours," today cleared the \$500,000,000 emergency foreign relief bill for final House action.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—(P)—Chairman Eaton (R-NJ) of the House Foreign Affairs committee declared today that Russia is out to conquer the world, and his committee produced figures to show that the Soviets have an army of 4,050,000 to help in the attempt.

Eaton appeared before the House Rules committee to get clearance for the opening of debate tomorrow on a bill authorizing \$490,000,000 in emergency, stop-Communism aid to France, Italy, Austria and China.

"What could stop Russia from taking over all of Europe in 24 hours?" asked Rep. Cox (D-Ga.), a member of the Rules commit- tee.

"Not a thing," Eaton replied. Prepared By Army

The estimate of Soviet military strength was prepared by the Army department and made public by the Foreign Affairs committee, which said Russia was trying with "fear" and "desperation" to prevent the U. S. from strengthening Western Europe.

Some members cited the im- plied Soviet menace as a reason for raising the emergency relief fund to the \$597,000,000 already authorized by the Senate for the three European countries only, leaving aid to China until later.

But the Foreign Affairs group stood by its own figure, saying in a report.

"We must not fall into the Soviet trap of bleeding ourselves

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STAFF GENERALS ARE CONCERNED

Spokesman Says Members Fear Russian Attempt To Gain Bridgehead

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—(U.P.)—The Army general staff was dis- closed today to be gravely con- cerned about the possibility that civil war in Palestine may give Russia a chance to move the Red Army into the Holy Land and establish a long-coveted Soviet bridgehead on the Medi- terranean.

A high army officer, who de- clined use of his name, predicted bluntly that Russian troops will occupy Palestine within a few months under the pretext of putting down partition-inspired conflict between Jews and Arabs. He said the general staff is giving the situation its closest at- tention.

But Sen. Walter F. George, D., Ga., a veteran member of the Senate Foreign Relations committee, took sharp issue with such forecasts. He said it is "unfortunate to ascribe such motives to Russia at this time."

George told newsmen he was confident the United Nations will be able to handle the Palestine situation by creating an Inter- national Security Force, and ad- ded that the army officer's



CLOUDS OF SMOKE RISE in the background as Arab mobs—often numbering up to 5,000—engage in an orgy of looting, robbing, shop-wrecking and rioting in Jerusalem. A number of automobiles were set on fire during the Arab protest against the United Nations partitioning of Palestine into Arab and Jewish states. Zionists were reported to have broken through a police cordon to fight back.

Broughton Blasts Interference In Race Relationship Problems

VETS ADMINISTRATION BULLETIN FORBIDS FEEDING OF SEA GULLS

SEATTLE, DEC. 3.—(P)—Bulletin No. 130 of the Seattle regional office of the Veterans Administration, titled "Feeding of Sea Gulls," reads:

"It has come to the attention of this office that V. A. em- ployees have been placing food on window sills and other pro- jections for the purpose of attracting sea gulls. This practice results in distraction from their regular work as well as mar- ring the appearance of the building."

To wit: "Effective immediately, no V. A. employe will place any items on window sills or other projections which might attract sea gulls. All supervisory personnel will take necessary steps to insure compliance."

SKY-HOPPERS' JOYRIDE ENDS WHEN COPS TAKE THEM ON THEFT COUNT

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—(P)—Three high school youths who liked to fly around at night were arrested today for stealing an airplane.

Police said the joy-hoppers — aged 15, 16 and 18 — got an airplane away from, and back to an airport three times before they were caught.

Their final flight was a 15-minute trip over Washington last night.

The pilot was the 16-year old, who made the success- ful night trips although he had but 10 hours instruction.

The boys' names were not disclosed.

KIWANIS DEMANDS TAXES REVISION

Club Members Join Movement To Advance Industrial Progress Here

Following a report by Kiwan- ian John H. Farrell on the meet- ing of Wilmington service club leaders with Rotarians on Tues- day, the Wilmington Kiwanis club yesterday unanimously ap- proved a motion by Harry Solom- on and Fred Little, demanding that the city council and county commissioners take steps to re- vise the present tax structure in order that high tax rates will not stand in the way of Wilmington securing more industrial enter- prises.

The motion which was ap- proved by a vote of 10 to 0, was

Former Governor Tells School Men State Can Handle Situation

Taking a slap at the recent re- port of the President's civil lib- erties committee, former Gov. J. Melville Broughton, a candidate for United States senator in the 1948 primary, said here last night that the state does not want "out- side agitators" to upset its race relationship.

"Race relationship in North Carolina is better than in any other state in the United States, and we're going to solve our race problems here, if outside agitators will only let us alone," Broughton told an assembly of 150 city and county superinten- dents and their guests at a ban- quet at the New Hanover high school last night.

Discussing possible federal aid to education, which he said that all thinking people of North Carolina want, Broughton said, "If federal aid has come with the conditions of this recent report (of the civil rights commission, which recommended no aid if segregation of races is continued in the schools), then North Carolina does not want it!"

In enlarging on his topic, "Edu- cation in a New Day," Broughton said that "North Carolina cannot do the job that's got to be done with its present facilities. For virtually eight years there has

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RAILROADS ASK NEW RATE HIKES

Nation's Carriers Request Three Per Cent Boost In Freight Charges

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—(P)—The American Railroads today asked the Interstate Commerce Commission to approve a three percent freight rate increase, bringing to 30 percent the total rate increases asked since July. If granted, this would add approx- imately \$2,037,000,000 to the nation's annual freight bill.

This is the figure the railroads estimated is needed to meet ris- ing costs of operations resulting from wage increases of 15 1/2 cents hourly already granted to members of the conductors and trainmen's brotherhoods, plus costs of similar raises pending with three others.

Prior to filing of today's peti- tion with the ICC, the railroads had asked a 17 per cent rate hike

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NEGROES OBTAIN ACL RESTRAINER

Brotherhood, Southern Railway Also Cited Against Discrimination

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—(P)—A preliminary injunction was signed today against the Brother- hood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, the Southern Rail- way and the Atlantic Coast Line to restrain them from discrimina- ting against Negro firemen in job assignments.

Justice Alexander Holtzoff of the federal district court broad- ened the injunction to include 10 of

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Heavy Casualties Mark Two Clashes

Large Lumber Yard Fired Endangering Shell Oil Plant

JERUSALEM, Palestine, Dec. 3.—(P)—Fresh rioting broke out tonight in Haifa, the great oil port of Palestine. Arabs and Jews earlier fought an hour-long engagement in the Jaffa-Tel Aviv no man's land and British troops broke up with gunfire an Arab mob assault on the Jewish quarter of Jerusalem.

Arabs, re-emerging in Haifa after riots earlier in the day, set fire to a big Jewish lumber yard not far from the Shell com- pany oil storage tanks on the outskirts.

All available fire fighting equipment was sent to the scene, advisers said.

Ten men — seven Arabs and three Jews — were reported killed in the fighting in the border area between the twin cities of Jaffa, which is Arab, and Tel Aviv, which is Jewish. Thirty-two men, 23 Jews and eight Arabs, were reported seriously wounded.

Hundreds Injured
This brought the unofficial toll of casualties in two days of dis- order in Palestine riots over the country's partition to 23 killed and 102 wounded. Hundreds more have suffered minor injuries.

British authorities here, after urgent representations by leading Jewish organizations, were understood to have promised tonight to move in forcibly to end rioting.

A Jewish Agency spokesman reported that Sir Henry Gur- ney, chief secretary of the Pale- stine government, told Isaac Ben Zvi, president of the Jewish Na- tional Council, that the riots took British police and army men by surprise but that they intended to keep the peace from now on.

The seven historic gates of the old city of Jerusalem were locked fast tonight, confining 30,000 Arabs and 5,000 Jews inside the

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PRESIDENT FLIES TO FLORIDA CITY

Chief Executive Starts Five-Day Vacation At Key West

KEY WEST, Fla., Dec. 3.—President Truman began a five- day vacation in a setting of palm trees and warmth today.

The bright hot sun that greet- ed him was in sharp contrast to the cold, murky weather he left behind in Washington this morning.

The President arrived here at 1 P.M. EST after a flight of four hours, 48 minutes in his old C-54 airplane, The Sacred Cow.

He landed by Boca Chica Na- val Air base about 10 miles from the city of Key West, and motored to the submarine base nearby where he will make his home for the next five days.

Mr. Truman drove from the airfield in a slick, black convert- ible with the top down. With him were Fleet Admiral William D. Leahy, chief of staff to the President, and Capt. C. C. Adell, commandant of the Boca Chica base.

Driving through the city, many of the President's old friends — he has made two previous trips here—lined the streets with flags and cheered. School children were out en

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Along The Cape Fear

IF SANTA KNEW — It is not often that this column digresses from its more staid reporting the happenings current and historical in the Cape Fear valley.

However, since the Christmas season is near at hand—and since Santa Claus is in the heart of everyone—it might not be amiss to tell what happened in the Coast Line waiting room yesterday when a little boy approached a stranger and asked for a nickel.

The youngster was observed by Mrs. Helen Galloway, executive secretary of the Travelers' Aid Society.

Mrs. Galloway said that she saw the three-to-four year old tot amble over to the telephone booth, pick up the receiver, but get no response.

Blue Blood's Black Book Bans "Boodle" Bad Boys

NEW YORK, Dec. 3.—(P)—The pages of society's little red and black book banged shut today with a Cushing, a Vanderbilt and a Topping left on the outside.

But the deficit caused by these deletions in the 1948 Social Register were made up by the appearance of several newcomers — whose recently acquired spouses have all the blue blood necessary for a line in the little book.

Omitted this year is Harry Cushing 4th, who married act- ress Georgette Windsor. George Vanderbilt, who married Anita Zabala Howard, promptly fol- lowed his brother, Alfred Gwyn- ne Vanderbilt, out of the regis- ter pages. The taboo also landed on Henry J. (Bob) Topping, who married actress Arline Judge after Arline divorced his brother Dan.

In the register this year by

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And So To Bed

In discussing "return en- gagements" for speakers in his address before the as- sembled city and county school superintendents here last night, former Governor J. Melville Broughton told the following story on him- self.

"When I was a young man teaching a Sunday school class in Raleigh, I followed the custom of such teachers in speaking at various State institutions. After making an address before a group of persons in the State asylum for the insane at Dix Hill, which was well received, I had a request for a 'return engagement' by the superin- tendent which pleased me very much.

"The inmates said," the superintendent then told me, "that you seemed more like one of them than any other speaker we have ever had out here."

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