

FORECAST:
Wilmington and vicinity: Clearing and rather windy this morning, colder in afternoon and tonight; Wednesday fair and rather cold.

VOL. 81.—NO. 100.

WILMINGTON, N. C., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1947

ESTABLISHED 1867

Republicans "Trowned"

Democratic Wall Prevents House Passage Of Anti-Inflation Bill

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—(AP)—A Republican drive to jam through a "voluntary agreements" system of fighting inflation fell 58 votes short of its mark in the House today and prospects were that any cost of living program must wait until January.

Rep. Halleck of Indiana, the Republican floor leader, said after his party's defeat that it would be "impossible" now to get any anti-inflation program before the end of the special session, scheduled for Friday.

Actually, the Republicans rolled up a majority for their program 202 to 188. But a two-thirds majority was needed under the procedure followed, which barred all amendments from the floor to the measure, by Rep. Wolcott (R-Mich).

Democrats, who seethed over the no-amendment rule and a 40-minute limitation on debate, stood solid and not one of them voted for the bill. Twenty six Republicans came over to side with them in opposition.

The no-amendment rule barred the Democrats from getting a vote on any of President Truman's anti-inflation proposals, such as the authority he asked to impose price, wage and rationing controls on selected areas of the economy.

Bill Provisions
The Wolcott bill provided, among other things for agreements among industries to take steps—short of price fixing—to hold down prices for the public good.

Democrats and Republicans both sought to pin the blame for no price-curling legislation on the other side.

In sticking to the G.O.P. "this or nothing now" stand, Rep. Halleck said that if Congress had opened the measure up to debate the President's proposals "no action at all could have been had at the special session."

Rep. Rayburn (D-Tex), the See **REPUBLICANS** On Page 2

CHINESE PIRATES LOOT DUTCH SHIP

Freebooters Get \$500,000 Worth Of Merchandise, Passenger Cash

HONG KONG, Dec. 15.—China Sea pirates with a yen for the Dutch passenger ship VAN Heutz, kidnapped six passengers and escaped today in commandeered junks. A ship's officer valued the pirates' loot at a half-million U. S. dollars.

Presumably the buccaniers will hold the six passengers for ransom. Identities of the captives were not known.

Capt. Klass V. Wich and officers of the 4,522-ton vessel were held as hostages for a time and were forced to leave the ship in a motorboat and a rowboat. Later they were released and allowed to row back to the Van Heutz.

A. H. Elston, director of criminal investigation, said the band of about 25 pirates controlled the vessel for 15 hours after gaining command of the radio room the freebooters gathered money, jewelry and See **PIRATES** on Page Two.

The Weather

NORTH CAROLINA—Clearing and rather windy Tuesday. Not much temperature change except cooler in afternoon. Showers in North and South Carolina Tuesday morning, fair and colder Tuesday night. Wednesday fair and rather cold.

SOUTH CAROLINA—Clearing and rather windy Tuesday. Not much temperature change except cooler in afternoon. Fair and colder Tuesday night. Wednesday fair and rather cold.

Metological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m. yesterday.

| | |
|---------|------|
| High | 73.0 |
| Low | 57.0 |
| Maximum | 73.0 |
| Minimum | 57.0 |
| Mean | 65.0 |

Humidity

| | |
|-------------|----|
| 8:00 a. m. | 85 |
| 9:00 a. m. | 75 |
| 10:00 a. m. | 65 |
| 11:00 a. m. | 55 |
| 12:00 p. m. | 45 |
| 1:00 p. m. | 35 |
| 2:00 p. m. | 25 |
| 3:00 p. m. | 15 |
| 4:00 p. m. | 10 |
| 5:00 p. m. | 10 |
| 6:00 p. m. | 15 |
| 7:00 p. m. | 25 |
| 8:00 p. m. | 35 |
| 9:00 p. m. | 45 |
| 10:00 p. m. | 55 |
| 11:00 p. m. | 65 |
| 12:00 a. m. | 75 |

Precipitation

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Total for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m. | .82 inches |
| Total since the first of the month | 1.06 inches |

Tides For Today
(From the Tide Tables published by U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.)

| | |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| Wilmington | 12:00 a. m. 7:04 a. m. |
| Masonboro Inlet | 12:04 a. m. 7:07 a. m. |
| Surf | 7:11 a. m. 4:26 p. m. |
| Sunset | 7:11 p. m. |
| Moonset | 9:43 p. m. |

Foreign Ministers Conference Fails

Marshall Moves For Adjournment Of Big Four Meeting When Moscow Fails To Cooperate; East-West Tension Very Hot

LONDON, Dec. 15.—(AP)—The Big Four Foreign Ministers' conference failed completely on Germany's future and Europe's future, the East and West from the Adriatic to the Baltic.

The United States, Britain and France blame the Soviet Union for the breakdown—the second of the Foreign Ministers on the same subject. Russia countered with the charge that the Western powers had formed a "common front" and attempted "to heap everything on the head of the Soviet Union."

The most acrimonious session of the Council of Foreign Ministers since the end of the war adjourned after 17 fruitless

Administration Request Wholesale Price Control

Immediate Curb On Meats, Butter, Eggs, Grain Urged Of Congress

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—(AP)—The administration asked Congress today for authority to clamp immediate controls on the wholesale prices of meat, butter, eggs, grain, farm machinery, lumber, and other high priced commodities.

Wherever prices are regulated, wages would be, too. Retail prices of scarce materials would be brought under control under the proposed program only if the wholesale regulations failed to reduce living costs.

The plan was sent to the House Banking Committee by Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson, Secretary of Commerce W. Averell Harriman, Secretary of the Interior Julius A. Krug, and Secretary of Labor Lewis B. Schwellenbach.

At the same time, the joint Congressional Economic committee gave lukewarm support to a half dozen of the 10 points in President Truman's original anti-inflation program, but ignored his requests for emergency price control and rationing powers at consumer levels.

In Agreement
The committee reported that it was in general agreement with the need for installment buying curbs, export and transportation controls, regulation of commodity exchange trading, and encouragement of foreign food production.

Sen. Homer E. Capehart, R., Ind., came up, meantime, with a "price moratorium" plan under which all prices of commodities would be frozen at last Saturday's levels. He said that this would stop a further rise in living costs while Congress hammered out a long-range anti-inflation program.

Under the administration's wholesale price-fixing plan, which will not be taken up in Congress until January, if then, the President would be permitted to exercise controls until March 31, 1950. But Congress See **Administration** on Page Two

WU WORKERS SET DATE FOR STRIKE

Union Leaders Announce 6 A. M., December 23 For "Walkout"

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—(AP)—AFL unions in the Western Union Telegraph System today set 6 a. m. (EST), Tuesday, Dec. 23, as the hour for beginning a nationwide strike if one is called.

The hour would be 3 a. m. on the West coast, 4 a. m. Mountain time and 5 a. m. Central Standard Time, it was explained by Adolph Bruner, president of the Western Union division of the commercial Telegraphers Union, at a news conference.

Bruner said that a nationwide strike vote, although not yet complete, was showing the 50,000 union members to be 90 per cent in favor of the strike.

Despite the vote the union said its representatives would attend a conference in Philadelphia tomorrow called by Regional Conciliation Director H. Ross Callwell in hope of settling the wage dispute. But Bruner said, "we are not hopeful that anything will come of it."

SHD SHOP BURNS AT FAYETTEVILLE

Flames Spread Swiftly Through Building; Damage Set At \$200,000

FAYETTEVILLE, Dec. 15.—(AP)—A swiftly-spreading fire swept through the State Highway Department's district motor vehicle shop at Fayetteville today, destroying the building and along with its contents for a total estimated loss of \$200,000.

Two employees, A. R. Nichols, an electrician, and A. M. Arthur, another worker, suffered minor burns. Thirty-five others escaped uninjured.

The flames destroyed several hundred tires, four or five vehicles, repair tools and spare parts.

Congress Sends \$597,000,000 Aid Bill To President For Signature; Piedmont Promises Early Service

First Flight May Come In 6 Weeks

State Airlines President Threatens To Take Case Into Courts

Wilmington, and southeastern North Carolina, last night were definitely promised air service west to Cincinnati, not later than February 1, by President Thomas H. Davis, of Piedmont Aviation, Winston-Salem.

Davis made the announcement from Washington shortly after the Civil Aeronautics Board had reaffirmed its earlier decision awarding the routes to Piedmont.

The CAB's decision, a momentous one for this section of the state, which has been without East-West air service since Southeast Airlines of Charlotte, cancelled its service to Blumenthal airport last February.

Davis said last night that "We are going to put service into Wilmington just as quickly as it is possible to clear-up a few loose ends."

One of the "loose ends," he said, was getting tariff rates approved. "This normally," he added, "takes about 30 days. However, I believe the board will waive this 30-day period, and will give us quick action. Another matter to be taken care of," he said, "is having the flight schedule approved. This also will be disposed of quickly," he said.

Davis asked the Star to tell "the people of Wilmington and this area that they may rest assured that service will be forthcoming just as quickly as it is humanly possible to get in here."

CAB's action yesterday brought to a close a long drawn-out dispute between the winning company and State Airlines of Charlotte, who had fought Piedmont's application for the feeder routes to a bitter end, and now threatens See **FLIGHT** On Page Two

TWO ACL TRAINS MAY BE CUT OFF

Commission Allows Discontinuance Of 45-46; No. 48-49 Stay On

RALEIGH, Dec. 15.—(AP)—The Utilities Commission has granted the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad permission to discontinue two trains between Wilmington and Rocky Mount, but not the two trains the railroad had asked for permission to drop.

In a order made public today, the commission said that the railroad could discontinue its trains number 45 and 46 upon 10 days notice published in newspapers, but it denied the request of the railroads to discontinue trains 48 and 49.

The trains which the railroad received permission to discontinue, 45 and 46, were placed in service at the request of the Utilities Commission during the war to serve army camps with the understanding that they could be discontinued without hearing after the emergency was over. However, in the hearing on its application, the railroad contended that it planned to continue operating 45 and 46 because they "suit the needs of the public better than 48 and 49."

In its order, the commission said that if the ACL desired it could submit changing schedules for two other trains, 41 and 42, if it so desired.

The two trains, 45 and 46, See **ACL** on Page Two

Along The Cape Fear

COLD WAVE REMEMBERED

—Sometime ago Along The Cape Fear got into the subject of cold weather hereabouts, and went on to say something of rivers freezing over, as the Columbia is in a habit of doing ever so often.

That column reminded one of our readers at Winnabow of the time when Rice's creek froze over. In fact that particular column was about that same incident.

Miss Katherine MacRae Johnson writes that she wrote her sister, who lives in Richmond, Va., to inquire if he had any pictures of "us" standing on the ice on Rice's creek in 1893. Miss Johnson said that her sister didn't have the pictures, but she sent a newspaper clipping detailing the event.

FREEZE OF 1893—The story says that "one of the worst freezes in years was experienced at this time. The Cape Fear river froze up and was a



CAR LOAD OF FOOD—Pictured above is the car load of food, which was pulled out of here yesterday bound for the needy war victims of Europe. The food is a part of the national Catholic relief program for the hungry of the continent. This car load was made available by the Wilmington parish under the direction of Father Allan Roche. (Staff Photo by Roy Cook)

Wilmington Parish Ships Full Carload Of Food To Feed Needy

"OPERATION GOBBLER" GOBBLES TURKEYS FROM BRITISH FARMS

LONDON, Dec. 15.—(UP)—Black market "Commandos" have bought or stolen up to 80 per cent of the turkeys produced for the Christmas season, traders reported today and even chicken and rabbits may be denied the ordinary British family.

Police, in what newspapers call "Operation Gobbler," started to set road traps for suspicious looking vehicles in the country because the black marketers, led by London's "Spivs," are stealing turkeys where their offers to buy them at up to \$2 a pound are refused.

DEATH TAKES SANDY, GOVERNOR CHERY'S PET COCKER SPANIEL

RALEIGH, Dec. 15.—(AP)—Sandy, friendly little Cocker Spaniel that was the idol of the governor's mansion, is dead.

He got into the basement, where he was not allowed to roam, and nibbled on some rat poison.

The sandy-haired dog, who liked to pose in pictures with the governor in the mansion frequently was seen playing on the mansion lawn with his boss. And it was on the lawn that he was buried.

TANKER COLLISION TAKES LIFE TOLL

Three Known Dead, 11 Missing; Celanese Plant Blast Injuries Many

WILLEMSTAD, Curacao, Dec. 15.—(AP)—Three persons were known dead and 11—including two women and two children—were missing today after two tankers collided in pre-dawn darkness and burst into flames off this West Indies island.

The Venezuelan tanker Tucupita and the Argentine vessel Los Pozos collided about 4:15 a. m. The Tucupita's cargo of highly volatile Naphtha gasoline exploded into intense flame, igniting both vessels and making rescue work impossible for hours.

Port authorities said that three bodies had been recovered, and that "various" injured persons had been rescued. The captain of the Argentine ship, with his wife and two children, and the chief engineer's wife were among the missing.

The number of injured was not immediately determined. In San Juan, Puerto Rico, the See **TANKER** on Page Two

Emergency Relief For Four Nations

Truman Plans Message Before Friday On Marshall Plan Funds

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—(AP)—Congress approved a \$597,000,000 Christmas present for France, Austria, Italy and China today and sent it to President Truman for wrapping.

The compromise emergency relief bill, designed to help the foreign countries through the winter and resist Communism, was passed in the Senate by a voice vote and adopted by the House two hours later by a roll call vote of 813 to 82.

Mr. Truman was expected to sign the measure, officially known as the Foreign Relief Act of 1947, tonight or tomorrow. His signature will permit the first \$150,000,000 authorized by the act to begin flowing immediately.

Final Congressional action came exactly four weeks after the beginning of a special session called by the President to enact the stopgap relief legislation.

The Senate vote came after Mr. Truman told Republican and Democratic leaders of both Houses at a brief White House conference that he will send Congress his proposals for a long-term European recovery plan before Congress adjourns Friday.

This will give the legislators time to study the program, now reliably reported to envision \$16,500,000,000 in U.S. expenditures over a four-year period, during the recess ending with start of the next regular session January 6.

Senator Vandenberg (R-Mich) presiding officer of the Senate, told reporters the President did not disclose any details of the long-range program, often called See **RELIEF** on Page Two

BABY GIRL DIES AFTER ACCIDENT

Vanda Louise Powell, 3, Hit By Highway Truck On North Third Street

Three-year old Vanda Louise Powell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Powell, 703 North Third street, died while being carried to the hospital at shortly before 6 o'clock last night of injuries received when she was struck in front of her home by a two-ton State highway truck, police reported.

James H. Batts, 30, of 121 Morgan street, Maffitt Village, told the investigating officers that he was driving the truck south on Third street when the child ran out from between some hedges and into the truck's path. He was too close to the child to stop in time to avoid hitting her, he told the officers.

Batts was not being held in connection with the accident, investigation of which was considered incomplete last night.

Rushed to James Walker Memorial Hospital by Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Bergen, 104 Country Club boulevard, the child was found to be dead on arrival. She had sustained head injuries and a broken right leg, officers J. T. Rich and J. J. Padrick, reported.

Coroner Gordon Doran said last night that an inquest would probably be held in the next day or two.

Surviving besides her parents, Mr. and Mrs. James C. Powell are two brothers; Robert S. and Thomas Howard Powell both of Wilmington, two sisters; Lucy C. and Betty Jane Powell both of Wilmington; three half-sisters; Mrs. M. H. Matthews, Mrs. D. F. Sandlin Jr. and Mrs. W. See **GIRL** on Page Two

And So To Bed

A Winter Park resident last night wondered out loud to the Star what the price of buckshot was on the ammunition market.

Questioned further, she said they were approximately 69 cent a pound on the meat market.

Further questioning revealed that she had bought a ham during the week-end. The price was 69 cents a pound.

When she cut the ham, she said, she found something less than two pounds of buckshot in the hindquarter of the prociue. She slowed the price was rather high, she thought, for shot.

8 SHOPPING DAYS LEFT

Buy CHRISTMAS SEALS