

**THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON**

**A Resume of Government Happenings in the National Capital**

It appears that Senator Harley M. Kilgore (D-W. Va.) is heir apparent to the chairmanship of the Senate War Investigating committee, which has already provided the springboard for two senators into better jobs.

Senator Harry S. Truman of Missouri was chairman of the committee until he jumped into the presidency, and Senator James M. Meade of New York succeeded him as chairman and now has become the Democratic nominee for governor of New York and has tendered his resignation as the committee chairman.

Senator Kilgore already has had some experience as an investigator, having been chairman of the committee on War Mobilization investigating monopolies and international cartels.

There was a light far into the night in the offices of the Wage Stabilization Board. Will they capitulate or will they stand pat? There was a victorious gleam in the eyes of many Washingtonians and self-conscious squaring of the shoulders when the Board stood pat and refused to take dictation from the bosses of the Maritime unions. At least here is one governmental agency which has some intestinal fortitude—they held the line in the face of overwhelming pressure from the labor front, strike or no strike, they preserved the wage stabilization structure. And within a few hours the worst maritime strike in history was settled with a new wage labor policy ruling handed down by reconversion director John Steelman with White House approval. Whether this ruling preserves wage stabilization remains to be seen, but the net effect is that the ship owners can pay any increased wages they desire to workers so long as they absorb the increase and do not pass it along to consumers or the public in increased rates. And this ruling may set a new pattern whereby private industry can deal directly with labor without going before the Wage Stabilization Board. The workers got their increase, ship owners approved, and absorbed the increase. So far, so good.

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On the heels of these paralyzing strikes comes the announcement by Dr. Edwin G. Nourse, recently named chairman of President Truman's advisory committee under the new full employment bill, that he is "apprehensive" of a depression. Dr. Nourse is not one of those optimists that believes things will work themselves out if left alone. With present tendency toward higher prices and higher wages being upped toward inflation; with the recent gyrations of the stock market giving a foretaste of what may happen to commodity prices if existing inflationary pressures are not controlled—things are following the pattern which resulted in the boom and bust eras after the last war. Dr. Nourse and his committee are working on plans, obviously, which seek to prevent inflation and the bust period which usually follows and instead, provide for continued full employment and full production which is the intent of the so-called full-employment bill.

**THEATERS**

All kinds of war criminals today are facing the People's Court in France, but the penalties being handed out pale in comparison with those ordered in the year 1830.

The full terror of the People's Court and its edicts during one of the most perilous periods of French history is fully depicted in dramatic fashion in PRC's "The Wife of Monte Cristo," coming to the Appalachian Theatre October 7.

That legendary hero of fiction, the Count of Monte Cristo, finds himself again on the side of the downtrodden and oppressed in "The Wife of Monte Cristo," which features the adventures of the beautiful woman he married.

In the film, Paris is ravaged by the plague. There are three partners in a vile scheme to bring into Paris certain medicines that not only do not cure the plague but causes blindness and other deformities. These men, portrayed by John Loder as De Villefort, the perfect of police, Charles Dingle and Fritz Kortner, are frustrated in their heartless plans by Monte Cristo.

But the Count, portrayed by Martin Kosleck, had been wounded in the hand, so that he dared not show himself in Paris until it had healed, else he would have been identified as the heroic figure known as "The Avenger," who thwarts their schemes. His beautiful young wife, Haydee, played by Lenore Aubert, disguises herself as "The Avenger" and carries on the work of the Count.

One by one the three partners are hunted by Monte Cristo's wife and loyal followers, but not without great danger for Haydee. When she finally is placed in a dungeon and later rescued in thrilling fashion by the count, the picture reaches a high climax.

The paving stones on the porch at Mount Vernon were imported from England by George Washington.

**BOY SCOUT NEWS**

The Boy Scout Troops 41 and 109 distinguished themselves by winning the highest awards in Scout camping at the council camporee held at Hanging Rock Park last week-end. Two patrols from No. 41 and one patrol from No. 109 who had won the highest awards in the district camporee were entitled to enter the council camporee, and continued their excellent record by winning the highest awards there.

The patrols from Troop 41 were the Lion patrol led by Bill Greer, and the Hound patrol led by Mickey Casey. The Woodpecker patrol from Troop 109 led by Bill Miller, was the third patrol. The other boys who accompanied these patrols and who were awarded the medal for their success in camping are Bobby Moretz, Bill Moretz, Keith Moretz, Owen Wilson, Hal Vannoy, Archie Dean Lyons, Roscoe Brown, Jr., H. M. Moretz, Jr., Glenn W. Wilcox, Mack Elrod and Dale Hodges.

Besides the three patrols, two patrols from Cove Creek attended and one of these patrols also won a blue pennant. This gave four out of five patrols from this county the highest awards in Scout camping.

The Boone Lions Club, which sponsors the Boy Scout Troops in Boone, hired and paid for a truck to take the boys to the camporee. The boys were accompanied by Mr. Wey, Mr. Phillips and Mr. Horton.

As early as 1543, Ambrose Pare adopted the pressure method for inducing anesthesia—by pressure applied to a nerve trunk or artery.

**COVE CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS**

The lunch room is serving good nourishing meals and the number of children fed daily is increasing. Mr. Buchanan by way of encouraging the children to drink milk, offers chocolate milk once a week for those who drink their milk regularly.

The assembly program was given Friday morning by Mrs. Bingham's fifth grade children. The program was varied and interesting. Parents and friends are invited to attend our programs throughout the year, which consist of activities the children have carried out in their classes.

As a special incentive to first graders on rainy noons, Mrs. Henson, primary art teacher, invites all those who have learned to read one pre-primer and count to one hundred, to come to her room for finger painting.

Our art classes are doing some nice clay modeling under the supervision of Mrs. Modlin and Mrs. Henson.

The Grammar Grades have organized their art and music classes which meet at regular periods. There is a rhythm band for Mrs. Mast's third grade, tonette band for the fourth grade and classes of singing and music appreciation for all.

A program of Health Education will be sponsored by the school and activities will be carried on depicting different phases of that subject.

The primary music department is starting off with singing games, marching, and with songs from the state adopted music text books.

New Zealand's manufacturing industries employ about 20 per cent of the total population.

**Local Cannery is Temporarily Closed**

The Boone community cannery, located in the vocational shop building at Appalachian high school, is being closed until late October or early November. A notice of the opening will be sent out at that time along with schedule of canning days.

It is necessary to close the cannery at this time because such a small amount of fruit and vegetables is being brought to the cannery.

When the plant opens again it will be open especially for canning meats. However, if there are any fruits and vegetables available at that time an effort will be made to can them. It will be appreciated if patrons of the cannery will notify their neighbors of the location of the plant and the days it will be open.

**ANSWERS**

1. Springfield.
2. Ten.
3. In 1820.
4. Coal.
5. September 24th, 1946.
6. The Boston Red Sox.
7. The Huey P. Long bridge at New Orleans—3,524 feet.
8. Florida.
9. Estimated \$530,000
10. Wednesday.

**SHOES**

Shoe production is at record levels with 500,000,000 pairs likely for this year.

Total jobs in industry are set at 39,828,000.

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

I wish to thank the people who supported me in the recent Republican Convention for County Commissioner. Although I did not win I am still a Republican and am 100 per cent behind the Republican ticket.

**ELMER G. MILLER.**


**HEAT with WOOD**

Buy an **ASHLEY** Downdraft WOOD BURNER

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**"I would like to tell you why Increased Rates on Telephones are Necessary"**

Today, more than ever before, North Carolina needs adequate, dependable telephone service, and it is our purpose to provide it. We are now furnishing more service to North Carolinians than at any other time in our history.

Both local and long distance calls have reached an all time high for this state and more and more people want telephones. Since the first of the year, we have installed 36,000 new telephones. But we still have 23,000 orders on hand. Our study of the state's growth indicates that the demand for more service from present as well as new customers will continue to increase.

In order to keep up, we must enlarge our facilities and hire more people, regardless of the fact that construction costs and wages have risen tremendously.

The cost of erecting buildings is up 75 to 100 per cent. The cost of providing telephone facilities is up 45 to 60 per cent, and telephone materials 15 to 25 per cent.

Total payroll costs have increased 196 per cent since 1941. Wages in North Carolina have been raised \$2,311,415 within the past 12 months. This was in keeping with national policies and trends and to assure competent personnel to provide adequate service. We now have 4,300 Southern Bell people in North Carolina. Wages account for about two-thirds of our operating costs.

Although the cost of everything we do to provide service keeps going up, your telephone rates have remained unchanged for many years. Because of this, the amount of money we are paying out is increasing faster than the amount we are taking in, despite a record volume of business. Since 1941, the costs of providing service in North Carolina have climbed 102 per cent, while revenues have increased only 76 per cent.

The rapid advance of costs in comparison with revenues has caused our rate of earnings to go down. In 1941, the Company was earning 5.56 per cent on the amount of money

invested in the state. Today our earning rate is only 2.71 per cent. This rate reflects the latest wage increases and does not include any possible tax refund that may be available this year only on 1944 federal income taxes. Southern Bell's earnings are today the lowest in history.

Nevertheless, the Company is going ahead with a huge expansion program. We are preparing to spend about \$40,000,000 in the next five years on construction work to improve and expand telephone service in North Carolina. We must proceed with this construction work, despite high costs, in order to meet demands for service.

We need improved earnings if we are to meet the increased costs of providing service, and if we are to obtain, on reasonable terms, the capital funds necessary to improve and expand our service.

That is the reason we have asked authority to raise rates on business telephones and to charge 5 cents more on most long distance calls within the state.

Current costs indicate a need for greater increases in rates than we are asking. But we hope our operating experience under the new rates will prove them sufficient. Since residence local charges are to remain unchanged, the increased income under the new rates would amount to only 7 per cent of our total North Carolina revenues. In face of the continually rising costs of providing service, this is moderate.

The State of North Carolina is now in a period of its greatest growth and expansion, a growth that will bring the state more prosperity than it has ever known. Good and effective telephone service is essential to this progress and the Telephone Company must be in a position to supply it.

We believe, therefore, that our request for increased rates is sound and in the public interest.

**E. H. Wasson**  
Carolina Manager

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