

THE ALAMANCE GLEANER

VOL. LXXII

GRAHAM, N. C., THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 1947

No. 50

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

GOP Takes Over 80th Congress; President Cuts Wartime Powers; Industrial Pay Reaches Peak

Released by Western Newspaper Union

EDITOR'S NOTE: When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of Western Newspaper Union's news analysis and not necessarily of this newspaper.



Opening of 80th congress saw Republican majority in limelight. At top, Senators Vandenberg (Mich.), Wherry (Neb.) and White (Me.) In middle, Senators Robertson (Wyo.), Bricker (Ohio) and Taft (Ohio). Bottom, Senators Cain (Wash.), Thye (Minn.) and McCarthy (Wis.).

CONGRESS:

Ready to Go

Taxes and labor legislation were scheduled for early consideration as the 80th congress convened under Republican leadership.

Veteran GOP luminaries held the reins as the session got underway. While seniority was acknowledged in the naming of the party's congressional command, the men named have proven their mettle in legislative wars and qualify for the positions.

One of the outstanding figures in the bi-partisan foreign policy developed by Secretary of State Byrnes, Arthur Vandenberg (Mich.) was the choice for president pro tem of the senate. Quiet, able Wallace White (Me.) took over the majority leadership of the senate while aggressive, conservative Kenneth Wherry (Neb.) was in line as the party whip in the upper chamber.

Joe Martin (Mass.) was the unanimous choice for speaker of the house but a battle developed for the majority leadership between the Taft and Dewey forces. Although charged with being a Dewey man, Charles A. Halleck (Ind.) vowed impartiality and obtained the position after a brief struggle. It is within the power of a majority leader to advance or push certain legislation, hence the importance of the post to factions seeking to build up their prestige.

LIVESTOCK:

Halt Mexican Imports

Veterinarians were scheduled to check every Mexican animal imported into the U. S. since reopening of the border October 17 for the dreaded hoof and mouth disease following reports that the malady had broken out in three Mexican states.

At the same time, Republican congressmen revealed their intention to probe President Truman's reopening of the border last fall in the effort to provide additional livestock to relieve the acute meat famine then prevailing. It was charged that Mexico never has eradicated the disease because of lax supervision of imports from other South American countries afflicted with the sickness. Of seven outbreaks of the hoof and mouth disease in the U. S. since 1870, the last two occurred in 1924. Highly communicable, hoof and mouth disease blisters the feet and mouth of cattle, affecting their ability to move freely and eat normally.

WHITE HOUSE:

Steals Thunder

Beating congress to the punch, President Truman officially proclaimed the end of hostilities to terminate government powers under 20 laws and mark 33 others for expiration within six months to five years. Loosely, the period of hostilities is supposed to cover actual fighting.

Mr. Truman did not call for an immediate cessation of the states of emergency proclaimed in 1939 and 1941 nor of the state of war, reveal-

ing that he would recommend action on these measures to congress. A state of emergency is designed to cover any situation deemed critical to the country while a state of war is considered to prevail until the signing of peace treaties.

In terminating hostilities, the President: —Reduced wartime taxes on liquor, beer, wines, fur, luggage, jewelry, telephone and telegraph service, transportation, electric bulbs and billiard and pool tables to prewar levels. —Ended government power to seize privately owned mines and plants. —Scheduled the end of price supports for farm products for 1948.

LABOR:

Pay Up

Losses of 107,475,000 man days of work during the first 11 months of 1946 due to strikes partly were offset by increased wages and shorter hours over the comparable 1945 period, the department of labor reported.

Time lost in walkouts set an all-time peak, even topping the embattled postwar year of 1919, the department said. As against the 107,475,000 man days lost this year, 30,307,000 were lost in 1945; 8,336,000 in 1944, and 16,089,000 for the 1935-'39 prewar period.

Industrial pay hit new tops following the year's bitter labor disputes. Average weekly earnings in the bituminous coal industry rose to \$62.54 on an increased work week, but other pay jumped appreciably despite shorter time. Figures for different industries follow:

	Average weekly earnings	% change	Average weekly earnings	% change
All products	\$45.68	+11.5	\$40.4	-2.8
Iron, steel, and products	48.85	+7.0	40.3	-0.0
Blair furnaces, steel works, rolling mills	50.43	+8.2	38.6	-9.2
Electric machy.	48.50	+14.3	40.9	-8
Auto	52.80	+11.9	38.2	-19.2
Meat packing	43.06	+3.8	37.8	-1.2
Oil refining	57.39	+8.0	40.9	-5.1
Tires, tubes	57.19	+15.1	38.1	-5.1
Mining	61.82	+9.9	39.3	-4.6
Metals (iron, copper, lead)	49.58	+6.8	41.0	-7.6
Telephone	44.30	+6.3	39.1	-7.5

FOREIGN AFFAIRS:

Border Problem

As first intimated in Secretary of State Byrnes' historic Stuttgart address September 6, the U. S. will press for revision of Germany's eastern border when the Big Three meet in Moscow March 10 to discuss a peace treaty for the Reich.

Backed by Britain, the U. S. will seek restoration of Pomeranian and Brandenburg farmlands given to Poland by Russia after the end of the war. While the U. S. intends to press for a return of this territory, it will accede to the cession of the rich industrial section of Silesia and half of East Prussia to the Poles.

The U. S. position for restoration of Pomerania and Brandenburg to Germany is based on the fact that these regions comprise 25 per cent of the Reich's best farmland and the country would suffer a serious food deficiency if the land is not returned.

POTATOES:

Huge Loss

As much as 20 million bushels of government-owned potatoes may go to waste following U. S. support of the 1946 crop in the face of a sagging market.

Originally, the government held title to 100 million bushels as the result of a bumper harvest. Making good on its agreement to maintain prices at least 90 per cent of parity, the U. S. bought substantial stocks and covered other commitments with loans, redeemable if the market rose. The huge waste is expected to follow from rotting of the potatoes in inadequate storage on the farms.

To escape total loss, the government resold millions of bushels to distillers and livestock feeders at bargain prices. Distillers of beverage and industrial alcohol bought over 26 million bushels. About 525,000 bushels were resold for export to famine areas, with the amount held down by perishability and high transport costs.

Public institutions and school lunch programs received about one million bushels of the surplus potatoes free.

U. N.:

Pursue Disarmament

The question of disarmament proceeded on its labyrinthine course in the United Nations.

As a struggle shaped over formulation of an atomic control measure, the Russians asked the 11-nation security council to proceed full steam ahead on disarmament without waiting for final action on nuclear energy. Declaring that disarmament is the most important factor for strengthening peace and security, the Reds called for an agreement within three months at the latest.

Meanwhile, the pesky question of the veto snagged deliberations on control of atomic energy. While the United Nations' atomic energy commission approved of the U. S. plan and sent it to the security council to be worked out, Russia expressed opposition to the provision that no Big Five power be permitted to apply the veto to escape punishment for violating regulations. Since the Reds can use the veto in shaping control in the council, however, prolonged discussions loomed.

HOUSE:

Assail Reds

Noting a softening in the Russian attitude following U. S. implementation of a "get tough" policy with the Soviets, the special house committee on postwar economic planning headed by Representative Colmer (Dem., Miss.) and dominated by Democrats, urged a further tightening of relations with Moscow until it meets its international obligations and agrees to full control of atomic energy.

Drawn after a group of committee members had toured Europe, Russia and the Middle East, the report declared that an affirmation of reports that the Soviets were using German plants for rearming would justify a renunciation of the Potsdam agreement and a demand for the Communists to vacate the eastern occupation zone. Pointing up Russian rearmament policies, the report stated that the Soviets were concentrating on development of heavy industry convertible for war in their new five year plan.

Until the Russians agreed to play ball with the Allies, the committee recommended that the U. S. withhold appreciable financial assistance from the Soviets, curb the extension of technical assistance and industrial exports, and license the sales of American firms to the Reds.

COLLEGE:

Peak Enrollment

Taking full advantage of the G.I. bill of rights, vets constitute a large percentage of undergraduates attending educational institutions, a survey of 688 universities and colleges disclosed.

Compiled by Dr. Raymond Walters, president of the University of Cincinnati, the study showed that of 1,718,862 students at the 688 schools, 714,477 were ex G.I.s. In addition, 150,000 vets were enrolled at 650 junior colleges and thousands more at several hundred other schools, bringing the grand total of G.I.s to slightly more than half of 2,000,000 students.

With ambitious vets availing themselves of generous educational opportunities, current full-time enrollments at the 688 top universities and colleges are at peak levels, the survey showed. Roughly, they are 57 per cent above the 1939 figure and twice that of 1945. Two men are enrolled to every woman whereas the wartime ratio was three women to two men.



The Broadway Express:

The Broadway Lights: Add things I never heard of in my sinful life: Bandsman Tex Beneke (ending a tour of the Southeast with his Glenn Miller crew) returned several hundred bucks to the promoters (of a swing event) with this explanation: "We didn't draw too well for you; sorry." He must be quite a feller. . . . His 'Ighness and her Grace (her what?) manage to have news photos taken of all their sudden "charity" work. It's that "build-up campaign" to remove the odor of a 1938 photo showing the Dook giving the Nazi salute in Berlin, when those so-and-soes were winning. Too late, Bub. . . . A newsprint industry may start in Alaska soon. . . . No money around? You should see it thrown away at a Florida dice house. . . . Have you seen the Grand Central station's first two white Red Caps?

Life's Little Jokes: The Hotel Winchell (Atlanta) was booked to capacity that awful night. Many of the folks who couldn't get room there were sent to hotels around the corner — on Luckie street!

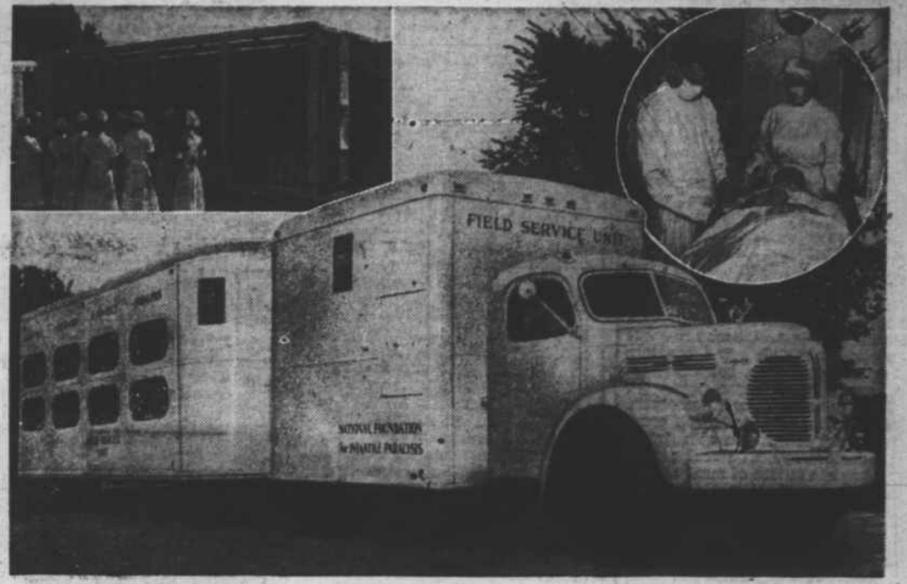
Sallies in Our Alley: The largest studio audience isn't in H'wood or here, but in Nashville, Tenn., where "Grand Ole Opry" entices 5,000 people every Saturday night. . . . Emily Post's book of etiquette (according to all bookshops at military posts) is reported Best Seller No. 3. Sold more than 90,000 copies last year. It was published in 1921. . . . Polan Banks (not so long ago) had a mag piece titled: "The President's Daughter," which was like what happened to Margaret in New York recently. It was about the mythical daughter of a president eluding her guards to keep a date with a columnist. . . . Juliet Lowell, author of "Dear Sir or Madam" (clickerware) will do a piece on war humor for the Encyc Brit. . . . John La Cerda's new book on Japan under MacArthur is out. "The Conqueror Comes to Tea," published by Rutgers Univ. Press.

Today's short story (courtesy West 45th street theater marquees): "The Playboy of the Western World." . . . "The Fatal Weakness." . . . "Born Yesterday." . . . "Annie Get Your Gun." . . . "Life with Father." . . . Heheheh.

The Late Watch: Didjez know that regular burglary insurance policies will not insure against loss by theft by a kin living with the insured? . . . If yez want an elephant instead of a new car, the price is now \$7,000. . . . Newest whim of the gels who dunno what to do with their money: A lipstick brush made of genuine sable hair with 14-karat gold handle. . . . Ham Fisher just got to Florida. A doxy trick considering he left Joe Palooka snowed-in up in the mts. . . . Insiders hear Happy Chandler will scold Durocher in public via a display "of power" between them. . . . The city's next headache will come when the snow shovelers demand higher wages or else. . . . Whirlaway soon will be a grandpappy. . . . Zillionaire Jock Whitney is said "not to be interested" in the film business anymore. Poor Jock, he can't afford to make any more munnyee.

New York Noveltie: When Russel Crouse double-checked the Washington data for the hit show, "State of the Union," he phoned his friend, Tom Stokes, whose news coverage of the capital is Big-Timey. . . . When the show was ready Crouse offered Stokes a one per cent interest in its chances—to show his appreciation. . . . Stokes said thanks, no. . . . Mrs. Stokes, however, asked Crouse if she could invest \$750 in it. . . . Sure, said Crouse. . . . Well, "State of the Union" never has an empty pew—and cinema rights sold for a mere \$750,000.

It happened the other night in a midtown restaurant on 7th avenue in the 400 block. . . . A man and a woman were waiting for dinner when she suddenly fell forward. . . . The man grabbed his hat and coat and started to go but was stopped. "You can't leave her that way," he was told by the manager. . . . A doctor in the place pronounced her dead. . . . The escort looked both startled and annoyed and again started to leave. The manager, a waiter and a patron held him back. . . . He wouldn't respond at first but finally admitted he didn't know her name. . . . He'd met her—10 minutes before!



INSTRUMENT OF MERCY . . . A hundred and fifty thousand dimes, contributed in the 1946 March of Dimes, paid for the fully equipped mobile emergency unit, three views of which are shown above. In addition to moving emergency patients, the unit serves as a training center and auxiliary hospital facility when needed. The unit proved its worth during the severe epidemic last summer.

CEASELESS WAR

High Polio Toll Gives Impetus To March of Dimes Campaign

WNU Features.

With latest reports compiled by National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis indicating that the year 1946 witnessed the most severe epidemic of polio in the history of the foundation, concerted effort is being centered on the 1947 March of Dimes which opened throughout the nation on January 15.

The national foundation, spearhead organization in the ceaseless war against the great crippler, is directing agency for the annual March of Dimes campaign. The drive will be concluded January 30.

Heavy expenditures resulting from the nationwide 1946 epidemic have dipped deeply into the foundation's funds, directors assert in urging generous support for the 1947 solicitation to provide means for coping with any emergency in the future. The March of Dimes, they add, is the only method employed by the foundation to raise money to finance its many activities.

Fatalities Decline. Figures compiled by the foundation disclose that in 1946 there were more than 24,000 cases of infantile paralysis, with fatalities running between 5 and 10 per cent. In the year 1916, before the foundation was organized, the greatest polio epidemic in history was recorded. That year 27,363 cases were reported by 23 states, fatalities running as high as 25 per cent.

The sharp decrease in fatalities is attributed in part to the persistent educational program waged since the foundation was started in 1938, which brought about better diagnosis and early hospitalization. At the same time improved therapeutic methods were credited with prevention of many cases of permanent crippling.

Hardest hit during 1946, according to foundation figures, was the Mississippi valley region, where Minnesota headed the list of heavily hit states with a total of 2,813 cases. However, Florida on the east coast and California on the west coast, also were seriously affected, and other widely scattered regions were hard hit as well.

answers to many puzzling questions still obscured, there is one sure thing about polio—and that is that it will strike.

No Group Immune.

Despite its name, it can strike and has struck persons of all age groups, although the age group five to nine appears to be most susceptible. Boys seem to be slightly more susceptible than girls, and there is no evidence to show that any one race is more immune to its ravages than any other.

What is important at this stage, the report says, is that a doctor be consulted as soon as the disease is suspected — and sometimes the symptoms so closely resemble those of a common cold that no chances should be taken. Early diagnosis and hospitalization may prevent death or permanent crippling, the report stresses, and the early services of a competent medical man are absolutely essential.

In discussing the future, the report expresses confidence that the cause and a prevention of the dread crippler will be found. In the meantime, it is pointed out, the public has every assurance that March of Dimes funds, distributed by local chapters in their territories, have made possible the best available care and purchased the most up-to-date equipment regardless of cost, so that any foreseeable exigency can be met.

Aid is Assured.

Behind the local chapters stands the national foundation, carrying on its program of public education and research, and ready to send aid to any county which may deplete its funds through unusual epidemic conditions.

The work will go on, the foundation promises. Funds collected during the 1947 March of Dimes will replenish exhausted treasuries so that when the 1947 polio season rolls around—sometime in the late spring and through the summer—the nation will be ready.

RELIEF FROM CAMPUS GRIND

College Students Given 'Time To Think'

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA. — Coe college students in the future will be given "time to think!"

A day off "now and then" will be granted so students can study, talk to their teachers or "just sit and think through" some of their academic and social problems, it was announced by Byron Hollingshead, young president of the local college.

Faculty members will stick around the campus for informal conferences, "preferably over a cup of coffee in the grill," Hollingshead said. Library and reference rooms will remain open. The day will be selected well in advance by the faculty executive committee and the student council.

Availing that "right now modern education defeats its own purpose," the young educator declared: "It's impossible to get an education in the modern colleges because the colleges make it impossible by rushing the student through the curriculum."

The average college, he insisted, is cursed by "entirely too much teaching and too little learning."

"It's about time we gave our students a chance to sit back and think about what they're told," he added.

Further relief from the campus grind also is assured Coe students. Administrators hope eventually to give them a week's vacation from classes when it counts the most—right before final exams.

New Device Tests Drunk Drivers

EAST LANSING, MICH. — Latest device introduced by Michigan state police in an attempt to curb highway accidents is an "intoximeter," an on-the-spot, roadside chemical test for drunk drivers.

All patrol cars in the state will be equipped with the newly-developed device by mid-March, according to Capt. Caesar J. Scavard, head of the state police traffic division.

The device has a two-fold purpose: To eliminate miscarriages of justice resulting when persons are charged with drunk driving be-

cause they are sick, injured or have taken drugs; and to provide police with a "foolproof" method of proving intoxication.

The intoximeter, enclosed in a small cardboard cylinder, permits a police officer to make an on-the-scene test for intoxication subject to later check by a technician. The motorist or pedestrian involved in an accident or giving signs of intoxication blows up a small rubber balloon attached to the device, the officer clocking the time required for a red fluid in a glass tube to become colorless.