

Carolina Power Light Co. Reduces Rates Next Year Reduction Makes Considerable Difference In Light And Power Rates General Reduction Affects Cost Of Residential, Farm And Commercial Electrical Service

An important rate reduction has been announced by the Utilities Commissions, which affects the cost of electrical service to residential, farm and commercial customers throughout the territory served by the Carolina Power & Light Company. The new top rate is now down to 5c. An estimated saving of more than \$700,000 will result for company patrons during the next twelve months.

Under the new rate schedule all residential, farm and commercial customers are granted definite benefits without exception and regardless of the amount of electricity used in the past or consumed in the future.

The new rate replaces and is lower than the inducement rates already enjoyed in the past. The action of the utility in reducing rates at this time comes as a surprise to the majority of patrons as the drastic reductions in 1935 and 1936 were thought to represent the climax of a series of rate cuts made over a long period of years.

Effective on all bills rendered on or after January 26, all domestic users will be billed as per the following schedule: 5c per KWH for first 50 KWH used, 3c per KWH for next 50 KWH used, 2c per KWH for next 150 KWH used, 1.5c per KWH for all additional KWH used.

The monthly minimum charge will be \$1.00 which includes the use of 20 WH.

The new rate schedule reveals that the top price of electricity to domestic customers is only a nickel which is exactly one-third of the top rate in 1916 and only one half that of the top rate charged only a few years ago.

The fact that the rate drops as low as 1.5c per KWH enables many users to purchase a large portion of their current at a figure considerably lower than in many sections of the country. The top rate of only 5c per KWH with sharp reductions in the schedule down to the 1.5c per KWH minimum is evidence that cheap electricity is a reality in this territory.

Response Is Excellent Post Card Cheer Fund Says Local Welfare Head

Chiang Release Expected Soon



Release of Premier Chiang Kai-shek of China, shown in his most recent picture, was believed imminent, with the report that his abductor, Marshall Chang Hsueh-liang, had resigned all his offices in Szechwan province and would go abroad.

Secretary Of War Asks More Troops

Alarming International Situation Calls For Modern Military Set Up Larger Reserve Sec. Woodring Wants Aircraft Building Program To Be Accelerated

Making his annual report, Secretary of War Harry Woodring advised continuance of the present policy of building up a modernized military establishment. In view of the disturbed international situation he recommended unrelaxed vigor in the pursuance of this objective and asked for increases in trained reserve manpower, fighting airplanes, and other equipment.

"In the light of present world conditions," he declared, "we cannot afford to neglect measures for our own national safety. A secure defense is our most dependable guaranty against aggression by others."

Woodring advocated the creation of an enlisted reserve of 150,000, expansion of the national guard to 210,000 from its present strength of 187,000 and maintenance of the regular army at its present authorized minimum enlisted strength.

He also asked for 2,000 more regular officers, to be added during the next five years, and increased summer training facilities to care for an expansion of 10,000 in the number of reserve officers and 20,000 in the number of youths trained annually.

Treats Have Been Given For Needy

Fruits, Nuts, Candies And Small Toys Included In Christmas Cheer Bags Kiwanis & Scouts Have Also Helped Response Generous, But More Needed To Fill All Empty Stockings

Robert Lloyd, county welfare officer, said Tuesday morning that the response to the Post Card Christmas Cheer Fund has been very good. With a little more help he will be able to cover the county so that every needy child will have a treat on Christmas day, and this help seems assured from the manner in which people have already been contributing.

Mr. Lloyd purchased this morning enough for 100 children to begin with. Apples, oranges, candy, nuts, and small toys will be provided for the less fortunate children of Randolph county through the fund.

Many parents have already begun to come in for this Christmas treat and many more are expected daily from now on, but Mr. Lloyd will send the gifts to those who cannot come to Asheboro from out in the county. Most of the children will receive the treat Christmas morning as if the result of a regular Santa Claus visit without knowing where it came from, but the parents may give the presents to the children in any guise they wish without any necessity of having the origin disclosed.

The welfare office has also received aid in its Christmas program in addition to the Post Card Christmas Cheer Fund. A number of toys have been secured through the Kiwanis club and the Boy Scouts. Several individuals have made donations, and others have signified their intentions of furnishing some needy family with a Christmas basket.

"As a whole the response has been very gratifying," said Mr. Lloyd. While preparations for making children cheerful and happy at Christmas time are going along so well, the ordinary needs of the welfare department should not be overlooked. There is still a need for boys' and girls' shoes and coats for school children.

Asheboro police officers were notified Tuesday morning of the finding of a hat lying in a pool of blood and have been trying to unravel the mystery ever since. The hat was found lying near the bridge less than a mile from town on the old Farmer road, near the Frank Ridge home.

Officers have made contact with the doctors of Asheboro to see if anyone was treated for an injury during the night or early morning, but no clue has come from that source. Neither did anyone in that neighborhood hear a noise during the night, which leaves the mystery still a mystery.

Earthquake's Toll Of Sunday Mounts In San Salvador

Two Hundred Bodies Removed In Early Hours Following Terrible Quake Toll Increasing Reaches To Nearby Villages; Telephone And Telegraph Connections Cut

With death tolls mounting every several hours, the city in ruins, San Salvador, Salvador, is a stricken land. Officials feared Monday night that the death toll would continue to mount after 200 hundred bodies were recovered as speedily as possible from the wreckage of the Sunday morning earthquake.

How high the deaths would reach no one would estimate, but government officials dispatched all relief available to the area. Accurate reports were made increasingly difficult to obtain because of the disrupted communications between the quake area and San Salvador.

Telephone and telegraph lines were ripped down by the quakes and information could be had only from those who fled inland from the scene. The quake, which first struck the sleeping city of San Vicente Saturday night, crashed buildings and shook the earth in villages nearby, eyewitnesses said.

Refugees, with their families and household belongings fled along rural roads trying to reach safety from the ever-menacing volcano Sana Rita, southeast of San Vicente to which some refugees said was erupting.

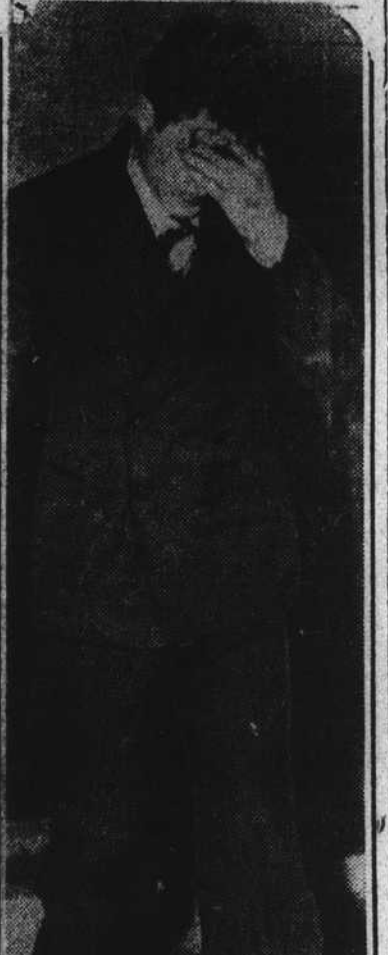
Adding to the fears of molten lava pouring from the volcano over the wrecked city was the specter of epidemics. Much of San Vicente's supply of drinking water was poisoned by sulphur apparently exuding from the smoking volcano after the quake.

Government officials returning last night from the disaster area said the widespread wreckage was impeding rescue work and making virtually impossible any accurate estimate of the property damage and loss of life.

T. D. McMasters of Staley, route two, one of Randolph county's few remaining grand old Confederate veterans, was in Asheboro Monday to collect his pension. Mr. McMasters will be 92 in the spring, but he is still active and alert physically and mentally.

While in Asheboro Mr. McMasters stopped in The Courier office for a few minutes. He has been a subscriber to The Courier since it was first published as The Regulator by M. S. Robins.

He Didn't Duck Life Sentence



Harry Brunette, desperado captured by G-Men in a spectacular raid in New York, ducks the camera above, but he couldn't duck the life term to which he was sentenced in federal court at Trenton, N. J., when he pleaded guilty to kidnaping a state trooper. Note the leg irons that shackle him.

News Flash's from Everywhere

San Francisco.—The first break in the Pacific coast shipping strike came Sunday when Harry Lundberg, head of the sailors' union, stated that a tentative agreement had been made with shipowners' representatives. It is hoped that terms will be reached soon that are agreeable to the other seamen's unions.

DETROIT.—Disputes in a score of scattered factories making automobile parts have resulted in nearly 30,000 workers being on strike and has caused major concerns considerable worry. Strikes in glass plants are bothering the Chrysler corporation, which is said to have only enough glass to last until January, and a tie up in a wheel factory forced Ford to shut down early last week.

London.—Ethiopia is preparing a protest to the League of Nations against the setting up of diplomatic posts by England and France at Addis Ababa, which would amount to formal recognition of the Italian conquest. Ethiopia holds. France has announced that it will reduce its Ethiopian legation to a consulate-general, usually established in colonies of other powers, and Engler is expected to do the same.

What Highway Patrolman H. V. Norris termed the worst wreck he had ever seen for no one to be seriously hurt occurred about 6:30 Monday on Highway 62, about two miles west of town. A Ford V-8 driven by C. S. Fowler of Asheboro and Charlotte struck a Chevrolet belonging to Frank Shery of Asheboro, the Ford being damaged slightly and the Chevrolet being completely demolished. Fowler sustained a few cuts, but Shery escaped unhurt from the wreckage of his car.

The accident is said to have happened as Shery, pulling back onto the highway after being parked on the shoulders of the road, was struck by Fowler, who was going west. After investigating, Patrolman Norris charged Fowler with reckless driving. Trial has been set for January 4, before Justice of the Peace R. A. Colvin.

Town Officers Confer With PWA Director On Proposed PWA Project

Mayor W. A. Bunch Is Making Plans

Walter Yow, City Treasurer, Assisting In Plans For Town's Progress Two PWA Projects Being Considered City Fathers Have Ordered Issuance Of \$100,000 Bonds For Improvements

Mayor Walter Bunch and City Treasurer Walter Yow went to Chapel Hill today to confer with Stanley H. Wright, state PWA director, in regard to Asheboro's proposed PWA projects.

The Asheboro representatives discussed the details of the two projects and the possibility of an early approval with the PWA director. The action of the city commissioners in authorizing a \$100,000 bond issue Thursday for Asheboro's share of the projects and the unqualified support given this move by the Chamber of Commerce and other leaders of the town are expected to react favorably upon PWA officials.

As is generally known, these funds are for improvements greatly needed by Asheboro, the additions to the water and sewer system being necessary for adequate fire protection and satisfactory sanitation, while the proposed community building-city hall will provide a center for civic activities and properly house city offices. If Asheboro obtains these PWA projects now, the city will get improvements valued at approximately \$180,000 for \$100,000, with the government contributing the remaining \$80,000 in a free grant.

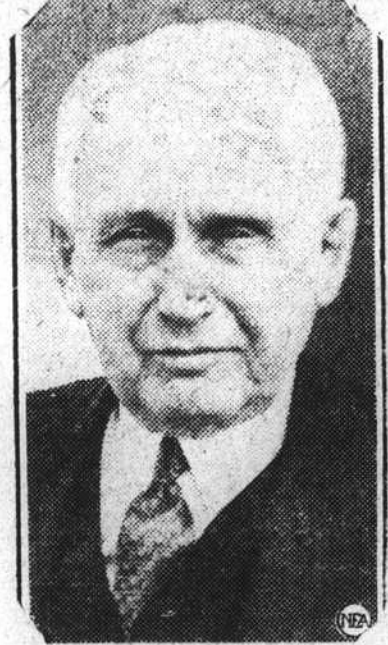
Mr. Bunch and Mr. Yow also met with William M. Piatt, consulting sanitary engineer, in Durham, with reference to the sanitary survey which Asheboro is planning to have made of its sewer system.

Asheboro has had some mighty cold weather already, but actually winter did not arrive until yesterday. At 7:27 a. m., eastern standard time, Monday, the sun, which had been moving southward in the sky since June, reached the end of its journey, and started northward. This moment, the "winter solstice," was the official beginning of winter. For people in the northern hemisphere, the noon-day sun was then at its least altitude.

Because it is so low, its rays are spread out over a larger area than at other times of year, and they have less heating effect. This is the reason for the cold weather of December and January. However, at this time, the sun is high in the sky for residents of the southern hemisphere, and so they had summer starting on the 21st.

Practically all schools in the county which did not close Friday are winding up work and will close today for the Christmas holidays, County Superintendent T. Fletcher Bulla said this morning. The majority ceased work Friday, but some decided to carry on the first two days of this week.

Near 80, Kellogg Sees Hopes Fade



Outside the swirl of international diplomacy, Frank B. Kellogg, above, former U. S. secretary of state and world court member, now retired, goes into his eightieth year with evidence that the peace measures to which he gave much of his career are crumbling under the stress of new European crises. Kellogg's greatest single achievement was the Kellogg-Briand peace pact. He was the 1929 Nobel peace prize winner. His birthday falls on December 22.

ME Young People Will Sing Carols

Epworth League Presented "The Guest At The Inn", Play Of Christ Child Christmas Theme Interest Growing In League Meetings; Attendance Sunday Numbered 60

The Young People's Division of the First M. E. church had good attendance at both of its meetings Sunday, December 20. At the morning worship hour there were 105 in attendance and at the Epworth League there were approximately 60. Interest is growing in the league meetings and it is hoped that more will be out to the meetings each week which are held at 6:30 in the evening.

The meeting this week was characterized by a short play entitled "The Guest at the Inn." The setting was an old European Inn. The inn-keeper had prepared food and lodging in hopes that the Christ Child might come to her inn. There came to her on Christmas Eve, a rich lady, one who was troubled and in distress, and one who was homeless, hungry and cold, with an infant in her arms.

After these had gone, she discovered that her food was gone and if the Christ Child should come to the inn, there would be no food or lodging for Him as it had been at the time of his birth. Suddenly a voice from the dark speaks to her: "Stacia, I was hungry and ye gave me to eat, I was thirsty and ye gave me drink. (Please turn to Page 6)

Pope Pius XI To Speak To World On Christmas Eve

Physicians Fear The Strain Will Be Too Great For The Weakened Pontiff Grieves Over War Pope Remains Motionless From A Vericose-Congestion Condition

Reports from Vatican City reveal news that the condition of Pope Pius XI remains satisfactory but attending physicians state that it will be necessary for the Holy Father to remain very quiet. Despite this, he decided to speak to the world on Christmas Eve and ordered Father Soccorsi, the Vatican radio director, to prepare a broadcast for 12:30 p. m. Rome time—6:30 eastern standard time, Thursday.

A microphone will be set up in the Pope's study, next to his bedroom. He will be carried to his desk and placed in an armchair for the talk. The Pope's physicians expressed concern lest he overexert himself and impair his recovery from the slight attack of paralysis and circulatory congestion that he recently suffered. Firm in his stand to broadcast, physicians were able to dissuade him from his usual reception of cardinals on Christmas Eve. On this occasion the Pope sums up his joys and sorrows of the year. In the sorrow column is the bloody Spanish war over which he will express his deep emotion.

An ancient proverb rules the guarding of reports concerning the health of the Pope—"the Pope is not ill until he is dead." Informed sources explained this policy was dictated by the Pontiff's position as sole ruler of the Catholic church. As long as he lives, the Vatican must take every measure to avoid compromising the papal authority of promoting speculation concerning his possible successor.

Meanwhile, the Pope must remain motionless because of a vericose condition of his left leg which remains about the same. Nothing has occurred to cause his condition to become worse or to cause any alarm over his general condition. The Pope continues to attend to the duties of his office, issuing orders and attending to their discharge. Physicians have held consultation about injecting the newest treatment for blood pressure but, because the treatment is somewhat strenuous, Dr. Milani, attending physician in charge of the case, hesitates to use it on the 75-year-old Pontiff.

Joining forces with John E. Lewis' Committee for Industrial Organization, representatives of three major steel districts of the eastern United States, displayed their rebellion Sunday night against the steel industry's union plan.

The first big movement of company union men into the Lewis organization followed a warning by Philip Murray, Lewis' chief aide, that a strike in the \$5,000,000,000 industry might result "if the industry continues to employ its dog-in-the-manger attitude," in dealing with trade unions.

Claiming that the steel workers' organizing committee has enrolled 128,000 of the industry's 500,000 workers since its drive was started in June, Murray said: "It has not been our purpose to organize steel by calling a strike. But may I venture to say that if the industry continues to employ its dog-in-the-manger attitude and refuses to deal with a trade union, the results must necessarily rest on the doorsteps of the management."

A Visit From St. Nicholas By Clement Clarke Moore. Christmas story with illustration of a reindeer.

ONLY 2 MORE SHOPPING DAYS TILL CHRISTMAS (Please turn to Page 6)