

# THE DAILY INDEPENDENT

1908 COMBINED WITH THE INDEPENDENT, A WEEKLY ESTABLISHED BY W. O. SAUNDERS IN 1908 1936

MARITIME FORECAST

Sandy Hook to Hatteras: Strong shifting winds and overcast weather with rain Monday.

SINGLE COPY 5 CENTS

**THE WEATHER**  
Sandy Hook to Hatteras: Strong shifting winds and overcast weather with rain Monday.

Published Every Day Except Sunday by The Independent Publishing Co. at Elizabeth City, N. C.

ELIZABETH CITY, N. C., MONDAY, APRIL 26, 1937

Entered at the postoffice at Elizabeth City, N. C., as second class matter.

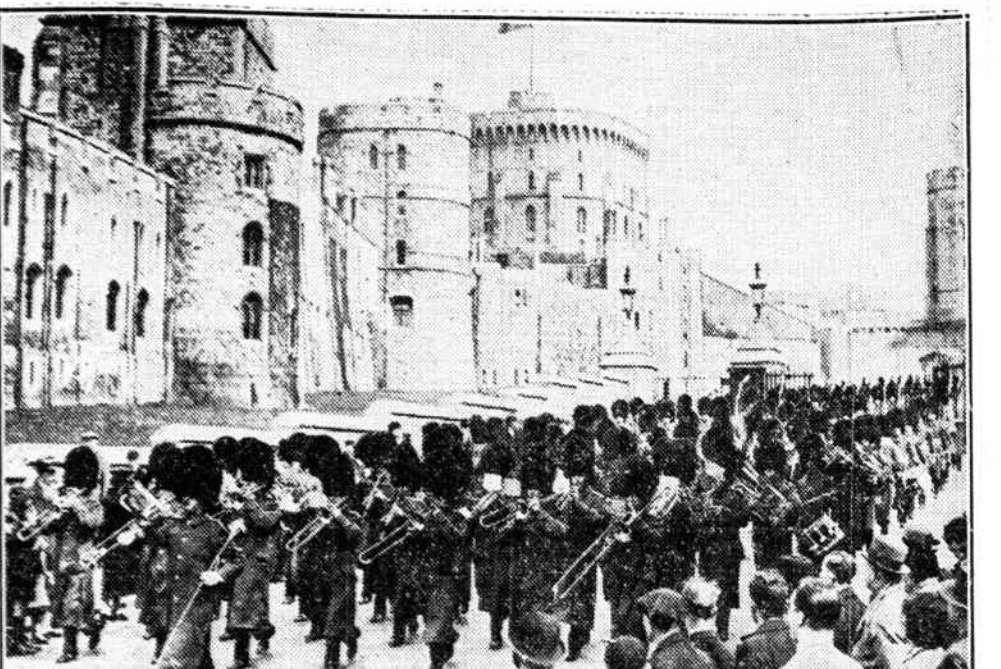
**Economy Drive By Byrd On**  
Could Consolidate B.O.C. and Housing Administration  
Necessity Shown  
The Organizations Have Similar Functions and He Sees Big Saving

Elizabeth City, April 25. (U.P.)—The Hon. F. Byrd D. Va. tonight called on him to come down from the state and to get down to work on the consolidation of the B. O. C. and the housing administration. Byrd said that the necessity of consolidation is shown by the fact that both organizations have similar functions and he sees a big saving in the consolidation.

Byrd announced that he will introduce a bill this week to consolidate the two organizations and the federal housing administration for a \$245,000 savings and said 20 or 30 other agencies could be consolidated.

Byrd said that the discussion of the consolidation of the B. O. C. and the federal housing administration would be a conservative but a necessary one. He said that he would write unnecessary things to the legislature.

### Pre-Coronation Pageantry Begins



FOR the first time since the death of the late King George V, the full guard was mounted at Windsor Castle, England, recently. Here, headed by its band, the guard leaves the castle after the ceremony of changing the patrols. King George VI and his family are occupying the famous old fortress until after the coronation.

### Says Aviation Strong For Wright

#### Capt. Ken Behr Says Movement Progressing Rapidly

The movement, now afoot to have the original Wright plane returned to this country and placed in the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D. C., is gaining rapid momentum and stands an excellent chance of achieving success, in the opinion of Kenneth Paul Behr, manager of operations of the division of aviation, New York City, who was a visitor to this section Saturday.

"The world of aviation is strong for the proposal," said Mr. Behr, "and it appears to me that the thing is going over big."

According to Mr. Behr, the aviation trade paper, Contact, is obtaining thousands of signatures to a petition calling upon the directors of the Smithsonian Institute to ask Mr. Orville Wright's permission to place the original Wright plane in the Institute and recognize it as the first successful airplane.

The plane at present is in the British museum, it having been loaned to that museum by Mr. Wright after the Smithsonian directors had snubbed it in favor of the Langley plane. Mr. Wright has agreed, however, to bring the plane back to this country on condition that the Smithsonian Institute.

(Continued on Page Three)

### Death Takes Last of the Lilliputians

#### Survivor of Famous Midget Opera Is Dead

Fort Wayne, Ind., April 25.—(U.P.)—Eliza Nestel, 80, last of the midgets who 50 years ago played with the American Lilliputian opera company, died today.

Only eight days ago her brother, Charles, 83, known on the stage as "Commander Foote" died, and grief at his passing was believed to have hastened the death of the tiny "Queenie."

Blind and unable to walk, Eliza was carried to her brother's casket last Monday. She ran her fingers gently over his face and then was taken back to bed to die six days later.

Brother and sister began their theatrical career in 1861 in "The Little People," produced by the late Col. Ellinger. With them were such famous midgets as Mary Doyle, Col. Dotte and Jennie Quigley. After Jennie Quigley's death in Chicago a year ago, it was learned that she and Commander Foote had been sweethearts.

In 1881 and 1882 the tiny pair appeared four times before Queen Victoria in London, and lunched with her.

Commander Foote adopted his stage name because of his frustrated desire for a soldier's life. He wore a uniform at every performance.

Both parents—the father was a blacksmith—a sister, and a brother, were of normal size.

### A. F. Toxey Co. To Change Name

#### Wholesale Grocery Firm Will Liquidate and Reorganize

A. F. Toxey & Co., local wholesale grocers and one of the city's oldest business firms, is now in the process of liquidation and is soon to be succeeded by a new firm, it was announced yesterday by Ray S. Toxey, president of the company.

The liquidation is supposed to be completed and the reorganization effected not later than May 1, Mr. Toxey said.

The firm of A. F. Toxey & Co. was organized in 1908 by the late A. F. Toxey, who prior to that time had been in the grocery business under the firm name of Toxey and Gallop.

In recent years the firm has been owned jointly by the R. B. Martin estate and the A. F. Toxey estate. Ray S. Toxey is the only surviving partner.

In order to facilitate the liquidation of the two estates which control the firm, it was decided recently to dissolve or liquidate the firm of A. F. Toxey & Co., which is now being done.

The will continue in business, but under a different name. The new name will be Toxey Grocery Co., Inc., with Ray S. Toxey, M.

(Continued on Page Three)

### Predicts Vote For Change

#### Chairman Confident Committee Will Approve Ten of Eighteen

Washington, April 25.—(U.P.)—Chairman Henry Fountain Ashurst, D. Ariz., said tonight he was "sure" that 10 members of his 18-man senate judiciary committee will vote to report President Roosevelt's supreme court reorganization bill favorably to the senate with provisions for six possible new justices.

Ashurst made this prediction despite the claims of opposition leaders that the bill would be reported unfavorably by a 10 to 8 or 9 to 9 margin. Ashurst had lent strength to opposition claims yesterday by asserting that an unfavorable report to the senate would not be a "fatal blow."

**Hopes for Ten Votes**  
"I'm quite sure there will be 10 votes for the bill—as it is," Ashurst said tonight. "I believe there will be seven or eight votes against it."

Against this claim stood the statement of Sen. Frederick Van Nuys, D., Ind., an opposition leader, who said:

"I don't believe the report will be favorable to the addition of six justices. It might be for a two-member increase in the supreme court; that proposal seems to be stronger in the committee. But as far as I am concerned, I shall oppose two judges just as much as six. It's a matter of principle."

**Look to the Court**  
Meanwhile, both sides in the controversy looked to the supreme court.

(Continued on Page Three)

### Food Ships Bombed In Bilbao Harbor

#### Loyalists Deny That Any Were Damaged by Rebel Planes

Hendaye, Franco-Spanish Frontier, April 25.—(U.P.)—Rebel war planes, swooping low over the terrorized city of Bilbao, bombed two British food ships, as they unloaded cargoes that meant life to thousands of starving Basques, insurgent dispatches said tonight.

The semi-autonomous Basque government, denying that any of the British food fleet which ran General Francisco Franco's rebel naval blockade to reach Bilbao had been damaged, asserted jubilantly that an enemy assault in the nearby mountains had been smashed.

**Rebels Suffer Losses**  
General Emilio Mola's insurgent armies, fighting through the craggy Cantabrian mountains, were described as suffering heavy losses in "the most bitter fighting of the entire war on the B. a. q. front."

After aerial and artillery bombardment in the El Orrio and El Gueta sectors 21 miles east of Bilbao, Mola sent wave after wave of picked infantry against the loyalist lines.

The Basque defenders of the mountain passes met the charge with mortar and machine-gun fire, throwing the mountain sides with dead.

Announcement of the bombing of the British food ships—there are six in Bilbao harbor—came from Gen. Franco's general headquarters at Salamanca and the rebels' radio at Seville.

**Other Food Ships Come**  
The United Press correspondent at Bilbao, Emilio Herrero, said none of the ships had been damaged and that the millions of pounds of food which they brought the city's 340,000 men, women and children had been discharged from their holds before the enemy air raiders appeared.

Two more British freighters, the Thurston and Stesso, broke thru the rebel sea net in the Bay of Biscay last night and brought more food for the rebel-invested city. They sailed down the Biscay coast from Rochelle, France.

### Labor Is Planning Campaign

#### Lewis and Green Get Together On One Point

#### No Incorporation

Labor moved on half a dozen fronts Sunday to consolidate its gains under the Wagner act.

In Washington, John L. Lewis, leader of the powerful C. I. O. group, and William Green, his bitter rival, agreed on a policy of combatting any effort to incorporate unions.

In Detroit the newly organized American Labor League came to grips with the Lewis-controlled United Automobile Workers in an effort to establish bargaining agencies for workers who are not members of the C. I. O. union. The infant union is incorporated—first to accept legal responsibility by this method.

At Oshawa, Ont., the United Automobile Workers, following their settlement with the General Motors of Canada, began plans to organize 300 "feeder plants" for automobile manufacturers in Canada.

On the Pacific Coast, the Ford Automobile company's dispute with the United Automobile Workers was reported settled. Ed Hall, vice-president of the union, described the settlement as an "important gain" against the third of the "Big Three" in the Auto-

(Continued on Page Three)

### New Minister



ANTHONY J. DREXEL BIDDLE, scion of the famed Philadelphia Biddle family, appointed by President Roosevelt Ambassador to Poland. Formerly Minister to Norway, Mr. Biddle succeeds John Cudahy of Wisconsin, transferred to the Irish Free State as Minister. More than a dozen recent changes were made in diplomatic posts.

### Drys Appear To Have Won Dare County

#### Unofficial Compilers Have It That Dry Lead Is Unbeatable

Manteo, April 25.—Dare county, first North Carolina county to take advantage of the county option bill passed by the 1937 General Assembly to call a referendum on the question of legalization of liquor, apparently had rejected the ABC plan as 14 out of 15 precincts showed a total dry vote of 661 and a wet vote of 648, according to unofficial compilers.

The only precinct that had not been heard from at midnight tonight was Mashoes, which normally casts only 17 votes, and unless that precinct voted practically 100 per cent wet the dries apparently carried the election.

Manteo, Nags Head, Kitty Hawk, Colington, Buxton and East Lake were the wet strongholds, while Stumpy Point, Avon, Rodanthe

(Continued on Page Three)

### President Is New Orleans Visitor Soon

#### Destroyers Wait to Take Chief Executive On Gulf Fishing Trip

New Orleans, April 25.—(U.P.)—Sportsmen eyed the "fishing flotilla" of President Roosevelt in the river here tonight and said he could have chosen no finer waters than the gulf for his sea-going vacation beginning Thursday.

After a brief visit in New Orleans, Mr. Roosevelt is to be taken to sea aboard the new 1,850-ton destroyer, Moffett, it was learned. The Moffett and the smaller destroyer Decatur, tied up at the Algiers naval station, across the river from the presidential yacht, Patomac to which Mr. Roosevelt will transfer in the gulf.

Tentative plans called for the president to witness the dedication of Roosevelt Mall, part of the huge city park WPA project, and perhaps to motor 22 miles upriver to inspect the \$13,000,000 Bonnet Carré spillway which shunted waters away from New Orleans during this year's flood.

The presidential train will arrive here at 12:30 p. m. Thursday, after Mr. Roosevelt and his party pause briefly on the Mississippi gulf coast. Elliott Roosevelt and Gov. Richard Leche plan to meet the president at Gulfport, Miss.

Wholesalers here were piqued tonight when they found themselves unable to supply a favorite brand of cigar for the presidential stores going aboard the Patomac. The cigar is of Cuban tobacco, made in Tampa, with a rich, heavy smoke.

Other supplies put aboard the Patomac included choice Louisiana strawberries for shortcake, Chilean honeydew melon, Belgian endives and a wide variety of vegetables.

The presidential fishing tackle will include light rods and rolling reels to make the art of landing gamefish more difficult.

Fishermen believe that most of the world's gamefish can be found in the Gulf of Mexico, from three to 180 pounds of flashing, fighting specimens. But talk quickly switched to tarpon here tonight.

### British Mobilize A Host To Guard The Coronation

#### Two Wanchese Girls Heard On Radio

London, April 25.—(U.P.)—British authorities tonight began the mobilization of 52,000 policemen, detectives and soldiers who will handle the coronation crowds and protect scores of visiting dignitaries.

Britain's royal guests and official envoys from foreign lands will be surrounded by guards from the moment they set foot on British soil until they sail away.

In addition to the personal bodyguards, numbering into the hundreds, 30,000 troops will line the route of the coronation procession on May 12 and 20,000 uniformed men from the provinces—will be on duty.

Nearly 2,000 Scotland Yard detectives in plain clothes will work "under cover" among the crowds.

The 30,000 soldiers, flanking the route on either side and standing almost shoulder to shoulder, are part of the coronation, but if any trouble should break out they will come instantly under the command of Scotland Yard.

The police vigilance will be most strict along Constitution Hill and the Mall—leading from Buckingham Palace to Whitehall—because history has shown this spot to be the favorite of would-be assassins.

It was there that George An-

(Continued on Page Three)

### Southeast Storm Does Minor Damage

A southeast storm which set in yesterday afternoon and switched around to northeast last night caused a very high tide and twisted off a number of tree limbs in the city but otherwise was of minor consequence. The storm began shortly after noon yesterday with a rain which became gradually heavier and winds which became increasingly strong by mid-afternoon.

Large sections of trees were blown off by the wind in several parts of the city, two of the largest being in front of Dr. J. D. Hathaway's home on East Colonial avenue and in front of Noah Bright's home on North Road street.

A high tide pushed up into the city by the wind flooded several places in the city.

The Pasquotank river yesterday resembled the ocean on a windy day as strong winds piled up sizeable waves and made the river quite choppy.

The storm apparently was all over at an early hour this morning.

### Coastland Lashed by Heavy Surf, Rain And High Wind

The coast section was lashed last night by a severe storm, according to advices reaching here. From Rodanthe, Captain John Alingham Midgett reported that a strong southeast wind was piling the surf up on the beach, the wind being accompanied by a heavy rain. Manteo also reported winds of much violence and a torrential rain, but no damage reported.

### Frank Dunlap New Chairman Highway Com.

#### Barnes First District Apointee; Wayne Is Offered New Job

Raleigh, April 25.—Governor Hoye yesterday announced the appointment of Frank Dunlap as State Highway Commissioner, of R. G. Deyton as Assistant Director of the Budget to succeed Commissioner Dunlap, and the tender of the position of Director of the Division of Purchase and Contract to Capus M. Wayne, who is being displaced by Dunlap as Highway Commissioner.

That Mr. Wayne will accept the position tendered him is considered doubtful.

The Governor also announced the appointment of 10 members of the new State Highway Commission under the 1937 act. None of the old road commissioners was reappointed.

Commissioners appointed for the various districts are as follows:

First, D. Collin Barnes of Hertford County, for six years; Second, Ernest W. Webb, of Lenoir County, for four years; Third, Robert Grady Johnson, of Pender, for two years; Fourth, T. Boddie Ward of Wilson, for two years; Fifth, Samuel W. Bason of Caswell, for four years; Sixth, D. B. McCrary of Randolph, for six years; Seventh, Thomas R. Wolfe of Stanly, for

(Continued on Page Three)

### 'Chisel' Wilcox To Start Suit For Divorce Today

#### Hapless Bridegroom of 4 Months Says He Is Through

Elizabeth City's most bizarre romance will step into the limelight again today when Ralph ("Chisel") Wilcox, bridegroom of four months, will institute divorce proceedings against his wife, the former Fanny Mather Lowe.

The divorce will be sought on the grounds of incompatibility, Wilcox stated yesterday when interviewed by a representative of this newspaper.

"I think incompatibility will be easy enough to prove," said Wilcox, "for we certainly have virtually nothing in common. She is self-centered and selfish and will do nothing except what she wants to do. Furthermore, she obviously has never loved me."

The divorce, when obtained, will mark the end of the most unusual and most bizarre romance this city has ever known, and on need go no further than in this case to find a striking example of the statement that truth is stranger than fiction.

Ralph Wilcox and Fanny Mather Lowe were married in Suffolk, Va., on Thursday, Nov. 12, 1936. Mrs. Frederica Niles Earlie, mother of the bride, announced the marriage shortly thereafter.

On December 4, Mrs. Wilcox instituted proceedings to have the marriage annulled on the grounds that her husband was physically impotent.

In her complaint she said, "That at the time of the said attempted marriage ceremony the defendant

(Continued on Page Three)

### Concert Singers Are Richly Enjoyed

#### Please Audience at the Virginia Dare In First Local Concert

If Northern urbanites are as appreciative of surefooted good Negro singing as are the people of Elizabeth City, then Norman's concert singers, local Negro choral group, should score a tremendous hit on their tour of Northern cities next month.

Before a white audience numbering approximately 100 persons, Norman's concert singers presented a concert that was richly enjoyed in the ballroom of the Virginia Dare Hotel yesterday afternoon.

Acting as spokesman for the

(Continued on Page Three)

**TODAY'S LOCAL CALENDAR**

A. M.  
8:30 Mens Christian Federation  
10:00 Ministerial association  
P. M.  
1:00 Rotary Club  
3:30 Circles First Methodist  
WMS: First Baptist WMS  
4:00 First Baptist Jr. G. A.  
7:30 Pochontas; W. O. W.; Kiwanis Jr. glee club  
8:00 American Legion  
Library hours: 10-12, 2-6

### Stepin Fetchit Hurt Badly In Auto Crash

New York, April 25.—(U.P.)—Stepin Fetchit, drawing Negro comedian, was in a "critical condition" in Harlem hospital tonight after an automobile accident.

Fetchit's lameness for his slow-paced, broad-mouthed portrayals, suffered a fractured skull when his car struck an L pillar in Harlem.

Fetchit was a blow-out caused his car to skid and he was thrown out of control.

Fetchit was born Lincoln Theodore Perry 40 years ago in Key West, Fla. He took his stage name from a Negro.

Fetchit's bright career, Fetchit has three automobiles, one of them a Cadillac Rolls Royce,