THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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Livest Newspaper In The Carolinas

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Wallace Row

Marquis Childs, one of the less sensational Washington columnists, devotes today's column to a discussion of the background of the current controversy over Secretary Wallace's foreign policy speech. You'll find it well worth reading. Turn to the editorial page.

FOREIGN POLICY SHOWDOWN NEARED

Transatlantic Plane With 44 Aboard Overdue

Harold Ickes

Civilian Decorations Handed Out As Freely As Campaign Buttons

IN my last column I dealt with the subject of discrimination in the granting of decorations to those who really fought in the war. In THE INFANTRY JOURNAL E. J. Kahn Jr. made out a pretty clear case of favoritism as between two arms of our fighting forces in Italy. He might have proved discrimination also as between fighting soldiers and cocktail-party soldiers, as well as between civilians as compared with the military and between civilians themselves.

Both the Army and the Navy were lavish in their decorations of civilian personnel in their own Departments. Under Secretaries, Assistant Secretaries, Administrative Assistants, Special Advisers, Special Assistants, Executive Assistants and or Consultants to the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy, et al., and "their sisters, their cousins and their aunts" could not have fared better at the hands of the late Kaiser Wilhelm when he was handing out Iron Crosses.

Apparently everyone who came in daily contact with certain high officials in War and Navy thereby performed "extraordinary and outstanding" services. They were decorated singly, in pairs, in groups, and wholesale. They were not only decorated, they were redecorated and then decorated again. The campaign managers of Alf M. Landon, the forgotten presidential candidate, were not more generous in handing out miniature sunflowers.

As an instance of discrimination in granting civilian decorations let us consider the Petroleum Administration for War. This civilian organization was one of the most efficient and productive in connection with the entire war program. The Truman Committee was lavish in its praise of it. Words of acclaim came even from England and the Far Pacific. Oil alone did not win the war, but the preponderance of the Allies in petroleum products was the decisive factor. The building of the Big and Little Inch pipelines, under civilian initiative and control and despite initial blind and obstinate Army and Navy opposition, brought the war in Europe to an end months earlier than it would have been otherwise.

DAVIES GOT AWARD

For the extraordinary achievements of civilians in this field, one decoration was granted—a Medal for Merit—on the recommendation of the Petroleum Administrator for War. The recipient was Ralph K. Davies, the highly efficient Deputy Administrator. However, the following, not one of whom was responsible for increasing production of a single barrel of oil, were decorated for their services in connection with petroleum:

A Rear Admiral—Distinguished Service Medal.

A Brigadier General—Legion of Merit.

A Major General—Two Distinguished Service Medals.

A Commodore—Legion of Merit.

Another Commodore—Legion of Merit.

A second Brigadier General—Distinguished Service Medal.

And a Colonel—Distinguished Service Medal and Two Legions of Merit.

Moreover, in addition to discrimination, there have been unfortunate instances of political pull. Recent testimony before the Mead Committee has shown that the War Department has permitted its policy to award an "E" if there were enough political pressure. I hope that the Garrison "E" was the only instance of the sort but I doubt it.

There is precedence for all this in the famous case of Col. Robert R. McCormick of the CHICAGO TRIBUNE. He went through the First World War without any outstanding or distinguishing performance in combat but in 1923 when Warren G. Harding, a fellow Republican, was President and John W. Weeks of Massachusetts, another Republican, had become Secretary of War, it was suddenly discovered, although the war had been ended almost five years, that Col. McCormick was entitled to a Distinguished Service Medal for "executive ability." In other words, this publisher of an influential newspaper looked "distinguished" to politicians as he sat behind a desk. It would be surprising if political pull were not also responsible for individual decorations during the last war.

Flare-Up In Venezuela

CARACAS, Venezuela—(AP)— The government announced today that military tribunals had begun an investigation to determine the "intellectual instigators" of Monday night's short-lived revolt by commissioned officers of the Caracas garrison in which four Army men were slain and four others wounded.

The government's official explanation of the incident—termed a "criminal mob attack"—said non-commissioned officers of the Ambrosia Plaza cavalry barracks at the edge of the capital "in a state of drunkenness treacherously assassinated" two superior officers.

Decision Delayed

OPA Leader Calls For Price Lids On Dairy Products

By EDWIN B. HAAKINSON

WASHINGTON — (AP) — OPA Chief Paul Porter today urged the Price Decontrol Board to restore price ceilings to all dairy products, saying such action "is essential to the stabilization program."

Porter sent a lengthy report on retail and wholesale prices and supplies of milk, butter, cheese and other dairy products to the board as it met to decide the future of dairy products now free from ceiling.

The figures show, Porter told the board, that dairy products prices are now generally above the level of former June 30 ceilings plus subsidies.

He added that the prices of cheese, butter and other manufactured products indicate a trend which if continued, will in a very short time lead to a general price level substantially and dangerously above the level of former ceilings plus subsidy."

A decision on recontrol of dairy products is not expected today and may be delayed several days.

Porter informed the board that his staff is collecting additional data which would be available within the next few days.

Aside from Porter's statement, a flood of conflicting recommendations reached the three-man panel. Various segments of the dairy industry opposed recontrol.

The National Cheese Institute stated that cheese prices, previously criticized by the board, were reasonable and that supplies will be sufficient to meet domestic needs.

Similarly, the American Butter Institute contended that both wholesale and retail butter prices had remained below ceilings that OPA would have been forced to place on butter this month if it had remained controlled.

On the opposite side, several consumer, and organized labor groups urged immediate recontrol of milk and all other dairy products.

U. S. Favors Inquiry

Critics Of Greece Resisted In U. N.

LAKE SUCCESS, N. Y. — (AP) — The United States has drafted a far-reaching proposal that the United Nations Security Council name a fact-finding committee to study border incidents along the entire Northern Greek frontier, including the areas adjacent to Albania, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria, it was learned authoritatively today.

The United States plan, in the form of a suggestion and not a formal motion, was due to go before the council at 3 P. M. when delegates resume the long debate on the Soviet Ukraine's complaint against Greece and Great Britain.

It was understood that Delegate Herschel V. Johnson's plan would call for a small committee of the Council to undertake the study here and report as soon as possible. The committee also would be asked to study Ukraine charges that the Greek Government was persecuting minorities, insofar as such a situation might provoke border clashes.

Such action by Johnson would in effect keep the Greek case on the agenda and at the same time provide a broad inquiry into border incidents in an effort to determine how they were being provoked. Greece and Albania have accused each other of touching off the clashes.

Johnson also was expected once again to term "unsubstantiated" the Ukraine's charges that Greece, with the presence of British troops as a principal factor, threatened peace in the Balkans. Such a motion would bring into the open direct opposition of the United States to Russia's formal motion that the Council order Greece to halt what the Soviet termed "provocative activities of the aggressive Monarchfascist clique on the Albanian frontier and the persecution of minorities.

Italian Arms Limit OK'd

PARIS — (AP) — The Peace Conference military commission set its seal on the military limitations clauses of the Italian treaty today, cutting the Italian fleet to ten major ships and limiting the Army to 250,000 officers and men.

Supplementing the decision yesterday which consigned most surplus fleet units to the Big Four for division and requiring Italy to destroy the rest, today's unanimous action lets Italy keep two battleships, four cruisers and four destroyers, as well as minor units such as sixteen torpedo boats, twenty corvettes and auxiliaries. The Army's armament is restricted to 200 medium and heavy tanks among other items.

Under the annex adopted, Italy may keep the old 1912 battleships Andrea Doria and Caio Duilio, the cruisers Luigi Di Savoia, Duca Degli Abruzzi, Giuseppe Garibaldi, Raimondo Montecuccoli and Luigi Cadorna, and the destroyers Carabiniere, Granatiere, Grecale and Nicoloso Da Recco.

Stirred by the news that Secretary of Commerce Henry A. Wallace had urged President Truman to seek an American-Russian treaty on atomic energy, the Peace Conference also appeared headed for a showdown on a British effort to prohibit atom bomb manufacture in the beaten Balkan nations.

Judge Ups Ceiling Price On Divorces

DETROIT — (AP) — A Wayne County circuit judge believes that divorces, like everything else, should cost more these days.

Judge Arthur A. Webster recommended that the present fee of $5 for uncontested divorces be raised. A higher fee, he said, would bring divorce costs in line with the increased cost of living and also might check the soaring divorce rate.

WEATHER

Partly cloudy with occasional light rain this afternoon, tonight and Thursday. Slightly warmer tonight and tomorrow.

Temperature at 2:30 today	**78**
High and low last 24 hours	**78-59**
Sunset today	**6:26**
Sunrise tomorrow	**6:09**

Early Winter

Snow Blanket Covers Western Mountains

DENVER —(AP)— Snow blanketed the mountain peaks today as Winter began closing in on the Rockies.

Along the mountain ranges of Colorado, Wyoming and Montana, the U. S. Weather Bureau reported heavy snow was general above 7,000 feet elevation. Light snow also was falling at many lower points.

The wintry assault began yesterday with a 10.6 inch snow at Butte, Mont., and during the night temperatures dropped below freezing at some points in the mountain region. A low of 17 was reported at Big Piney, Wyo. 28 at Lewistown, Mont., and 29 at Cut Bank and West Yellowstone, Mont.

In Wyoming, light to moderate snow fell at Casper, Laramie, Cheyenne and Sheridan but melted quickly. Drizzles mixed with a few snowflakes were reported at Craig, Leadville and Denver in Colorado.

Clearing weather was forecast for tomorrow.

Coast Guard Gets Report Of Wreckage

Sighted Northeast Of Newfoundland

NEW YORK — (AP) — A Trans-Atlantic plane with 44 persons aboard was overdue and unreported today and a report to the Coast Guard said wreckage of a plane had been sighted northeast of Gander, Newfoundland.

The missing plane, operated by Sabbena, Belgian airline, was enroute from Brussels to New York. In London the British Press Association said it carried mostly American and Belgian businessmen. There were 37 passengers and a crew of seven, including two hostesses.

A message received at 12:53 P. M. (EDT) by the New York Coast Guard office from its North Atlantic Patrol said the last radio contact with the plane was at 3:37 A. M. (EDT) at which time it was approaching Gander.

At that time, the message said, the plane reportedly had enough fuel to last until 10:57 A. M. (EDT.)

SEARCH DELAYED

The Coast Guard message said an outbound C54, not otherwise identified, reported seeing plane wreckage northeast of Gander. The message said poor visibility was delaying an air search. Visibility at Gander was reported to be 500 feet.

The Coast Guard said several searching parties and planes were ready to begin a hunt as soon as weather permitted. An amor parachute rescue party was being held in readiness as a last resort, the North Atlantic Patrol added.

The British Press Association said in London that when the plane left Shannon, Eire, last night it had enough fuel for eighteen hours flying.

Hotels Will Have Music

NEW YORK—(AP)— The lilting strains of the waltz, the frenetic beat of jumpin' jive and the rhythms of the rhumba and samba will echo again tonight in most of the 38 New York hotels which have been without music because of a strike.

End of the 15-day walkout came late yesterday during a conference at City Hall between Mayor William O'Dwyer, hotel men and representatives of Local 802 of the AFL American Federation of Musicians, at which the hotel leaders agreed to pay the same 20 per cent wage increase which averted a strike in night clubs last Saturday.

The musicians will be called to ratify the agreement at a meeting Friday. The pact also includes time and a half for overtime, $5 extra for New Year's Eve, no reduction in the size of presently employed orchestras to make up for wage boosts, and extra pay when actual hours exceed playing hours. Members also will not be required to play a show longer than one hour without a 15-minute intermission.

Overseas Troubles

Sunspots Hit Radio, Cable Lines

NEW YORK —(AP)— Radio and cable operations to overseas points were seriously interrupted yesterday and early today by sunspots, communications firms reported.

Mackay Radio and Telegraph Co., Inc., said the sunspots and atmospheric conditions arising from them hit radio communications in all directions during the last 24 hours and reception during the night was "very bad."

RCA Communications, Inc., reported short wave reception was very bad throughout the night but long wave radio was not seriously affected. Short wave channels never were entirely blacked out, the company said, adding that conditions began to clear up by 8 A. M. (EDT) today.

Press Wireless, Inc., said reception between Europe and the United States was very bad during the night, but radio channels to South America remained virtually normal.

Western Union reported its Transatlantic cables were affected. However, news services using Western Union cables to Europe said those lines were not affected as seriously as radio communications, which were "blacked out" at intervals during the night.

Case Of The Missing Letter

Wallace Wants To Know How Pearson Got Scoop

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Secretary of Commerce Wallace said today he is happy to take Columnist Drew Pearson's word that the latter obtained a copy of Wallace's foreign policy letter to President Truman from sources outside the Commerce Department.

"I will be interested in knowing where he did secure the letter," Wallace said in a brief statement.

To that, Pearson commented:

"Mr. Wallace must know that newspaper men's sources are confidential."

The columnist added, despite an earlier denial by Presidential Secretary Charles G. Ross, that when the letter reached the White House "six carbon copies were made for the perusal of various advisers."

"After all," Pearson remarked to a reporter, "six copies of an important letter are too many in the city of Washington."

The exchange was precipitated when Wallace's office released the letter generally—over Mr. Truman's opposition—yesterday with this preface:

"In view of the fact that a copy of Secretary Wallace's letter of July 23, 1946, to the President was filched from the files and is in the hands of a newspaper columnist, the Secretary of Commerce is today releasing this copy of the letter."

Pearson promptly threatened Wallace with a libel suit.

Today Wallace issued this statement:

"I was gratified to learn that the columnist who had a copy of my letter of July 23 has stated categorically that he got it from sources outside of the Department of Commerce. I am happy to take his word and I will be interested in knowing where he did secure the letter."

Pearson thereupon announced that "in view of Mr. Wallace's statement I do not propose to take any legal proceedings against him."

Ross said that so far as he knew no official investigation is being made of how the letter "leaked out."

Ross replied "no comment" when he was asked whether the White House was concerned about the leak. He told reporters that the White House had made no duplicate copies of the letter, that the original had been sent to the State Department for Secretary Byrnes to read, and that it now is back in the White House files.

The first of Pearson's two columns containing the text of Secretary Wallace's letter to the President arrived at The News Monday marked for release Wednesday, and appears on the editorial page today. The second installment of the lengthy document will be published in The News tomorrow.

Protest Roll-Back

Restaurants Plan OPA Court Test

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hotel and restaurant associations announced today they planned court actions to test OPA's right to roll back meat menu prices to June 30 levels.

The OPA action in restoring ceilings on meat meals already has resulted in restaurant closings in some parts of the nation, the spokesmen said. Other eating places may shut down in the near future because of the OPA move, they added.

In New York, George R. Le Sauvage, chairman of the government relations committee of the National Restaurant Association, and John L. Hennessy, chairman of the food committee of the American Hotel Association, said in a joint statement a test of the OPA right to roll back the prices would be taken to the U. S. Emergency Court of Appeals.

INDUSTRY THREATENED

"This latest action by OPA has brought about a crisis, which is threatening the very life of the public feeding industry," they said.

Terming the OPA action "discriminatory," they said it was "the public feeding operators' contention—and always will be—that our prices should be based on present costs plus customary mark-up."

The Ohio State Restaurant Association said it would seek an injunction in Federal Court against enforcement of the roll back. Directors of the association appropriated $10,000 to defend members they said were cited by the price control agency for refusing to comply with ceilings.

Toledo and Northwestern Ohio Restaurant Association members voted to support the state directors' actions but rejected a proposal by a Toledo member that they close for two or three days in protest of the OPA move.

More than 100 restaurants in at least nine Iowa cities were reported closed or soon to close.

William W. Bradford, executive vice-president of the Southern California Restaurant Association, said in Los Angeles the body would file suit "if necessary" to resist the OPA order.

Most Ships Still Idle

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

A ripple of activity stirred the nation's waterfronts today due to release of AFL-manned ships and foreign vessels from CIO picket lines, but the bulk of America's maritime fleet still was anchored fast to the fourteen-day-old seamen's strike.

The situation in New York—the Nation's No. 1 port—was typical.

The U. S. Maritime Commission said 432 ships were in port. Longshoremen were at work on 82. Of these, 22 were American and the others of foreign registry.

FRENCHMEN CAUGHT

Nearly 1,000 French seamen, caught in the strike as they came to the United States to return a number of recently purchased Liberty ships to France, announced today they would not go to work until the National Maritime Union CIO wins its wage demands.

They are members of the World Federation of Trade Unions, which numbers the CIO among its affiliates.

Both union leaders and ship owners appeared to be sitting tight, waiting for Washington to do something about arbitrating the dispute.

NMU President Joseph Curran asked President Truman for help Sunday night. West Coast leaders appealed to the White House for relief from the stalemate yesterday.

Sen. Andrews, Florida, Dies

WASHINGTON —(AP)— Senator Charles O. Andrews, Democrat, Florida, died today of a heart attack at Naval Hospital.

Andrews had gone to the hospital last week for a physical checkup. His home was in Orlando.

A former justice of the Florida State Supreme Court, he was elected to the Senate in 1936 and re-elected in 1940.

Big Chinese Drive Looms

NANKING —(AP)— Signs multiplied today that China's long-idle Government armies in Manchuria were preparing to open an offensive to push the Communists farther north or to overwhelm Harbin.

The Communists charged the Government was "launching offensives on seven fronts" in North China and that one prime objective was Harbin, capital of the Communists-held regions of northern Manchuria.

Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek's own Chief of State, Gen. Chen Cheng, was in Muken, the military base for any major operation in the rich, contest territory of the Northeast.

Wage-Price Study Asked

WASHINGTON — (AP)—President Truman has ordered a study of the Government's wage-price policy which may determine the future of the Wage Stabilization Board.

The WSB was obstructed by the White House in settling the AFL seaman's strike.

The Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion said today its Advisory Board has been asked by Mr. Truman to make the survey.

An OWMR official said "there is no thought of scrapping WSB." But one Advisory Board member told reporters privately he believed the President wanted guidance on whether the board should be dissolved and, if so, what type of stabilization machinery should take its place.

INFORMAL STUDY

The official spokesman said the study is "all very informal" and in line with the custom of the Advisory Board constantly to study all matters pertaining to reconversion.

Mr. Truman spoke personally to a meeting of the advisory body yesterday, as he often does. The board, headed by Dr. George W. Taylor, former chairman of the War Labor Board, meets every two weeks.

Taylor was selected to head a subcommittee which will study the wage-price program.

The other members of the subcommittee:

Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association; Philip Murray, president of the CIO; Nathaniel Dyke of the Bank of Deposit Insurance Corporation; and Mrs. Anna Rosenberg, New York.

Hubby Preferred Butler To Wife

LOS ANGELES—(AP)—Confronted with a choice between his wife and his butler, millionaire hotel man Conrad Hilton picked the latter. Sari Gabor, Hungarian actress, testified in obtaining a divorce.

The actress testified that "was very fresh. He didn't want to take my orders. I asked my husband to fire the butler but he said he wouldn't and if I didn't like it I could go." Later, after their home burned and was rebuilt, she added, Hilton "went back with his butler but he didn't want me."

She said she went to live with her sister, Film Player Eva Gabor. The latter corroborated her testimony.

Ask Housing Steps

Workmen Plead For British Squatters

LONDON—(AP)—A delegation representing 600,000 London union workmen pleaded the squatter cause with Government officials today and called for immediate steps to remedy Britain's critical housing shortage.

Court rulings against trespassing had broken the back of the city's ten-day-old squatter invasion. However, the Communist-led squatters appeared to have scored a point by forcing the Labor Government to speed action in the housing crisis.

"We are not completely satisfied," a spokesman for the London Trades Council delegation said after spending an hour and a half with Health Minister Aneurin Bevan and Minister of Works George Tomlinson reported the labor delegation.

A member of the labor delegation reported the health minister refused to consider permitting the squatters to remain on in buildings recently vacated by the Government.

Meanwhile in Glasgow, a spokesman for squatters who have occupied more than 20 buildings promised resistance "even to the point of physical force" to a police order warning them to move within 48 hours.

The first of about 1,500 London squatters, obeying court eviction orders, began leaving the swank West End apartments they commandeered last week. The group included men, women and children.

White House Conference Brings Issue To A Climax

'Gag' Order For Wallace Talked

By JOHN M. HIGHTOWER

WASHINGTON — (AP) — President Truman went into a round of conferences with State Department officials today in advance of an expected foreign policy showdown with Henry A. Wallace during the afternoon.

The President was reported by top Administration sources to have decided to tell Secretary Wallace that he must quit talking about American foreign policy or get out of the Cabinet.

Undersecretary of State Will Clayton, who tried to head off Wallace's se-more-gentle-with-Russia New York speech of last Thursday, was scheduled to see the President twice before the Secretary of Commerce arrived at the White House.

BARUCH CALLS

Bernard Baruch, Administration Adviser on Atomic Policy, was on the White House calling list with Clayton. Earlier, Clayton and Assistant Secretary of State Donald Russell had a fifteen minute session with Mr. Truman.

Baruch told reporters as he left the White House that "the President will do all the talking, whatever there is."

One of Wallace's aides told reporters today that his chief was considering "drastic" speech he is scheduled to make at Providence, R. I., Sept. 24, "The People Make Foreign Policy."

This official stressed that this title was entirely tentative at this time and added that the speech had not been fully drafted and consequently Wallace was not expected to take it to the White House with him today.

The Wallace aide commented that he did not think that Wallace would have any objection to Undersecretary of State Clayton editing the address after it had been drafted. He pointed out that Clayton had told a news conference yesterday that the fact that the State Department might suggest changes in a foreign policy address submitted, to it did not necessarily mean that the suggestions would have to be followed.

MAY BROADCAST

It was also disclosed that the Secretary of Commerce was trying with the idea of making a radio broadcast prior to the Providence speech, which is to be delivered under the auspices of the Rhode Island National Citizens PAC.

A Commerce Department source said that radio time "has already been offered" to Wallace.

Wallace was due at the White House late today.

Less than 24 hours earlier he made public — without Mr. Truman's approval — a letter he wrote the Chief Executive last July urging that this country agree to "reasonable Russian guarantees of security" even at the risk of "temporary peacement" crisis.

"We have little time to lose," Wallace said in calling for a "shift in some of our thinking about international relations."

The letter, which Mr. Truman simply acknowledged and passed on to Secretary of State Byrnes, proposed a long list of moves Wallace said should improve American-Russian relations.

Among them was a defensive treaty pledge for the eventual destruction of America's atomic bomb monopoly, a reassessment of this country's military as well as foreign policies to avoid what Wallace described as the danger of a third World War.

The President specifically "disapproved" release of the letter for general publication on the premise that his approval might be construed abroad as applying to the contents as well.

But his decision—reversing an

See WALLACE on page 6-A

Majority Of Meat Markets Closed

CHICAGO —(AP)— Last [illegible] ment since retail price ceilings were established on Sept. 6 had [illegible] in the closing of at least [illegible] of the nation's butcher shops, [illegible] the National Association of Retail Meat Dealers.

The situation was so critical, the spokesman, [illegible] "will become relatively worse." He said [illegible] of the organization's [illegible] disclosed that between [illegible] per cent of the shops [illegible] because of the shortage [illegible] meat products.