

Charlotte Firemen Battle 13 Blazes

The Weatherman Was Right

Mercury Drops 13

Here is an hourly report of temperatures recorded at the municipal airport for the 24-hour period ending at 2:03 P. M. today.

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| 2:30 P. M. | 42 | 3:30 P. M. | 41 | 4:30 P. M. | 40 | 5:30 P. M. | 39 | 6:30 P. M. | 38 | 7:30 P. M. | 37 | 8:30 P. M. | 36 | 9:30 P. M. | 35 | 10:30 P. M. | 34 | 11:30 P. M. | 33 | 12:30 P. M. | 32 | 1:30 P. M. | 31 | 2:30 P. M. | 30 |
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By EMERY WISTER
Charlotte News Staff Writer

The mercury is due to take another nose dive tonight. A minimum of 12 degrees is forecast by tomorrow morning.

The weather bureau predicts that relief is coming but not before tomorrow afternoon. The temperature is expected to rise slightly then and partly cloudy weather is forecast. Clear skies are predicted this afternoon and tonight.

The mercury dropped to 13 degrees at the Charlotte airport this morning, the lowest temperature here since Feb. 15, 1943, when a minimum of 12 degrees was recorded. Today's average temperature was not expected to rise above 20 degrees which would

make the day the coldest since Jan. 27, 1940, when the average was 15 degrees.

The blinding cold was felt in every area of the Carolinas. Even Wilmington, where the mercury has seldom dropped below freezing this winter, shivered in the bitter weather. A minimum of 18 degrees was recorded there.

On Mt. Mitchell the temperature tumbled to 11 degrees below zero and two inches of snow were reported there. Asheville reported a minimum of 7 degrees. There was also a trace of snow there.

Greensboro, Winston-Salem and Raleigh all reported minimums of 12 degrees this morning. It was 20 degrees in Columbia, 14 in Spartanburg and 20 in Charleston, S. C.

The cold wave came hard on the heels of a blinding wind which whipped across the area yesterday and last night. Gusts up to fifteen to twenty-five miles per hour were reported, but by this morning the wind had subsided to little more than a breeze.

The current cold snap, coming after balmy, spring-like weather that touched off January's rainy spell, was generally welcomed by farmers and orchardists. Hog killings had been delayed by the warm days and apprehension had been expressed in some quarters.

See COLDEST DAY on page 11-A

Warns Of Dangers, However

Truman Cites I. N. Progress

By JOHN M. HIGHTOWER

WASHINGTON—President Truman told Congress today that the United Nations has made "progress" in the past year, but that what hopes for peace can yet be "betrayed and lost."

"The difficulties and dangers that lie before us are many and serious," Mr. Truman said in a letter transmitted to both the Senate and House of Representatives on the subject of the United Nations activities in the world organization during 1946.

He declared in the report that progress made under international control of atomic energy is "heartening," due chiefly to increasing Russian agreement with American proposals for a world control system.

WORK "SLOW"

On the other hand, the Chief Executive described as "disappointingly slow" the work of the Military Staff Committee, "that U. N. agency has the task of organizing the forces which the Security Council is authorized to use against any future aggressor."

Mr. Truman said, however, "there are already signs of greater speed and it is hoped that the pace of the committee's work will continue to accelerate."

The President listed as one outstanding accomplishment of the peace agency during its first year the unanimous agreement by the 54 member nations, including Russia, on the principle of international control and inspection of atomic energy, "established by

treaty and not subject to any veto in its operations." But he added:

"Many months of hard work and difficult negotiation in the Security Council and the Atomic Energy Commission lie ahead. Not all the essential principles have been agreed upon. The problem of enforcement must still be resolved."

"All the principles must be given specific and practical application in treaties and conventions unanimously agreed upon."

ONE OF MAIN TASKS

"This is one of the main tasks before the United Nations in the coming year. To succeed, we must at the same time build the other essential foundations of a general system of collective security."

"The nations can safely lay aside their arms only insofar as their security is protected by other means."

Mr. Truman said one of the "important long range achievements of the United Nations in the past year was the holding of talks in London and partly in New York, was the adoption of resolutions for 'codification and development of international law.'"

Developments toward the application of international law to individuals—as in the cases of the Nazi leaders tried at Nuremberg—as well as to states "are of profound significance," the President said.

"We can not have lasting peace unless a genuine rule of world law is established and enforced."

Department Answers

Many Cails Tire Fire Puts Out Smokestack

Seventeen fires in a little more than twelve hours today gave Charlotte firemen their busiest day in many months.

One of the fires at the Southern Metals Co. at 224 S. Graham St., a stubborn blaze in a large stock of old automobile tires put out virtual smokestack over a part of the downtown section and attracted hundreds of spectators. Firemen who were first called to the tires started at 12:10 in the afternoon, were still fighting the blaze at 2:30 o'clock.

Another fire, at the Henry V. Dick Co., a refrigerating firm at 311 E. 5th St., caused several thousand dollars' damage early this morning. The fire attracted attention when an ammonia cylinder exploded and was hurled across an adjoining building.

MINISTER BURNED

The Rev. John Butler, 319 S. Davidson St., was badly burned when his house caught fire at 10:30 this afternoon. He was taken to the Samaritan Hospital. Fire officials reported his condition as "unsatisfactory." Firemen said Butler was stirring up a fire in a stove and tossed gasoline on the fire, causing a flash explosion.

Wilson's Stand

'Never Will Sign' Closed Shop Pact

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Charles E. Wilson, president of General Motors today said the Senate Labor Committee he "never will sign" a closed shop contract.

"I wouldn't sign a closed shop agreement," the corporation head declared. "I never will sign one that says 'I never will sign one that says I can make a farmer out of me.'"

MOORE STATEMENT

The white-haired GM executive expressed his views under questioning by Senator Moore, Republican, Oregon, who told Wilson:

"The thing you are overlooking is that we have to protect working men from employers who want to destroy the right to organize for economic benefit."

The Labor Committee is conducting hearings on a sheet of bills designed to iron out labor-management

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'Coercion' Of Workers

Would Be Prohibited

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Europe Held In Cold Grip

Idea Termed Medieval

LONDON—(AP)—A severe cold wave gripped Great Britain and Western Europe today, further aggravating the grave coal shortage which recently subsided in British mines.

Factories employing 75,000 people in the London area were closed because of the fuel shortage and their owners reported that they were covered nearly all the labor for their factories.

Factories in Berlin, too, were closed because of the fuel shortage. In the Ruhr, where temperatures dropped sharply, the situation was even worse. In Berlin, more than 100,000 workers reported themselves without work. In other parts of Germany, thousands worked on reduced schedules. The American occupation zone was covered with six inches of snow. Two more severe cold waves are expected, raising deaths from the cold to 100,000 in the Ruhr. The cold also stopped traffic in the Netherlands. In the Netherlands, the cold stopped traffic in the Netherlands. In the Netherlands, the cold stopped traffic in the Netherlands.

Divorce Bill Approved

Knutsen Tax Bill

COLUMBIA, S. C.—(AP)—The House passed and sent to the Senate this afternoon a joint resolution proposing a constitutional amendment that would permit divorce in South Carolina. This was the first time since 1920 that the House has passed a divorce bill.

The proposed amendment would permit divorce on the grounds of adultery, incurable insanity, habitual drunkenness, desertion and physical cruelty.

The General Assembly ratified an act by Rep. Wylie of York to allow York School District No. 1 to borrow up to \$20,000.

The General Assembly also ratified today an act to allow Spartanburg metropolitan sub-district No. 1 to expend up to \$5,000 of bond interest funds, for waterworks improvement.

Unification Bill Likely To Be Sent Up Next Week

WASHINGTON—(AP)—President Truman hopes to send to Congress next week a bill for unification of the armed services. Presidential Secretary Charles G. Ross said the bill would give a \$100,000,000 increase in the pay of military personnel.

The bill presumably will follow the lines of Mr. Truman's previous recommendations for three departments of defense and one unified command, grouped under a Secretary of National Defense.

RECORDS BURNED

Asst. Fire Chief C. M. Griswold said that considerable stock of records had been lost when a fire broke out in the fire station. The records included fire logs, accident reports and other documents. The fire was caused by a gas leak and was extinguished by the fire department.

Four Dead In Fiery Crash

Marshall In Line

FRESNO, Calif.—(AP)—The flames from the crash of the Southern Pacific Railroad's passenger train today killed four people and injured many others.

The train, which was carrying 100 passengers, derailed and caught fire at 1:40 o'clock.

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Sum Themselves

British Royalty

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Widow Joins Mate In Death

Engineer Dies In Week

SAN FRANCISCO—(AP)—For years George Chene, retired from the U. S. Navy, had been an invalid, with his wife, Theresa, constantly at his side.

When he died, at the age of 87, he and his wife, 73, had been married 48 years.

"God's will be done," said his widow on learning of his death, "for our life has been a long and happy one."

Death came to her within a few hours.

Funeral services will be held for the couple today.

Engineer Dies In Week

LITTLE ROCK—(AP)—The locomotive engineer who died in the collision between a passenger train and a freight train last week, died today and the engineer died in the week.

House Group Authorizes Navy To Build Two Experimental Subs

Told Soviet Ahead Of U. S.

WASHINGTON—(AP)—A House subcommittee today approved a bill authorizing the Navy to build two large experimental submarines after hearing testimony that exchanging new ideas with Russia on submarines is a "one-way street."

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