Give Now

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

★★★★ Final

Largest Afternoon Newspaper In The Carolinas

ESTABLISHED 1888 | CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 1947 | 30 Pages—Price Five Cents

Supreme Court Rules:

LEWIS VERDICT UPHELD

Closed Shop Bill Argued At Hearing In Raleigh

Views Heard By Senate Group

RALEIGH — (AP) — The Senate Manufacturing, Labor and Commerce Committee heard opponents and proponents of an anti-closed shop bill today and recessed until later in the day to hear more testimony.

Andrew Joyner Jr. of Greensboro said a similar measure had been adopted by other states, and he cited recent trouble in the coal mines as a reason the closed shop should not be recognized. He said that newspapers had been made to sign closed shops in at least one of their departments, and that such practice was not democratic or contributive to incentive.

C. A. Fink of Winston-Salem, president of the State Federation of Labor, introduced a number of his colleagues, the gist of whose remarks was that the anti-closed shop bill was to eliminate the right to contract. He said that Labor had a good record in North Carolina.

The bill, which also would write off mandatory check-offs by which union dues are paid, swept through the House two weeks ago.

R. R. Lawrence of Charlotte, representing the Textile Workers Union of America, a CIO affiliate, said that the measure was "a stab in the back for labor" and that if unions were given their share of credit and responsibility, there would not be so much concern over raising teachers' salaries.

The House Committee on Elections and Election Laws voted favorably today on a bill by Rep. Blue of Moore to hold first statewide primaries on the third Saturday in June instead of the last Saturday in May.

Blue said adoption of the measure would allow college students and public school teachers to return to their homes in time to vote. Under State law, no absentee votes are allowed in primaries.

The committee also approved an amendment specifying that absentee ballots for elections must be sent to servicemen by Sept. 1 instead of the present Aug. 1.

The House Elections and Election Laws Committee approved a measure by Rep. Royster of Vance to allow new registrations when books are lost in fires or otherwise mutilated. A recent fire at Henderson destroyed registration books.

Senate Judiciary One voted favorable on a bill providing for the segregation of youthful offenders under 21 years of age from old offenders. The court would be allowed discrimination in sending first offenders to the special prisons, one of which already is being operated by the Prison Dept. in Gates County.

Senate Judiciary Committee One, composed mostly of lawyers, deferred action on a bill to increase fines and imprisonment of persons convicted of bootlegging. The measure went over after Senator Johnson of Duplin remarked that the increased fines would prevent lawyers from collecting their fees. Punishment for the first conviction alone would be $500 up and six months imprisonment.

IN LIKE A LION

March lived up to its reputation this year. We're still shivering from the cold of last week and the week before. But it gives us a chance to remind you of the step-saving food ads every Thursday in **The Charlotte News.** Wise homemakers save time and money the year 'round by using these fine shopping guides regularly.

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

ELDER STATESMEN — Former Senator Cameron Morrison of Charlotte, and former Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels, get together in Raleigh. Both are staunch advocates of prohibition and Senator Morrison spoke vigorously in support of a state-wide referendum at a hearing at the Capital Tuesday afternoon. (Special News Photo by Lawrence Wofford).

The Other Side Of The Picture

Advocates Of ABC Heard By Legislative Committee

By BURKE DAVIS
Charlotte News Special Writer

RALEIGH—In a quiet session of anti-climax advocates of legal liquor control appeared before Senate and House committees here yesterday afternoon in opposition to bills proposing state-wide referendums on liquor. Unlike the hearing of the previous day when dry forces appeared, there was no oratory, and not a single spectator slapped a palm in applause. The hearing was short, and only four speakers were heard. All were from the East, as the Drys were from the West.

None of them was connected with ABC boards, but each of them told a story of decreasing crime and generally improved conditions in his community with the coming of legal liquor stores. The assertion of the drys that democracy was being spurned in North Carolina in the absence of a state-wide referendum drew fire.

Judge R. H. Sykes of Durham struck the keynote on this point, saying:

"Some people say we're not getting democracy. They want a referendum. For what purpose? They've got in 75 counties just what they want—absolute prohibition. We've got in 25 counties what we want. We say it's not democratic to let them come over into our counties and tell our people what they can do—after the overwhelming majority of our people have voted to outlaw the bootlegger and set up control."

The speakers, heard by a quiet and surprisingly large audience of about 200 people (half of whom had to stand in the small hearing room) offered facts and figures of life in the "Wet" Eastern counties since control has come in. W. D. Campbell of Wilmington cited the experience of New Hanover:

"In 1910-11 there were more than 60 bars and speakeasies in Wilmington. During the ten years of pro-

See ADVOCATES on page 4-A

Pineville Store Robbed

Narcotics Thieves Are Busy In Area

By TOM WATKINS
Charlotte News Staff Writer

Federal agents are on the trail of thieves believed to be responsible for the theft of large quantities of narcotics from drug stores at Monroe, Gastonia, Lincolnton, Pineville, and other communities in this area of the state, it was learned today.

Tuesday night narcotic thieves entered the Pineville Drug Co. and carted away all types of the vital products in almost every form, pills, powders, and liquid.

The County Police while conducting an investigation along the Plaza Road, near the Fairgrounds, stumbled upon a bucket containing a large portion of the stolen property. A check revealed that the more potent narcotics had been removed.

Chief of Police W. T. Wilson at Pineville and County Police here said no arrests had been made. Chief Wilson said the robbers, after gaining entrance to the drug store, went directly to the concealed narcotic cabinet and literally removed the entire stock. Nothing else in the store was bothered.

Chief Wilson said he had been informed that similar robberies had taken place in Monroe, Gastonia, Lincolnton, and other towns near here, where drug stores have been broken into recently and only narcotics removed.

Federal narcotic agents, it was stated, have been apprised of the situation and a full investigation is under way.

The narcotics taken from the Pineville Drug Co. were concealed under a brush heap. Whether or not the thieves intended to return for the hidden stolen property or whether, having sorted out the particular dope they wanted were content to depart this area, was not known.

Harold Stassen Reaches Athens

ATHENS —(AP)— Harold E. Stassen arrived here by plane today from Paris and was met at the airport by representatives of the U. S. Embassy and the Greek Foreign Ministry.

Stassen, on an economic fact-finding tour of seventeen European countries, was expected to confer later in the day with Premier Demetrios Maximos, Foreign Minister Constantin Tsaldaris and officials of the Bank of Greece.

He will leave tomorrow for Rome.

There's Howe —In Durham

Ray Howe

FOR the next three days you'll be reading Sports Editor Ray Howe from Durham, where he's gone to represent The News' reading public at the Southern Conference basketball tournament. He crawled into his aged but frequently trusty coupe this morning, took a bearing on Duke University and set out through the murk.

Confidentially, he may as well have stayed at home, for he already has the tournament of upsets all doped out to run according to form this year. He posted (for posterity) a note on the sports department wall predicting that State would whip Duke in the finals, 67-45. Here's Howe is seldom wrong.

World Trade Peace Urged By Truman

President Talks At Texas School

WACO, Texas — (AP) — President Truman, calling for a reduction of world trade barriers, declared today the United States "can lead the nations to economic peace or we can plunge them into economic war."

The President, en route home from a three-day good-will visit to Mexico, stopped here to receive an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from Baylor University. In an acceptance speech devoted entirely to the need for freer world trade, he:

1—Reaffirmed his faith in the reciprocal trade act which has been under attack by some Republicans in Congress.

2—Struck out at those who would return to high tariffs and "economic isolation."

3—Welcomed continuation of bipartisan support for a foreign policy which calls for co-operation in the economic as well as the political field.

CITES ALTERNATIVE

4—Asserted that the alternative to "regimentation" of international commerce is the world trade charter to be considered by eighteen nations at Geneva next month. The proposed international trade organization, he said, would apply to commercial relationships "the same principle of fair dealing that the United Nations is applying to political affairs."

(Mr. Truman made no reference in his remarks to Greece's appeal, with support from Britain, for American economic aid. Last Tuesday, Secretary of State Marshall termed the threatened collapse of the Greek economy a matter of "primary importance" to the United States. He said details of action proposed would be announced by the President.)

"The negotiations at Geneva must not fail," he declared.

He termed the United States today "the giant of the economic world" and added:

"Whether we like it or not, the future pattern of economic relations depends upon us. The world is waiting and watching to see what we shall do. The choice is ours. We can lead the nations to economic peace or we can plunge them into economic war."

"There must be no question as to our course. We must not go through the 'thirties again."

He said reduction of trade barriers is a "settled policy" of this Government, one of the "cornerstones of our plans for peace," and "a policy from which we cannot—and must not—turn aside."

"To those among us—and there are still a few—who would seek to undermine this policy for partisan advantage and go back to the period of high tariffs and economic isolation," he continued, "I can say only this:

"Take care! Times have changed. Our position in the world has changed. The temper of the people has changed. The slogans of 1930 or of 1896 are sadly out of date. Isolationism, after two world wars, is a confession of mental and moral bankruptcy."

BI-PARTISAN SUPPORT

"Happily, our foreign economic policy does not now rest upon a base of narrow partisanship. Leaders in both parties have expressed their faith in its essential purposes. Here, as elsewhere in our foreign relations I shall welcome a continuation of bi-partisan support.

"Our people are united. They have come to a realization of their responsibilities. They are ready to assume their role of leadership. They are determined upon an international order in which peace and freedom shall endure."

Mr. Truman said the pattern of international trade most conducive to freedom of enterprise is one in which the major decisions are made not by governments but by "private buyers and sellers, under conditions of active competition, and with proper safeguards against the establishment of monopolies and cartels."

Snowstorm Hits Moscow

MOSCOW — (AP) — One of the Winter's worst snowstorms pelted Moscow today as foreign visitors began to arrive for the four-power Foreign Ministers Conference.

Workers who just had finished clearing city streets were called again to tackle new drifts. The temperature dropped to 5 degrees above zero.

Court Also Upholds Union's Conviction

WASHINGTON — (AP) — The Supreme Court ruled 7-2 today that John L. Lewis and his mine union were guilty of contempt for flouting a court order to halt last Fall's soft coal strike.

Chief Justice Vinson read the extraordinary mid-week decision to a startled courtroom. It represented a smashing victory for President Truman's "fight to the finish" against Lewis and the United Mine Workers for breaking off their contract to mine coal for the Government.

The decision put over the heads of the United Mine Workers, too, a $2,800,000 penalty if they strike again on March 31. The miners ended last Fall's seventeen-day walkout under orders to work only until that date.

That comes about this way:

The court upheld a $10,000 fine against Lewis personally and reduced from $3,500,000 to $700,000 the fine against the union. But it said that unless the union complies with the court order against breaking off its contract with the Government, then the $2,800,000 shall be reimposed.

If the miners' walk out March 31, that would be through termination of the contract.

Moreover, the High Tribunal's decision requires that Lewis formally withdraw his notice of ending the contract. He must do that within five days after the High Court's order reaches the U. S. District here where the contempt case was tried.

And he is forbidden to issue another contract-ending order until the courts have ruled on whether he can legally do that. As a practical matter, that might require several months.

SHARP DIVISION

The High Court Justices divided sharply.

Justices Murphy and Rutledge dissented from the principal decision that Lewis and the UMW were in contempt.

Justices Black and Douglas, while agreeing there was contempt, disagreed with the majority action on the fines. They said fines should be imposed only on certain conditions.

Vinson used strong language in speaking of Lewis' stand that he could (1) withdraw a contract with the Government for mining by his union members, and (2) ignore a Court order telling him not to do that until the Court could rule on the legal issues.

LEWIS SILENT

In the early afternoon, there was still no comment from Lewis. Nor was there any from Secretary of the Interior Krug with whom Lewis signed an operating contract.

John P. Busarello, District 5 secretary of the union, said at Pittsburgh, however:

"They gave labor a rotten deal."

Miners in the field appeared surprised by the decision. Herman Capelle, employed at a mine near Pittsburgh, said:

"I think it's unfair. I hope it doesn't result in a strike."

Lewis may get on the subject publicly, however, tomorrow. He is scheduled then to appear before the Senate Labor Committee and discuss pending proposals for new labor laws.

The Court handed down its decision under unusual circumstances. Ordinarily, it gives out decisions only on Mondays.

FEW PRESENT

Today, the Justices entered the courtroom as usual at noon. In a short time Vinson announced he was about to read the majority's opinion in the coal case. The courtroom was only about half filled as compared with an overflow crowd last Monday.

From the standpoint of legal history, the court's decision is one of its major rulings on labor laws and the Constitution. These issues were so basic that the CIO and AFL had intervened and argued in the case.

The decision held that the Norris - La Guardia Act of 1932 did not apply to the Government. This act outlawed virtually all court orders against strikes in the case of disputes with private employers.

Much of the legal controversy in the contempt case revolved about the issue of whether it also applied to the overnment.

Here is how it developed.

In May off last year, the Government seized the coal mines to

See COURT UPHOLDS on page 11-A

The Lewis Case

Decision Receives General Approval

WASHINGTON — (AP) — General approval marked first Congressional reaction today to the Supreme Court decision upholding contempt convictions in the John L. Lewis mine union case, but Senator Ball, Republican, Minnesota, said it doesn't end the need for new labor laws.

Ball, member of the Senate Labor Committee now considering various proposals to curb unions, told a reporter:

"I think this removes any need for amending the Norris-La Guardia Act. But we still have got to do something about industry-wide bargaining. We can't leave the country at the mercy of industry-wide strikes. We still have got to do something, too, about the closed shop."

LABOR BILL AUTHOR

Ball is the author of a bill to outlaw closed shop, under which only union members may be hired, and has also proposed legislation to knock out-industry-wide bargaining.)

Other prompt comment:

Senator Ecton, Republican, Montana: "I think it will have a salutary effect on the whole labor situation. The public feels that no person or group should be above the Government."

Senator Capehart, Republican: "It makes it more important than ever that the Commerce Committee immediately hold hearings, as I have suggested, to find out why the Government hasn't returned the mines and why the owners haven't wanted them."

Senator Cooper, Republican, Kentucky: "Without discussing the merits of the case, I am happy to know that the Supreme Court has declared that all groups and every individual must respect and obey the order of a court."

Senator Green, Democrat, Rhode Island: "I think the Supreme Court is probably right. Anyway it's the law. I think the decision will have popular approval."

MORSE WAITS

Senator Morse, Republican, Oregon: "Until I read the decision I cannot say whether it is based on the legal principles that I have suggested could and should sustain the conviction."

Senator Bushfield, Republican, South Dakota: "It's certainly good news that the Government can control the situation. Without this decision our hands would be completely tied. The Government simply couldn't do anything."

Britain Fears New Crisis

LONDON—(AP)—A new fuel crisis threatened storm-battered Britain today.

Ice and mountainous snows knotted the nation's transportation system and slashed critically needed coal production. The Daily Herald, organ of the ruling Labor Party, forecast "further checks" of fuel-short industry unless coal stocks get through.

ROADS BLOCKED

A two day blizzard that died out last night had blocked 120 highways, stopped all movement on forty branchlines of the Great Western Railway alone, and entirely isolated thirty-three South Wales mines, which went out of production. Attendance at other mines there and in the Midlands was cut by 50 per cent.

Prime Minister Attlee called a meeting of his emergency "Coal Cabinet" for this afternoon.

A major London dairy cut milk deliveries 20 per cent because of tangled transportation. A bread and milk shortage threatened industrial Birmingham, where incoming supplies were reduced 60 per cent.

The blizzard cut England in two for highway travelers. An automobile association said "it is practically impossible to get from south to north." Thousands of abandoned vehicles dotted the roads, many buried beneath snow. A woman's body was taken from one car in Wales. Some school children were stranded all night in a bus near Oxford, but volunteers dug them out safely.

Many trains throughout the Kingdom were marooned in drifts.

The Air Ministry forecast "continuing cold, with hard and severe night frosts." Day temperatures were slightly above freezing in most areas. A gale blew over Dover Strait.

Truman Citation Changed

Mention Of Lincoln's Bed Is Eliminated

WACO, Texas—(AP)—A citation conferring an honorary degree on President Truman was revised today to eliminate an assertion that the President's mother refused to sleep in the Lincoln bed at the White House.

The first paragraph as distributed to the press read:

"Harry S. Truman, product of Missouri sun and soil and schools—born amid humble environments — rocked in the cradle of adversity—no silver spoon was yours—you grew to manhood's high noon in the quiet democratic way of life—the Southern way—engraved into your youthful blood and bones were the rich and romantic traditions of the Old South as evidenced by your 94-year-old mother who declared a few weeks ago that when she visited the White House she would sleep on the floor before she would occupy the bed in which Abraham Lincoln slept."

Baylor University President Pat M. Neff, a former Texas Governor, read the citation in awarding the Chief Executive a Doctor of Laws degree.

It was revised apparently at the White House request, after attaches expressed concern.

The passage was read by Neff to eliminate the reference to the Lincoln bed.

WEATHER

Occasional rain this afternoon, tonight, and Friday. Slightly colder tonight and Friday, with lowest temperature tonight 32.

Temperature at 2:30 today	40
High and low last 24 hours	49-30
Sunset today	6:22
Sunrise tomorrow	6:45

More weather data on page 11-B