CAUSE OF DIVORCES

Divorces don't start after the honeymoon. They start in childhood. George Crane discusses the divorce problem in today's Worry Clinic. You'll find it on the back page.

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

Largest Afternoon Newspaper In The Carolinas

Final Edition

ESTABLISHED 1888 | CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 1948 | 28 Pages—Price Five Cents

Winston-Salem Youth Admits Killing Father, Mother

14 KILLED, 200 INJURED BY TORNADOES

16-Year-Old, Girl Friend Captured By York Police

Deputies Get Confession

YORK, S. C. — (AP) — Sheriff C. A. Moss of York County said today that Tommy Lee Phillips, 16, had admitted that he killed his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Phillips, at their home near Winston-Salem, N. C., yesterday.

Sheriff Moss said details of the reported confession would not be announced until two deputy sheriffs from Winston-Salem, I. W. Spease and George K. Pontain, completed their questioning of the youth later today.

Deputy Sheriff W. F. Allison said young Phillips and a companion, Bessie Ruth Henkins, sixteen, of Winston-Salem, were picked up as they sat in an automobile outside a York cafe this morning.

Allison said the youth told him they had come to York to get married.

The pair were picked up by Police Chief J. L. Love of York and City Patrolman James G. Boyd.

Allison said he understood no charges will be placed against the girl, but she may be ordered held as a witness.

The bodies of Mr. and Mrs. Phillips were discovered by George Honeycutt, of Winston-Salem, a brother-in-law of Mrs. Phillips, who had attempted to call the couple by telephone earlier in the afternoon.

A swell of blood ran from the hall to a front bedroom, where Phillips was found, shot through the right eye. Mrs. Phillips, a wound in her head, was found in the kitchen. She was wearing a nightgown and a light jacket.

Sheriff Ernie G. Shore of Forsyth County said neighbors reported hearing shots at about 11:30 A. M. yesterday.

The Sheriff quoted neighbors as having reported that the son had left the home after a family argument Tuesday night. The family car was missing from the garage.

Mother, 2 Sons Burned To Death

SYRACUSE, N. Y.—(AP)—A mother and her two small sons were burned to death and two other children were carried to safety when fire swept a three-family home today.

The victims were Mrs. Francis McLaughlin, 29, occupant of a second floor apartment, and her sons Michael, six, and Patrick, four.

Carried to safety from a first-floor apartment were Carol Esbold, nine, and her brother, Howard Jr., seven.

Police said the fire started in the McLaughlin flat.

While fighting the flames, firemen discovered Mrs. McLaughlin and her two youngsters were trapped in the apartment.

Firemen raised ladders and made their way through the burning flat. They carried the bodies of the two children down. Then they returned and found Mrs. McLaughlin's body

Miners Strike Over 'Hard Hats'

CALIPORNIA, Pa.—(AP)—Nearly 1,700 soft coal miners will return to work tomorrow or Monday wearing the "hard hats" that brought on a strike at the Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp's Vesta No. 4 mine last Monday.

The walkout began after the miners said they would refuse to wear the "hard hats"—or safety helmets—until the corporation put into effect other safety changes ordered by Federal Mine inspectors.

A company spokesman and John P. Busarello, president of District 5, United Mine Workers, in a joint statement last night, said the men had voted to return to work wearing the safety headgear and that the firm had agreed to put the other safety measures into effect as rapidly as possible.

Love That Tree, Says Wise Old Owl In House

PHILADELPHIA — (AP) — A grey and brown speckled owl with apparent hopes of becoming a Christmas tree decoration gave Mrs. James M. Denny a bad half hour in her suburban Drexel Hill home.

The owl invaded the Denny house yesterday and perched atop the family christmas tree — obviously not giving a hoot for anyone.

Mrs. Denny enlisted the aid of neighbors and police. For a half hour the owl led its pursuers a merry chase all over the house. Then Mrs. Denny opened a window and out flew the owl.

HOW WELL DO YOU REMEMBER one year ago today when we entered our second complete year of peace on a dreary, rain-swept day? Above is a reproduction of The News of Jan. 1, 1947.

A Digest Of The News

It Was Just A Year Ago, But It Seems Much Longer

By TOM SCHLESINGER
Charlotte News Staff Writer

Weather as rough and unwelcome as a New Year's Day hangover chilled and dampened a wide section of the country the first day of 1947, the beginning of the second full year of peace.

It was a day of the summing up, and of the forward look. Farewell to 1946, hail to 1947. The old man with the white beard appeared a little more battered than usual as he hobbled out, there was a new look of apprehension in the new baby's eyes as the horns around town sounded their blaring welcome to 1947.

A news dispatch from Washington set an optimistic tone with word that Government and industry officials saw the costs of building homes coming down in the new year. Congress Hamilton C. Jones, pleased as punch, started off for Washington to fulfill his life-long ambition of representing the Tenth District in the 80th Congress. Meanwhile, Republican Congressmen were planning strategy to prevent the seating of Theodore G. Bilbo and kept their hatchets handy while awaiting word from President Truman on which cardoff war powers he wants back and which additional ones he was willing to junk.

Charlotte's welcome to the New Year was a bit noisy but there was no violence to mar the advent. There were firecrackers, drunks, and superficial accidents. Mrs. Carl Griffin of Matthews, Route 3, gave birth to the first child about twenty seconds after midnight. Fourteen Charlotteans were sworn in as new members of the police force. The State was preparing its case against Dick Smith and George Ferguson on charges of operating a lottery syndicate here. And the Charlotte City Councilmen, meeting on the last day of the year, adopted an enabling act to provide for an election on the extension of city limits and also contend that a special election should be held on the question of the legalization of liquor stores.

The News Empty Stocking Fund aided 2,126 individuals. Police Chief Frank N. Littlejohn discovered a clubhouse, constructed of stolen building materials and furnished with all sorts of purloined Government property, tucked away in a patch of wpods on the Morris Field reservation. In Raleigh, paroles to twelve prisoners, one of them serving time for second degree murder and three others serving manslaughter sentences, were granted. Official year-end AP '46 election figures revealed that the Republicans made their strongest showings in the populous East and Midwest in the first peacetime off-year elections. More

See NEWS EVENTS on page 8-A

Seeks Backing

Flanders To Push Meat Ration Plan

By MARVIN L. ARROWSMITH

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Senator Flanders (R-Vt.) said today he plans to confer soon with Secretary of Agriculture Anderson in an attempt to line up big packers in support of meat rationing.

The Vermont lawmaker told a reporter that after talking with meat industry representatives he has no illusions about the difficulty of winning them over, but he feels it is worth a try.

Flanders for several weeks has been advocating rationing as the only way of coping with the meat shortage which the Agriculture Department has predicted will develop in the Spring. Anderson, along with President Truman, also has been plugging for stand-by power to ration meat.

Flanders disclosed that he conferred in Chicago earlier this week with a group of packers.

"We were in general agreement that the meat situation is going to become critical by early Spring," Flanders said, "but the packers naturally are opposed to rationing and prefer to let nature take its course."

The packers contended, Flanders added, that talk of rationing already is tending to reduce the prospective supply of beef.

"They reported," he said, "that cattle not only are being shipped to market at lower than usual weights as a result of the scant supply of feed grain, but that there also is a heavy shipment of calves, indicating that stockraisers are

See MEAT RATION on page 8-A

Fear B-29 Under Water

ANCHORAGE, Alaska—(AP)—Fear that a missing B-29 Superfortress and its nine crewmen may have fallen into the waters of Cook Inlet were expressed today by a veteran Alaska construction engineer

Cliff Lenihan, who said he was sitting with his wife in the lobby of a downtown hotel when the sky lighted up "like the glow from a neon sign," placed the origin of the flash as directly west of the city about over mid-channel of the inlet.

"It was snowing at the time, but the sky was so bright that buildings on the street were lighted up," he said.

The missing plane vanished witn in two minutes of its takeoff from Elmendorf Field yesterday morning. It was en route to Fairfield Calif., Army Air Base on a routine weather observation and reconnaissance flight, the Army Air Transport Command announced in San Francisco.

A fruitless aerial search was launched immediately after observers in the field control tower reported the flash on the plane's line of flight. It came only moments after the B-29 sent an emergency call that the No. 3 engine was out.

A ground party also set out by Army sled on a round-about trip to the area—50 miles to Palmer and cross-country about 40 miles to the Point McKenzie area. It found no trace of the craft.

The apparent disaster raised to fourteen the total of men missing and probably dead, in two B-29 mishaps in the final week of 1947

The pilot and navigator of another plane, Lts. Verp H. Arnett and Frederick Sheets, are being sought by dog sled and aerial search 800 miles to the northeast, 95 miles north of Nome.

They have been missing since Christmas day, two days after the plane and its eight-man crew crashed, when they set out afoot for an isolated Eskimo village.

Three parachutists who dropped to aid the crew victims also are believed dead. Bush Pilot Bill Munz, who joined in the aerial rescue of six members of the crew has reported sighting what he believes are the bodies of two of the trio, and possibly the third.

Vandenberg Won't Enter GOP Race

Renounces Role Of Favorite Son

By EDWIN B. HAAKINSON

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Friends said today Senator Vandenberg is preparing to go beyond his request that Michigan Republicans pass him by as a favorite son candidate for the Presidency.

Vandenberg has told these friends that if a draft movement should develop in his behalf at the Philadelphia convention in June he will ask delegates publicly not to support him for the nomination.

This, plus his long expected formal announcement to Michigan GOP leaders in a New Year's letter, has convinced most Washington associates that the 63 year old lawmaker does not want to run for President.

Vandenberg, presiding officer of the Senate and chairman of its Foreign Relations Committee, carried copies of his letter in person to the Senate press gallery and smiled as he handed them to reporters.

Recalling suggestions that "Michigan might again propose me for public nomination" Vandenberg wrote:

"Without withholding any such event, I urge that my name shall not be presented or supported either in the Michigan state convention or in the national convention at Philadelphia."

Then Vandenberg repeated what he has been telling friends on Capitol Hill ever since his last election:

"I am confident that I can best serve my country by completing my present term in the Senate."

This term runs until 1953 and the Senator has insisted that when it ends he will retire from public life.

He faces one of the toughest legislative struggles of his career in the attempt to win bipartisan Senate support for the long range European recovery plan at the session which opens next Tuesday.

The Vandenberg letter was addressed to four key figures in Michigan Republicanism, Governor Kim Sigler, Chairman John A. Wagner of the State Central Committee, and Arthur Summerfield and Mrs. Dudley C. Hay, members of the Republican National Committee.

Beyond opening the gates to other favorite son candidates, the announcement clears the field for a wide open race for the state's 41 votes at the Philadelphia convention.

Sigler and Senator Ferguson have been mentioned as possible choices for the early balloting. Rep. Woodruff, dean of the state's Republican delegation in Congress, told a reporter he could "happily support" either one.

At Battle Creek, Wagner said the letter "undoubtedly" leaves Sigler at the top of the list with Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York as second choice. Dewey was born in Michigan.

What Am I Saying!

By FRANK MORGAN

Borrowing. . . .

We lose a lot of friends through borrowing. With them it's touch and go. The Chinese, however, settle all their debts every New Year's Day. Why not? They haven't Christmas the week before.

Takes Issue With Broker

Truman's Doctor Sticks To Claim

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Brig. Gen. Wallace H. Graham held fast today to his contention that he was unaware of any grain holdings in his name until weeks after they had been bought for him by his broker.

President Truman's personal physician thus took direct issue with a statement issued in New York by the brokerage house of Bache & Co.

Taking note of Graham's assertions after his name appeared on an Agriculture Department list of grain traders Monday, the New York and Chicago firm said yesterday "it is essential for the record" to show that:

"All transactions made for the General's account in both securities and commodities were at all times made on his instructions and the customary written confirmations were sent to him."

Graham had said he simply had turned money over to his broker with instructions to use his own judgement in investing it. He said he didn't know he owned any grain until he made inquiries last October and as soon as he learned of his holdings he ordered the grain sold.

"I lost my socks," the General told reporters in reiterating the point after he had been told of the Bache & Co. statement.

Mr. Truman told his news conference earlier yesterday he did not think Graham had done anything wrong.

Meanwhile, the New Year holiday broke the last-a-day pace the Agriculture Department had set this week for releasing the names of commodity traders.

Its latest list yesterday included the names of 26 Federal employees who, Secretary of Agriculture Anderson said, had speculated in cotton and egg futures at some time in the last two years. All were described as official clerks holding relatively minor positions.

A list of 3,131 names was made public Tuesday and 99 names, including that of Graham, were published Monday. Another 1,000 or so are due to be released tomorrow.

This will bring to more than 6,000 the names of traders brought into the open since Congress, acting on reports that Government "insiders" have been speculating in food and other products, called for full publicity.

Anderson, told newsmen yesterday however, that he hopes the practice of naming private citizens can be discontinued because of the "heartaches" involved.

He said he will propose halting the publication of all but public officials' names as soon as "everybody is satisfied we are not trying to shield anyone."

Train Wreck Is Reported

SEDALIA, Mo. —(AP)— The State Highway Patrol today reported it had been advised of a Missouri Pacific train wreck involving two passenger trains between Otterville and Syracuse east of here, and that several persons were believed to have been killed.

The Sedalia Democrat reported that all available physicians and ambulances in Sedalia and Jefferson City had been summoned to the scene, about twenty miles east of here.

First reports said the second section of westbound No. 9 had crashed into the first section.

At St. Louis, headquarters of the line, the chief operating officer said "we just got a mere flash that something has happened down that way, but our wires are down and we don't know what happened."

Twisters Rip Through Louisiana, Ark. Areas

10 Bodies Found In One Town

SHREVEPORT, La.—(AP)—Tornadoes which tore through northwestern Louisiana and southeastern Arkansas yesterday brought death to fourteen persons in five towns and injured about 200 others.

Ten bodies were recovered at Cotton Valley, La., a small oil and railroad town northeast of Shreveport. An unidentified Negro was killed at Leton, La.

A woman was fatally injured at Dykesville, La., and an unidentified Negro was killed at Haynesville. At Village, Ark., a school superintendent was killed when a high school gymnasium was demolished.

A twister also struck Gilmer, Ark., destroying one house, but there were no deaths or injuries reported there.

The funnel-shaped twister was first sighted south of Vanceville, La., by Herman Jones of Bossier City. He said he saw the funnel dip toward the earth as he drove along a highway. He abandoned his automobile for the comparative safety of a roadside ditch, he said, and watched as the funnel sucked up a house from nearby woods.

At that time, Jones said, the tornado was cutting a swath about 50 feet wide.

Romping across wooded and swampy sections of Bossier Parish, the twister struck Cotton Valley from the southwest, damaging much of the business district.

Then it came back to strike the little town again, this time from the northeast, and demolished many homes.

Mayor Sam Coyle estimated 500 persons are homeless and that the list of injured in Cotton Valley alone will reach 200.

170 TREATED

A check of hospitals in the stricken area showed at least 170 persons have been treated for storm injuries.

The storm roared on through Leton and Dykesville, La., before invading Haynesville, where it struck the western and northern edges of the town, doing major damage to the business section. More than 30 buildings were destroyed or seriously damaged, including a number of garages, a warehouse, a news stand, a wholesale establishment and a lumber yard.

Sixty persons in Haynesville were injured and treated at hospitals there.

One-third of Cotton Valley was flattened, witnesses said.

Dr. M. S. Browning, retired Cotton Valley doctor, said the tornado "sounded as if a huge flight of B-29 bombers was coming . . . Then it hit."

"The storm was over about five minutes after it hit," he said. "I looked out of the window and saw debris flying through the air and littering the streets."

National Guardsmen at Cotton Valley reported they had recovered ten bodies but that rescue work was badly hampered by a winddriven rain and darkness. The town's electric power system was wrecked and an emergency power unit was sent from Minden, La.

As Red Cross workers moved into the hard-hit area, Minden authorities sent a trainload of food to Cotton Valley and Barksdale Field authorities at Shreveport were rushing food, plasma and antitoxin to the area.

8 DEAD IDENTIFIED

There were eight identified dead at Cotton Valley.

Howard Formby, ten; Clifton Yeates, 45; Charles Cox, nineteen; Hugh Clayton, 50; Doris Perkins, four; Linda Gail Vowell, three months; and Mrs. Vince Vowell, age unknown.

Three other bodies from Cotton Valley were taken to Spring Hill, La.

At Dykesville, La., Mrs Lulu McCuen, 84, was fatally injured. She died at a Haynesville hospital.

Toby Haynes, about 60, superintendent of the Village,

See 14 KILLED on page 8-A

Accent On Revelry

Contrasts Mark Welcome To 1948

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

The revelry of joyous throngs, the reverence of worshippers with prayers for world peace, the somber appeal of a United Nations' leader for accord among the great powers: in this contrasting, but traditional, setting, the nation observed the advent of the new year.

As millions of merry-makers frolicked and others millions jammed churches, the appeal for international unity was sounded by U. N. Secretary-General Trygve Lie who gravely told a nationwide Mutual radio audience he was "disappointed in the greatest hope of all"—the hope that the major powers would move toward an understanding on disputed issues.

A more optimistic note on the U. N.'s future had been struck earlier yesterday by President Truman who said he had "every faith" in the organization as "a means of general world peace, for the simple reason that we can't afford anything else."

Other leaders expressed hope, confidence and in many cases despair over what the new year would unfold.

But the day's accent leaned sharply to gaiety and from snow-choked Manhattan to the smallest hamlets, celebrating citizens roared tumultous greetings to 1948.

N. Y. SETS PATTERN

Restricted only slightly by the smushy remnants of a record blanket of snow, New Yorkers set the pattern for much of America with their traditionally boisterous blowout.

A police-estimated throng of 750,000—last year it was 1,000,000—surged through Times Square and cut loose with a mighty roar at the turn of midnight.

Fashionable night and supper clubs were jammed to the rafters and the Latin Quarter—a night spot with a $50 cover charge—turned away some 500 would-be customers just before midnight.

Police Commissioner Arthur Wallander said that although the crowd was smaller than last year's "the city's enthusiasm for the New Year has not waned. The people are as gay as last year."

Taxis constituted almost the only surface traffic in the midtown area. The City has banned passenger cars and non-essential trucking to speed the giant snow removal chores.

Elsewhere in the nation, revelers behaved in much the same fashion and generally did it less expensively.

In Chicago, they found extra cheer in lower prices at both night clubs and theaters. The Cameo Restaurant, which charged as much as $100 last year, served the same dinner for $30 but last year's breakfast and free drinks were gone from the menu.

Sedate Boston had its entire police force out as howling, horn-blowing funsters jammed the downtown area. Record crowds were reported by hotels and playspots.

In Philadelphia, thousands crowded the City Hall courtyard to watch the New Year in. The great City Hall clock-face was darkened at 11:55 while the throngs below blasted away with noisemakers. The clock lights flashed on again at the stroke of midnight.

Los Angeles and Hollywood also welcomed 1948 in night clubs, theaters and churches and many prepared for a predawn start to Pasadena and the annual Tournament of Roses parade.

In Newark, N. J., Alcoholics Anonymous tossed an all-night party. The liquid refreshments: Coffee and Cola.

Balkan Nations In Pact

SOFIA—(AP)—The Bulgarian Government announced today an agreement with Yugoslavia whereby the nationals of the two countries will be permitted to cross each other's frontiers "with passports but without visas."

WEATHER

Showers today, ending tonight, followed by partly cloudy Friday. Much colder tonight and Friday with low temperature near 32 degrees.

Temperature at 11:30 today ... 46
High and low last 24 hours 64-34
Sunset today 5:22
Sunrise tomorrow 7:23

More Weather Data on page 8-A