SOAP OPERAS

Radio Critic John Crosby has been having fun with the soap opera field for the past two days. Today he's at it again, in his column on Page 4-A.

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

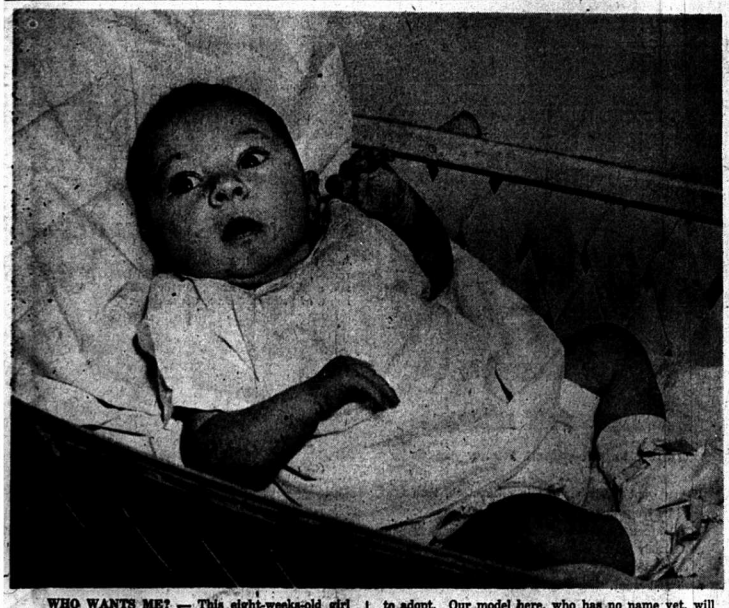
★★★★★ Final

Largest Afternoon Newspaper In The Carolinas

ESTABLISHED 1888 | CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, 1948 | 26 Pages—Price Five Cents

Four Bandits Rob New Orleans Bank Of $130,000

STASSEN ACCUSES GOVERNMENT INSIDERS



WHO WANTS ME? — This eight-weeks-old girl seems to be asking that question as she looks around at the County Welfare Department. The answer is a lot of people would like to have her. More couples are wanting to adopt babies here than there are babies to adopt. Our model here, who has no name yet, will be released to an adopting couple soon, after thorough investigations and examinations have been completed. (News Staff photo by Don Martin of Tom Franklin Studio.)

Many Couples Want To Adopt Children

Not Enough Babies To Go Around

By TOM FESPERMAN
Charlotte News Staff Writer

There is a shortage of homeless babies in Mecklenburg County.

That somewhat mystifying and incongruous statement is based on the fact that there are more couples in the county who want to adopt children than there are babies available for adoption.

At the present, there are more than 140 babies spending much of their time cooing at couples who aren't their legal parents but who hope to be, after surviving the thoroughgoing process of official adoption.

There are many more Mecklenburg couples who have let it be known they'd like to adopt children, but who must wait for many months because there aren't enough homeless waifs to go around.

Couples who are thinking about adopting children should not be discouraged by this news, because the procedure tosses the general "first-come-first-served" slogan right out the window. Waiting lists mean nothing. Babies are placed in homes where they're most likely to "fit" best, even though their foster parents might have been the latest to apply.

The fact that demand exceeds supply is certainly no source of worry to the County Welfare Department, which handles most adoptions here. Its case workers refuse to let the impatience of couples excite them into rushing through the business.

They spend all the time necessary to find out about family backgrounds, moral character, neighborhood standing, religious beliefs, criminal tendencied ambitions, occupations, nationalities, personali-

See BABIES ARE on page 12-A

Unmasked Holdup Men Force Entry

Negro Porter Is Slugged

NEW ORLEANS — (AP) — Four pistol-armed robbers netted about $130,000 today in a carefully planned daylight holdup of the midcity branch of the Hibernia National Bank.

Vice President and Cashier George W. Owen said the bank's loss, all covered by insurance, was in the neighborhood of $130,000. Earlier President A. P. Imahorn had estimated the loot at $114,000.

The unmasked bandits even took the small change from employees' pockets and purses.

A Negro porter was slugged into unconsciousness with a pistol when he protested the treatment of a woman employee. The quartet entered the bank at 7:40 A. M. forced the assistant manager to open the vault which they looted, then calmly awaited the arrival of individual tellers so that they could take the contents of their money boxes as well. They herded some 25 employees into locker rooms.

The Negro porter, Joseph L. Thomas, admitted the four men while he was letting early customers into the bank.

The bandits immediately ushered eight women employees into one locker room and about six men into another. They then turned to the manager, forcing him to open the vault.

After scooping up all the cash and silver in sight they escaped in a waiting automobile, which, one witness said, bore a license plate which resembled those on state-owned cars.

Police said Thomas was pistol-whipped by one of the bandits when he protested their "roughing up" one of the bank's women employees.

"You can't do that to her," he told the thug. The bandit turned his attention to the Negro, striking him several times across the head with the barrel of his revolver.

The bank was the mid-city branch of the Hibernia National Bank. It is on the corner of Carrollton and Canal Streets, one of the town's busiest intersections.

Bank Superintendent A. A. Walters took personal charge of the investigation. Witnesses and bank employees are being questioned but Walters has refused any additional information.

Hymel Amuedo, assistant manager of the bank, said he saw several men when he unlocked the front door and reported for work. Two of those he saw had guns.

"One of them shouted to me, 'Don't look at me or I will put a bullet into you,'" Amuedo said. "I looked the other way and a guy ordered me to walk back to the vault. He told me he would kill me if I didn't open the vault."

The bank official said he opened the vault, pressed the money sack for the bandits and then was ordered into a ladies rest room. Two women employees were there. One of the gunmen stood guard, ordering the bank employees to look away from him. He threatened to shoot if they looked at him.

"We were in there for a while and then we were ordered out to the front of the bank where I was locked in a closet with four other men," Amuedo said.

"Later we were let out.

"During the progress of the robbery, the gunmen took all the money from the men and took all the money from the women's purses.

"I had $22 in my billfold. They got that."

Mrs. Marion Pearsall, a checking teller, said the bandits emptied several employees' purses before leaving. She lost $8.

Middle East Bolstered

Turkey Will Get Four U. S. Subs

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Four of the Navy's powerful fleet-type submarines are being supplied to Turkey as part of the United States program to strengthen that key Middle Eastern country against Soviet Russia.

The Navy announced the move together with the transfer of eleven other vessels to Turkey and six gunboats to guerrilla-embattled Greece.

Rep. Vinson (D-Ga.) told reporters Greece also would be given six submarines but the Navy said this was a misunderstanding. Advised of that, Vinson said later he was referring to the gunboats.

Delivery of the 1,500-ton undersea vessels to Turkey will be completed sometime in April along with the transfer of eight motor mine sweepers, one net laying vessel, one gasoline tanker and one repair vessel.

This is the latest in a series of American moves to reinforce Greece and Turkey and generally bolster the position of the Western powers in the eastern Mediterranean, a target of Soviet interests.

The Navy has about 180 submarines in its operating and reserve fleets. Russia is reputed to have an even larger undersea force—possibly as many as 250.

In addition to the vessels for Turkey, the Navy announced that six motor gunboats have been handed over to Greece under the $300,000 Greek aid program.

These transfers are separate from the State Department's disclosure Monday of the sale of eleven minesweepers to Greece and seven to Turkey.

Tied in with these developments are these other recent moves to bolster Greece and generally strengthen the American position in the Mediterranean:

1—Approximately 1,000 Marines have sailed for shipboard duty on American fleet units in eastern Mediterranean waters. They carried equipment such as tanks and flame throwers, suitable for landing operations and land campaigns.

2—More American funds under the Greek aid program are being employed to increase Greece's armed forces for an offensive against the Communist guerrillas next Spring.

3—American officers have been assigned to liaison duty with all

See TURKS TO on page 12-A

FCC Gives Approval

FM Radio Studio To Be Moved Here

A proposal to move the studio of FM Radio Station WMIT from Winston-Salem to Charlotte and to increase its power from 200 to 300 kilowatts, making it the most powerful FM station in the world, has been approved by the Federal Communications Commission in Washington.

WMIT will be moved within the next few months from present studios in Winston-Salem to new studios in The Charlotte News Building.

The FCC issued authorization for the move to Gordon Gray of Winston-Salem, publisher and radio executive, who owns WMIT.

The transmitter of the station is located on Clingman's Peak next to Mount Mitchell.

Harold Essex, vice-president in charge of radio of the Piedmont Publishing Co. in Winston-Salem, is managing director of WMIT, which is the pioneer frequency modulation station in the Southeast. Mr. Essex said that a complete staff will be brought to Charlotte to operate the station in The News Building.

Mr. Essex said recently, when application for the change was made to the FCC, "We are looking forward to the opportunity of establishing our main studios in Charlotte and the privilege of operating in co-operation with The Charlotte News. It has been Mr. Gray's intention to furnish listeners of the Southeast with a broadcast service second to none, and we expect to do just that as fast as necessary equipment can be obtained and installed."

WMIT went on the air for the first time on June 1, 1942. The transmitter, from its location atop Clingman's Peak next to Mount Mitchell, is capable of reaching more than 5,000,000 people in seven states. WMIT is operating on a frequency of 106.9 megacycles, or Channel 295 on the FM dial.

Flying Discs Seen Again

LOUISVILLE—(AP)—Luminous objects floating in the sky and reported by some observers to be "flying saucers" or discs, have been reported over Kentucky and adjoining states and are blamed for the death of an airplane pilot who was following one of them.

Capt. Thomas F. Mantell Jr., 25, of Louisville, a veteran of the Army Air Forces in World War II, crashed near Franklin, Ky., late Wednesday when his plane exploded in midair.

At headquarters of the Kentucky National Air Guard of which Mantell was an officer, Capt. R. L. Tyler, operations officer, said an investigation was being conducted. Capt. Tyler said facts revealed so far indicate that Mantell flew too high in his pursuit of the skyrover and became unconscious.

The object followed by Mantell and two other Air National Guard pilots was first observed Wednesday by Col. Guy F. Hix, commander of Godman Field, Fort Knox. The nature of the object never was established.

Princess Anne Off For Reunion With Mihai

COPENHAGEN — (AP) — Bareheaded and smiling, Princess Anne of Bourbon-Parma boarded a train for Switzerland today to meet former King Mihai of Romania and complete plans for their wedding.

The blonde Princess departed aboard a regularly scheduled train and with complete absence of ceremony.

Charges Of Big Profits Made By Candidate

Testifies In Grain Probe

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Harold E. Stassen accused Administration "insiders" of using official information to make a $4,000,000 profit in commodity trading since the war and called for legislation to prevent such activity.

The former Minnesota Governor, now seeking the Republican Presidential nomination, told a Senate Appropriations Subcommittee that "I do not think any member of the Government should be in the food commodity markets." He added that legislation apparently is the only way to prevent this.

Stassen also testified that:

1. Edwin W. Pauley, special assistant to Army Secretary Royall, profited to the extent of approximately $1,000,000 from his trading, and "did not make a full disclosure" of his activities when he appeared before the committee last month.

2. Brig. Gen. Wallace H. Graham, President Truman's personal physician, was "not truthful" in a recent statement on his commodity trading. "Our information is that, in fact, Dr. Graham did not leave the market immediately after the President's Oct. 5 address on speculators. He did not leave the market until Nov. 17, specifically and the executive branch of the Government was involved."

Stassen also said that Graham did not lose money in the market, adding that "the profit was nothing compared with the million dollars made by Pauley, but it was definitely a profit."

Pauley has testified that he began liquidating his holdings after taking the Army post last Sept. 3 with a "$100,000 worse off" because he did so.

Graham, scheduled to follow Stassen on the stand, recently issued a statement saying he learned last October that he was a holder of 50,000 bushels of wheat futures. He said he ordered his broker to sell two days after Mr. Truman declared in a speech Oct. 5 "the cost of living in this country must not be a football to be kicked about by gamblers in grain."

Pauley, Graham and Ralph Davies, an Administration official during the war, have been named on Agriculture Department lists as commodity market traders. Stassen referred to all three today, and then told the committee, investigating the effects of commodity speculation, that he preferred not to name other Administration officials who have not already been identified.

Later it will be time to be preferable that they be developed from the exact evidence," he said. "I would prefer to give you the leads and indications."

Stassen testified that market activity by Government insiders has tended to force prices up. Chairman Ferguson (R-Mich) asked whether Stassen was familiar with a letter the late President Roosevelt wrote in 1937 saying it was the policy of the Administration that none of its employees should deal in stocks, bonds or commodities for speculation.

Stassen said he was adding that "recent statements of the new President at a press conference would indicate he does not intend to enforce it, and I think it requires legislation."

He also criticized what he called "the clumsy nature" of Government purchasing operations, and said that a committee of Congress should be set up to review purchases "and to whom" "so they may be called to account."

Meet Called On Palestine

LAKE SUCCESS — (AP) — The United Nations Palestine Partition Commission today called on Britain, the Jewish Agency for Palestine and the Arab Higher Committee for immediate consultations on the situation in the strife-torn Holy Land.

Moving swiftly at its first session, the five-nation partition commission decided to talk with representatives of the three vitally interested parties as the first step toward implementing the U.N. plan to cut up Palestine into Jewish and Arab countries by next Oct. 1.

The commission acted as dispatches from Jerusalem reported the first instance of infiltration of sizeable "volunteer" bands from Arab country territory adjoining the Holy Land. One report quoting Jewish sources said 300 such "volunteers" had entered Palestine from Syria and attacked a Jewish settlement.

Secretary-General Trygve Lie opened the meeting here by expressing confidence that the Security Council would exercise "every necessary power" to see that partitioning is carried out by next Oct. 1 without fail.

Lie did not mention the creation of an international military force as a specific partition enforcement measure, but this was implicit in his statement, since the council has the power to set up such a force.

In an address prepared for delivery at the opening of tense deliberations by the five-country U. N. Palestine Partition Commission, Lie declared:

"You are entitled to be confident that in the event it should prove necessary, the Security Council will assume its full measure of responsibility in implementation of the assembly's (partition) resolution.

"You have the right to assume, as I assume, that in such a situation the Security Council will not fail to exercise, to the fullest and without exception, every necessary power entrusted to it by the charter in order to assist you in fulfilling your mission."

'Road To Bankruptcy'

Truman Program Assailed By Taft

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Senator Taft (R-Ohio) called President Truman's legislative program the road to "national bankruptcy" and a "totalitarian state" and promised today that the GOP-controlled Congress will never follow it.

Instead, Taft said, the Republicans will go ahead with their own program, make every effort to cut Government expenses, and "really cut all taxes and the tax burden and cut them for good."

Taft, a candidate for the Republican Presidential nomination, went on the radio last night to reply to Mr. Truman's State-of-the-Union message which Republicans have been calling a "campaign speech" aimed at next Fall's elections.

The Ohio Senator asserted the President proposes to put the Federal Government in the role of "Santa Claus" and has offered a program amounting only to "the old New Deal principle of promising the people something for nothing."

Taft is chairman of the Senate Republican Policy Committee, and the sharpness of his words swept aside in advance a "peace" proposal with which Senator Hatch (D-NM) came forword today.

In a speech prepared for the Senate, Hatch suggested that Democratic and Republican policy committees of the Senate form "one policy committee for the nation" to deal with inflation and foreign aid.

Hatch said:

"With united effort this Congress can overcome all obstacles and go down in history as one of the greatest Congresses of all times."

Meanwhile Chairman Taber (R-

See TAFT RAPS on page 12-A

'New Look' Accessory

Ingenious Husband Solves Dress Crisis

OKLAHOMA CITY — (AP) — Let Paris dream up New Looks; Oklahoma City will engineer them.

Take the problem of the plunging neckline — which plunges clear to the waist in some new look dresses, exposing a narrow vertical section of the wearer's midriff.

The problem is to keep it from plunging too far—vertically or horizontally.

It was solved here by George H. Willis in the middle of a domestic crisis involving his shapely brunette wife.

Mrs. W. bought a slinky silk dress with the plunging effect —and then found no local shops sold the required underpinnings.

Willis took one glance at the price tag and reached for adhesive tape and wire. The result was crude but satisfactory —resembling an out-size pair of spring-clamp ear-muffs worn around the back and chest. They do the job without infringing on the neckline.

Now Willis finds the necessity that mothered his invention may bring him a pretty penny—a St. Louis corset firm wants to market his design.

Film Figures Deny Guilt

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Ten Hollywood movie writers and producers pleaded innocent today to charges of contempt of Congress and were ordered to stand trial separately beginning Feb. 9.

John Howard Lawson, movie freelance writer, will be the first to go on trial.

The other nine defendants and dates of their trials are:

Dalton Trumbo, Feb. 16; Albert Maltz, Feb. 23; Alvah Bessie, Feb. 25; Samuel Ornitz, March 8; Herbert Biberman, March 10; Edward Dmytryk, March 15; Adrian Scott, March 17; Ring Lardner Jr., March 22; and Lester Cole, March 24.

The ten entered their pleas upon arraignment before Federal Judge Richmond B. Keech on indictments charging them with refusing to tell the House Committee on Un-American Activities whether they were or had been members of the Communist Party.

The question was asked at Committee hearings last November on Communist influences in the motion picture industry.

Through their attorney, Robert Kenny, the group protested futilely against being fingerprinted after their arraignment.

"They all went through the fingerprinting ordeal in Los Angeles about a week ago," Kenny argued. "I am quite sure their prints haven't changed since then."

Judge Keech, however, dismissed Kenny's objections with the comment that: "We'll follow the regular procedure."

After being fingerprinted, the group was released on $1,000 bond each.

Daniels Grows Steadily Worse

RALEIGH—(AP)—Physicians said after a consultation today that Josephus Daniels, aged publisher of The News and Observer who is critically ill, "had lost some ground."

He is suffering from bronchitis and physicians have been using an oxygen tent to help his breathing.

Cache Seized In N. J.

Phone Tip Leads To Explosives

ASBURY PARK, N. J.—(AP)—A police search set off by an anonymous tip from a farmer netted a new cache today of 57 tons of surplus Army explosives which Monmouth County Prosecutor J. Victor Carton said was "tied up with" the Palestine-bound shipment of 30 1/2 tons of TNT seized last Saturday on the Jersey City waterfront.

Forty tons of the explosive were discovered in a raid on a farmhouse in nearby Wall Township and the other seventeen tons were taken in a large truck-trailer found outside an Asbury Park garage. A State police alarm was broadcast for two other trucks reported headed here from the Seneca Government war surplus depot at Romulus, N. Y., listed by authorities as the source of the 57 tons already taken here.

Nine men were arrested by State Police and Monmouth County detectives as a result of the new discovery of explosives in the farmhouse and the big truck-trailer.

The sealed truck, found by police late last night, parked near a warehouse on an Asbury Park street, also arrived from the upstate New York war surplus depot, Carton said. Police said the truck would not be unloaded until later today, but its load would boost the total of explosives over the 50-ton mark.

The truck, Carton said, was found near a warehouse owned by Charles Lowy, of Asbury Park, who he said also owned the farm. Lowy, arraigned last night before Justice of the Peace Fred Quinn of Freehold, pleaded innocent to a charge of storing explosives without a permit and was held in $5,000 bail pending Grand Jury action.

Lowy's bail was increased to $15,000 after the seizure of the truck in Asbury Park, Carton said.

Carton said the farm, located on a county road in Wall Township, was raided by State Troopers from the Howell and Hightstown barracks, and prosecutor's detectives after an anonymous tip was received by State Police that trucks were unloading in the area of the farm.

What Am I Saying?

By FRANK MORGAN

BUSY BEES . . .

A busy bee teaches us two great lessons—first, be industrious; second, don't get stung. Of course, a bee, personally, hasn't much to say, but he always carries his point.

WEATHER

Partly cloudy and cooler tonight and Saturday. Lowest temperature tonight 35.

Temperature at 2 P. M. today....66
High and low last 24 hours....68-46
Sunset today 5:28
Sunrise tomorrow 7:28

More Weather Data on page 12-A