HOWE & BISHER

In today's sports section Furman Bisher begins his annual Hornet preview from Orlando, the Florida Camp Meeting, while Ray Howe continues his coverage of the Southern Conference Basketball tournament.

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

★★★★★ *Final*

Largest Afternoon Newspaper In The Carolinas

ESTABLISHED 1888 — CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA, SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 1948 — 32 Pages—Price Five Cents

Southerners Demand Radio Time In Civil Rights Row

THREE POWERS AGREE ON RUHR CONTROL

Discussing Legion Affairs

News Staff Photo by Tom Franklin Studio.

A hurried breakfast was enjoyed by James F. O'Neil, left, national commander of The American Legion, here this morning. Mr. O'Neil spent the night in the city after speaking in Kannapolis last evening. He left early in the morning for Asheville. While here he conferred briefly with Robin Kirby, center, of Charlotte, national Legion committeeman from North Carolina; and Ray Galloway, commander of the North Carolina Department of the Legion.

National Commander Is Visitor In Charlotte

Legion Chief Predicts UMT Approval

By EMERY WISTER
Charlotte News Staff Writer

"Congress will probably pass the Universal Military Training bill but it will be a tough fight," James F. O'Neil, national commander of the American Legion said here this morning.

Commander O'Neil, now on a trip around the country, spent the night here after speaking in Kannapolis last evening. He left for Asheville this morning where he spoke early in the afternoon. He has scheduled another address in Elkin tonight and will spend the night at the Thurmond Chatham lodge at Roaring Gap. He will leave for Washington tomorrow to attend the Legion's Rehabilitation Conference.

Passage of UMT, he said, hinges on "breaking the log jam in the House Rules Committee. The same obstacle faces us in the Senate. I am confident this measure will pass once it is brought out on House and Senate floor."

The Legion, said Commander O'Neil, will not endorse any Presidential candidate. He left no doubt of his own feelings toward Henry Wallace's program of appeasement to Russia when he characterized "the Russian situation as the gravest threat to freedom-loving peoples. It is even a graver threat than the Hitler movement because of the techniques employed and because the small European nations are in such a weakened condition that they cannot resist.

HOUSING

Referring to veterans housing, Commander O'Neil said that the Legion is "squarely behind" the Veterans Homestead Act of 1948 which provided $2,000,000,000 for construction of housing projects.

"The money for this gigantic program," he said, "will be raised through the sale of Federal bonds, the dividends of which will be tax exempt. The program will be turned over to the Veterans Administration and a $100,000,000 housekeeping fund to provide for administration is included.

"This bill would reduce the cost of housing to the veteran and will bring relief to him when he needs it. Two or more World War II veterans would be allowed to form a corporation to build a housing project with units to be rented exclusively to veterans.

"In effect, the bill would give the veteran tools to work with to build his own house. It's really a private enterprise proposition."

He pointed out that the bill also provided a fund of $200,000,000 for improvement of grounds, streets, sewers, etc., in housing developments. This money would be given as direct grants with states and communities providing matching amounts.

Twenty-seven congressmen have introduced identical bills," he said. This certainly proves that the measure will have a lot of support in Cohgress."

VA RETRENCH'NT

Although Commander O'Neil said he was not familiar with the Veterans Administration's plan to transfer registration and adjudication units of the VA office here to Winston-Salem, he said that "the Legion is vigorously opposed to any slash in VA services which would work to the detriment of service men.

"The VA's retrenchment program will be discussed at the Legion Rehabilitation Conference in Washington. Naturally we are in favor of any economies which can be carried out without reducing service to veterans but we do not intend to stand idly by and see the veteran victimized."

Commander O'Neil termed Charlotte his "old stamping grounds and said that he received his basic training at the Army's Camp Greene here in World War I. He has since returned to the city in 1935, 1940, 1941 and 1942 in connec-

See LEGION CHIEF on page 3-A

Threat To Democrats

Farley Sees 5,000,000 Votes Cast For Wallace

NEW YORK — (AP) — Former Postmaster General James A. Farley predicts that Henry A. Wallace's Third Party bid for the White House will poll some 5,000,000 votes next November. And, he says, "from half a million to a million" of them will come from New York.

Wallace, the one-time National Democratic Chairman said last night, "is more of a threat to the Democratic party than the Democratic leaders realize."

He was interviewed on the "Meet The Press" radio program during which he said flatly that he was not a candidate for office in 1948, "neither for the Presidency, nor the Vice-Presidency.

"In my judgment, President Truman will be the nominee of his party," Farley declared.

As Democratic Vice-Presidential possibilities, he listed Sen. Millard E. Tydings of Maryland, Secretary of Defense Forrestal, Secretary of Commerce Harriman, Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas, and Secretary of State Marshall.

JAMES A. FARLEY

Aside from New York, where a "very serious situation" exists, the Wallace candidacy will draw strong support in Boston, sections of Connecticut, Philadelphia, Camden and other parts of New Jersey, Baltimore, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Louisville, Chicago, Milwaukee and other large industrial cities, Farley said.

In the Empire State, Wallace will draw from 75 to 80 per cent of his vote "out of the Democratic ranks," Farley asserted, adding that the state might go Republican.

The Wallace bid, he said, may mean that the Republicans will choose an "old-line" nominee and "I would say at the moment that Mr. Dewey is ahead."

He added that if there is a "real battle at the convention, then I think Sen. (Arthur H.) Vandenberg will be the Republican dark horse."

The threatened break of Southerners from the Truman Administration was described by Farley as "serious," but he said that if they "go into the convention with delegations and vote against Truman, and they are defeated, they will have to go along with the party."

Australian On Spot

Bridges, Ousted As CIO Leader, May Face Deportation Attempt

SAN FRANCISCO — (AP) — The CIO ousted Harry Bridges as Northern California regional director yesterday.

And, newspapers reported, a third attempt is to be made to deport the Australian-born longshore labor leader.

In Washington, however, aides of Attorney General Tom Clark said, "The Bridges case has not been reopened."

The CIO fired Bridges as Northern California regional director because he went contrary to national CIO policy by supporting Wallace's Third Party and opposing the Marshall Plan of aid to Europe.

He was warned two weeks ago to get in line with policy of the CIO executive committee on the issues or face ouster from the appointive director's position. He was silent on his ouster.

Bridges retains two elective posts. He is president of the CIO International Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union and a vice-president of the National Executive CIO Council.

Tim Flynn, former member of the board of the CIO Industrial Union of Marine & Shipbuilding Workers and member of the CIO organizing staff, was named Bridges' successor as director for Northern California.

The climax of the CIO family fight came as newspapers reported a Justice Department investigator had been sent here "to seek evidence on which to base a third formal effort" to deport Bridges, a native of Australia. He now is a U. S. citizen.

Bridges took note of the reports in a statement expressing no surprise at "my contemplated arrest" and hotly attacking the Truman Administration for "political intimidation."

He said ten persons had been arrested recently and held without bail for deportation.

"This new device of arresting people, on flimsy legal technicalities in order to remove them temporarily from the labor and political scene is both threatening and frightening to all believers in American justice and fair play.

"It boils down to this: Play ball with Truman and support his re-election or else... My contemplated arrest following similar arrests of other labor union spokesmen is not surprising to us. We have known it was on its way for some time. Truman and his political henchmen are desperate..."

After a hearing in 1939, an examiner held Bridges was not deportable because he had not been proven to be a Communist Party member at the time of the hearing. Another hearing was held in 1941 and he was ordered deported. But the U. S. Supreme Court reversed the order, holding it was not shown that Bridges had advocated force and violence to overthrow the Government.

Group Wants To Answer Broadcasts On Network

Request Signed By 21 Senators

By JACK BELL

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Twenty-one Dixie senators today demanded equal radio time to answer a broadcast dramatizing President Truman's civil rights program.

The group, representing eleven Southern states, made the request in a telegram to Edgar Kobak, president of the Mutual Broadcasting Co. Noting that the Mutual system is broadcasting a series of programs, "To Secure These Rights," the Senators asked Kobak to grant them equal time to explain their stand on the civil rights proposals.

The Southerners said they are opposed to the measures recommended by the President's Committee on Civil Rights "as are millions of American people whom we represent."

"In view of the fact so many of your outlets are located in the South we feel you will gladly comply with our request," their telegram said.

KOBAK IN SOUTH

Mutual's offices in New York reported that Kobak was on vacation "touring the South." In his absence Robert Sweeny, vice president and general manager, issued this statement:

"In the true American spirit we naturally want the subject matter of our broadcasts to receive the fullest possible treatment in the public interest. We will be very glad to consider the request of this group to comment on the President's committee report, which is the basis for these broadcasts."

Senators who signed the telegram included many of the Southerners who organized a Senate guard set to filibuster at a moment's notice against any civil rights bill.

Senator Pepper (Fla) a Truman supporter, did not sign, but Senator Hill (Ala), who is running as a pro-Truman candidate in his state for delegate to the Democratic national convention, did.

Other Senators who signed were: Russell and George of Georgia, Ellender and Stewart of Tennessee, Connally and O'Daniel of Texas, Byrd and Robertson of Virginia, Overton and Ellender of Louisiana, Hill and Sparkman of Alabama, Maybank and Johnston of South Carolina, Eastland and Stennis of Mississippi, McClellan and Fulbright of Arkansas, Hoey and Umstead of North Carolina, and Holland of Florida. The ready-to-filibuster guard was set up at a secret session of Southerners who agreed to keep one of their number on

See DIXIE GROUP on page 3-A

Wheat Pact Announced

WASHINGTON — (AP) — A 36-nation wheat agreement putting a $2 a bushel ceiling price on wheat exported by the United States, Canada and Australia was announced today.

The international wheat council made public the five-year pact. It is subject to approval by the U. S. Congress and to ratification by the other governments concerned.

The agreement fixes a minimum price as well as the $2 maximum. The minimum will be $1.50 a bushel in the first year, 1948-49. It will drop to $1.40 a bushel annually until 1952 when the minimum will be $1.10 a bushel.

Between the top and bottom prices, the agreement provides transactions will be "freely concluded and prices moved in accordance with market conditions."

The 33 countries importing wheat are pledged to buy not less than 500,000,000 bushels from the three exporting countries. Canada would ship 230,000,000 bushels, the United States, 185,000,000, and Australia, 85,000,000.

BELOW MARKET

The agreed ceiling price is about 50 cents a bushel below the present market. Russia and Argentina refused to take part in the agreement. Argentina has been selling wheat to Europe at about $4.85 a bushel.

Argentina said it would not enter any wheat pact unless the governments also agreed on a broad trade treaty covering trucks, farm equipment and other machinery of the type Argentina imports.

More Rain, Maybe Sleet

Gloomy Week-End Seems Inevitable

A light freezing rain began about 11 A. M. today and threatened to bring another cold and gloomy week-end to the city.

The Weather Bureau forecast that the freezing rain would continue this afternoon, tonight and early tomorrow and might change to sleet. They added a note of cheer, however, by predicting a slight rise in temperature tomorrow afternoon.

Although the temperature hung right at the freezing point, the Weather Bureau said that there was little likelihood that transportation within the city would be seriously affected. City busses were running as usual and busses operating out of the Charlotte bus terminal were on schedule early in the afternoon although dispatchers said that there was a possibility that schedules might be curtailed if the bad weather continued.

Air line transportation was the most seriously affected. Eastern Air Lines reported that the Charlotte airport had been closed during the morning and early afternoon although there was a chance that service might be resumed here if weather conditions improved. They reported, as did Capital Air Lines, that the condition of the airport runways was good and that the ceiling and visibility were also good.

A Civil Aeronautics regulation, that forbids the landing or taking off of planes in freezing rain, prevents planes from stopping here although several schedules are in operation.

Piedmont Air Lines reported that its Cincinnati flight left here as usual this morning but ran into bad weather west of Charlotte and probably would not make the return trip to Wilmington.

The bad weather was general over the Carolinas. Green-

See ICE, SLEET on page 3-A

Tough Battle, Cherry Says

NC Trying To End Low Literacy Rate

GREENVILLE — (AP) — North Carolina is "trying much harder than most other states" to educate its citizens, but despite this effort "only five states in the country have more illiteracy than North Carolina and all of those are Southern states," Gov. Cherry asserted today.

Speaking at exercises marking the formal inauguration of Dr. J. D. Messick as president of East Carolina Teachers College, the Governor said:

"Despite the advances North Carolina has made, and the enviable place she has attained among states of the South and of the nation as a whole, we still are harassed by illiteracy among many of our people.

"The battle against this public enemy No. 1 lurking still in our midst is being carried on with vigor today, as it has been for years, on just such educational fronts as the one here at East Carolina Teachers College."

An academic procession that moved into Wright Auditorium for the ceremonies included some twenty college and university officials and State governmental and educational leaders.

The inauguration climaxed a week-long series of events that included a founders' day program yesterday marking the Greenville school's 40th anniversary.

Other scheduled inauguration speakers included Dr. George Frederick Zook, president of the National Council on Education.

Dr. Messick is a native of Beaufort County. He was educated at the University of North Carolina. He taught in state public schools and for nine years was dean of instruction at Elon College. He came here from the New Jersey State Teachers College where he was dean and administrative assistant to the president for three years.

Dr. Messick succeeded Dr. Dennis H. Cooke, now head of the department of education at the Woman's College of the University of North Carolina in Greensboro.

The Governor pointed out that during the war, seven per cent of North Carolinians who registered for the draft "signed their cards with an 'X'." Then he asserted:

"Some states import their illiterates, North Carolina grows her own."

Cherry recited statistics showing that in 1940 there were nearly 2,000,000 children between the ages of six and sixteen not in school and "most of those lived in the South." Statistics showing the number of children between five and seventeen show "North Carolina standing 10th in this proud accomplishment," he said.

"It was explained that children don't go to school for lack of incentive," Cherry continued, "because school officers with little money to care for their present pupils don't really seek out new ones; and because illiterate parents scoff at education and put their kids to work. The vicious cycle is obvious; uneducated children become illiterate parents and keep their youngsters from school in turn."

As a solution to the illiteracy problem, the Governor said:

"Co-operation and a spirit of working together here in North Carolina for the solution of North Carolina's problems is the key."

Truman Approves Webb Retirement

WASHINGTON — (AP) — President Truman has approved the retirement of Edwin Yates Webb as Federal district judge of the Western District of North Carolina.

Judge Webb, 75, was on the bench for more than 28 years and had asked to be retired as of March 1. He is from Shelby, N. C.

Climbs 78 Miles

New U. S. Rocket Hits Speed Of 3,000 MPH

WASHINGTON — (AP) — A new Navy rocket has spurted 78 miles into the sky and hit a speed of 3,000 miles an hour, the Army and Navy said today.

It is the highest and fastest an American missile is disclosed to have gone. The wartime German V-2 reached 114 miles and about 3,500 miles an hour in tests at White Sands, N. M., proving grounds.

The Navy rocket, called the Aerobee, was tested there yesterday, the joint announcement said.

The performance of the liquid-fueled Aerobee greatly exceeds the 34-mile altitude, 2,100-mile speed of the only other American rocket so far announced. This was the Army ordnance "WAC corporal." However, both still are far short of marks achieved by the V-2.

Details of design of the new rocket and the fuel are secret.

However, photographs of it in flight indicate a pencil-like design like the WAC corporal, contrasted with the bulkier girth of the V-2.

The Aerobee was developed for Navy ordnance by the Aerojet Corporation of Azusa, Calif., and the Douglas Aircraft Co. The applied physics laboratory of Johns Hopkins University at Silver Spring, Md., supervised.

It carried 150 pounds of instruments for recording cosmic ray activity. Under the joint Navy-Army program, an initial group of 30 Aerobee rockets is being made ready for tests.

There was nothing in the announcement to indicate any attempt to guide the Navy rocket in its flight.

U. S., France And Britain In Accord On Germany

To Use Assets In Marshall Plan

LONDON — (AP) — The United States, Britain and France have agreed upon international control of the Ruhr and close co-operation to enlist Western Germany's assets in the Marshall Plan.

In conference here the Western powers also agreed that Western Germany should have a Federal form of government, providing adequate central authority but protecting the rights of the various states.

A communique was issued tonight after the conferences ended.

No hard agreement was reached upon merger of the French zone with the United States-British zones of occupation, but responsible officials said decisions reached here will lead to that objective.

The three powers decided Germany will be represented in the international control of the Ruhr. No indication was given whether Russia will be invited to participate.

The Ruhr agreement was in general terms. The specific recommendations were not disclosed. They will be submitted first to the governments concerned.

The three powers adjourned until next month their talks on the role Germany will play in the Economic Recovery Program.

They agreed on prompt action "to coordinate as far as possible the economic policies of the three zones in such matters as foreign and inter-zonal trade, customs and freedom of movement for persons and goods.

"Such cooperation is essential if Western Germany is to make its full and proper contribution to European recovery," the statement said.

Emerging from the meeting, U. S. Ambassador Lewis Douglas said:

"These meetings have been extraordinarily fruitful and successful. Within the past 10 days more progress has been made than in the preceding three years."

The three-power statement said it was agreed that the combined British-American zones and the French zone of Germany "should be fully associated in the European Recovery Program and adequately represented on any continuing organization."

The statement indicates that all Western Germany will be represented at the mid-March meeting in Paris of the 16 nations which seek to participate under the Marshall Plan. Germany probably will be represented by the three Allied commanders, but this will not rule out later direct participation by the Germans themselves.

The Western powers said that the "continuous failure" of the foreign ministers' council to reach four-power agreement "has created a situation in Germany which, if permitted to continue, would have increasingly unfortunate consequences for Western Europe."

The communique urged the "necessity of insuring the economic reconstruction of Western Europe, including Germany, and of establishing a basis for the participation of a democratic Germany in the community of free peoples."

But it said that "while delay in reaching these objectives can no longer be accepted, ultimate four power agreement is in no way precluded."

The communique said that agreement in principle "has been reached on continued association of the Benelux countries (Belgium, The Netherlands and Luxembourg) in policy discussions regarding Germany."

In discussing international control of the Ruhr, the communique said that its purpose would be to insure "that the economic resources of this area should not again be used for the purposes of aggression and that there should be adequate access to the coal, coke and

See RUHR CONTROL on page 3-A

WEATHER

Sleet and freezing rain today and tonight, changing to rain Sunday.

Temperature at 2 P. M. today....31
High and low last 24 hours....45-30
Sunset today 6:22
Sunrise tomorrow 6:45

More Weather Data on page 3-A

Give To The Red Cross Fund -- 'Three Dollars For Three Reasons: Service, Safety And Self'