Weather
Fair and cooler through Thursday; low tonight, 32 degrees.
More Weather Data on Page 10-A

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

★★★★★ Final

Largest Afternoon Newspaper in The Carolinas

ESTABLISHED DEC. 8, 1888 | CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1949 | 30 Pages—Price Five Cents

Coal Dispute Handed Over To Truman For Action

THOUSANDS IN CITY FOR YULE FESTIVAL

Mediation Fruitless, Ching Says

Steps Suggested To White House

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Federal Mediation Chief Cyrus S. Ching today turned the deadlocked coal dispute over to the White House for action.

Ching reported to John R. Steelman, President Truman's assistant, that further attempts to get Union Leader John L. Lewis and coal operators into an agreement seemed useless.

After seeing Steelman at the White House he told reporters:

"It is our considered judgment that further mediation at this time would be fruitless."

Ching said he was filing a written report covering the coal case with President Truman this afternoon.

OFFERS SUGGESTIONS

He said it would not contain any House action but would include a number of suggestions on what can be done.

These suggestions were reported to include establishment by Mr. Truman of a fact-finding board outside the Taft-Hartley law with power to recommend settlement terms.

Another suggestion was reported to be use of the Taft-Hartley law's national emergency provisions, including a court injunction to bar a new coal strike.

The White House, however, appeared willing to give John L. Lewis the rest of this week to accept a fact-finding board like the one which helped settle the steel strike.

A truce ordered by Lewis when he ended a 52-day mine strike last week expires on Dec. 1.

President Truman will have an opportunity to announce any decision he may make in dealing with Lewis at his regular news conference tomorrow.

Ching made an atempt last week to get coal operators and Lewis talking for a new coal contract. Lewis declined to attend on the day Ching suggested, so the meeting was abandoned.

CHING'S STAND

Today Ching told reporters:

"I feel that due to the position of the parties at the present time, further joint meetings called by this service might retard, rather than accelerate, contract negotiations."

Ching said, however, that this service is standing by to "do everything we can" to help settle the dispute.

Bomber Missing With 20 Aboard

HAMILTON, Bermuda—(AP)—A United States Air Force B-29 with twenty persons aboard was reported missing today on a flight from Riverside, Calif., to Bermuda. Search planes have gone out from Kindley Field here.

The plane was due here at 7:10 A. M., EST. It was believed to have come down in the Atlantic off Bermuda. Four planes are searching the area.

The plane had been in radio contact with Kindley Field until a message was received that it was going to ditch—come down on the water—within five minutes.

The craft from the Second Squadron of the 22nd Bombardment Group, was one of a number of B-29s en route from California to Britain, which stop over in Bermuda. Fifteen such craft already here en route to England were ordered to remain to take part in the search.

A WORD FROM ONE WHO KNOWS

News Staff Photo by Tom Franklin Studio

"Chin up, chest out, tummy in," says Miss Lenora Slaughter, right, executive director of the Atlantic City Miss America Pageant to three of the Carolinas Christmas Festival Princesses. From left to right they are Gwyn Shelor of Sumter, S. C., "Queen Dixie"; Doris Avant of Florence, S. C., "Queen Iris"; and Princess Dorothy Swisher of Southern Pines. Here today, Miss Slaughter described Carolina girls as "beautiful".

Director Of Contest Likes N. C. Beauties

North Carolina, says Miss Lenora Slaughter, is a very pretty state. And its girls are a good bit more; they are positively beautiful.

"Every time we stopped at a filling station", she said, "I noticed a potential Miss America walking around. I was positively amazed."

Miss Slaughter knows all about beauty and Miss Americas because she is executive director of the Miss America Pageant. She is in Charlotte to confer with officials of the Carolinas Christmas Festival and to talk with representatives of Junior Chamber of Commerce organizations in the Carolinas.

The Jaycees are the best sponsoring organization for state beauty finals in the United States," she said. "And North Carolina groups set up a system that has been adopted as a model for running these contests."

Miss Slaughter runs the big show in Atlantic City in September when representatives from the 48 states, key cities of New York, Chicago and Philadelphia, the District of Columbia, Capada, Hawaii and Puerto Rico compete for the honor of being selected Miss America.

A girl, she says, must be more than beautiful to win. She must have personality, grace, poise and dignity and must display some talent.

BAD CONCENTRATION

"I think," she expained, "that one reason North Carolina girls have not fared bette, in the pageant, is because the local judges have concentrated too much on beauty of face and figure. There's a lot more to it than that."

Pageant judges look closely for four qualities, each counting 25 per cent on the entrant's score. These four are beauty and figure, talent, appearance in evening gown and personality, which includes charm and intelligence.

The girl selected Miss America is given a $5,000 scholarship. The winner of last year's contest, Miss Bebe Shopp is a student in Manhattan's School of Music. When she has completed two years work she will be ready for a career.

"We do not offer a screen test, or contract, or anything like that to the winner", says Miss Salughter." Some of them are offered movie jobs but most turn them

See BEAUTY OF on page 10-A

Hanes ECA Mission Chief In West Germany

FRANKFURT, Germany—(AP)—Robert M. Hanes of Winston-Salem, N. C., was appointed today as chief of the ECA mission in Western Germany and director of economic affairs in the cabinet of U. S. High Commissioner John J. McCloy.

Hanes succeeds Norman H. Collison of Washington, D. C., who opened the ECA mission here a year ago. Collison will return to Washington. He said his plans are indefinite.

Shelling Of U. S. Vessel Protested

Note Being Sent Nationalist China

WASHINGTON— (AP) — The United States is protesting to the Chinese Nationalist Government against a Chinese warship's firing on an American merchant vessel.

Secretary of State Acheson told a news conference today that an immediate protest is being made against this endangering of American lives.

Acheson also declared that Chinese Communist treatment of American Consul General Angus Ward at Mukden presently removes any possibility of considering recognition of the Chinese Communist Government.

PROGRESS IN KOREA

He said some progress is being made in efforts to obtain the release of two ECA officials held by the Communist regime in Northern Korea.

Russia in response to an American request is taking up the matter with the Korean Communist authorities, Acheson said.

Acheson discussed the Far Eastern situation after first summarizing his meeting in Paris last week with the British and French foreign ministers and his subsequent trip to Germany.

While declining to go into any detail on the Paris big three conference, Acheson emphasized that complete agreement was reached on German problems. He said he was greatly impressed by the progress which Western Germany is making in its political reconstruction.

The Far Eastern issues dominated the questions and answers which followed his prepared statement.

There was first the case of the "Flying Cloud," the Isbrandtsen Steamship Co.'s vessel fired on, and reportedly hit several times, by a Chinese Nationalist warship. The Chinese Nationalists have declared a blockade of Communist-held China ports, but the United States has refused to recognize the blockade.

Acheson said that the State De-

See U. S. PROTESTS on page 10-A

National Guard, State Police To Help In Traffic

Traffic along the Christmas parade route and on cross streets will be allowed until 6 P. M., Traffic Capt. Lloyd W. Henkel announced this morning.

But earlier than that the route were to be removed after 1 P. M. in time for the parade's 6 o'clock beginning.

Capt. Henkel also issued warning through local radio stations today asking parade observers to guard against overcrowding balconies and windows which jut out over the sidewalks.

Approximately 125 auxiliary policemen will be on hand to handle crowds and traffic tonight, along with 170 regulars from the entire City Police Dept.

The auxiliaries and regulars will be supplemented by 25 State Police and 100 National Guardsmen in an effort to control what police believe will be the largest crowd ever to assemble in Charlotte.

No-parking orders were placed into effect at 1 P. M. from Dilworth Road at East Blvd., down the Boulevard to South Blvd., along South Blvd. to Morehead, from Morehead to Tryon, and from Tryon to 12th St.

MEET THE TOTTER SISTERS

News Staff Photo by Tom Franklin Studio

Collette and Audrey Totter, sisters and honor guests at the Carolings Christmas Festival parade and ball tonight, were kept busy this morning arranging flowers in their hotel room. Audrey (right), MGM movie star, is honorary queen of the Festival and will crown the Festival Queen tonight at the Coronation Ball.

U. S. Public Housing Program Launched

WASHINGTON —(AP)— President Truman today launched the public housing program by approving loans totaling $20,375,400 to 108 cities for the planning of low-rent homes for a half-million persons.

The loans will finance the surveys and planning for 134,500 dwellings in 27 states, Puerto Rico, and Washington, D. C.

Mr. Truman's action was announced by John Taylor Egan, commissioner of the Public Housing Administration.

Egan said loan contracts will be signed as rapidly as possible with the local housing authorities. The loans, the first to be made under the long-range housing act approved this Summer, are preliminary to later financing arrangements which will permit the start of construction.

TWO-YEAR PROJECT

The housing developments launched today are to be under taken within the next two years.

Funds have been reserved for another 100 local authorities which intend to take part in the first two years of the public housing program.

The legislation provides for about 810,000 units over the next six years.

Chicago led the list of cities with 21,000 dwellings proposed.

New York was second with 20,300 but New York's preliminary loan amounts to $2,180,000, considerably higher than the $720,000 approved for planning in Chicago.

Other sizeable approvals included Los Angeles, 10,000 dwellings; New Orleans 5,000; Baltimore 5,000; Pittsburgh 5,000; Washington, D. C. 4,000; Norfolk 3,000; and Newark 3,500.

"Approval of these loans means that these local housing authorities may now take the first concrete steps toward building good new homes for low in-

See PUBLIC on page 10-A

Hunt Shifts To Mexico

LINDA JOYCE GLUCOFT

LOS ANGELES —(AP)— An international manhunt was on today for a 66-year-old retired banker wanted for questioning in the brutal slaying of six-year-old Linda Joyce Glucoft.

An autopsy, meanwhile, disclosed details of the vicious brutality of the attack.

The mutilated blanket-wrapped body of the little girl was found early yesterday, buried under rubbish in the backyard of a neighbor's house where she was last seen alive. In that house lived Fred Stroble, 66, retired banker, at large in another child molestation case. Stroble, a police broadcast said, "is believed to have murdered" Linda Joyce.

A bus driver told police he drove a man resembling Stroble across the Mexican border. Police there launched a search for him.

Officers at San Bernardino, 60 miles east of here, hunted for a man a bartender identified as Stroble from newspictures and a mutilated finger. The man was

See SUSPECT on page 10-A

Four-Mile Parade Is Main Event On Day's Full Program

By MARTHA LONDON
Charlotte News Staff Writer

The Third Annual Carolinas Christmas Festival, featuring the personal appearance of Audrey Totter, MGM film star; Ted Malone, roving reporter; and Fulton Lewis Jr., ace news commentator, officially got under way today with a noon luncheon at the Hotel Charlotte.

The luncheon was the first big event on the day's schedule, which will be climaxed with a mammoth parade, some four miles long, at 6 o'clock tonight, and followed later with the Coronation Ball at which Queen Christmas for 1949 will be crowned.

Some 400,000 persons are expected to jam the streets of Charlotte to witness the spectacular event, and, beginning early this afternoon, all roads leading into the city were filled with Carolinians on their way to the "big Christmas party".

Honor guests, in addition to Miss Totter, Mr. Malone and Mr. Lewis, included 37 visiting Princesses who will vie for the title of Queen Christmas; mayors from many of the Carolina towns; officials of the Atlantic City Miss America contest; and Charlotte's leading businessmen.

Beauty was the keynote of the luncheon, with Miss Totter and Ann Rose, Queen Christmas of 1948, setting the pace. Mayor Victor Shaw presided at the luncheon, which opened with the singing of "The Lord's Prayer" by the Rev. Alfred Garr. Mayor Shaw, after introducing the visiting mayors, turned the program over to Ted Malone, who served as master of ceremonies.

Regretfully, however, Mr. Malone surrendered the mike to Thomas L. Robinson, publisher of The Charlotte News. "I had wanted to introduce Miss Totter myself," said Mr. Malone. "But I guess I have to do what I'm told!"

Mr. Robinson then introduced Miss Totter, and described her as "tremendously co-operative."

"We are indeed fortunate this year in having her come to Charlotte. She is a very outstanding star in Hollywood, and she has been a wonderful guest."

He told the luncheon guests that Miss Totter had especially designed a gown for her visit to the ball.

CELEBRITIES SPEAK

In replying, Miss Totter expressed her delight at being in Charlotte, and said she had had a "most exciting welcome. I am very happy to be here."

Following more introductions, Mr. Malone introduced Mr. Lewis, guest luncheon speaker, who opened his talk on a light note, saying: "If any of you beautiful Princesses find your mothers and fathers and boy-friends don't want to take you back to your home-towns, just come to see me. Mrs. Lewis and I will be delighted to have you."

Among the visiting mayors were the following:

C. N. Page of Southern Pines, G. B. Harris of Statesville, G. B. Harrill of Forest City, R. L. Hogue of Gaffney, S. C., J. Ray Shute of Monroe, Edward Haupt of Newton, W. A. Hood of Matthews, DeWitt Hall of Troy, Raymond Prodgen of Mullins, S. C., and J. E. Herndon of Kings Mountain.

Other visitors included Mrs. Leonora Slaughter Fryer, staff managing director of the Miss America contest; Bradford A. Frapart, property manager for the Miss America event, Mall' Dodson, publicity director for the Miss America contest, and Mrs Dodson; and C. Wood Crawford, director general of the Mountain State Forest Festival of Elkin, W. Va.

The floats will be as follows: Santa Claus, Queens, Charlotte Merchants association, Charlotte Automobile Dealers association, Queen City Coach Co., Ivey's, Charlotte Furniture Dealers association, The Charlotte Observer, Efird's, Lance, Inc., Belk Bros., Sear's, Rotary club, Belk's Beauty Shop, Blossom Shop, Biggers Bros., Charlotte Chamber of Commerce, Red Cross, Mayfair Coffee shop, Mecklenburg Fire department, Roger Display Co., Biltmore Dairies, The Charlotte News, U. S. Naval Depot, Foremost Dairies, Air Guard, Cobb Dairies, and five others.

The following bands are scheduled to take part in the parade: Cherryville High school, Lancaster, S. C., High school, Belmont High school, U. S. Navy, Albemarle High school, Blackeburg, S. C., Cherryville, Concord, Forest City, Gastonia, Hickory, Kannapolis, Kings Mountain, Lenoir, Lincolnton, Mooresville, Newton, Rock Hill, S. C., Shelby, Harding High School, Central High School, Tech High School, Alexander Graham Junior High School, Piedmont Junior High School, Grace Drum and Bugle Corps, Plato Price High School, Second Ward High School, and West Charlotte High School.

Festival Sidelights

The Hotel Charlotte, headquarters for the Carolinas Christmas Festival, was over-run with lovely Princesses, visiting Queens, officials and dignitaries this morning. . . The first to arrive and register came in last night. They were Gwyn Shelor of Sumter, "Miss Dixie"; Doris Avant of Florence, "Miss Iris"; and Dorothy Swisher, Princess from Southern Pines.

Many of the Princesses, breathless with excitement, have plaffled on their wardrobes for many weeks, and brought along their mothers to help with clothes, dressing, arrangements . . . One Princess brought her own convertible to be decorated for the parade. . . Plenty of good-looking escorts accompanied their favorite girl-friends to town for the Big Day. . . Earl Crawford, general chairman of the Festival, was puffing on a big cigar, and continually commented: "Pretty, aren't they? My, but they're pretty."

Ted Malone and his friend, Hal Graham, were practically swamped with well-wishers, as they tried to sneak through the lobby for breakfast. Hal reported that Ted will give away some 5,000 candy kisses while riding in the parade tonight. . . Even with his busy schedule, Ted has had time to figure that the average weight of each Princess stands at 118 pounds. . . MGM star, Audrey Totter, was awakened by birds scratching at her window this morning. . .

She wore a blue hostess gown, and was busy at the phone, arranging to have her clothes pressed. . . Some of the busiest people in town today were the hotel bellhops. One of them, seeing three pieces of luggage for one small Princess commented to the side: "What are they going to do—change all day long?"

Banter And Basher Help In Greeting Miss Totter

By EMERY WISTER
Charlotte News Staff Writer

A smiling, balding little man named Basher (wish this name were Dasher), dashed up and said "Hello, Miss Totter, my name is Audrey, too."

"Aw", said an onlooker. "I'll bet he tells that to all the girls. I guess if her name was Billie he'd be Billy."

Mr. Basher was just one of the more than 3,000 persons who greeted the film star at the airport, the Charlotte Hotel and the Naval Reserve dance last night. She's here for the Carolinas Christmas Festival here today.

And merciful heavens, she's no blonde at all. Her hair is as brown as a bear, nut.

"I never was a blonde, not really", she said, "but I've had to bleach my hair in all my pictures. I just got tired of it and dyed it back to its natural shade."

Here today and gone tomorrow, Audrey is dreaming of her home in Joliet, Ill. and the Thanksgiving dinner she'll eat there.

HOME FOR THANKSGIVING

"I haven't spent Thanksgiving Day at home in eight years", she told the welcoming committee which escorted her about the city. "I'm going from here to Joliet and will be back in Hollywood by mid-December."

So far as Audrey is concerned, her jaunts around the country are just one big game hunt. She's looking for a husband. She's had plenty of offers already. Patients in veterans hospitals she's visited are swamping her with proposals of marriage.

"Every girl wants to get mar-

See HUGE on page 12-A

Old Saint Nick Is Due At 5:14 Today

Santa Claus will arrive in Charlotte aboard an Eastern Air Line airplane on a trip from the North Pole at 5:14 P. M. today.

This information was announced by A. Y. Hamrick, chairman of the Santa Claus float committee for the city's Christmas Festival.

Santa Claus will be met at the airport terminal building by Mr. Hamrick and other Festival representatives and a motorized police guard. He will be escorted to the Santa Claus float and will appear in the great parade, which will begin moving at 6 P. M.

The Santa Claus float will be the last one in the magnificent spectacle, which will be witnessed by a crowd expected to be the greatest ever gathered uptown in this city's history.

Routine Unbroken By Gunfire

U. S. Vessel Escapes Chinese Blockade

NEW YORK —(AP)— Despite heavy fire from a Chinese Nationalist warship, the crew of an unarmed American merchant vessel went about its chores as if nothing unusual was happening, the New York Times reported today in an eye-witness account.

"Even the cooks kept on tending the stoves in the galley," Walter Sullivan reported to the times in a dispatch from aboard the S. S. Flying Cloud off Shanghai.

The story, dated Nov. 15, said "The ship's hull was blown in by shellfire at several places but no one was hurt."

Sullivan reported:

"Six women passengers, ranging in age from 21 to 59, stood with the male passengers on the side of the engine room away from the shooting.

"The merchantman, entirely unarmed, could not reply to the gunfire. Suddenly amid the sound of shells hitting the hull the klaxon sounded. The passengers were startled, believing it to be an alarm, but it was only a signal to relieve the watch. The engineers said the ship's routine was not to be upset, bullets or no bullets."

The Times dispatch detailed the damage to the Flying Cloud, owned by the Isbrandtsen line of New York, "home-bound from Shanghai as she broke away from the blockading warship that had detained and boarded her."

Halting of the Flying Cloud near the mouth of the Yangtse by a former U. S. destroyer escort was described in the story.

The Chinese Nationalists tried, to hold the ship captive along with two British merchant ships under a blockade of Communist Chinese ports which both the British and U. S. Governments have declared illegal.

The Flying Cloud—with its passengers ordered to the most sheltered spots—picked up anchor and equipment an order to return to Shanghai.

And then—Sullivan reported:

"The warship flashed fore and aft, with gunfire, and three-inch shells exploded against the hull plates of the Flying Cloud at almost point-blank range.

"One shell plunged into the hull amidships, exploding. An investigation tonight revealed a hole in the hull the size of a porthole.

"The warship, unable to quit her British charges lest they escape, too, could not give chase, so that once the Flying Cloud drew out of range she was safe."

The Isbrandtsen line has protested the shelling to Secretary of State Acheson.

Once Over Lightly

BY WALTER SEIGENTHALER

Life is sort of like golf. You start off with a drive and wind up on the green . . . Ain't which one to run away from trouble. It'll still be there when you stop.