Weather
Cloudy and cold tonight and Thursday.
More Weather Data on page 12-B

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

★★★★★ Final

Largest Afternoon Newspaper in The Carolinas

ESTABLISHED DEC. 8, 1888 — CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1949 — 32 Pages—Price Five Cents

COUNCIL VOTES RENT DECONTROL MAY 1

Crime-Spawning Areas Lashed By Grand Jury

Clean-Up Campaign Is Urged

Report Lists Trouble Spots

By RALPH GIBSON
Charlotte News Staff Writer

The Grand Jury struck out at crime breeding areas in and around Charlotte today by demanding that something be done to clean them up.

In a report handed to Superior Court Judge A. R. Crisp, the jury listed McDowell St., Palmer's Alley, and N. Brevard St. in Charlotte, and "places on the new Concord road near the Mecklenburg-Cabarrus line" in the county.

Grand Jury Foreman W. G. Thomas and Secretary Vernon W. Paterson said in the report that their conclusions about the trouble spots were drawn from witnesses who appeared before the jury in criminal cases.

"From evidence submitted by various witnesses, certain areas in Charlotte and vicinity are places where there is an almost constant flow of crime and endeavor should be made by the law enforcement bodies to reduce and finally eliminate crime in these areas," the report recommended.

"The Grand Jury also recommends that the City and County Police Departments use every effort at their command to clean up such places as Palmer's Alley and its cafes."

Also named specifically were McDowell and N. Brevard St.

"On McDowell St., particularly in cafes selling beer, a constant stream of crime originates. From evidence submitted by several witnesses, N. Brevard St. is a section where bootlegging and prostitution seem to be prevalent," the report continued.

In the county, the report listed

See CRIME on page 10-A

State ABC Law Is Challenged

WILSON —(AP)— An action challenging legality of the State's alcoholic Beverage Control law has been filed in Superior Court here.

Mrs. G. W. Summerlin contends that the State ABC Board acted illegally in revoking her beer permit. She lost the permit after a hearing before the Board on Nov. 30.

Her action was filed yesterday. She charges that the ABC law is unconstitutional in that it does not provide for an appeal from Board rulings.

She alleges the board did not give her a fair and impartial hearing and that she is entitled to one in Superior Court.

Mrs. Summerlin got her case into court through papers signed by Judge W. H. S. Burgwyn permitting her to appeal.

The Board revoked Mrs. Summerlin's beer permit after finding that beer had been sold at her place on Sunday and that it was an undesirable beer outlet.

SENDS TRANSCRIPT

Meanwhile, in Raleigh State ABC Board Chairman Robert W. Winston said he was sending to the Wilson court a transcript of the record in the case including testimony heard at the hearing, and the Board's findings of facts.

The Supreme Court has never ruled on constitutionality of the act creating the ABC Board.

Once Over Lightly

BY WALTER SEIGENTHALER

Times change—the man that used to push a wheelbarrow now wants to push a button . . . The fellow that would hesitate to ask you for a match wouldn't hesitate to ask his Congressman to do anything.

Kostov Is Convicted, Sentenced To Hang

SOFIA, Bulgaria —(AP)— Traicho Kostov, former Communist vice premier of Bulgaria, was convicted of treason tonight and sentenced to death by hanging.

The number two defendant, Ivan Stefanov, former finance minister, was sentenced to life imprisonment.

They were tried with nine others on charges of plotting with Americans, Britons and Yugoslavs to make Communist Bulgaria a puppet of Premier-Marshal Tito's Yugoslavia.

These defendants also received life terms:

Nikola Pavlov, former administrative secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Politburo and former vice-minister of public works.

Nikola Nachev, former deputy construction minister and chairman of the state committee for economic affairs.

Ivan Gevrinov, former director of the Bulgarian National Bank and former director of the national rubber industries.

Ivan Tuter, former director of the board of foreign trade.

The trial came to a close abruptly yesterday after a second attempt by Kostov to repudiate the charges against him went unheard. As he started to renounce the confession he was said to have made to police before the trial a wave of indignation ran through the audience and drowned out his words.

All ten of the other defendants admitted their guilt, some in tears and others shaken with repentance. They threw themselves upon the mercy of the court. The public prosecutor had asked for a sentence of death by hanging for all of them.

All except Kostov readily confessed they had plotted with Marshal Tito of Yugoslavia, had spied for the Anglo-Americans and had committed economic sabotage in an attempt to overthrow the present Communist regime.

Former Finance Minister Ivan Stefanov, one of the defendants, said that the crimes he had committed also had been committed by Kostov.

Stefanov said he was "shaken to the depths of my soul because the man who brought us to the defendant's bench has not the courage himself to confess his crimes openly before the court and the people."

Reorganization Is Picking Up Support

WASHINGTON —(AP)— Sweeping proposals for Governmental reorganization gained new support in the Senate of Congress today with a promise of major achievement in the coming year.

These developments were the outgrowth of a two-day conference sponsored by the non-partisan Citizens Committee for the Hoover Report.

The conference adjourned last night after awarding Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson a special plaque "for distinguished service to the American people" in streamlining the national defense establishment.

Johnson has set his sights on a billion-dollar economy cut in this year's defense budget.

"MINOR MIRACLE"

In a summation of the whole reorganization record to date, Charles B. Coates, vice chairman of the citizens committee, said it was a "minor miracle which may become a major one."

Of principal importance was disclosure to the conference that President Truman is prepared to submit new reorganization plans to Congress which will complete the basic work outlined by the Hoover commission for reorganization of the executive branch of Government.

Senator Lucas of Illinois, the Democratic Senate leader, added today he expected Mr. Truman to send up a dozen plans to Congress at the coming session opening in January.

Lucas himself advocated merger of the Corps of Army Engineers with the reclamation bureau into a single water development agency.

This proposal met resistance in Congress at the last session. Congress sidestepped the issue by insisting the engineers be treated as a part of the military establishment, and not as a separate agency.

Secretary of Commerce Sawyer, in a special report to President Truman, has also proposed consolidation and merger of all Federal programs of aid to transportation — excepting only regulatory functions now performed by such quasi-judicial agencies as the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Of seven reorganization plans submitted by the President this year, Congress has blocked only one. This was a plan to establish a new Welfare Department of Education, which would unify public health, public welfare and education programs now directed by the Federal Security Administrator.

Former President Herbert Hoover urged among other things one transportation agency, merger of water conservation services, modernizing Government bookkeeping and civil service, and unifying the Federal hospital system.

HOSPITAL CLAIM HIT

The American Legion today disputed Hoover's claim that Government hospitals had patients for only 135,000 of its 225,000 beds, but was about to add 50,000 more beds anyway.

Legion Commander George N. Craig said that 110,000 of these beds were available to veterans and none was empty. He said he thought Mr. Hoover's figures were out-dated.

Coal Shortage Called Critical

CHICAGO — (AP) — Executive committee members of the American Retail Coal Association met today to discuss what they said is a crisis in the nation's coal supply situation.

J. Atlee Schafer of Cleveland, president, called the meeting of the retailers' eight-man committee and declared that whole cities and towns might be running out of coal within two weeks if present production restrictions are not relaxed.

He referred to the schedule under which the United Mine Workers are working a three-day week on orders of their president, John L. Lewis, who is attempting to negotiate new contracts with the country's coal operators.

Schafer said that in the last few days "We've been swamped with complaints from retailers who are unable to accumulate more than an emergency supply in their own yards. It's obvious that the three day work week will not satisfy the needs of the nation."

Jews Move Capital To Jerusalem

Act In Opposition To U. N. Decision

By JAMES M. LONG

TEL AVIV, Israel — (AP) — The offices of Israel's president, prime minister and parliament were being moved today to Jerusalem—backing up the Jewish nation's flat rejection of the United Nations plan to internationalize the Holy City.

The Knesset (Parliament) closed its Tel Aviv sessions last night by voting overwhelmingly for the Government's decision to speed the transfer of all offices except the ministries of foreign affairs and defense to what Prime Minister David Ben Gurion called "Israel's eternal capital."

Ben Gurion avoided an outright proclamation of Jerusalem as Israel's capital, presumably in acknowledgment of advice from U. S. Ambassador James MacDonald urging against an "inflammatory" action.

But the silver-haired Premier told a solemn session of the Parliament that Israel rejected the U. N. plan to set up an international regime over Jerusalem. He said "We are continuing with the transfer of the government of Jerusalem and hope to complete it as soon as possible."

Ben Gurion and his staff left for Jerusalem this morning.

Parliament decided to meet in Jerusalem in ten days.

(At Lake Success, the twelve-nation U. N. trusteeship council voted to proceed with plans for trying to set up the framework of an international regime in accordance with the resolution approved by the general assembly. But some diplomats predicted the Israel decision to move government offices to Jerusalem may wreck the U. N. program.

(The United States—which with Britain supported Israel in opposing internationalization during assembly debate — was defeated in a move to delay trusteeship council discussions on Jerusalem. The council voted 6-1, with five abstaining, to proceed with work on drawing up a plan for international rule of the Holy City.

Some responsible diplomats speculated that a special Spring session of the U.N. Assembly would be needed to deal with the problem. The U.N. has no power to enforce its decisions and both Israel and Hashemite Jordan, whose troops hold the two sections of Jerusalem, are opposed to internationalization.)

Actually last night's decisions to move the government offices to Jerusalem are still largely symbolic.

Although the offices of prime minister and president will be opened in Jerusalem, it is presumed duplicate offices will continue to function in Hakirya, the present administrative center in a Tel Aviv suburb.

It is significant that the foreign ministry will stay in Tel Aviv. It was believed the decision was made to avoid any issue that might arise if ambassadors from other members of the United Nations, now stationed in Tel Aviv, should refuse to move to Jerusalem.

BARE FACTS

PITTSBURGH—(AP)—A hold-up man walked out of the store of Patsy Margaras on Webster Ave. after being told by the proprietor: "You're wasting your time."

The robber looked in the empty till, nodded and left.

AIR LINE CRASH KILLS FOUR, 19 SURVIVE

Four persons perished in this wreckage of a Capital Air Lines plane in the Potomac River at Washington but 19 others aboard survived. Rescue workers uncover one of the bodies amidst the debris and are about to remove it in the small boat (foreground). Many of the survivors were badly hurt. The plane wandered off a radar path leading into fog-bound National Airport and crashed into the mud of the river. (AP Wirephoto.)

Civilian Supremacy Urged

Defense Costs Bring Warning

By STERLING F. GREEN

WASHINGTON—(AP)—The Committee for Economic Development estimated today that national security will cost at least $20,000,000,000 a year for years to come.

In the face of this costly cold war defense, it urged definite action to: (1) safeguard civilian supremacy in the republic, (2) strengthen long-range security and (3) protect individual freedom.

The CED, an organization of business executives, said the $20,000,000,000 estimate on the annual cost of security for the next several years embraces several items. Military defense is the big one, followed by rearming of non-Communist nations, European recovery spending, atomic energy developments, U. S. spendings overseas, and much of the Government's diplomacy and intelligence work.

One of its principal recommendations was for a transfusion of civilian leadership into the whole security program. The CED criticized today's preparedness planning as being "neither efficient nor in balance."

The report said that a powerful military machine can dominate the economy and, unless held in balance, can destroy a free economy.

And, while urging continued strong action against subversive activities, it called for caution in the handling of "loyalty" inquiries. The CED declared:

"An atmosphere of suspicion favors the growth of political tactics. Agencies with power to investigate sometimes degenerate into organs of oppression and intimidation."

"Necessary investigations into loyalty can deteriorate into witch hunts which threaten the whole structure of individual freedom."

In summary, the report stated: "The fear of war may dominate our lives for a generation;" security outlays, abroad and at home, can impose a drain on the nation's resources and a strain on the free American society; and that it is time to bulwark the country against this hazard to its liberties.

"Security measures, uncurbed by the requirements of freedom, can undermine our free institutions," the business group said.

"Public apathy and the pressure for security can lead us along a dangerous road —a road that ends in what has aptly been called a garrison-police state."

CED was organized during the war to plan ahead for economic growth and high employment. Its statements on tax and economic policy and other matters have been credited with influencing legislation.

The new report was the work of its research and policy committee, headed by Marion B. Folsom, treasurer of Eastman Kodak Co., and including such businessmen as Philip D. Reed, chairman of General Electric, William L. Clayton, cotton factor and former Undersecretary of State; Chester C. Davis, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis; Eric Johnson, president of the Motion Picture Association; and Fowler McCormick, chairman of International Harvester.

8 Survivors Of Ship Blast Landed; 16 Still Missing

MIAMI, Fla. —(AP)— Eight battered survivors of the burning Dutch motorship Doros were brought ashore by a Coast Guard rescue plane today as search continued for sixteen others still missing at sea.

A Coast Guard PBM — Martin Mariner flying boat — landed the men at air-sea rescue headquarters in Miami.

One man was badly burned and was taken off in a stretcher. The other seven were walking cases. All were rushed to hospitals for treatment.

Survivors told a story of horror and death.

OTHER OFFICERS DEAD

"All the other officers are dead," said the chief engineer, identified only as Helmus.

Saloon Steward Edward Amzand said an explosion occurred about 11 A. M. Monday. He did not know the cause.

"The ship was suddenly all in flames. I guess the explosion was amidship but in seconds the whole ship was on fire. I ran to a life boat and helped put it in the water."

"I know the electrician and the chief steward were dead but I don't know who else was dead."

"There were 24 men altogether on the ship, but I don't know what happened to all the rest of them. Lots of them jumped in the water and we picked up a couple of them from our lifeboat."

"The cook was in a lifeboat all alone and there were thirteen in our boat, so some of them got in the cook's lifeboat and that's the last we saw of them."

The chief engineer, the only white man in the group of survivors, refused to discuss the tragedy with reporters. The others were all Negroes.

"I don't want to talk about it to newspapers," he said.

Attempted Rape Charge Is Made

GASTONIA—(AP)—Gaston County police today charged Tom Shires, 30, of Rt. 1, Stanley, with abducting and assaulting a Gastonia girl Saturday night.

Charges were preferred by the woman, who is about 25. Officers are looking for a second man, Sheriff H. T. Efird said.

The young woman told police she was forced from her escort's car outside an eating place on the Gastonia - Clover Highway. Her companion had gone inside to purchase sandwiches, she said.

The men approached the car, she related, and one placed his hand over her mouth. They then forced her into another car and drove for several miles, the girl continued.

She said that during this time they attempted to molest her but she managed to escape from the automobile. Both men were intoxicated, she said.

Specific charges against Shires are assault and attempted rape. He was arrested yesterday by county officers after the woman furnished them with the license number of the car which she said he was driving.

Steps Planned To Free Red-Held Pair

WASHINGTON — (AP) — The United States is considering new moves to free two American servicemen held in Communist China for more than a year.

Secretary of State Acheson disclosed this at a news conference today but declined to say what steps might be taken.

The two servicemen are Navy Chief Electrician William C. Smith Long Beach, Calif., and Marine Master Sgt. Elmer C. Bender, Cincinnati. They disappeared while on a flight near Tsingtao, China, Oct. 19 last year.

Acheson said he had heard that a missionary has reported both have been seen and declared to be in good health. He said he had no more information than that.

Scientist Decries Stir Over Uranium Shipments

WASHINGTON —(AP)— Atomic Scientist Harold C. Urey said today all the fuss in Congress about atomic shipments to Russia is a little silly.

The University of Chicago professor told a news conference that uranium the Russians got was a "normal article of commerce at the time." He said what the Soviets got was unimportant, yet "public hysteria" has been built up over it.

The House Un-American Activities Committee has just held hearings on reports of wartime atomic materials reaching Russia. And more hearings are planned.

Urey referred to the committee as one which has "done little good for the United States."

The committee's inquiry was set off by former Air Corps Maj. George Racey Jordan, a wartime lend-lease inspector. He told of ripping open Russian-bound baggage and finding atomic papers. And he also reported that he tore some radar equipment out of planes headed for Russia.

Urey said he wonders why Jordan was not court martialed for taking things out of planes."

He said the whole question of small amounts of uranium reaching the Russians is unimportant. What is important, he said, is something positive, like forming a political union as well as a defensive union out of the countries in the North Atlantic Pact.

He came to Washington to make a speech tonight at a meeting sponsored by the local chapter of the Atlantic Union Committee.

He said there can be no effective control of atomic weapons until there is an effective world government. And for the present, he sees no chance for the latter.

Urey said he believes secrecy is hampering atomic development in this country. And he said he thought a technical man, preferably an engineer, should be chosen to replace David E. Lilienthal as chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission.

Proposal Squeaks By, 4-3

Recommendation Goes To Scott

By DICK YOUNG
Charlotte News Staff Writer

Recommendation for the lifting of rent control on May 1 was approved today in a four-to-three vote of the City Council.

Under the procedure outlined by the Federal rent control law, the Council's recommendation will go to Gov. Scott who will be asked to request the Federal Housing Expediter to terminate the controls in this area as of May 1.

The divided vote reflected the difference of opinion among council members who last week failed to reach a plan on which at least four of them could stand for majority action.

Two substitute motions were made at today's public session before the action was finally taken by the bare four-to-three majority.

ISSUE MOVED UP

The council moved the knotty rent control question ahead of a scheduled zoning hearing at the request of Councilman Basil M. Boyd who has to appear at a hearing in Raleigh at 3 P. M. today.

A fairly large crowd, with many real estate men included, was on hand to watch the proceedings which moved quickly to the controversial rent control problem.

Adoption of the formal resolution, read by Mrs. Lillian R. Hoffman, City Clerk, was moved by Councilman Emmett Wilkinson and quickly seconded by Councilman James H. Daughtry.

Councilman Claude L. Albea was quick to offer a substitute motion to leave the controls exempt under Federal law after June 30, and Councilman Boyd was on his feet to lay a motion into the hopper.

Then followed some confusion and Mayor Shaw turned to City Attorney John D. Shaw's help in straightening out the parliamentary muddle.

OUT OF ORDER

The attorney ruled that Mr. Albea's motion was out of order in that it was not actually a substitute but one entirely contrary to the original motion.

After some byplay that added no clarity to the situation Mr. Boyd moved that permission be granted Mr. Albea to make his motion. That was done and Mr. Albea's motion was seconded by Councilman W. I. Coddington.

When the motion was put it received support only of the mover and the seconder and thus lost for lack of the required four votes.

As the deck was cleared, Mr. Boyd arose to offer his motion, which was to defer action until the first regular meeting of the Council in April, 1950.

In an impassioned plea for support of his motion Mr. Boyd urged the citizens to wait and see what conditions will be in the Spring.

"None of us want to take off rent controls in the dead of Winter and you have made a motion to defer the lifting until May 1," he said.

"By that action you are sitting up here as seers of the future, determining now what will happen next Spring. I believe we ought to wait until our first meeting in April when we will

See COUNCIL on page 10-A

Many Feared Dead In Blast

SIOUX CITY, Ia. — (AP) — At least six persons were killed and 100 injured in an explosion at the main office building of the Swift & Co. packing plant in Sioux City early today. The National Guard was summoned.

Cause of the explosion was not immediately known.

Estimates of the dead ran as high as 20 and some placed the number of injured as high as 200.

Walter Kerba, a spokesman for the firm, said "There is no telling how many may be dead or injured."

The office building is a five-story brick structure. The south side of it was demolished.

Five In Hospital, Many Overcome

Hundreds Routed By Ammonia Gas Leak

OAKLAND, Calif. —(AP)— Upwards of 1,000 persons were forced to flee their homes here early today as waves of ammonia gas spread through twenty square blocks of West Oakland.

Scores were overcome and many made ill. Five were known to have been hospitalized.

A tank car filled with liquid ammonia, was being pumped out at a fertilizer plant when a pipe split and the cargo spilled into the streets. Gas formed quickly.

Eight police cars, with sirens screeching, moved slowly through the residential area warning persons to flee.

Gas-masked firemen attempted to wash away the ammonia with streams of water. It was several hours later before evacuees began returning to their homes.

Battalion Chief Thomas Dolan said the tank car contained enough ammonia to "kill everyone in the area."

As the great fog like clouds drifted through the district, shrouding cars, homes and buildings, policemen helped remove hundreds of people to safety areas.

Two churches outside the danger zone were opened as shelters for the evacuees.

The ammonia was being unloaded at the Farm Service Co. of the Best Fertilizer Co. James Whitty, 28, an employee, had just finished hooking a pipe to the tank car from the fertilizer's tank on the rear of the plant. The pipe broke.

Whitty was overcome quickly as the liquid ammonia formed gas. The employees in the plant escaped unhurt.

Plant Superintendent Frank Cofalski, 38, summoned to the scene. Shut off the flow after one hour as firemen played hoses on him. As he finished, he collapsed and had to be rescued by firemen. He was released from a hospital after emergency treatment.

Police and firemen used heavy blowing equipment to dissipate the heavy gas which settled in pockets.

9 Shopping Days till Christmas