Weather
Fair and continued cool, low tonight 30 degrees. Saturday, fair and warmer.
More Weather Data on Page 6-A

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

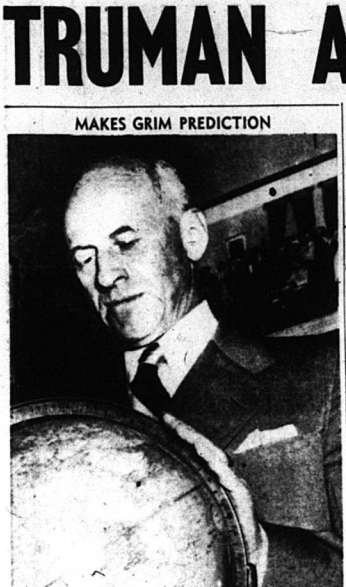
★★★★★ Final

Largest Afternoon Newspaper in The Carolinas

Established Dec. 8, 1888 — Charlotte, North Carolina Friday, February 17, 1950 — 24 Pages—Price Five Cents

TRUMAN ASKS REPORT ON COAL TALKS

MAKES GRIM PREDICTION



Sen. Millard Tydings (D-Md.), chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, is pictured studying a globe after he had predicted in a Senate speech that the hydrogen bomb will be followed by a still more powerful "X Bomb" perhaps capable of destroying all civilization. (Acme Telephoto.)

American On Trial In Hungary

British Aide, Two Others Plead Guilty

Seven Charged With Espionage

By ENDRE MARTON

BUDAPEST, Hungary — (AP) — American Businessman Robert Vogeler's British assistant and two Hungarians confessed in court today to spying for the West, but the court skipped over Vogeler in the first day of Hungary's newest spy trial.

(There was no indication whether the court's action meant that Vogeler had refused to plead guilty along with the others. The Government had announced previously that he had confessed.)

The British assistant, Edgar Sanders, testified in a firm voice that he was guilty of seeking out information on Hungary's military, economic and political situation and passing it on to his superiors.

Vogeler, an assistant vice-president and European representative of International Telephone & Telegraph Co., is on trial with Sanders, his British assistant, and five Hungarians. One defendant is a Catholic priest, another a barmaid.

The indictment against Sanders, read in court today, charged he had been a British spy since 1940.

Britain charged in a note last night that Hungary had violated standards of civilization and justice in preparing for Sanders' trial.

OTHERS 'CONFESS'

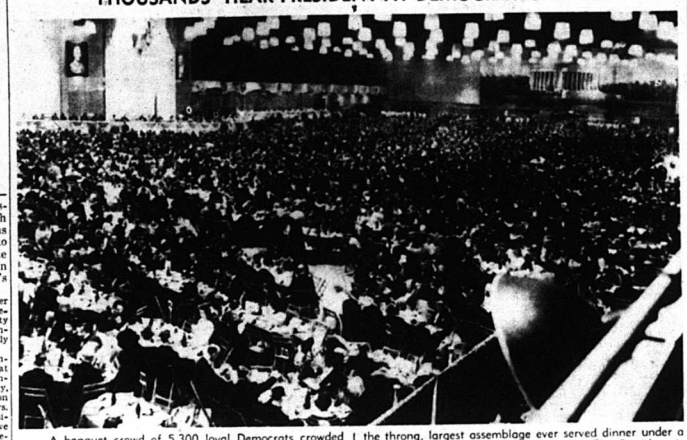
The first two defendants to be called, Imre Geiger and Zoltan Radio, confessed to spying and sabotage. Geiger is the Hungarian managing director of IT&T Budapest branch, Rado, a former Government employee, is listed in the indictment as a "ministry chief of section." Apparently his job was in the industry ministry, since he is accused of giving Vogeler secrets from an office dealing with supervision of the Standard Electric Works Co., an IT&T subsidiary.

When Sanders was called, presiding Judge Vilmos Olthy asked him: "Do you feel guilty?"

This is a phrase commonly used in Eastern and Central European courts when a defendant is asked to plead.

"I do," Sanders replied in a firm voice.

THOUSANDS HEAR PRESIDENT AT DEMOCRATIC RALLY



A banquet crowd of 5,300 loyal Democrats crowded into the National Guard Armory in Washington last night to hear President Truman brand the Republican Party as a "cuttlefish" organization. This picture shows part of the throng, largest assemblage ever served dinner under a single roof, which paid $100 a plate. The President is seated at the speakers' table in the center background. (Acme Telephoto.)

Government Pushes For Settlement

Monday Target Date For Accord

WASHINGTON— (AP) — President Truman today asked his fact-finding board in the coal dispute to give him a personal report tomorrow.

The White House announced the President's move amid signs that the Government was putting on heavy pressure to get the dispute wound up this week-end.

David Cole, the chairman of Mr. Truman's board, told reporters that Government mediators were "shooting for a settlement by Monday." Cole also suggested that it might be difficult for the courts to refrain from contempt action against the miners if their strike continues beyond this week.

ORDER DEFIED

The 370,000 coal diggers have defied all this week a Federal court's order for them to go back to work.

Eben Ayers, assistant Presidential secretary, said the inquiry board was instructed to appear at 10 A. M. (EST) to give the President an up-to-the-date progress report.

Cyrus Ching, chief of the Federal Mediation Service, was asked to sit in on the White House conference along with John R. Steelman, the assistant to the President.

Cole said Monday is the target for a return to work as John L. Lewis and mine operators began their third successive day of talks.

Hopes were high, because of a secret, three-hour meeting held last night.

At this session, wages and other contract terms were reported to have been discussed more realistically than at any time in the past eight months of the coal contract dispute.

Cole asked each side to reduce their representations to not more than four persons. There have been twenty spokesmen for each side.

Cole's thought was that cutting down the number of negotiators would speed things up.

Both sides agreed to this. Southern operators consented only after holding a caucus among themselves.

The final line-ups were:

For the operators — George H. Love, for Northern and Western mine owners; Joseph E. Moody, Southern operators; Harvey L. Cartwright, Indiana Coal Operators Association, and Harry Moses, spokesman for the "captive mines" owned by steel firms.

For the union—Lewis; UMW Vice-President Thomas Kennedy; Secretary-Treasurer John Owens, and George J. Titler, head of UMW District 29 in West Virginia.

It was reported that Lewis has thrown on the table a 14-point list of demands. He made no flat wage demand, it was said, but left this open for settlement when other points were agreed.

Lewis also has suggested that the mine owners guarantee the miners 200 days of work a year.

Cole and Ching brought about last night's unscheduled talks.

The impotance Government officials attached to talks was illustrated by comments Attorney General McGrath made to reporters after a Cabinet meeting this morning.

McGrath said the Cabinet got a report from Steelman on the overnight developments.

McGrath said the report was "encouraging".

Presidential Secretary Charles G. Ross said he had no information on coal.

"Cole is not at the White House at the moment," he added.

Both Cole and Ching sat in on the three-hour talk which was described by one informant as a "real dollars and cents negotiation" between the chief of the 370,000 striking mine workers and spokesmen for the major operators' groups.

The strike went on full scale.

New York ordered coal rationing into effect, and fuel starvation gnawed at industry.

Steel mills cut production in Ohio and Pennsylvania. Elsewhere new layoffs were ordered, bringing to more than 41,000 the number of men made jobless in addition to the strikers.

Reports reached the scene of negotiations here that a substantial back-to-work movement might take place by Monday. Watchers in the coal fields saw no sign of it.

Instead, in already hard-hit Illi-

See PRESIDENT on page 6-A

Studies Of Defense From A-Bomb Begun

By OLIVER W. DE WOLFE

WASHINGTON — — — The Committee opens an inquiry today into the state of the nation's civilian defenses against atomic attack.

The Atomic Energy Commission was the first agency called to give its views behind closed doors with representatives of the defense establishment and the National Security Resources Board to follow.

Public hearings on the question will start around March 1.

Although little has been said publicly about atomic defenses committee members long have been concerned about the problem.

Their anxiety has been heightened in recent months by several developments — especially Russia's success in developing an A-bomb, President Truman's recent order to the AEC to develop the hydrogen bomb, and the current international tension generally.

The H-bomb reportedly would be eight to 1,000 times more powerful than the improved uranium-plutonium weapon the nation is now stockpiling.

KILL 10,000,000

Sen. Tydings (D-Md), a member of the joint committee, told the Senate yesterday that a single H-bomb blast would "allegedly kill as many as 10,000,000 people."

Tydings, who also is chairman of the Senate armed services committee, added this bleak warning:

"The development of the first hydrogen bomb is not the end. It will not be the most decisive weapon mankind will ever construct.

"No sooner will the hydrogen bomb be a reality than a new bomb —the X bomb—will be on its way.

"The new bomb will be to the H-bomb what the H-bomb is to the atom bomb.

"Nor will that be the end. . ."

One question of particular concern to the atomic committee is how much the American people can be told about defending themselves from atomic and hydrogen bombs without giving away the nation's vital military secrets to the Russians.

OTHER QUESTIONS

Members say this is only one of a score or more touchy questions relating to atomic defenses. Others which the committee presumably will go into include:

1. What effect will a strong civil defense program have on American institutions, economy and civil liberties?

2. Is dispersion of industry, Government and population necessary? If it is, when should it be undertaken?

3. Is a new Federal agency needed to map out a civilian defense program, or should the National Security Resources Board continue to be responsible for it?

4. What should be the relationship between municipalities, counties, states and the Federal Government in such a program?

5. Would a plan be enough at this time, or is it necessary to have a civilian defense setup in actual operation?

6. Is there any defense against the H-bomb aside from mass evacuation?

Pope Pius Recovered From Influenza Attack

VATICAN CITY —(AP)—Pope Pius XII, recovered from an attack of influenza which kept him bedfast for three days, said mass this morning in his private chapel for the first time since Monday.

The Vatican later announced that the Pope would renew his daily audiences on Monday. The audiences were suspended Tuesday when the pontiff was ordered to bed by his physician.

SUN BREAKS THROUGH

LONDON —(AP)— The sun finally broke through to London today. It was the first rainless forenoon in the last seventeen days.

State Dept. Says Guilt Decided Before Trial

WASHINGTON —(AP)— The State Department charged today that the Communist Hungarian Government decided in advance of the trial to convict Robert Vogeler of spying and sabotage.

The department said that 10 days before the trial opened in Budapest, the Hungarian Deputy Prime Minister Matyas Rakosi "asserted the guilt of Mr. Vogeler" in a public speech.

A formal statement by the department also raised the question of why Robert Vogeler, an American communications company representative, has been "subjected to coercion by intimidation, lack of food, drugging, or other forms of mistreatment" since his arrest last November.

Of Vogeler's reported "confession," the state department said the validity of such confessions should be judged in connection with the circumstances under which they are obtained.

Hits At GOP 'Socialism' Charges

Truman Lays Down 1950 Campaign Line

By JACK BELL

WASHINGTON —(AP)— President Truman is taking for his 1950 political line: The Republicans are croaking about Socialism to hide their own "negative inaction." That brought new GOP challenges today for a November vote test of the issue.

Mr. Truman told a glittering gathering of 5,300 Democrats at the $100 a plate Jefferson-Jackson dinner here last night that the Republicans just sit around waiting for the Democrats to propose something.

"Then they react with an outburst of scare words," he said. To the chuckling appreciation of his steak-fed listeners, he added:

"They are like a cuttlefish that squirts out a cloud of black ink whenever its slumber is disturbed."

URGES SPEED

The President called for full speed on "our domestic programs for health, education, social security and economic stability." He said Republican charges that these involve Socialism "is an insult to the intelligence of the American people."

"Now of course," he said, this program is not Socialism. "It is based upon firm faith in the strength of free enterprise."

"Confronted by the great record of this country and the tremendous promise of its future, all they (the Republicans) do is croak 'Socialism,'" he declared.

Senator Taft (R-Ohio), who took a leading part in framing the GOP campaign slogan of "liberty versus Socialism," told reporters that if Mr. Truman doesn't know his program is Socialistic "he is being hood-winked by his ADA (Americans for Democratic Action) and CIO-PAC (Political Action Committee) supporters who have sold him most of its features."

"Police state economic controls, price-fixing, wage-fixing, government operation of steel and utility plants, the farm controls of the Brannan plan, Socialized and Federalized medicine and repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act would duplicate here the program of the Labor Socialist government in Great Britain," Taft said, adding:

"No wonder Mr. Truman and his friends are publicly praying for a Socialist victory in the English election."

GOP CHALLENGE

Senator Wherry of Nebraska, the GOP floor leader, challenged Mr. Truman to carry his program to the people in the November Congressional elections—a move the President already has said he will take in what he called a non-political tour of the country.

Billed as the opening Democratic gun in the Congressional campaign, the President's speech failed to hit the stride he maintained in his whirlwind 1948 election campaign. Applause was frequent, but never uproarious.

Mr. Truman made frequent inserts in his prepared text and ran

See TRUMAN on page 6-A

Railway Unions Set Strike Date

CLEVELAND—(AP)—The Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen and order of Railway Conductors have set Feb. 27 at 6 A. M. EST as the date for a nationwide strike, the Trainmen's News said today.

But under the Railway Labor Act, an actual walkout would be delayed for at least two months after the date the unions fixed for the strike.

The two unions represent about 250,000 railroad operating employees. They fixed the strike date after a deadlock with the carriers on demands for a 40-hour week without pay reduction for some 85,000 yardmen and contract improvements for road men and dining car stewards.

Setting of the strike date sets into operation the machinery of the Railway Labor Act. First step will be for the National (Railway) Mediation Board, which failed in its efforts to bring peace in the eleven-month-old dispute, to notify President Truman a national emergency exists.

The President, under the law, then is empowered to appoint a fact-finding board which has 30 days to investigate and report its findings. For another 30 days after the report is submitted, the law requires both sides to maintain the status quo.

Marshall Opens Red Cross Appeal

NEW YORK—(AP)—Gen. George C. Marshall, praising the Red Cross as an instrument for international peace, has opened that organization's national appeal for $67,000,000.

The proposed budget is $7,000,000 higher than last year.

Marshall, former Secretary of State and now president of the American Red Cross, told 1,800 persons at a Waldorf-Astoria meeting yesterday:

"The cultivation of good faith and good will is of monumental importance and I know of no other organization but the Red Cross which has the power to spread the good faith and the good will which are essential to peace."

Fund collections begin officially March 1.

Search Is Pressed For Five Missing Crewmen

McCHORD Air Force Base, Tacoma, Wash. —(AP)— Two tree-snagged parachutes and tracks in the snow turned the search for five missing airmen today to the west side of Princess Royal Island.

They alone were unaccounted for of the seventeen men who plunged from an ice-coated, blazing B-29 bomber off the Northern British Columbia coast last Monday night.

Eleven men have been brought here and a twelfth was to be flown out today.

A Coast Guard spokesman at Ketchikan, Alaska, said the tracks led down a small stream toward the west side of the island.

"It's my understanding from the crew of the plane making the report that the 'chutes and tracks are in an area not yet covered by any ground party," he added.

The Canadian destroyer Cayuga, which has served as a base for ground parties searching the area, moved to the vicinity of the new clues and was to dispatch a crew into the spot at dawn.

The search plane's report and that of returning ground parties that they had heard shots from the inland of the rocky, heavily wooded island raised hopes for the rescue of the missing men.

Survivors brought here said it was possible the shots had been fired by Capt. Theodore Chandler of Madison, Wis., the co-pilot. They said he was the only man among the missing group known to have carried a pistol.

Meanwhile, S-Sgt. Vitale Trippodo, 23-year-old radio operator from Brooklyn, joined ten other survivors at the McChord base hospital.

A twelfth man, Lieut. Clarence C. Pooler, 26, engineer from Beloit, Kas., was to be brought here today. Pooler, suffering from a broken ankle, was found yesterday some distance inland by searchers from the Canadian destroyer.

Pooler was returned in a litter aboard an Air Force flying boat. He could not be interviewed but his condition was described as "satisfactory."

Col. Hervey Porter, Air Force base commander reports that the Brooklyn sergeant had suffered a broken ankle and two broken wrists were erroneous, but that he had "a moderately severe case of frost-bitten feet."

The young radio operator had no glove and wore only oxfords on his feet when he jumped. Other crew members were clad in Arctic boots and clothing.

Once Over Lightly

BY WALTER SEIGENTHALER

There's been a lot of new bills passing through Congress — a lot of them originating in the Treasury Department . . . It's nice to see a woman stick to her man, but some of them stick mighty close.

Called Threat To U. S. Sovereignty

Move To World Government Debated

By DON WHITEHEAD

WASHINGTON —(AP)— Congress was urged today to approve a move toward world government as the way to peace — but foes of the plan said it would mean the destruction of free America.

Seventeen witnesses — including a former international banker, a grandmother, two Congressmen, and a New Yorker who called himself "just plain Joe Citizen" — joined in the debate over the best way to bring peace into a world threatened by atom and hydrogen bombs.

They laid their case before a Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee studying resolutions to strengthen the United Nations and end the cold war with Russia.

Rep. Clare E. Hoffman (R-Mich) said he does not question the patriotism and sincerity of those backing a world government. But he added "The result would be similar to the purpose of the Communists, who advocate the overthrow of our government by force — the end of our existence as a nation of free people."

Hoffman directed his criticism at Atlantic Union and a resolution sponsored by Senator Tobey (R-NH) and 18 other Senators which would make world government the basic objective of American foreign policy.

"Stripped of deceptive and confusing language," Hoffman said, "the present proposals, naked, stand forth as a clear attempt to induce us to scrap our Constitution, surrender our sovereignty, our right to plot our course in world affairs. . ."

Rep. Lawrence H. Smith (R-Wis) said the Tobey resolution would not strengthen the U. S. — but would destroy the organization. "There is no evidence the people of this country would support such a move," he added.

QUOTES HULL

Smith said he voiced his opposition to world government in a speech last month. Later, he said, former Secretary of State Cordell Hull called him and told him that he (Hull) agreed that such a move would "kill the United Nations."

President Truman indicated to his weekly news conference yesterday that he still has in mind a possible peace mission to Moscow at some future date.

Soon afterward, Chairman Tydings (D-Md.) of the Senate Armed Services Committee renewed his plea for Mr. Truman and Secretary of State Acheson to call a world disarmament conference.

This effort should be made, Tydings said, to remove from the minds of Russians and the other peoples of the world "the fearful and darkening threat of the possibility of the last great war—which carries with it the possible extinction of all humankind."

Other demands came from lawmakers and from citizens groups, most of them with different ideas but with the same objective.

Judy Coplon Fires Lawyer In Midst Of Spy Trial

NEW YORK—(AP)—Judith Coplon changed her lawyer today in the middle of her spy conspiracy trial.

Federal Judge Sylvester J. Ryan appointed three attorneys to defend her.

Named to succeed Archibald Palmer as the ex-Government girl's defense counsel were Sidney E. REerman, Samuel Neuberger, Leonard Boudin.

Miss Coplon has been on trial with Soviet Engineer Valentin A. Gubitchev since Jan. 24. They are charged with conspiring to make U. S. defense secrets available to the Russians.

RUSSIAN NOT INVOLVED

Gubitchev was not involved in the split between Miss Coplon and her attorney. He will continue to be represented by Abraham J. Pomeranz.

"A woman has a right to change her mind," Palmer told reporters.

Reports that Miss Coplon was changing attorneys had been current since Judge Ryan adjourned the trial yesterday with the cryptic announcement that "a situation has arisen."

Asked about guesses that 28-year-old Miss Coplon might consider changing her plea of innocence, Palmer replied:

"That's outrageous — absolutely insane. The girl is innocent. Undoubtedly she'll fight the case to the bitter end."

"Any help that my office or I can give her or that attorney will be gladly given because I have no feelings of rancor, disappointment or ill will towards her or members of her family."

Since the trial started three weeks ago, the tiny brunette and the demonstrative Palmer have snapped at each either frequently, both in and out of court.

At a recent news conference, Palmer called her a "damn fool," and she told him to shut up. Once in court, she tugged at his sleeve and told him it was "stupid to make such a fuss."

"What have you to do with this?" Palmer yelled at her.

Palmer said yesterday, however, he knew of no falling out with his client, whom he has been defending without fee as an old friend of the family.

"I'm the lawyer and I've got a job to do, and all she has to do is sit still and be quiet," he told reporters.

He said he had promised her father, Samuel Coplon, who died of a heart attack shortly after Miss Coplon's arrest last March 4, that he would "see her through this."

Truman Breaks Word About Running Lights

WASHINGTON—(AP)—President Truman whizzed through twenty red lights on a four-mile drive to the big Democratic dinner last night.

It was all perfectly legal, because his car had a police and secret service escort. Traffic regulations are waived under such circumstances on the theory that a police officer carries more authority than a traffic signal.

But only 24 hours earlier, Mr. Truman had told a national crime conference:

"I never go through red lights, despite the prerogatives attaching to the Presidency."

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