Weather
Light rain or drizzle tonight; showers tomorrow, windy and rather cold.
More Weather Data on Page 7-A

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

★★★★★ Final

Largest Afternoon Newspaper In The Carolines

ESTABLISHED DEC. 8, 1888 | Charlotte, North Carolina, Tuesday, March 7, 1950 | 20 Pages—Price Five Cents

$300,000 Fire Sweeps 2 Shelby Business Houses

JUDY COPLON AND GUBITCHEV CONVICTED

Low Water Pressure Slows Fight

No One Injured; Fire Is Controlled

By KAYS GARY

SHELBY — March winds swept an explosion-punctured fire through two buildings in the heart of Shelby this morning bringing damage estimated at more than $300,000. No one was injured.

Firemen, hampered early in their fight, by a lack of water pressure, succeeded in confining the blaze to two buildings which were leveled. The Gardner block, rich in retail establishments, was threatened but not harmed.

Destroyed were the Kendall Medicine Co.'s two-story building and the adjacent one-story Bridges Auto Parts building, a new structure. Kendall's was remodeled about a year ago. Both buildings were the property of the J. B. Lineberger estate.

ORIGIN PLACED

Firemen narrowed the origin of the blaze, which gained speedy headway despite a rain earlier in the day, to the machine shop of the auto parts building. Spontaneous combustion of a bunch of oily rags was advanced as the probable cause.

As the flames spread, exploding chemicals punctuated the air and bursting drums of oil sent spurting geysers of flame dangerously close to Gardner block buildings eighteen feet across an alley.

Resurging water pressure was credited by firemen with saving that block.

Police about 11:15 A. M. ordered a cut off of power on high tension wires when leaping tongues of flame threatened to melt them in two and an unruly crowd pressed close.

POWER RESTORED

As the remains of the two buildings smouldered an hour and a half after the fire began, police ordered power restored. It had been off 45 minutes.

Flames shooting 50 - odd feet above the Kendall building were higher than the Charles hotel directly across the street. A fire which in 1927 burned out the hotel was the last big fire in Shelby.

A wide street kept the hotel out of danger today.

A breakdown of the fire damage as reported by Rush Hamrick Sr., president of Kendall, and Paul Bridges, head of the auto parts firm, is:

Kendall — $150,000 stock of medicine with only twenty per cent covered by insurance;

Bridges — $100,000 in machinery and equipment with about 50 per cent covered.

Loss of both buildings was estimated between $75,000 and $100,000.

Shelby's two hook and ladder trucks, reinforced by one truck from Boiling Springs, played water on the two for some time before the wind-driven flames forced them to turn their attention to the Gardner block.

When the power was cut off, four men were imprisoned in an elevator between floors in the Masonic Temple. They remained there more than half an hour, when power was restored.

Expert Says Small Air Dose Not Fatal

MANCHESTER, N. H. —(AP)— A Harvard pathologist appearing for Dr. Hermann N. Sander testified today that injection of 40 cubic centimeters of air could not have killed Mrs. Abbie Borroto.

The 41-year-old Dr. Sander is on trial for murder on charges he killed the cancer-stricken woman by injecting that amount of air into her veins.

Dr. Richard Ford, head of the department of legal medicine at Harvard, testified that between 200 and 300 ccs of air delivered within 25 seconds would be required to kill a human being.

CITES EXPERIMENTS

Dr. Ford said he was basing this estimate on findings that eight cubic centimeters per two and one-fifth pounds of body weight were required to kill a dog.

Two state pathologists had testified for the prosecution they believed Mrs. Borroto died from air embolism caused by the injections.

"Forty CCs of air is not enough to block any appreciable part of the arterial system leading to the human lung," said Dr. Ford.

The defense has argued that only between 25 and 28 ccs of air were injected into the cancer-wasted woman — and that she was already dead at the time.

ESSENTIAL AMOUNT

Dr. Ford said animal experiments tend to prove "that a calculated amount of 200 to 300 ccs is probably the essential amount delivered needed to kill a human being."

The fact that a human being's heart action was poor at the time, he said, would not make any difference.

"A fatal dose of air is air all or none phenomena," said the defense pathologist, explaining its reaction would be the same regardless of the condition of the heart.

When Dr. Ford took the stand the defense brought out from the

See EXPERT on page 7-A

Hawaiian Statehood Approved By House

WASHINGTON —(AP)— The House passed a bill today to make Hawaii a state.

Passage was by a vote of 261-110.

Last Friday, the House passed the Alaska statehood bill by a vote of 186 to 146.

Senate action on the two measures is uncertain. Two years ago, the Senate Interior Committee allowed a House-passed Hawaiian statehood bill to die without action. The Alaska bill has never before been considered in the Senate.

Only a few House members opposed Hawaiian statehood during debate.

Rep. Cox (D-Ga) asserted that the island territory is Communist-controlled and dominated by Harry Bridges, president of the CIO International Longshoremen's Union.

Rep. Cooley (D-NC) challenged arguments that statehood would strengthen the nation's defenses in Hawaii.

House action followed pleas by Delegate Farrington (R-Hawaii) and nearly a score of House members to give the people of Hawaii the rights of full citizenship they have sought for many years.

Several of the House opponents of the Alaska statehood bill joined the backers of statehood for Hawaii.

Among them was Rep. Johnson (R-Calif), who said he felt that Hawaii has the population and the financial resources to support a state government, while in his opinion Alaska does not.

Hawaii's population is 530,000. Alaska has about 100,000.

Supporters of Hawaii statehood emphasized the traditional evolution of territories into states.

Farrington said that the people of Hawaii feel that they were promised statehood when the islands were annexed to the union as an incorporated territory in 1898.

WANTS PROMISE KEPT

He urged Congress to fulfill that promise and make reality of the "hopes that have been nourished for two generations."

Farrington said he would be the last to deny that Hawaii faces a Communist problem as well as other serious problems. But, he said, Hawaii should be given the autonomy of statehood so it would have the means to settle its problems.

Rep. Delaney (D-NY) opposed Hawaiian statehood on the grounds that it would open the door to the admission of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, and other areas.

He added that it was possible that even Canada and countries in Central and South America might ask for admittance.

Chinese Reds Land On Hainan

TAIPEI, Formosa — (AP) — Approximately 1,000 Chinese Communist troops have landed on the big Nationalist island of Hainan and fighting is in progress, reports from there said today.

It was still too early to tell whether the landing was just a small-scale attempt to test Hainan's defenses or whether it was the beginning of the real invasion of the island off the coast of South China.

The report was brought to Formosa by the crew of one of Claire L. Chennault's air line planes.

The crew said it was notified of the landings by the control tower at the air field at Holhow, Hainan's capital. They were told the Communists landed on the northwestern corner of the island.

Hainan is only slightly smaller than Formosa. The generals in command there recently pledged their whole-hearted support of Chiang Kai-Shek when he resumed the Presidency.

QUAKE RECORDED

NEW YORK —(AP)— The Fordham University seismograph registered "quite severe" earth tremors at 9:28:40 and 9:30:13 P. M. (EST) yesterday probably in the South China Sea, about 8,200 miles from New York.

Lewis Asks Aid Pact For Unions

Would Pool Assets Against 'Interests'

By NORMAN WALKER

WASHINGTON— (AP) — John L. Lewis today proposed a "mutual aid pact" between the United Mine Workers and the CIO United Steel Workers. He said other unions might also want to join.

The UMW leader suggested it in a letter to CIO President Philip Murray. He returned to Murray uncashed a $500,000 check which Murray had sent Lewis as help during the coal strike.

Since their strike settlement, the coal miners have offered to lend $1,000,000 of it to other unions to the CIO Automobile Workers Union, now engaged in a strike at Chrysler plants.

THANKS MURRAY

Lewis thanked Murray for the $500,000 check and said:

"Conditions did not permit the usage of this money. We therefore return the original check in the same amount, uncashed, and properly marked 'void.'"

Lewis' letter went to say that in recent months major unions have been confronted by the "financial interests in America" with a notion that "our great industrial unions should be attacked and crippled, one by one."

"This idea should be knocked in the head," Lewis said, and added his proposal that the CIO and UMW negotiate a "mutual aid pact for common defense."

He suggested that under it "the assets of both organizations, or a stipulated part thereof, would be made available, each to the other, under emergency conditions.

"The potential advantages to our respective memberships of such an arrangement are self-evident."

WANTS COMMITTEE

Lewis invited Murray to name a committee to meet with one from the UMW to negotiate such an arrangement.

The United Mine Workers are now an independent union—that is not affiliated with either the CIO or the American Federation of Labor. At various times in the past it has had affiliation with both.

There is general expectation that other unions will seek to use the gains Lewis won for the coal miners as a lever to open the way for wage boosts in other industries.

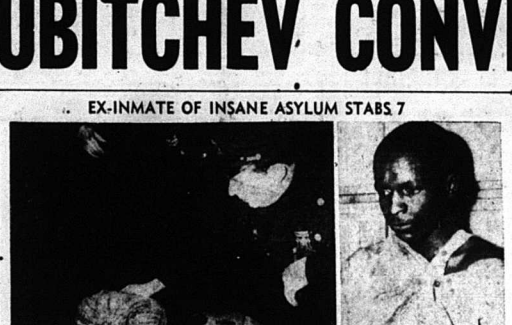
Lewis is the first big labor leader to break through the dike built help to stop spiraling postwar wages.

A board appointed by President Truman in the steel strike dispute last Fall recommended welfare plan improvements worth about 10 cents an hour for workers generally, but counselled against increasing pay rates.

STEEL TERMS

On this basis CIO President Philip Murray signed a steel industry contract without a wage increase, but with pension-welfare benefits worth perhaps a little better than 10 cents an hour, or something around $1 a day for each worker.

EX-INMATE OF INSANE ASYLUM STABS 7



Kenneth Kennedy, 23, lies in his blood-soaked clothes on a street in Brooklyn, N. Y., shortly after he and six others were stabbed by a Negro just released from a hospital for the insane. A policeman tries to comfort Kennedy who was attacked while wheeling his baby daughter in her carriage. Four of the knife victims were killed. The 19-year-old assailant, William Jones (right), sits sullenly in Brooklyn police headquarters after policemen trailed him for three blocks and beat him into submission with gun butts. The four stabbed to death were white men whom Jones apparently never had seen before. The youth refused to tell police why he went on a rampage with a 14-inch carving knife and stabbed at the heart of everybody he met on the street. (AP Wirephotos.)

Under Direction Of U. S. Minister

Spied For U. S., Shipkov Says

By DIMITER MISHEV

SOFIA, Bulgaria —(AP)— Michael Shipkov, former Bulgarian translator in the U. S. legation here, confessed yesterday to a people's court that he had spied for America under the personal direction of former U.S. Minister Donald R. Heath.

The trial opened only two days after the U.S. State Dept. had released a dramatic affidavit, signed earlier by Shipkov, revealing how Bulgarian police had extorted a false confession from him by ruthlessly breaking down his will. He had requested that the affidavit be made public in order to clear his name in the event of a trial, which he evidently felt was inevitable.)

Shipkov and four other Bulgarians pleaded guilty and confirmed the written confessions of spying they had made to investigating police before the trial. A co-defendant with Shipkov was Kivka Rindova, former telephone operator at the U.S. Legation. Also on the dock were Stefan Kratukov, Incila Tranov and Vasil Nalchev.

Shipkov told the court that Heath — minister in Bulgaria until the U. S. broke relations with that country and closed its legation in Sofia last month — had "inspired in me the conception that the present (Communist-led Bulgarian) regime in transitional."

He said Heath had "underlined that the United States are actively interested in the return of western democracy to Bulgaria."

UNOFFICIAL ACTS

"My official work in the legation was interpreter," Shipkov declared, adding that "my unofficial activity consisted in gathering information for American intelligence."

He then cited several cases of espionage activity, in which he declared he indulged from 1946 onward.

"I distorted, slandered and calumniated the initiatives of the fatherland front," he told the court.

He told of how he had gone to Heath after being questioned by the authorities in 1949, telling of his fears of being arrested. He said at Heath's suggestion he took refuge in the legation attic until Oct. 2.

On that day, said Shipkov, Legation Secretary Raymond Courtney brought him food, money, poison, false papers and advised him to flee to Turkey. He said he was captured trying to cross the border.

Shipkov told the court the Bulgarian authorities had behaved "very well" toward him and had shown a "very humane attitude."

* * *

Shipkov's affidavit, made while he took refuge from police in the U. S. legation, told vividly of the methods the police used to break him down until he agreed willingly to return to the legation as a spy for them.

His graphic description was said by U. S officials in Washington to

See SHIPKOV on page 7-A

Anti-Red Russian Sees More 'Bitter Surprises'

By KARL R. BAUMAN

WASHINGTON —(AP)— Victor A. Kravchenko, one-time Russian official, predicted today that the Fuchs case is only one of "many bitter surprises" the United States and other Western countries will have about Soviet spying.

Kravchenko was in the witness chair of the House Un-American Activities Committee which is digging into stories of secret documents and atomic materials going to Russia during the war.

Referring to the conviction of Dr. Klaus Fuchs, a top British scientist, as a spy who gave atomic secrets to the Russians, Kravchenko said:

"The Fuchs case in England is only a prelude to much which we do not know and which is still to come regarding the scope of Soviet espionage in America and other Western countries. It does not doubt that many bitter surprises await us."

PRINCIPAL DUTY

Kravchenko said that spying is one of the principal duties of all Soviet diplomats.

"Every Soviet representative — diplomatic, military or economic — is a potential spy," he said.

Kravchenko came to the United States as a member of a wartime Russian purchasing commission. He broke with the Soviets in 1944 and wrote a book entitled, "I Chose Freedom."

The committee called him for testimony particularly on the question of Soviet misuse of diplomatic mail privileges.

In heavy Russian accent, he testified:

"Soviet diplomacy is individable from the espionage activities of the Kremlin abroad. Every Soviet diplomat, whether he be Trilk in the United Nations, Panyushkin in Washington, or their colleagues in Paris or London, has gone through extensive training along these lines, and has had wide experience.

"Espionage is one of the principal duties connected with their official diplomatic work."

Private School Aid Rejected

WASHINGTON—(AP)—The House Labor Committee refused today to approve Federal aid for parochial or private school purposes.

By a vote of 16 to 9, it rejected a proposal by Rep. Kennedy (D-Mass) to extend proposed federal aid to schools to cover bus service for non-public school children.

The committee's action, taken in closed-door meeting, underscored anew the religious dispute over parochial school assistance which was deadlocked House action on a $300,000,000 Senate passed aid to education bill.

It also raised fresh snags in the way of committee approval.

"This definitely means that some of us are not going to be so strong for the bill," Kennedy told reporters afterwards.

"So far as I am concerned I won't vote for the bill."

Subways Running Despite Strike

PARIS—(AP)—All of the city's subway lines were operating today despite a Communist-called transport strike, the Ministry of Public Works and Transport said.

Traffic was slow and only about 55 per cent of normal, however, for not all available cars were running.

Only about 120 of the city's 1,900 buses were running a slight improvement over yesterday, the first day of the tie-up.

These were supplemented by 3,000-odd buses manned by soldiers or private, volunteer operators.

French Carrier To Pick Up Airplanes In Norfolk

WASHINGTON —(AP)— A French aircraft carrier arrives at Norfolk, Va., today to set into motion the $1,000,000,000 aid program for rearming Western Europe against possible Russian aggression.

The warship is the Dixmude, a former American escort carrier. It will pick up France's initial cargo — around 40 Navy fighters and bombers — after brief ceremonies tomorrow.

The first shipment is to be loaded aboard the Dixmude in the face of a bitter Communist campaign in France to keep dock workers from handling American military aid supplies.

Despite these Communist threats, top Government agency officials said today they plan to go full speed ahead with arms aid to France.

Additional shipments to France and seven other European countries, they said, are now moving secretly to East Coast ports for quick shipment aboard regular merchant vessels.

They reported that these cargoes will go forward with the full expectation that the French and other Atlantic pact governments will provide armed protection to unload them, if needed.

The destination of the Dixmude, once it leaves Norfolk, is a secret. Diplomatic officials indicated, however, that it might go to the French African naval base of Karouba in Tunisia for additional flight training, thus avoiding a showdown with the Communists.

The aircraft to be given the French were reported to be such battlestated types as Corsair fighters and Helldiver bombers. These were standard equipment aboard American carriers in the last war but have now been replaced by speedier jets.

The French have urgently requested these carrier planes as part of their naval rebuilding program. France has one other aircraft carrier now on duty in Mediterranean waters.

Pair Found Guilty In Spy Case

Two Will Hear Fate Thursday

By CHARLES MERCER and LOU CRAYM

NEW YORK — (AP) — Judith Coplon and Valentin A. Gubitchev, the Soviet engineer, were found guilty today of conspiracy and attempted espionage.

A Federal court jury of six men and six women ruled that the former Government employee and the stocky, blond Russian met secretly in New York and plotted to spy for Soviet Russia.

It announced its verdict at 11:45 A. M. (EST) after having been locked up overnight. The jurors went out at 4:35 P. M. yesterday.

Brunette, vivacious Miss Coplon, 28, was found guilty on two counts — one of conspiracy and one of attempted espionage. She was found innocent of another charge that she attempted to transmit classified FBI documents to unauthorized persons.

CONSPIRACY CHARGED

Both she and Gubitchev, 33, were convicted on a conspiracy charge to commit espionage by removing classified documents from Government files and to defraud the United States of her impartial services.

Both defendants were remanded to jail for sentencing at 10:30 A. M. (EST) Thursday.

Miss Coplon can receive a maximum of 35 years in prison and a $10,000 fine. Gubitchev faces a maximum penalty of fifteen years in prison and a $20,000 fine. Miss Coplon is already under 40 months to ten years sentence for conviction on similar charges in Washington, D. C.

SHOW NO EMOTION

Neither betrayed any emotion as they sat and heard the verdict.

Then, as she left the courtroom, Miss Coplon smiled weakly and kissed one of her attorneys, Leonard Boudin, and her brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Bertram Coplon.

The first count in the four-count indictment of which both were found guilty charged conspiracy to commit espionage, specifying removal of classified Government documents and defrauding the U. S. Government of Miss Coplon's impartial services. The maximum penalty is five years in prison and a $10,000 fine.

The second count, of which she was found innocent, accused her of attempted espionage by attempting to "transmit Government documents to unauthorized persons. If this charge on this count, she could have been sentenced to ten years and a $10,000 fine.

THIRD COUNT

The third count, of which Gubitchev was found guilty, accused him alone of acting as an unauthorized person attempting to receive secret Government documents. The maximum penalty is ten years and a $10,000 fine.

The fourth count, of which Miss Coplon was found guilty, accused her alone of attempted espionage in trying to transmit documents relating to the national defense to a citizen of a foreign power, Russia, with the belief it would be used to injure the United States. This was the most serious charge and carries a maximum penalty of twenty years in prison, but no fine.

Gubitchev, as has been his custom since the trial began Jan. 24, stared straight ahead when the verdict was announced and the jurors were polled twice at the request of defense attorneys.

His face was slightly flushed as he went to a rack and took his hat and coat before being led out by a deputy marshal.

The Soviet delegation headquarters in New York had no immediate comment after learning the verdict.

WORLD INTEREST

The case has attracted international interest. The U. S. Government branded it as daring, cold-blooded spying. Moscow, on the other hand, called it a frame-up.

Gubitchev's lawyer maintained that the meetings of the two in

See JUDY on page 7-A

Auto Identified By Gum Stuck Thereon

BRISTOL, England — (AP) — George Law said it was the automobile that had been stolen from him three years, despite a different coat of paint and changed engine and chassis numbers.

He pointed out one thing that was the same—a piece of chewing gum he had used to patch an oil leak. Local magistrates agreed and ordered the car returned to him.

Once Over Lightly

BY WALTER SEIGENTHALER

You don't see many well dressed men come out of liquor stores very often . . . A Congressman can't look ahead all the time when he has to keep his eye on his seat.

The Greatest Story Ever Told

By Fulton Oursler

CHAPTER 12
THE VOICE IN THE WILDERNESS

Jesus was profoundly moved by what He learned about His cousin John.

The story was brought down by traders from the capital how John was creating a furore, not only in Jerusalem but in all the countryside. The old-age child of Zachary and Elisabeth had grown in thirty years to be a giant. In early manhood, after his father and mother died, the youth had vanished. For years his relatives heard little about him, although there were reports that he lived in a rocky cave in the blistered valley below Jerusalem near the Dead Sea, and that he ate only locusts and wild honey.

Now, suddenly, he had emerged as a public character, and already he was despised in the eyes of the Temple police. Perhaps that was because he was different from ordinary men. Bronzed arms upraised, John would stand day after day on the outskirts of towns and shouts to the crowds that the time had come for the people to repent of their bad lives.

To people who had neglected and then virtually forgotten the stern ideas of the prophet Isaiah these words of John had a startling sound.

"Do penance!" he shouted. "The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand."

Such effrontery as John's made sensational news even in the cynical streets of Jerusalem. From out of the capital great crowds streamed, toiling down steep and rocky defiles, out into the parched and desert plain, to listen to this new man's voice crying in the wilderness

"You offspring of vipers!" John shouted to the crowds as the arriving hordes. "Who has warned you to flee from the wrath to come?"

A CLEANSING RITE

Instead of getting angry at the abuse, many of them lifted their robes and waded into the water, doing what he asked — which was, as a sign of penance, to submit to baptism, a cleansing rite in which remorseful men were splashed and blessed.

More than one of his puzzled followers had asked John if he were the expected Christ, the promised Deliverer and Savior of Israel. His answer, repeated around camp fires of resting caravans and over beach stoves and cook pots in a hundred towns, was:

"I, indeed, baptize you with water. But there shall come one mightier than I the latchet of whose shoe I am not worthy to loose. He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost — and with fire!"

It was when He heard these tales

See THE GREATEST on page 12-A

Back Chapters Made Available

Readers of The Charlotte News who have missed early chapters of "The Greatest Story Ever Told" may obtain them in tabloid form by calling or writing the Circulation Dept., The Charlotte News, telephone 3-4263.

The News has prepared a tabloid containing the first twelve chapters of this story of Christ written by Fulton Oursler for distribution free of charge.

His audiences were not quite sure what he meant by the Kingdom of Heaven. But they knew well enough, that they had plenty to repent of. To their amazement this wild-haired John was not accusing merely the poor, like themselves, alone, as the priests and the scribes had generally done.

No, John, fearless, fiery apparition from the desert, laid about him on all sides, sparing no one; not mighty Caesar who reigned in Rome, nor Pontius Pilate who was the Emperor's official agent in Jerusalem — not even Herod Antipas, the cruel son of the great Herod, and builder of Tiberias, whose title was Tetrarch and who still ruled the province of Galilee, after 30 years of discord.

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