Weather
Fair tonight and Saturday; lowest temperature tonight 30, high Saturday, 55.
More Weather Data on Page 7-A

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

★★★★★ Final

Largest Afternoon Newspaper in The Carolines

Established Dec. 8, 1888 — Charlotte, North Carolina Friday, February 3, 1950 — 26 Pages—Price Five Cents

BRITISH ATOMIC SCIENTIST IS JAILED

Snyder Details New Tax Proposals

FILM ACTRESS BECOMES MOTHER

Ingrid Bergman, who became the mother of a son yesterday, is shown here with Roberto Rossellini, Italian movie director. She has announced that she will marry him as soon as she is divorced from her present husband, Dr. Peter Lindstrom.

Mama Bergman And Child 'Doing Fine'

By PHILIP CLARKE

ROME —(AP)— Ingrid Bergman and her blue-eyed baby boy born last night "are doing nicely this morning."

That was the report today from Dr. Pier Luigi Guidotti, who delivered the seven pound, 14-ounce baby born to the Swedish actress who plans to marry Italian Film Director Roberto Rossellini when she obtains a divorce from Dr. Peter Lindstrom of Hollywood.

Dr. Guidotti said the birth was "absolutely normal."

The baby "resembles his mother," said Dr. Giuseppe Ferdinandi, director of the Villa Margherita Clinic, where the child was born at 7 P. M. (1 P. M. EST) yesterday.

Miss Bergman asked for her child twenty minutes after his birth, the doctors said. She smiled happily at the infant as it was placed beside her on the bed.

Rossellini "smiled broadly when told the baby was a boy," Dr. Ferdinandi continued.

"Miss Bergman and Rossellini both were very, very happy," he said.

The clinic announced that the attending doctors administered a pain-killing drug to the actress and that it "was completely effective."

"It does not seem possible to sin colorfully enough to betray the confidence of a movie fan," says Robert C. Ruark today in his column commenting on the Bergman-Rossellini affair and other scandals involving film stars. Turn to the Editorial Page for Ruark's caustic observations.

Except for Rossellini, no visitors have been admitted so far to Miss Bergman's suite of three rooms in the two-year-old modernistic hospital.

Today two white ribbon corsages were pinned up on the drapes in the lobby of the clinic, attendants said they symbolized the birth of two boys — Miss Bergman's and another.

The child is Miss Bergman's second. She has an eleven-year-old daughter by her estranged husband, Dr. Lindstrom, whom she sued for divorce in Juarez, Mexico, last week.

A huge stack of congratulatory telegrams, most of them from the United States, poured into the clinic this morning.

Dr. Ferdinandi indicated with his hands that they made a pile at least a foot high.

Miss Bergman's baby had been expected early this month, but apparently the arrival came as a surprise. The 34-year-old movie star was driven to the hospital at 3:30 P. M. (9:30 A. M. EST) yesterday by Dr. Guidotti.

She was wheeled immediately

See INGRID on page 7-A

Lewis Facing Tough Decision

By HAROLD W. WARD

WASHINGTON —(AP)— Major coal operators' acceptance of President Truman's 70-day strike truce proposal confronted John L. Lewis today with one of the toughest decisions of a turbulent career.

The canny labor chief must decide by tomorrow whether to accept President Truman's proposal for a fact-finding board in the bitter soft coal contract battle.

Acceptance might mean the loss of Lewis' strongest bargaining weapon — the nation's dwindling reserves of above-ground coal. Mr. Truman wants "normal production" during the board investigation.

Refusal to accept could bring on labor-hated injunctions under the Taft-Hartley law. Mr. Truman reiterated yesterday that he is ready to use this power whenever he feels an emergency exists.

The next move in the coal controversy was checked to Lewis as a result of two steps taken yesterday by Northern and Western operators.

First the operators, representing one half of the soft coal industry, abruptly walked out of negotiations with the United Mine Workers leader.

Then they notified Mr. Truman they were ready to accept his proposal and would prepare the mines for normal output. Southern operators and officials of steel company captive mines were expected to follow suit before the Saturday deadline set by Mr. Truman for an answer.

Once Over Lightly

BY WALTER SEIGENTHALER

I guess it's a good idea for Congress to recess for a few months every year so the Treasury can get a little money on hand. . . . Wonder how an ex-Congressman feels when he has to start buying and licking stamps again.

Excise Cuts, Firm Income Hikes Asked

Television Sets Would Be Taxed

By FRANCIS M. LE MAY

WASHINGTON— (AP) — The Truman Administration today proposed a 10 per cent tax on television sets and a rise from 38 to 42 per cent in the top levy on business income to go with the cuts it has recommended in "sales" taxes.

Secretary of the Treasury Snyder went before the House Ways & Means Committee to outline in detail, with specific figures, the changes President Truman sketched only in broad outline in his recent tax message to Congress.

The tax-writing committee had hardly assembled before Rep. Woodruff (R-Mich) declared that a "buyers' strike" is growing. He moved that the committee go ahead with legislation cutting excise taxes and consider other parts of the President's program later.

That lost, 14 to 10, with the Democrats voting solidly against it and the Republicans for it.

Then they settled down to hear Snyder's plan.

Cutting here and raising there, the net result of the program would be to give the Government about $1,075,000,000 more income.

As to cuts in the excise, or "sales" taxes, Snyder's proposals were closely in line with forecasts.

1. Cut from 20 to 10 per cent the retail taxes on furs, luggage, women's handbags, jewelery and toilet preparations.

2. Cut from 25 to 15 per cent the charges on long distance telephone and telegraph charges. Nothing was said about the 15 per cent charge on local telephone service.

3. Cut from 15 to 10 per cent the tax on rail, bus, airline and ship passenger tickets.

4. Repeal outright the 2 per cent tax on freight charges.

Snyder proposed repealing all taxes on baby oils, powders and lotions, now subject to the 20 per cent toilet preparations tax. Critics of the excise taxes have hit particularly at taxing "baby oils."

This cutting program ignored entirely many taxes hiked sharply during the war such as those on movie tickets and photographic supplies.

Snyder figured the cuts he proposed would cost the Government $695,000,000 in revenue.

To make up for this and bring in the billion dollars more of revenue he figured on:

$40,000,000 from the proposed 10 per cent tax on television sets.

$675,000,000 from the hike in corporation, or business taxes. The levy of 42 per cent, instead of 38 per cent, would apply on income above $25,000.

$400,000,000 from increased estate and gift taxes. One of the big changes he proposed in a somewhat complicated scale was to apply the present top rate of 77 per cent on estates of $3,000,000 or more instead of $10,000,000 as at present.

$400,000,000 to $500,000,000 from stiffened taxes on oil and mining interests. He proposed to cut the depletion allowance for oil and gas from 27 1-2 to 15 per cent.

This "depletion allowance" is an amount which may be deducted from taxable income on the theory that the value of the oil well or

See SNYDER on page 7-A

King Dissolves British Parliament

LONDON —(AP)— The historic Parliament that brought Britain Socialism breaks up today to make way for a national election that will decide the country's course for the next five years.

King George VI was expected to sign the royal proclamation around noon British time, dissolving the strongly pro-labor Parliament.

Prime Minister Attlee's Labor Party, which has dominated the body since 1945, now holds 390 of the 640 seats in the House of Commons. The King's proclamation today signals the official start of the campaign in which Winston Churchill's conservatives will seek to unseat the Laborites.

NORTH CAROLINA LAWYER TAKES OATH

Charles S. Murphy, 40-year-old lawyer from Wallace, N. C. (left), takes his oath as special counsel to President Truman, succeeding Clark M. Gifford. Supreme Court Justice Tom Clark administers the oath in a ceremony at the White House as President Truman looks on. (Acme Telephoto)

Reverse Stand In Berlin

Reds Lift New Traffic Curbs

BERLIN — (AP)— The Russians imposed a new regulation on Berlin-bound truck traffic today and then lifted it a few hours later.

The regulation could have paralyzed all highway freight from Western Germany. The Russians gave no reason for imposing or lifting the new regulation.

The American, British and French commandants met to discuss the Soviet "creeping blockade" tactics and possible counter measures. The U.S. State Department said yesterday it was considering counter measures. However, any decision to clamp on economic sanctions will be made on a higher level than Berlin.

NEW TYPE INVALID

Earlier today the Russians announced they would not accept as valid a new type of shipping invoice on Berlin-bound truck traffic. Soviet guards at Helmstedt said they were ordered not to accept cargo papers on the new type before Feb. 15. Some trucks were turned back for this reason.

This afternoon the Russians reversed themselves. They sent east German police to the British side of the Helmstedt border point to inform the German customs of the change.

Customs officials had said earlier that if the difficulty over the new papers was not ironed out, a virtual blockade would result at the Helmstedt highway point.

The trucks at the head of the waiting line in Helmstedt still had the old type papers. They were trickling through at the rate of five to six trucks an hour.

By tomorrow, it was estimated only trucks with the new papers will be on the scene. There is a lineup at Helmstedt that consistently averages between 125 and 150 trucks, each loaded with about ten loads of supplies.

Top American officials in Berlin may make a special report to High Commissioner John J. McCloy this week end on the latest blockade tactics.

McCloy is expected back in Frankfurt tonight after two weeks of consultations in Washington and New York.

Carol Ann Sane During Shooting, Doctor Says

BRIDGEPORT, Conn. —(AP)— A state psychiatrist testified today that Carol Ann Paight was sane when she shot her father to death.

The physician, Dr. Joseph M. Lesko, said he examined the 21-year-old blonde five times since the shooting. In addition, he said he had heard every word of testimony at her trial, including that of a defense psychiatrist who labelled her insane.

State's Attorney Lorin W. Willis then asked him if Carol was sane at this time.

"She is sane," replied Dr. Lesko.

DEFENSE OBJECTS

Then he asked the psychiatrist if Carol was sane when she shot her cancer-stricken father last Sept. 23. The defense objected but the court ruled it was the same sort of question admitted from defense witnesses.

Dr. Lesko then replied: "She was sane."

A window slammed shut as he finished his answer, startling spectators and jury in the dead silence that followed his words.

Dr. Lesko said that on Sept. 24, the first time he examined Carol Ann and the day after the shooting, the girl has "genuine amnesia." It was a type of amnesia, he said, which produces "deliberate forgetting of shameful, painful or unpleasant experiences."

A murmur with a marked hostile note came from the spectators when Dr. Leskó, under cross examination, said he expected to be paid by the state for his psychiatric service in the case.

The sheriff pounded his gavel. Superior Court Judge John A. Cornell warned that he would have the court cleared if there were any further demonstration.

Dr. Lesko testified he reached his conclusion that Carol Ann was sane on Sept. 28 when he examined her for the second time.

Under brief cross-examination, he said nothing would change that conclusion.

The psychiatrist denied he had told Mrs. Paight on Jan. 11 that Carol Ann had suffered a blackout. He contended, however, he told Mrs. Paight that any testimony he would give in the case could not harm Carol Ann.

The State then ended its rebuttal.

Court recessed until next Tuesday when State and defense will deliver final arguments before the mercy murder case goes to the jury.

Long-Closed Mill In Georgia Sold

ATLANTA—(AP)—The long unemployed textile workers at Douglas Mills today had high hopes of turning their prayers into paychecks.

The Douglasville, Ga., mills were sold to J. E. Stiefel & Co. of Wheeling, W. Va., yesterday for $405,000 plus $12,500 for inventories.

The plight of the workers attracted nationwide attention last Christmas when they held public prayer meetings for the reopening of the mill, the town's major industry.

Arkansas Hardest Hit By Rising Waters

46,000 Are Homeless In Flooded States

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

More than 46,000 persons were homeless and other thousands faced possible evacuation from rising flood-waters in seven Central and Southern states Friday.

But the flood - causing rains have ended and skies were clear. Some swollen rivers reached crest at upstream points. Barring further rain, flood dangers seemed likely to decline over the week - end in several critical zones.

The homeless included 22,000 in Arkansas, 12,000 in Southeast Missouri, and 12,000 in Kentucky.

Surging streams, including the Ohio River, blocked many highways and forced some schools to close.

West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, and Tennessee also had flooded areas. Three persons have drowned in West Virginia.

The Ohio River, past the 52-foot flood stage in Cincinnati, headed for a predicted crest of 60.5 feet about midnight Saturday.

Rain, which had doused much of the flood area for the past several days, ended today. But colder weather moved in, adding to the discomfort of the homeless.

The Weather Bureau reported generally clear weather over most of the country. Temperatures were near normal levels in most areas.

The St. Francis River was on a rampage in Eastern Arkansas, which was hardest hit by the floods in this state. Rising streams also were reported in the northern and southern sections of the state. National Guardsmen aided in evacuating residents of St. Francis lowlands.

Fears of a second flood in Williamsburg, Ky., from the rising Cumberland River eased today. Local observers took exception to the Federal Weather Bureau forecast that the Cumberland would exceed the 32-foot level reached by the record flood of 1946. The river's crest was moving downstream past hard-hit Barbourville and a gradual falling was reported upstream. The Kentucky River, in the northern part of the state, crested yesterday, routing 450 families or about 2,000 persons from their homes. Others were evacuated after floodwaters gushed over areas in northeastern Kentucky.

The swollen Cumberland River spilled over lowlands near Nashville, Tenn., forcing more persons to flee their homes.

The Ohio River was expected to crest at Point Pleasant, W. Va., the hardest hit in the state, at 47.5 feet at noon today. Flood stage is 40 feet. The business section was covered by about three feet of water. Forty families were evacuated, some by boat. Newsboys delivered papers by boat.

Some communities in Southern West Virginia, on tributaries of the Ohio, reported flood conditions.

Schools were closed in at least six counties and highways were blocked throughout Central, South Central, and Southeast West Virginia. Huntington, protected by an $11,000,000 floodwall, was expecting a crest of 56.5 feet at 7 P. M. today. Flood level is 50 feet and the wall protects up to 70 feet. Logan was threatened by the rising Guyan River and National Guardsmen are alerted for flood duty.

The three-day ice storm in Northern Texas caused damage of more than $1,000,000. Fifty-three towns still were without telephone communication and some communities were without power. However, with warmer weather and clear skies, hundreds of repairmen worked to restore service. The ice storm also hit Southwest and Southeast Missouri.

Accused Of Giving Secrets To Russia

By PAUL UNDERWOOD

LONDON — (AP) — Scotland Yard clamped a high ranking British scientist in jail today on charges of letting out official secrets.

In Washington the Federal Bureau of Investigation said Claus Fuchs, 38, German-born atomic physicist, was arrested on information turned up by U. S. agents digging into atomic spying by Russia. High officials said the case involved two specific atomic leaks to Russia.

The specific charge said one leak was in the United States in 1945, the other in England in 1947.

The Atomic Energy Commission in Washington announced that Fuchs had access to a "wide area of the most vital weapons information" during work by him in the United States.

Fuchs had been one of the ranking experts at the British atomic laboratory in Harwell. He was brought into Bow St. Court today on two counts of violating the official secrets act. His trial was set for next Friday.

The maximum penalty on each count of a charge of violating the official secrets act is seven years at hard labor.

Fuchs was in charge of theoretical physics at Harwell, which is the heart of British research into atomic fission for producing energy for use in A-bombs.

In a fog of official secrecy, the tall, slight and balding scientist then was whisked off to a cell at the Bow St. Court. Security officers said he would be taken tonight to Brixton prison in southeast London to await his trial.

ASKS NO BAIL

Fuchs had no lawyer and he did not ask Chief Magistrate Laurence Dunne whether he could be admitted to bail. He stood silent while the clerk of the court read out the charges.

The first charge said that Fuchs, "being a British subject . . . on a day in February, 1945, in the United States of America . . . communicated to a person unknown information relating to atomic research . . . which might be directly or indirectly useful to an enemy."

The second said that Fuchs "for a purpose prejudicial to the safety or interests of the state on a day in 1947 communicated to a person unknown information relating to atomic research which might be directly or indirectly useful to an enemy."

Washington sources said Fuchs worked on the A-bomb in the United States from late 1943 until June, 1946, and that his position in Britain's atomic setup was comparable to that held during the war by J. Robert Oppenheimer, who directed the Los Alamos, N. M., A-bomb laboratories.

In court today Fuchs was described merely as a "scientific officer for the Ministry of Supply." That ministry has charge of British atomic research and the development of new weapons. The scientist's address was given as Harwell.

This is the first big British atomic spy scare since the arrest of Dr Alan Nunn May, another British Government physicist, for passing Allied atomic secrets to the Russians in 1945.

Dr. May who was 34, pleaded guilty to violating the official secrets act and was sentenced on May 1, 1946, to ten years in prison.

May's lawyer told the court the scientist gave away the secrets because he felt it would be a contribution to "the safety of mankind." The lawyer said May reasoned that the more people knew about the destructive possibilities of atomic energy, the more seriously they would take it.

Last year the Labor Government put into effect a policy of removing Communists, Fascists or as-

See BRITISH on page 7-A

Gen. Groves Is Called To Testify

WASHINGTON— (AP) —Congress today summoned Lt. Gen. Leslie R. Groves, wartime head of the U. S. atomic bomb project, to testify tomorrow about a British atomic scientist arrested in London on suspicion of passing A-bomb secrets to Russia.

Sen. McMahon (D-Conn) made the announcement after a meeting of the Joint Congressional Atomic Energy Committee with the Atomic Energy Commission. McMahon is chairman of the Congressional group.

A statement by the Atomic Energy Commission said the British scientist, Dr. Claus Fuchs, had access to "a wide area of the most vital weapons information" during his wartime work in the U. S. on atomic projects.

"It appears to the committee that the matter is serious," McMahon told reporters.

He added in a prepared statement:

"General Leslie R. Groves, commanding officer of the wartime Manhattan District (which developed the A-bomb), will appear before the joint committee tomorrow morning."

The meeting will be held behind closed doors.

In today's hastily called meeting the committee discussed with the AEC "such information as the commission possesses regarding the British scientist, Dr. Claus Fuchs, who has been arrested in London as a spy," McMahon said.

McMahon promised that the joint committee "will further explore the matter fully."

Fuchs was accused in London of twice passing atomic secrets to foreign agents—once in the United States in 1945 and again in Britain in 1947. The Federal Bureau of Investigation here played an important part in digging up information leading to Fuchs' arrest.

McMahon told reporters that Groves has been subpoenaed by the joint committee and the group has received word he will be on hand tomorrow.

The nation's atomic enterprise, known as the Manhattan District, was in the hands of the Army during the 1945 period. Groves, now retired, headed the establishment and has been termed by McMahon the top man responsible for security.

Concerning today's two-hours closed session of the Congressional committee, Senator Millikin (R-Colo) said:

"It appears that a man has been in position over here to gather some of our most tender secrets in the nation and pass them on to the Russians."

Gen. Groves, now a vice-president of the Remington-Rand Co., issued the following statement today at Norwalk, Conn:

"Fuchs was at Los Alamos as a member of the British mission which worked at Los Alamos during the development of the atomic bomb. He was not the head of the mission, nor was he one of the top members, but he was in the next rank. He had an important and responsible position.

"In this position he was necessarily afforded access to a great deal of information both as to our development and future possibilities and proposed developments. Like all other members of the British mission, he was given every the top secret clearance, his responsibility, discretion and loyalty were vouched for by his own government."

Whether the alleged activities of the German-born physicist played any part in developments leading to Russia's explosion of an atomic bomb went unanswered immediately.

The FBI confined its announcement to two terse sentences:

"The case involving Dr. Fuchs was developed by the British on information originally furnished to them by the FBI.

"The FBI has been co-operating very closely with the British on this case."

Russian Trial Move Answered

WASHINGTON —(AP)— A Russian demand that Japan's Emperor Hirohito be tried on charges of using germ warfare brought this comment from the chief prosecutor of the Japanese war crimes trials:

"There is far more reason to try Stalin as a war criminal than Emperor Hirohito."

Joseph B. Keenan, a Washington attorney, said yesterday that investigations conducted by American and Chinese officials showed conclusively that the Japanese did not use germ warfare over China.

Mr. Keenan said, Hirohito had no real power in wartime of prewar Japan. Evidence at the Tokyo trials, he said, made it clear that "the emperor constantly attempted to dissuade his ministers from precipitate action toward war."

What's more, Keenan said, Col. Gen. M. Golunsky, chief Soviet prosecutor at the Tokyo trials, joined the prosecutors of ten other nations in signing an agreement not to try Hirohito as a war criminal.

The Soviet note proposing that the emperor be tried was delivered to the State Department this week by Ambassador Alexander Panyushkin. Since it was written in Russian, its contents were not immediately made known here in detail.

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