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IKE REPORTED
EYEING FARM
PRICE STEPSAid To Farmers May
Be First Move In
Prosperity Pledge

By JACK BELL

WASHINGTON (AP)—Close associates say President Eisenhower is determined to solve the farm price problem as one of the first steps in carrying out his pledge of "constantly increasing prosperity for all."

In a radio-television report to the people last night, the President said his administration is using "every legitimate means available to the federal government" to maintain prosperity and will continue to do so as long as it is necessary.

Asserting that his administration does not believe in a "boom-and-bust America" in which prosperity hinges on war or threats of war, he said the program he will lay before Congress in his State of the Union message Thursday will be keyed to federal help.

"It is a program that does not deal in pie-in-the-sky promises to all, nor bribes to a few, nor threats to any," he declared. "It is a program inspired by real for the common good, dedicated to the welfare of every American family—whatever its means or livelihood may be or its social position or its ancestral strain or its religious affiliations."

LISTS GAINS

In outlining the past year's accomplishments, he said ground work has been laid for "a new prosperity" in the strong belief that the federal government should be prepared at all times—ready at a moment's notice—to take every proper means "toward that end."

He said a program of sound planning and aggressive enterprise must be accompanied by "faith which cannot be shaken by self-appointed peddlers of gloom and doom" in America's growth and progress.

This was an obvious thrust at some Democrats, like Senator Douglas of Illinois and Kerr of Oklahoma, who have said the country already is in a recession and could be headed for a real depression.

SAYS SKID MALEDED

Eisenhower claimed a halt to the boggling farm prices as one of the accomplishments of his administration in its first year. Presumably he referred to an Agriculture Department report last week which said that after months of decline, average farm prices were up slightly in mid-December.

Members of Congress said the President had stressed in conferences on his program the need for action on the farm front.

In this connection, it is reported that he will recommend in a

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Gastonia Has
Two Stickups

GASTONIA (AP)—A gunman struck twice in Gastonia today holding up a service station and a grocery store.

The sheriff's department said the bandit took \$5 and a tankful of gas from the service station about 2:30 a.m. He made off with \$100 from a grocery store about 9 a.m.

Deputies said they were convinced both holdups were the work of the same man. Both victims furnished identical descriptions and in each case the bandit escaped in an old model automobile.

Smoking In Oxygen
Tent Proves Fatal

CHICAGO (AP)—A 50-year-old woman died of burns last night when an oxygen tent exploded while she was smoking in it at Michael Reese Hospital.

Mrs. Loreta Wold, the patient, had been taken to the hospital Saturday, suffering from pneumonia. She was placed in an oxygen tent.

Hospital officials said Mrs. Wold had been warned repeatedly against smoking. However, they said, she lit a cigarette and an explosion enveloped her in flames.

OUR WEATHER

Fair and mild this afternoon. Clear and cooler tonight.

Low temperature this morning 34 degrees.

Low temperature expected to-night 30 degrees.

High temperature yesterday 53 degrees.

High temperature expected to-day 60 degrees.

Sunrise 7:32 a.m.; sunset 5:25 p.m.

More Weather Data on page 11-A

JUDGE IN LITTLEJOHN CASE



New Staff Photo by Tom Franklin—Hawker

Judge J. C. Rudisill of Newton, new regular judge for Gaston and Mecklenburg counties is shown looking over the laws that govern grand jury investigations. Judge Rudisill will sit as a committee magistrate on Thursday at 9:30 a.m. to hear any evidence against Police Chief Frank N. Littlejohn. If the evidence warrants it, Judge Rudisill will instruct the state prosecutor to prepare bills of indictment for action by the grand jury at the next term of court.

McMullan Staff To Have No Part In Littlejohn Hearing

By ANN SAWYER

Charlotte News Staff Writer

State Attorney General Harry McMullan said today he and his staff will not take part in the public hearing scheduled Thursday for Police Chief Frank N. Littlejohn.

In a telegram to Solicitor Basil Whitener, Mr. McMullan said, "I am of the opinion that our participation in these hearings in the manner requested by you would be of no practical value to the prosecution, and would create a situation that might be embarrassing to you as well as to this office."

The attorney general said, however, he would be glad to recommend to Gov. William B. Umstead that assistance be provided as has been done in other important cases.

As he prepared to help conduct a public hearing into accusations of wrongdoing against Chief Littlejohn, the solicitor had asked the attorney general to send a prosecutor to help.

Mr. McMullan said that neither he nor members of his staff have enough information about the Littlejohn case to be of help.

REASON FOR HEARING

Meanwhile, Judge J. C. Rudisill said that he decided to hold a public hearing on the Littlejohn charges to "restore peace in the community."

"His actions, the Superior Court judge said, does not cut off investigation of the police department by the grand jury if the 18-man court decision which restricts the investigation is to be of help.

In his charge yesterday to the reorganized grand jury, the judge cited North Carolina Supreme Court decision which restricts the grand jury from subpoenaing witnesses "upon mere matters of inquiry."

The judge said that he only pointed out the law under which North Carolina grand jury must work.

NOT WITHIN RIGHTS

The grand jury had no right to issue blanket subpoenas as it did, Judge Rudisill said. State law says that a person cannot be sub-

poenaed to testify before a grand jury unless the person against whom he will testify is specified.

If the local grand jury had that right, Judge Rudisill said, the investigation could have gone on forever.

Superior court judges have the inherent right to sit as committing magistrates to hear evidence either upon their own motion or at the suggestion of the solicitor. While the grand jury could go on with its investigation of the police department within the confines of the state law, Judge Rudisill said, it is not his duty to sit as committing magistrate to hear evidence either upon their own motion or at the suggestion of the solicitor.

In four different warrants, Chief Frank N. Littlejohn is charged with covering all phases of the hearing will cover every phase of law available for indictment. Judge Rudisill said.

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Part Of \$160,000
Found In Virginia

WASHINGTON (AP)—Virginia state police today reported they have recovered "the bulk" of the \$160,000 stolen from the government's Bureau of Engraving in Washington. They said it was located in a metal tool box on a farm near Centerville, Va.

State troopers there said they did not know exactly how much of the money was recovered or whether any arrests had been made. They said the Secret Service in Washington would report further developments.

Secret Service headquarters there declined for the moment to discuss the case. It was learned, however, that several agents were in Centerville.

Virginia officers said a treasury employee was suspected of the unprecedented theft from the tightly guarded engraving building.

SOME SPENT

The police said this employee had spent several thousand dollars of the money.

The bureau is under the jurisdiction of the Treasury Department. The officers said an associate

of the suspect, who knew of the theft, gave information to an officer which led to recovery of most of the money.

The huge sum, in stacks of \$20 bills, was found on a farm in Loudoun County and was whisked by Secret Service agents to Washington early today, they said.

Among other things, Virginia police reported, the suspect had bought a new auto with the missing money.

The Virginia troopers said the first tip on the whereabouts of the money came to the state police. The police promptly notified the Secret Service in Washington, which is about 25 miles from Centerville, and agents in collaboration with police went to the farm and found the money.

Since the Secret Service took charge of the money and the case, the Virginia troopers were without definite information as to the amount recovered or developments in the wake of the recovery.

Secret Service headquarters declined comment.

Chief U. E. Baughman, who had been up all night working on the case, told reporters, "I can't discuss it in any way."

SUSPECTS SOUGHT

The implication appeared to be that the Secret Service was still seeking one or more suspects in the case.

Baughman said if he had anything to announce it would not be before afternoon.

"We'll have to work fast," he added without elaboration.

The Evening Star quoted Virginia police as calling some of the suspects "gun-toting men" and as saying lives might be endangered in their roundup.

The newspaper described the money cache as a metal box about 2 feet long, 10 inches high and 6 inches wide.

Somewhere, someone sneaked it out of the bureau during the New Year's holiday period, leaving two packages stuffed with plain white paper where the money was supposed to be in a vault.

It's possible some of the missing money may keep into circulation. Here's how you can tell if one of the bills is counterfeit.

Each of them is a \$20 Federal Reserve Bank of New York note. It bears a picture of Andrew Jackson. It belongs to the series B20A, and the serial number falls into one of these groups:

B20C2300A to B20C2400A.
B20C2500A to B20C2600A.

Baughman made public these serial numbers last night even before the money was recovered, the engraving bureau employees who may have had access to the rooms where the money was packaged and supposedly started on its way to a huge bribe payoff.

Yesterday morning when the plant's weekend two money packages in the vault turned out to be suspiciously light in weight.

Alarms sounded, and the paper-wrapped packages, sealed with official labels bearing the proper serial numbers, were found to contain nothing more than money-sized white paper.

NO RIGHT

"A prosecuting officer (and that means in this case the solicitor) has no right, of his own motion, or upon that of an officious, if not an meddling and malicious prosecutor, to send witnesses to the grand jury room merely to be interrogated whether there has been any violation of the criminal law within their knowledge. The law denounces such inquisitorial powers, which may be carried to the extent of penetrating every household and exposing the domestic privacy of every family. The respect of society as well as the nature of our free institutions forbid such a dangerous mode of inquiry. While the grand jury may be called upon to exercise its power of subpoenaing witnesses, it is not its duty to sit as committing magistrate to hear evidence either upon their own motion or at the suggestion of the solicitor. While the grand jury may be called upon to exercise its power of subpoenaing witnesses, it is not its duty to sit as committing magistrate to hear evidence either upon their own motion or at the suggestion of the solicitor."

See TEXT OF on page 11-A

Cash Stolen
Partially Recovered

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