

School Fires: Can They Happen Here? (See 1-B)



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

FINAL

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—EXPLOSION COMING?—

Sun & Sin Graft Probe Rocks Beach

By CHARLES KURALT
Charlotte News Staff Writer

MYRTLE BEACH, S. C.—All is not sun and fun at this summer capital of the Carolinas. There is sin, too, according to a crusading young editor—sin with official sanction in the form of free-flowing liquor and money.

Horace Carter's accusations have triggered a widening investigation into Horry County sheriff's department by federal agents. A U. S. grand jury gets the evidence March 25 in Aiken.

Myrtle Beach is quiet today. The long line of beachfront cottages is boarded up. Seven thousand permanent residents go about their business on the streets back from the ocean.

Prelude To Money Invasion

Only the sound of a carpenter's hammer here and there gives a hint that two months from now, 30,000 people will swarm into Myrtle Beach with their cars behind them and their pockets full of money.

These are the people whose nickels and dimes, fed into beachside juke boxes, add up to big cash—and big-time competition among juke box companies.

It is this competition, editor Carter charges, that has led to corruption. Certain sheriff's deputies, he says, have pressured amusement operators into changing juke box firms.

He also has charged some deputies with conspiring to protect bootleggers and others with night hunting in the Horry wilds. He claims he has enough evidence to back up his blunt accusations—even in the face of a flat denial from Sheriff John Henry.

Horace Carter's flood of bylined statements in the *Loris Sentinel* has created a sensation here. Wherever you go in Horry (pronounced "av-REE") the citizens are hashing it over.

Showdown Still To Come

A federal grand jury hearing is just ahead. After that, there could be trials. A county grand jury adjourned after six days of secret testimony, took no action, but suggested it might do so later. The showdown is yet to come.

When it does come—no matter how or when or which way the burden of proof falls—it will rock Myrtle Beach.

This is a boom town, despite its demure demeanor in the middle of March. Its permanent population has doubled in five years. Now, they're building an air base three miles south of town. It will bring 4,000 servicemen and a payroll of a million dollars a month to Myrtle Beach.

Horry County, filled in the interior with swamps, live oaks and tobacco farms, turns gay along the coast. Cherry Grove, Ocean Drive, Crescent Beach, Atlantic and Windy Hill are all in its confines.

The sheriff's department, based at Conway 14 miles from here, has sole authority for law enforcement outside the county's incorporated towns. Now that the side of the county's incorporated towns is under investigation, the sheriff's department itself is under investigation, the federal government. They have been dispatched from as far away as Georgia, Alabama and Washington, D. C. to round up evidence.

It is common knowledge that nobody need go thirsty in Myrtle Beach during the summer season. Bars are illegal, but you can buy liquor by the drink. Privately owned, state regulated liquor stores abound. White li-

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—FAMILY'S SURPRISED—

Ekberg Not Leaving Hubby

COPENHAGEN, Denmark — Anita Ekberg, the Swedish movie actress, flew into Copenhagen today and denied that she was running away from her British husband, actor Anthony Steel.

"There is no truth to it at all," said the shapely actress. "There is absolutely no rift between the two of us. I have come for a rest and for nothing else."

Miss Ekberg left Rio de Janeiro's film festival unexpectedly yesterday. Her departure from the Brazilian capital was so hurried that she had no time to pack suitcases and arrived at the airport carrying some clothes over her arm.

Steel said his wife was leaving because of sickness in the family, but this was a surprise to Anita's family in Malmo, Sweden, just across the sound from Copenhagen. Her mother said the only member of the



ANITA EKBERG

family who is ill is Anita's grandmother — who has been suffering from heart disease for six months. Her mother said that on Thursday that "living



EDITOR HORACE CARTER

Words By Carter Hike Paper's Price

MYRTLE BEACH, S. C.—The *Loris Sentinel*, a county weekly newspaper, was selling for 50 cents a copy here this week.

"I had one for 30 minutes," a restaurant owner said. "Then I had to give it back."

The scramble for the *Sentinel* was occasioned by a front page editorial bylined, "W. Horace Carter."

It carried fresh accusations against the county sheriff's department, something that has been going on for a month.

BLOND CRUSADER

The editor with the bear by the tail is a blond, lustrous-haired crusader to whom controversy is nothing new. He won a Pulitzer Prize, journalism's highest honor, for an expose of the hooded marauders of the Ku Klux Klan.

He also edits the *Tabor City Tribune* just over the line in North Carolina. That's where he lives.

His office is a tiny jumble of papers and page proofs, just off Tabor City's main street. From there, he ranges all over coastal Carolina, gathering folksy news notes which may run in the next column to one of his fiery editorials.

Everybody in town knows Horace Carter and most of them like him. They elected him mayor of Tabor City for two terms. The same affection for small town life that has kept him away from the daily journalism arena has earned him the confidence of most of his tidewater neighbors.

They know him too well to dismiss his accusations lightly.

even though there are many who have absolute confidence in a popular Sheriff John Henry, against whose department Carter's campaign has been directed.

Carter had to interrupt a conversation with reporters this week to sell a merchant two pieces of cardboard at 10 cents each, sell a farmer some "fished" signs and talk to an advertiser about a small ad he wanted in next Tuesday's *Sentinel*.

Since he began his charges in the *Loris* paper, he's had little time of his own.

"I knew it would be this way," he said. "I'm sorry I have to be the center of this thing. But it just got to the point we had to go to work and it hasn't gotten to the point yet where I can tell everything I know publicly."

Horace Carter lives in a rented house because he hasn't had time to build one. He ranches sandwiches on the job because he doesn't have time to go home for lunch.

Four fishing sinkers, leaders attached, lie on a pile of newspapers in his office.

They are thick with dust.

20 Believed Dead In Crash

MANCHESTER, England (P)—A Viscount airliner, pride of Britain's commercial air fleet, plunged through three houses and burst into flames on landing here today. Twenty persons aboard perished, and a woman and child in one of the houses were reported missing.

A spokesman at Lancashire Police Headquarters said the plane "apparently overshot the runway while coming into land and hit houses on a council estate in a suburban housing project. There were people inside the houses but we don't know how many."

The Viscount has been sold in growing numbers to American firms.

The world's first commercial turbo-prop jet airliner, it normally carries 47 passengers.

What's Inside

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- Women 2-5B
- Worry Clinic 8A

J.A. Remains Silent To Racket Questions

Committee Seeks Data On Gaming

WASHINGTON (P)—District Attorney William M. Langley of Portland refused today to answer questions from the Senate Rackets Investigating Committee as to whether he had interests in gambling establishments. He was confronted with purported recordings of his own conversations with racketeers.

A committee transcript of one recording quoted Langley as telling Joe McLaughlin, a racketeer, when he ran for district attorney: "I don't have prostitution going, Joe, with this screwball in Salem." An appended note said this was Langley's term for Atty. Gen. Robert V. Thornton of Oregon.

GAMBLING INTEREST

One question was whether he had an interest in any gambling establishment when he ran for district attorney.

Others included: "Whether he had any interest in any establishment with Jim Elkins, both of Portland's underworld."

"Whether there was gambling at any establishment he owned jointly with Elkins."

The committee launched its hearing on the day of a dramatic recital by Chairman McClellan (D-ARK) of the circumstances he said attended the great last night of James H. Hoffa, vice president of the giant Teamsters Union.

HOFFA ACCUSED

Hoffa was accused of scheming to plant an agent on the committee's staff. He was charged with violating laws as to attempted bribery of Federal employees.

McClellan said the committee would meet any "challenge," and Sen. Mundt (R-SD) declared: "Goon squad methods applied to the U. S. Senate will not work."

Hoffa, in a statement down today, said he had done nothing wrong and would fight the charges.

Once Langley had refused to answer questions, McClellan ordered the playing of the recordings. These were purportedly made secretly by Elkins, described by the committee as "king of the underworld" in Portland.

LANGUAGE OBSCURE

McClellan said so much of the language in the recordings is "obscene and vulgar" they could not be heard in public, but that full transcripts are available to the committee.

Langley fidgeted as the squeaky tape recordings were played to evidence.

Elkins, who swore he had the recordings made, said that they have not been "altered" in any way, said not far from Langley and the woman may not be heard he recognized them.

The reference to the "screwball in Salem" was in a recording Elkins said was made Aug. 1956.

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Soldiers Take Positions Near Presidential Palace In Fighting In Cuba

Cuba Calmer After Rebels Are Countered By Batista

HAVANA, Cuba (P)—Tank-backed troops have wiped out a bold student attempt to capture or kill President Fulgencio Batista in fighting that took an estimated 40 lives.

The government said the entire nation was calm early today.

One of the giant Teamsters Union, a curfew, imposed after the assault on the presidential palace in the heart of Havana, was lifted

last night. Many persons, including American tourists, moved about as usual in bars, restaurants and night clubs.

Armored cars and tanks still patrolled about the palace, Batista's office and residence, were the only open signs of the trouble that erupted violently yesterday afternoon.

There was no official announcement of arrests, but it was evident that police were carrying out

an intensive search for participants in the attack.

In addition to the 40 persons reported killed, an estimated 60 were wounded.

The dead included tourist Peter Kozenda, Clinton, N.J. A stray bullet killed him as he watched the battle from the fifth-floor balcony of the Regis Hotel. His roommate, Ed R. Butts, Garfield, N.J., was wounded slightly.

Police said the rebel dead included Jose Antonio Escamez, president of the University of Havana students' federation, and Mendez Mora, a congressman when Carlos Prío Socarrás was Cuban president.

The bullet-riddled body of another revolutionary leader, former Sen. Pelayo Gueco Navarro, was found early today on the grounds of a suburban country club but it was not immediately clear whether his death had any connection with the attempt on Batista.

Hoffa, Two Others Nabbed For Probe

WASHINGTON (P)—James R. Hoffa, reputed to be the real power in the giant Teamsters Union, was arrested last night on a charge of trying to bribe a lawyer to feed him secrets from the Senate investigation into labor racketeering. He quickly posted \$25,000 bond and was released pending a hearing March 26.

Also taken into custody, at Detroit, was Hoffa's red-haired 34-year-old secretary, Mrs. Dorothy P. Dobrescu, held only as a material witness. She was held under \$5,000 bond on a detainer order which said there was a "likelihood she might flee ... to avoid testifying."

Today Hoffa denied any wrongdoing and said he will "fight this case until I am cleared."

BRIEF REPORT

The union official left a conference with his attorney, Edward Bennett Williams, to read a brief



JAMES R. HOFFA

statement to reporters.

Hoffa refused to answer questions, saying he didn't "want to try my case or present my defense in the newspapers."

"I have been in the labor movement all my life and have had

New Highway Setup Near

RALEIGH (P)—Reauthorization of the State Highway Commission moved a step nearer reality today as the House stamped its approval on a measure already passed by the Senate.

The bill now goes back to the Senate for acceptance of two minor House amendments before it

More legislative news on page 2A

becomes law. The Senate may act on the amendments tomorrow.

Only a few "noes" were heard as the House passed the bill by a voice vote on second and third readings. Rep. Roger Kieser of Scotland objected to third reading, but the House voted down his objections and sped the bill on its way.

Gov. Hodges has strongly endorsed the move to revamp the highway law, reducing its membership from 15 to 7. The action

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—NOMINATION PROMISED—

Park Seat Sure For Woman

By JULIAN SCHER
Charlotte News Staff Writer

A woman will be nominated for the Park Board vacancy at next week's City Council meeting. The News learned today.

The nomination will come from a male member of the Council and will get the support of other male members of the Council.

And the woman may not be one of the five suggested earlier by a group of Charlotte clubwomen.

Yesterday the Council delayed action on naming a replacement for Stan Croyley who has left the Park Board.

A group of clubwomen presented the names of five local women at the Council's Feb. 27 session.

They were Mrs. A. L. DeCamp, Mrs. Thomas H. Williams, Mrs. Robert D. Howerton, Mrs. T. A. Honey and Mrs. Grover B. Walters.

Another nomination has been Irwin Berk, prominent young in Charlotte business executive. He is being backed by Councilman Herman Brown.

However, a unanimous vote is forecast within the male contingent of the delegation in favor of a woman.

One member of the Council told the News today: "It is certainly unusual that someone come to City Hall asking for a job."

"I usually have a hard time trying to get people to work."

"I feel the majority of the Council believes a woman should be on the Park and Recreation Commission and on the school board."

Our Weather

Mostly cloudy with occasional rain in this morning and cloudy tonight. Tomorrow cloudy with scattered showers and thunderstorms.

High today 63
Low this morning 51
Low tomorrow morning 52
High today 63
High tomorrow 75
High tomorrow 68

Sunrise to day, 6:36 a.m.; sunset today, 6:30 p.m.

More Weather Data on Page 2-A