



East Mecklenburg Blanketed THEY ALL GET SNOW BITES

Charlotte Bypassed, Many Areas Hit Hard

By EMERY WISTER
News Staff Writer

A snow and ice storm that swirled up from the South gave eastern and southern Mecklenburg a cold taste of winter today.

The storm practically bypassed Charlotte while moving northward, but it dumped as much as three inches in Matthews and east Mecklenburg barely 10 miles from the city.

Snow and ice turned roads into ribbons of glass and just five miles east of the city, Highway 74 was all but impassable.

FEW FLAKES

A few flakes and flurries, and an occasional car covered with snow were the only evidence in mid-Charlotte that a snowstorm was raging nearby.

Mecklenburg County police reported a number of traffic accidents in the southern and eastern sections of the county. A tractor and trailer were reported to have tipped off Highway 74 and plunged into a fill early this morning. But no injuries were reported as usual by authorities.

All Mecklenburg County schools operated as usual but authorities said schools may close early so pupils can be returned to their homes as quickly as possible.

BUSES LATE

Inter-city bus operators said buses in eastern North Carolina were running several hours late but said roads are dry in other areas of the state.

The Columbia and Florence areas of South Carolina were hard hit and some bus schedules out of those cities were canceled.

The North Carolina State Highway Patrol said roads were dangerous in the eastern part of the state.

"The farther east you go the worse the roads get," said a patrolman on duty here.

Highway patrolmen pointed to 71 as one of the most dangerous of roads and warned motorists to stay off the road or proceed with extreme caution.

SAND POURED

Construction crews poured sand on roads in eastern and southern edges of the county.

The snow began falling early this morning and by 9 a. m. had covered the ground at Hickory Grove only a few miles east of the city limits.

Residents of the Providence Rd. area about 10 miles from the city limits reported about three inches of snow by noon today.

First snow flurries were reported at the Charlotte Airport shortly before 7 a. m. The storm moved northward and by 11 a. m. snow was falling in High Point and Winston-Salem.

But it was eastern North Carolina that was hit hardest.

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Snow-Stricken Town Receives More Of Same

OSWEGO, N. Y. (AP) — Hope gave way to renewed gloom today in this blizzard-stricken city as residents awoke to new snow and a forecast of more.

Another four inches had fallen overnight, raising to about 8 1/2 feet the thick, white blanket that has broken roofs, buildings and business, and almost broken spirits here in the last five days.

Two local building contractors estimated that damage has reached \$500,000 and probably would go higher.

The battle to repair damage and prevent more resumed today in zero temperatures, with drifts more than 20 feet high.

Three families were reported evacuated from their homes during the night because of collapsing roofs.

So far, no injuries have been reported.

ROADS OPEN
Most floods in the area had been opened and food supplies were considered adequate.

A contractor's warehouse and an oil company building collapsed Wednesday, and roofs of at least three other business places gave way.

Householders cleared snow from roofs when cracks appeared in the walls of many dwellings.

Wednesday there was some sunshine and the heavy snow tapered off.

Schools were expected to reopen Friday, industries recalled workers.

Equipment loaned by Rochester during the most severe storm earlier in the week was recalled. Additional plows have been loaned to other areas in the eastern half of the nation.

December's cold wave relaxed a little in the mid-continent today where there wasn't much relief in other areas in the eastern half of the nation.

Although temperatures moderated in the central part of the country, it was still cold, with below zero temperatures again this morning in some northern Midwest sections.

AF Court Listens To Airman's Love

DENHAM, England (AP) — A pretty 23-year-old British girl appeared before a U. S. court-martial today and told of her love affair with an Air Force master sergeant accused of murdering his American wife.

A hash settled on the crowded courtroom as the tall brunette, Mrs. Cynthia Taylor, rearranged her gray fur stole—a gift from the airman—lifted her black veil and gave evidence on the fourth day of the sergeant's trial.

Sgt. Marcus Marymont, a 37-year-old Korean War veteran from Hobbsville, N. C., is accused of poisoning his wife last June while carrying on a passionate affair with Mrs. Taylor.

He has pleaded innocent to the murder charge and to a charge of adultery with the brunette.

Marymont's wife, Mary Helen, 43, mother of three children, died in a hospital at Southport Air Force Base June 9.

Mrs. Taylor, giving evidence for the first time before the court-martial of 14 officers, said she had known Marymont for two years. But she testified he had told her she was divorced.

She said she had discussed marriage with him and she expected to get a divorce this month.

But on June 14, she said, Marymont came to her and told her his wife had died. "But I thought you were divorced," she said he replied, "Yes, I know."

Mrs. Taylor was called by the defense officer, Capt. Neil Kasdan.

She insisted she could not recall some exact details of her friendship with Marymont. Sometimes she blushed. She was not certain whether Marymont had given her the ring for a Christmas or a birthday present.

Medical experts have testified they found arsenic in some cans of the dead woman's body.



(News Staff Photo by Tom Franklin—Franklin)

Matthews 'Like Another World' As Snowstorm Blankets Ground

—COUNTY WHITE UNITS HAVE IT UNDER CONTROL— They Don't Go Hungry In 33 Schools

By ANN SAWYER
News Staff Writer

When the lunch bell rings in county white schools, it rings for all children.

As far as principals and teachers have been able to determine, not a single white child is doing without lunch because he can't pay for it.

To determine the need for free lunches in the county white schools, The News talked with the system's 33 principals.

They reported the situation is in hand and their schools are without lunchless children.

250 MEALS DAILY

From individual school reports, they're feeding over 250 daily free meals now.

Last year the system provided 45,000 free lunches at a cost of between \$9,000 and \$10,000.

The situation is vastly different in the city school system where it is estimated at least 1,750 children have little or no lunch each day. Approximately 250 children receive free lunches in the city, at a cost of \$10,000 a year.

Both systems have to finance free lunches out of lunchroom operation — the city on a system-wide basis and the county on an individual school basis.

From figures supplied by city and county school personnel, it appears the city with about 30,000 school children should be feeding about 2,000 free lunches.

If the county's needs are being met in the white system of 20,000 children, it means only between 200 and 300 children need free lunches.

DIFFERENT STORY

The story is different for county Negro schools where it is estimated between 220 and 245 more free meals should be provided.

How are the county white schools able to feed all their needy hungry children?

An elementary school feeding 12 children free each day can serve as an example of the operation.

In the county, lunchroom operation is the responsibility of principals, and the principal at this elementary school says there is absolutely no waste of food in the kitchen.

Since almost the same number of children eat in the lunchroom each day, almost exact amounts of food can be prepared.

Any food left over is served at a later meal if it can be safely saved, the principal said.

A standard plate lunch — with no additional foods offered — helps prevent waste, he said.

The system-wide menus also provide for some inexpensive, but nutritious meals. This particular elementary school regularly serves a meal that costs more than receipts.

UCS To Provide 5,000 Free Meals

Prompt action in the problem of hungry kids in local schools came from United Community Services today.

Oliver Rowe, president of the agency which administers United Appeal funds, said UCS will provide about 5,000 free lunches and will launch an immediate study of the problem.

Mr. Rowe said \$1,000 will be made available for temporary help.

He also said the Social Planning Council will make an exhaustive study to determine need and responsibility.

THE STATEMENT

In making the \$1,000 offer, Mr. Rowe issued this statement: "The United Community Services is most concerned about the report that some school children in the city and county are going without lunch because their parents cannot afford to provide it."

"Officers of the United Community Services have held several meetings since this has been called to their attention and will

make available \$1,000 to duly authorized representatives of the city and county school systems for temporarily alleviating the present need.

In the meantime the Social Planning Council immediately will make an exhaustive study conducted by unbiased and objective citizens whose purpose it will be to determine insofar as possible the real extent of the hardship to place responsibility for such hardship, and implement constructive action.

"S. Herbert Hitch, chairman of the Social Planning Council, will appoint a study committee for this purpose within the next few days."

Private citizens also are making contributions to the city's free lunch program.

As of today, checks amounting to \$235 had been received by the Lunchroom Dept. at the Educational Center.

In Charlotte, school lunches cost 25 cents a day, or approximately \$40 a year.

Venta, a harefooted, self-styled mystic, five of his flock and two children were killed in the explosion. One and perhaps two other bodies have also been recovered. The violent explosion and the fire that followed made identification nearly impossible.

Muller and Kamenoff were seen in an argument with Venta about an hour before the blast. Details of the quarrel were not known. The tape recordings were found in Muller's pickup truck, parked near the cult's 29-acre colony in Box Canyon, about 30 miles northwest of Los Angeles.

Tape Indicates Explosion Guilt

CHATS WORTH, Calif. (AP) — Tape recordings, discovered near the dynamited wreckage of the Fountain of the World monument point to two former cult members as the bombers, police say.

Nine persons, possibly 10, were killed in Wednesday's earth-jarring explosion. The two dynamiters are believed to have shared the fate of their victims.

Detectives said the blast apparently was triggered off by Ralph Muller, 33, and Peter Kamenoff, 42, both of Joshua Tree, Calif.

Tape recordings made by the pair the night before the dynamiting indicate they were angry at the leader of the cult, Krishna Vanta, and wanted to "bring him to justice," officers said.

The tapes, an hour-long recital of grievances against Krishna and the cult, also were described as farewell messages and detectives believe the men deliberately blew themselves up.

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The Christmas I Remember Best

(Second of a series by prominent Charlotteans)

'You Keep Going ...'

By MARIAN SIMS

The accepted Christmas tradition would probably have me dredge up some touching little episodes about a life-sized doll with real hair, or a low-necked party dress with no sleeves; but, the years of my childhood have a deplorable tendency to melt and run together in my mind. The faculty of total or even partial recall was not one of my natal gifts.

Instead, I go back to 1944, when I had a furnished apartment in Atlanta and a husband on an island in the South Pacific. An island called Los Negros, about the size of a soup plate and perched almost on top of the equator.

In those years we did our Christmas shopping very early, and before the leaves had turned I had received an answer to my Christmas query. It read: "I'd like to have a camera and a bolt of red cloth."

The camera was understandable. I wrote in reply, but why in the name of Mars a bolt of red cloth? The answer cleared that up: Micronesian natives had a passion for anything red. Wisely distributed, the cloth would generate more goodwill and voluntary labor than all the tea in China.

(With two bolts, you could probably be elected chief of the tribe.) So I made my purchases, cleared the camera with the U. S. Post Office, and mailed the box.

On Thanksgiving morning there was an item in the ATLANTA CONSTITUTION. A small item, by courtesy of Tokyo Rose. Japanese planes, she announced vivaciously, had on the previous night bombed the island of Los Negros and inflicted heavy casualties.

Well — you keep going because it's better than sitting still. You wrap packages and rub elbows with the crowd and listen to radios and juke boxes and department store pipe organs dreaming of a white Christmas. Instead of a Pacific soup plate with a temperature of 120 degrees ...

The letter came about two weeks later, a classic piece of comic relief. The Bombing Of Los Negros had been carried out by one straggling plane that detoured to strafe the runway; the casualties consisted of a lot of scraped noses from hitting the deck in a hurry, and one ensign whose posterior was nicked by a bullet. (I believe he later received a Purple Heart.)

Anyhow — for me that Christmas of 1944 arrived ten days early. The rest was window dressing.

(Mrs. Sims is a nationally-known novelist and short story writer. Her husband is a Charlotte attorney, now chairman of the Mecklenburg ABC Board.)



MRS. SIMS

The Lighter Side

Christmas Shopping Is Such A Delight

(From AP Reports)
Don't try to tell Mrs. Dorothy Moore Christmas shopping is a lot of fun.

The Washington woman and her young son, Dale, stepped off a bus. As it moved on, Mrs. Moore realized she had left her purse — containing \$90 — on the vehicle. She raced after it, caught it with the help of a passing motorist, and retrieved her money.

Then she remembered her son, left eight blocks behind. She hurried back, found him window shopping. After that, she said, "We just took the next bus home."

Not Wanted
There's a brand new delivery room at General Hospital in Bellevue, Pa., but it seems no one wants to use it.

That was the comment of hospital officials after the second baby in as many days was

born before its mother could reach the hospital.

Explanation Ready
Angelo Foreman of Toledo made a ready explanation when charged with carrying a concealed straight-edged razor.

"I use it to open sardine cans," he said.

Judge Rex Martin entered an innocent plea, remanded Foreman to jail to await counsel.

Judge Agreed
"A man who drives like that shouldn't be allowed on the road," said George Gravin.

Judge John Watts agreed, sent Gravin to jail for 10 days and

placed him on probation. This fellow was a 16-mile chunk of gravel over Detroit's icy roads.

Our Weather
Cloudy and cold with occasional light snow showers to High today — 20.

High yesterday — 44
High tomorrow — 43

Low this morning — 27
Low tomorrow morning — 20

High tomorrow — 40
High yesterday — 44
High tomorrow — 43

Editorials — 10A
Everyday Counselor — 4C
Obituaries — 11B
Radio-TV — 10B
Series — 11B
Social Security Game — 6B
Sports — 7-9B
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To Your Good Health — 8A
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Hanging Of Coaches Fad Grows

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Crossword Puzzle — 14C
Earl Wilson — 14C
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