



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

FINAL

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School Total Loss

HENDERSON (AP) — Fire swept through the Central Elementary School here today leaving it a total loss. Fortunately, the school's 300 pupils and 13 teachers had been given the day off because of the cold weather.

16 Fliers Dead

NAPLES, Italy (AP) — Ground patrols reached the wreckage of a U. S. Air Force C-47 transport plane on Mt. Vesuvius today, and reported by radio that all of its 16 passengers were dead.

Churchill Ill

NICE, France (AP) — Sir Winston Churchill remained in bed at his Riviera vacation villa today after what was described as a slight chill. His secretary said he was "perfectly comfortable."

5 Die In Blast

CHICAGO (AP) — Five men were killed and another was reported missing after a violent explosion and fire early today in the Reynolds Metals Co. big plant in suburban McCook.

Hotel Burns

HOPEWELL, Va. (AP) — A quarter-million dollar fire burned a small hotel and drug store building in this central Virginia city today before it was quenched by the efforts of some 40 firemen.

Efforts Denied

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Efforts by the Nashville School Board to use a three-school, parents' preference plan and the state's new pupil assignment law in school desegregation have been denied in federal court.

Groups Banned

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — Indonesia's army chief has banned political-military organizations in central Sumatra and other rebel points seeking the overthrow of the Jakarta government. The decree was not expected to have much effect.

Judge Denies Acquittal Move

GREENSBORO (AP) — Federal Judge Albert V. Bryan today denied a defense motion for a directed verdict of acquittal in the case of James Earl Ray, charged with the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King.

In moving for a directed verdict, defense attorney Telford Taylor had argued that government evidence was insufficient to warrant the Smith Act case going to the jury.

The defense indicated it hoped to complete its case—mostly the reading of various documents into the record—late today.

Peace Key To College Merger

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Crossword Puzzle 2D
Earl Wilson 3D
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Sports 1A
Theaters 5B
To Your Good Health 2D
Women 2B
Worry Clinic 6D



Hap Williams Nibbles Icicle From Frozen Fountain In Old Settlers' Cemetery

Mercury Heads Upward

Carolinas To Get Gradual Warming

A gradual warming brought a note of cheer today to North Carolinians who have suffered since Saturday in the state's worst general freeze in 50 years.

For the first time since last weekend, Charlotte's temperature rose above freezing, and Mr. Mitchell recorded its first reading in above zero for the same period.

The cold wave brought 11 deaths to the state, set an all-time low mercury mark of 23 below zero, and closed schools in 40 of the state's 100 counties.

With warm air slipping in and the sun working on the cold, the mercury rose to 23 at noon. This morning's low reading was eight degrees.

A cold 15 is seen tomorrow morning but a warm 40 is forecast for tomorrow afternoon. After that, the temperature should go up, thus ending the coldest weather Charlotte has seen in 18 years.

NO RAINFALL

Gone are predictions of rain or snow tomorrow. Gone are forecasts of a new cold snap Saturday. Instead the Weather Bureau predicts a gradual warming with little or no precipitation through Monday.

The temperature was below freezing for nearly 100 hours in Charlotte. The mercury fell to 31 degrees at 11 p.m. Saturday and has not risen to the 32 mark since.

Today's 8 degrees here set a new low record for this date, lifting the 1900 mark of 145 by over 6 degrees. Mecklenburg County Schools were closed today as they were yesterday, but city schools were in operation as usual.

But while the West and Piedmont are still hard in the grip of the coldest weather in years, South Carolina coastal areas are getting some relief.

It was 23 in Charleston this morning. Wilmington was colder at 17 and Cape Hatteras unbelievably cold at 13. Hickory was cold at 19. Greenville had a 12 and Winston-Salem a 13.

At the time the sun indicated a warming on the fire to maintain this system of having members of the city zoning board as members of the perimeter board also.

But last week John M. Dwell, chairman of the city board whose term expired Jan. 28 was replaced by Jack Turner, who was named for three-year term.

The term of Mr. Dwell as a member of the perimeter board does not end until Jan. 4, 1959. He is also the chairman of the 11-member board.

Terms of two city members on the perimeter board, Franklin H. Jackson and J. C. Chalmers, expired Jan. 4.

The council reappointed Mr. Jackson, who had been on the board since 1956, and Mr. Chalmers, who had been on the board since 1954.

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Snow Removal Big Problem For Northeast

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The season's coldest and stormiest weather in the eastern half of the nation appeared easing in some sections of the mid-continent today but the overall picture was not bright.

There was no letup in the monumental task of snow removal in the storm-battered Northeast and other areas hit by record falls over the weekend.

Business and industry, dealt staggering blows by the violent weather, worked to restore operations to normal.

Relief work continued for the countless thousands who suffered misery and inconvenience. In eastern areas there were isolated rural villages, mountain farmers, fuel and food shortages in the wake of the worst snowstorm in years in many places. Transportation was hard hit in the Northeast.

Although temperatures moderated a little in some central parts of the country, winter's longest stretch of cold weather persisted in the eastern half of the nation.

Light snow and gusty winds hampered snow removal jobs across the deep snow belt from Michigan and the lower Great Lakes region eastward through much of New York and Pennsylvania and interior sections of New England.

The latest count of deaths attributed to the stormy-cold weather reached 200 in 23 states. They were reported in areas from the east to Missouri and Iowa and from Maine to Alabama.

In Washington, thousands of government workers who were off the job Monday and Tuesday after the city's worst snowstorm in 22 years were expected to return to work today.

Caught in the grasp of winds up to 42 miles per hour, the 11,373-ton Titanic, being towed to San Diego by the Yuma with a skeler.

See CARRIER on page 5-A

Stormy Atlantic Takes 24 Seamen

Italians Lost Off NC Coast

NORFOLK (AP) — Twenty-seven crewmen who had abandoned the sinking Italian freighter Bonitas were pitched into the stormy Atlantic when their lifeboat capsized last night as a rescue ship tried to pluck them from the sea.

Three were saved and 24 were swept away by 20-foot seas.

Throughout the night, the liner President Adams, three Navy destroyer escorts and the French steamship Cavaire searched vainly for the missing men, a task made difficult by poor visibility.

The stricken freighter's crew abandoned ship in one lifeboat shortly before 6 p.m., several hours after the ship had sent an SOS from her position 120 miles east of Cape Lookout, N.C.

The President Adams was the first to arrive in the area, shortly before midnight. The Bonitas' crew tried to bring their lifeboat alongside the liner, but the boat capsized, throwing the men into the icy ocean.

The liner lowered a lifeboat. It picked up three of the crewmen but the other 24 were swept out of sight.

TAKING WATER

In her first distress message sent at 2:30 p.m., the Bonitas said she was taking water and was in danger of sinking. Later in the afternoon she radioed, "Sinking more and more. Ready to leave."

A Coast Guard plane dispatched from Elizabeth City, N.C., reported at 5:32 p.m. the freighter's crew was abandoning ship in one lifeboat.

The Adams informed the Coast Guard in Norfolk that she had trouble getting to the lifeboat because of the heavy seas and the roll of the ship caused the boat to capsize.

The Bonitas' crew tried to bring their lifeboat alongside the liner, but the boat capsized, throwing the men into the icy ocean.

Rescued two men from over Adams stern and launched Adams boat in attempt rescue men in water, said the Adams' message to the Coast Guard. "Picked up one additional survivor, but due darkness and snowstorm men drifted away."

DOWN BY HEAD

The liner reported the Bonitas, which carried a cargo of manganese, was still afloat "but down by the head, with Nos. 1 and 2 holds flooded." The message said it might be possible to tow the Bonitas to port if the ship remained afloat and the weather moderated during the day.

The rescued two were identified as the Bonitas' skipper, Capt. Ignazio Marini, deckhand Alvin G. Gorman, and fireman Giovanni Barbato.

Bodies of the six killed were found near the furnace which exploded in the plant's casting department. Company officials said 20 of the plant's 36 molting and casting furnaces were in operation on the night shift.

About 43 men were at work when the blast occurred.

"At first I thought the boiler room had blown up," said Max Liddell, 35, a furnace fireman.

"The blast knocked everything over and blew out the lights. I could still see because fire and steam was shooting out of the furnace valves and lighting everything up."

In the light of the flames Liddell saw William Southern, 32, Negro, sprawled near the ruptured furnace. As he carried him out "big chunks" of the corrugated roof began to fall. Liddell said.

Southern was pronounced dead on arrival in McNeal Memorial Hospital in Bereyn.

Firemen fought the explosion-triggered fire for about two hours before bringing it under control.



Henry Cabot Lodge, U. S. ambassador to the United Nations, and his wife take off their shoes in traditional Indian fashion before laying a wreath at the New

Delhi memorial marking the spot where Mahatma Gandhi was cremated. Lodge is touring Asia as a special envoy of President Eisenhower.

Furnace Blast Kills Six Men

CHICAGO (AP) — Six men were killed and one was reported missing early today after a casting furnace exploded and set fire to the sprawling Reynolds Metals Co. plant in suburban McCook.

Officials of the plant initially said they treated 27 workmen for minor injuries. Four other men, including one fireman, were hospitalized with more serious injuries.

Bodies of the six killed were found near the furnace which exploded in the plant's casting department. Company officials said 20 of the plant's 36 molting and casting furnaces were in operation on the night shift.

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Lodges At Gandhi Memorial

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Delhi memorial marking the spot where Mahatma Gandhi was cremated. Lodge is touring Asia as a special envoy of President Eisenhower.

Ike Defends Program \$4 Billion Aid Fund Requested

THOMASVILLE, Ga. (AP) — President Eisenhower today asked Congress for \$3,942,100,000 in foreign aid. He said any sharp cut would lead to a massive defense spending rise, higher taxes and heavily increased draft calls.

In a special message cautioning against Soviet Union and Red China threats, the President also said deep reductions would leave America eventually beleaguered in a world dominated by international communism.

Eisenhower called the administration's plan a deterrent to general nuclear war.

"For the safety of our families, for the future of our children and our continued existence as a nation, we cannot afford to slacken our support of the mutual security program," he said.

The President's strong appeal went to the lawmakers during the background of an already intense drive by some House members and senators to make sharp cuts.

Eisenhower asked for \$2,672,000,000 for military aid and related defense support. The balance is mainly for economic aid.

In pressing for economic aid, the President noted that the Soviet Union and the Communist bloc nations are trying to lure the new countries with offers of such help.

Referring to those countries, Eisenhower said "They know recent

See \$4 BILLION on page 5-A

Library Park Project Gets Offer Of JC Aid

Back in January the Optimist Club got the ball rolling with a \$1,000 offer to start a fund to buy property on the corner of Tryon and 6th Sts.

The property which is now for sale is reportedly priced between \$200,000 and \$300,000.

The Optimists at the time wrote a letter to Charlotte News publisher W. F. Elliott and Jack Wood spoke to the Jaycees board and executive committee.

Dicky Davis, director in charge of public affairs for the Jaycees, said today "The Jaycees feel that the combined effort of civic clubs of Charlotte would make the library park a reality."

Mr. Davis emphasized that the Jaycees and the Optimist Club would like to enlist the support of other groups for the project.

He said that other groups interested in working on the project should contact either the Jaycees or the Optimists.



Today's Weather
Fair and a little warmer this afternoon, tonight, and tomorrow.
Low this morning 15
Low expected tonight 18
High yesterday 28
High expected today 36
High expected tomorrow 40
Sunrise, 7:05 a.m.; sunset, 6:09 p.m.
More Weather Data on Page 2-A