Palm Beach Palms Die In Storm

By HAL BOYLE
Associated Press Staff Writer

Palm Beach, Fla.—If there is sadness in the death of trees, then Palm Beach is a sad place today.

Boarded and empty, the stately homes of this winter social capital of the Gold Coast still stand intact but its pavements are littered with the corpses of famous fallen trees.

They are the royal palms known to millions of American tourists—tall, slender trees that take the wind as gracefully as a bending sail.

Now they lie like granite road blocks across Royal Ponciana and Royal Palm Boulevards—two of the world's beautiful streets. They are down by the hundreds—and probably thousands, beaten to earth and uprooted by winds whirling at more than 120 miles an hour.

NO LIVES ARE LOST

The hurricane struck in full power yesterday against Palm Beach, a 12-square-mile sea emerald linked to the mainland by three causeways.

The island is valued on tax rolls at $63,000,000.

But few of the millionaires who come here to rub elbows with multi-millionaires were in their mansions, still shuttered and closed until the winter season. Palm Beach is populated chiefly by caretakers, policemen and firemen. No lives were lost here in the hurricane.

A pre-dawn motor tour of the battered island this morning found it looking pretty much like a dowager with her hair caught in an electric drier.

SIDE ROADS BLOCKED

Every side road was blocked with trees. The car lights were blinded at times by heavy rain squalls. High velocity winds sent torn palm fronds skittering across black pavements deserted except for police patrols.

Worth Avenue—the "Fifth Avenue" of society shoppers here—was tightly boarded and only a few windows in its store fronts were broken. Winds had ripped down the bouganvillea vines and they rose and fell like disturbed snakes. Green coconuts rolled crazily in the streets like bowling balls on a spree.

A flashlight gleaming spectrally on the Spanish type Everglades Club, whose members must have blood bluer than blue, showed no signs of damage to that haven of the social elite.

BATH HOUSES LOST

But the erosion of wind and waves, although sparing both of the business sections of Palm Beach, caused considerable destruction on the island section facing seaward.

"It'll take several days to learn the full extent of the damage," said Police Desk Sergeant Frank H. Young.

"Most of the clubs have lost their bath houses. The bath house north of Palm Beach pier is gone and the pier itself is in bad shape. So is Ocean Boulevard."

The sea for years has been undermining sections of this famous coastal scenic drive. Patrolman Ed J. Williams said heavy waves crashing over the sea wall had littered the boulevard with boulders and cracked the pavement in a number of places. The mansion of former Ambassador Joseph E. Davies which cost millions is in this area.

TRADEMARK IS LOST

Tree-blocked roads prevented approach to many estates and to the Bath and Tennis Club and the Sun and Surf Club, two exclusive retreats which were reported to have lost many beach cabanas.

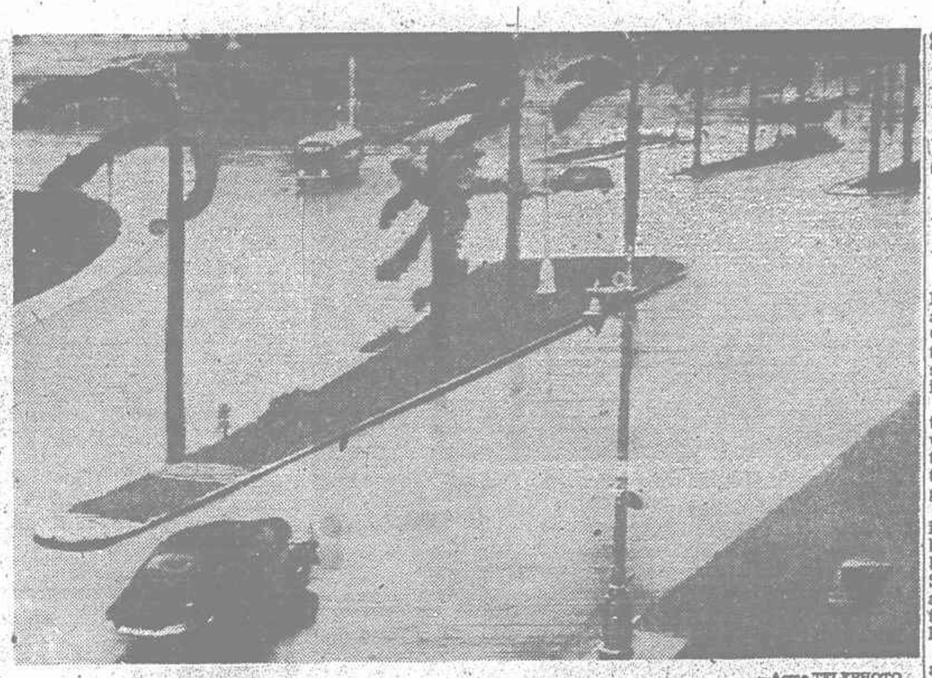
The Everglades golf links and the Palm Beach Golf Club looked like a series of salt water duck ponds.

Money built the fabulous homes and playgrounds of Palm Beach and money can repair the hurricane damage to them.

But it will take years to replace the ruined royal palms cut down in a few hours along the stricken thoroughfares they once made green with a beauty that became a Palm Beach trademark remembered by every visitor.

—Associated Press WIREPHOTO.

FLIGHT FROM THE TEMPEST—Some 1,500 inhabitants of the Lake Okeechobee area of Florida crammed a 32-car freight train and fled to Sebring. It was in the Okeechobee section that 1,500 were killed by a similar tempest 19 years ago.



—Acme TELEPHOTO.

HURRICANE STRIKES MIAMI—Storm-tossed palm trees on Miami's famed Biscayne Boulevard signaled the approach of the hurricane to Florida's east coast yesterday. The bus is using lights, despite fact that it is noon. Story on page 1.)

—Associated Press WIREPHOTO.

OKEECHOBEE REFUGEES—From the door of a baggage car, these hurricane refugees appear happy as the flight train pulled into Sebring.

Put Liberal On Ticket, Says Pepper

By Gannett News Service

Washington — Senator Claude Pepper (Dem., Fla.) today called upon President Truman to select a "suitably liberal" running-mate next year.

He reaffirmed his position that he would support Mr. Truman for reelection, and at the same time declared he would not join in a third-party movement sponsored by former Secretary of Commerce Henry A. Wallace.

Pepper said he felt it was up to the President to name his own vice-presidential nominee, and determine the party platform for 1948.

But he asserted that it was essential for the Democrats, "to win popular support," to advance what he termed a "truly liberal program."

The Florida senator is one of the most articulate "New Deal" spokesmen left on Capitol Hill. He frequently has been critical of administration foreign policy as being "hostile" toward Russia.

While disavowing any intention of supporting Wallace in the third-party movement which threatens a serious rift in Democratic ranks next year, Pepper observed:

"Nothing has occurred to change the cordiality and intimacy of our friendship."

A major factor in the Florida senator's decision to "stick" with the regular Democratic organization is believed to be the fact that organized labor—where Pepper is a self-appointed champion—has failed to warm up to the third-party idea.

Dewey Hasn't Chance, Says J. D. M. Hamilton

By Gannett News Service

Washington—Former Republican Chairman John D. M. Hamilton, who claims he's never been wrong about a nomination and never right about an election, said today New York Gov. Thomas E. Dewey doesn't have a chance to become the Republican presidential choice.

"Dewey will never be nominated," said the man who organized and conducted the ill-fated Alf Landon campaign in 1936.

"I make that prediction with confidence. I've never picked a Republican national convention wrong, even though I've never picked a national election right."

Taft to Discuss H. C. L. Tomorrow

Boulder City, Nev.—(AP)—Senator Taft (Rep., Ohio) puts a brief inspection of the Colorado River development behind him today in anticipation of what may be the critical speech, in San Francisco tomorrow, of his western sentiment-plumbing tour.

Before the Commonwealth Club there, where the late Wendell L. Willkie's presidential campaign was born in 1940, Taft will speak on what he has predicted may become the hottest issue of the 1948 campaign—the high cost of living.

Syracuse Sales Levy Voted

Dewey 100% for Bonus; Local Tax Attack Sure

Governor to Lead Drive for O. K. By the Voters

Albany—(U.P.)—Governor Dewey plans to assume personal leadership in a drive to assure approval of the state's $400,000,000 soldier bonus amendment by the people in the November balloting, it was learned today.

It was understood that the Governor approves of eight other constitutional amendments and propositions.

He meets with 35 upstate newspaper editors today at the capitol to discuss the proposals.

The bonus amendment provides for creation of a state debt to pay individual World War II bonuses to the state's 1,600,000 veterans.

$50 TO $250

The payments range from $50 to $250 depending on the length and place of service.

In anticipation of approval of the amendment, the state has set up machinery for prompt payment of the bonus and has adopted a program of special taxes to pay off the proposed debt in 10 years.

In addition, the state has been working on a plan to permit veterans to use the bonus for housing.

Details of the plan are being worked out by State Housing Commissioner Herman Stichman.

FIVE OTHER AMENDMENTS

Other constitutional amendments to go before the people this fall would:

ONE—Permit more extensive use of the absentee ballot. It allows all voters unavoidably away from their place of residence, including servicemen and their families to vote.

TWO—Permit legislators to fix their own salaries. The present salary is $2,500.

THREE—Provide an alternate method of removing judges and permit their retirement due to mental or physical disabilities.

FOUR—Create a new judicial district out of the Second District which now comprises Kings, Nassau, Queens, Richmond and Suffolk.

FIVE—Provide new ski trails in Ulster, Delaware and Warren Counties.

G. O. P. Newspaper Assails Burden, Urges Repeal

Syracuse—(U.P.)—A statewide attack on Governor Dewey's permissive local tax program, was seen here today after the Common Council voted 6-3 to levy a 2 per cent sales tax and a 2 per cent use tax.

The taxes, enacted by the all-Republican City Council, would become effective March 1, 1948, and are the first such taxes voted by any city with exception of Erie County which had a retail sales tax in effect since July.

Under terms of the ordinance, residents are required to pay not only the 2 per cent taxes on most purchases, but also would be required to declare items bought outside the city and to pay the levies.

The Syracuse-Post Standard, normally a Republican newspaper—editorialized:

"The evil potentialities of Governor Dewey's permissive tax law are now beginning to bear fruit. The Common Council has saddled upon the city a rank injustice and intolerable burden."

The editorial continued: "Accepting the fact that the city was caught in a vicious trap devised at Albany, it can only be said that adoption of the sales tax is a mockery of justice and representative government. It should be defeated and ousted at the earliest moment."

The newspaper called upon Onondaga County's senators and three assemblymen to "start now to concentrate their forces in an attack upon the whole permissive tax law."

Freedom Train Draws Thousands

Philadelphia — (AP) — A group of 30 pickets was far outnumbered as thousands of Philadelphians paid the first public visits to the Freedom Train—red, white and blue special that will carry America's historical treasures on a nationwide tour.

At the dedication ceremonies for the seven-car train yesterday, U. S. Senator Edward Martin (Rep., Pa.) condemned what he termed recent Communist attempts to discredit the Freedom Train.

"If anyone in Russia had planned deliberately to warp and distort the meaning of a similar train there—not a Freedom Train but a totalitarian train — you know what would have happened to him," Senator Martin said. "But we are different here. We have a Constitution and a Bill of Rights. We have our civil liberties."

As he spoke the 30 pickets paraded outside the Pennsylvania Railroad's Broad Street Station carrying placards urging President Truman and Attorney General Tom C. Clark—originator of the Freedom Train project—to grant "amnesty for all war objectors."

The Freedom Train, bearing more than 100 of this country's most treasured documents, will leave here Friday on a 33,000-mile tour of 300 cities.

'Smog' Smothers Sound

Los Angeles—(INS)—"Smog," the smoke-fog combination that is every industrial city's headache, has suddenly become a useful thing to have around. Smog cuts down on city noise. So says Prof Vern O. Knudsen, acoustics expert at the University of California. It is richly effective in absorbing high pitched noise, such as is made by whistles or high-speed machinery, although it has little effect on low, rumbling sounds.

Overell Case Nears End After Denials

Santa Ana, Cal.—(AP)—The case of the State of California against Louise Overell and George Gollum, who have both denied from the witness stand that they murdered her parents, was just about completed today.

Except for the testimony of a few minor witnesses all the evidence was before the jury of six men and six women. Defense lawyers, who plan to rest their case tomorrow, said they had four witnesses to call in behalf of the 21-year-old Gollum and one for Louise, 18-year-old heiress to the $500,000 estate of Mr. and Mrs. Walter E. Overell.

Otto Jacobs, chief counsel for Louise, said his last witness would give testimony "of great significance to the defense case," but declined to elaborate on this.

GOLLUM DENIES ALL

Gollum completed his testimony yesterday, adding his definite denial to that of Louise's that they did not kill her parents and did not know who did.

"Did you, acting alone or with anyone else, kill Mr. and Mrs. Walter E. Overell?" asked Gollum's attorney, William Beirne.

"No," replied Gollum.

"Did you take any part in bringing about their deaths?"

"I did not."

APPETITE BROUGHT UP

Prosecutor Eugene Williams, on cross examination, asked Gollum if he had a "healthy normal appetite" and was given an affirmative answer.

"Isn't it a fact, Mr. Gollum, that the reason you could not eat a hamburger the night of March 15 was because you had just killed Mr. and Mrs. Overell?" Williams queried.

"That is not the case, sir," replied the bespectacled Gollum. "The reason I ate only half of the hamburger was because I didn't particularly care for the quality of it."

Bud and Louise previously had testified that they were eating hamburgers at a Newport Beach cafe when the Overell yacht blew up in Newport harbor at 11:45 p. m. March 15.

The young of the condor are unable to fly until they are a year old.

Protest in Istrian Territory:

Yugoslavs Accuse U. S. Of Crimes, Robberies

Trieste—(AP)—The press department of the Yugoslav Ministry of Foreign Affairs has accused United States troops of committing crimes and robberies during their withdrawal from Istrian territory taken over by Yugoslavia under the Italian peace treaty.

The head of the press department told a news conference at Abbazia yesterday that "a series of crude attacks on property and citizens" was committed.

He added that the Yugoslav Ministry of Foreign Affairs had asked its representative in Washington to "lodge a sharp protest and ask for compensation."

Reds Demand De Gasperi Quit

Rome — (U.P.) — The Communists demanded outright for the first time today that Christian Democrat Premier Alcide de Gasperi quit and make way for a cabinet with Communist and leftwing Socialist members.

The pieces of the leftist program of strikes, threats of strikes, mutterings of force and a national "day of protest" against the de Gasperi government tomorrow fell into place. It was the buildup for a vote on a motion of non-confidence in the government next week in the assembly.

Trieste Strikes Continued by Reds

Trieste—(U.P.)—The Communists, apparently bent on keeping the fledgling Free Territory of Trieste in ferment to make the Allies look bad, ordered 10,000 striking shipyard workers today to stay out in defiance of the American-British military government.

Farben Gifts To Goering Revealed

Nuemberg, Germany—(AP)—I. G. Farben contributed five works of art worth $100,000 to Hermann Goering's collection to keep on the good side of the Reichsmarshal, the war crimes court was informed today.

Documents dealing with the transactions in 1939 and 19[illegible] were submitted by U. S. prosecutors of Farben directors being tried on charges of waging aggressive war.

The paintings and wood carvings were given to Goering on his birthday and on New Year's Day by Karl Krauch and Hermann Schmitz, two of the defendants, and the transactions were charged to Farben's bank account in Berlin, the documents said.

Krauch sent the first painting, a Flemish masterpiece of the Mansi-Magdalena school, to Goering with a letter addressed to the "most venerable field marshal."

"May I in the name of our company and as a visible token of our sincere reverence put this at your disposal," Krauch wrote.

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