Weather
Sunny and hot today and Sunday.
Temperature at 3 P. M. today.....87
High and low past 24 hours.....88-69
More Weather Data on page 2-A

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

★★★★★ Final

Largest Afternoon Newspaper In The Carolines

ESTABLISHED DEC. 8, 1888 — CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA, SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 1949 — 28 Pages—Price Five Cents

More Than Dozen Missing In Virginia Flash Floods

2 DEAD, FOUR HURT IN GASTONIA WRECK

Johnson To Relax While On Vacation From Brazil

The United States Ambassador to Brazil returned home this morning for ten days of doing nothing. Herschel V. Johnson, a year ago named to the post, is back in Charlotte looking forward to "just seeing friends and relaxing."

"You don't come home to do anything," the dapper 55-year-old veteran Foreign Service diplomat said shortly after he stepped off a train from Washington.

Mr. Johnson came to America several days before President Dutra to prepare for his visit here which the ambassador believes did much "to cement further the friendship between the two nations which has existed for years."

After almost 30 years in various diplomatic positions, Mr. Johnson said the pattern of Foreign Service in every country becomes pretty much the same. "Each differs as far as customs, languages, traditions but the actual work of an embassy doesn't vary too much," he observed.

Brazil, which is larger in land area than the United States, presents no acute problems for an ambassador, Mr. Johnson said. "We have been on the best relations for many years now, and most of the work we do is very much of a routine nature."

The weather in Rio de Janiero isn't too much different from Charlotte, he said, only it works in reverse. "It is now Winter there, and when I left it was cool enough for woolens."

When Mr. Johnson returns to Brazil, he will be accompanied for a visit by his mother, Mrs. Wil-

See DIPLOMAT on page 2-A

Ambassador Johnson relaxes at Mother's home here.

Shenandoah And Potomac Leave Banks

Property Damage Believed Heavy

PETERSBURG, W. Va. — (AP) — More than a dozen persons were reported missing today as flash floods sent waters rushing down streams of the Potomac-Shenandoah valley areas of West Virginia and Virginia.

West Virginia State Police said they had received unverified reports that several others were missing an dfeared dead.

State Police Capt. Basil E. Wright said at Elkins, W. Va., that indications were that many hundreds were made temporarily homeless and the property damage was heavy. "The situation is pretty bad," he said.

At least seven persons were missing in Bridgewater, Va., after Shenandoah River flood waters poured through the town of 1,000.

Fire Chief Allen Harvey Sr. said the town was "in a state of confusion and near-hysteria."

MANY MAROONED

Many residents were marooned on housetops and trees. Houses were bowled over by tons of water sweeping down on them.

Petersburg was virtually isolated. Bridges were washed out. Communications lines were down. Rescue workers had to walk the last several miles to get to the town.

The home of State Police Cpl. A. M. Hurst was swept into the Potomac River near here during the night. The Policeman and his son were unaccounted for. Hurst's wife and daughter were located this morning in Rowlesburg, Preston County, after first being reported missing.

Meanwhile the crest of the Potomac River flood swept towards Romney, W. Va.

Dempsours yesterday drove the Potomac River's north and south branches out of their banks, isolating communities and sweeping away smaller dwellings. Police said there was 4 1/2 inches of rain in 24 hours.

Some 400 persons were moved out of the south side of Petersburg as water cut it off completely. It is located on the Potomac's south branch, between the Shenandoah and Allegeny Mountains.

At Moorefield, 25 miles northeast the town could only be entered by a roundabout route through Gore, Va. Police said that some of the town's 1,300 inhabitants had to be evacuated.

Red Cross Disaster units were due in Petersburg today. Here, the south side went under water first and then the floods blanketed the north fringe.

WATER FALLING

At both Petersburg and Moorefield, however, police said the water was falling. Sgt. H. R. Shields said there would probably be no additional evacuations there.

At Romney, with a population of 2,000, the water was still rising and several homes along the southern branch may have to be evacuated. Shields said that a number of the 300 to 400 persons at nearby Greenspring also would have to be moved.

In the path of the waters on the northern branch was Cumberland, Md., an industrial community of about 40,000 and McCool, Md., and Keyser, W. Va., which face each other across the river.

Polio Epidemic Hits City In West Texas

SAN ANGELO, Tex. —(AP)— Seven new polio cases are in hospitals today bringing to 94 the number under treatment in this west Texas city. It is the worst infantile paralysis epidemic in the history of this city of 42,000 persons.

Just Because It's June?

Snow, Hail, Tornadoes, Heat Hit Country

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

June was busting out all over in climatic capers today.

The nation's mid-June weather antics included rain, hail, wind and electrical storms. There were a few small tornadoes. Snowplows were in operation in Montana.

The northeastern states sweltered in hot and humid weather. The continued lack of heavy rains further endangered crops and threatened serious forest fires.

In Virginia and West Virginia, more than a dozen were reported missing as flash floods rolled down the Potomac and Shenandoah valleys. The streams were sent out of their banks by a 4½ inch rainfall.

A mass exodus of cool air spread over the northern Rockies and the northern Plains States and was expected to move into north central states during the week-end. The mercury began to climb above 50 at Helena, Mont., yesterday.

But at Presidio, Tex., thermometers sizzled at 111. The mercury hit above the 100 mark in Arizona and New Mexico but rains broke the heat spell.

NO RELIEF SEEN

No immediate relief appeared in prospect for the parched northeastern section of the country. No rain has fallen in central New York State for 24 days and New York City hasn't had any rain for 22 days. Some falls hit scattered parts of the metropolitan area yesterday and light showers fell over some sections of the state, but not enough to alleviate the forest fire hazard and damage to crops.

New York State reported four persons died of the heat and eleven drowned since last Saturday. There have been 52 forest fires in the Adirondacks in a week, including eleven yesterday. At Gouverneur, in northern New York, a water shortage has curtailed street lighting service and a talc mill operations.

Forests in Vermont were closed. Smoking and building fires have been banned in the wooded areas of Maine and New Hampshire, which have had no rain for two weeks. Forestry officials described the fire menace as "very serious." A fire near St. Johnsury, Vt., burned over 650 acres of pulp slash yesterday.

No heavy rains appeared in sight to break New Jersey's 26-day dry spell. Crops need steady rain over a 24-hour period to regain normal growth, state agriculture department officials said.

A freak storm, resembling a series of little tornadoes, hit Seattle yesterday. Two flat-bottomed boats in Lake Washington were upturned but the four occupants were rescued.

Wind and electrical storms swept through central and western Minnesota, unroofing barns and knocking out communications. A 120-foot tower of Radio Station KWLM at Willmar was blown down. Hail fell and damaged crops in some areas.

101 IN COLORADO

A heavy rain and hail storm, with tornadic winds, struck near Akron in northeastern Colo. Talmar, Colo., reported an uneasonably high temperature, 101.

The long dry spell is hurting grain, seed and hay crops in eastern Oregon but two days of sunny skies have given Oklahoma's rainsoaked wheat harvest a shot in the arm. Steady rains starting with the harvest have ruined much wheat in Oklahoma.

Rains had stalled the wheat harvest in the Texas north and south plains but three days of hot, sunny weather dried many fields.

Snowplow and sanding crews cleared MacDonald Pass in the Rockies and Boulder Hill between Helena and Butte after yesterday's snow which knocked out some power and telephone lines. Four inches of snow fell at Butte.

Fair and rather warm weather was reported in the southeastern states after rains earlier in the week. Rainfalls measuring nine inches fell in extreme northeast Georgia and western North Carolina and up to five inches in some other areas. In contrast, some dry spots were reported in south Georgia.

Charlotte Boy To Be Charged

Woman And Child Seriously Hurt

GASTONIA — A head-on collision between two automobiles, one driven by nineteen-year-old Glenn E. Renfrow of Charlotte, killed a man and a woman this morning and seriously injured a mother and her son.

State Highway Patrolman Harold said Renfrow would probably be charged with manslaughter if he survives severe lacerations suffered in the wreck. Harold said the young Whittin Machine Co. employee's condition was serious.

The dead were identified by State Highway Patrolman D. L. Owens as:

Steven Ervin Vaughn, 32, 1800 S. Park Ave., Burlington, N. C.

Mrs. Eugene Stafford, 45, Schoolfield, Va., Vaughn's sister-in-law.

Vaughn's wife, about 40, and their son, Richard, ten, were seriously injured.

Badly cut was Renfrow's companion, Charles Elbert Neely, 20, of 2104 Crescent Ave., Charlotte. His condition is not serious.

Renfrow, a freshman at Erskine College last year, lives at 1619 S. Blvd., Charlotte.

COLLISION

Patrolman Owens said a 1938 Ford coupe driven by Renfrow, in which Neely was a passenger, collided with the 1941 Nash driven by Vaughn. The accident occurred about two and a half miles outside of Gastonia.

Renfrow, Patrolman Owens said, was passing a truck on a hill and "the collision occurred when the Vaughn side of the road." There was an eye-witness to the crash, Owens said.

Renfrow and Neely were driving toward Gastonia and Vaughn was headed towards Kings Mountain.

Mrs. Vaughn suffered lacerations and possible internal injuries. Young Richard's skull may have been fractured, officials at Gaston Memorial Hospital said this morning.

Renfrow and Neely are at Garrison General Hospital in Gastonia.

The Vaughns and Mrs. Stafford were en route to Fort Benning, Ga., to visit a son, Robert Vaughn, who is a soldier.

Renfrow's father is Arthur C. Renfrow, a bookkeeper at Best Brands, Inc.

Negro Enters U. Of Oklahoma

NORMAN, Okla. — (AP) — Ada Sipuel Fisher today collects her reward for a 41-month court struggle to break down the color line in the white colleges of Oklahoma — and of all the South.

The 24-year-old Negro woman will apply for a law course at the University of Oklahoma here, and the university is prepared to accept her on the spot.

The school searched that decision yesterday, almost three years and five months to the day since she asked for the same course on Jan. 14, 1946. At that time she was turned down because of her race. As in most Southern states, it was against the law in Oklahoma for a Negro to attend a white college, whether public or private.

Mrs. Fisher's fight, backed by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, took her into court 10 times.

It resulted in a United States Supreme Court decision that partly overturned the Oklahoma segregation law and affects the pattern of Negro higher education throughout the South.

"It's been a test of patience," Mrs. Fisher said last night when told that her enrollment would be accepted.

"It will be a wonderful feeling to know that I'll get the education I want. That is, if all goes well," she added.

She will be admitted under a new State law complying with the Federal ruling. It allows a Negro to study in one of the State's white colleges if the course is not offered at the State College for Negroes at Langston, Okla.

The law requires segregation within the school, however, calling for separate classrooms or class times. The University has interpreted this to mean that talking around Negro students will suffice.

Although Mrs. Fisher was the key figure in the precedent-setting case, she will not be the first Negro to benefit from the high court's decision. While her own case was snarled by technicalities, three other Negroes were admitted to the University under later Federal court rulings, and 22 others have enrolled here and at Oklahoma A&M College since Oklahoma amended its laws.

Gregory Pecks Add Third Boy To Family

LOS ANGELES—(AP)—It's three boys now for the Gregory Pecks.

The actor's wife, Greta, gave birth to seven-pound, 13-ounce Carey Paul yesterday. He was named for Harry Carey, the late actor.

House Group Plans No Book Censorship

WASHINGTON — (AP) — The House Un-American Activities Committee formally assured the nation's educators today it doesn't intend to "censor textbooks" or interfere with academic freedom.

The assurances were distributed by letter. They were intended to quiet some of the furore that broke out among schools and colleges—and within the committee itself—over a request for lists of textbooks.

All the committee is trying to do, the letter said, is checkup on "serious allegations" made about textbooks by the National Sons of the American Revolution. These allegations intimated that Communist propaganda has been injected into some books.

The committee started the flurry by writing to various State and City Boards of Education and to something over 70 colleges and universities, picked at random, asking for: "A list of textbooks and supplementary reading, together with authors, which are being used by your institution in the fields of sociology, geography, economics, government, philosophy, history, political science and American literature."

There were roars from educational organizations and a number of college presidents. Some members of the committee were disturbed. So a follow-up letter went out over Chairman Wood's signature. It wound up this way:

"The foregoing request of the committee should not be construed as having the slightest unfavorable reflection or criticism upon your school or any person connected therewith."

It noted that some school officials had said it would be impossible to list thousands of books in use in the fields the committee named.

The committee said if too much work was involved, "We will gladly amend the initial letter" to omit the request for supplemental material, and ask only for the title and author of the "principal" textbooks used in the courses.

"Some statements," the second letter said, "also contend that the committee is interfering with academic freedom and that the committee objects to the teaching of the principles of Karl Marx and other founders of Communism.

"As a matter of fact, the committee does not desire to interfere in any manner with academic freedom, nor does it intend to censor textbooks.

"It is of no concern to the committee if the Communist Manifesto or any other book or document containing the tenets of Communism is being studied for comparative purposes in our educational institutions."

The letter said the House group does not accept the petition from the Sons of the American Revolution "at face value," but is merely trying to find out how much work would be needed to prove or disprove the allegations.

5 Dancing Instructors Die In Auto-Truck Crash

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — (AP) — Five young dancing instructors were killed early today when their automobile crashed into a loaded cattle truck. Four other persons were injured.

Jefferson County Coroner Paul Osborne said three others in the automobile were injured, along with the driver of the truck. He said all of them except the truck driver were employed at the Arthur Murray Studios here. Three of the dead were men.

Crow Will Head Textile Group

BLOWING ROCK —(AP)— Smith Crow of Erlanger Mills, Inc., Lexington, was advanced from vice-president to president of the Southern Textile Association today as the delegates wound up their fortieth annual meeting here. He succeeds Robert T. Stutts, president of the Carolinian Mills, Inc., High Shoals, who was named executive secretary.

Other officers elected were:

Vice-president, W. Earl Crenshaw, Springs Cotton Mills, Lancaster, S. C. (He was STA chairman of the board 1948-1949).

Chairman of the board of governors—P. A. Sossaman Jr. of the Dan River Mills, Inc., Danville, Va. (He was a board member 1948-49).

Executive secretary — Robert T. Stutts. (He succeeds Virgil E. McDowell of Rosemary Mfg. Co., Roanoke Rapids, N. C., who was president of STA 1947-48).

Secretary-treasurer—to be elected by new board of governors. The position is now held by James T. McAden Jr., editorial director for Clark Publishing Co. (Textile Bulletin), of Charlotte.

The new members of the board of governors are: Arthur S. Jarrett of Highland Park Mfg. Co., Charlotte; J. B. Powell, of Erlanger Mills, Inc., Lexington; Joseph L. Dabney, Indianna (S. C.) Cotton Mills Co.; and James B. Lybrand, of Mills Mill (Div. of Reeves Bros.) Greenville, S. C.

Defends Real Estate Business

Martin Answers Truman

By FRANCIS M. LE MAY

WASHINGTON — (AP) — President Truman's statement that real estate lobbyists have launched a "deliberate campaign of misrepresentation" against housing legislation drew a sharp denial today from Rep. Martin (R-Mass.).

The President said late yesterday in a letter to Speaker Rayburn (D-Tex) that he has been "shocked in recent days at the extraordinary propaganda campaign that has been unleashed" against a Senate-passed public housing, slum clearance bill now pending in the House.

The campaign, Mr. Truman declared, "consistently distorts the facts of the housing situation in this country."

Martin, the House Republican leader, told a newsman:

"This is a surprise to me. The only lobby that has contacted me is the lobby trying to put over the bill."

AGAINST SPENDING

Martin declared that opposition to the measure has come from people concerned over Government spending — not real estate lobbyists.

The President's strongly-worded letter said that "a little group of ruthless men" is responsible for the campaign to defeat the bill.

He asked Congress to "be aware of the false and misleading nature of this propaganda."

House Democrat, Leader McCormack (Mass) promptly commented: "The President is absolutely right. I hope his statement will have the effect of driving this nefarious lobby out of Washington."

But Martin declared:

"The people have come to realize that if we are going to keep our finances in shape we've got to quit spending. Inasmuch as not one house would be built in 18 months under this program-it seems to me this is one big money bill that could be put aside."

House debate on the bill will begin Wednesday. It calls for a vast program of slum clearance, low rent public housing and farm housing aid.

Administrator Raymond M. Foley of the Housing & Home Finance Agency, took much the same tack in an address prepared for the regional conference of the National Association of Home Builders in Oklahoma City.

Foley told builders they should be supporting the housing bill instead of fighting it.

He asked those who have said they "want only to be left alone" if they would like to see the Government end such things as the FHA, the Federal Home Loan Bank system, or the Veterans Home Loan program.

"Without such Government aids today your troubles in providing a million houses a year would be insurmountable," he said.

Plumbing And Heating Men Meet Opens Today

COLUMBIA, S. C. —(AP)— Directors of the South Carolina Association of Plumbirg and Heating contractors will meet here today.

Selection of the mid-year convention city is one of the principal items of business. Tom Chilton of Florence is president of the Association.

He Believes In 'Em

Father Of Year Big Family Man

By TOM SCHLESINGER
Charlotte News Staff Writer

The old woman who lived in the shoe had nothing on one of Charlotte's more productive families. Ernest J. Stogner, a 75-year-old Chadbourn Mills area resident, has so many children he finds it hard to recall all their names.

In 56 years of married life, he has fathered 24 children: fourteen girls and ten boys. The boys all took after him, becoming carpenters. The girls got married. His first child came when he was 19; his last at 43.

Today, he lives with his second wife who is the mother of ten (three boys, seven girls) at 154 Carolina Ave. He and some of his carpenter sons constructed the small, one-floor dwelling three years ago.

Father's Day for Mr. Stogner will be a little anti-climactic. His real day comes on May 16, his birthday. This is when his sons and daughters, grandsons and granddaughters and even a few great-grandchildren gather. Even Mr. Stogner has no idea how many grandchildren he has, but the family get-togethers often approach the 100 mark in attendance.

WORK AND REST

After seven and one-half decades, Mr. Stogner, despite his balding head, still looks and acts much like a man of 50. His walk is erect, his movements active and his mind clear. "I've always worked hard," he says, in explaining his fitness." I never ran about much at night, and I never rested during the day."

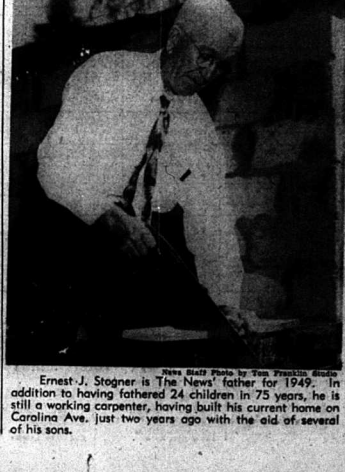
He has read the Bible through twice, never had an enemy to his knowledge and actively tries to do to others as he would like done to him.

His large gnarled hands tip off his trade. His 40-year-old wife Athalia, says he's always doing something, and is uneasy if he isn't repairing or building something.

His children, for the greater part, are spaced at two year intervals. A roll call would reveal: Cora (born in 1893); Willie (1895); Marion (1897); James (1899); Fred (1901); Lloyd ('03); Beth (twins, '05); Ivy ('08); Coleman ('09); Idell ('11); and Robert ('13), all by his first wife.

In the second group came: Gladys ('17); Carl ('18); Margaret ('19); Ross ('20); Junior ('26); Freda ('28); Daisy ('30); Junita ('33); and Nancy ('37).

Mr. Stogner says he believes in big families. "I have a lot of joy watching them and their families grow up," he said. He added he would like to make it an even two dozen living children. His wife, standing behind the chair in which he was seated, shook her head but said nothing.



News Staff Photo by Tom Franklin Studio

Ernest J. Stogner is The News' father for 1949. In addition to having fathered 24 children in 75 years, he is still a working carpenter, having built his current home on Carolina Ave. just two years ago with the aid of several of his sons.

'Dead' Patient Well On Road Toward Recovery

BUTLER, Pa.—(AP)—A 45-year-old patient "with no all intents and purposes had died," is on the road to recovery today, saved by an emergency operation, officials of a Veterans Administration hospital report.

A spokesman for Deshon General Hospital told this story:

Clemon Almon, a cook from Philadelphia, was being prepared for a chest operation. He lapsed into unconsciousness as anesthesia was being administered.

The attending surgeon said Almon's heart action stopped "and there was no evidence of respiration."

The surgeon made an emergency incision and began massaging Almon's heart. A pulse beat was detected five minutes later and the patient was placed in an oxygen tent.

Four Killed In Crash

TRUMAN, Minn. — (AP) — Four persons, possibly Iowans on a fishing trip to Northern Minnesota, were killed today in the crash of their airplane three miles southeast of Truman.

Once Over Lightly

BY WALTER SEIGENTHALER

When you take all the credit when things go right, you'll have to take all the blame when they go wrong. . . . The man that can't do things, never gets through.

Desperate 'Undie' Situation Exposed

Englishwoman Bares All In Letter

By ALVIN J. STEINKOPF

LONDON — (AP) — Mrs. Dorothy Rockcliffe, who wrote to ECA Administrator Paul Hoffman about her underwear, expressed delight today that she has succeeded in bringing the subject into the open.

Mrs. Rockcliffe is 36, a dark-haired matron who lives in a dunlex in suburban Mitcham. She not only manages the housework but works as a typist.

And the most exasperating problem facing her and some millions of English women is lingerie, she said.

Recently Mrs. Rockcliffe read that Mr. Hoffman had dropped a remark that most Britons have only one set of cotton underwear.

"I couldn't resist an impulse to write to tell him how right he was," said Mrs. Rockcliffe. "And now my undies are being thrown out at an American Senate committee hearing — my word!

"But why not face the situation frankly? If every British woman were honest she would admit she is in much the same position as I am."

Then Mrs. Rockcliffe explained the "position." The top layers of her — the outer clothing — she called "fairly respectable."

But the lower layers — well, the undies are a sight. They are, she said, "antique."

"As I wrote to Mr. Hoffman, I walk about every day keeping my fingers crossed, hoping I don't get knocked down," she observed.

At a Senate committee hearing, where Hoffman read Mrs. Rockcliffe's letter into the record, he emphasized the shortage of such textiles for the average Briton.

But it's not only shortage of supplies, the prices are fantastic, Mrs. Rockcliffe asserted.

"We ordinary housewives just haven't the money to buy these ridiculously expensive items of clothing," she said. "We ought to band together to try to get the prices lowered somehow."

In her letter to Hoffman the English matron said she would not have any false pride about accepting any spare undies from an American woman who has too many. So far no American woman has acted on the suggestion.