Weather
Fair and continued hot today and tonight. Saturday, partly cloudy and hot with showers.
Temperature at 3 P. M. today.....90
High and low past 24 hours 81-75
More Weather Data on page 5-A.

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

★★★★★ Final

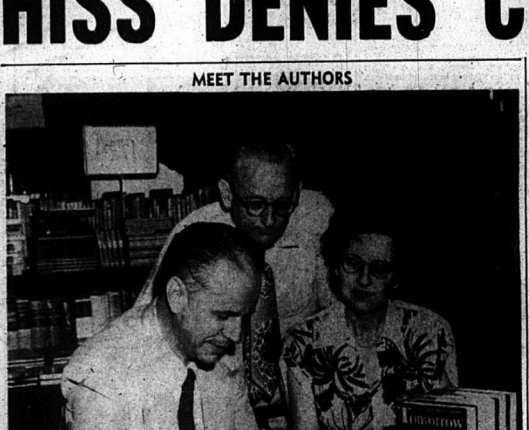
Largest Afternoon Newspaper in The Carolinas

ESTABLISHED DEC. 8, 1888 — CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 1949 — 28 Pages—Price Five Cents

State Draws Pattern For School Fund Distribution

HISS DENIES CHAMBERS' ACCUSATIONS

MEET THE AUTHORS



News Staff Photo by Tom Franklin Studio

Charlotte was visited by a unique writing team today. James Childers (seated) and James Street (standing) came in from Chapel Hill to autograph copies of their first collaboration, "Tomorrow We Reap", which has appeared on best-seller lists in its first week of publication. Mr. Childers is shown signing a copy for Miss Leslie Wilson, manager of Efird's book department.

The Dabneys May Go On And On

Writing Team Plans More Books

By TOM SCHLESINGER
Charlotte News Staff Writer

For almost a decade James Street has been turning out voluminous historical sagas concerning a Mississippi family named Dabney who through "O, Promised Land", "Tap Roots" and "By Valour and Arms" managed to weather such difficulties as Indian raids, slave uprisings, savage rapes, seductions and massacres.

No doubt the writing took much out of the veteran newspaperman and former, and scored, Baptist, preacher for after several attempts at writing this current romantic story of high courage and loathsome villany, "Tomorrow We Reap", he admitted to fellow Chapel Hill resident James Childers that "the old engine is almost out of coal."

Childers, a flier in World War I, a Rhodes Scholar and a World War II Air Force colonel, happened to mention that he was a Dabney fan, and that while he might not be able to supply the entire fuel, he did "know where a coal mine was."

COAL MINE PRODUCES

This was the beginning of the only popular writing team of this sort in the country. In composing "Tomorrow We Reap", the book became so long that after the publishers read it, they divided it into two parts, the second of which, "The Quest of Mingo Dabney", will appear when the sales of this one begin to fall off, Street said.

Collaboration, when once decided upon, presented problems. Each had written about eight books. Each had a set style of writing habits. At first, it was decided that one would write the first three chapters while the other was at work at the next three. This offered such obvious difficulties as whether the gal in the first chapter had red or blonde hair in the sixth. They agreed finally that one would "plow" by going ahead and writing rough drafts while the other would "embroider", coming along after, weaving in the finer points of the story and structure. Neither would admit which one did the most plowing.

Their schedule now calls for a split while each turns out a solo effort. They will then write two more together, and another on their own before a third venture which will result in three more books. It appears, on the surface, that the Dabneys might be brought up to the 25th century.

See WRITING on page 5-A

$50 Million Slated For Buildings

County And City To Get Shares

RALEIGH — (AP) — The State Board of Education today adopted regulations to set in motion a $50,000,000 program of State aid to counties in building schools.

The board also:

1. Adopted regulations for the State's school insurance program which goes into effect on July 1.

2. Authorized the employment of 300 additional teachers to be used by county and city administrative units as special education teachers, supervisors, attendance officers or librarians.

The board decided that the school building funds shall be distributed within the counties between city and county administrative units on a basis of per capita daily membership unless otherwise agreed to by the local school authorities and the State Board of Education.

The 1949 General Assembly appropriated $25,000,000 to aid counties in building schools and voters of the state on June 4 approved issuance of bonds to raise $25,000,000 more for this purpose.

The law provides that each county shall receive $250,000 and that the remaining $25,000,000 shall be allocated to counties on a basis of average daily membership.

The Board approved the employment of Thomas B. Winborne of Raleigh as Assistant Director of the School Insurance Division.

It also adopted a regulation saying that the State's school insurance rates shall not exceed 90 per cent of the rate in effect prior to May 31, 1948, and the Board was told that the rates probably will not be less than 83 per cent or more than 87 per cent of the rates in effect prior to May 31, 1948.

The insurance regulations also provide that insurance policies will be written on a one-year basis so that local "boards of education will not be committed to the State insurance program except on an annual basis."

The regulations also provide for optional extended insurance coverage in addition to the basic fire and lightning protection. This insurance, which protects against such things as damage by boiler explosion, windstorm, hail, etc., would be at a rate of five cents per $100 valuation.

Hysterical As Quizzing Ends

Miss Coplon Screams 'Frame-Up'

WASHINGTON —(AP)— Judith Coplon screamed, "I've been framed" over and over today at the end of cross-examination in her espionage trial.

When Prosecutor John M. Kelley Jr. finally said "that's all," Miss Coplon remained seated on the witness stand. Then for nearly ten minutes she shouted that she had been "entrapped" and "framed."

"This case is so smelly that it smells to high heaven," she cried in hysterical tones.

Earlier, in another emotional outburst, she had shouted that "I'm not a Communist and I've never been a Communist."

NAMES "FRAMERS"

When she shouted there was "this conspiracy to frame me" she named those she said had taken part.

She leaned forward in the witness chair, and obviously directed her remarks primarily at Kelley and Raymond Wearty, another prosecutor who used to call her "Judy" when she worked for him in the Justice Dept.

"I don't understand this whole case," she screamed. "I am innocent. I will always say that I'm innocent and that I am being framed."

She said that she did not know whether Valentine A. Gubitchev, the Russian with whom she was arrested, was in the "conspiracy" but she screamed that Gubitchev had left her to make a phone call only ten minutes before the FBI seized them.

Kelley finally managed to ask her how many persons participated in the "frame-up."

She said that she did not know but shouted that she was certain that Whearty and H. P. Shapiro, a Justice Department attorney with whom she had admitted holding all-night trysts, were among them.

She also named William E. Foley, her last Justice Department boss.

Kelley asked if she believes he helped "frame her."

She replied that she understood Kelley had entered the case after her arrest but shouted:

"You have asked me some of the lowest questions I've ever heard."

It was Kelley's questions which developed earlier this week that Miss Coplon had spent nights in Baltimore and Philadelphia hotels, and in a Washington apart-

See FRAMED on page 5-A

Defendant Continues On Stand

Denies He Saw Accuser After '36

NEW YORK — (AP) — Alger Hiss entered point blank denials today to various accusations made against him by Whittaker Chambers.

"No."

"I did not."

"There is not a word of truth in that."

Those were answers he gave when he resumed the witness stand today at his perjury trial.

His chain of denials began when defense counsel asked him when he last saw Chambers, former courier for a Red spy ring.

"Late May or early June, 1936," he answered.

ONE COUNT

The former high State Department official thus denied one of the two counts of the perjury indictment against him: That he lied when he said he had not seen Chambers since Jan. 1, 1937.

Chambers, the Government's key witness in its charges against Hiss, repeatedly has accused Hiss of passing secret Government papers to him in 1937 and 1938 for relay to a Red spy network.

Shortly after the dapper Hiss resumed the witness stand today, his top defense counsel, Lloyd Paul Stryker, asked him whether he had seen Chambers subsequent to the Jan. 1, 1937, date.

"I did not see him after that until some time within the last twelve months," Hiss replied firmly.

Earlier, Hiss denied flatly that he had passed any restricted documents to Chambers, confessed Communist spy ring courier.

Hiss also denied testimony by Chambers that the latter introduced him to a Colonel Boris Bykof, Soviet espionage agent, during a furtive meeting at a Brooklyn movie theater. Chambers had related that after the meeting the trio took a walk in Prospect Park and then had dinner in a Chinatown restaurant.

"There is not a word of truth in that," Hiss declared when his counsel's questions touched on the alleged meeting.

Hiss also said there was no truth in Chambers' testimony that Colonel Bykof asked him to obtain State Dept. papers for the espionage ring. He denied, too, that Chambers had visited the Hiss home at regular weekly or fortnightly intervals as the ex-courier had claimed from the witness stand.

Asked whether Chambers ever visited the Hiss homes at 2035 St. or Volta Place in Washington with Hiss' permission, the witness answered:

"I know Mr. Crosley was never in Volta Place with my permission; I'm quite certain he never came to 30th St."

Earlier, Hiss testified that he had known Chambers as "George Crosley," a free lance writer.

Stryker then switched his questions to the Government documents now on evidence in the trial. These are the documents Chambers claims Hiss gave him.

Q. Did you personally type a

See HISS on page 5-A

Justice Dept. Acts On Floggings

Clark Orders Probe Of Violence

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Attorney General Tom Clark today ordered a full field investigation by the Justice Department into recent night rider violence in Alabama.

The announcement said that members of the Ku Klux Klan were "purported" to be involved.

At the same time a Congressional committee overhauling public hearings on Alabama floggings. Some Southern Representatives warned Congress to keep hands off.

The hearings will start before a House Judiciary subcommittee next Wednesday, with Clarke Stallworth, Birmingham Post reporter, as the first witness and Clarence Lake of the Birmingham News likely to follow him.

Rep. Battle (D-Ala.), in whose Birmingham district the floggings by white-robed mobs occurred, told the House "any Federal exploitation" would "deter rather than expedite justice."

"Lawless elements," Battle said, "thrive on outside interference."

"The best way Congress can deal with this situation is to stay out," Battle added. "We're going to clean it up ourselves."

Rep. Rankin (D-Miss.) concurred.

Referring to the inquiry ordered by Judiciary Committee Chairman Celler (D-N. Y.), Rankin said:

"The less the gentleman from New York, Mr. Celler, sticks his nose into our affairs, the better it will be."

Attorney General Clark said he has instructed the FBI specifically to investigate alleged violence by a hooded mob at Brookside, Ala., on the night of June 10 when a number of persons were reported to have been mistreated.

"It is reported," the announcement said, "that a hooded mob, purported to be members of the Ku Klux Klan, entered the restaurant of Steve Marshlar, a white man, and dragged Marshlar and several Negroes to the street where they forced them to witness the burning of a cross.

"It is reported that a policeman witnessed the hooded mob's action, and failed to intervene.

WOMAN BEATEN

"The same hooded mob allegedly later that night administered a beating to Mrs. Hugh McDaniel, a white woman, in her Brookside home. It is reported that a deputy sheriff was a member of the hooded mob."

The Attorney General said he was acting under the Federal civil rights statutes in proceeding to "a complete investigation."

The FBI earlier this week made a preliminary inquiry into the Brookside incidents to determine if any Federal laws had been violated, and submitted a confidential report to Clark yesterday.

Cost Of Living Lower In Month Ending On May 15

WASHINGTON— (AP) —The cost of living nosed slightly downward during the month ended May 15.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics said today its index declined three-tenths of one per cent for the month.

In mid-April the index had advanced slightly, one-tenth of one per cent, over mid-March. Officials said actually there had been no really substantial change for the past two months in the consumers' price index covering large cities.

Fluctuations have been wider, however, between the individual cities, than in the national average.

Prices of all major groups except rent were a little lower than the month ended April 15, the report said. Fuels declined 1.5 per cent, house furnishings 1.3 per cent and apparel 0.6 per cent.

Retail food prices decreased 0.2 per cent for the month.

However, rents rose a tenth of one per cent.

The index on May 15 was 169.2 per cent of the five-year, 1935-39 average. This is 0.8 per cent under a year ago, but 26.9 per cent above June, 1946, and 71.6 per cent higher than August, 1939, level.

Today's index won't effect wages of workers employed by General Motors Corp., whose pay is geared to the index quarterly adjustments. The June 15-July 15 index, to be issued in August, is the next one applicable to G. M.

During the month ended May 15 food prices decreased in 28 cities, increased in 25 and were unchanged in three.

Greek Premier Is Dead At 88

ATHENS, —(AP)— Themistokles Sophoulis, premier of Greece, died today.

He was 88 years old. Death occurred at his Summer residence at 4.15 P. M. Although he had been ill and was near death last Fall, his death at this time was unexpected.

Sophoulis, a key figure in Greek politics for a half century, had been Premier since Sept. 7, 1947, despite the turmoil of Greek politics occasioned by the civil war with the Communist guerrillas in the north.

He weathered the most recent political storm only two months ago, and this after suffering a severe heart attack which had him bedridden for several months. His reshuffled Cabinet took over in April after a scandal involving a member of the previous Government to offer King Paul his resignation.

The venerable leader of the Liberal Party had been an important cog in the Truman Doctrine, under which the aid of the United States went to Greece in her civil war and to Turkey, under the shadow of the Russian bear.

34 Are Hurt In Early Morning Bus Accident

BALTIMORE —(AP)— At least 34 persons were injured today when a New York-Washington Greyhound bus overturned on U. S. Route 40 east of here.

No deaths were reported.

A spokesman at Johns Hopkins Hospital said at least fifteen persons were receiving treatment in the accident room there, but that none appeared to be seriously injured.

The operator at Baltimore City Hospital said nineteen persons were receiving treatment in the first aid room. She said she could not say immediately whether any of them were hurt seriously.

The Baltimore County Police at Essex said the accident occurred about 4:35 A. M. at Ebenezer, about twelve miles east of the Baltimore city line.

Would End Political Appointments

Truman Calls For Postmaster Change

WASHINGTON —(AP)— President Truman today recommended legislation aimed at removing Postmaster appointments from politics.

In a special message to Congress he urged enactment of a law to authorize the Postmaster General to appoint all postmasters subject only to provisions of the Civil Service and Classification Acts.

This would mean that the time-honored custom of the President appointing first, second and third class postmasters — of whom there are some 21,000—would be abandoned. Senate confirmation of the Presidential choices likewise would no longer be a part of the routine.

Postmasters theoretically have been under the Civil Service system for some time. But legislators frequently have had a hand in picking one of the first three passing the examination and, furthermore, the Senate for years has had final say on confirmation. Fourth class postmasters are appointed by the Postmaster General and do not have to be confirmed. These are for the smaller offices.

The new legislation requested by Mr. Truman is in line with a recommendation of the Government reorganization commission headed by former President Hoover.

To put the $600,000,000 Post Office Department on a more efficient and businesslike basis, the President urged anew that postal rates be brought in line with increased costs of operations. He predicted a deficit for the fiscal year 1950 starting July 1, on the basis of current rates, of more than $400,000,000. This, he said, would result primarily from carrying a volume of business "below cost."

Other recommendations made by the President—also in line with the Hoover Commission report—include placing the Postal Department under the Government with a business type budget, audit and accounting procedures as prescribed by that act.

As a corollary, he added, the legislation should give the department "the same degree of financial and operating flexibility as is now possessed by most Federal business enterprises."

"Such legislation," the President said, "is essential if the postal service is to be conducted on a businesslike basis. It is an axiom of sound administration that authority should be commensurate with responsibility."

Mr. Truman pointed out that under the existing system the postal service operates under 58 separate appropriation items.

Greensboro Finds Gift Horse Too Expensive To Keep

GREENSBORO — (AP) — C. M. Grice, city pound master, looked a gift horse in the mouth today and found it had too many teeth to suit him.

The horse, described as beautiful but filmd, was found wandering around loose on the city streets and was turned over to the city pound.

The too-many-teeth opinion was prompted by the recollection that not so long ago another gift horse took up residence at the pound. Before she finally died she ate up $75 worth of corn and, the City Council had to make a special appropriation to foot the bill.

This time, said Grice, the owner had better show up quick. Otherwise, it'll be the fertilizer factory for the uninvited guest.

Fire Trucks Rush To Extinguish DDT Fog

HENDERSONVILLE — (AP) — A passerby saw great clouds of smoke as he passed Justus Pharmacy on Main Street late Wednesday night. He jerked a fire alarm signal. Trucks sirened up. Everybody looked a bit sheepish. The folks in the drug store had just fogged it with fly spray.

Cops Comb City's Slums For Small Boy's Killer

LANSING, Mich.—(AP) — Police combed hangout areas of Michigan's capital city today for a "sex fiend" in a small boy's brutal slaying.

A man hunt was launched after the discovery of the body of four-year-old Walter Eaton, his throat slashed, in a downtown storage and equipment lot.

Evidently the killer's weapon was a broken beer bottle, police said.

Dr. Charles E. Black, pathologist, said that Walter, a construction worker's son, had been criminally attacked "while he was either dead or dying."

Police said the Boy evidently had wandered away from an older sister, Emily, 11, when they were returning home from a visit to a relative last night.

Walfer was slain barely a block from his home in the downtown area. Volunteer searchers found his body shortly after midnight.

It lay face-down in a pool of blood between two steel drums on the property of a chemical company. A broken beer bottle was found beside it.

Working on a woman's report that a "tall, thin man" had been seen in the vicinity, police searched a shabby area of cheap rooming houses and railroad sidings for the killer.

Ingram County Coroner Ray Coraline said Walter met his death about 10:30 P. M.

This would have been shortly after the boy's sister noticed his absence from her side and ran frightened to tell her parents, police said.

The boy was found at 12:05 A. M. by two citizens, Kenneth Shorts, 43, and Leslie H. Kent, 28. The two men went with a police squad into a murky fastness of alleys and an unlighted railroad spur track.

Police Inspector Paul Taylor said the victim's blue jeans had been removed and his body apparently had been pulled three or four feet and left between two 50-gallon drums. Fingerprints were taken from the drums.

Walter's father, Leslie Eaton, came to the scene soon after the boy's body was found.

He gasped and turned away, weeping. A friend put his arm around him and they walked off together.

Labor Test Vote Slated Tuesday

WASHINGTON — (AP) — The Senate today agreed to vote Tuesday on the big issue of whether a new labor law should provide for court orders to block national emergency strikes.

With the agreement, leaders called off a Senate session they had figured on holding tomorrow.

The present Taft-Hartley Labor Law authorizes injunctions against emergency strikes. Senator Taft (R-Ohio) and others want to keep it in whatever new law Congress enacts.

Administration men want to keep it out. Truman and aides are united at last and will win the big test.

Once Over Lightly

BY WALTER SEIGENTHALER

None of the wrestling holds like the hammer lock, head-lock or wrist-lock can hold a fellow like the wed-lock. . . . Most women are against a prisoner getting time off for good behavior. . . .

Woman Charges Pair Kidnaped Her

Note Dropped From Car Leads To Probe

ST. PAUL, Va. —(AP)— A note covertly dropped from an automobile led today to the investigation of a paroled murderer and an ex-convict on possible kidnap charges.

State police and local southwest Virginia authorities snagged the armed pair after a chase last night through this hilly coal mining country. A threat of resistance dissolved as heavily armed police ringed the car that was overtaken near Norton, Va.

In the car were William Bearden, 24, and James Bearden, 29. With them was the woman who dropped the note claiming she had been kidnaped Sunday at Houston, Texas — blonde Barbara Gail LaMarr, 24.

Police Chief Walter D. Nesly said the men were being held for investigation on the kidnap accusation.

In Decatur, Ga., Police Captain Tom Ellis said his investigation there indicated the woman was not kidnaped.

Ellis said the three had stopped in Decatur Tuesday to visit a relative of the brothers, and that the woman was left in the car alone for 15 or 20 minutes.

"If she'd been kidnaped," Ellis said, "I don't think she'd have stayed in that car alone, when she could have gotten away in the crowds on a busy street."

Chief Neely said the men are wanted on other charges.

He said William Bearden had served time in a Florida prison and the other was out on parole from a life sentence for a murder conviction in South Carolina.

The woman was being detained as a witness, the chief said.

Lt. C. W. Blue said State Trooper J. W. Williams of St. Paul stopped the trio's car about 7 P. M. for a routine inspection. Williams okayed the car. As is drove away, however, the woman dropped a note addressed to the sheriff at Meridian, Miss., Blue said.

The note said the woman was being held as a hostage, and accused the men of being wanted in Atlanta, Ga., Texas, and Mississippi, Blue said.

Trooper Williams said Bill Bearden told him this morning he had served a term of 2 months for armed robbery in 1942 at Crestview, Fla.

St. Paul officers said James Bearden, Bill's brother, was sentenced to life imprisonment in 1938 for the slaying of Morris Crooks, of Seneca, S. C. After serving seven years, James Bearden was paroled from South Carolina State Prison at Columbia in 1945. John Alfred Bearden, the brothers' father, a police officer at Walhalla, S. C., told St. Paul authorities that James is now wanted for parole violation.

Reds Say Nationalists Strafed American Ship

SAN FRANCISCO —(AP)— The Chinese Communist radio reported today that Nationalist planes strafed the American President line ship W. H. Gordon at the mouth of the Yangtze River June 21.

The broadcast, heard in San Francisco by the Associated Press, did not say whether the ship was hit, and gave no details whatever.

An AP dispatch from Shanghai on that date, dealing with bombing and strafing of the British freighter Anchises, mentioned that the General Gordon had turned around at Woosung, where Shanghai's Whangpoo River enters the Yangtze, and headed for the British colony of Hong Kong. This was attributed to the Nationalist attack on the Anchises, but there was no mention of an attack on the American ship.

Berlin Emergency Rail Plan Spurned

BERLIN—(AP)— The Russian-directed Reichsbahn said today it will refuse to accept any trains run on an emergency basis by West Berlin rail strikers.

The anti-Communist strikers had offered to clear the way toward restoring international freight movements by trying to clear the clogged marshalling yards in the U. S. and French sectors, where dozens of trains have lain idle since the stoppage was called five weeks ago.

The idea, presumably, was that clearing the yards would make it possible for the Russians to allow trains to come in from the western zones of Germany.