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EASTERN N. C. LAWYERS HIT JUDICIAL BILL

Attorneys Claim Smaller Counties Would Be Penalized

RALEIGH (AP)—A number of Eastern North Carolina attorneys expressed opposition today to a bill which would realign and increase the number of judicial districts in the state.

This bill will saddle the small counties with paying for the superior courts of more heavily populated counties which would get additional judges, deleted Emmet Whitehurst, New Bern attorney.

Whitehurst led a group speaking before a joint courts and judicial districts committee in opposition to a bill prepared by the State Judicial Council.

NO ACTION TAKEN

As explained by J. Wallace Whitmore, associate justice of the State Supreme Court and chairman of the Judicial Council, the bill "attempted to take account of all differences" which might arise. The committee adjourned without taking action.

The bill would create 30 Superior Court judicial districts instead of the present 21, and then would be 32 regular superior Superior Court judges instead of the present 21, Guilford and Mecklenburg Counties would become districts unto themselves with two judges each because of the size of their dockets.

Fred B. Helms, Charlotte attorney and member of the Judicial Council, said the proposed redistricting "attempts to take present and projected needs into consideration." He said he would be 25 to 50 years before you have another redistricting.

Taking exception to Whitmore's remarks, Helms said "counties" the pro-rata cost of operating the courts and the cost of operating the smaller more populated districts would not be a burden on the larger, more sparsely populated districts. "We have been woefully undermanned in our judicial manpower on the bench," declared Helms, and the main purpose of the bill is to correct the situation.

Supporters of the bill declared it had to be considered from a statewide viewpoint. Among those supporting it was Special Superior Court Judge George Fountain of Tarboro, who said he was left out of a judgeship if the bill is enacted as it now stands.

SPECIAL JUDGES

Rep. Sam Worthington of Pamlico, who said he had thought of maintaining the same judicial district setup, but adding more special judges. Helms said this was the first time we found district after district would need 1 1/2 judges.

Helms said the judicial council hoped that under the bill superior court judges would hold 45 weeks of court and get about a month's vacation. He said it was "not to be" that solicitor districts would remain intact in the future.

Attorney Whitehurst said under the proposed new third judicial district, "you would have to travel 90 miles from Beaufort to the county seat of Greenville" if court were held in that county seat.

J. E. Tucker, New Bern attorney, declared "I would not travel 140 miles to some county seats." If the condition remains the same, he told the committee, "it's a bad bill. It's bad for the district and bad for the state."

Raymond Dun of Pamlico also spoke up against the creation of the proposed third district.

WHAT'S INSIDE

"IT SEEMS at times that a man can be arrested for unlawful assembly when he merely collects his thoughts," says Sen. J. William Fulbright on today's editorial page. For more wit and wisdom turn to 8A.

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OUR WEATHER

Generally fair today and tonight. Little warmer today and colder tonight. Tomorrow, mostly fair and mild.



This Missing Sign Could Have Caused Accident

Signal Declared Factor In Wreck

By DONALD MACDONALD, Staff Writer

Removal of a Wlesley Ave. stop sign—possibly a childish prank—was described by police as a contributing factor today in an accident injuring six children and four adults.

Two women were confined at Memorial Hospital, each with fractured pelvis, after yesterday's early-afternoon collision of two automobiles.

Traffic Capt. Lloyd W. Henkel this morning asked Charlotte Youth Bureau detectives to investigate disappearance of the stop sign.

The sign, removed from a normally busy intersection, possibly by mischievous pranksters, stood on Wlesley Ave. at the stop for Selwyn Ave. traffic.

"We were not aware that this stop sign was missing until yesterday's accident," said Capt. Henkel.

COULD CAUSE DEATH

"Whoever removed the sign, either maliciously or as a joke could have caused death for at least 10 people. Removal of the stop sign is in definitely contributing factor in the accident."

The traffic captain said the Traffic Engineering Dept. has been asked to replace the sign and charges have yet been made in the accident. Since the stop sign was missing, there is a question as to whether the car had the right-of-way entering the intersection, or the automobile on the right.

THE INJURIES

Injured besides the two women were James Reginald Cook, 23, 1829 Academy St., who received a fractured rib, and S. J. Russell, 3015 Buckingham Dr., who complained of a leg injury. Both men were occupants of a car headed west on Selwyn Ave. which collided with an auto driven by Mrs. Mary

Traffic signs within recent months.

Sturgis Moffatt, 41, 2301 Dilworth Dr. Mr. Moffatt and Mrs. J. A. Kaigler, 36, 2306 Floral Ave. were admitted to Memorial Hospital, each with a fractured pelvis.

The children, all suffering minor bruises, were listed as Linda Moffatt, 12, Johnny Kaigler, 12, Lawrence Suggs, 12, 1332 Ordmore Ave.; Nancy Godwin, 12, 1907 Lombard Cir.; Billy Gilbert, 13, 2300 Floral Ave.; and Eddie Barrett, 14, 2125 Dilworth Dr.

Asked if his department is troubled by thefts of or damage done to traffic signs, Traffic Engineer Herman Hoese said "Not too often."

OCCASIONAL REMOVAL

Mr. Hoese said that occasionally his men are called out to replace signs removed at or near large shopping centers or neighborhood drug stores.

"But we don't have too much vandalism involving signs," he said. Mr. Hoese explained that during the recent heavy snow, motorists sliding their cars into street signs did more damage in one day than vandals have done to traffic signs within recent months.

Chiang Kai-shek declared today the show of strength by the U. S. 7th Fleet in the Tachen area would not deter Communist aggression in the Formosa area, even for a short while.

In an exclusive interview with Fred Hampton, AP chief of bureau from Hong Kong, the president of Nationalist China indicated the offshore island outpost his forces still man could be held against a Red attack.

He again declared to spell out his version of an agreement with Quenoy and Matsui Islands, saying Quenoy and Matsui Islands, saying "the matter is very clear to us and to the Communists."

Atomic Tests Postponed For 24 Hours

Unfavorable Winds Blamed For Delay

LAS VEGAS, Nev. (AP)—The first explosion of the 1955 atomic test series, which had been set for early today, was postponed for 24 hours, was postponed for 24 hours by the Atomic Energy Commission.

The AEC cited unfavorable weather conditions.

At a 12:30 a. m. weather conference, the AEC decided that winds would carry the atomic cloud from any shot today toward the California-Pancho area in east central Nevada, and might pose a radiation threat to that district.

There are many ranches and some mines in that area, some 70 miles northeast of the test site.

The U. S. Weather Bureau here reported winds of 40 knots (about 45 miles per hour) at 25,000 feet at 1 a. m. and presumably there was higher at the desert test site, 75 miles to the northwest.

The atomic cloud rises to 25,000 feet within five minutes, and particularly in a tower shot would be boiling with radioactive dirt particles.

About 1100 men and 100 planer had been prepared to take the military's part in the first test shot from a 500-foot tower on Yucca Flat.

Richmond Fire Fatal To Three

Disturbance At Bern Refugees Seize Red Legation

RICHMOND, Va. (AP)—Three people died early today in a fire that swept through a three-story house on Monument Ave.

Police identified the victims of the blaze as John Christian, 67, his sister, Miss Nell Christian, 60, and his daughter, Miss Eleanor Christian, 36. They lived on the second floor of the house.

Eight other persons, including six small children, escaped from the third floor without injury.

The alarm was turned in shortly after 4 a. m. by Sgt. Yank West of the Richmond police department.

Firemen had the blaze extinguished shortly before 6 a. m.

EVENING PRAYER

Lord, we would be more Christ-like than we are. In Thine draw us into Him who is our Saviour, and help us on life's journey to travel every day toward something finer and more Christ-like than we now are. In his holy name. Amen.

HAIRCUTS 41.5

OAKLAND, Calif.—It will cost you \$1.75 to get a haircut in Alameda County and a portion of Contra Costa County after March 15.

The AFL Barbers and Beauticians Union, local 184, voted last night to raise the price from \$1.50.

But Hazel's Now Hilda

Hurricanes Keep Girl Names

WASHINGTON (AP)—No offense intended, girls, but the Weather Bureau says it's going to use some of your names again this year to label hurricanes along the east coast.

The bureau has announced a list of 26 names running from Alice to Zeldia. Alice was used last year, but all the others are different.

Some protests were registered last year because the nine hurricanes of that season were identified by female names, but the Weather Bureau said it will continue to follow that naming practice because it needs "short, easily pronounced and readily recognized" designations.

The hurricane season generally runs from June to November, but the 1955 Alice already is on the record books. It formed in the West Indies last month and stayed mostly at sea.

Weather Bureau officials said new radar installations and a network of "commo" posts for giving out public hurricane warnings and information will be available this year to help cut down loss of life and property.

Just to satisfy people who know there are 26 letters and a network of "commo" posts for giving out public hurricane warnings and information will be available this year to help cut down loss of life and property.

Here they are: Alice, Brenda, Ova, Peggy, Queen, Stella, Trudy, Ursula, Vesna, Gladys, Hilda, Ione, Janet, Wilma, Xenia, Yvonne and Kate, Linda, Martha, Nelly, Zeldia.

TESTS MAY DETERMINE ACTRESS' DEATH CAUSE

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif.—An autopsy surgeon says several days of toxicological tests will be required to determine the cause of actress Abigail Adams' death.

The 37-year-old brunette, former fiancee of comedian George Jessel, was found dead in her apartment Sunday.

Dr. Alexander Griswold, coroner's assistant autopsy surgeon, said his post-mortem examination yesterday did not disclose any apparent pathological cause of death.

Policemen Investigating Wreck Is Hit By Auto

A city police officer investigating a two-car collision at Independence Blvd. and Elizabeth Ave. was struck from behind by another car shortly after 8 a. m. today.

The Red Romanian government demanded formally that the body be arrested and extradited to Bucharest.

The Swiss Cabinet in an emergency meeting at 7:30 a. m. decided the police should first try to persuade the government to release Communist resistance fighters barricaded themselves in German territory.

They vowed to hold the legation, located in a large park at the western edge of the city, until the Bucharest government frees five persons held as political prisoners.

"We have nothing to lose but our lives," the band's leader called in German to rifle-armed Swiss police who surrounded the legation and sought to persuade the band to surrender.

Neighbors said they heard a fusillade of shots and women's screams between 2 and 3 a. m. but the legation chieftain was the only casualty reported.

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THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN HILDA'S WORK Beach Damage Done By Hurricane Hazel Last Season

Here they are: Alice, Brenda, Ova, Peggy, Queen, Stella, Trudy, Ursula, Vesna, Gladys, Hilda, Ione, Janet, Wilma, Xenia, Yvonne and Kate, Linda, Martha, Nelly, Zeldia.

Man-Made Diamonds Now Reality

monads was announced by scientists of the General Electric research laboratory. One process does it by creating pressure and heat equal to that 240 miles deep within the earth.

Diamonds are made within a few minutes when a carbon-containing material is subjected to this pressure and heat. The starting material was not identified. But scientists hinted it contains graphite, the carbon used in "lead" pencils. Diamonds are crystals of pure carbon.

By every test, these diamonds are indistinguishable from those dug from mines in Africa or Brazil, where nature made diamonds from carbon, pressure and heat, said Dr. A. L. Marshall, manager of the laboratory's chemistry department.

They will scratch natural diamonds. They have the X-ray "fingerprint" of natural diamonds.

See DIAMONDS on page 4 A

TELLING ARGUMENT MADE TO PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON (AP)—A group of Southern Senators today urged President Eisenhower to allow extension of Eastern Air Lines service from New Orleans to Mexico City. The White House passes on international air routes.

Sen. Ervin (D-N.C.) said he would enable amateur golfer Billy Joe Patton to fly directly from Charlotte, N. C., to Mexico City.

He said Eisenhower smiled and recalled he had a game with Patton at Augusta, Ga., recently.

2-Year Project Suggested By Governor

RALEIGH (AP)—Gov. Hodges today called for a two-year study of the State Highway Commission to find means of assuring operation and planning of North Carolina's roads program on a statewide basis.

In a message to the House and Senate Roadway Committees, the governor also recommended changes in highway taxes and tax collection designed to produce an additional \$3,700,000 in annual revenue.

Hodges advocated a pay-as-you-go primary highway construction program to be approached in two-year stages. He said Highway Chairman A. H. Graham has been asked to formulate a program for the coming two years, "planned as nearly as possible within revenues which may be expected during the next biennium."

Hodges asked the roads committees to look into laws governing the Highway Commission "with a view toward emphasizing or restating the legislative intent" for highway operations statewide in nature.

DANCER OKAY

HOLLYWOOD (AP)—Dancer Marge Champion's doctor says she is progressing satisfactorily after an appendectomy yesterday.

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