



A FISH STORY with illustrations is shown here by three-year-old gardener, Leighton of Richmond. He well-dressed against the cold the youngster holds up the smelt, he caught while ice fishing with his parents on Eastern River. The temperature got as low as 42 below in parts of this district. (AP Wirephoto).

Zero In New York

Cold Wave Grips Northeastern U. S.

By ASSOCIATED PRESS
A flow of arctic air extended over broad areas of the nation today from the Mississippi Valley to the Atlantic Coast with the most severe cold in the northeastern section.

CHANCE OF SLEET OR SNOW SEEN

Winter opened its variety box today, with the chance that snow or sleet may fall over Charlotte by the weekend. There is a new storm moving up from Texas, and a mass of cold air coming down from the north.

Minister, Wife Struck As They Cross Street

An Atlanta minister and his wife, visiting in Charlotte for a meeting of the Southeastern Jurisdiction of the Methodist Church, were struck by an automobile and knocked to the street at 7th and N. Tryon Sts. today.

OUR WEATHER

Clearing and colder today. Increasing cloudiness and continued cold tonight. Tomorrow, mostly cloudy and cold with rain or snow by tomorrow night.

CHIANG GUNS AND PLANES POUND REDS

Nationalists Keep Up Attacks Along West Coastal Front

By SPENCER MOOSA
TAINPEI, Formosa—Nationalist bombers pounded Chinese Communist land targets and shipping yesterday and last night along a 350-mile oceanic front from Formosa Strait northward into the East China Sea.

There were no reports of Communist action. While Chiang Kai-shek's army and gunners carried on the furious civil war, the whole issue of a Nationalist pullout from the menaced Tachen Islands 200 miles north of Formosa appeared to be hanging in the balance today because of U. S. reluctance to give clear guarantees for the protection of the offshore islands of Quemoy and Matsu.

Official reports said Nationalist bombers damaged two vessels last night near Ykiangshan, fallen island eight miles north of the Tachens.

And the all-but-dominant Quemoy-Amy area, across the strait from Formosa, stirred to life yesterday with Nationalist shelling of Communist shipping and island targets. The defense ministry said Nationalist gunners fired more than 200 shells from two Communist tanks and an artillery position and damaged a wooden vessel.

There were indications that if the United States fails to guarantee Matsu and Quemoy, the Nationalists would press for reconsideration of the whole Tachen Islands situation.

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American Air Force Jets Stand On Ready Line On Formosa—Just In Case. (AP Wirephoto)

Russian Government Defense Budget

12 Per Cent Boost Revealed In Moscow
Finance Minister Cites World Tension

MOSCOW (P)—The Soviet government announced today a 1955 defense budget about 12 per cent higher than last year's.

The budget, presented to the Supreme Soviet (Parliament), called for defense expenditures of 112 billion rubles. The increase was about 12 billion rubles.

The ruble is quoted officially at four to the dollar. Explaining the defense appropriation, Finance Minister Arseny G. Zverev told a meeting of the two houses of the Supreme Soviet in the great Kremlin Palace.

"Our main task in the sphere of international relations is strengthening the cause of peace. But nothing has happened in the international situation which would give us the opportunity to reduce our defensive capacity. That is why we have to spend so much to produce the further strengthening of our military forces."

The Soviet defense budget amounts to \$2,025,000,000 at the official exchange rate. President Eisenhower has called for a 34-billion-dollar spending program for the U. S. armed forces in the fiscal year starting next July.

"Experts in Soviet affairs say government price fixing policies coupled with government control of industry would permit Russia to build up its armed forces inside whatever over-all defense budget figure is announced. Such items as education, social welfare, physical culture probably cover defense functions. Some U. S. experts have estimated that at least half the Russian budget goes directly into military expenditure."

DELEGATES APPLAUD
Delegates broke into applause when the military figure was announced. It was part of a total budget for 1955 of 589 1/2 billion rubles. Last year's over-all total was 563 billion rubles.

Diplomatic boxes in the hall were filled as the Soviet of Nationalists—one of the two equal partners in the Supreme Soviet—began its proceedings at noon. Prominent among the foreign envoys with government control of industry would permit Russia to build up its armed forces inside whatever over-all defense budget figure is announced. Such items as education, social welfare, physical culture probably cover defense functions. Some U. S. experts have estimated that at least half the Russian budget goes directly into military expenditure."

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N. C. Money Problems Still Mounting

RALEIGH (P)—A big appropriation headache continued to build today for the General Assembly's Joint Appropriations Committee.

Officials of the state's mental hospitals and tuberculosis sanatoriums were ready to present their budget requests this afternoon as the committee moved past the halfway point in its budget hearings.

So far the committee has been asked to approve appropriation requests totaling nearly \$2 million dollars more than Gov. Hodges and the Advisory Budget Commission recommended for the 1955-57 biennium.

Meanwhile, the Joint Finance Committee was due to hear today from opponents of a proposed state tax of 57 cents per gallon on syrup used in making soft drinks in soda fountains. The tax is supposed to be the equivalent of the proposed 3 cent tax on bottled drinks. Butlers presented their arguments yesterday.

Gov. Hodges and the Budget Commission have recommended a state budget of \$37 million for the next biennium and increased taxes to bring in 26 million each year.

The Appropriations Committee has been asked for increased appropriations totaling \$14,235,518 for permanent improvements and \$7,564,496 for operating budgets.

The Appropriations Committee yesterday heard three state-supported Negro colleges, the North Carolina School for the Deaf and the State School for the Blind and the Deaf request additional appropriations totaling more than four million dollars.

The requests included: Winston-Salem State Teachers College, \$182,372 in operating funds and \$1,691,000 in permanent improvements; Fayetteville State Teachers College, \$47,320 in operating funds and \$25,000 in permanent improvements; North Carolina College at Durham, \$221,382 in its operating budget and \$1,537,631 in permanent improvements; North Carolina School for the Deaf, \$137,926 in operating funds; and State School for the Blind and Deaf, \$95 in its operating budget.

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Insinuations Resented
An officer of the Southeastern Jurisdiction of the Methodist Church said here today that "the courts and all parties concerned have been exercising fairness and patience in dealing with the Rev. Blake Craft, Clayton, Ga., minister who was suspended last July."

The charges against Mr. Craft resulted principally from the tabloid which he publishes. The publication has accused other Methodist Ministers of engaging in communist activities.

In the decision rendered by the appellate court Tuesday upholding his suspension the judges stated: "Freedom of opinion, a right of the citizen, is a precious heritage of Methodist ministers, also, queer and unusual personalities have adorned our ministry in every age, making a definite contribution by their unlettered thinking and speaking. While latitude is permitted and encouraged in the liberty of Methodist pulpits. We know nothing of the discipline of the Methodist Church. However, personal liberty CAN slough off into personal defiance of peace, the establishment of order and the discipline of the church."

Mendes - France Rule Totters

PARIS (P)—Premier Pierre Mendes-France's government was in grave danger tonight.

Radical Socialist Rene Mayer, who appeared to be a member, that he would vote against him in the present debate on the Premier's North African policy.

Mayer's decision probably means the crumbling of Mendes-France's majority in the National Assembly and the downfall of his government.

Mayer spoke to a hushed Assembly at the start of the second day of debate on the North African question. He was applauded frequently by what appeared to be more than half of the approximately 350 deputies present. Joining in the applause seemed to be many followers of Gen. Charles de Gaulle, who also has supported Mendes-France in the past.

Mayer, in the dramatic conclusion of his hour-long speech, addressed the Premier directly and said "In the past you have often asked for a renewal of confidence. In this case I cannot renew mine."

The Premier was expected to call for a confidence vote sometime before midnight, requiring him to resign if he loses. The vote should come early Saturday.

The government was accused yesterday both of going too far and not going far enough in offering greater self-government to the North Africans.

Several Communist deputies charged the government had done too little. But other speakers, chiefly from the extreme right, insisted trouble in Algeria had been fomented only after the government's show of weakness in France's protectorate of Tunisia, where negotiations for local self-government had dragged on for months.

Did Good Job, Goodman Says
Charlotte News Staff Writer Rep. Arthur Goodman of Charlotte today defended the testimony of Neal Forney, head of the Police Dept.'s Juvenile Bureau, before a House committee Tuesday in behalf of a sexual psychopath bill.

Mr. Forney reportedly called the city a "mecca" for sex deviates and the criticism of psychopaths, lawbreakers and private citizens was "heaped upon him yesterday. His statements were called "black eyes" by many.

"I think Mr. Forney did a very good job and made a favorable impression on the Judiciary Committee which heard him and other citizens who were in attendance," Mr. Goodman said today.

"He explained fully that the problem was a common one everywhere but that sexual deviates gravitate to the larger cities. Charlotte is a large city. In small towns these people are easily spotted but here and other large cities they seek cover and hide in the population."

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Forney Testimony Defended

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Department and also for the City of Charlotte. Referring to the unfavorable publicity resulting from the bill, he and others introduced in the House of Representatives and referred to the Judiciary Committee (of which he serves.) Mr. Goodman said:

"I don't think this is something for the Bar Association to get up over. I am not responsible to the Association or anyone else. This is a statewide thing and the subject doesn't pertain to the bar alone."

"If the association is interested in a bill of its own, I think that is good. We need some legislation that does not matter where it comes from as long as we get some relief from this problem of deviants."

"I came here representing no group, but representing the people. If every bill that was introduced was submitted for all groups interested, it would never reach the floor."

The Goodman measure would stiffen the penalty for convicted sexual psychopaths and also allow them to be committed to a mental hospital if they are found to be a danger to the public.

See FORNEY on page 13-A

Fired Television Blonde's Auto Found Abandoned
LOS ANGELES (P)—The sporty convertible of Voluptua, a 6-foot blonde fired two days ago from a television program because she was too sexy, was found abandoned early today on a highway bordering the Pacific Ocean.

Detectives were attempting to locate the Brooklyn showgirl, who appeared in negligee before TV audiences. In the car, registered to Gloria Pall, Voluptua's real name, were three newspapers carrying accounts of her ouster and two scrapbooks, detectives said. There were no signs of a struggle. The car was parked on the highway. Its keys were gone.

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