

## NEWSMAN REFUSES TO TALK

### New Yorker Won't Testify Whether He Is A Communist

WASHINGTON (AP)—Robert Shelton, a copy editor for the New York Times, refused today to say if he is a Communist and challenged the right of the Senate Internal Security subcommittee to ask him the question.

He contended that the question not only violated his rights under the first amendment to the constitution but also threatened freedom of the press.

When Shelton refused to invoke the fifth amendment against possible self-incrimination, Chairman Eastland (D-Miss.) ordered him to answer the question "on penalty of contempt" of the U. S. Senate.

Shelton again declined to say whether he was a Communist, and emphasized that he was not invoking the fifth amendment.

**FINAL DAY**  
Today was the third and final day of the current series of public hearings in the subcommittee's hunt for Red influences in the press and other media. Eastland said there will be other hearings later.

On one point today, Eastland tossed out a comment that Clayton Knowles, a New York Times reporter who testified publicly two days ago, has given the subcommittee information "that I think is invaluable." He added that "some of it leads to people who are in a state government."

Eastland did not elaborate, or give any indication of why state government was involved.

Eastland's comment came when Sen. Hennings (D-Mo.) said, "I know we've all had some concern" about calling Knowles and suggested that in the future subcommittee members be briefed at executive sessions before a witness was called in any case that might be doubtful.

Hennings said the subcommittee should be sure that it does not do an injustice or cause "unecessary humiliation and embarrassment" to anyone unless his testimony will provide new information and serve a useful purpose.

Hennings said that he thought no one would quarrel with the subcommittee's right to inquire into all efforts by the Communist Party to infiltrate the press or other means of communication, but he said the Senators "have a duty to protect witnesses as well as the purposes of the inquiry."

At the outset of today's hearing, Eastland read a telegram he had received from Edward Gottlieb, managing editor of the Daily Press, saying the newspaper was in accord with your committee in its efforts to expose Communist infiltration wherever found, and certainly welcomes any revelations bearing on the local scene.

"Far from being upset because of the revelations that a Communist-directed clique operated in the 1880s among employees of the press, we are grateful for the authoritative corroboration of the stand we took at the time, both in the columns of our paper and in our appearances before public bodies."

### More Talk Set On Red Visit

WASHINGTON (AP)—Rep. Chatham (D-NC) said today he expects further discussion with Secretary of State Dulles regarding Chatham's proposal to invite Russian Premier Nikolai Bulganin and Soviet party boss Nikita Khrushchev to the United States.

Chatham told a reporter that he had not received any definite reaction so far to his suggestion, made yesterday. He said there had been some discussion of it at yesterday's closed-door session of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, of which he is a member, and afterward between him, Dulles and others.

The congressman added Dulles did not seem too keen about the idea.

"But I don't see what harm could be done by asking them to come over here either officially or unofficially," Chatham said.

"They're going to England. They've been to other countries. I think it would be a good idea for them to see what we've got over here and to let us know they're invited visitors to this country."

Rep. Richards (D-Sc), chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, is in South Carolina. Other committee members were not available for comment.

### Our Weather

Fair and warmer today. Partly cloudy and mild tonight. Tomorrow partly cloudy and cooler.

Low this morning—39.  
Low tonight—42.  
High yesterday—62.  
High today—67.  
High tomorrow—56.  
Sunrise 7:22 a. m.; sunset 5:28 p. m.

More Weather Data on Page 2-A



WALKING WITH AID of a cane, John Fell Stevenson, 19-year-old son of presidential aspirant Adlai E. Stevenson, leaves Passavant Hospital in Chicago where he has been undergoing treatment for injuries suffered in an automobile accident Dec. 21. Young Stevenson's shattered right kneecap was removed by surgery on Dec. 26. (AP)

## Tie Up Jailer

# 3 Prisoners Saw Way To Freedom

GREENSBORO (AP)—Three men, two of them federal prisoners, escaped from Guilford County jail about 3 a. m. today after they saw through the bars of the courthouse elevator down to the second floor, sheriff's deputy said.

Officers listed the men, all white, as:

Robert Lee Furr, 23, of High Point, sentenced in Federal Court last month to three years in prison for violation of the Dyer Act.

Charles Ashley, 26, of Burlington, awaiting trial in Federal Court on alleged Dyer Act violation.

Roy Hendrick Jr., 20, of Rt. 8, Greensboro, awaiting trial in Guilford Superior Court on approximately a dozen charges of felony.

Hendrick also faces a possible six-year prison term for probation violations.

**THREATENED MAN**  
The three might have escaped unseen from the courthouse had they not run into Avery Gibson, who was loitering in the hallway on the second floor. They threatened to beat Gibson up if he reported them, but as soon as they had vanished down the stairway to the main floor of the courthouse, Gibson called police to inform them of the jailbreak.

Upon reaching the jail on the fourth floor of the county building about 45 minutes after the break, police heard Asst. Jailer L. J. Baumgardner shouting for help. Finding a duplicate set of keys, officers released the jailer, who was locked in a cell, and freed a What's Inside

Business	10A
Classified	7-11B
Comics	3B
Editorials	8A
Features	2B
Obituaries	6A
Radio-TV	6A
Serial	14A
Sports	4-6B
Theaters	7B
Women	12-13A

"Most Americans know that the domestic situation is not as rosy as it is pictured and that the international situation is one of deep concern."

He said the administration had become "frantic about the farm situation" and was rushing out a program to appeal to the voters, particularly those in the Midwest—in this year's elections.

Commenting on Eisenhower's call for payments on the national debt before tax cuts, Johnson said the Republicans had been bragging for months about reducing taxes \$75 billion dollars in a period of deficit spending.

THE 3,600-TON destroyer *Basilone* lies hard aground in Chesapeake Bay, just off Cape Henry, where she was blown by high winds Thursday after she had dragged anchor.

# Southern Democrats Sound Off

## Byrd's Civil Rights Check Plan Runs Into Opposition

## Church Groups Attack Private School Ideas

### Sen. Byrd Appeals For Voter Support

RICHMOND, Va. (AP)—Sen. Byrd (D-Va.) voiced a new appeal for support of a proposed state constitutional change today amid a flurry of new attacks from religious leaders against the plan to use public funds for private education.

The new statements came as Virginia headed into the final weekend of intensive campaigning on the issue. Byrd is in a statement being broadcast over 15 radio stations during the day, said "a single leader" in the campaign.

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But new opposition came from religious groups. The Hampton Roads Rabbinical Assn., 28 Southwestern Diocese Episcopal minister, Lynchburg ministers and the Harrisonburg Ministerial Assn. announced stands against the tuition grant plan.

Rep. William M. Tuck of the 5th District, in a speech at Farmville last night, said the issue boiled down to whether "we favor or oppose the mixing of the races."

Dr. Beuben Allen, editor of the Baptist Religious Herald, said in an editorial it was "absurd" to say a vote against the amendment was a vote for integration.

Dr. George Reamey, editor of the Virginia Methodist Advocate, asked "what will become of the vast army of poor children" whose parents cannot afford to send them to private schools.

Dr. Duconois of Richmond, a national AFL-CIO official, told a Bristol labor meeting approval of the amendment might produce increased juvenile delinquency and relaxation of child labor laws.

Edgate W. Darden Jr., president of the University of Virginia, urged a Bristol audience to support the amendment and "not turn your backs" on southern Virginia.

Byrd said the amendment would merely give the Legislature "some carefully guarded leeway in its efforts to preserve our public school system which is now seriously threatened under the recent decision by the U. S. Supreme Court."

**WIFE WALKED OUT, SHOE CAME BACK**

DALLAS (AP)—A Dallas man, whose wife walked out on him Christmas Day taking their four children, a 24-pound turkey and one of his shoes, is back in circulation again.

When he first called Justice of Peace Bill Richburg to report the loss, he man put special emphasis on the missing shoe. He claimed it belonged to his only pair.

Yesterday he called Richburg again to report that a woman had pitched the shoe back through a window and announced she wasn't coming back.

"That was my wife all right, judge," the man said.



THEIR HEADS TOGETHER, Sen. Byrd (left, R-NH) and Everett Dirksen (R-Ill) confer at a meeting of Republican Senators only in the opening period of new Congressional session. (AP Wirephoto)

# Insurance Companies Will Ask Big Increase In Rates

### By Lynn Nisbet

Charlotte News Staff Writer

RALEIGH (AP)—Decisions that could cost North Carolina insurance policy holders over five million dollars will probably be made here today.

These decisions are to come from the office of Charles F. Gold, commissioner of insurance, after a hearing on applications for rate increases for fire, hail, wind and other types of extended coverage insurance.

The North Carolina Fire Insurance Rating Bureau, to which every company writing fire and related insurance must belong, has filed requests for 100 per cent increase in extended coverage rates. It is estimated that granting of the request will add some \$3,000,000 to premium bills paid by policy holders.

Other increases asked for fire insurance rates, including a proposed differential between farm and urban property, and hail insurance will raise premiums an additional \$1,300,000.

**PROPOSED BEFORE**  
The farm and non-farm differential has been proposed before and twice denied by Commissioner Gold. This is the first hearing on the extended coverage increases.

**IN CHARLOTTE AREA**  
The same thing is true for commercial buildings.

No dollar and cents figure can be put on the amount, but since Charlotte homes have some sort of mortgage loan which requires extended coverage, very few owners will escape an increase.

There are approximately 42,000 residential dwellings in Charlotte and real property value in the city and county amounts to \$95 million, including residential-commercial buildings and lots.

Very little, say local agents, has been paid out here for wind damage and other extended coverage eventualities — falling air-

craft, water, smoke, etc.—just about equal the dollar loss in wind damage.

The present rate here for extended coverage is eight cents per \$100. In 18 counties on the coast the rate is 14 cents per \$100.

The proposed 100 per cent increase would lift the local rate to 16 cents per \$100.

**THE NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF INSURANCE AGENTS** will meet in Raleigh Tuesday prior to the Wednesday hearing.

Larry Tomlinson of Charlotte is a member of that group's conference committee. He said today the group may question whether the 100 per cent rate increase is justified.

If a rate increase is given, the group may ask for three divisions in the state, he said. Now 10 counties on the coast pay a higher rate than the other 82 counties.

His group would suggest three rates, one for the coast, one for the area from the coast to mid-state and a third for the Piedmont (Charlotte area) to the mountains.

**IF THE \$30 deductible clause** usually directly affected by wind damage such as hurricanes should not be made to pay as much as in areas where wind damage is a real possibility at all times.

The Charlotte Association of Insurance Agents, of which Martin Waters is president, has voted to send one of its members to the hearing. Mr. Tomlinson will appear as a representative of the state group.

coverage—the adding of wind-storm or earthquake or other non-fire damages to regular policies for a small additional premium — is relatively new.

The question of rates and coverage did not become acute in this state until after the experience of the hurricanes — Hazel, Connie, Diane and Ione — during the past 18 months.

The rating bureau request is for doubling the existing rate, providing for \$50 deductible before any loss is paid, and excluding radio and television antennae from coverage.

**OPPOSITION SEEN**  
Vigorous opposition to the proposal has been voiced by policy holders, and a number of insurance agents have noted opposition to some points in the request.

At present there are two rate areas for this type insurance premiums.

In 18 coastal counties (Beaufort, Brunswick, Camden, Carteret, Chowan, Craven, Currituck, Dare, Hyde, Jones, New Hanover, Onslow, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Pender, Perquimans, Tyrrell and Washington) the rate is 14 cents per \$100 coverage.

In the other 82 counties the present rate is eight cents per \$100.

**See INSURANCE page 2-A**

### Evening Prayer

O God, our Heavenly Father, in Thy great wisdom Thou didst provide for us to live within homes for care and nurture. Help us to make our homes places of prayer, joy, and of Christian fellowship, in the name of Christ we ask it. Amen.

### Writers Subpoenaed In Attorney's Trial

CHICAGO (AP)—A judge has subpoenaed four Chicago newspaper reporters in the trial of a former Capone lawyer to forestall possible questions later about the jury being prejudiced by news stories.

Abraham Tetelbaum, who once was counsel for Scarface Al Capone, prohibition era gangster, is on trial in U. S. District Court on charges of evading \$135,000 in income taxes for 1946 and 1947.

After a man called for jury duty said, "To be honest, I read all the articles about Mr. Tetelbaum and I'm afraid I could not give him a fair verdict," Judge Joseph Sam Perry yesterday ordered subpoenaed for the four reporters assigned to the Federal building.

The judge explained he wanted the jurors to have the facts about the origin of material in the newspaper stories so that the defense later could not reasonably raise any question about the jury being prejudiced by the stories.

Subpoenaed were Stephen Tooley, Chicago Tribune; Robert Johnston, Chicago Daily News; Max Sonderby, Chicago Sun-Times, and Harry Heydenberg, Chicago American.

Tooley declined the summons on the advice of his newspaper and testified voluntarily. The others accepted subpoenas but said they doubted they would be called to testify.

Tooley testified the Tribune articles were based on the indictment and statements by government prosecutors.

"This is the first action of this kind ever taken," Heydenberg said. "It is meant to show the jury that newspaper stories—while true—are not evidence."

"We are going to find out whether the reporters know something that is not being revealed in this case," Judge Perry said. "The time is coming when something will be done about the trial of the cases in the newspaper."

A jury of six men and six women was chosen, Judge Perry said that during the trial he would call the jurors again if news stories are prejudicing them.

It is any of them are prejudiced as a result of news stories, I will call the writers to testify," he said.

## Powell Says Move 'Buck Passing'

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Eisenhower's recommendation that Congress set up a bipartisan commission to investigate alleged violations of Negroes' civil rights ran into opposition today from Southern Democrats.

Sen. Byrd (D-Va.) termed it "very peculiar for the President to suggest that Congress set up a commission to investigate some acts which he apparently believes are against the law."

Rep. Powell (D-N.Y.) called the President's suggestion "sheer buck-passing." Powell, a Negro, said the administration already has the power to investigate such violations.

Mississippi's two Democratic senators, Eastland and Stennis — joined in a statement saying Eisenhower's proposal "presents just another aspect of the old F. R. C. Bill idea that has been a perennial in American politics for 30 years."

Asserting Congress has no jurisdiction "over the qualifications of electors and related matters" and no authority to confer such jurisdiction on a commission, they declared:

"Other, shall of course, oppose it." "We, the Democratic senators, support privately any attempt to pass a bill carrying out Eisenhower's recommendation to study the filibuster. This is the talking device by which Southern Democrats have repeatedly prevented a vote on civil rights proposals in the past."

**BYRNES' STAND**  
Former Gov. James F. Byrnes of South Carolina, who supported Eisenhower in 1952, commented, "The white people of the Southern States . . . have to act in concert with independence if they hope to receive any consideration from either the Democratic party or the Republican party."

Byrnes said at Columbia, S.C., that the Democratic Party for some years "ought to be a Republican party for the votes of the Negroes," and he continued:

"The President in his message . . . indicates he is going to . . . a program that will outbid the Democratic party. In my opinion, his effort is laudable, but it will bid and low bid the Democratic party will bid before next November."

Eisenhower, in recommending the commission, said in his State of the Union message:

"It is disturbing that in some localities allegations persist that Negro citizens are being deprived of their right to vote and are likewise subjected to unwarranted economic pressure."

He recommended that the substance of these charges be thoroughly examined by a bipartisan commission created by the Congress. It is hoped that a commission will be established promptly so that it may arrive at findings that during the trial he would call the jurors again if news stories are prejudicing them.

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