



NO SONJA HENIES...



(News Staff Photo by Tom Franklin-Walters)
Ice Was Slick At The Coliseum Last Night

Floods Bring More Misery To Deep-Frozen Europeans

... BUT CHARLOTTEANS DO LIKE ICE SKATING

Death Toll Up To 568 For 17 Days

LONDON — Biting frosts and a new cold wave struck much of Europe and into the Middle East today, piling misery on misery in a 17-day freeze-up which already has cost 568 lives.

Torrential rains and melting snows brought Turkey new disasters after warmer weather yesterday. The known dead there totaled 72.

Ice jams and a brief thaw sent the Rhine and scores of rivers rampaging over their banks in central Europe.

Yugoslavia estimated its flood damage from the Strumica River alone at a million dollars.

The Netherlands reported the coldest night since 1945 with temperatures down to 13 below zero.

Even sunny Spain froze up again after warmer weather yesterday.

Behind the cold wave lurked the specter of famine. Crop losses already ran into millions of dollars.

KNOWN DEAD

Known deaths attributed to the weather were:

France 124, Turkey 72, Italy 67, Yugoslavia, 67, Britain 47, Denmark 31, Greece 26, Germany 26, Austria 19, Holland 16, Portugal 15, Spain 15, Switzerland 12, Belgium 7, Sweden 6, Berlin and East Germany 5, Poland 4, Norway 3 and Libya 2.

Scores more were feared lost in villages still snowbound across the continent. And nine men were aboard the 359-ton Norwegian ship Norway, missing since Sunday off Norway's icebound south coast.

Relief organizations rushed food and clothing to more than 250 persons left homeless by floods in Turkish Thrace. The raging waters swept away bridges and railroads. Thousands of acres of rich farmlands were inundated.

Delayed reports from the Turkish mountain hamlet of Aga Kumsaid 20 persons were killed and 6 were missing after a huge avalanche. Cave-ins caused by floods in the Zongulak region killed nine miners.

ITALY SNOWBOUND

Central and southern Italy, with scores of villages still snowbound, suffered in temperatures down to below zero. Fuel shortages and rising food prices were reported across the country.

Three boys drowned after falling through thin ice at Shorpen, Norway.

Some German cities reported their coldest night of the freeze-up. Bonn had 8 below zero and Nuerbnberg 13 below. Floods from

See FLOODS on page 2-A

What's Inside

A riot after the North Carolina-Wake Forest game at Chapel Hill last night is discussed by Ed Quincy in his column in the sports section. Should these teams cancel relationship? Bones McKinney, Wake Forest coach, says no. Read his opinion on the matter, on Page 6-B.

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Senators Meet On Broadening Gas Inquiry

WASHINGTON — A closed meeting of the Senate Elections Subcommittee was called today to discuss a projected broad inquiry into campaign contributions in the wake of the national gas bill fight.

Chairman Gore (D-Tenn.) said he would recommend that the elections unit embark on an investigation into "campaign contributions, federal elections and any evidence of corrupt practices which may be revealed."

Gore said the inquiry he had in mind would be "far wider" than any contributions or pressure involved in the Natural Gas Bill and would "run throughout the year."

AWAITS ACTION

The gas bill, to exempt producers of natural gas from direct federal controls, was passed by the Senate last week amid complaints of pressure from both side. It is now awaiting action by President Eisenhower.

A special committee, set up under the chairmanship of Sen. George D. Acheson, spent the weekend investigating whether a \$250 campaign contribution rejected by Sen. Francis Case (R-SD) was designed to influence his vote on the gas bill. Case voted against the bill after telling the Senate about the contribution offer.

Rumor Has Princess Embracing Catholicism

LONDON — A new rumor is going around about Princess Margaret — that she may soon be converted to Roman Catholicism.

Neither Buckingham Palace nor other official sources had any comment so far on the reports published in some continental and London newspapers that such a religious change is contemplated by the 25-year-old princess whose sister, Queen Elizabeth II, is the "defender of the faith" of the Protestant Church of England.

But the Duke of Norfolk, Britain's leading Roman Catholic layman, denounced as "sheer nonsense" rumors that his audience last week with Pope Pius XII was to discuss the conversion of a "noted English personality" to the Church.

There were published reports in 1953 that Princess Margaret had embarked on a new and fuller religious life after the death of her father, King George VI. One report was that she was considering entering a religious order — presumably an Anglican one — was denied by Buckingham Palace.

Margaret's religious outlook was generally considered to have played an important role in her decision last fall not to marry Royal Air Force group Capt. Peter Townsend.

The dashing air force hero was divorced and in her statement announced she would not marry him. Margaret said that Christian marriage is indissoluble, and conscious of my duty to the commonwealth, I have resolved to put these considerations before any others.



But There Was Courage Among Hundreds As Charlotte Tried Skating. More Pictures On Second Front

Famous Pilot Is Missing

MONT JOLI, Que. — Harold E. "Whitey" Dahl, a headlining flier of fortune since the Spanish Civil War, is believed missing with three other persons on a flight over northeast Canada's frozen wastes and icy waters.

Northland pilots at the distant early warning (DEW) radar line base here said Dahl was piloting the American-owned DC3 transport which disappeared early Tuesday on a 3½-hour, 400-mile flight from Fort Chimo, Que.

There was no official confirmation that the missing pilot was Dahl nor was there any identification available of the three passengers reported aboard the plane since suffering a "heart" attack.

However, the 47-year-old adventurer has been reported flying supplies for the DEW line now under construction across the Canadian north, and traffic control officers at Montreal's Dorval airport said a message from Frobiisher Bay identified the pilot of the plane as "Dahl."

The missing plane was believed owned by M. Marshall Landy of Miami, Fla. He could not be reached by newsmen last night.

Skaters Must Wait Until March For Return To Ice

By EMERY WISTER

That will likely be March 19 or 20. A coliseum employe said plans are being made to have public skating for about a week immediately after the end of Hollywood Ice Revue on March 18.

The city will have skates to rent, it is understood. About 400 pairs of skating shoes will be ordered. Rental fees have not been set.

The huge crowds that turned out last night for Charlotte's first public skating was plenty of evidence that there'll be customers available in March.

It was the greatest Yankee invasion since Sherman marched through Georgia.

They came by taxis, by scores and then by the hundreds to skate side by side with their southern cousins, who soon were gliding with the best of them.

A news reporter stopped a dozen skaters to ask what states they came from. Ten were from North of the Mason-Dixon line, the other two were native Tar Heels. But they had learned to skate while living in the land to the north.

It's impossible to say how many skated last night. Some would glide around on the ice for awhile, then turn their blades over to someone else.

But at times there were as many as 500 persons on the ice. There were, in fact, too many. The ice was so crowded it melted about the trailing offer.

James C. Hagerty, White House press secretary, said he "would not be surprised" if Eisenhower played a few holes of golf before the end of the week. It would be the first time since his Sept. 24 heart attack that the chief executive has done anything more than put a bit and practice iron shots.

Yesterday he had his first crack at hunting since the attack.

Within 15 minutes after getting to the Humphrey place, the President and the Cabinet officer had changed to hunting togs and were off to the fields aboard a green-wheeled roadster drawn by two white mules. Behind was another hunting roadster with red wheels carrying the bird dogs and some of the Negro beaters whose job it is to flush the quail.

Eisenhower and Humphrey rode around the big estate for two hours but sighted birds only twice. And neither brought down any quail.

Our Weather

Partly cloudy and slightly cooler today, tonight and tomorrow with a possibility of scattered showers.

Low this morning—49.
Low tomorrow morning—42.
High yesterday—66.
High today—63.
High tomorrow—60.
Sunrise 7:08 a.m.; sunset 6:06 p.m.

More Weather Data on Page 3-A

Evening Prayer

Our dear Father, through our tears we thank Thee for what was made possible by the devotion of Thy servant, in the name of Christ, the great Giver of Amen.

SNORKEL MAIL BOXES ARE BACK AT OLD SPOTS WITH NEW LOOKS

Have you missed a snorkel mail box recently at the Post Office?

Well, rest easy, all three of these "curb service" boxes are back at their regular stand along W. 4th, Mint and W. Trade Sts. And they are now painted in bright red, white and blue colors.

George E. Wilson Jr., Charlotte postmaster, said that regular mail boxes were placed at the three locations around the Post Office Building as each of the boxes was painted. He said mail boxes throughout the city will get the red, white and blue treatment as soon as good painting weather arrives.

First Day After Deadline Poice Spot Few Tag Violations

Most Mecklenburg motorists are still on the road today after successfully meeting last night's midnight deadline for 1956 auto tags.

At County Police headquarters, Capt. George A. Stephens said that reports this morning showed that most people had converted. No tickets had been handed out for tag violations by County Police, he said.

He added that some people had neglected to remove expired plates from the front of their cars.

This, he said, is not only confusing to police, but is a violation of the law.

LIGHT RUSH

Sgt. O. R. Roberts, head of the Mecklenburg Unit, State Highway Patrol, said that his men were keeping a steady watch for tag violators, but that everybody seemed to have changed tags.

The last-minute crowd of tag buyers was exceptionally light yesterday at the Carolina Motor Club, 701 S. Tryon St., according to T. E. Pickard, vice president and general manager.

News Poll Shows Educators Opposed TEACHER AIDE IDEA UNPOPULAR

By CHARLES KURALT
Charlotte News Staff Writer

If teachers' aides ever come to Charlotte classrooms, they may get a cool reception.

An informal poll by The News of elementary school teachers, principals and Parent-Teachers Association presidents today turned up only one person who favors the idea without reservation.

Twenty teachers were picked at random and asked their opinions of the plan. All 20 found fault with it and one called it "ridiculous."

City School Board member J. P. Hobson proposed a study of the idea yesterday. It would put competent assistants in the classrooms alongside regular teachers to help out with the dozens of routine, non-teaching jobs teachers have to do.

The plan has been used with considerable success in Bay City, Mich., and has the support of an impressive collection of education experts.

But the Charlotte teachers interviewed took a decidedly dim view. So did most principals.

"It's not a cure-all," Dr. Otis said. "But I would like to see it tried in one or two schools on a limited basis to see how it works."

That idea was also advanced by several of the teachers. An Elizabeth School teacher said she would be willing to have an assistant for a while.

"But there is so much of this work a teacher just can't escape," she said. "Even this matter of keeping records. It's a chore, but I learn a lot about my pupils that way."

Mrs. Rachel B. Mason, Chantilly principal, conceded assistants would be a big advantage in very large classes. "I prefer average sized classes and one teacher, however," she said.

The Chantilly PTA president, Mrs. G. S. Clontz, said she thought teachers could use aides on the playground and to give them a needed break in the day's routine. "But, frankly, they might get in the way in the classroom," she said.

All the teachers agreed they would like to spend less time

Ike's Quail Score Big Round Zero

THOMASVILLE, Ga. (AP)—Vacationing President Eisenhower put bird hunting ahead of politics today and hoped for better luck in a new quest for elusive quail.

With the president waiting for his answer on a second-term bid, the President for the time being is intent on relaxing in this since suffering a "heart" attack.

The President, planning about a week's vacation in this piney woods area of south Georgia, was up early and had breakfast — a small steak 7:30 a.m. At that time the skies still were heavily overcast after an all-night rain.

STUN COMES OUT

But the sun came out a bit later

Doing routine work But most said they spend almost all their classroom time actually teaching. Two suggest that if aides are hired, they come to work in the afternoon after children have gone home.

"That's when all the routine work is done," one said.

Mrs. Eva H. Burch of Midwood School said recent school construction has made classes considerably smaller at Midwood and there isn't the need for assistants there might have been a few years ago. When she mentioned the idea to several teachers recently, "I got a rather cool impression," she said.

The plan has come into national prominence with the publication of several magazine articles recently calling attention to its success in Michigan and suggesting it as a palliative for the problem of crowded schools.

The city schools' administration will investigate the plan and make a report to the School Board next month on its findings.