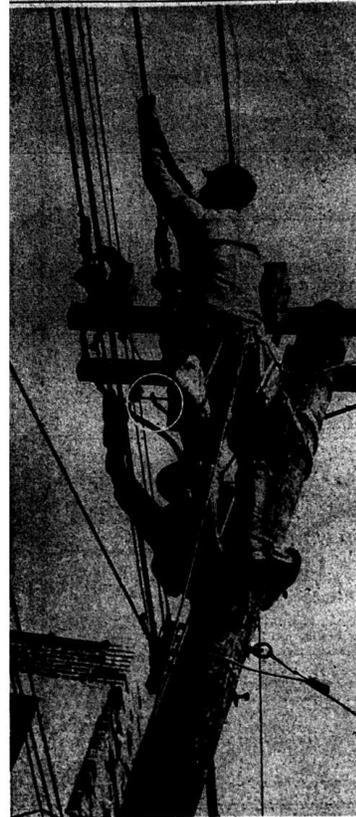


CHARLOTTE NEWS LEADER
NEWS OF THE CITY AND COUNTRY



LINEMEN AT WORK—Two Duke Power Co. men are shown as they were repairing a broken power cable at 227 E. Church St. as they were repairing a broken power cable at 227 E. Church St. as they were repairing a broken power cable at 227 E. Church St.

Divorce
Public Approval Of Divorce
Basic Cause For High Rate

ALMOST every day some woman enters a Charlotte law office — any office will do — and says she wants a divorce. The attorney's first question is, "How long have you lived in the county?" New at the game, a woman will blurt to two or three weeks of residence. A reputable lawyer refuses her case, and tells her the law requires six months' residence. Forewarned, she simply goes to another law office, asks for help with her divorce, tells the second lawyer she's a Mecklenburg citizen of six months' standing, and goes through the mill of the courts.

That happens often, and most of the applicants are South Carolinians stuck with a marriage distasteful to them, for one reason or another. Almost any lawyer can testify to the common practice of perjury in such cases, and a good many of them steadfastly refuse divorce cases unless they are familiar with the family background. There are hints from many lawyers that a veritable divorce mill, accompanied by all kinds of questionable and illegal practices, is in operation. There is enough of this talk to suggest a full-scale investigation, but to the layman the skeins of evidence are tenuous and often hidden.

When the case was taken to State court, according to her story she was sent to a local attorney who had never heard of her from her first husband set aside. So, he reports, she is now married to both men, is living with the first husband, and he himself (the second husband) must wait out two years of separation before he is free from her. All through his story are cases of perjury, of malfeasance by lawyers, witnesses and principals. It is now planned to indict the wife for bigamy, among other items.

But these things are likely true in many other communities. And though the public has a right to expect its attorneys to slow down, make customers to make a divorce mill hum. They have shown themselves willing to do anything to get divorces, and would be deterred only temporarily by minor changes in the law. There is a general, and basic, confusion in the North Carolina law. It is here, particularly, here realistic lawyers who approach this problem of divorce must be able to make sure that the law is not being used to circumvent the law.

When a man, or a woman, enters business he or she is expected to stand or fall (in court and out) alone. But when a woman enters a divorce she is protected by a web of legal niceties. The courts are not to be used to deny her a divorce, and she should make no distinction between man and woman before the bar.

For example, the woman is protected financially if she or her husband seeks a divorce in the state of whatever state is forced to pay attorney's fees or other costs of litigation. If she can't afford to get a divorce, or fight her husband's efforts to get one, the court can order the husband to pay the bill. And this is true in every case except when she is shown to be guilty of adultery. That the husband or wife can be placed at her husband's mercy. But the laws are not consistent in this respect.

If a woman seeks a divorce without a husband or wife can be made to pay attorney's fees (and the amount of attorney's fees is not fixed, but set by agreement). If she has children, she can get support for her children. Why not require the husband to support the wife and children about it, why not throw it up there and other safeguards for marriage and hindrance to divorce? Alimony is a whole subject that merits a separate article. The courts are not to be used to deny her a divorce, and she should make no distinction between man and woman before the bar.

Would Lay
'All Cards'
On Table
Data At Home &
Abroad Urged

LAKE SUCCESS, N. Y. — (AP) — The United States called on all members of the United Nations today to lay "all cards" on the table, and make complete reports on the numbers of their troops both at home and abroad.

Without formally accepting a Soviet-sponsored resolution, the United States delegation in Washington said it would support the proposal if the Soviet Union would agree to disclose the numbers of its troops at home and abroad.

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Brownouts Loom

U. S. Makes Plans
To Conserve Soft
Coal Stockpiles

The nation today has plans to husband its soft coal stockpiles as thousands of workers stayed away from the bituminous coal mines—hours in advance of John L. Lewis' midnight United Mine Workers contract termination.

The Government prepared to urge governors of states east of the Mississippi, and perhaps of Iowa, Missouri, and Minnesota, to refrain to wartime brownouts.

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Lawyers For
UMW Chief
In Eleventh
Hour Huddle

Contract Expires
At Midnight
By HAROLD W. WARD
WASHINGTON — (AP) — John L. Lewis' lawyers went today on an eleventh hour huddle today as the midnight deadline for the U. M. W. contract termination notice that allows a shutdown in the soft coal mines.

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News Edition Delayed

Power Failure Hits
Business Section

Failure of a Duke Company power circuit on S. Church St. near Third St. interfered with commercial and business activities over an extensive uptown area here today and disrupted mechanical operations at The News more than an hour.

Seminary At
Wake Talked

ASHVILLE — (AP) — Resolutions asking appointment of a committee to offer Wake Forest College Seminary and to allow the General Board and institutions to borrow against expected revenue were to be presented this afternoon at the 118th annual session of North Carolina Baptist State Convention.

Dr. Carl M. Townsend of Raleigh was to present the resolution for a convention committee to offer Wake Forest College Seminary and to allow the General Board and institutions to borrow against expected revenue were to be presented this afternoon at the 118th annual session of North Carolina Baptist State Convention.

One Killed, One
Hurt Near Bridge

ROCK HILL, S. C. — (AP) — Lanny H. Pearson, 23, of North Wilkesboro, was killed last night and his brother, Lawrence, was in a Charlotte, N. C. hospital with multiple injuries suffered when their truck struck the rear of a stalled truck near the Buster Boyd Bridge.

How to Give
Advance Dope
On UNC, Duke

News Sports Editor Ray Howe, who has seen Carolina and Duke in action several times this season, will offer for Chapel Hill this afternoon to report on pre-game developments as the annual battle of the giants. Saturday night.

Nazi Underground
Gang Arrested

FRANKFURT, Germany — (AP) — U. S. Army Headquarters announced today the arrest of fifteen members of an underground gang of former Nazis and Hitler youth leaders in connection with recent bombings at Stuttgart, Easting and Buchen.

CIO Condemns
U. S. Coal Move

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J. — (AP) — The CIO convention today condemned a Federal Court order designed to head off a fullscale coal strike stoppage as a "clear violation of the Norris-La Guardia Act."

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125,000 Coal
Men Idle

PITTSBURGH — (AP) — Amid signs of a possible complete shut-down of the soft coal industry by tomorrow, thousands more miners stayed away from their jobs today.

Unemployment Compensation
Strikers Won't Get
Pay In Many States

WORKERS on strike. The state court of appeals several years ago ruled in a United Mine Workers case that strikers who accept payments but if idle due to a lockout they can be compensated.

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Woman, Aged 39,
Bears 21st Child

NEW LONDON, Conn. — (AP) — Mrs. Joseph Fines, 39, wife of a Portuguese-Negro construction worker at the U. S. Navy submarine base here, was back at her household today six days after giving birth for the 21st time.

Mr. McAlister Of
Greensboro Dies

WORTH, N. C. — (AP) — Mr. McAlister, 64, prominent business executive and welfare worker here, died here today.

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WEATHER

Partly cloudy and slightly warmer this afternoon. Light rain at 11:30 p. m. High and low last 24 hours: 71-51. Forecast: tomorrow 71-51. Source: tomorrow 71-51.