THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

★★★★★ Edition

Largest Afternoon Newspaper in The Carolinas

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Weather

Mostly cloudy, warm, humid with showers today and tonight.

More Weather Data on Page 2-A

AFL Seeks Increased Membership By Raids On CIO

MATTHEWS SCORES PROPOSED NAVY CUTS

CIO Fights May Make Task Easier

AFL To Enlarge Political Activity

By NORMAN WALKER

ST. PAUL, Minn.—(AP)—The AFL today embarked on a plan to carve huge membership chunks from the CIO toward achieving a figured 1,000,000-member gain in 1950.

Key officials of the American Federation of Labor said privately they expect to pick up big parts of CIO unions, when the factional scrap in the CIO comes to a head, as may happen soon.

A showdown between the CIO's left wing and the right wing elements is shaping up for the CIO convention at Cleveland later this month. CIO President Phillip Murray has threatened his left wing union leaders with expulsion.

Labor circles expect the result to be a splintering up the CIO's major unions, with the CIO trying to salvage as many members as possible and repudiated left wing leaders trying to drag large membership groups from the CIO.

Officials of the rival AFL, in annual convention here, are looking forward to an expected CIO civil war with glee. They say they hope to woo big CIO segments into AFL ranks as a result of the split.

That's what is behind the announced AFL goal to pick up a million new members next year to boost AFL political power in the 1950 elections.

The AFL has dressed up its combined vote-getting-membership as a centennial birthday celebration for Samuel Gompers, the AFL's late founder.

Gompers had advocated a neutrality for labor in national politics. AFL has discarded that policy completely for an extremely political role, mostly in favor of Democratic Party candidates.

In fact, the AFL convention voted yesterday to quit holding conventions in presidential election years after election day, a Gompers-policy practice. Instead, AFL conventions hereafter will be held right before presidential elections, a move designed to put the AFL deeper into politics.

Charles MacGowan, president of the Boilermakers Union and a major AFL political leader, told delegates here that by adding a million new AFL members next year, the AFL could make its political job "that much easier." He said it would boost AFL ballot power.

How the AFL could pick up a million new members in 1950 intrigued newsmen. Because AFL leaders had reported spending almost $2,000,000 from AFL national headquarters, plus many times that amount from local union treasuries in the past year on member getting but netted only a little more than 20,000 new ones.

Asked about this, one top AFL man said: "We've got to raid CIO unions or our organizing drive will be a flop. We don't want left wingers in these floundering CIO unions, but we do want the right wing members who, after all, are in the majority of all these unions."

Murray, now in the middle of the crucial steel strike, may patch up his CIO factional trouble to fell the rival AFL's organizing plan. The CIO was originally formed of AFL unions who split away from the older labor organization.

The CIO's factional troubles are boiling up in ten or more industry groups, including electrical manufacturing, farm equipment, longshoremen, food processing, furniture making, mining, fur working, communications, ship cooks and Government and office workers.

City Worth Atomic Bombing, Story Says

By TOM FESPERMAN
Charlotte News Staff Writer

Atomic fingers have pointed to Charlotte, and the results could be explosive.

This city has been singled out as an important atom bomb target for the Russians.

The startling distinction came from the U. S. News & World Report, a serious weekly news magazine out of Washington.

Charlotte, the Report says, is one of the 92 U. S. population centers the Reds could reach with the bomb.

It's the only place in the Carolinas selected by the Report's experts, or somebody else just as expert, as a likely goal of a Russian plane.

Atlanta might get it. Richmond and Norfolk might get it. Oak Ridge, of course, and Knoxville and Chattanooga.

All this is in a highly speculative essay printed in Editor David Lawrence's periodical.

There are, it seems, 92 U. S. cities of more than 100,000 population which lie within range of Soviet suicide planes.

These planes would have to take off from Russian bases and hop over the North pole, across Canada on a southward beam, drop their bombs, and . . .

Well, and land, evidently.

They wouldn't have the gas to get them back to Stalin real estate.

ONE BOMB'S WORTH

The Report indicates that Charlotte is about one bomb's worth of target.

"One bomb to a city is considered sufficient except for very big cities or cities widely dispersed. Then two or more may be needed," the essay says.

This could be regarded as confirmation of something W. Kerr Scott said several times while he was campaigning for North Carolina's governorship and even since he was elected.

Cities, the Governor said, shouldn't be any bigger. In this atomic era, he said, industrial plants ought to be put out in the rural areas, away from the congested towns—like Charlotte.

ANOTHER OPINION

In Rome, Atom Bomb Scientist Enrico Fermi said something only today that puts him at odds with the Governor. He says wide dispersal of factories is impractical and unnecessary.)

The farming areas will become more and more important, Mr. Scott insists.

However, civic boosters could counter this propaganda with proclamations approximately as follows:

"Charlotte must be the most important city in the Carolinas. It's the only place worth being bombed."

Cantonese Flee From Big City

Government May Go To Chungking

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chinese began fleeing from Canton today as the front to the north showed signs of caving in under the pressure of attacking Red armies.

Diplomats in Canton said they expected to hear shortly that the Nationalist capital was being moved to Chungking. That was the wartime capital in Western China.

Kukong, anchor city only 125 miles north of Canton, was yielded without a fight. Hengyang, the Nationalist base 265 miles to the north, appeared to have been abandoned.

Press reports said Gen. Pai Chung-Hsi, central front commander, had quit Hengyang and would set up headquarters at Kweilin, capital of his native Kwangsi Province.

That was a hint he may leave Canton to its fate. His 200,000-man army is the best left to the Nationalists on the Chinese mainland.

The pro-Communist Newspaper Wen Wei Pao in Hong Kong said Communist troops entered Hengyang Friday afternoon.

In the hour of Canton's ordeal, there was considerable diplomatic maneuvering.

A well-informed Commonwealth diplomat in London said Britain will recognize the newly-established Chinese Communist regime in Peiping. India was expected to take a like step. Other Commonwealth governments might follow suit. Trade with China is a big factor.

So far only Russia and her retinue of Eastern European states have recognized the "peoples republic" of Communist Mao Tze-Tung.

The British step would break the front of Western powers who so far have remained mute on the question of recognizing Peiping.

The United States, which has lower commercial interests in Communist-occupied China, lashed out at the Mao regime. There was nothing diplomatic in Washington's language.

The State Dept. issued a formal statement denouncing the Communist order barring the new-gathering activities of all correspondents from nations not recognizing the Peiping Government.

The statement also noted pointedly that U. S. consular officials have not been allowed to leave Mukden and that the Communists at least assented to mob action against American businessmen in Shanghai.

The formal Communist bid for American recognition was thrust away in a State Dept. pigeonhole.

The Nationalists, possibly to avoid offending the greatest power of any firm against Red recognition, abruptly released two U. S. merchantmen which had been held by blockading Nationalist gunboats.

Coal Talks Will Be Resumed Wednesday

By HAROLD W. WARD

WASHINGTON —(AP)—John L. Lewis and the soft coal operators agreed today to resume contract negotiations next Wednesday at 3 P. M. (EST) in Charleston and White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.

Lewis and the Southern Coal Producers Association will be in Charleston, instead of Bluefield, W. Va., because of a convention in the latter city which crowded the negotiators out of their usual hotel accommodations.

They gave up those quarters this week to come to Washington for talks with Conciliation Director Cyrus S. Ching.

Northern and Western commercial operators and the steel company interests will meet with the mine workers' chief at White Sulphur Springs, the famous watering resort where they have been conferring intermittently throughout the Summer.

Ching told the United Mine Workers' boss and the representatives of the mine owners that "each day brings the nation closer to a crisis" as coal supplies shrink. He said "this strike must be settled promptly."

There were threats of a nationwide railroad strike and a walkout by some 20,000 aluminum workers by night status.

In Washington, Edwin G. Nourse, chairman of the President's Economic Advisory Council, said that a month of continued strikes in the coal and steel industries would seriously threaten the national welfare.

The Government has made no move in the week-old steel strike. The dispute over pensions and insurance has made idle some 450,000 CIO United Steelworkers in basic steel plants and forced the layoff of thousands of other workers in steel-related industries.

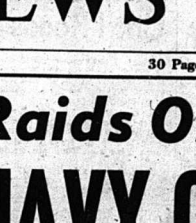
Ching said no immediate plans have been made to call the union and steel companies back into Government sponsored negotiations. But he said he was keeping in close touch with developments in the week-old strike.

The CIO-USW served notice on the Aluminum Co. of America that 20,000 workers in eight states will strike Oct. 17 unless a satisfactory contract is agreed upon. The union is demanding a wage boost and free pensions and insurance. Also, which produces about half the nation's aluminum, said the union's contract demands are indefinite.

Officials of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen & Enginemen met in Chicago to consider possible strike action. The general chairman will decide whether to authorize a

See CHING on page 2-A

AIR FORCE CRITIC



ADMIRAL RADFORD . . . calls B-36 "a billion dollar blunder."

Secretary Fears For U. S. Safety

Air Arm Would Be Cut In Half

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Secretary Matthews said today the Navy believes that cuts in naval spending ordered in the Pentagon would impair the nation's security.

He testified in a Senate Armed Services Committee hearing where a storm already had been set off by a charge that "secret orders" from the Defense Department threatened to ditch the Navy's air arm.

The committee is in the second day of an inquiry into friction between the services.

Matthews said the Navy is bucking the cuts and Secretary of Defense Johnson has agreed to give it a hearing.

Chairman Vinson (D-Ga) first reported the cut orders, and said the apportionment was decided by "defense leaders to the Pentagon and the other services . . . out of sympathy with the Navy air arm."

Vinson said the $133,000,000 reduction assigned to the Navy, outside the cuts made by Congress, would cut Navy and Marine aviation "about in half."

He said more than half that cut would be applied to naval aviation and the sum is "out of proportion."

"As this picture unfolds," Vinson said, "it looks to me like it is not difficult to comprehend the concern of the air arm of the Navy and the Navy in general."

Building up his complaint of unfairness in the Pentagon, Vinson said he has reliable authority for a report that the Air Force wants all large aircraft carriers and their air groups out of the Navy.

"The Navy would become a protective convoy to move troops and fight submarines," Vinson said.

He got verification of his figures from Rear Admiral Herbert G. Hopwood, the Navy budget officer, and Wilfred McNeil, comptroller of the Defense Department.

The former officer testified that the Navy will take the heaviest cuts below the sums Congress appropriated, under the orders from Johnson's office.

The Navy share is about nine per cent of its 1950 money, while the Air Force cut is about three and a half per cent. The Army's assigned cut is around eight per cent.

But McNeil said he knows of no discrimination against any one service. It is all in line, he said, with plans Johnson announced months ago to try to bring about an $800,000,000 saving in defense spending.

Turning direct to Matthews on the stand, Vinson asked:

If Johnson adheres to the recommendations would there be a very definite curtailment of the Navy's fighting ability?

Matthews agreed there would be a curtailment.

"Then," Vinson said, "it would necessarily impair the security of the country?"

"That is our opinion," the Navy's Secretary answered crisply.

The committee inquiry into long simmering Navy-Air Force bickering got off to a sensational cracked start yesterday.

Admiral Arthur W. Radford characterized the B-36 as a "billion dollar blunder," accused the Air Force of trying to "eliminate" naval aviation, and denounced the whole Air Force strategic bombing concept as unsound.

Czech Regime Will Take Over Churches

By NATE POLOWETZKY

PRAGUE, Czechoslovakia, —(AP)— The Prague press says the State will take over control of all churches in Czechoslovakia on Nov. 1, under a Communist Government church control bill.

The newspaper Svobodne Slovo said the bill which has been bitterly opposed by the Roman Catholics, becomes law that day. It applies to all denominations.

The bill goes before the national assembly when it reconvenes on Oct. 14. Parliamentary committees reportedly will meet Monday to start work on setting up a ministry to govern church affairs.

The ministry will be headed by a Cabinet member to be appointed by President Klement Gottwald. The Cabinet member will be empowered to demand inventories of church properties, dismiss any priest whose citizenship is questionable and supervise administration of all churches and church societies.

TO PAY SALARIES

Under the bill the state will pay the salaries of priests and pastors as civil servants. The Government will assume complete control of financial and administrative affairs of the church and will control appointments, including the naming of priests.

The bill has been denounced by the Roman Catholic primate of Czechoslovakia, Archbishop Josef Beran. Church sources say the measure has been opposed in writing by more than 70 per cent of the nation's Roman Catholic priests.

The Government - controlled press and radio insist the majority of priests are supporting the bill. However, more than 250 priests and nuns are reported in jail in the Government's campaign to stamp out opposition to the bill.

Meanwhile the purge of Czechoslovak civilians continued.

Police prowled the streets of Prague last night and early today, extending the roundup which already has jailed thousands of persons in this fear-chilled capital alone.

There were indications the purge would be widened.

One strong hint came in a broadcast, over the official security police radio station, which declared "Not only the support and propagation of Fascism must be punished, but everything that smells of bourgeois nationalism and chauvinism must be destroyed by the roots."

There still was no direct mention on the official radio or in the controlled Czech press about the weekly police roundup about which virtually everyone in Prague was talking—mostly in fearful whispers.

Mother Kills Two Children

KALAMAZOO, Mich. —(AP)— A 27-year-old mother went berserk today and killed her two children with a celery knife, police said.

Undersheriff B. K. McGregor said she told him she couldn't stand the continual crying of the children.

William Howard Freeman, 28, the husband, said he found his wife, Robinette, this morning sitting in a blood-spattered bathtub with the knife in her hand.

The dead body of their nine-month-old baby, Larry, was in the tub. In a nearby bedroom was the body of another son, John Carroll, six.

The Freemans had just moved into their new home last night and had not even unpacked all their furniture.

Freeman gave this account to Undersheriff McGregor:

He was in town this morning doing some shopping. He phoned his wife to ask if se wanted him to bring home some groceries.

She talked to him in a strange fashion. Sensing something was wrong, he rushed home.

There he found the children dead and his wife in the tub weeping frantically. After a struggle, he removed the five-inch knife from her hand.

Mrs. Freeman was held at the sheriff's office without charge for investigation.

Houston Is Flooded By 10-Inch Rainfall

HOUSTON, Tex.—(AP)—One person had drowned and residents were being evacuated from suburban areas early today as wastewater in Houston faced a serious flood threat.

The heaviest rain in years sent bayous and creeks of the state's most populated county on a rampage.

Rain continued to fall heavily after the municipal airport weather bureau gave a total measurement of 9.93 inches for the ten-hour period ending at 1 A. M.

Drowned was 43-year-old Tony Lock of Houston. He was sucked under by high tides and swift current at Sheldon Reservoir, east of Houston.

A Red Cross evacuation unit was set up at Texas West University Community Center.

More than 25 persons were rescued with boats in the first two hours of the deluge.

In fashionable West University Place, a suburban municipality southwest of Houston, acme houses stood three feet in water. Night Police Chief M. M. Simpson said calls for boats continued to come from the area early today.

Several bayous and creeks overflowed into Jacinto City, Pasadena and Galena Park—all near Houston—as rain continued to fall, accompanied by rising winds.

A sewer crew caused evacuations in Jacinto City as water poured into many houses. Hundreds of other homes were threatened.

Streets in Houston and other cities, and several highways were flooded.

The rain capped a week of freak weather for the Houston area. A hurricane and two small tornadoes hit the area earlier.

Harris County Flood Control Engineer R. J. Putnieg said:

"Monday's hurricane left all the bayous practically full. Most of them could have stood today's rain if it had not been for the hurricane rainfall."

The weather bureau said 9.93 inches had fallen since 6 A.- M. Friday.

SOME FLOOD!

DARTMOUTH, Eng. —(AP)— Patrons of the local pub rubbed their eyes and looked again.

Fish were swimming in flooded streets after a cloudburst backed up the River Dart through the town's sewer system.

Utah Senator Dies Suddenly

WASHINGTON.—(AP)—U. S. Senator Bert Henry Miller, Idaho Democrat, died of a heart attack at his home here at 8 A. M. (EST) today. He was 70 years old.

Miller, then a justice of the Idaho Supreme Court, was elected to the Senate last November in the sweep that saw the Democrats recapture control of Congress and elect President Truman.

His defeat of Republican Senator Henry C. Dworshak helped to give the Democrats the 54 to 42 edge they held in the Senate at the beginning of this session. Since then the margin has been cut to 53 to 43 through the resignation of Senator Wagner (D-N.Y.) and the appointment of John Foster Dulles, a Republican, to succeed him.

Presumably Miller's death will mean the loss of another seat for his party, since Idaho's Gov. C. A. Robins, who will name a successor, is a Republican. This would leave the Democrats with a 52 to 44 margin.

Snow Isolates Idaho Hunters

BOISE, Idaho — (AP) — National Guardsmen battled into Central Idaho forested area today, trying to rescue hundreds of hunters marooned by the first snow storm of the year.

National Guard six-by-six trucks from Twin Falls headed for the Cascia division of the Minidoka National Forest, carrying emergency food, blankets, clothing and car chains.

Snow that piled as deep as ten inches in a steady drizzling storm endangered the hunters. Some 3,000 deer hunters entered the forest yesterday as a special hunt opened. The national forest lies along the Idaho-Utah border south of Twin Falls.

Other big game hunters were in Boise and Payette national forests.

Frostbite and frozen feet were reported.

Hundreds of hunters were isolated and their cars bogged in drifts.

Many persons were taken to hospitals at Burley and Twin Falls for treatment of frost bite.

Mrs. Lois Schreigost, 27, Rose Lake, was missing in southern Kootenai County. A foot of snow was reported in that area. A Shoshone boy was believed lost in the Stanley Basin since Thursday, officials said. Snow was ten inches deep at Galena Summit leading into the basin in south central Idaho.

Air lines and bus companies reported normal operations and James Reid, State highway director, said he had no adverse reports on main highway conditions.

In Oregon snow piled three feet deep at the popular Timberline Lodge ski resort on Mt. Hood.

Snow of lesser depths covered most of the Cascade Range passes in Oregon and Washington.

The region recorded temperatures down to twenty degrees above zero. Mild Seattle even got a few flakes, the earliest trace of snow in history there.

War Games Complete Even To Languages

HONOLULU—(AP)—They used to fill these military war games with broom sticks, but not now.

The games scheduled for Hawaii later this month will be so realistic that the "enemy" will speak a foreign language, Army officials said yesterday.

But they wouldn't name the language. That, they said, was a secret.

Mathews Hits Proposed Navy Cuts

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Air Standardization Is Urged By Airman

LOS ANGELES—(AP)—The former commander of the Berlin airlift urges standardization of commercial airliners to allow quick use by the military in a national emergency.

It would mean, said Maj. Gen. Laurence S. Kuter yesterday, "insurance against inefficiency, waste and delay in our air lift should it be called upon in another major emergency."

Kuter, now commander of the Military Air Transport Service, made his comment to the aeronautical panel of the Society of Automotive Engineers.

Money Stolen From Touring Americans Found

ZARAGOZA, Spain—(AP)—Those U. S. Congressmen touring Spain won't have to write home for money stolen from them.

The Spanish police today announced they had recovered the money stolen from the American lawmakers Sunday on the Barcelona-Bilbao Express.

The announcement said the police found exactly the amount the legislators reported stolen—$6,650 in various forms—in the hideout of four persons who had confessed the theft.

The money was stolen from Rep. Keogh (D-NY), the banker for the group which includes Sen. Brewster (R-Me), Rep. Green (D-Pa), Rep. Gregory (D-Ky) and Rep. Richards (D-SC).

The police said nothing, however, about those pants that were stolen from Richards.

Yankees Leading In Fourth Game

EBBETS FIELD, BROOKLYN —(AP)—The New York Yankees knocked out big Don Newcombe with a three-double blast in the fourth inning to take a 3-0 lead over Brooklyn at the end of four full innings of today's fourth World Series game before 33,000 fans.

American Explorer Denied Bail By Chinese Officials

CANTON—(AP)— American Explorer Leonard Clark today lost an appeal for release on bail. He is charged with manslaughter in the shooting of two companions at a drinking party which began as a wedding anniversary celebration.

Clark was brought dramatically into Canton District Court after the public prosecutor had subjected attorney Mary Freeman to more than three hours of questioning.

She is the widow of Willard Freeman, 41, Bridgewater, Mass., who was wounded fatally at the party at his home Sept. 8. Harold Harris, 45, a British subject and business associate of Freeman, was shot dead.

The prosecutor tried for a long time to wring an admission from her that she had been intimate with the San Francisco explorer. She consistently declared she had not.

In her presence, the prosecutor asked Clark if he had been her lover.

"No," replied the 42-year-old American who claimed recently he had discovered the world's highest mountain in the Amne Machin range of western China. He added:

"She was like a sister to me. We were friends and had many things in common but we were not in love with each other."

Clark denied that he shot either Freeman or Harris. He said Harris started a fight and Freeman joined in. Clark said he felt a sudden sharp pain in his chest, passed out, and woke up to find he had been shot over the heart.

The prosecutor promised the matter of Clark's release on bail would be considered after all persons who might shed some light on the shooting had been questioned.

Clark complained about his jail diet of bread and water. The prosecutor said he would look into it.

Atomic Scientist Sees No Early War

Provided U. S. Keeps Supremacy

By PHILIP CLARKE

ROME — (AP) — Atom Bomb Scientist Enrico Fermi predicted today that if the United States maintains atomic supremacy over Russia there will be no war for twenty years.

"American supremacy is predictable up to twenty years if we work hard," he said in an interview. "As for me, I expect to sleep as well as my insomnia permits. I'm a fatalist by nature, anyway."

He suggested that the atomic bomb alone might not decide a future war, explaining: "If I were a general I wouldn't want to put all my eggs in one basket. Conventional bombs took heavy tolls of armies and civilians alike in the last war."

Fermi, an Italian - born American scientist and Nobel Prize winner in physics, was a leader in the development of the first atomic bomb exploded near Los Alamos, N. M., in 1945.

Now a physics professor at the University of Chicago, Fermi is a frequent consultant to the Atomic Energy Commission. He will return to Chicago later this month after physics lectures at the University of Rome and in Milan.

Fermi replied to a series of questions with the following observations:

It is almost a certainty that Russia never will permit regular inspection of her atomic developments by United Nations experts.

American supremacy in atomic research "at present seems the only sure guarantee of peace."

America should look to its air defenses. He indicated any attack likely would be launched by enemy bombers.

Danger from atomic rocket attacks is largely a matter of the future. "At present there appears to be no possibility of any mass assault on America by rockets with atomic warheads."

The smuggling of an enemy bomb into the United States by submarine or other means is "possible but not probable."

Large scale attempts to move industry and populace underground are unnecessary. Wide dispersal of factories is impractical.

An so-called preventive war by the United States against Russia is "politically impossible and militarily impractical." Fermi said the American people never would accept the idea of a preventive war against Russia. Russian land armies, he said, so outnumber Western forces that a war now could only mean devastation of Europe.

Once Over Lightly

BY WALTER SEIGENTHALER

We are selling these other countries on "Free Enterprise" and they are taking us seriously. . . . There ain't much chance of me getting hold of any of these counterfeit $20 bills.

YOU PAY MORE IN TAXES THAN YOU THINK

How much of your money goes for taxes when you buy . . . A pack of cigarettes? A new automobile? A bottle of liquor? An Easter bonnet? A dozen eggs?

Earl Richert, Scripps-Howard staff writer looks behind price tags for the tax take in a revealing series of articles, "The Hand in YOUR Pocket," which starts Monday in The News.