



## The Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence

Charlotte, North Carolina  
May 20, 1775

**Resolved** — That whenever directly or indirectly the rights of any colony or colonies shall be violated or infringed upon by the Parliament of Great Britain or any power or authority under the authority of that Parliament, we do hereby declare that we are united in a firm and unalterable bond of union and friendship with the colonies of the United States and that we are united in a firm and unalterable bond of union and friendship with the colonies of the United States and that we are united in a firm and unalterable bond of union and friendship with the colonies of the United States...

### 'Reconstruction' Of Famed Declaration

## Yes, Charlotte, There Really Was A MecDec We Think

By JULIAN SCHER  
Charlotte News Staff Writer  
There are those in this land who do not believe in Santa Claus. There are others who do not believe in the Easter bunny. Still others, as a matter of fact, don't even believe in dreams. The Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence. Yes, Charlotte, there are some who don't even believe in this. WHO'S QUALIFIED  
True, you're not much of a Mecklenburger if you don't believe in it—but so is it really qualified to say it did or did not exist. The best argument against it is it was burned, and it is encased in glass in some shrine today. The best argument for it is

that a lot of people stake pretty good reputations on it. Today — in and behold — is Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence Day. Why is it so important that we salute the freedom fighters of yesterday "year today"? If the Mecklenburg Declaration did exist, it appeared before the more famous Declaration of Independence signed July 4, 1776. DECLARATION SIGNED  
Our own was signed May 20, 1775, say its supporters. If, indeed, it did exist, then today should be celebrated nationwide and not just locally. In part, the Declaration reportedly said, "We the citizens of Mecklenburg County do hereby dissolve the political bonds which have connected us with

## Prisoners Disarm Jail Force, Escape

KANSAS CITY — An intense dragnet operation turned up and trace today of three prisoners who gained complete control of the Jackson County courthouse Sunday and escaped after confining 11 officers and trustees. Five Negro prisoners escaped but two were recaptured quickly. The break from the 11th, 12th and 13th floors of the 22-story courthouse in downtown Kansas City was not discovered for more than 30 minutes. About 300 other prisoners released the opportunity to flee. Led by a tough, convicted robber armed with an improvised tom-pick, the five men grabbed an unarmy deputy, got his keys and swiftly took charge of the jail. They armed themselves with

guns taken from the jailers and from the jail arsenal. Sheriff Arvid Owens said Deputy Gould Winn violated rules and some jailers, and maintenance men. Some were handcuffed to posts. Others were locked in rooms and cells. Then the live rode an elevator to the ground floor and departed. About 30 minutes later another jailer coming on duty discovered the break and was releasing the deputies when city police arrived from headquarters across the street. A detective had made repeated telephone calls to the jail but got no answer.

## Graham Crusade Draws 19,000 Into Garden

NEW YORK (E-Exchange) — Bill Graham drew 19,000 people to Madison Square Garden last night — the largest crowd to date in his New York crusade. The arena's 18,500 seats were filled, and there were 500 standees. Graham's staff said 84,000 persons have attended the five nights the crusade has been in progress. Another record was set last night when six persons, husbands and wives, old and young, children and teen-agers, came forward in response to Graham's plea to "turn to Christ now." To date, 3,726 have walked down the pews, signifying their acceptance of, as Graham said, "a new

life that Christ can give." Graham took on his last May 17, 1957, upon which which Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of Man. He said the people of Noah's time. "They did not have time to listen. God decided I'm going to send a judgment and destroy man and start all over again."

# AFL-CIO Finds Beck Guilty In Fund Misuse

## Ervin Civil Rights Rider Is Defeated

WASHINGTON — Backers of civil rights legislation defeated in the Senate Judiciary Committee today an amendment by Sen. Ervin (D-NC) they contended would have "emasculated" the bill. The 64 vote, announced after a closed door meeting, marked the first actual voting test of strength in the weeks of jockeying which has bogged up the measure in the committee. Ervin's amendment would have stricken from the bill all but its last section, which is designed to protect the voting rights of Negroes and other minority groups. Chairman Eastland (D-Miss) said the vote was a "good chance that Senators will have a vote on the even more hotly contested proposal of Sen. McClellan (D-Ark) to look "right to work" amendment into the measure.



Benny Hooper Smiles From Hospital Where He Is Recovering From Ordeal

## Benny's Much Better, Wants Father To Take Him Fishing

MANORVILLE, N. Y. — Seven-year-old Benny Hooper Jr. says he feels better and wants to go fishing. But first, said his doctor, he'll need another week or 10 days to shake off several respiratory ailments. Benny was trapped almost 24 hours in neck-high sand after he fell to the bottom of a narrow well in his back yard. Rescuers pulled him from the 24-foot pit Friday evening. Three doctors gave the blue-eyed boy a thorough examination at Bayview General Hospital in nearby Mastic Beach yesterday.

"He is no dancier as far as we can see," said Dr. Joseph H. Kline. "He has a simple inflammation of the bronchial tubes leading to that lung and a simple inflammation of the stomach." The lung inflammation, he added, is not pneumonia but pneumonia, which is less serious. Benny's temperature dropped to 99.8 last night from a high of 102.8 in an oxygen tent. The blond youngster made short work of a milkshake and a bowl of pudding for supper. Earlier, his mother and father, his six-year-old sister Wendy and his grandparents, visited him. That's when he brought up the subject of a fishing trip. Hooper, a 34-year-old truck driver, promised to grant him his wish this summer. Before the visit with their son, Hooper and his wife, Beulah, 38, went to Bible Protestant Church Sunday. Benny left in the freshly dug well Thursday evening while his father turned to look for some help. More than 200 men fought through the night and the next day to reach the boy. Sam Woodson, 26-year-old Negro construction worker, pulled the boy out. Hooper issued a statement yesterday saying "God and teamwork did the job." "I know personally everyone who worked in the hole from the very beginning and the relief workers who were there at the end," he said. "I feel especially one person as a hero would be grossly unfair."

## Ike Satisfied By Budget Reaction

WASHINGTON — The White House said today President Eisenhower is satisfied with the public reaction to the radio-TV address he made last week in defense of his \$32,800,000 budget. Press secretary James C. Hagerty reported this at a news conference. Hagerty declined, however, to say how many messages the White House received after the talk last Tuesday night, or to give the percentage of those agreeing with the President's views. Eisenhower will make another nationwide radio-TV appearance tomorrow night, his time to ask support of his \$3,880,000,000 foreign aid program. The President conferred today with Secretary of Defense Wilson. Asked if they discussed the military budget, Wilson smiled and countered: "What do you think?" "Two liberal groups said during the weekend it is 'reckless' and 'unjustified' for economy advisers to retort the nation and after Eisenhower's record peace-time spending budget. But senators of both major parties said since that Congress should cut out the \$71,000,000 spending budget Eisenhower has proposed for the fiscal year starting July 1. They differed principally on how much should be cut.

Sen. HENRY (R-NY), a strong administration supporter, said yesterday Eisenhower will have a hard battle preserving his budget, but that "I think he can do it." The senator spoke in a filmed television interview. He said prospects will be clearer after the President makes his second public appeal on radio and TV tomorrow night. Last Tuesday Eisenhower defended the overall budget as necessary to maintain an adequate defense and to keep pace with the needs of the people. Tomorrow night, he goes to bid for his \$3,880,000,000 foreign aid program—a prime target of many who seek budget reductions. But Sen. KEATON (D-Tenn) said the economy drive gathered so much momentum that Eisenhower can't reverse the trend. "I think now there will be substantial cuts," he said in a filmed TV interview.

## WEATHER

Considerable cloudiness with scattered showers and thunder showers. Fair and a little cooler tonight, Tuesday, partly cloudy. Low this morning — 62. Low tomorrow morning — 60. High today — 87. High yesterday — 85. Low tomorrow — 65. Sunrise today, 5:16 a.m.; sunset today, 7:24 p.m. More Weather Data on Page 2A

## Teamster Kicked Out Of 2 Jobs

WASHINGTON — The AFL-CIO Executive Council today found Dave Beck "guilty as charged" of misusing Teamsters Union funds. George Meany, AFL-CIO president, announced the finding and said the council had made permanent its previous temporary removal of Beck as an AFL-CIO officer. "Whether Beck stole the funds or borrowed them, the record shows he took advantage of his position as a trade union official to use money belonging to his members for his personal use and profit," Meany said. Meany said Beck had been found guilty unanimously of "gross misuse of union funds entrusted to his care." Meany said that whether Beck had violated any state or federal laws "dealing with their misappropriation or embezzlement" was up to the authorities and not for Beck's fellow labor leaders to pass on. "NO QUESTION" But there was no question, Meany said, that Beck violated basic union rules for a correct handling of union funds. Meany said that Beck's post as an AFL-CIO vice president and Executive Council member is now vacant. He said the Council may name someone else this week to fill the positions, not necessarily from the Teamsters Union. He said the vacancy could be filled by any member of the AFL-CIO in good standing. Beck spent only about half an hour with his union colleagues. He refused to answer their questions about the vast wealth of treasures produced before the Senate Brackets Investigating Committee that he had misused large sums of union money. RIGHT CHALLENGED The Teamsters president came in the session with a statement and asked away in an automobile, sending him, calling it action a "snitch" and demanding that it drop most charges. When Beck left, he took a backdoor route to the basement of the AFL-CIO headquarters building and fled in an automobile, giving pavement no chance to question him. Beck declined in a general summary of the charges against him and to a dressing down by Meany. Meany said that before Beck read his statement he listened to me for about 20 minutes. "I summarized the charges," Meany said, "I told him what I thought of his actions." Meany said he couldn't recall when any other labor leader had

See BECK on page 2A

## THIEF STEALS PORTRAIT FROM HOUSE WALL

Now they're back everything down at City Police headquarters. Woman phoned in at 2:20 this morning, said she had left her house for about 10 minutes. When she came back, the wall was missing off a picture. It was a picture of Jesus Christ and was valued at \$19.95.

## One-Woman Pit Crew Lives Here

See Story on Page 7B



THE RAMPAGING Cimarron River surges past this farm house four miles north of Cushing, Okla., burying almost three-fourths of the house under water. Story on Page 2A.

## Evening Prayer

Almighty God, who doth walk with us through all of life's experiences, when evil both overtakes us may we know the power of Thy deliverance. Through Him who didst overcome evil with good. Amen.

## See YES on page 2A

See YES on page 2A

- Business .....
- Classified .....
- Comics .....
- Crossword Puzzle .....
- Earl Wilson .....
- News .....
- Everyday Counselor .....
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- To Your Good Health .....
- Women .....
- Worry Clinic .....