

Will We Bootleg Disto's Next?

By JULIAN SCHREER
News Staff Writer
A bit of traffic in "contraband" may begin to flourish over the North and South Carolina border.
The bootlegged product: blank-cartridge pistols.
The strange situation came to light in the General Assembly yesterday when lawmakers learned from Mecklenburg Rep. Irwin Belk that a dealer can sell you a high-powered rifle without a license—yet needs a \$200 license to sell a blank cartridge pistol or cartridges for it.
THE BLANK pistol is a necessary part of high school and college athletic programs, for it is used in starting track and swimming races, and other athletic events.
And it is often used on the stage to rub out villains.
The high cost of the license has forced sporting goods dealers to stop selling the pistols. The law is not new, but it was unknown to most dealers in the state.
Now, if you want to purchase a blank cartridge pistol, you'll probably have to bring it in from South Carolina or Virginia.
Rep. Belk's bill would ex-



THE STARTING GUN . . . Too Expensive?

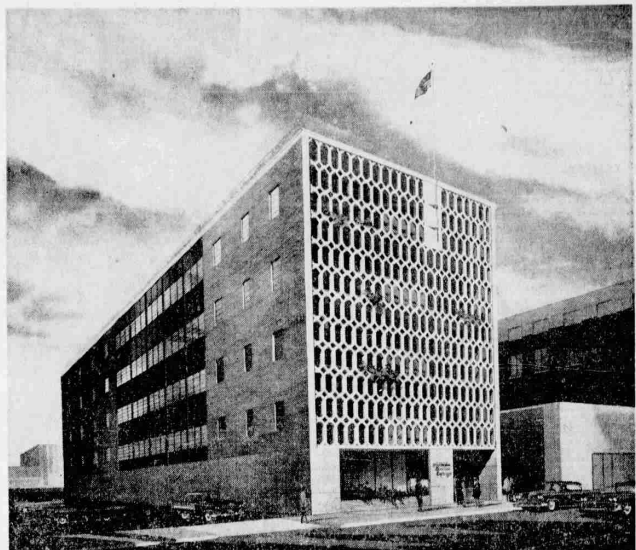
the blank pistols under city and county licenses. In Mecklenburg County a dealer sells pistols after buying a \$50 city and a \$50 county license. No license is required for the sale of rifles and shotguns.
Rep. Belk got the word from local sporting goods dealer Bill Crymes. A spot check on licenses by a state inspector in January brought the matter to a head. The inspector saw the blank cartridge pistols in his store. "Where is your license to sell these?" he asked.
Crymes pointed out that he had local licenses to sell pistols. But these (blank pistols) are covered under a state law, he was told. A special state measure, one apparently written in the records when firecrackers and cap pistols were banned in the state a number of years ago, requires the \$200 license.
Crymes was surprised. He sells only five or six of the pistols a year. They cost from \$10 to \$20 each. So he's stopped selling the pistols.
The pistols are different from ordinary pistols. They are designed only for blanks and a regular let could not be fired with one.

Billion-Dollar Office Building Planned Here

Tryon St. Location Selected

By EMERY WISTER
News Staff Writer

A new five-story office building is planned at 317 S. Tryon St., between the First Union National Bank and the Oasis Temple of the Shrine.
The Vinson Realty Co., agent for the project, said the structure will be of unique design and will contain approximately 36,300 square feet. Total investment including land will be approximately \$1 million.
A five-story structure is now on the site and must be torn down before construction can begin. Vinson president Edward L. Vinson said demolition should begin in early fall with the anticipation that the new building can be completed in early 1960.
The new building will be managed by the Vinson Realty Co. It will offer space on five floors with suites ranging in size from 300 to 6,500 square feet.
The building will front 45 feet on Tryon St. and will be wider than the edifice now on the lot. The proposed structure will have a depth of 170 feet.



This Is The Drawing Of Five-Story Building To Be Erected At 317 S. Tryon St.

75-Cent Wage Bill On Way

RALEIGH (AP) — The House Manufacturing and Labor Committee gave a favorable report today to a 75-cent hourly minimum wage bill after ripping out exemptions.
Rep. Ed Wilson of Caswell broke a 16 to 16 tie to send the measure to the House floor. Wilson is chairman of the committee.
An amendment to take out exemptions, opposed by sponsors of the bill, was adopted by the committee on an 18 to 15 vote.
Rep. Steve Bailey of Gaston, one of the sponsors, called the amendment a maneuver to defeat the bill.
Before the voting, sponsors of minimum wage legislation agreed on a 75-cent hourly figure for the minimum wage bill. A bill which called for a \$1 hourly wage floor was amended to the 75-cent figure.
Wilson told the committee he voted to break the tie for a favorable report in order to send the issue to the House floor. "I reserve the right to determine how I will vote at that time," he added.
Arlidge said he offered the amendment to take out exemptions because "if the state needs a minimum wage law, we should have it straight across the board." Rep. Carroll Holmes of Perquimans demanded the motion to take out the exemptions for farm workers, domestic servants, salesmen and all others.
GOOD FAITH?
Dolley charged the amendment "was not made in good faith, but for the sole purpose of defeating this bill. There must be some exemptions to make it equitable and fair."
Arlidge protested his amendment was a sincere effort to improve the bill. It was adopted by a standing, 18-15 vote.
Then, when the amended bill came to a vote for a favorable report, Arledge hesitated and whispered with Holmes.
"You said you would support it," Dolley reminded Arledge.
"Hold on, hold on," Arledge replied, his face flushing as he rose. Holmes kept his seat and voted to kill the bill.



EDDIE FISHER ELIZABETH TAYLOR

Love-Crossed Stars Will Be Married

LAS VEGAS, Nev. (AP) — Singer Eddie Fisher said today that he and Elizabeth Taylor will marry in Mexico within the next six weeks.
Wednesday night he had said they would wed in Las Vegas if he could get the consent of his former wife, Debbie Reynolds. But he added later that he had slight hope of getting Miss Reynolds to agree to a Nevada divorce which will not be final for a year.
Fisher pointed out that he could get a divorce in Mexico without his former wife's consent.
Asked if that means he and raven-haired Miss Taylor would get married in Mexico, Fisher nodded in agreement.
He and Miss Taylor said they have not selected the site for the wedding.
"We do not want it to be public," he said.
Fisher pointed out that Miss Taylor is leaving in May for Europe to make a movie. He said he is going with her.
"We want to travel as man and wife," he said.
Miss Taylor said she hoped Miss Reynolds might consent to a Nevada decree on her return from movie work in Spain in a few days.
"Debbie was very much hurt at first to find out that Eddie and I were in love," said Miss Taylor. "That is very understandable, but I think the hurt has now left and that she may consent to Eddie getting a divorce in Nevada. What has she got to gain by opposing it?"
This discussion followed the opening of Fisher's show at the Tropica Hotel. Miss Taylor attended the opening with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Taylor of La Jolla, Calif.
Fisher said he had tried to get Debbie's consent to a quick divorce but was rebuffed.
Debbie said earlier she wouldn't consent because it would be embarrassing to explain to her two children how their father could have two wives at the same time.
Under a Nevada decree, Fisher and Miss Taylor could not live as man and wife in California until Debbie's decree is final, under penalty of bigamy charges.
Fisher was favorably received in his singing appearance Wednesday night. When Miss Taylor entered the crowded dining room she received a warm round of applause.
Earlier, pickets appeared before the hotel with signs, one of which read: "Liz, go home!"

Concrete Peace Proposal Urged

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Eisenhower said the North Atlantic Council today that the Western powers intend to make "concrete and realistic proposals" to the Soviet Union for agreement on disarmament. Germany, European security and outer space.
He said the real need for world peace is that the Communists abandon their "purpose of world domination."
In a speech prepared for the opening session of the 10th anniversary meeting of the 15-nation alliance, Eisenhower said that though they strive for settlement, the free nations must expect to live in an atmosphere of tension and conflict with the Soviet Union for years.
UNITY CALL
To meet that test successfully, the greatest need of the non-Communist world is unity and unity is the very life blood of NATO," he said.
Eisenhower was the headline speaker at the opening ceremony of the NATO gathering.
He referred only briefly to the Berlin crisis with which the Allied leaders of North America and Western Europe are preoccupied. The Berlin situation dominated the NATO gathering.
"We shall always open the door of honest discussion—even to those whose creed is world domination," Eisenhower said.
"Our government conducts continuous — almost daily — discussions and negotiations with the Soviet Union. We use regular diplomatic establishments, special committees, organs of the United Nations, and occasional meetings of responsible political leaders.
"Although we shall always avoid substituting illusions for reality, we shall continue to strive for a more general and far-reaching, but always practical, settlement of differences with the Soviets."
"The need, as we reach for a lasting peace with justice, is the abandonment of the Communist purpose of world domination."
"We shall never cease to encourage such a change. Meanwhile, we must be prepared during the years ahead to live in a world in which tension and hickering between free nations and the Soviets will be daily experiences. To do this, freedom's greatest requirement is unity — the unity which is the very life blood of NATO."

One Person Killed Tornadoes Strike Middle Florida

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Tornadoes hit two sections of middle Florida today, killing one person, injuring a number and damaging many homes.
One struck Dade City — an inland town 35 miles northeast of Tampa — before dawn. Two persons were reported hurt and a million dollars damage done to homes destroyed or damaged. The northern edge of town was hit. Many power lines were down.
At Orlando in the center of the state Mrs. Rose Varnado died enroute to a hospital after her home was damaged by a tornado.
She lived in the Arden Park area three miles east of Orlando which appeared to have been the hardest hit. Between 12 to 20 homes were reported damaged. Four persons were hurt in the 7 a.m. storm.
A series of other small storms hit around Orlando. One of these did an estimated \$100,000 damage to the Elliott and Sons Marble and Tile Co.
The Miami Weather Bureau said a line of squalls and severe thunderstorms moved southward over peninsula Florida. It said there were likely to be the storms at Dade City and Orlando.
Hail fell at several points during severe thunderstorms along the peninsula during the night ranging from Jacksonville southward.

New Zealand Greets Billy

AUCKLAND, New Zealand (AP) — Evangelist Billy Graham arrived here from Australia tonight and told a welcoming crowd that world prayer could avert a third world war.
"I am certain that if Christians in China, Russia, the United States, Europe and around the world united in prayer and put the emphasis on spiritual things, we could avert war," Graham said.
"We don't have anything in common racially or politically. One common denominator we do have is spiritual."
About 3,000 people greeted Graham when he drove into the city from the airport at midnight. He begins a six-day campaign tomorrow.
Graham said his wife plans to travel from the United States to join him during his campaign in Sydney, Australia which begins April 12.
They will take a two-week holiday at University College in Sydney, Australia which begins April 12.
He said the ailment which has bothered his left eye is much better and that his general health is greatly improved.

Weather Institute Is Planned

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — Tired of just talking about the weather? "Thirteen universities are banding together to do something about it. They're mapping plans for a 71-million dollar weather research institute."
The schools have formed a University Corp. for Atmospheric Research to start the project. Plans were announced at a news conference at the University of Arizona Wednesday night.
Dr. Henry C. Houghton, head of the department of meteorology at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and chairman of UCAR, said the institute would lead to better weather forecasting and control.

Ike Picks Golf Over Baseball

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Eisenhower is planning to pass up baseball for golf next week. Unless he changes his mind, the President will leave Monday or Tuesday for a few days' vacation at the Augusta National Golf Club in Georgia.
And having a change of plans, the White House said late yesterday, Eisenhower won't be in the capital a week from today to face out the first baseball of the season's opening game between the Washington Senators and the Baltimore Orioles.
It will be the first opener Eisenhower has missed as president. Vice President Nixon probably will substitute for him.
There hasn't been a break in the tradition of the Chief Executive presiding since 1945 that the House Speaker Sam Rayburn filled in for President Truman a few days after the death of President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Our Weather

Clearing this afternoon, fair and cooler tonight and Friday.
Low this morning . . . 59
Low tomorrow morning . . . 46
High today . . . 75
High tomorrow . . . 80
High tomorrow . . . 63
Sunrise today 6:09 a.m.; sunset today 6:45 p.m.
More Weather Data on page 4-A

Evening Prayer

Dear heavenly Father, we thank Thee that we may speak words which help to bring others to Thee. May we not be discouraged, even though we may never see the results of our efforts. Strengthen us to do our best and grant us faith to leave the results to Thee. In the Master's name . . . Amen.

Request Denied

The Prescott, Ariz., Chamber of Commerce has a request it doesn't intend to fill.
Clerk Meroy Wagner received this letter from Robert Liles of Veneta, Ore.:
"Send me a tarantula. Ship it pinpointed the area of the call and soon found the object of their search — a goat."

Nest Feathered

Wanted: a sparrow feathering his nest with a dollar bill.
The money belonged to Deputy Sheriff Lynn M. Goss of Phoenix, Ariz. He dropped it outside the sheriff's department yesterday and the sparrow swooped down, picked it up and flew away.

Old Gold Hauling Box On Display

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Old Gold Hauling Box On Display

TOKYO (AP) — Seven American enlisted men going on emergency home leave — one to the bedside of his critically ill mother — were assigned seats on the U. S. military airliner from Tokyo.
The "deluxe" Pacific Express was flying to California with a stop at Hawaii.
At the last minute on March 26 a lieutenant colonel with his wife and family showed up at the airport, bound for a vacation in Hawaii.
The GI's were bumped and the colonel and family given their seats.
Airman I.C. Cova V. Bell of Fayetteville, Tenn., telephoned

GENERAL HERO TO GI'S — Bumper Bumped By Brass

Lt. Gen. Robert W. Burns, commander of U. S. forces in Japan, to protest that he was trying to get home to his ill mother.
"We don't know exactly how it happened," the spokesman said. "Emergency leaves normally provide a priority that is sufficiently high to safeguard any passenger against being bumped by someone on regular leave. Regardless of rank."
"It may be we need some new procedures, or better fulfillment of the old."
As for Gen. Burns, the spokesman said: "He has no desire for publicity over the incident." But he's certainly a hero to the enlisted men in Japan.

Force spokesman explained that he "might be completely innocent in the affair."

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THE LIGHTER SIDE — Aid Plea Answered Quickly

(From AP Reports)
A fisherman called the sheriff's office in Boise, Idaho, last night. He had heard a voice calling for help out in the country.
Officers sent to the scene heard the voice too. They called for more help and soon 300 volunteers were out there, clamoring about in the dark.
The voice complicated the search, as it would stop for long periods. Near midnight officers

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