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The Florence Times

Dedicated To The Interest Of The People Of The Muscle Shoals District

The Weather
MUSCLE SHOALS AREA—Partly cloudy and warm tonight and Thursday. Low tonight 67, high Thursday 90.

VOLUME 96—NUMBER 90 Established 1869 FLORENCE, ALABAMA, WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 29, 1955 The Associated Press—N. E. A. Service 5c Per Copy

Traffic Is Again Topic Of Council

One-Way Street Decision Delayed

Some 75 persons attended the Florence City Commission meeting Tuesday to register complaints and suggestions against and about the one-way streets, yellow parking meters and insurance issues.

The one-way street issue was held until the last to be considered when only a handful of the original group remained to express opinions.

Walter N. Harrison, mayor, kicked off the one-way street discussion with a motion. He stated, "I move that we install a pofiion of both reports, thus making Morrison one-way to O'Neal, Seminary one-way to Jackson Highway and Wood Avenue one-way from Jackson Highway to Nellie."

After the motion was made there was no second and Commissioner A. W. Darby expressed his opinion stating: "I think both Shrader and Dibble agreed that the Triangle was the trouble spot. It was my understanding that Dibble said Morrison and O'Neal could be one-way and that Wood could be left two-way with prohibited parking.

"Also, as Dibble suggested, we could put parking spaces on Tennessee and Court at 30 degree angles instead of 45 degrees, which they now are. This would make it easier to get in and out and therefore speed up traffic," Dr. Darby continued.

Mayor Harrison stated that with this suggestion the safety island and a traffic light, which Dibble suggested be installed if this plan were used, would have to be put in.

"This will cost several hundred dollars," he continued. "I report first we won't have to spend this additional money. We are only trying the plans above and we don't know yet which is best. Therefore, it seems to me just good business sense to try the one with the least expense first," said Mayor Harrison.

Harold S. May, who attended the meeting, said he, too, thought Wood Avenue could be left two-way.

"Dibble said Wood Avenue could be left two-way after you all (the businessmen) pinned him down, but he also said it would work better one-way," the mayor stated.

After more discussion with the small remaining audience joining in, the meeting was adjourned until this morning, at which time the three commissioners were to discuss it and render a decision.

The largest number of persons attending the meeting were merchants who were opposed to the yellow parking meters which were installed Tuesday.

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 4)

Jury Finds Street Guilty As Charged

Sentence To Be Imposed Saturday

George Perry Street, Sheffield man charged with arson in the second degree, was found guilty as charged by a jury this morning at 11 a.m. after deliberating some three hours.

The jury took the case around 10 p.m. last night and studied it for an hour before returning to the hotel for the night. Deliberation was continued this morning at 9 a.m.

Street will be sentenced Saturday. Judge Robert Moore will impose the sentence. The penalty will be from two to 10 years in prison.

The jury, second to deliberate case, left the courtroom late yesterday afternoon, after hearing a day and a half of testimony on the case in Colbert County Circuit Court.

Last week, a jury deliberated for some six hours and were unable to reach a decision on the case.

Street was charged with second degree arson in connection with the fire last November in Maurice Blackwell's dry cleaners in Sheffield. First trial, held last week, ended in a hung jury.

In yesterday's testimony, Mr. Blackwell, former Sheffield police commissioner, testified, along with Sheffield Fire Chief Raymond Price and Sheffield Police Chief Bob Price.

J. Turner Willingham, Sheffield policeman at the time of the fire and a Colbert County deputy sheriff until recently, testified as to the statement, signed by Street, in which he admitted setting the fire at the instigation of Oscar Franck, Sheffield cafe operator.

The statement, Mr. Willingham testified, was taken on Dec. 2, some four days after the fire, at the Colbert County jail. Mr. Willingham testified that he talked to Street, then wrote the statement, which Street then read and signed. No coercion was used to get him to make the statement, he testified.

During cross examination of Mr. Willingham, the hearing was interrupted by a near-fight between attorneys in the case. While Mr. Willingham was testifying as to the time of the trial, he was handed the police complaint sheet from police department fires.

Howell Heflin, attorney for the defense, immediately objected, taking the complaint sheet from the witness. During discussion of the matter before the judge's bench, County Solicitor Murray Beasley took the sheet from Mr. Heflin's hand and returned it to the witness.

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Emco Workers Benefit From Savings Plan

A total of 422 men and women of Electro Metallurgical Company, Sheffield, will receive checks Thursday amounting to $282,879, the cash distribution of accumulated funds in the General Savings Fund, a part of the Company's Savings Plan.

Of the amount, the employees themselves saved $212,751.

The Company added $70,128.

A total of $43,901,186 was distributed to 55,493 employees of Union Carbide and Carbon Corporation who are participating in the General Savings Fund.

Electro Metallurgical Company is a Division of Union Carbide.

Savings Plans have been available to Union Carbide employees since 1935. The present Plan, which went into effect on July 1, 1953, contains provisions for short-term savings under the General Savings Fund, with cash distribution every two years, and for long-range investment with an option for purchasing capital stock of the Corporation or U. S. Savings Bonds.

An employee may authorize payroll deduction up to 7½ per cent of his normal straight-time average earnings with a maximum allowable deduction of $83 per month. The Company then contributes 10, 20, or 30 per cent of the employees' payments, depending on whether he has one, two or three or more years service credit.

At The Theatres

SHOALS—"East of Eden," CinemaScope, color with James Dean, Julie Harris. Feature 1, 3:00, 5:18, 7:27, 9:36.

PRINCESS — "Karamoja," the Land of Lost People. Also Quentin Reynolds "Half-Way To Hell."

COLBERT—"The End Of The Affair" with Deborah Kerr, Van Johnson. Feature 1, 3:11, 5:15, 7:21, 9:32.

TUSCUMBIAN — "Strange Lady In Town," CinemaScope, color, with Greer Garson, Dana Andrews. Feature 1, 2:54, 5:11, 7:28, 9:35.

NORWOOD — "Davy Crockett, King Of The Wild Frontier," with Fess Parker, Buddy Ebsen. Feature 2, 3:55, 5:50, 7:50, 9:45.

JOY-LAN—"Cult Of The Cobra," with Faith Domergue, Richard Long. Also "Overland Pacific," color. First show 7:30.

WILSON—"Destry," color, with Audie Murphy, Mari Blanchard. Show starts 7:30.

PARK-VUE—"The Farmer Takes A Wife," color, with Dale Robertson, Betty Grable.

Molotov Leaves States After 13-Day Visit

NEW YORK (AP)—Russia's Vyacheslav M. Molotov leaves the United States today after a 13-day visit.

The Soviet foreign minister, wearing the smile of the affable Mr. Molotov," arrived in New York yesterday after attending the United Nations' 10th anniversary celebration at San Francisco.

He immediately plunged into a busy schedule which included a luncheon with financier Bernard Baruch, a visit to a museum (the third on his present trip) and a three-dimensional movie.

At the luncheon at Baruch's Long Island mansion he was offered a vodka-tomato juice cocktail called "Bloody Mary." He said he liked it and even drank half of it.

The 65-year-old Soviet diplomat was the one who suggested the meeting with the Baruch, author of the first plan for international control of atomic energy. The plan was never accepted by the United Nations because of Soviet objections.

The luncheon meeting was private. It was learned, however, that Molotov renewed his previous invitation to Baruch to visit the Soviet Union. He reportedly got no commitment from the 84-year-old elder statesman and former presidential adviser.

Earlier in the day, Molotov made a tour of the American Museum of Natural History, where he expressed particular interest in dinosaurs, cacti and an exhibit showing rotation of farm crops in Dutchess County, N.Y.

Blood Tests Set For Lauderdale Counties

The Lauderdale County Health Department will conduct a clinic at the Health Center, corner Tennessee and Tennessee Streets, Florence, for blood examinations beginning Tuesday, July 5, and continuing through noon, Thursday, July 7.

Dr. Henry Cheney, public health officer, states that every employee and employer of the following must, at under state law, have this examination:

Barbers, beauticians, cafes, bakeries, soda fountains, ice cream plants, bottling plants, slaughter houses, dairies and any other place where food is prepared or served.

The clinic will be open Tuesday and Wednesday, July 5 and 6, from 8:30 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. and on Thursday, July 7, from 8:30 a. m. to noon.

Arrangements have been made for a chest X-ray at the same time for the above workers, Dr. Cheney said.

Furnaces Banked As:

Strike Faces Steel Industry

Two Experts See Geneva's Political Weather:

Summit Forecast: No Change In Outlook

The European Perspective . . .

By LEON DENNEN
NEA Staff Correspondent

WHEN THE BIG FOUR met July 18 at Geneva the free world will see the conference as the climax of a decade of fears and hopes.

Yet Western statesmen expect no major shift in Soviet policy or any other spectacular developments resulting from the talks at the summit.

The Russians themselves are making it clear, judged by the authoritative Pravda, that just as at last year's meeting in Berlin and Geneva, their main goals at the coming talks will be:

1. To neutralize Germany.
2. Isolate the U. S. in Europe and Asia.
3. Weaken or split NATO and the West European Union by playing on France's fears of a re-armed Germany and on Germany's hopes for speedy reunification.
5. Gain a breathing spell in Europe in order to have a freer hand for new aggressive moves in Asia and the Middle East.

It is neutralization of West Germany — above all — that the Reds will seek when Russia's Premier Nikolai Bulganin meets with President Dwight D. Eisenhower, Britain's Prime Minister Anthony Eden and France's Premier Edgar Faure.

* * *

West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer recently warned that neutralization of Germany would create "a vacuum in the heart of Europe" that would "represent a constant danger to everyone."

Such a "vacuum" in the heart of the free world is precisely what the Russians hope will result from the Geneva meeting.

The Kremlin rulers, as a matter of fact, are reported preparing a new "surprise" for the Western negotiators. They are already scheming to eliminate the German question altogether from the Geneva talks and make Formosa and the Far East the main subject of discussion.

The reason? The Russians hope to solve the problem of German unity in their own way through pressure on Adenauer — just as they did in the case of Austria.

* * *

So far their plan is running behind schedule largely due to Adenauer's awareness of Moscow's designs. The wise chancellor upset the Kremlin's time table for global conquest by his refusal to go to Russia before the Geneva meeting. However, the Reds are playing for high stakes. They seem to be willing to pay a stiff price for German neutrality.

Pravda even hints that the men in the Kremlin are ready to sculpt their puppets in East Germany if that is what it takes to neutralize the West Germans.

The Scene: Palais des Nations

. . . The Far Eastern Perspective

By FRED SPARKS
NEA Staff Correspondent

AS PRESIDENT EISENHOWER packs for conference at the "summit," the great majority of his military and diplomatic advisors in the Orient report, in words similar to these:

"This summer, 1955, finds the odds heavily against keeping what is left of Free Asia from Communist captivity without striking an atomic blow.

"We have gambled on internal trouble in Red China or on a new Peiping policy abandoning ambition to dominate Asia. There is always hope that these things might yet be, but they have not occurred and there is no sign of a change.

"Peiping pays only slight heed to the current Moscow hit "The Co-existence Blues."

"True, she has released four American jet pilots from prison cages. She indicates willingness to "talk" about easing tension around Formosa. And the newspapers call the U.S. Fascist beast" only every second day.

* * *

These minor goodies have been gobbled by peace-hungry Europeans and Americans with loud licking of chops. It recalls the old Chinese formula for treating a slave: coolie. Slap his face every morning. Don't on Sunday and he says: "Thank you master, you. My Lord is indeed a kind man."

On the realistic "hardware" level Peiping plots war and subversion. While Western defeats in Korea and Indochina kept commentators chattering a most important set-back shaped up silently. The 13 million overseas Chinese, their

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At the same time, Nikita Khrushchev's mouthpiece made some play with the idea that "relaxation in the West" would also lead to "relaxation in Asia."

* * *

In typical Red doubletalk this simply means: A neutral Germany and the removal of U. S. troops from Europe would also help Mao Tse-tung and Chou Enlai to secure a neutral Asia and the removal of U. S. troops from Korea and Formosa can bases from Formosa and Japan

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Walkout Set Thursday Midnight

Unless Final Efforts Succeed

PITTSBURGH (AP)—The United States Steel Corp., threatened with an industry-wide strike at midnight tomorrow announced it would start banking its furnaces before noon today.

A Big Steel spokesman said the company expected to complete the huge operation before the CIO United Steelworkers' strike deadline.

Employes of other companies in the mammoth basic steel industry have been alerted to begin orderly shutdowns.

Banking of the giant blast furnaces is a gradual process, slowed to prevent damage in the cooling process.

The CIO United Steelworkers mapped showdown talks with the producers in last-minute efforts to get a wage higher than presently offered.

U.S. Steel, which employs 150,000 of the USW's 600,000 members, held firm to its original offer of slightly more than 10 cents an hour.

Basic steelworkers now average $2.33 an hour.

While the industry prepared for a possible strike, government mediators in Washington kept a close watch on the situation.

Inland Steel Corp. began banking its furnaces at its Indiana Harbor, Ind., plant last night.

U.S. Steel said it would begin closing down sometime today. Usually 72 hours is required to cool off furnaces and close operations so machinery will not be damaged. The process can be rushed in 48 hours.

Other major producers indicated they also would start closing-down operations.

Major producers following Big Steel's lead in offering about 10 cents an hour include Inland, Republic Steel Corp., Bethlehem Steel Corp., Jones & Laughlin and Youngstown Sheet & Tube.

Clifford Hood, president of U.S. Steel, said in a statement last night the industry is threatened with a "wholly unnecessary strike."

He said such a strike "would have damaging effects on the country's presently flourishing economy."

David J. McDonald, president of the USW who has never called a strike in the three years he has headed the union, reiterated in a TV broadcast last night that the union is entitled to "an even stake—a wage increase" because the steel industry is enjoying a very profitable year.

The Buffalo Courier-Express said today that it had learned from sources close to Joseph P. Molony, upstate New York director for the USW, that the union would accept a pay increase ranging from 12½ to 14 cents an hour and would call off the threatened strike.

The newspaper said Molony was reported to have confide' to associates that Big Steel would increase its 10-cent-an-hr. offer to possibly as high as 14 cents. It said Molony reached in Pittsburgh by telephone, would not confirm the report.

Under it's two-year contract, the USW is able to discuss wages only. Unlike the CIO United Auto Workers, it can't bargain this year for a guaranteed annual wage.

Hood said U.S. Steel offered a wage increase because it felt that it would be in the interest of the

(Continued On Page 2, Col. 6)

Sheffield To Build Schools, Other Projects

The Sheffield City Commission last night authorized a temporary loan, prior to issuance of bonds, for some $600,000 worth of projects under way or pending.

The projects include the $200,000 storm sewer construction programs now under way, construction of two new elementary schools, one in southeast and one in southwest Sheffield, at a cost of approximately $325,000, and an $80,000 Negro swimming pool and community center.

The commissioners last night also set the torch to some $146,000 worth of paid up indebtedness, in the form of bonds refunded or paid off by the city. The bonds paid over a period of the last few years included a number of long-term bonds, which have been retired.

Present indebtedness of the city is $240,000, Mayor C. Leonard Beard announced.

Funds for construction of a new Negro swimming pool and community center were also included.

In other business last night, the commission authorized the placing of street lights at 6th Ave. and 18th St., 8th Ave. and 20th St. as early as possible. This was one of the recommendations made by the Sheffield Improvement League. Negro group who appeared before the commission at the last meeting.

The Commission also instructed the Civil Service Board that vacancies for the posts of assistant fire and police chiefs existed. The fire department post has existed previously, but Sheffield has never had an assistant police chief.

Paxton-Alexander engineers were authorized last night to make a survey with the city clerk to determine which alleys and streets in the city are closed or vacated.

Bermuda Battle On Between Knobby Kneed Newsmen

MONTGOMERY (AP)—The pants are finally off in "The battle of the Bermuda shorts"—or "Which editor has the knobbiest knees."

Five blushing, bare-legged newsmen from the Columbus, Ga., Ledger drove 80 miles yesterday to prove they have the courage of their editorial convictions.

Somewhat flushed from the heat of wearing Bermuda shorts, the Georgians marched through the newsroom of the Montgomery Advertiser and into the office of Editor Grover Hall.

Hall had editorially accused Ledger Editor Bob Brown of writing at great lengths on the comforts of shorts for summertime office wear while sweltering in long pants and a tie.

After an exchange of editorial snubs with "Bermuda Bob," the Ledger delegation came to compare knees with Brown in a "summer - wear style show before a neutral board of judges" at a Columbus department store.

But the Ledger delegation decided to bring the show to Montgomery. Editor Hall was caught in the office with his long pants on yesterday. But he quickly slipped

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In Annexation Move

MSC Group Seeks New Election Order; Charges Flagrant Contempt Of Court

Legal papers will probably be filed sometime today protesting the Muscle Shoals City Commission's action last week in calling of the election on the question of annexation to Sheffield, Harold Pounders, attorney for the Muscle Shoals Citizens for Annexation, said this morning.

Charging the Muscle Shoals commission with "one of the most flagrant contempts of court I have ever seen," Mr. Pounders assured the citizens of Muscle Shoals that the proper legal steps would be taken to see that the democratic processes were allowed to work so they can express themselves at the polls.

"They came into court on June 2 and told the presiding judge that they had passed a resolution calling for an election on June 27," he said. "They said they had not refused to call one all along, but had merely wanted to straighten out in their own minds the legal angles. They said they were now satisfied and were going to call the election.

"The court accepted these statements by their attorney in good faith, and dismissed the mandamus against them on condition that they call an election.

"Now, they come along, and set themselves up, in my opinion, higher than the court and call off the election."

Mr. Pounders said "The people of Muscle Shoals can rest assured that appropriate legal steps will be taken," in the case, as soon as possible.

The Muscle Shoals election, scheduled for Monday, was called off last week in a surprise move by the commission on grounds that some grounds for legal doubt still existed.

Previously on June 2, the commissioners, some two hours before they were scheduled to appear in court to answer a writ of mandamus against them called the election.

The legal action was taken after the commission had delayed calling it on a petition for some months on the grounds that the existence of a second petition calling for an election on annexation was doubtful. This, they maintained, created a legal technicality, which must be resolved first. One opinion from the attorney general was obtained on the matter, and another one called for before the advocates of merger with Sheffield took the matter to court.

Rancher Goes Berserk, Kills Four, Self

CORY, Wyo. (AP)—A prosperous rancher went berserk and shot and killed his wife, daughter and parents-in-law four days before their bodies were found at their home north of here, Sublette County officers said today.

Coroner Francis Tanner, summoned by a forest ranger who made the grim discovery, termed the slayings "murder-suicide—it couldn't have been anything else."

The victims, their bodies pierced by bullets from a heavy 30.06 rifle, were Lawrence (Jack) Alexander, 45, his wife Patricia, 40, their daughter Grace, 6, and Mrs. Alexander's parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. X. O'Brien, of Miami, Fla., visiting here.

Sheriff Morris Horton was unable to offer any motive for the tragedy. He said the Alexanders had been married about 15 years.

Alexander's body, the rifle cradled in his arms, was found beside that of his only child on the back porch of the family home seven miles north of here. He had a bullet wound under his chin.

Mrs. Alexander, a bullet through her neck, was found lying near the body of her father in the back yard.

The body of Mrs. O'Brien, who was shot through the chest, was in the dining room, wedged against a door to the kitchen. Officers said Alexander apparently shot her from behind the door as she tried to call for help. The dead woman clutched a telephone in her hand.

SHADES OF SIR WALTER—Robes of four Scottish college students playing Sir Walter Raleigh provide dry footing for Queen Elizabeth II during a rainy day review of Queen's College officers training corps at Dundee, Scotland. The 20th Century gallants, clad in scarlet robes, spread their voluminous gowns on the wet pavement as the sovereign made her way to her waiting car. (AP Wirephoto).

Education Tax Measure Up For Hearing

MONTGOMERY (AP) — Swarms of Alabama school teachers are expected at the state capitol today for a hearing on the recommended tax program for education.

An official in the education department predicted hundreds of teachers will be on hand for the hearing, but other education sources said 1,000 or more might attend.

Proponents are expected to testify in behalf of a series of bills which would remove a number of exemptions from the sales and 4 per cent income tax and earmark the additional revenue for education needs.

The education department has requested an additional 43 million dollars annually, part of it to finance a 150 million dollar bond issue for new school construction. Revenue to provide a recommended $600 annual pay hike for teachers is also sought.

Yesterday the Senate Rules Committee killed a resolution demanding the impeachment of the nine U.S. Supreme court justices who handed down the ruling outlawing segregation in public schools.

The committee shipped the resolution to a hostile three - man subcommittee.

The House Rules Committee, meanwhile, did not consider a Senate-approved measure designed to preserve segregation in Alabama schools despite the high court ruling.

None of the committeemen showed up for a scheduled meeting yesterday morning and House-

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First Segregation Test Case To Be Heard In State

BIRMINGHAM (AP)—Federal Judge Robert Grooms today will hear the first test case of school segregation in Alabama since the Supreme Court placed the issue in the laps of federal district courts.

Two Negro women charged that they were refused admission in the University of Alabama in 1953 because of their race. The two women, Katherine J. Lacy and Polly Ann Myers, charged that they were accepted by mail but were denied admission when they arrived on the university campus.

The suit originally named the university board of trustees, President O. C. Carmichael and Admissions Dean William Adams. It later amended naming only Adams.

The original suit was based on the university's failure to furnish "separate but equal" facilities for Negro and white students. However, since the Supreme Court made its ruling that segregation in schools is unconstitutional, that charge was added also.

Grooms dismissed the original suit with instructions to Negro Atty. Arthur Shores that it must be amended. Shores appealed, and the U.S. Court of Appeals subsequently upheld Grooms.

Following an amendment, the suit was resumitted and the case set for today.

Settlement Of Steel Strike Is Predicted

NEW YORK (AP)—Iron Age, the national metalworking weekly, today predicted a peaceful settlement of the steel strike threatened for midnight tomorrow.

"Steel labor gets its pay raise this week," Iron Age said. "It will be less substantial than union leaders hoped but more than steel producers wanted to give."

Iron Age, bible of the steel trade, made its prediction as three of the big producers began preparations for orderly shutdowns of their multi-million dollar plants if no agreement is reached by Thursday midnight. The three are United States Steel, Jones & Laughlin and Inland Steel.

"Even though negotiations should drag on into Thursday midnight, a peaceful settlement is likely," the publication said.

The magazine reported it looks like the union will get a total increase of 12 to 15 cents per hour, with about 3½ cents allocated to cover increases in the wage differentials between job classes.