



SEASON'S GREETINGS

from us - to you



WAR IN EUROPE

London, Dec. 19.—Three British vessels were sunk and 11 others were bombed and machine-gunned today by low-swooping German planes with heavy loss of life as the Nazi air force lent new fury to the war at sea.

A single German bomber, presumed to be one chased away from the Shetland Islands by British pursuit planes early today, attacked six trawlers, according to maritime reports.

One of the trawlers reached the Shetlands, off the northern tip of Scotland, with two dead and two wounded and its wheel house blown up. The crew reported having seen a column of smoke offshore, possible that of another burning trawler.

Torpedo Sinks Steamer

The British steamer City of Kobe, bombed and machine-gunned two days ago by a Nazi plane, was sunk by a torpedo in the North Sea today. Eighteen of a crew of 70 were reported rescued.

The armed trawlers Active and Zelos were sunk by aerial attacks. The Active lost one man. The Zelos' crew was landed at an east Scottish port.

Meantime, five other armed trawlers, doing mine-sweeping duty, were bombed and machine-gunned by German planes.

The British trawler Etruria was damaged, with loss of three lives, by machine-gun and bomb attack. The trawlers Astros and Ocean weathered air bombings and returned to port undamaged. But the Ivernell and Fort Rose were damaged slightly in attacks by Nazi planes.

Paris, Dec. 19.—The Allied supreme war council was reported today to have decided to give to Finland all the moral and material aid possible without weakening the Western Front with Germany.

The possibility of giving effective aid to the Finns in their stubborn defense against invading Russians was understood to have been the main topic discussed at a three-hour meeting, attended by Prime Minister Chamberlain and Premier Daladier and their highest assistants including diplomats as well as war experts.

A communique issued after the meeting had ended and the British had started for home said the council "ordered necessary measures to reinforce the means of action which the Franco-British collaboration has at its disposal in the diplomatic field as well as the military."

France Prepares

The French government, looking forward to prosecution of the war in 1940, tonight asked the finance committee of the Chamber of Deputies to approve military appropriations for the first three months of the new year totalling \$5,034,000,000 francs (about \$1,265,000,000).

The government estimated that 249,000,000,000 francs (about \$5,702,100,000) may be asked to finance the war in 1940. The appropriations for the first three months of 1940 amount to almost a third of the total 1939 budget.

Helmski, Dec. 19.—A Russian air armada swept along the Southern coast of Finland in a bright blue sky today, bombing a half dozen cities and towns and setting fire to portions of the medieval seaport of Aabo (Turku) before anti-aircraft guns drove the raiders off.

Between seven and 10 Russian bombers were shot down in the raids which spread along the entire Gulf of Finland coast from Vilpuri (Viborg) westward to Helmski and Aabo, the Finns said.

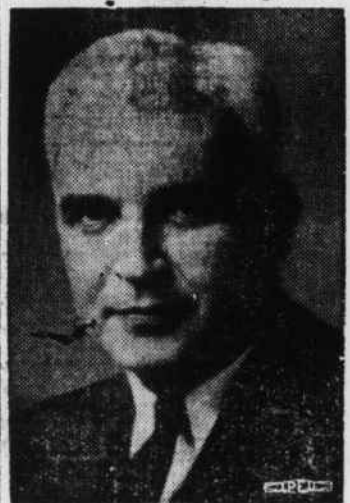
The Finnish air force was reported in tonight's official communique to have invaded Russian territory, bombing and machine-gunning Russian bases, marching troops and supply columns.

In addition to the seven to 10 bombers shot down today, four Russian planes were shot down yesterday by Finnish planes and anti-aircraft guns, the communique said.

(A Soviet military communique early today claimed that 12 Finnish planes had been shot down in air battles, while only one Russian plane was lost.)

Today's Russian serial bom-

Jackson Dinner Speaker



Paul V. McNutt, Federal Security Administrator, will be the speaker at the Jackson Day Dinner at Raleigh on January 8. Mr. McNutt is a former governor of Indiana, past national commander of the American Legion, and resigned as Commissioner to the Philippines to accept his present post as directing head of all the governmental relief and security agencies.

Hon. Paul V. McNutt, Federal Security Administrator will be the speaker at the North Carolina Jackson Day Dinner on January 8th. Definite confirmation of this appointment was received during the week-end by State Director John D. Larkins, Jr.

North Carolina is indeed fortunate to get this distinguished speaker. The invitation was extended some weeks ago and at that time Mr. McNutt expressed a desire to accept, but several conflicting invitations left the matter in doubt until the past week. Georgia particularly wanted him for the same date.

The Jackson Day Campaign, conducted annually by the Democratic party for the purpose of raising party funds, will culminate in a dinner to be held in the Virginia Dare Room of Hotel El Walter, Raleigh, on the night of January 8th. This date was adopted several years ago, it being the anniversary of Andrew Jackson's great victory over the British at New Orleans on January 8th, 1815. The dinner this year will observe the 125th anniversary of that battle.

Mr. McNutt is head of the federal government's wide flung security and relief program. He was chosen for that position by President Roosevelt last summer when the various relief agencies were consolidated under one administration. He resigned as Commissioner to the Philippines to accept the new post. Previously he had served two terms as governor of Indiana, and is a past national commander of the American Legion.

Interest in his appearance on this occasion is accelerated by the fact that he is one of the half dozen most prominently mentioned candidates for the Democratic presidential nomination next summer.

PROGRAM AT THE LOUISBURG THEATRE

The following is the program at the Louisburg Theatre beginning Saturday, Dec. 23rd:

Saturday—Double Feature—Johnny Mack Brown, Bob Baker and Puzzy Knight in "West of Carson City," and Sidney Toler in "Charlin Chan in Treasure Island. Also Chapter No. 10 "Dick Tracy's G-Men."

Sunday—Paul Muni and Jane Bryan in "We Are Not Alone."

Xmas Day and Tuesday—Priscilla Lane, Rosemary Lane, Lola Lane, Gale Page, John Garfield, Jeffrey Lynn, Claude Rains, Eddie Albert, May Robson and Frank McHugh in "Four Wives."

Wednesday—Jackie Cooper and Martin Spellman in "Streets of New York."

Thursday—Friday—Melvyn Douglas and Joan Blondell in "The Amazing Mr. Williams."

Last Times Today—Deanna Durbin in "Fiset Love."

Greetings---

The editor and the entire force of the FRANKLIN TIMES wishes each of its readers and advertisers and the public generally a Most Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year. May your pleasures be doubled many times and your prosperity enlarged to a satisfactory position is our earnest desire.

PAGEANT AT BAPTIST CHURCH

"The Heart of Christmas" Will Be Presented

On Friday evening at 7:30 the Intermediates and Junior Choir of Louisburg Baptist Church will present a sacred pageant "The Heart of Christmas" by Vern Whinery. The attention of a modern young woman is arrested from the selfish plans she is making for Christmas by a voice from the past, which proves to be that of the inn keeper of Bethlehem. Through a vision of the first Christmas, she finds that she has failed to find room in her Christmas plans for Jesus. She has missed the very heart of Christmas. She finds that making, Christ the Heart of Christmas can only be accomplished by serving others—"even the least of these."

Cast: Virginia, modern young woman—Margaret Smith; S. S. Class officers, Louise Long, Irma Griffin, James Edwards and Billy Beasley; Inn Keeper, Chas. Young, Mary, Mrs. S. C. Foster, Jr.; Joseph, James White; Shepherds—Aaron, Elred Joyner, Hothan-Clyde Mustian, Jacob—A. G. Knott; Wise Men—Gerald Bunn, Gailther Beam, Jr., Bob Strickland; Needy Group—Leland Bunn, Neil Rose and Billy Lancaster.

The Christmas story will be read by Clarence Bass, Mrs. H. G. Perry will tell the story "Why The Chimes Rang". All music will be presented by the Junior Choir. White Christmas will be observed. Those who have not yet given white gifts will have the opportunity to bring them on Friday evening. The Lottie Moon Christmas offering will be taken for Foreign Missions.

Following the pageant Santa Claus will meet the children in the Assembly Hall and there under the Christmas Tree will have a word and treat for them.

CHRISTMAS SERVICE

Quite a large number of visitors, in addition to the many town and county people, attended the Community Christmas Service held on Court Square on Sunday afternoon.

The many Christmas Carols rendered by the combined choirs were excellent and greatly enjoyed by those present.

The many gifts, all wrapped in white, bespoke a generous spirit in Franklin and would give Christmas Cheer to many whose holidays would otherwise be blank.

This service was sponsored by the churches, civic organizations and P. T. A., and proved to be a great success.

DISTRIBUTES CHRISTMAS CHEER

John A. Hartford, President of the Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company, announced today that \$1,500,000 will be distributed at Christmas time among employees of the Company earning less than \$5200 annually, who have been with the Company more than six months.

GARNER ANNOUNCES



VICE PRESIDENT JOHN N. GARNER

Washington, Dec. 16.—Vice President John N. Garner tonight formally tossed his battered Texas sombrero into the 1940 Democratic Presidential race.

His formal entry into the race appeared likely to inaugurate open political warfare between Garner forces and unofficial sponsors of a movement to run President Roosevelt for a third term. Garner's candidacy—long the object of open campaigning by his friends, especially fellow Texans—was announced in typical Garner fashion.

Speaking on the front porch of his rambling Uvalde, Texas, home, Garner dictated a 44-word statement to Rascom Timmons, a Texas newspaperman and Garner intimate. The statement said:

"I will accept the nomination for President. I will make no effort to control any delegates. The people should decide. A candidate should be selected at primaries by law, and I sincerely trust that all Democrats will participate in them."

The brevity of Garner's statement did not conceal the fact that it was packed with political dynamite.

To Observe Christmas

The TIMES is requested to state that the offices in the Court House will be closed on Monday and Tuesday, December 25th and 26th, in observance of the Christmas holidays.

The Dry Cleaning establishments announce that they will be closed until Friday, December 29th.

All persons having business with these institutions will bear these announcements in mind.

The TIMES is requested to state that the Banks in Franklin County will be closed on Monday and Tuesday, December 25th and 26th, in observance of the Christmas holidays.

The young people of the Methodist and Baptist Churches will go caroling on Friday evening. They invite the young people of the Episcopal Church to join them. Meet at the Baptist Church after the pageant and program there. Miss Elizabeth Lassiter, Rev. J. G. Phillips.

APPOINTED SPECIAL AGENTS

The Pilot Life Insurance Company, Greensboro, N. C., announced today the appointment of Leslie G. Cook and J. A. Tucker as Special Agents for Luoisburg and vicinity.

Messrs. Cook and Tucker are young men well and favorably known in this territory, who have marked ability as salesmen. Mr. Cook previously represented the Greensboro firm, writing a substantial volume of business.

During the last twelve months the Pilot has increased its insurance in force, assets and service to policyholders to new all-time highs.

LOUISBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

The pastor, Dr. A. Paul Bagby will speak on "Humanity's Hope" at eleven o'clock Sunday morning. On Sunday evening at 7:00 he will speak on "Because a Child was Born." Sunday School at 9:45 A. M. There will be no B. T. U. on Sunday evening.

European Summary

Washington.—Nazi crew scuttles German liner Columbus off North American coast, U. S. Cruiser Tuscaloosa picks up 579 survivors; British man-of-war in vicinity of Columbus seen as cause.

Helsinki.—Russian bombers raid Helsinki; Finnish planes attack Russian troop concentrations.

London.—Helsinki dispatch gives unconfirmed report Russian battleship, Oktiabrskaya-Revolutia (October Revolution) sunk by Finnish coastal batteries; British say one member shot down five German fighters in Helgoland air fight; German aerial torpedoes sink fishing trawlers, British charge.

Berlin.—Germans call Helgoland battle biggest in history; claim 36 British planes downed.

Moscow.—Foreign military experts say Russians sending waves of troops against Finns.

Paris.—Allied War Council decides to help Finland; French get glimpse of 1940 war costs, government estimates total at 249,000,000,000 francs (about \$5,702,100,000). Navy claims Nazi submarine sunk "recently."

Fort Lauderdale, Fla.—German freighter Aranca finds haven from British cruiser in Porth Everglades harbor.

Buenos Aires.—Argentina intercepts 1,039 survivors of German raider Graf Spee; wrecked pocket battleship still burning off Montevideo.

Graf Spee Sunk

Montevideo, Uruguay, Dec. 17.—The German pocket battleship Admiral Graf Spee, \$13,000,000 worth of sleek fighting steel, was blown up and sunk by her Nazi crew tonight at the entrance to Montevideo harbor while Allied warships waited just over the horizon to pounce upon the trapped and crippled sea-raider.

The Graf Spee was destroyed at 7:50 p. m., on the personal orders of Fuehrer Adolf Hitler, seated in his Reichschancellery more than 6,000 miles away.

Barely 10 minutes before the deadline of the Uruguayan government's order to the Graf Spee to leave port or be interned for the rest of the war, terrific explosions of the warship's ammunition stores began tearing the ship to pieces.

The searchlights of the British cruiser Cumberland, whose guns she had cheated, played about the shattered war vessel as she sank beneath an enormous pall of smoke and leaping flames.

The Graf Spee, one of Germany's three sea-raiding pocket battleships, was scuttled approximately eight miles off the port of Montevideo in the Platte River because her 46-year-old captain, thin-faced Hans Langsdorff, realized the hopefulness of the odds against them.

German officials said none of the Graf Spee's crew of nearly 900 perished in the sinking; that all of them were put aboard the nearby German tanker Tacoma or removed at the last minute aboard launches.

YARBOROUGH-CRAIG

Invitations reading as follows have been mailed:

"Mrs. Oscar Fulton Craig requests the honor of your presence at the marriage of her daughter, Elsa Snowden, to Mr. Richard Fenner YARBOROUGH, Saturday afternoon, the thirtieth of December, at half after four o'clock, Sprunt Memorial Presbyterian Church, Chapel Hill, North Carolina."

No invitations will be mailed in Luoisburg.

The bride is the popular and accomplished daughter of Mrs. Oscar Fulton Craig, of Chapel Hill, and is especially popular among a host of friends. She was educated at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and for the past several years has been a member of the Luoisburg College faculty.

The groom is one of Luoisburg's popular and capable young men who holds an important position with the local Post Office.

Recorder's Court

Franklin Recorder's Court held its usual session on Tuesday with the following cases disposed of: C. C. Hudson was found guilty of operating automobile intoxicated and given 90 days on roads, execution not to issue upon payment of \$50 fine and costs. Not to operate a car for 12 months. Appeal.

Stewart Davis, was found guilty of bastardy and given 6 months on roads, execution not to issue upon payment of costs and \$3.00 per month.

Ed Alston obtaining advances under promise to work, transferred to Superior Court.

Charlie Thomas plead guilty to abandonment and non-support, and was given 12 months on roads, execution not to issue upon saving the County harmless, paying L. G. Higgins \$10 and supporting wife and children.

Marvin Bowden plead nolo contendere to operating automobile intoxicated, 6 months on roads. Appeal.

Lesley Pearce was found not guilty of larceny and receiving.

Jim Ayescue was found not guilty of larceny and receiving.

Dave Sturdivant and Maurice Sturdivant were found not guilty of larceny and receiving.

Petsy Holden was found guilty of assault with deadly weapon, and given 4 months on roads. Appeal.

Marvin Bowden was found guilty of operating automobile intoxicated and given 6 months on roads, to run concurrently with other case. Appeal.

The following cases were continued: Graham Lindsey, abandonment and non-support.

Katie Marshall, f and a. J. A. Woodard, assault on female.

Jack Strother, removing crop. C. H. Richardson, worthless check, two cases.

The Court ordered that no sessions will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 26th, but that all cases will go over to the next Tuesday.

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

This will be the Sunday before Christmas, or the 4th Sunday in Advent. There will be no early celebration of the Holy Communion. However, Church School will meet at 9:45 A. M. There will be the service of Morning Prayer and Sermon at 11:00 A. M. The fourth sermon in the new series on the Spiritual and Eternal teachings of Our Lord will be delivered. The special phase of this general subject will be "Passive Resistance."

There will be no meeting of the Young People's Service League until the first Sunday in January.

There will be the Midnight Christmas Eve service which will begin promptly at 12:00 midnight Sunday. There will be the celebration of the Holy Communion and special Christmas music. Everyone is more than welcome to attend this service and partake of the Lord's Supper as we commemorate the Birthday of the Son of God. One will feel the grip of peace and comfort that this service affords; the peace and comfort so badly needed in these troubled times.

On Friday night, December 22nd, the Church School will give a pageant in the Church at 8:00 P. M.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Shiloh and Piney Grove Churches To Have Services Sunday

(Luoisburg Circuit-Methodist Church)

There will be preaching at Shiloh Church, Sunday morning at eleven o'clock, and at Piney Grove in the afternoon, three o'clock. The sermon will be by the pastor at each church.

All people are given a special invitation at this Christmas season. The services will breathe the spirit of Christmas. It is the desire of the pastor that all people will invite their visitors from distances and that old friends of the churches will be present, also.

Sally Rand has filed a voluntary bankruptcy petition. It has always been suspected that some day the bubble would burst.