

Morehouse Parish Passes Quiet Christmas Eve Amid Startling Investigations

Vast Throngs Follow Bodies of Kidnapers' Victims to Final Resting Places

SQUAD OF GUARDSMEN ESCORT THE CORTEGE

With the Village of Mer Rouge Literally Sleeping On Its Arms Governor Feared An Outbreak During Hour of the Death Watch—No Sign of Disorder, and Machine Guns Flank Jail Where Suspect is Held

BASTROP, La., Dec. 24.—Morehouse parish was spending a quiet Christmas eve tonight in the midst of the startling investigations instituted by the state last week, to clear up the mystery of the kidnaping case of last August, when five prominent citizens of Mer Rouge were abducted by masked and white-robed men.

More than 200 automobiles and other vehicles were counted parked along the roads leading to the cemetery. The crowds began to assemble at the cemetery hours before the funeral was scheduled.

The Episcopal service was read and a squad of national guardsmen escorted the bodies to the graves, sounded taps and fired a salute, as the bodies were lowered into their resting place of earth after having lain in the Daniels family burying ground, seven miles from Mer Rouge this afternoon, side by side in the presence of a vast throng of relatives, friends and curiously seekers.

With the funeral services ended, the crowds started quietly for home. There was no outward expression of feeling that has been reported as surging within the kin of the dead.

Fearing that pent up emotions might explode during the week-end, last night and following the funeral today, Governor Parker late yesterday reissued the order issued previously in the day for the Monroe national guard to be stationed at Mer Rouge to proceed to join two national guard troops here guarding the court house and jail square.

The governor feared to leave Mer Rouge unapproached, it was announced. Stores and residences are generally reported as stocked with unusual supplies of guns and ammunition and citizens are said to be moving about in vehicles and on foot with fire arms.

The governor's lone suspect to trace the parish jail, discussed today with his attorneys the charge of murder he must face at the open hearing set for January 5 by the attorney general. Visitors were denied admittance to the parish jail, which is surrounded by machine guns, which are flanked with machine guns. Burnett has made application through his attorneys for a preliminary trial through regular channels to thwart the state's program. The attorney general has instructed that no trial judge not to act on the petition for the present.

A former deputy sheriff of Morehouse, a farm owner and a member of a well thought of family, Burnett is regarded by many to have enjoyed a good reputation and his friends have come to his assistance and stated he could not have been implicated in the alleged murders. No arrests were made today. It is now believed that the prisoners promised will not be effected until after Christmas.

At the conclusion of the open hearing, it was semi-officially announced that the men, if indicted, will be moved to the hotbed of the lake for trial, most likely Baton Rouge.

Governor Parker's program in slitting the kidnaping mystery was set in motion last Tuesday, when, after a conference with state and military officials, he ordered the company of Monroe national guard infantry, to entrain under sealed orders.

The military men made their appearance at Mer Rouge early Wednesday and went into camp in the heart of the state town.

The same afternoon a detachment was thrown about two lakes in Morehouse parish for guard duty. Professional divers, under the direction of department of justice men, began to dig the bottom of the lakes for the bodies of the missing men. It was the heavy men had been weighted down with wagon wheels, missing from the lake bank, and thrown into the lake.

On a chart prepared by Burnett's agents was drawn a ring around a ferry landing on LaFourche lake as the most probable resting ground of the dead. This location, which had a depth of 20 feet, was penetrated first but without success.

One Dead, Two May Die From Drinking Wool Alcohol Punch

SHELBY, O., Dec. 24.—Ralph Longley is dead, two other men are reported near death and a dozen others are ill here tonight as a result of a "Christmas party" at which wool alcohol is declared by police to have been used as a beverage in the belief that it was "corn whiskey." Police are holding one alleged member of the party, pending further investigation.

Chilean Ambassador Quits Argentine Post

SANTIAGO, Chile, Dec. 24.—Louis Izquierdo, Chilean ambassador to Argentina, has resigned. His place will be taken for the present by Matias Errazu, former minister to Belgium. Manuel Rivas, minister to Switzerland, also has resigned. It is likely that he will be replaced by his brother, Francisco Rivas, who is now minister to Cuba and Venezuela. Beltrán Mathieu, ambassador to the United States, who will come to Chile as one of its representatives at the Pan-American congress, will retire from the diplomatic service at the conclusion of the conference, it is said. It is not likely that Chile will answer the latest communication from Peru concerning that country's reason for not sending a delegation to the Pan-American congress.

Telephone Operator Saves Lives of 63

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Ammonia fumes escaping from a large tank here exploded today in the basement of the Italian hospital, East 33rd street, endangering 63 patients, who were saved from harm by the presence of mind of Miss Marie De Savio, the telephone switchboard operator. The young woman, who remained at her post, although affected by the fumes, and succeeded in telephoning the head nurse in each ward to close all hall doors and open the windows. She then gave the alarm to fire and police headquarters and fell from her chair in a swoon.

Former Governor Craig Resting Much Easier

ASHEVILLE, Dec. 24.—Former Gov. Locke Craig was reported resting a great deal more comfortably today and his condition is believed to be somewhat improved. His condition is still such that the family and friends feel encouraged over the change for the better.

The Day of Days

MANY years ago a little girl wrote to the New York Sun: "Is there a Santa Claus?" Francis Pharcellus Church answered her letter in an editorial which is a Christmas gem and which shines ever brighter with the flight of time:

"Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist. And you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! How dreary would be the world if there were no Virginias. There would be no childish faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. Nobody sees Santa Claus. But that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men see.

"You may tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance can push aside that curtain and view the glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

"No Santa Claus? Thank God, he lives and lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia—nay, ten times ten thousand years from now—he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood."

CHRISTMAS is more than a date on the calendar or a season of the year. It is a spirit—of giving, rather than receiving—an eternal reminder of what a joyous, beautiful existence this life on earth could be if it were not for the crash of selfishness against selfishness.

Mother Finds Babe Lost For 30 Years

EAST WOBURN, Mass., Dec. 24.—This will be the happiest Christmas ever spent by Mrs. Albert Knowlton. The odd, circular little house, where she lives in this little village, will be the scene of her first real happy Yuletide in three decades.

She has her baby once more. Sickness overtook Mrs. Knowlton, 30 years ago. She left her two babies at home in Portland, Me., in care of her husband, while she went to her mother for treatment.

When she returned, both babies were gone, turned over to an orphanage. Both had been adopted from it. Frantic search restored one child. No trace, though, was found of the youngest. Through the years, other children were born to her, but the mother's heart yearned for the lost one. But with the yearning was an enduring faith that some day, somehow, God would restore the missing child in his own time.

Jealous Hubby Kills Wife Then Suicides

CLEVELAND, Dec. 24.—Harry Lynch, 42, is dead and his wife, Lena Lynch, 52, is probably fatally wounded as a result of a shooting affray late today. Mrs. Lynch told police her husband shot her because he was jealous and then ended his own life. Police found two jugs of liquor in the house and they arrested a roomer on a charge of possessing liquor, while another man and a woman roomer were held on charges of intoxication.

Peter Cuddy, another roomer, told the police Lynch and his wife had quarreled all afternoon in their room. He heard a shot and the screams of Mrs. Lynch and rushed into the room, he said. Lynch confronted him, he said, shouting: "If you want to come in, I'll shoot you the same way I shot her."

Alleged Slayer Of Policeman Caught

GREENSBORO, Dec. 24.—Carl Talley, wanted in Greensboro in connection with the murder of Policeman W. P. McCuston, of the local force, here May 4, 1921, was captured this afternoon near South Boston, Va., according to information received here tonight from the mayor of South Boston.

Incendiary Blaze Endangers Priests

WOBURN, Mass., Dec. 24.—Fire, believed incendiary, endangered the lives of four priests, a housekeeper and two maids of the parish residence of St. Charles' Roman Catholic church, here early today. The fire was discovered by Thomas Trainer, a janitor of the church, who was on his way to work. Discovery of a broken window in the basement led to the belief the fire had been set. It was determined that the blaze started in the basement.

CHARLOTTE LAYMAN IS ORDAINED DEACON

L. R. Anshutz Enters Holy Orders at St. Peters

CHARLOTTE, Dec. 24.—L. E. Anshutz, lay leader of St. Peter's Episcopal church for the past two years, and in charge of the Chapel of Hope at North Charlotte was ordained a deacon this morning. The ceremony took place at St. Peter's church and the candidate for Holy orders was ordained by Bishop Coadjutor E. A. Penick.

ALLEGED SLAYER RELEASED

REPARATIONS NOW VITAL QUESTION; BORAH PROCLAIMS

Believes Reflection Will Lessen Opposition to a Second of Economic Parley

FEARS ADVANTAGES GAINED MAY BE LOST

Unless Solution is Found Washington Conference Will Have Been in Vain

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Expressing confidence that "more mature reflection would serve to diminish opposition to his proposal that the President call a conference of world powers for discussion of economic questions, and further reduction of land and sea armaments, Senator Borah, Republican, Idaho, in a formal statement tonight declared that "we have reached a point where we are to lose all advantages gained at the Washington arms conference unless a solution of the reparations problem is found."

The Idaho senator made no direct reference to the statement issued last night by Senator Johnson, Republican California, another "irreconcilable," in which the Borah amendment to the pending naval appropriations bill was assailed as a proposal which would "dump into America's lap the economic ills of Europe and the reparations muddle."

Senator Borah did mention, however, opposition to the suggestion, which he said was along the lines of that of the arms conference when it first was proposed. Timidity and opposition, in that case shifted, he added, to "very general support" as the proposal was studied.

Discussing European debt to the United States, Senator Borah said: "Some people seem to be exercised over Europe's inability to pay. I haven't any fear about the open cancellation of this debt, but no child now living will see its payment if the subject of reparations is permitted to go from bad to worse until another war takes place.

"We are interested in the reparations question, therefore, because we are interested in payment of what Europe owes us. We are also interested in it because we want European markets opened to our farm products. Millions are hungry and dying in Europe for the products which are rotting on our farms. Shall we say that these matters do not concern us? Nothing concerns us more."

"Assuming that the reparations tangle is cleared up, the question which concerns the United States, Senator Borah declared: "It involves millions of our people and it may involve another conflict. I am in favor of conferences, but there are times when they are helpful. This seems to be one of those times."

There are many precedents for the conference he proposed, the senator said, adding that the United States has not officially in such conferences and with European nations more than once, and had never hesitated to confer with reference to economic, financial and commercial matters.

"Such conferences," the statement declared, "have never been regarded by the most zealous advocates of our traditional policies as in contravention to them."

Mrs. Daniels Pleads For Wilson Foundation

RALEIGH, Dec. 24.—In a statement addressed to North Carolina "believers in Woodrow Wilson," Mrs. Josephus Daniels, executive chairman of the Woodrow Wilson foundation, tonight declared that the state is within \$3,500 of its goal. Final report will be made on the night of December 28.

PIONEER HOSIERY MAN BURIED AT CHARLOTTE

CHARLOTTE, Dec. 24.—Funeral services for R. M. Oates, formerly of Charlotte, who died Wednesday at Hendersonville, was held this afternoon. Services at the cemetery were in charge of the Masonic lodge of North Carolina.

ONE KILLED; FOUR HURT

ALLEGED SLAYER RELEASED

POLITICAL SPOTLIGHT TURNING TO WILSON AS LEADER OF PARTY

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—His 68th birthday anniversary on December 28, 1922—will find Woodrow Wilson again in the eye of a political spotlight.

Whether the spotlight again will swing to the former president in the center of the radiance is to many the most intriguing question before America.

There is little doubt that Wilson is physically better than at any time since his collapse in 1919. Though his left side still is partly paralyzed, Wilson now is able to stand without his cane and he even walks a few steps in his garden without its aid. His color is better. He has taken on weight.

And there are evidences that his stronger physical condition is permitting a more active following of national affairs.

Wilson has been writing letters on public questions—notably on the late elections. Also his Armistice day speech to admirers gathered at his home revealed he does not yet concede defeat in the cause in which he sacrificed his health, and indicated his expectation that American participation in world affairs would become the dominating issue in 1924.

Wilson unquestionably is the leader of the Democratic party today. His hold on the minds and hearts of the rank and file of his party has been strengthened by his illness and by the difficult in which the world has found itself the last two years.

It seems certain Wilson will lay down the lines on which the Democratic party will attempt its comeback in 1924 and that his influence on the choice of candidates will be most powerful.

Of Wilson's famous 14 points—his creed for establishing world peace—Clemenceau said: "Yes, I mentioned them. And Wilson's face lit up. He was a firm believer in their ultimate triumph."

MOSUL SETTLEMENT RECEIVES SETBACK

Turks Refuse to Admit That Mosul is a Part of Iraq and Mesopotamia

LAUSANNE, Dec. 24.—(By the Associated Press.)—Settlement of the Mosul dispute received a setback today, when the Turks notified the British delegates that they could not accept the British contention that Mosul is part of Iraq, and therefore, of Mesopotamia, over which there is a British mandate. The allies and Turks have been trying to solve this question ever since they arrived in Lausanne by means of private discussions; it will come into the conference in connection with the general fixing of Turkey's boundaries.

The Mosul oil fields are said to be among the richest in the world. Under the San Remo agreement, England gave France 25 per cent of the output, but Turkey came to Lausanne with the argument that the Mosul vilayet containing most of the oil property, belongs to Turkey, chiefly because the population is Turkish. The Turks want England to recognize Mosul as Turkish but say they will allow the British to work the oil fields.

Recently England sent a memorandum to the Turkish delegates arguing that on ethical, historical, political and economic grounds Mosul was really part of Iraq. Turkey's answer, forwarded today, is a refusal to accept the British arguments. In an 18 page document, the Turks insisted that the Mosul vilayet should be considered separate from the rest of Iraq and as a part of Turkey.

They deny that the population of Mosul is chiefly Kurd, and that for racial reasons Mosul should go to Iraq, and conclude that Mosul must be deemed an integral part of Turkey.

Their determined stand adds another vital problem to the list which must be settled when the delegates reassemble after Christmas. The United States has a great interest in the disposal of Mosul because of the oil supply.

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BERNHARDT SUFFERS RELAPSE; CONDITION EXTREMELY CRITICAL

Courage Alone Now Sustaining Famous Actress, Attending Doctors' Say

HER RETIREMENT FROM STAGE CERTAIN

Slim Chance Entertained For Recover, But Footlight Career is Ended

PARIS, Dec. 24.—(By The Associated Press.)—Sarah Bernhardt, the famous actress, suffered a relapse during the early hours this morning, when she had another fainting spell which lasted for a considerable time.

Courage alone is said to be sustaining the actress in the situation, but it is declared to be fast ebbing. The doctors, who constantly are in attendance upon her, expressed the opinion this evening that only a miracle could save her.

Christmas in Bernhardt's little mansion in the Boulevard Periere was a silent one. The servants and others of the household moved noiselessly through the semi-darkness of the halls, which usually at the Christmas tide glowed with brilliance.

Bernhardt's 70-year-old butler, Arthur, was sad of eye and disconsolate. "Madame is very low," he said, with quivering lips.

"Madame was progressing favorably," he added, "until this relapse."

Professor Olbiser, chief of the medical staff attending Bernhardt, said to The Associated Press this evening: "While we still hold hope for her recovery, it is certain that Madame Bernhardt never again will grace the footlights. Absolute repose and quiet for many long months are essential."

During the physician's talk with the correspondent, several life-long friends of Bernhardt entered the drawing room. They desired to go to the sickroom, but the doctor declined to permit them to do so.

"Madame must see no one," he said. "The least excitement might prove fatal."

"Madame Bernhardt is being kept alive with consommé with the white of an egg beaten into it. She is being given no solid food whatever. She is gradually growing weaker. Her last meal, she said, was a fatigued but declared Arthur, the butler, who added somewhat bitterly, "and there was no need for it."

Madame Bernhardt is said to realize the hopelessness of the situation, but to be meeting the end with the same fortitude as she has met many other crises in her 78 years of life.

Weeks and Pershing Send Army Greetings

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Holiday greetings to the rank and file of the army have been sent by Secretary Weeks, General Pershing and by Major General Harbord, deputy chief of staff, who signalled his approaching retirement to his comrades.

"You are the guardians and preservers of that peace and good will which we reverence at this season," Secretary Weeks said. "None deserve to a greater degree the best wishes of the nation than you, who are the security of which you guarantee by your personal service to the nation."

General Pershing, in his message, said: "You have materially contributed to the welfare of the American people during the year just ending. Yours has been a personal service for the good of your country, which is deeply appreciated."

General Harbord's greeting was in the nature of a formal farewell. The service he has been in for more than 30 years.

"As one of the last acts of my active military service, I extend cordial holiday greetings to the army of the United States," he said.

"My regrets at leaving a profession that is very dear to me and the interruption of the associations of a lifetime are tempered by the splendid memories of those years. I cease military duty with a firm belief that our nation will enjoy both prosperity and a maximum of peace so long as the army of the United States endures and progresses."

Prisoners Rush Guards And Escape From Jail

DETROIT, Dec. 24.—Using broomsticks and mop handles as weapons, seven prisoners from the city jail here said by police to be desperate characters, escaped from the Wayne county jail here today. A police dragnet was spread across the entire city and extended to Toledo and Cleveland, O., has failed today to result in the capture of any of the men.

Jail officials tonight were unable to say definitely how the escape was accomplished, pending investigation. Four jail attendants were on duty when the break for liberty took place. William Ackerman, guard, who stood at the entrance to the cell block in which the men were quartered, was overpowered, after which the prisoners ran down to the office, where they attacked Deputy Sheriff J. A. Pusko. Taken by surprise, Pusko seized a revolver from the desk and is said to have pulled the trigger three times, but none of the cartridges was exploded. He was beaten down by the seven men, who completed their jail break by letting themselves out with the keys which Pusko carried. Two other jail attendants were in another part of the jail at the time.

Two of the escaped men faced long prison sentences following conviction of robbery while armed. The others were awaiting trial.

NO PAPER TOMORROW

In order that its employees may join in the general mass of humanity in the enjoyment and observance of Christmas, the Star will not be issued tomorrow. Regular publication will, however, be resumed Wednesday morning.

To each and every reader and advertiser, the Star wishes a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.