

Wilmington and vicinity: Fair and continued cold today with temperatures moderating slowly Thursday. Possible rain Thursday followed by colder Thursday night. Lowest temperatures tonight around 30 degrees.

Wilmington Morning Star

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1946 Poses Tough Task For Truman

LABOR STRIFE RAGES

President Seeks Backing Of People In Effort To Meet Legislative Program

By DOUGLAS B. CORNELL
WASHINGTON, Jan. 1. — (AP) — President Truman started 1946 resolved to put across his legislative program in a new year that poses many problems.

Aboard the Presidential yacht Williamsburg, Mr. Truman was knitting together a speech aimed at lining up public backing behind that program. Thursday night the President goes on the air to talk directly to the people.

He has started, too, to draft a "state of the union" message for Congress, to tell it what he wants after it goes back to work Jan. 14.

SAILOR BEATEN BY TWO MARINES

J. C. Harwell Found In Semi-Conscious Condition In County

J. C. Harwell, pharmacist mate third class was taken to James Walker hospital in a critical condition yesterday afternoon for treatment of wounds supposedly inflicted by two marines who gave him a lift.

Hospital attaches said last night that Harwell had been taken to the Marine Hospital at Camp Lejeune. They stated that their examination proved that some 20 lacerations about the head were the only serious injuries, and that it did not disclose any sign of brain concussion or fracture of the skull.

Harwell, sheriff's officers reported, was found in a semi-conscious condition by three ladies yesterday afternoon near the Negro church on the old shell road at McCumbers Station in the Wrightsville Sound area.

He told the officer that he had been given a ride by two marines, one whom he tentatively identified. He said that when the approached the Negro settlement of McCumbers station, they stopped the car and started beating him on the head with a heavy instrument. He said that the men took \$120 cash and his identification and leave papers from him and left him for dead beside the road.

ELECTRIC BLANKET CAUSES FATAL BURNS TO MRS. LITCHFIELD

Mrs. Nell Litchfield, of Columbus, Ga., a first cousin of R. B. Page of Wilmington, suffered fatal burns at 3 a. m. yesterday morning at the Blackmon hospital in Atlanta, Ga., when the electric blanket under which she was sleeping caught fire.

Bessie Does It

Bessie did it . . . at exactly 4 a. m. January 1, 1946. Bessie was the proud mother of a 23 pound baby girl named "Susie." And who is Bessie? She is one of the finest cows on the Dally Victoria farm which is owned by Mr. and Mrs. D. Botevsky on Wilmington Route 1.

STORK PASSES CITY WITHOUT STOPPING ON NEW YEAR'S DAY

The Stork passed Wilmington by on New Year's Day. As the people in New Hanover wait to hear who will be the first white baby born in the city or county the traditional bird hasn't dropped any juniors, sisters, twins, triplets or quads during the first 24 hours of the new year.

FULLER LARDER PROMISED U. S.

Grocers' President Predicts Five Percent Drop In Food Prices Soon

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1. — (AP) — American civilians will eat more and better food in 1946—and probably will pay less for it—President Paul S. Willis of the Grocery Manufacturers of America predicted tonight.

He said in a year-end statement that a slightly better food supply in both quantity and quality is in prospect for the civilian market. There will be few important shortages although sugar, butter, fats and oils will remain scarce during most of the year, he said.

Pointing out that the Agriculture department expects food prices to drop by five per cent during the coming year, he said the industry will do everything possible to give consumers "the largest volume of food possible at the lowest possible prices."

On a per capita basis, he said, civilians will have about 11 per cent more food than was available during the five years preceding the war. Wartime consumption was up 10 per cent on a per capita basis.

Willis gave this thumbnail sketch of the food outlook for this year:

"Meat supplies are expected to average 145-155 pounds per capita, and may exceed that in the latter part of the year. This compares with an average of 126 pounds in the five years before the war.

"No important shortages in dairy products are looked for, with the exception of butter, and the latter will be in better supply than in 1945.

"Cutbacks in requirements of the armed forces will mean that more poultry will be available to civilians than in recent months. The supply of eggs is expected to be fully

SCHOOL BELLS RING FOR KIDS IN COUNTY AFTER LONG HOLIDAY

About 13,000 New Hanover school children won't be wrong this morning as they don heavy coats, scarfs, earmuffs and mittens to answer the first call of the 1946 school bell after a two-week's holiday vacation.

H. M. Roland, city-county superintendent of schools, predicted last night a good enrollment for the first school day of the new year as minor flu epidemic rolls out with the old year.

"Fewer changes in the faculty have taken place this year," said Roland, "than in the last four years."

As the students return to school today they will begin to prepare themselves for the mid-term examinations which will take place the latter part of January, with no more vacations in sight until the Easter holidays.

So its back to school and hard work for the school "set" as 1946 takes over this morning and rings the first bell at 8:30 o'clock

Medical Science Adds Powerful New Weapon

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 1. — (AP) — Expanded production of Carbon 13, which recent experiments in biochemical research indicate "gives promise of ranking in importance with X-ray as a tool of medical science," was announced here today by Sun Oil Co., and Houdry Process Corp.

As Plane-Crash Victim Lay Dying



Tense and somber is this scene at LaGuardia Field, New York, as doctors and aides were losing the fight to save Mrs. Grace Teichholtz Scully, 49, of New York City, after her rescue from the plane crash in Flushing Bay, half a mile from the field. Note Mayor LaGuardia in upper background. Of fourteen persons aboard the incoming liner from Miami, Mrs. Scully was the only one to die. Eight were injured. (International)

Marshall's Mediation May Solve Chinese Differences

U. S. General Holds "Significant" Conference With Communist Leader

By SPENCER MOOSA
CHUNGKING, Jan. 1. — (AP) — A significant conference which conceivably could lead to settlement of China's internal troubles was held today by Gen. George C. Marshall, U. S. presidential envoy, and a high communist leader while the nation awaited the Communist reply to the government's counter truce proposal.

For two hours Marshall talked with Gen. Chou En-Lai, leader of the Communist delegation to the unity conference opening January 10. It was the first long conversation the two had held.

It was regarded as a sign that the Communists were not opposed to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek's proposal that Marshall serve as mediator in the attempt to settle the strife between the government and the Communists.

It appeared possible that the Communist reply to Chiang's counter proposal would not be made

DEATH RENDEZVOUS KEEPS PILOTS AWAY AT TOAST TO PEACE

DETROIT, Jan. 1. — (AP) — Two fighter pilots drank a New Year toast today, keeping a rendezvous made by 50 Royal Canadian Air Force fliers in November, 1941.

"The others couldn't make it," Seth T. Parker, 26, Richmond, Va., said.

Forty-five couldn't make it because they had kept another rendezvous—the soldier's rendezvous with death.

All except five of the 50 who made the pact to meet in Detroit when the war was over were killed fighting.

Parker and Paul G. Forcay, 27, Morrisdale, Pa., represented "the last 10 per cent" of the happy-go-lucky group which trained at Windsor, Ont. The three other survivors were unable to reach Detroit for the toast to 1946.

CITIZENS TO "SEE" TRUMAN'S MESSAGE TO U. S. LAWMAKERS

NEW YORK, Jan. 1. — (AP) — President Truman's delivery of the annual message to Congress Jan. 15 will be telecast over three New York television stations and one in Washington.

The images and sounds will be transmitted to the New York stations from Washington by way of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company's coaxial cable.

It will be the first time a session of Congress has been televised, the A. T. & T. said, and it will mark the start of regularly scheduled intercity television programs from Washington to New York over the 225-mile cable.

Television cameras will be stationed at both the White House and the Capitol building to record the entire event.

400 Violent Deaths Stalk Wild U. S. New Year Spree; Shipyard Pay Hike Studied

Compromise Plan Sought In Industry

LEADERS CONFER

Stabilization Director Suggests Some "Adjustment May Be Made"

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1. — (AP) — Government, industry and union representatives will meet again tomorrow in an effort to compromise AFL and CIO wage demands in the shipbuilding industry.

Stabilization Administrator John C. Collet suggested that "some" wage adjustment might be approved under a section of the Administration wage-price regulations dealing with industries predominantly under government contract.

Most of the nation's shipyards still are under contract with the Navy, Army or other government procurement. Collet told a conference of representatives of all interested parties today that if other cost factors were reduced, it might be possible to approve a wage boost.

Collet implied that a reduction in the over-all labor payroll resulting from the change from a 48 to a 40-hour work week therefore might be partly offset by a hike in wage rates.

He emphasized that his appearance before the group, arranged by the working committee set up at conclusion of the Colorado Springs National Shipbuilding conference last month, did not mean any wage adjustments would be approved by him, or that he was prejudging the issues.

More than a half-million shipyard workers throughout the nation are involved.

The CIO-International Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America is asking for a 1-2 cent hourly wage increase immediately as an "equity" arising from pay sacrifices assertedly made during the war, and a 30 per cent increase on top of that to maintain wartime levels.

The AFL metal trades department, representing 16 AFL unions (Continued on Page Two; Col. 5)

BOARD TO SEEK TO STOP STRIKE

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1. — (AP) — A member of President Truman's steel fact-finding panel said tonight that it probably will ask the U. S. Steel Corp. and the CIO's United Steel Workers to resume collective bargaining.

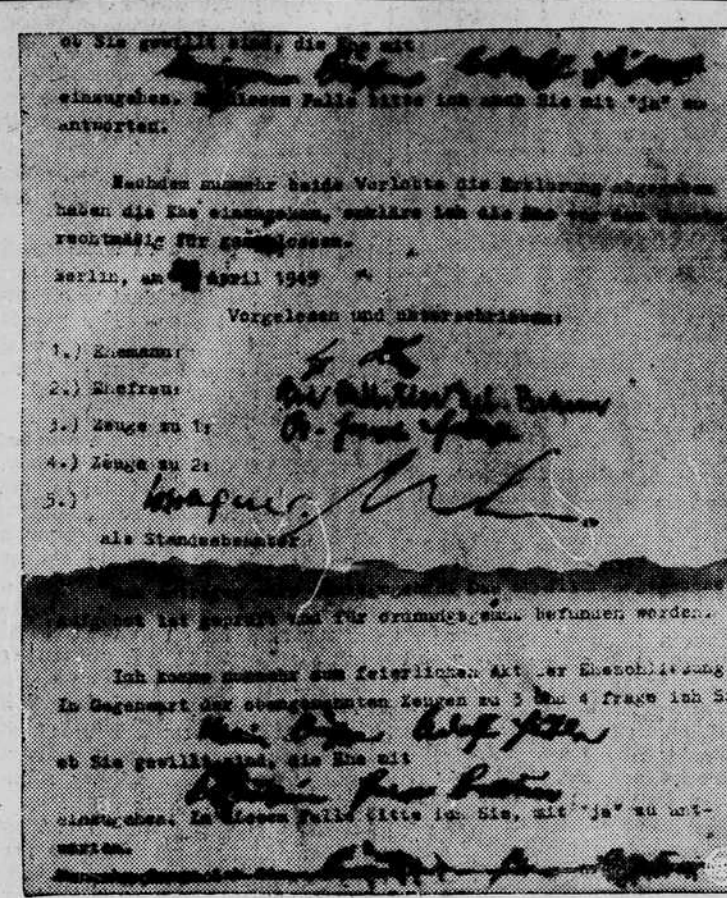
The union has scheduled a nationwide strike of its 700,000 members for Jan. 14 to enforce its demands for a \$2-a-day wage increase. Direct negotiations collapsed last October. The company has refused to renew them until guaranteed a price increase to compensate for any pay boost.

Mr. Truman instructed OPA to investigate whether a price increase would be "proper" but did not require a report on its findings until Feb. 10—almost a month after the scheduled walkout.

Nathan P. Feinsinger, former War Labor Board member who was named to the special fact-finding panel, said it would meet to select a chairman and decide on procedure as soon as the other two members reach Washington. They are Associate Justice Roger I. McDonald of the Utah State Supreme

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PART OF HITLER'S "JIGSAW PUZZLE"



The marriage document which legalized Hitler's union with Eva Braun, discovered in a Bavarian village by Allied agents, was typed in haste on plain, white heavy bond paper. Water-smearred, ink-splattered signatures and scrawled alterations are shown on these copies of pages of the document. Army intelligence officers said the license, together with Hitler's personal and political testaments, form part of "a large jigsaw puzzle from which we already have an entire picture." (NEA Telephoto)

1945's Bull Stock Market Nears Record For Trading

"LITTLE FLOWER" FINISHES REGIME

NEW YORK, Jan. 1. — (AP) — Puckish, volatile Fiorello H. LaGuardia handed over the world's greatest city to an Irish immigrant today and began devoting his limitless energy to earning an estimated \$150,000 a year as radio commentator, newspaper columnist and autobiographer.

"The Hat" stepped down officially as mayor of New York City in a brief and unceremonious meeting with his successor, brawny William O'Dwyer, at City Hall this morning. He handed O'Dwyer a few papers in the office he has occupied for 12 turbulent years and walked out smiling, leaving the new mayor with only one memento of his three-term reign—a large poster on the mantel bearing the word "Hope."

LaGuardia, 63-year-old "Little Flower" is succeeded by a former hood-carrier and policeman who worked an studied his way from penniless immigrant to mayor.

O'Dwyer came to this country from Ireland in 1910 with \$25. His first home in this metropolis was in the slums which he has told the voters he will replace with comfortable homes. He worked as a hirable carrier, longshoreman and odd-job man, became a policeman and student while on the force. After graduation from law school, he studied for 18 months at the University of Salamanca in Spain, came back to become Brooklyn district attorney and prosecutor of the "Murder, Inc." ring of slayers.

He was sworn in as mayor of

NEW YORK, Jan. 1. — (AP) — The past year's bull stock market recorded the widest upswing since the "Era of Wonderful No sense" in the late '20's although turning somewhat hesitant during the final month.

For 1945 the Associated Press 60-stock average rose 16.9 points to 75.2, largest advance since the 33.5 points scored in the boom stretch of 1928. The composite in December reached the highest mark since April 13, 1931. The industrials in the last year gained 20.6 points, the rails 12.9 and the utilities 12.

For the first six months activity frequently tapered but public demand, particularly for low-quoted utilities, expanded briskly in the final half and 2,000,000-share days were frequent. Largest turnover of the year was 2,940,000 shares of 1.5 points. Blamed for the stumble was an overbought condition and rumors that margins, which had been limited to 75 per cent and eliminated for stocks selling for \$10 or under earlier in the year, would be raised to 100 per cent. Smallest aggregate for a full session was 490,000 shares on August 6 when reconversion caution reigned.

For the entire 12 months volume totaled 376,029,713 shares, a top since the 409,464,570 of 1937.

The broadest session in stock exchange history was on November 9 when 1,061 individual issues changed hands. The biggest day's upturn was August 9 when the average climbed 1.3 points, best

New Year Box Score Here: Lot Of Fun, No Violence

A box score, today, of the Wilmington police department on the city's New Year's eve celebration would look something like this.

Violent deaths—None. Arrests—Eight. Fires—One. An alarm was answered at 28 Spofford Mills. Firemen found that the call was caused by a chimney burning out.

Shootings—One. Stabbings—None. Injured in Falls—None. In serious condition from alcoholism—None reported. Property damage—None. False alarms—None. Chief Charles H. Casteen said last night that up to that time the New Year's celebration had been one of the quietest Wilmington has had in many years.

Traffic Toll Reaches 319 Celebrants

NEW YORK LEADS

New Year's Eve One Of Most Expensive In Nation's History

By BICKNELL EUBANKS
CHICAGO, Jan. 1. — (AP) — The death toll of the nation's noisiest, most expensive and most exuberant New Year's celebration in years pushed beyond 400 tonight and millions were recuperating.

At least 319 were killed in traffic accidents or met death through other violent means. Safety officials said the toll would be higher if the pre-holiday accidental deaths of persons traveling to other towns for celebrations were counted. They counted holiday deaths starting Saturday at midnight.

New York led the states with 44 violent deaths, California, with 30, was second. Illinois reported 18, Pennsylvania 22, Indiana 15, Massachusetts 13, Texas 11, and Connecticut 11.

Probably the most colorful celebration was Pasadena's tournament of Roses parade, the first since 1941, preceding the west coast's traditional Rose Bowl football game. Many cities and foreign countries were entered in the parade.

In Philadelphia, an estimated one million persons watched the annual New Year Day Mumpers' parade. Some 5,000 members competed for \$12,000 in prize money.

New Year Day was quiet in comparison with the nation-wide noise-making and roistering that saw 1945 out and 1946 in last night. The quiet was due to what must have been the biggest collective hang-over ever experienced by this country. Thousands upon thousands of gallons of spirits were downed.

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LONELY POLICEMAN KILLS WIFE, SELF

OKLAHOMA, City, Jan. 1. — (AP) — A New Year without his family so depressed William Neuffer, 42, a lieutenant of police that he set out to kill all members of it—himself, his divorced wife, their 22-year-old daughter and the latter's bridegroom of a week.

Three hours after midnight the lonely police official walked into his former wife's apartment, pistol in hand.

He killed Mrs. Neuffer. He gravely wounded his son-in-law, Neal Beard, 27. The daughter, Beverly, wasn't shot because her father's pistol misfired when he aimed at her. She collapsed from fright and evidently thinking he had shot her, killed himself.

Neuffer left the police department in 1942 and joined the Coast Guard. He returned to his job of traffic lieutenant in March, 1944, having received a medical discharge.

The Neuffers separated last February and were subsequently divorced. He made numerous attempts at a reconciliation. Grace Neuffer rejected them all and he was increasingly melancholy.

As last night's revelry mounted to its midnight peak, Neuffer sat in his office in the traffic bureau. He attempted to borrow a pistol

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DARE COUNTY GROWS WHEN OIL COMPANIES LEASE WATER 'LAND'

MANTENO, Jan. 1. — (AP) — Dare county is pretty good sized so far as acreage is concerned, but it didn't know just how large it was until the oil companies began leasing oil rights in the county.

The tax books had listed 268,425 acres, but the 558 documents filed with Register of Deeds Melvin R. Daniels for three large oil firms are for leases on a total of 290,000 acres, not including the submerged lands leased to Standard Oil by the State of North Carolina.

New pieces of property disclosed daily on the tax books, and Tax Supervisor W. A. Drinkwater predicts a healthy upward trend in receipts.

WEATHER

(Eastern Standard Time)
(By U. S. Weather Bureau)
Meteorological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p.m. yesterday.
Temperatures:
1:30 a.m. 41; 7:30 a.m. 36; 1:30 p.m. 44; 7:30 p.m. 38.
Maximum 45, Minimum 34; Mean 40.
Normal 47.
Humidity:
1:30 a.m. 90; 7:30 a.m. 80; 1:30 p.m. 36; 7:30 p.m. 62.
Precipitation:
Total for 24 hours ending 7:30 p.m.—None.
Total since the first of the month—None.
Tides For Today
(From the Tide Tables published by U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey)
Wilmington 9:12 a.m. 3:45 a.m.
4:21 p.m.
Masonboro Inlet 6:55 a.m. 12:32 a.m.
7:00 p.m.
Sunrise 7:18; Sunset 5:14; Moonrise 6:43 a.m.; Moonset 4:35 p.m.