

WEATHER

North Carolina: Partly cloudy. Slightly warmer in northwest portion and near coast tonight. Official Shelby temperatures: High 55, Low 29, Rainfall none.

The Shelby Daily Star

FORMERLY THE CLEVELAND STAR, ESTABLISHED 1896

MARKETS

Cotton, spot ..... 13 to 13 1/2c
Cotton, seed, wagon ton ..... \$39.00
Cotton seed, car lot ton ..... \$42.00

VOL. XLII—NO. 172 MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS THE SHELBY DAILY STAR SHELBY, N. C. WEDNESDAY, DEC. 23, 1936 AUDITED CIRCULATION SINGLE COPIES 5c

CONFERENCE DECLARED AID TO PEACE OF AMERICAS

Cuban President Fights Ouster

GOMEZ DEMANDS HE BE ALLOWED TO DEFEND SELF

Cubans Believe His Chances About Gone

BATISTA FORCE

HAVANA, Dec. 23.—(P)—Congressional champions of Miguel Mariano Gomez obtained passports today in an emergency prelude to Cuba's army-spiced impeachment of the seven months' president.

Representative Radio Cremata, who disclosed the legislators' action while Gomez was pleading for a chance to defend himself against ouster before the senate court of justice, said all pro-Gomez congressmen had offered to resign when the president was ushered out of office.

HAVANA, Dec. 23.—President Miguel Mariano Gomez, brilliant orator and lawyer, pleaded that he be permitted to defend himself against impeachment charges in the national senate today.

The appeal, outside the law of Cuba in the unprecedented case of impeachment, was regarded as a "forlorn hope" in his fight against action to oust him from the presidency.

Wants To Talk

The law provides that the president must submit his defense in writing, leaving oral arguments to attorneys. Gomez declared that, as an attorney in good standing at the Cuban bar, he should be permitted to appoint himself his own counsel.

His plea was taken under consideration by a committee of the senate which will sit as a court of justice in the case.

The house of representatives, in impeaching the president, charged him with attempting to use political coercion to stifle opposition to his veto of the army-sponsored \$1,500,000 sugar tax bill.

Although most official quarters expected the president's ouster would be concurred in by the senate which overrode his sugar tax veto to 26 to 6, the results of the court's vote probably will not be known for some ten hours after it is taken.

All indications were that the na-

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UNION PROPOSES ORGANIZATION OF MOTOR INDUSTRY

Chrysler, Ford, General Motors And Others Involved

DETROIT, Dec. 23.—(P)—The United Automobile Workers of America announced as its goal today the signing of collective bargaining agreements with every unit in the motor industry from the small-est manufacturer of parts to the "big three"—Chrysler, Ford and General Motors.

"We are going to have collective bargaining in all of the auto industry," said Homer Martin, international president of the union, "and we won't give up until we have it. By federal legislation, collective bargaining is the law of the land, and it is substantiated by public opinion."

"Right now we are trying to arrange negotiations with the General Motors corporation. We are going to organize Ford, too. General Motors and Ford do not have collective bargaining."

"Our relations with the Chrysler corporation have been very satisfactory," Martin said. "There has not been a single case of union discrimination or discharge there. Chrysler, along with many others, evidently is seeking to abide by the law and play fairly."

This announcement came as executives of automobile factories and related industries watched apprehensively the effect of strikes in several parts plants on car and truck production.

Arrange Mass Funeral Services For Mexican Miners Dead In Blast

34 Known Dead And Fear Is That Many Others Of 700 Working During Explosion May Have Perished

EAGLE PASS, Tex., Dec. 23.—(P)—An explosion-torn mine which yielded at least 34 bodies was searched today by digging rescue crews 80 miles to the south in Mexico for five miners believed entombed.

Thirty-five injured miners were treated, several for severe burns which may prove fatal. This border town's information from the mine at Nuevo Rosita, Coahuila, failed to confirm a report from Torreon, Mexico, that the recovered bodies totalled 47.

700 In Mine

About 700 miners were scattered throughout the underground shafts of the Rosita Coal Mine company's number six operations when the blast occurred yesterday about a mile from the entrance and 400 feet below the surface.

Officials suggested sparks from an unknown source may have set off gas. Mass funeral services were arranged for the victims recovered from the number one shaft.

Escaping gas and rocks and timber which blocked the shafts hampered rescue work. Reports received here said all of the victims were Mexicans.

Rescue work began immediately after the explosion and physicians from five other towns were summoned. News of the blast attracted large crowds to the shafthead from Rosita, city of 30,000.

Manuel Reyes of Eagle Pass was advised by a brother who works for the company that the explosion rocked Rosita. The mines is owned by the Compania Carbonifera de Sabinas, S. A., Mexican subsidiary of the American Smelting and Refining company.

Twelve mules in the mine escaped death because, observers said, they remained at one place while frantic miners rushed into the deadly gas.

Business activity is expected to reach a feverish climax in this area today and tomorrow.

No formal agreement as to the closing period for Christmas was reached by local merchants, and some are expected to get Friday and Saturday as holidays, and others only Friday.

Banks Close

Banks and building and loan offices will be closed only on Christmas day, as will the post office and a number of other businesses will take only Friday.

The court house and the offices of the county agent will remain closed from Thursday noon until Monday morning.

Few Licenses

Carlos Hopper, manager of motor license sales at the Carolina Motor club office, said there will be no sales either Friday or Saturday. To date 1,092 have been sold. By the first of the year there should be more than 5,500 he said.

There will be no postal service except special delivery on Christmas day. There will be no delivery at all on rural routes.

Rural schools will close this afternoon and open again on next Monday.

Many Attend Rites For J. Mack Green

Many persons from Shelby attended the funeral of J. Mack Green at Double Shoals Baptist church this afternoon at 2:30.

Mr. Green died suddenly about 2 o'clock yesterday at his home on North Washington street. He was 78 years of age. Dr. Zeno Wall, pastor here, was in charge of rites. Interment was at the Double Shoals cemetery.

Waits For Santa



Charles Henry Benedict of Columbia, N. Y., who first hung up his stocking on Christmas Eve 103 years ago, tests the mantel preparatory to hanging it up again this year. Still a firm believer in Santa, he hopes for "about a ton of pipe tobacco" in his stocking. (Associated Press Photo)

Charles Henry Benedict of Columbia, N. Y., who first hung up his stocking on Christmas Eve 103 years ago, tests the mantel preparatory to hanging it up again this year. Still a firm believer in Santa, he hopes for "about a ton of pipe tobacco" in his stocking. (Associated Press Photo)

Wards of the Rev. W. Earl Armstrong at Gastonia in an attempt to kidnap and criminally assault his 11-year-old daughter.

At the time of the conviction the trial jury recommended mercy but under state law the verdict of first degree burglary carried with it a mandatory death sentence.

Judge T. B. Finley, who presided at the trial, was quoted in the commutation statement as saying there was no serious injury done. He recommended a change of the sentence to life or 30 years in prison.

"The jury evidently thought there was some little doubt about the defendants being guilty of first degree burglary," Finley wrote, "but not sufficient doubt to amount to a reasonable doubt—therefore, decided to return the verdict of burglary in the first degree, coupled with a recommendation for mercy which would mean, possibly, life imprisonment."

Solicitor John G. Carpenter concurred in the judge's recommendation and the Rev. Mr. Armstrong wrote the governor asking that mercy be shown by a commutation, the statement said.

HELD FOR DEATH OF NEGRO IN COLLISION

GASTONIA, Dec. 23.—(P)—Omar Stevenson of South Gastonia was at liberty under \$1,000 bond today as officers investigated the death of Will Roberts, 55, negro, in an auto-wagon collision.

All Records Appear Broken By 1937 Christmas Mail

CHICAGO, Dec. 23.—(P)—Santa Claus' chief helpers, the postmen, staggered today under the heaviest loads of Christmas mail since 1929. In many parts of the country the stream of Yuletide greetings established all-time records.

There were millions more packages and letters in the mail this year than there were in 1935, carrying the spirit of the season to all points of the compass. The government's cash registers worked overtime, jingling the tune of a boom business in stamps.

Postmaster Goldman of New York

hired 11,300 extra clerks and carriers to handle the biggest volume since '28 and '29. Both parcel post and first class mail was 20 percent greater than a year ago. Manhattan and Bronx receipts for the first 21 days of December topped by \$500,000 the total for all of December, 1935.

At Cincinnati 2,260,000 pieces of mail had passed through cancelling machines in 24 hours ending last night for an all-time high. Assistant Postmaster Peter Wig-

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Meredith Faculty Members Injured

RALEIGH, Dec. 23.—(P)—Miss Mae F. Grimmer, Meredith College alumnae secretary, and Miss Mary Tillery, art teacher at the school, were still in "serious condition" at Rex Hospital today, suffering from injuries received in an automobile wreck on the Raleigh-Rocky Mount highway Saturday.

Physicians attending them said the extent of their injuries had not yet been fully determined. Bunyan Whitley of Nashville, injured in the same accident, died yesterday at Rocky Mount.

THREE DAY HALT CALLED IN CHINA KIDNAP ACTIVITY

Follows Request Of Wife Of Chiang; Many Rumors

ARMED TRUCE

NANKING, Dec. 23.—(P)—A three day Armistice halted China's civil war today at the urgent request of Mme. Chiang Kai-Shek and her brother, Dr. T. V. Soong, after their flight to Sianfu to rescue the national government's captive leader.

Shortly after Generalissimo Chiang's wife and her brother arrived at Marshal Chang Hsueh-Liang's rebel stronghold, Dr. Soong telegraphed Nanking asking for a cessation of hostilities.

After a hasty conference with other nationalist leaders, Dr. H. H. Kung, acting civil head of the government, granted an Armistice until Dec. 25.

The proposal to end hostilities came on the heels of a reported strategic victory for the Nanking troops of the punitive expedition pressing to rescue Chiang.

Aid for the rebellion was seen in reports that Marshal Chang had effected an alliance with communist leaders further to the northwest and was actively cooperating with them.

The young marshal was said to have flown 200 miles to Fushin, important city of northern Shensi province, for a conference with communist leaders, bringing one of them back with him to Sianfu to greet Mme. Chiang and Dr. Soong.

The telegram from the "unofficial" emissaries was the first word since their plane nosed into the fog over the Yangtze river valley yesterday for the flight to Sianfu.

Officials refused to comment on the sudden development or on Dr. Soong's terse telegram which gave no details of conditions at Marshal Chang's headquarters.

38 Life Termers In State Prison Will Have Party

RALEIGH, Dec. 23.—(P)—Thirty-eight men serving life terms at Central prison here will have a Christmas party all to themselves Friday.

Warden H. H. Honeycutt said arrangements had been made to allow the men to barbecue a hog or two in the prison yard "their own way." Trimmings, such as slaw and bread, will be provided.

Oscar Pitts, acting director of the penal division, said a "special dinner" would be provided for all prisoners consisting usually of vegetables and either fresh pork or chicken. Each prisoner will get a Christmas card.

A holiday will be given the prisoners, except those having camp duties, from noon tomorrow until Monday morning, Pitts said.

Simeon D. Fess Is Dead In Capitol

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—(P)—Former Senator Simeon D. Fess of Ohio died unexpectedly in a hotel here today of a heart attack. He was 75.

Hotel officials said Fess arrived only this morning from Ohio and went directly to his room. The end came suddenly a few minutes after 10 o'clock.

A son, Charles S. Fess who lives in the capital was summoned immediately. Fess, who served 10 years in the house and two terms in the senate, was defeated for reelection in 1934.

He served as chairman of the Republican national committee and in 1928 delivered the keynote address at the convention which nominated Herbert Hoover.

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White House Hails Christmas

Looking almost like a Christmas card, this picture shows the Yuletide trees lighted on the "front porch" of the White House. Inside, the Roosevelt family hung wreaths and prepared for an "old fashioned" Christmas. (Associated Press Photo)

President Roosevelt's dream of a western hemisphere of nations moving toward permanent peace, standing "shoulder to shoulder" against foreign aggression and pledged against a war of conquest, found realization, at least in part, in the Inter-American peace conference which ended today.

The Buenos Aires parley, through 60 projects, laid the foundation for strengthening the American peace structure, providing for joint consultation if general American peace is threatened from within or without, non-intervention by one American country in another's affairs and removal of some of the horrors of warfare.

21 Nations Agree

The representatives of the 21 American republic put into concrete form the general proposals laid down by President Roosevelt in his notes to the other American republic last January and in his address at the opening of the historic conference Dec. 1.

Argentina's insistence on not completely severing her bonds with her mother continent, Europe, and the United States' policy of remaining aloof from European entanglements proved only minor stumbling blocks and difficulties were ironed out quickly.

Major Projects

Seven major projects for bolstering the American peace set-up won unanimous approval and an eighth had the sanction of all but the United States, which refrained from voting because the proposal was linked to the League of Nations.

The seven peace measures are: 1. A United States plan for joint consultation among the American nations if peace in the new world is threatened from abroad or from within.

2. A United States resolution for ratification of five existing American peace treaties by nations which have not made them effective.

3. A United States project to co-

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Grim Christmas Is Faced By Defenders Of Madrid

MADRID, Dec. 23.—(P)—The crash of enemy shells in the trenches northwest of the Spanish capital today foreshadowed a grim Christmas for the city's socialist defenders.

Militiamen at the front wistfully expressed the hope some of them might be allowed to return to Madrid for the day, but the ever-present fear of insurgent attack on the strategic communications with El Escorial held them to their posts.

Shell Building

The government estimated 15 shells fell in the heart of the capital yesterday during a long range bombardment in which the insurgent artillery centered its fire on the million dollar telephone building, tall-est structure in the city.

Although several persons in the streets were injured by the tumbling masonry, young girls busied themselves collecting gifts for the "militia's Christmas."

The presents obtained from Madrid's already tried civilian population consisted mostly of old clothes, books, and much needed shoes.

Cigarettes and cognac will be freely distributed on "Buena Noche" to the soldiers in the trenches.

Except for the intermittent artillery duel there was little activity in the bitter cold of the front lines.

Positions on both sides of the highway to El Escorial, Madrid's link with her outpost in the Guadarrama mountains, were fortified by the opposing armies.

In Valencia, money from the International relief fund made possible hundreds of thousands of pounds of cake for the socialist forces.

The Christmas distribution will include 50,000 pounds of pork, 10,000 pounds of fruit, 100,000 boxes of cigarettes and 100,000 cigars.

SEEKING PAY FOR TIME IN PRISON

Starnes Is Out After Another Man Tells Of Crime

RALEIGH, Dec. 23.—(P)—Edison E. Collins, attorney for Harrison Starnes, paroled yesterday after serving three months on a robbery sentence when another man confessed he committed the crime, said today he would ask the legislature to pay Starnes for the time he spent in jail.

Starnes, only 21, accompanied his parents back to their Union county home last night and was greeted by his bride of only a few months.

"Boy, will this mean a happy Christmas for us? You know it will," shouted his father.

Collins said Reece Plyler was being held under \$4,000 bond at Monroe, and had confessed the robbery with firearms for which Starnes was convicted and sentenced to five to six years. The lawyer said Plyler had implicated another man and had declared Starnes innocent.

Collins placed his information before Gov. J. C. B. Ehringhaus and Parole Commissioner Edwin Gill yesterday. Starnes knew nothing of the negotiations until guards rushed him in from his prison work, had him discard stripes and go before Gill. The entire proceedings required less than an hour.

Starnes said he was convicted on the testimony of persons who identified him by freckles on his arms and another on his head.

He said he held "no hard feelings" against any one, but commented he didn't "think much of the jury, judge and solicitor" who convicted him.

Gill said Starnes would get a full pardon after Plyler is tried.

Final Christmas Appeal Is Made

Final appeal to people of Shelby and Cleveland county for donations to insure children at least something special for Christmas was made today by Captain Ben Jones, of the Salvation Army.

Donations of toys, fruits, foodstuffs, clothes; all these can be used and used well. Nothing will be wasted. There is need for everything that will be donated, and then some.

The Christmas party for children will be held at the American Legion building Thursday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock so in order that donations may be available for the party people are asked to make their contributions in the morning.

Children admitted to the party have all been investigated. Admission will be by ticket only. Children who have not yet received tickets must see Captain or Mrs. Jones for investigation before tickets will be issued.

Firemen have already repaired many broken toys donated for the party. Members of the fire department have been cooperating with the Salvation Army in preparing for the party and will assist in giving out the toys Thursday afternoon. Mayor Woodson will give out the first bucket.

New Lead Sends Searchers Into Another Utah Sector

SALT LAKE CITY, Dec. 23.—(P)—A new lead, considered one of the most promising yet discovered, sent searchers for a wrecked airliner and its seven occupants into a new region—the extreme southwestern tip of Utah—for the first time today.

A Los Angeles turkey buyer's delayed story that he saw a plane about to crash in the lava wastes 12 miles northwest of St. George Utah, swung the hunt into the heretofore unconsidered area at dawn.

St. George by highway is 316 miles southwest of Salt Lake City, 76 miles south of Milford where the transport last reported and far out of the territory over which 25 planes and several thousand men have been searching daily since Dec. 15.

St. George, is on the fringe of the semi-tropical climate of Arizona and southern Nevada. Searchers quickly pointed out that if any persons survived the crash they

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DREAM OF F.D.R. IS NOW LIKELY TO BEAR FRUIT

Shoulder To Shoulder Against Foreign Aggression

IS OVER TODAY

By The Associated Press

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WINE LEGALITY PROBLEM TO LAW FORCES, DEALERS

One Law Says Drink Can Contain But 5 Percent

Large quantities of wine with alcoholic content over five percent and ranging as high as 21 percent are flooding Cleveland and nearby counties, it was learned today.

The legality of selling wine, which was or was not made in the state, is a problem, both to officers of the law and to dealers who would like to have the profits made from selling wine, but at the same time who are honest and conscientious and want to remain within the law.

Famed for its "scramble" which left many laws unfinished, the 1935 legislature amended the 22 beer and wine law to allow 5 percent alcohol.

Furthermore, it passed a "wine law" which allowed wine in any quantity with any alcoholic content to be drunk or sold, so long as the wine was made at home from home grown products.

Then the attorney general ruled some time ago that interstate commerce rules make it illegal to discriminate against outside states, so Virginia, Maryland or even California wine has as much right to be sold as that made locally from home grown goods, he says.

A number of dealers are said to have contacted local officers on what to do. Judge Bynum Weathers is writing Attorney General Seawell today for a clearer ruling.

It was learned however, that wines much above 21 percent alcohol are not true wines and all liquors or mixtures are illegal.