

WEATHER

North Carolina: Fair tonight and Friday. Slightly warmer Friday and in extreme north portion tonight. Official Shelby temperatures: High 49, Low 30, Rainfall none.

The Shelby Daily Star

FORMERLY THE CLEVELAND STAR, ESTABLISHED 1896

MARKETS

Cotton, spot13 to 13 1/2
Cotton, seed, wagon ton\$39.00
Cotton seed, car lot ton\$42.00

VOL. XLII—NO. 173 MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS THE SHELBY DAILY STAR SHELBY, N. C. THURSDAY, DEC. 24, 1936 AUDITED CIRCULATION SINGLE COPIES 5c

MARIANO GOMEZ OUSTED AS CUBAN CHIEF EXECUTIVE

SEE THREAT TO UNION SOLIDITY IN SHIP STRIKE

Sailors' Publication Hits Leadership Of Bridges MASS SUPPORT

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 24.—(P)—A possible threat to union solidarity overshadowed peace moves today in the Pacific Coast maritime strike.

A sailors' publication denounced the leadership of Harry Bridges, sponsor of the "solid front" movement, but a strikers' mass meeting backed him up.

Perkins Takes Hand From Washington, Secretary Perkins dispatched word to both sides that public interest demands an early settlement of the 56-day strike, which has affected nearly 40,000 workers, tied up 233 ships and cost \$392,000,000 by some business estimates.

"Great patience has been shown in waiting for such an agreement but the public interest requires that these negotiations be completed promptly now," the labor secretary declared, "even if some sacrifice is necessary."

"The west coast sailor," official local bulletin of the striking sailors' union, which has reached a tentative agreement with offshore and coastwise shippers, told Bridges to "keep his hands and his nose out of the sailors' business."

Accuses Bridges It accused the coast longshoremen's president of attempting to undermine the sailors' union through control of strike publicity, including the organ of the Pacific maritime federation. The sailors' union with 7,000 members belongs to the federation, organized by the Bridges group. The federation policy is against settlement until all seven unions have been satisfied.

CHRISTMAS TRADE REACHES CLIMAX THIS AFTERNOON

Christmas trade and celebrations reached its climax in this area today and thousands of happy children looked forward to the night when Santa Claus will perform his miraculous feat of visiting all and leaving gifts.

The best trade during the entire year was run up at the cash counters of the stores yesterday and today, and trading tonight was expected to be the largest.

25,000 Pieces of Mail Postal officials reported more cancellations than ever before in the local office and the Christmas mail of letters and packages. Their biggest day was 25,000 pieces Tuesday.

College students have arrived home and the town is bustling with more energy than it has seen since early fall. The youngsters are enjoying the booming of the firecrackers.

Officials at the bus station say that travel is heaviest of the year and that yesterday tickets were sold to more persons than in months.

Civic clubs, the various churches, the Salvation army, and individuals are making every effort to assure "Santa Claus" for all the needy children of the city.

Christmas trees will be held this afternoon by the Salvation Army, the South LaFayette Methodist church and for negro children at the CCC Camp.

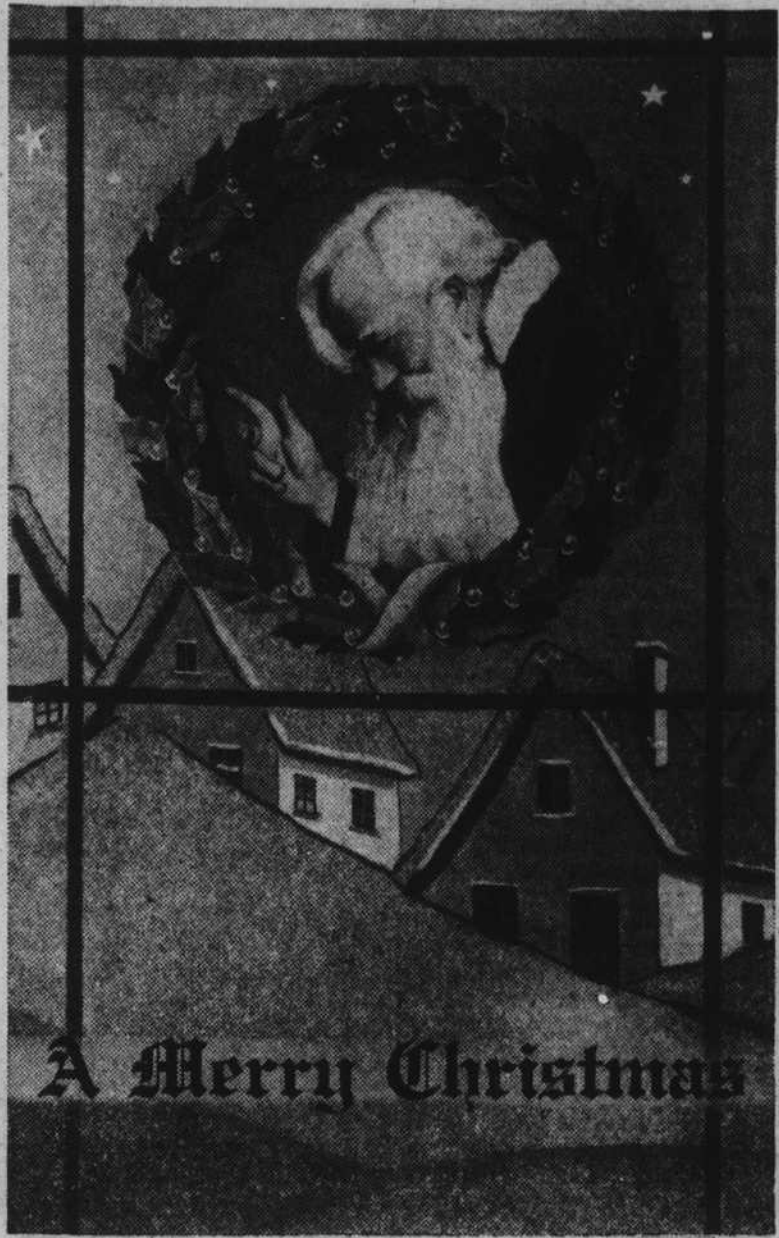
All Mail Records Broken In State

FALEIGH, Dec. 24.—(P)—Take the word of the merchants and the postmasters, this should be North Carolina's biggest Christmas since the boom days of 1929.

Postmaster in Charlotte, Raleigh, Greensboro and Winston-Salem reported all-time records were broken for the amount of mail handled daily this week.

Merchants said retail sales were at a peak, and most of the merchants interviewed by newspapers said Christmas business was the best in six years.

Santa To Visit Tonight



A Merry Christmas

Pope Broadcasts Prayer For Peace Among Nations

Hopes For Cessation Of Hostilities In Spain

VATICAN CITY, Dec. 24.—(P)—Pope Pius XI prayed before the whole world today that God accept his suffering for peace among men, and from his sick bed, called for a union of all Christians against the "evil forces" of communism.

His eyes afire, the stricken pontiff spoke in a throbbing voice through a microphone held by Father Soccorri, director of the Vatican radio station.

Unite Against Communism He called "for a union of all men of good will against the propaganda of the enemy"—by which he meant communism—and prayed that God accept his present suffering "for his own glory, for the conversion of all who have gone astray, for peace and the good of the entire church—and, in particular, for Spain."

In Spain, the holy father cried, "propaganda and evil forces have wished to make the supreme experiment of all the destructive forces scattered throughout the world, which they have at their command."

Threatening Menace "Here is a new menace more threatening than ever before for the whole world, and particularly for Europe and its Christian civilization," he said.

The holy father's voice trembled throughout the whole 29 minutes of his Christmas eve message. He spoke of the "bitter sorrow of

(Continued on page ten.)

Lineberger, Seven Gables, And Clyde Hoey Win Lighting Award

Winners in the home lighting and decoration contest sponsored by the merchants was announced this morning by Joe E. Nash, president of the Merchants association.

First award of \$15 went to the J. D. Lineberger home and the elaborate Christmas scene displayed on the southern hillside. The birth scene of Christ is pictured with the child in the manger, the shepherds and their flocks, the wise men approaching, the star with appropriate music at intervals.

Second award of \$10 went to the Frank Hoey home. Seven Gables, which featured a "coach and four

Bad Engine Said To Be Cause Of Texas Air Crash

DALLAS, Texas, Dec. 24.—(P)—A falling right engine after "interference by two other planes" in an attempted landing was advanced today by Braniff Air Line officials as possible explanation for the crash of their twin-motored ship which killed six occupants yesterday.

Victims of the test flight were all officials and employees. "Theory on cause of accident, after preliminary investigation is that plane approached field for landing, was forced to go around due to interference by two other planes," read a telegram by Braniff officials to the department of commerce at Washington.

"Right engine failed when throttles were opened."

The (Lockheed electric) ship fell and burst into flames in a corn field near Love field, municipal airport.

The victims were Don Walbridge, 38, operations manager; Sterling Perry, 37, maintenance superintendent; W. T. Chambers, 32, crew chief, and Pascal Florence, 30, Hubert Daane, 25, and Fred Sleeper, 28, mechanics.

STRIKE ENDS BALTIMORE, Dec. 24.—(P)—Baltimore's maritime strike was at a virtual standstill today.

Peace Prospect In China Wanes As U. S. Prepares To Evacuate Its Citizens

Additional Provinces Rally To Chang, It Is Reported; Concern Is Felt For Americans In Interior

NANKING, Dec. 24.—(P)—China's hopes for a speedy end to Marshal Chang Hsueh-Liang's rebellion waned today as the United States hastened efforts to evacuate Americans from embattled Shensi Province.

Worried by growing reports that additional provinces had rallied to the standard of Marshal Chang, Col. Joseph W. Stilwell, U. S. Military attaché at Peiping, left for the interior.

He hoped to penetrate as far west as Sianfu, capital of Shensi, where the rebellious marshal held Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek, Premier of China.

With the Premier were his wife, the American-educated Mei-Ling Soong, and her brother, Dr. T. V. Soong, endeavoring to treat personally for their relative's release.

Colonel Stilwell planned to go first to Loyang, Honan Province, to arrange for rescue of the Americans through the punitive expedition sent to Chiang's aid.

Most concern was felt for Americans farther to the interior in Kansu and northern Shensi Province where the rebellion to force war on Japan was reported to have spread through communist uprisings.

An addition plot to swing North China to the rebellion was reported to have been halted when Chang Shueh-Cheng, brother of the multinous leader, was arrested at Tientsin and charged with inciting revolt in sympathy with Marshal Chang's coup at Sianfu Dec. 12.

The Armistice, granted by the nationalist government, will expire on Christmas day.

FRENCH WARNING IS SENT GERMANY

Threaten to Abandon Neutrality In Spanish War

PARIS, Dec. 24.—(P)—France has warned Germany that a new mass "invasion" of Spain by Nazi troops on the side of the insurgents will force her to aid Madrid, responsible reports said today.

Diplomatic sources said this threat to abandon French neutrality unless the Reich refrained from intervention was delivered by foreign Minister Yvon Delbos to Count Johannes Von Welzeck, the German ambassador.

France, M. Delbos was reported to have proclaimed, can no longer stand for a situation which was developing into a virtual invasion of Spain.

Last night Delbos described to the chamber of deputies finance committee the ring of arms France is welding about Germany.

France is placing more than 2,500,000,000 francs (\$115,000,000) in the hands of the government to enable her ally to build a stronger army on Germany's eastern frontier.

Officially the conversations between Delbos and the ambassador remained a closely held secret but it was reported Delbos raised the question of Germany's attitude toward international control of arms and volunteers going to Spain.

Mrs. Mary Brandt Dies In Greenville

News was received here today of the death of Mrs. Mary Brandt, 84, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Ellen Brandt Switzer in Greenville, S. C.

Mrs. Brandt was well known in Shelby, since she lived with Mrs. Switzer here for five or six years. Mrs. Brandt will be buried in Fayetteville, it was announced, at a time not yet determined. She was the mother of, the late Leon J. Brandt, mayor of Greensboro for many years. She was a native of Fayetteville, the daughter of John and Ellen Smith, and the widow of George Brandt, prominent Fayetteville merchant.

In recent years she had made her home in Florence, S. C., with her sons, George and Marion Brandt. She is also survived by 13 grandchildren and one niece.

Pierce To Move It's Cotton Office

James LeGette, manager of the local office of A. E. Pierce and Company, members of the stock, cotton and grain exchanges, announces that its office will be moved from the Royster building to the Judge J. L. Webb building over Austin-Cornwell's Drug store on Monday next. This building has just been enlarged and remodelled.

HOLD N. Y. MAN ON SLAVE COUNT

Albert Luck Denies Violation Of Slave Act

RALEIGH, Dec. 24.—(P)—Albert Luck, New York man charged with violation of the federal white slave act and impersonating an officer, declared he was innocent today.

Lucks, alias Luckie and Lafred, was arrested several days ago in Robersonville.

The man is charged with impersonating a New Jersey secret service member, Chief William Grey of the Robersonville police saying he flashed a badge on him and told him he could not arrest him.

Asked about charges he had transported girls from New York to Florida for immoral purposes, Luck only replied was: "My own wife, I can carry her, cant I?"

He said his wife, Lena, was a former resident of Robersonville. Luck said a New York lawyer, Milton Smith, was due to confer with him today.

Youth Is Burned In Early Blaze

Hal Singleton, young textile worker was seriously burned about 5:30 this morning in a fire at the Cleveland Cloth Mill Boarding House.

The fire burned two mattresses and part of the furnishings of the room where Singleton and another boarder were sleeping.

Firemen said the blaze possibly started from cigarette stubs. Mrs. Etolia Franks is proprietress of the boarding house.

Young Singleton received treatment for his burns at a local physician's office. Only one room in the house was seriously damaged.

Take To Air In Search For Plane

SPOKANE, Wash., Dec. 4.—(P)—Baffled ground searchers looked to the air today in their hunt for nine persons in two wrecked Western Air Transports, all believed dead.

One party gave up its search in falling snow for the Northwest Airlines plane, wrecked last Friday with two pilots aboard in north Idaho, but a second group of snowshoers waited on mile high Cemetery Ridge for an airplane observer's aid in leading them to the wreck scene.

The other search, in its 10th day, was in the rugged southwestern sector of Utah, for a Western Air express transport which dropped from sight with seven aboard.

DELIVER PLANES LISBON, Portugal, Dec. 24.—Ten large tri-motored German Junkers planes were delivered to the Portuguese government today as the first step in Portugal's rearmament plans.

Successor To Gomez



Shown above is Dr. Frederico Laredo Bru, successor to Miguel Mariano Gomez, as chief executive of Cuba, and his wife. Bru, former vice-president, is to be inducted today into the office made vacant by the impeachment of Gomez because of his opposition to the army-sponsored sugar tax bill.

Death, Blood, Misery-- These Are Spain's Gifts

F. D. R., Family Enjoy Festival In Regular Way

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—(P)—The White House holiday program was so full today that President Roosevelt had to advance part of the family's traditional Christmas eve reading of Dickens' "A Christmas Carol."

He read an installment of the oft-told story about Tiny Tim and old Scrooge last night, while children and adults listened carefully.

The gayety of a big house full of young people was marred by word that Franklin, Jr., ill in a Boston hospital, would be unable to come home for Christmas.

His sister Anna, Mrs. John Boettiger, will be the only other missing member of the four-generation family. She and her husband have just moved to Seattle.

Climaxing with the dedication of the capital's community Christmas tree by the president late in the afternoon, the day was filled with a busy round of holiday activities for both Mr. and Mrs. Roosevelt.

Loses Arm SANFORD, Dec. 24.—(P)—A whirlwind saw amputated Drewry Lacy McIver's left arm and mangled his right arm when the 60-year-old farmer stumbled over a log. McIver was brought to a hospital here in a serious condition.

Christ's Disciples Of Many Creeds Worship At Bethlehem

BETHLEHEM, Dec. 24.—(P)—Christ's disciples of many creeds worshipped their savior today in a sacred city strangely drab.

Under sullen skies, through streets where soldiers stood, past shop windows empty of Christmas symbols, the traditional procession from Jerusalem was met at the tomb of Rachel.

Led by the latin Patriarch, the marchers were taken to the Church of the Nativity by the mayor, the Paris priest, and by other church and civic officials.

But there were few of the pilgrims in either Bethlehem or Jerusalem

War Leaders Answer Peace Pleas By Commands

By The Associated Press MADRID, Dec. 24.—Death, blood and nation-wide misery were the Christmas presents forced on Spain today by the grim gods of war.

While all other Christian lands throughout the world were thanking God for the blessings of peace, grieving Spain counted her dead, her maimed, and her starving inhabitants.

Religious leaders, including the aged and ill Pope Pius XI in Rome, pleaded for an end to the brother-against-brother slaughter in a land once known for its care-free contentment.

Their pleas were answered by the exhortations of war leaders to kill the enemy and get peace by force. Church bells all over the world pealed the joy of Christians on the anniversary eve of the birth of the greatest Pacifist; shot, shell and shrapnel were Spain's choes.

Here were only battlefields strewn with hundreds of bodies. Here were

(Continued on page ten.)

CHRISTMAS SERVICES THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

On Christmas day, Dec. 25, there will be the holy communion at 10 o'clock at the Church of the Redeemer, corner South LaFayette and Graham streets. The children's Christmas service will be at 10 o'clock on Sunday, Dec. 27th. Rev. J. B. Sills is living at Mrs. J. D. Eskridge, 311 East Graham street.

that other years have brought. Six months of terror, attendant upon the Arab strike against Jewish settlement, had left its mark on the Holy Land. From the smouldering aftermath came continuing eruptions in the form of scattered bandit activities.

Only yesterday, near the scene of the Biblical miracle of wine and water, two trucks were looted, their drivers beaten.

Today a subdued throng watched the patriarch don the costume delivered to him in the market place

(Continued on page ten.)

DR. LAREDO BRU, HIS SUCCESSOR, TAKES UP OFFICE

Cuban "Strong Man" Is Victor In Struggle

ACCUSES ARMY

By EDMUND A. CHESTER HAVANA, Dec. 24.—(P)—Dr. Frederico Laredo Bru was sworn in at noon today as president of Cuba to succeed Miguel Mariano Gomez, ousted by the army-controlled senate for his opposition to the \$1,500,000 sugar tax bill.

Laredo Bru, who had been vice-president under Gomez' regime, took the oath before the chief justice of the supreme court at ceremonies attended by Cuban officials.

Gomez, the island republic's ninth president in four years, was forced from his position by the senate's decision early today that he was guilty of "interfering with the free functioning of legislative power" in fighting the tax measure.

Batista Is Winner Politically, the winner of the congressional controversy over the proposal to extend army training to rural schools was Col. Fulgencio Batista, Cuba's military "strong man."

Gomez was ejected by a 22-to-12 vote of the Cuban senate, sitting as a jury to hear the impeachment charges, after a debate lasting into early morning hours.

The before-dawn climax of the struggle was precisely what the whole capital expected. As a result, sparse crowds accepted the news with an apparent lack of interest.

Issues Statement Immediately after the disrual, which Gomez expected and prepared for, the retiring president issued a blistering statement denouncing army leaders and charging they sought

(Continued on page ten.)

NEUTRALITY LAW CONGRESS' TASK, SAYS U. S. SOLON

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—(P)—Chairman Pittman (D., Nev.) of the senate foreign relations committee said today "imminent danger" of another world war makes enactment of new neutrality legislation the most important task coming before congress.

Asserting that "we must act as if we knew there was going to be a war next spring," he said he was studying several proposals for a stronger neutrality law. The present act expires May 1.

The law now requires the president to forbid shipment to warring nations only of "instruments of war."

Senator Pope (D., Idaho), a foreign relations committee member, already has urged inclusion of oil, coal, and iron on the contraband list, while Senator March (D., N. M.) advocates an embargo on all exports—including foodstuffs—to warring powers.

A "cash and carry" scheme, requiring countries at war to haul all purchases from America in their own vessels, has been advanced by Senator Nye (R., N. D.).

No Star Paper Christmas Day

The Star will observe Christmas as a holiday and no paper will be published on Friday. This is the only holiday during the year which The Star observes to the extent of omitting an issue. It is done to give our twenty whole-time employees a short season to spend at home with their families.

The Star office will therefore be closed for the remainder of the week and the paper will resume publication on Monday.

Each one connected with the paper wishes you a very Merry Christmas and that the spirit of the season will permeate the entire household.

(Continued on page ten.)