

WEATHER

Fair and continued cold today and tonight; lowest temperatures 12-16 in west and central and 16-20 in coastal area tonight. Friday, partly cloudy and slightly warmer.

The Shelby Daily Star

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- State Theatre Today - "THAT'S THE SPIRIT" JACK OAKIE PEGGY RYAN

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TELEMAT PICTURES

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BIG THREE MINISTERS REPORTED MAKING PROGRESS

UNION SAYS RAISE OFFERED NOT ADEQUATE

Takes Issue With Company's Contention It Faces Loss In 1946

NO 'BLANKET' RAISE

DETROIT, Dec. 20.—(AP)—The CIO United Auto Workers, formally rejecting the Ford Motor Company's offer of a 15 cents an hour or 12.4 per cent wage increase, said today the proposal would fail to offset higher living costs.

Informing the company that its offer was "totally inadequate," the union asserted that the UAW-CIO objection was based further on the contention the raise would not come in the form of a "blanket" increase.

"A great many workers might receive little or nothing at all," the union's reply to Ford said. The union, which has demanded from Ford and other auto manufacturers a 30 per cent wage increase, took issue with a company statement that it faced a loss of \$35,000,000 in 1946 without an OPA cap price increase.

"We do not believe that the company faces loss of \$35,000,000 in 1946," the UAW-CIO negotia-

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—(AP)—General Motors Corp. served notice on President Truman's fact-finding board today that it would withdraw from hearings on a wage dispute if profits and prices are considered as evidence by the board.

The statement was made by Walter G. Merritt, New York labor lawyer, who presented the corporation's opposition to consideration of profit-price issues in any wage recommendation which the board may make.

tors said in a statement through Richard T. Leonard, Ford director for the union.

"We believe the company will have one of its most profitable years because for the first time in many years the company is assured of capacity operation and a market for all it can possibly produce," they said, adding:

"Suppose that a powerful manu-

THREE KILLED IN RAIL WRECK

Freight Train Ploughs Into Rear Of Piedmont Limited

LULU, Ga., Dec. 20.—(AP)—Workmen today cleared wreckage from southern railway tracks near White Sulphur, Ga., where a freight train crashed into the rear of the railroad's passenger train, the Piedmont Limited, and killed three persons.

Southern Railway headquarters in Washington said a signal light ahead of the passenger train was not working because an ice-coated control line had dropped and shorted out on telephone and telegraph wires.

The Piedmont stopped when its engineer observed no signal light and was proceeding "with caution" when the freight train drove into it, rail officials said.

Listed as dead in the accident which occurred five miles from here yesterday were F. B. Means of Toccoa, Ga., engineer on the freight engine, and two sailors whose names were withheld by navy officials pending notification of their next of kin.

Means was killed when the freight engine overturned.

Patton's Condition Not So Good Today

HEIDELBERG, GERMANY, Dec. 20.—(AP)—Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., recovering from injuries received in an automobile accident, spent an uncomfortable night as a result of "excessive bronchial secretions," the midday medical bulletin said today.

MARSHALL ARRIVES:

Chinese Communists Ask Nationalists To Agree To Cease Hostilities

SHANGHAI, Dec. 20.—(AP)—General George C. Marshall arrived today on his mission to end internal strife in China—and as he stepped from his plane, Chinese communists asked the government to agree to an immediate, unconditional cessation of hostilities, Lu Ting-Yi, communist peace-parley delegate, told the Associated Press.

Marshall is expected to meet with Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek at Nanking tomorrow to discuss the situation. The meeting will be their first since the Cairo conference.

Associated Press Correspondent Spencer Moosa, at Chungking, reported the communist move toward a cease-fire agreement, and said Lu also informed him that Red Leader Chou En-Lai would seek an audience to present the communist case to Marshall.

The American special envoy stepped briskly from a C-54 transport plane from Manila at Shanghai's Kiangwan airfield this afternoon and proceeded to the Cathay hotel for conferences with Lt. Gen. Albert C. Wedemeyer, U. S. commander in China.

Officers Disagreed Over Responsibility

Division Of Authority Between Naval Intelligence, War Plans Department In Fuzzy Condition

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—(AP)—A congressional inquiry brought out today a sharp disagreement among top navy officers over responsibility for informing fleet commanders of international developments before the Pearl Harbor attack Dec. 7, 1941.

A long explanation by Admiral Richmond Kelly Turner about the 1941 assignments, prompted the question from William D. Mitchell, counsel for the senate-house committee investigating the attack:

"Don't you think, admiral, that the division of authority between the office of naval intelligence and the war plans division in the navy was in a very fuzzy condition at that time?"

"No sir," replied Turner, who was in command of the navy at that time. Turner had concluded that it was the intelligence division's duty to inform Admiral Husband E. Kimmel, then commander of the Pacific fleet at Pearl Harbor, about the 14-part Japanese diplomatic message that arrived here a few hours before the Japanese struck. This has been described previously as a tip off that war was imminent.

Mitchell immediately read into the record a statement by Vice Admiral T. S. Wilkinson, then naval intelligence chief, to the effect that Turner had insisted that the war plans division evaluate and interpret enemy intentions.

Wilkinson's brief contained a statement by Vice Admiral A. B. Kirk, who headed intelligence before Wilkinson, that Turner had argued and won this point in a conference which division heads had held with Admiral Harold R. Stark, former chief of naval operations.

The committee, now in its sixth week of hearings, aims to wind up the inquiry Feb. 15 by working longer each day and cutting short its Christmas recess. Chairman Barkley (D-Ky) said some members were doubtful about reaching that goal, although all were "hopeful."

Gift-Buying Points Toward Highest Level In History

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—(AP)—A buying public convinced that the best is none too good for the first peacetime Christmas in five years is boosting gift-buying to the highest levels in history.

The average Christmas shoppers is buying with abandon, retailers said, and is making his purchases "at whatever price he has to pay."

The tendency toward more expensive gifts cannot be accounted for entirely by the lack of lower-priced items, retail store executives said.

DRAFT NOT TO BE LIMITED TO 18-YEAR-OLDS

Veterans Not Re-Enlisting As Rapidly As Expected

FATHERS NOW EXEMPT

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—(AP)—All fathers are out from under the draft today but selective service quieted speculation that this might lead soon to inducting of 18 year olds only.

The end to the drafting of fathers coincided with a new reduction in army and navy point scores. But a high official of Selective Service said veterans are not re-enlisting in sufficient numbers to narrow the draft any further.

This means, said this official who asked anonymity, that temporarily at least, single men 18 through 25 must fill replacement needs of the army and navy.

As has been the case since the end of the war, however, the great majority of those drafted will be youths becoming 18.

Out of a total of about 35,000 men inducted in November, Selective Service reported, only an estimated six to nine thousand were over 18. Fewer than 900 of the 35,000 were fathers.

In halting the father draft yesterday, Selective Service also ruled that men with three or more children will not be permitted to enlist.

LIMITS ENLISTMENTS These fathers are "not acceptable to the armed forces," local draft boards were notified, but men with one or two children may volunteer.

In practice the ban on drafting of fathers applies only to men under 26. Older men have not been drafted since Japan surrendered. Selective Service also disclosed that because of a halt on all inductions over the holidays, only about 30,000 men will be called up this month, as against a total request for 50,000 for the army and 1,000 for the navy.

The monthly call has been fixed at 51,000 since the end of the war, but actual inductions have totaled only about 35,000 a month.

Two reasons for the selective service have two principal reasons for this:

1. High school students turning 18 are being permitted to graduate before being called.

2. Youths 17 and 18 may now enlist in the army.

Selective Service isn't concerned at present about calls not being met, because there still are several million men in the armed forces.

"But they are being demobilized," an official of the agency said, "and in a few months the full replacement quota will be needed."

He said that by that time more veterans may be in a mood to re-enlist.

Report Says Reds Not To Occupy Japan

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 20.—(AP)—American Broadcasting company correspondent Larry Tighe reported today from Tokyo that General MacArthur and the Russians had disagreed over which of the Japanese home islands Soviet forces would occupy, and that as a result Russians will not participate in the occupation at all.

Furthermore, Tighe said, MacArthur reportedly told the U. S. State department yesterday that if he were not let alone and if Russia were allowed any further participation in occupation affairs, he would resign.

WANTED HOKKAIDO "First the Russians wanted to bring an army over here," the correspondent asserted. "MacArthur said no. He would permit them to bring one division. But they insisted that they be allowed to occupy Hokkaido, northernmost of the main islands. MacArthur again said no, with the implication that if the Russians ever got into Hokkaido they'd never be dislodged."

MacArthur offered instead to let the Russians into southernmost Kyushu, which would put American troops between the (Russian) homeland and the occupying force. Then the Russians said no. MacArthur's answer to that amounted to "all right, don't send an occupation force; we don't need it anyway."



PROSECUTORS PLAN FOR TRIAL OF JAP WAR CRIMINALS—Prosecutors in the trial of Japs accused of war crimes meet in Tokyo and make plans for the opening of the hearings in Yokohama Dec. 18. Left to right: Lt. Joe Bailey Humphreys of Crockett, Tex.; Lt. David I. Day, Jr., of Rockport, Ind.; Capt. Frank H. Morrison of Atlanta, Ga.; Maj. Joshua V. Davidow of Bridgeton, N. J.; Maj. Louis Geffen of Atlanta, Ga.; Maj. Josh Evans of Vinita, Okla.; and Lt. Phillip J. Faherty, Jr., of Lambertville, N. J.—(AP Wirephoto).

TWO PROSPECTS FOR SOLICITOR

C. B. McBrayer And Horace Kennedy Said Considering Race

Despite the fact that C. C. Horn who for a long time was taken for granted as a candidate for solicitor in the 16th district has been telling friends that he will not run, come next spring's Democratic primary, it now appears Cleveland county will not lack for a candidate, maybe two. Names of both C. B. McBrayer, veteran lawyer in this county, and Horace Kennedy, also a well known local attorney have been projected in the political talk going the rounds.

Neither of the prospects has opened up with announcement or campaign. Mr. McBrayer, who is a poet and speaker of note, has been receiving much commendation for the civic speeches he has been making here and there. The fact that these speeches have all been made within the confines of the territory in which he will have to do his running, if he so chooses, have done him no harm. He is known to be definitely entertaining the idea of becoming a candidate.

Horace Kennedy also admits he is giving the project some consideration but indicated that he had not definitely made up his mind yet. It is generally thought that not both of the two will run as a twin candidacy from one county might be disastrous to the chances of either.

The only avowed candidate in the field so far is M. T. Leatherman, of Lincolnton. Folger Townsend, incumbent, who received the interim appointment at the death of Solicitor L. S. Spurling, is understood to have agreed at time of his appointment not to be a candidate to succeed himself.

MERCURY IN LOW BRACKETS

The mercury taking a downward swing last night after hovering around the freezing point most of yesterday left Shelby and vicinity white and glazed this morning. Although the main highways and principal streets had been scraped clear of snow before last night's freeze, they were still dangerous in spots and motorists were advised to proceed with caution.

The government thermometer registered 13 degrees just before sunup this morning which was the second coldest registration of this winter—and that is saying a lot. A low of five degrees was recorded Monday.

The sun rose cheerful—like this morning but its rays did not run old King Winter off the lot. The promise was for continued unseasonably cold weather today and tonight. Temperature was expected to get down in the low teens again tonight. Friday is scheduled to be partly cloudy and slightly warmer.

Carolins Plead For More Coal

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—(AP)—Shivering North Carolinians appealed to Senator Hoey (D-NC) today for more coal.

He said he had received requests from Greensboro, Burlington, Maxton and Tryon for aid in obtaining shipments. He hoped, he told a reporter, to get the army to release some of its surplus coal.

British Use Artillery At Bandoeng

BATAVIA, JAVA, Dec. 20.—(AP)—British artillery pounded trouble spots in northwestern Bandoeng for an hour today, as fighting which has already cost British and Indian troops almost 1,200 casualties continued in Indonesia.

Meanwhile, a Netherlands navy communique announced the first naval action in the Java disturbance—the capture of what was described as 60-ton motorship. The communique said the ship was seized Dec. 14 after she fired on a Dutch landing party from the destroyer Kortenaar.

The Dutch government information service said British troops made a three-pronged advance following their shelling of Bandoeng, in a virtually unopposed search for weapons. A British announcement yesterday said "many arms," including blunderbusses, were seized when the northern sector of Bandoeng was occupied without casualties.

Ukholsh casualty list reported 190 British and Indian troops killed, 789 wounded and 188 missing, up to Dec. 14.

Fighting broke out yesterday at Buitenzorg, 30 miles south of here. Mortar bombs fired by Indonesians fell in the center of the city.

Motorists Warned Highways Dangerous

RALEIGH, Dec. 20.—(AP)—Motorists in the piedmont and western sections of the state were forewarned today to use "every safeguard against accidents" in traveling main and secondary roads.

Ice-capped highways west of Raleigh were in "terrible condition and dangerous for driving," according to a warning issued yesterday by State Highway Patrol Commander H. J. Hatcher.

Plummeting temperatures last night added new ice coatings to highways that thawed to some extent yesterday afternoon. Hatcher described roads as "passable" but "extremely slick."

Highways east of Raleigh were described as generally good and safe for driving.

WHAT'S DOING TODAY 7 p.m.—Regular meeting of Kiwanis club. FRIDAY 12:30 p.m.—Regular meeting of Rotary club.

WOMAN SLAYER IS CONVICTED

Jury Returns Manslaughter Verdict Against Mrs. Mansfeldt

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 20.—(AP)—Socialite Annie Irene Mansfeldt, charged with the slaying of Nurse Vada Martin, supposed love rival, was convicted of manslaughter last night by a superior court jury which deliberated 4 hours and 38 minutes.

Next Wednesday the same jury of six men and six women, who sat through the three and a half week court battle, will again convene to determine if the 45-year-old San Francisco matron was sane when she shot the pretty, 36-year-old Baltimore nurse last Oct. 4.

Mrs. Mansfeldt, widow of wealthy Dr. John H. Mansfeldt, who committed suicide a few hours after the tragedy, pleaded innocent and innocent by reason of insanity. Under California law she now must stand trial on the second half of the plea.

If found sane, she automatically will be sentenced to one to 10 years on the manslaughter conviction. If found insane she will be committed to an institution.

DEFENSE PLAN Chief Defense Counsel Vincent Hallinan said last night he plans two courses of action. He will appeal the manslaughter verdict on grounds that a wrong alternate juror was chosen when one of the twelve became ill. And he will move to obtain Mrs. Mansfeldt's release, if she is found innocent of the crime by reason of insanity, on the contention she has recovered her sanity since the shooting.

Apparently stunned by last night's verdict, the nervous, pale defendant appeared near collapse as she was led from the courtroom.

Later in her county jail cell she said her chief concern was for her three children.

"I haven't any sense of guilt, but if I have a debt to society I am willing to pay it in the right spirit. I don't feel capable of saying anything right now, except I am terribly sorry for all the suffering I have caused," she remarked dispiritedly.

Home For Christmas

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—(AP)—All soldiers living on the east coast or as far west as Chicago who arrive in New York before Saturday noon will get home for Christmas if port of embarkation efforts prevail.

Under a speeded up process, the men would be rushed through Camp Kimer, N. J., and on their way home in 18 instead of the normal 24 hours.

CONFERENCE WILL NOT END BY CHRISTMAS

British Technical Experts, Advisors Still Stranded In Berlin

MANY PROBLEMS

By Eddy Gilmore MOSCOW, Dec. 20.—(AP)—The foreign ministers of Soviet Russia, Great Britain and the United States were reported making steady progress as they went into the fifth day of their conference today, but there were indications they did not expect to finish by Christmas.

The first intimation that the meeting might go over into next week and possibly continue after Christmas was a disclosure by U. S. Secretary of State Byrnes that he planned to attend the annual Christmas eve dinner of the American colony Monday.

So far there has been no official estimate as to how long the conference would last, but observers pointed out that the ministers had before them a multiplicity of problems, some of which were extremely complicated, and that disposition of these issues would naturally require time.

It also was pointed out that three plane-loads of British foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin's technical experts and advisors had been delayed in Berlin, where they were grounded by bad weather. The weather also delayed the dispatch of conference documents to London by plane.

SHORT MEETINGS Byrnes and Bevin conferred with Soviet foreign Commissar V. M. Molotov only an hour and 15 minutes yesterday and today's meeting, scheduled to start at 4 p.m. (9 a.m., Eastern Standard Time), also was expected to be short because of a reception which Molotov planned for 6 p.m.

There was no definite information as to which of the numerous problems on the agenda had been under discussion or just how far the ministers had gone toward disposing of any of them. Strict secrecy was maintained. It was reiterated, however, that the talks were going forward in an atmosphere of cordiality and good humor. This spirit was reflected yesterday at a luncheon which Molotov gave for his two guests and their advisors.

A large amount of joking was said to have gone on and Molotov toasted both Byrnes and Bevin, while they in turn toasted the Soviet Foreign Commissar. Toasts also were proposed to Generalissimo Stalin, President Truman and Prime Minister Attlee.

RECEIVED BY STALIN Stalin, just returned to Moscow after a 68-day vacation, received both Byrnes and Bevin yesterday and the Russian leader was reported looking "well and rested."

Byrnes, accompanied by U. S. Ambassador W. Averell Harriman, talked with the Generalissimo an hour and one-half, but the nature of the conversation was not disclosed.

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Building Supply Group Wants Price Controls Removed

CHARLOTTE, Dec. 20.—(AP)—E. M. Garner, secretary and manager of the Carolina Lumber and Building Supply association offered what he termed a solution to the shortage of building materials yesterday.

1. Elimination of price control to the point where production is stimulated.

2. A plan whereby producers and distributors and those who need the materials may decide what should be done.



3 SHOPPING DAYS Left Buy CHRISTMAS SEASONS