

WEATHER

Increasing cloudiness and mild temperatures today and tonight. Occasional light rain in west portion tonight. Friday, rain and cooler.

The Shelby Daily Star

CLEVELAND COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER SINCE 1894

TELEPHONE 1100

- State Theatre Today - "LIFE WITH BLONDIE" ARTHUR LAKE PENNY SINGLETON

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SHELBY, N. C.

THURSDAY, DEC. 27, 1945

TELEMAT PICTURES

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BIG THREE AGREE ON 4-POWER CONTROL FOR JAPAN

COMMUNISTS PUT PROPOSALS INTO WRITING

Ask Unconditional Truce On All Fronts In China's Civil War

MEETING HELD TODAY

By Spencer Moosa CHUNGKING, Dec. 27.—(P)—Chinese Communists announced that they presented a formal written proposal to the government today for an unconditional truce on all fronts of China's undeclared civil war.

The proposal, they said, was delivered at a two-hour meeting with three government representatives. The meeting, the first formal session between the two sides since Nov. 17, took place at the headquarters of the national military council in downtown Chungking.

Communists said that their proposal was, first, an unconditional "cease fire" order by each side; second, settling peacefully of all problems relating to "the Civil War," and third, sending of inter-party and non-partisan groups to the various fronts to observe the situation.

Government representatives at today's session promised to deliver the truce proposal to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek for consideration, the communists said.

PRELIMINARIES

Preliminary arrangements for the January meeting of China's political consultative council—the inter-party, non-partisan conference which will strive to end civil war—were discussed.

Government and communist officials, until today, had met only informally or socially since Nov. 17.

Date of the political consultative council session was not set, but several Chinese newspapers have predicted that it would not meet before Jan. 10.

Gen. Chou En-Lai, top communist delegate to the council, was a luncheon guest of Gen. George C. Marshall, new U. S. envoy, today, giving Marshall for the second time a direct report of the communists' view-point.

Three Trapped In Ship Explosion Are Feared Dead

GALVESTON, Dec. 27.—(P)—Three crew members were trapped in the engine room of the Swedish ship Sveaborg at Texas City following an explosion below decks at 4:30 a. m. today.

At least 17 others were taken to hospitals in Texas City and Galveston.

The vessel was loading gasoline at the Pan American Refining Corp. dock at the time. A blast tore a 15-foot hole in the port side of the ship and flattened the superstructure.

The aft end of the ship immediately sank.

The engine room, in which three men are believed trapped, is under water.

Efforts are being made to pump gasoline and water to get to the men.

Postmaster And Postal Clerk Of Sandusky Abducted

SANDUSKY, Mich., Dec. 27.—(P)—Postmaster Horace Parrish and a woman postal clerk were abducted by two men and left bound and gagged near Pontiac about midnight, sheriff's officers reported today.

Sheriff Roland L. Meredith said Parrish identified his abductors as J. C. Vyse and Charles Townsend, both of Pontiac, who broke loose from the Sanilac county jail a short time earlier.

Vyse and Townsend, both 25, were awaiting sentence Friday after pleading guilty to the armed robbery of the post office at nearby Tyre several weeks ago.

Parrish and the clerk, Helen E. Shillinger, 25, told the sheriff they were held up as they left the Sandusky post office about 7 p. m. and ordered to ride with the two men in Parrish's automobile to a tourist camp four miles north of Pontiac.

Adjustments Ordered In Freight Rate Ruling Postponed Indefinitely

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—(P)—The Interstate Commerce Commission today authorized the nation's railroads to postpone indefinitely the class rate adjustments ordered in the CC's May 15 freight rate decision.

The action was taken, ICC said, to conform with a federal court injunction restraining the commission from enforcing a 10 per cent increase in class rates in Northern and eastern states and a corresponding decrease in the south and west.

The injunction was granted last Friday by a three-judge federal court at Utica, N. Y. at the request of the nine northern states.

The commission's order had been scheduled to go into effect Jan. 1.

Burlington Mills Buys Phenix Plant

Industries At Kings Mountain Will Continue Under Present Management

Burlington Mills Corporation has completed negotiations for purchase of controlling interest in Phenix Mills, Inc., Numbers One and Two, at Kings Mountain, it was announced here today by Earle A. Hamrick, president.

The mills, which are on cotton yarn and cotton mixed fabrics production, will continue to operate under present management.

Announcement of sale of the Phenix mills, whose 39,000 spindles make it one of Cleveland's major textile manufacturing enterprises, is of unusual interest among textile men as it marks advent into this county of the giant Burlington Mills corporation which has 40 plants scattered throughout North Carolina, Virginia and Tennessee to make it the largest producer in its field.

Burlington is headed by J. Spencer Love, of Greensboro, who last year was married to Miss Martha Eskridge, daughter of Mrs. Charles L. Eskridge and the late Mr. Eskridge of Shelby.

Phenix Mills, Inc., took over in 1932 as successors to the Phenix Mills company when Earle A. Hamrick and associates bought the properties which until that time had been operated by Capt. E. A. Smith. The mills were erected early in the century by the Baker interests at Kings Mountain.

Rep. Gearhart (R-Calif.), also a committee member, has two nominees. They are Warren Atherton of Stockton, Calif., and Harry Colmery of Topeka, Kas., both former National Commanders of the American Legion.

Senator Lucas (D-Ill) arranged a conference with Barkley to urge selection of Weymouth Kirkland, Chicago attorney, for the committee post.

Rep. Gearhart (R-Calif.), also a committee member, has two nominees. They are Warren Atherton of Stockton, Calif., and Harry Colmery of Topeka, Kas., both former National Commanders of the American Legion.

EXPEDITE HEARINGS

Lucas told reporters he also has a proposal which he believes would expedite the hearings. This is that the members divide up prospective witnesses with each to be questioned by only one or two members.

Lucas expressed the view that by advance preparation the members could make their examinations more direct. A division of the witnesses would afford opportunity, he contended, for the members to get more information in advance of the questioning as to just what the witness can relate of importance.

NOT OPTIMISTIC

The Illinois Senator added, however, that he was not very optimistic that his idea would appeal to Republican members.

Asked his view, Gearhart said he would like to see the hearings shortened but would hesitate to support any proposal which might restrict development of the "full story."

Adm. Harold R. Stark, 1941 Chief of naval operations, is to be the witness when hearings are resumed Monday.

Mitchell has agreed to continue as counsel through the questioning of Stark. He and his staff of three aides originally gave notice that they could not serve after the first of the year.

RESUMED TODAY: Shelby Without Wire Service To Outside 3 Successive Days

For the third successive morning today, Shelby continued without wire communication to the outside, however shortly after noon wire service was restored to the Shelby Star and its printers began to operate for the first time since the sleet storm. Several of the long distance telephone circuits were also restored after noon today.

During the morning highway and rail lines afforded a courier service bringing belatedly telegrams, stock and commodity quotations, news reports and other communications maintained under difficult conditions. The Star's Associated Press report was handled by couriers plying back and forth to Gastonia almost hourly to bring the wire report obtained through facilities at the Gastonia Gazette.

Miners expressed belief that most of the men might have perished in the actual explosion. They added that gas fumes probably killed any who might have survived the underground concussion.

Sober-faced relatives of the trapped men stood at the entrance of the mine patiently awaiting news from the rescue teams.

John Weil, city utilities superintendent, said the city had been

FUNDAMENTAL WAGE ISSUE SIDETRACKED

GM Undecided Whether It Will Be Represented At Hearing

UNION COOPERATES

DETROIT, Dec. 27.—(P)—Interest in the General Motors strike shifted back to Washington today after another company-union conference at which the fundamental wage issue was sidetracked.

Chief remaining point of attention on the Detroit scene was GM's promised announcement this afternoon as to whether the corporation would be represented when President Truman's fact-finding board resumes its hearings in the dispute at the capital tomorrow.

Vice President Walter P. Reuther of the CIO United Automobile Workers made it plain that the union would send a delegation and said insufficient progress was made at yesterday's negotiating session here to justify postponement of the government's panel meeting Friday.

Agreement was reached, Reuther said, on procedure for handling such issues as picketing, solidarity and lunch periods by collective bargaining on a local basis in the absence of a contract. GM terminated its contract with the union Dec. 10, four months in advance of its expiration date.

FACT-FINDERS PROCEED

The presidential fact-finders have said they will proceed with their study even if either party should bolt.

General Motors' position on attending further board meetings has remained problematical since last week, when President Truman told the board's three members they have an "unquestionable" right to consider a company's ability to pay as an important factor in drawing up their recommendations for settling a wage dispute.

The JAW-CIO at first opposed government intervention in the strike of 175,000 of its members at 70-odd GM plants, preferring to fight its own battle for a 30 per cent wage increase.

COOPERATIVE

Reuther said yesterday, also: "We do not say it is up to the government to settle this strike, but we do say that the machinery has been set up and it is up to

See FUNDAMENTAL Page 2

ABANDON HOPE FOR MINERS

Rescue Workers Dig To Within 3,000 Feet Of Trapped Men

PINEVILLE, Ky., Dec. 27.—(P)—With virtually no hope of finding anyone alive, rescue workers toiled persistently in an explosion-blocked mine tunnel today to reach the spot where 30 to 50 coal miners were entombed.

Trained rescue crews, working in shifts, inched to within 3,000 feet of the area during the night. Fire, gas fumes, smoke and piled debris snarled every effort for rescue.

Hope of reaching the entombed men today arose when the latest rescue team to report announced a penetration of one and one-half miles from the mine entrance.

None of the workers, miners or families of the trapped miners, however, voiced hope any would be found alive. Experienced in such disasters, they said the possibility for rescue was small in such an explosion.

FLAMES ENCOUNTERED

Flames were encountered 3,100 feet from the mine entrance, State Highway Patrolman Austin Hall reported. He said the miners were believed trapped at the dead-end of the two and one-half mile long mine.

The fire apparently had been burning since the explosion about 8:30 a. m. (C. S. T.) yesterday in the mine operated by the Kentucky Straight Creek Coal Company.

Miners expressed belief that most of the men might have perished in the actual explosion. They added that gas fumes probably killed any who might have survived the underground concussion.

Sober-faced relatives of the trapped men stood at the entrance of the mine patiently awaiting news from the rescue teams.

Services were conducted at the home of his mother, Mrs. S. J. Ervin. He was buried in Forest Hill cemetery.

The Reverend Joseph B. Clower, pastor of Morganton's First Presbyterian church, was in charge of the services.

Ervin, who for several years had been suffering from a bone disease, and more recently from a heart disorder, had been released from Walter Reed Army General Hospital shortly before his body was discovered Christmas day by a friend.



PLUTO'S SECRET REVEALED—Bulldozers carry away heavy pipelines which conveyed petrol to Pluto, submarine line from Dungeness, England, to France, which is being dismantled. Pluto supplied Allied forces during the invasion of Normandy. The secret of the line was so well kept that only now are people living in Dungeness learning of its presence.

NO COLD WAVE IN THE OFFING

Rain, Sleet, Snow Which Have Harried Nation, Easing Up

By The Associated Press

Heavy snowfalls, rain and sleet, which afforded the nation a variety of inclement weather on Christmas, eased up today — and there wasn't a cold wave in the immediate offing.

Fresh falls of snow covered a wide section of the northern half of the country and in the south and southeastern sections skies cleared after sleet and rain yesterday. New England states got a combination of snow, sleet and some rain while rising temperatures and a letup in rain and snow was the outlook for the eastern area.

An indication was a rise from 1 to 24 above over night in Albany, N. Y.

The only cold spot on today's weather map was in the area around Bismarck, N. D., with the temperature at 3 degrees below zero. Weather in the Florida peninsula cleared and rising temperatures were forecast for Alabama, Louisiana, Arkansas, Texas and other southwest states.

MINIMUM TRAVEL

Temperatures in the mountain states, the U. S. Weather Bureau in Chicago said, were close to normal, with snow flurries in the north and central Rockies. It reported considerable rain in the western sections of the Rocky Mountains and along the Pacific coast.

The rain, snow and sleet interfered with rail highway and air traffic and ice-coated highways in many sections held travel to a minimum. At Indianapolis, bus companies called their busses off the highways until conditions improved.

LAKE AREA COLD

A storm centered today in the northern section of Michigan's lower peninsula but the heaviest falls of snow were reported in the area bordering on Lake Superior in the northern part of the state.

The falls around Marquette, Mich., measured more than a foot, while in some parts of Nebraska and Iowa, they were almost as heavy.

The falls had diminished greatly in other sections of the Midwest area. Temperatures throughout the snowbelt were in the upper 20's and no colder weather was expected.

Miami, Fla., and Brownsville, Tex., shared the country's warmest Christmas weather, each reporting clear skies and a high of 78.

Congressman Ervin's Funeral Held Today

MORGANTON, Dec. 27.—(P)—Funeral services were held here today for Congressman Joseph W. Ervin who was found dead Christmas day in his gas filled kitchen in Washington, D. C.

Services were conducted at the home of his mother, Mrs. S. J. Ervin. He was buried in Forest Hill cemetery.

The Reverend Joseph B. Clower, pastor of Morganton's First Presbyterian church, was in charge of the services.

Ervin, who for several years had been suffering from a bone disease, and more recently from a heart disorder, had been released from Walter Reed Army General Hospital shortly before his body was discovered Christmas day by a friend.

British Leader Plans Active Java Campaign

By VERN HAUGLAND

BATAVIA, Java, Dec. 27.—(P)—Lt. Gen. Sir Philip Christison, Allied Commander in the Netherlands East Indies, informed Indonesian leaders today that he planned "more active measures" to restore order in strife-torn Java.

He also called on the Indonesians to place under his command whatever units of the Indonesian peace preservation corps (TKR) he might need to assist British troops in suppressing disorders.

Christison outlined his plans at a conference with Premier Sutan Sjahrir and Information Minister Amir Sjarifuddin of the unrecognized Indonesian Republic as large-scale fighting flared anew in Bandung, Java's summer capital.

HEAVY FIGHTING

In one sector of Bandung British Mahratta troops cleared an Indonesian training center after six hours of heavy house-to-house fighting. They found a well-organized defense system of trenches, trip wires, boobytraps, mines, road blocks and snipers.

In another sector Gurkha troops, with tank support, attacked a suburban area held by Indonesians, but were forced to withdraw.

Other outbreaks were reported in Soerabaya, where 50 Nationalists attacked a British patrol base with machineguns and grenades, wounding two British soldiers. In the vicinity of Semarang, two former Japanese 75 MM. guns shelled British positions.

Marshall Has Talks With Deputy Chief Of Chinese Communists

CHUNGKING, Dec. 27.—(P)—Gen. George C. Marshall, new U. S. envoy to China, entertained at lunch today Gen. Chou En-Lai, deputy chief of the Chinese communist party and leader of the communist delegation to the forthcoming peace and unity conference. It was their second meeting.

Chou and his delegates had been scheduled to meet with government delegates yesterday to proffer in writing a truce proposal, but negotiations were postponed.

An earlier caller at Marshall's residence was Chou Chin-Wen, Manchurian member of the Democratic league. The new envoy also received Dr. Arthur Young, American financial advisor to the Chinese government, who was accompanied by Walter Robertson, U. S. charge d'affaires.

Marshall was scheduled to dine tonight with Robertson, who was entertaining prominent Chinese government, communist and democratic league leaders.

Committee To Seek UNO Home

LONDON, Dec. 27.—(P)—A seven-man committee appointed by the United Nations preparatory commission to make an "on the spot" investigation for a permanent United Nations headquarters site is expected to leave here for the United States by plane early next week.

Sources close to the group said members of the committee might defer any narrowing down of the area of choice until after they have reached the United States. Diplomatic quarters said they believed the site area would eventually narrow down to the New York and Boston regions.

President Ends Holiday; Will Address Nation Soon

By ERNEST B. VACCARO

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 27.—(P)—President Truman, preparing to put his struggle with Congress over labor and other legislative proposals squarely up to the people, brought his Christmas holiday at home toward a close today with a final round of informal visiting with old friends.

The President disclosed at an informal press conference here yesterday that he plans to speak to the people in a nation-wide radio address right after the holidays, probably the first week in January, on his over-all legislative

LITTLE TIME TO CONCILIATE

Electrical Industry's Strike Deadline Set For January 5

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—(P)—The government was given scant time today in which to conciliate a wage dispute in the electrical industry before a strike decision deadline set for January 5.

Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing company said it would send representatives to Washington January 2 to talk over the CIO-United Electrical Workers' demand for a \$2 daily wage increase.

U. S. conciliation Director Edgar L. Warren had invited both Westinghouse and General Electric company to a meeting Friday. Warren said General Electric rejected the Friday session, as did Westinghouse, but left the door slightly ajar for meeting next week.

W. G. Marshall, Westinghouse vice-president, said next Wednesday's meeting should not be taken as an indication of any "breach between the parties." The union contends that negotiations with General Electric and Westinghouse broke down last week. Talks are continuing, however, with General Motors, the other unit in the electrical industry's "big three."

INEVITABLE

"The union, in a statement issued in New York, termed a strike 'inevitable on the basis of conditions which exist at present.'"

It scheduled a meeting of its general executive board January 5, to proceed with plans for strike action. The union membership voted nearly five-to-one in favor of a strike in balloting conducted by the National Labor Relations Board on December 13.

The union said: "The coordinating committee decided that all local unions be advised to complete immediately

See LITTLE Page 2

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Italian Press Speculates On Idea Of 'Foreign' Pope

ROME, Dec. 27.—(P)—The newspaper Libera Stampa, commenting on the new college of cardinals with its membership of 42 non-Italians, speculated today on a "foreign successor to Pope Pius XII.

"In all probability," said the newspaper, "we will have a foreign pope"—an event which has not occurred in the church since the election of Adrian VI of Utrecht, in 1522.

Meanwhile an anonymous book entitled "Will we have an American Pope?" has been circulated in Italy, with a picture of cardinal designate, Archbishop Francis J. Spellman of New York greeting American soldiers on its cover.

WANG KEH MIN DIES

CHUNGKING, Dec. 27.—(P)—Semi-official dispatches from Peking reported today the death in prison there yesterday of Wang Keh-Min, formerly Japan's No. 1 puppet in North China.

WASHINGTON, LONDON REPORT AGREEMENT

Bynes Says "Atomic Agreement" Also Reached By Ministers

TALKS ENDED TODAY

By Graham Hovey

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—(P)—The big three foreign ministers have agreed to establish a four-power control council to administer Japan, United States' officials said today.

These officials said the impending communique from Moscow would announce the plan for such a council, on which the U. S., Russia, Britain and China would be represented. The communique will be released tonight.

(London sources also reported that such an agreement had been reached in the 11-day tri-partite conference which closed today in Moscow.)

The control council for Japan, officials here said, will have headquarters in Tokyo. It will carry out the policy recommendations of the far eastern commission, which has been functioning in Washington for two months and is now en route to Japan.

RUSSIA TO JOIN

Russia, which thus far has refused to participate in the commission, will now come in, it was said, thereby increasing to 11 the number of nations participating in its deliberations.

The Soviet union repeatedly had insisted that it would not join the larger commission until the projected smaller, more powerful council was established for control of Japan.

Officials here were unable to explain immediately how the operation of the four-power council for Japan will be related to the administrative powers of Gen. Douglas MacArthur, the allied supreme commander in Japan.

CRITICISM

Establishment of the council was certain to bring much criticism from the smaller Pacific nations which have been asking that more actual power be given to the larger far eastern commission on which they are now represented.

Prime Minister Peter Fraser of New Zealand and Foreign Minister Herbert Evatt of Australia have been among the most outspoken opponents of what they regard as big-power domination of far eastern affairs.

MOSCOW, Dec. 27.—(P)—U. S. Secretary of State James F. Byrnes indicated today that the "Big Three" foreign ministers had reached an "atomic agreement" which he said would be outlined in a communique at 6 a. m. Friday (10 p. m. Thursday E.S.T.).

The communique, summarizing the achievements of the 11-day conference between Byrnes, Soviet Foreign Commissar Vyacheslav Molotov and British Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin, will be issued simultaneously in Moscow, Washington and London, Byrnes said.

He took off from the Moscow airfield on the first leg of his trip home shortly after making his statement.

"There was no agreement on any subject which will not be covered in the communique," the secretary of state declared. "When you read the atomic agreement you will know that no phase, other than that set forth, was discussed."

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program, including labor and universal training.

The speech will be followed by a formal message to the new session of Congress on the state of the union, which White House officials said likely will be delivered in person. If he goes to Capitol Hill, they said, the message may be broadcast by television, marking the first use of that medium by a chief executive.

In it, he likely will review the proposals he submitted to Congress during the last several months

See PRESIDENT Page 2