

State Capitol Encircled With Vendors Of Greens During Christmas Week

Friendly Feeling Among Vendors

Little Cut-Throat Competition Exists With An Unwritten "Understanding"

Lack Of Berries Source Of Worry

Merchants And Customers Disturbed Alike Over Absence Of Holly Berries

The state capitol in Raleigh is encircled this week with a galaxy of vendors selling Christmas greens. Raleigh folk observed that the vendors moved in as soon as the members of the state legislature left town after the salesmen moved in.

The stands, of necessity, are operated on a 24-hour day basis, or otherwise, were they to move, their places would be taken by others. For location of the business means as much to the tree salesmen as a preferred site does to the downtown merchant. And his sales season is not only short but, like Christmas, comes only once a year.

Shrubbery from the forests of surrounding counties is bringing better prices this year than last, even though this is one of those "every other" years in which holly is noticeably lacking in berries, the vendors said.

On the other hand, cedar and other natural and decorative material is heavier, firmer and far prettier this season. It is commanding somewhat higher prices.

The business itself might be compared with the New York Curb. There is a premium on locations—one might get a choice one at a good price—and there is very little cut-throat competition. There is no agreement among the sellers, but there is an "understanding." The matter that concerns all of them most is the fact that there are no berries on the holly and this distresses customers also, who repeat the question with almost every purchase.

Christmas Meet Of Kiwanis Club

A novel Christmas word contest conducted by Rufus Routh was the entertainment feature of the Kiwanis meeting Tuesday evening. The members were presented with twenty groups of jumbled letters, each group when properly unscrambled forming some common word pertaining to the Christmas season. Ten minutes were allowed for unraveling the letters and making the correct combinations. Dr. Harvey Griffin and Larry Hammond were tied for first place with an 85 percent score, each getting 17 of the 20 words.

It was called to the attention of the club that the next Ladies Night will be Tuesday, January 4. At this meeting the officers for 1937 will be installed.

Rufus Routh, outgoing president, made a few remarks expressing his appreciation of the support and cooperation accorded him by the club during the year. Mr. Routh said that he had enjoyed serving as president and considered it a privilege to have headed the club.

NO ROTARY CLUB MEETING THIS WEEK

The Rotary club will not meet this week since their regular meeting day, Friday, coincides with Christmas. It was decided to have no meeting at all rather than try to assemble on another day this week.

Last Minute License Plate Rush Expected In Asheboro

Although sales of 1937 automobile licenses are ahead of those at this point last year, Asheboro car owners who have not yet bought their plates will be caught in a rush at least as bad as in 1935. Mrs. Ervin Frye, who is directing sales here, said Wednesday that comparatively few Asheboro residents have obtained their tags, the bulk of the sales having been made to people from out in the county. Mrs. Frye had sold approximately 1150 automobile, truck, and trailer plates Wednesday compared to less than a thousand at this date last December. Only some 150 city tags have been purchased, however, and since practically everyone in town who has bought state plates has also bought

17 Wet Counties Would Hold Tax

Serve Notice On State They Will Protest Taking Away Their Revenue

Meet In Raleigh

Resolution Is Passed By Representatives From Each Of 17 Counties

The state of North Carolina was left in no doubt as to the sentiment of the 17 "wet" counties that have had liquor stores during the past year. They served formal notice that they would fight any movement to take their revenue derived from alcoholic beverages from them.

Opposing state control of liquor sales, representatives of the counties, meeting in Raleigh passed a resolution asserting "management of * * * stores and law enforcement must remain local."

No direct reference was made to a bill drawn up by the majority of the state liquor study commission, which recommended state supervision of county stores and a division of profits, with the state taking one-fifth and the counties four-fifths.

The bill, which will be submitted at the next session of the general assembly, would allow each of the state's 100 counties to hold separate elections on the liquor question.

The text of the resolution follows:

"Whereas 17 of the counties of North Carolina have pioneered in the matter of legal control and sale of alcoholic beverages, and

"Whereas the cause of temperance has been promoted, bootlegging and illegal consumption of alcoholic beverages materially reduced, and

"Whereas management of local control stores and law enforcement must remain local, and

"Whereas the state is, through the sales tax, collecting from 12 to 15 per cent of the net profit from the control stores, and

"Whereas county revenues will be materially reduced by classification of property and exemption of homesteads from taxation, and

"Whereas there is at present a volunteer association composed of all members of the local control boards who are working toward coordinating prices and putting into effect uniformity of regulations.

"Therefore, be it resolved, that the advisory board of 17 legal control counties go on record as follows:

"1. We oppose the creation of any additional offices to be paid for by the state or any political subdivision of the state, to perform a duty that is already being, and can best be performed, by agencies already existing.

"2. We concur in the resolution adopted by the state association of county commissioners at its convention at Wrightsville in 1935 and at Asheville in 1936 as follows: "That any revenues derived or to be derived from the legal sale of alcoholic beverages shall remain within the counties where they originate."

"3. That revenues accruing to the state from sale of alcoholic beverages be confined solely to the sales tax on alcoholic beverages."

J. B. PUGH IS HOME FOR HOLIDAYS

J. B. Pugh, student of the Bowling Green Business University, Bowling Green, Ky., has returned home to spend Christmas holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Pugh of Asheboro, route 1.



Federal Treasury May Need Billion

U. S. Treasury's New Balance Wheel Plan May Involve A Vast Sum

Oppose Inflation

Absorb Foreign Inflow And Keep Excess Reserves From Speculation Use

Reports from Washington indicate that the U. S. treasury's new "balance wheel" plan for curbing credit inflation may involve \$1,000,000,000 borrowing during the coming year. If, however, gold continues to flow into the country at the rate of a billion dollars annually, the treasury would take a billion dollars out of the money market.

This would be done to offset effects of the gold inflow on domestic credit. The borrowing would have no effect on regular government finances. It would be accomplished through the sale of Treasury bills, on which interest might total around \$1,000,000 annually.

The new program, announced last night by Secretary Morgenthau and Chairman Marriner S. Eccles of the Federal Reserve board, is designed to eliminate the present threat of credit inflation, arising from gold imports.

Launching the government on a new course of credit control, the program aims to make automatic adjustments in the supply of lendable funds to prevent foreign capital from bolstering them to the "danger point."

"The nation's credit reservoir is the sum of idle funds which banks hold over and above those required as reserves behind deposits. These "excess reserves" now aggregate \$2,500,000,000. They are expected to rise about \$300,000,000 when money now in circulation flows back to the banks after the holiday season.

Because reserves are far in excess of the credit needs of business, the administration has been concerned lest the idle money might go into speculation.

This would artificially elevate security prices and might speed up the domestic economic machine too rapidly, entailing the danger of a crash. Excess reserves have been forced constantly higher in recent months by foreign capital inflows.

These inflows are reflected largely in gold imports, and under its plan to "sterilize" incoming gold the treasury will prevent it from shaping domestic credit conditions. Under the old system, gold imports were financed by treasury certificates. The government is

(Continued from page 2)

Christmas Greetings Old And New Bring Joy To All

With the actual approach of Christmas eve upon our very doorsteps, the town is dressed in gala attire for the occasion and everyone greeting friends with Christmas wishes. Some of the wishes are old, some new, some from the heart, some superficial, but wishes withal. There have been some lovely sentiments: written, spoken, sung and demonstrated, but none have surpassed the Christmas Wish written by Henry Van Dyke years ago.

"I am thinking of you today because it is Christmas, and I wish you happiness, and tomorrow, because it will be the day after Christmas, I shall still wish you happiness; and so on clear

through the year. I may not be able to tell you about it every day, because I may be far away; or because both of us may be very busy; or perhaps I may not be able to pay the postage on so many letters or find time to write them. But that makes no difference. The thought and the wish will be here just the same. In my work and in the business of life I mean to try not to be unfair to you or to injure you in any way. In my pleasure, if we can be together, I would like to share the fun with you. Whatever joy or success comes to you will make me glad. Without pretense and in plain words, good-will to you is what I mean, in the Spirit of Christmas."

Seizes Nineteen Hold-Up Men Alone

One-Armed Man Has Caught 19 Bandits, Killed Another. In 17 Years

A record of having captured 19 hold-up men and killed one other in seven years is boasted by Matt Gardner, one armed gasoline station proprietor of Elyria, Ohio, 53 years old and gray haired. Gardner has a first rate knowledge of firearms, learned in Texas in his youth, which has stood him in good stead. In all his exploits he has worked singlehanded.

"Fortunately," said Gardner, "I'm a pretty fair shot with this old-fashioned six-shooter. More than once my life depended on my aim."

Gardner's latest "round-up" netted four Cleveland youths, one of whom was found to have four bullets from the mild-mannered man's revolver in his body.

Awakened by a homemade burglar alarm early December 13, Gardner slipped barefooted toward the nearby station, his six-shooter in a bathrobe pocket.

"I saw some one with a flashlight in the station and a man in a car outside," he said. "I fired four times at the figure inside. The car sped away."

Gardner waited in hiding. Two men emerged from the station carrying a third. The proprietor covered the three.

"An automobile drove up," Gardner said. "The driver asked to take the wounded man to a hospital. I lined him up, too."

The four were charged with burglary. Gardner was reared in Colorado, where his father was a physician

(Continued from page 2)

North Carolina Death Toll High

Highway Accidents, Deaths And Injuries Decidedly Up In November

101 Are Dead

Makes Death Toll 904 For The Year Against 980 During Last Year

Deaths from highway accidents took 101 lives and injured 702 more persons during the month of November, according to reports from records from headquarters in Raleigh Tuesday. It was estimated that 606 auto mishaps figured in these accidents in the state.

The highway patrol's monthly report, just out, pushed to 904 the accident deaths this year, through November, compared with 980 in the similar period of 1935.

There were 92 killed and 710 injured in 551 accidents listed in November, 1935, and 114 killed and 747 hurt in 679 October crashes.

Speeding caused 86 fatal and 105 non-fatal accidents last month. There were 31 pedestrians killed during the month and 93 injured, eight of those killed being children playing in the street and nine persons walking along roads.

Seven drivers involved in fatal accidents were listed as intoxicated, as were 65 drivers in non-fatal wrecks.

The hour between 6 and 7 o'clock at night was the most dangerous, with 14 killed and 60 injured during that period, and Saturdays were the most dangerous days, with 23 killed and 122 injured that day of the week.

Thirteen fatal and 108 non-fatal accidents were caused by reckless driving.

CHIANG'S WIFE SEEKS TO GAIN HIS FREEDOM

Shanghai.—Visiting the capturer of her husband in his own stronghold, Meiling Soong is trying to obtain the freedom of China's greatest leader, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek, from the bandit general, Chang Hsueh-Liang, who seized him two weeks ago. With the peace of China hanging on the outcome of efforts to ransom Chiang, the greatest obstacle to his safe release is the fact that a large part of Chang's troops are so undisciplined that they may not obey a decision which does not satisfy them.

Crippled Children's Clinic

One of the regular Crippled Children's Clinics will be held at the Randolph hospital Thursday, December 31.

Asheboro To Be Among First To Receive Funds For Proposed Projects

Hopkins Plans To Ask For Increase

Is Seeking A \$750,000,000 Appropriation For Present Relief Program

For Unemployment

Counter-Forces Are Now Said To Be Working Within The Administration

Authoritative reports from Harry L. Hopkins indicate that he is seeking an appropriation of \$750,000,000 to carry on the relief work program for the remainder of the fiscal year, which ends in June. This demand is 50 per cent more than the sum twice suggested by President Roosevelt and which suggestion is said to have caused considerable stir between factions within the administration. In September, the president is said to have set \$500,000,000 as the sum needed to carry on the program and he repeated that figure last week.

But with last year's \$1,425,000,000 fund approaching exhaustion, Hopkins was said to be insisting upon at least \$750,000,000 for unemployment relief exclusive of what may be needed to aid drought victims.

Seemingly authentic reports were that the Works Progress administrator had said he would resign unless his demands were met, contending \$500,000,000 would be insufficient to care for existing needs through the last five months of the year.

President Roosevelt has given no indication he will raise his quota. There were forecasts the chief executive would recommend \$500,000,000 and let congress decide whether it should be raised.

In view of recent moves by city mayors and relief workers to prevent cuts in WPA rolls, Hopkins undoubtedly would draw strong support in congress for his program.

On the other hand strong forces were understood to be working within the administration to cut down relief expenditures and head toward a balanced budget. This move also had substantial support on capitol hill.

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Mrs. Humble Has Recital By Class

Mrs. Ralph Humble presented her pupils in a piano recital Saturday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Dempsey Barnes. Several invited guests were present, including the parents of the pupils. An interesting program was presented and the class showed unusual ability.

Those taking part in the program were Betsy Garner, Elizabeth Tysor, McDermott Barnes, Gwendolyn Lambert, Wanda Trogon, Nina Trogon, Rachel Pressnell, Iris Lee Cox, Annie Ruth Martin, Maxine York, Lucy Leigh Lowdermilk, Mary Neely, and Faye Carol Allred.

Saturday evening Mrs. Humble entertained at a party for her students. Games were played, after which each pupil was presented with a gift.

LEON TROTZKY ON WAY TO MEXICO

Oslo, Norway.—Leon Trotzky, exiled Bolshevik leader, left Norway Tuesday for Vera Cruz, Mexico. Norway, which has harbored him since the summer, determined to free the country of his presence, and sent along an armed guard to make sure that he actually went to Mexico.

CUBA PREPARES TO IMPEACH PRESIDENT

Havana.—For opposing the army school system favored by Cuba's "strong man", Colonel Fulgencio Batista and for vetoing a sugar tax measure to provide funds for these schools, President Miguel Gomez is being tried on impeachment charges. There seems but little doubt that Gomez will be convicted and ousted by the Batista-controlled Senate which is sitting as a court of justice.

M. E. Young People's Choir To Present Christmas Music

The young people's choir of the First Methodist Episcopal church will continue that church's series of Christmas services by presenting a program of Christmas music at 7:30 Sunday evening. The program includes "The Nativity of Christ in Scripture and Song," in which the story of the birth of Christ is told by songs among which are interspersed readings from the scriptures. Rev. Howard P. Powell will be the narrator and Miss Ethel Johnson will be at the organ.

The musical numbers are: Choir, "O Come All Ye Faithful," Elliott. Trio, "O Little Town of Bethlehem," Redner, Fleta Faye Bonkemeyer, Nannie Mae Bonkemeyer, Vivian Wrenn. Choir (Sotto Voce), "Silent

PWA Authorities Given Approval

Mayor Bunch And Treasurer Yow Of City Confer With State PWA Director

Appropriation Is Made By Congress

Favorable Decision To Request For Proposed Community Building Combine

PWA authorities have given the stamp of their approval to both of the proposed projects for the city of Asheboro and have put these projects among the first to receive funds when the next PWA appropriation is made by congress, Mayor Walter Bunch stated Wednesday. Mayor Bunch and City Treasurer Walter Yow were informed to this effect by State PWA Director Stanley H. Wright in Chapel Hill Tuesday.

This is still not absolute confirmation that Asheboro will get PWA aid for the desired improvements since congress might refuse to authorize any more expenditures for PWA work, but in view of President Roosevelt's strong support of this New Deal agency an appropriation is expected soon after congress meets in January.

The city officials, after discussing the possibilities in the situation with Director Wright, are planning to go ahead with the many details which need to be straightened out before the projects can be begun.

A decision favorable to Asheboro was obtained in the request to change the community building project into a combined city hall and community center. Permission to change the plans was given and this will be done in the next few days, Mayor Bunch said.

While awaiting allocation of PWA funds Asheboro officials will work on the plans and specifications for the water and sewer improvements and the city hall. Arrangements must also be made for the election by which the people of Asheboro must approve the \$100,000 bond issue authorized by the city commissioners for the city's share of the projects.

Mr. Bunch and Mr. Yow also conferred with William M. Piatt, consulting sanitary engineer, in Durham Tuesday about Asheboro's sewer survey. Mr. Bunch said he expected definite arrangements for the survey to be made early next week.

FOUND INNOCENT AFTER SERVING ON ROADS

Raleigh.—After serving 59 days of a five year sentence for robbery, Harrison Starnes, 21 year old Union county man, was declared innocent and released Tuesday afternoon when another man confessed committing the crime. Working on the state's highways in the morning, Starnes was free in the afternoon to return to his bride of a few months for Christmas.

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