N C State Library
Raleigh N C

comp

THE WEATHER
N. C.: Fair Monday; Tuesday partly cloudy, no deciding change in temperature.

THE DAILY INDEPENDENT

1908 COMBINED WITH THE INDEPENDENT, A WEEKLY ESTABLISHED BY W. O. SAUNDERS IN 1908 1936

MARITIME FORECAST
Sandy Hook to Hatteras: Fresh westerly winds and fair weather Monday.

VOL. I. NO. 97 | Published Every Day Except Sunday by The Independent Publishing Co. at Elizabeth City, N. C. | ELIZABETH CITY, N. C., MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1936 | Entered at the Postoffice at Elizabeth City, N. C. as Second Class Matter | SINGLE COPY 5 CENTS

EARTHQUAKE KILLS HUNDREDS

US Ready For Navy Increase

Will Match Rivals In Any Increase In Strength

How They Stand

Some Other Powers Have Not Waited for the Expiration of Treaty

By JOHN R. BEAL
Copyright By United Press

Washington, Dec. 20.—(U.P.)—When the world's major powers issued a 15-year program of arms limitation next week the United States will adopt a policy of matching the moves of other nations—but only after "the other fellow" lays down a new keel or builds a harbor, it was indicated tonight.

This policy will apply not only to new battleship construction but conversion of overage vessels and fortification of Pacific Islands, the status of which was "frozen" a decade and a half ago.

Outlines of this policy now are apparent after weeks of official preparation throughout the world for a naval race as soon as the Washington and London treaties expire Dec. 31. The nations of the world, in fact, have "jumped the gun" in some respects and have spent an estimated $10,000,000,000 this year arming for war.

The latest move toward the building up of a sea power was reported from Paris, where the French government gave notice that it will not scrap any vessel of its fleet under the naval treaty.

Only last Friday Great Britain

(Continued on Page Three)

Constitutional Government At Stake In Cuba

Expect Resignation or Impeachment of President Within Next 24 Hours

By LAWRENCE S. HAAS
United Press Staff Correspondent

Havana, Dec. 20.—(U.P.)—President Miguel Mariano Gomez, whose supporters admit there are enough votes in the national chamber of representatives to impeach him, is moving his family's belongings from the palace, it was learned tonight.

Havana, Dec. 20.—(U.P.)— Resignation or impeachment of President Miguel Mariano Gomez within 24 hours was forecast tonight.

Riotous crowds marched through the streets shouting against the chief executive and bearing slo-

Continued on Page Five)

Weather Statistics

	Sun.	Sat.
TEMPERATURE		
Average for Dec.	44.70	44.70
Highest	63.00	60.00
Lowest	42.00	38.00
Average	52.50	49.00
Excess	plus 7.80	4.50
Average for the yr.	60.60	60.60
Barometer	29.85	30.14
PRECIPITATION (In inches)		
Average for Dec.	3.90	3.90
Amount today	72	1.07
Total amt. this mo.	7.03	6.31
Tot. amt. since Jan. 1	61.00	60.28
Excess for the yr.	13.50	12.78
Wind Direction	W.	S. E.
Character of Day	Clear	Cloudy

W. H. SANDERS

TIDES

Monday, December 21

	High a.m.	High p.m.	Low a.m.	Low p.m.
Oregon Inlet	——	12.39	6.51	7.09
Cape Hat.	——	12.19	6.31	6.49

Tuesday, December 22

	High a.m.	High p.m.	Low a.m.	Low p.m.
Oregon Inlet	1.20	1.39	7.59	8.06
Cape Hat.	1.00	1.19	7.39	7.46

Booster

That Travis T. Turner, shown above, lives a double life is a fact known to but few of his fellow townsmen. For over 10 months in the year he may be found daily at the Main street store of the Sawyer company, with which firm he has been connected for the past four years.

The rest of the time he functions in the role of Elizabeth City's Empire Salesman and Ambassador of Good Will along the coast.

Twice yearly, in early spring and fall, he packs his grip and samples and, starting in at Cape Henry, visits every Coast Guard station and coastal community in the seventh district, down to the South Carolina line. Travelling by any means that offer, automobile, bus, cart, boat, and once by airplane, the trip requires from three to four weeks, with stop-overs wherever night may find him.

While he acts as representative of the local haberdashery firm and of the Royal Uniform company, his activities are no less occupied in "selling" Elizabeth City than in taking orders for uniforms, equipment and furnishings. On the trip down the coast and back along the coastal highway, he publishes the virtues of his home town. An old friend, in quest of some service in merchandise or medical attention or what-not, learns where he can get it— in Elizabeth City. A casually-met tourists learns the best routing to his destination— with stop-over at Elizabeth City.

But to Mr. Turner himself the semi-annual tours have more than a mere commercial significance.

"It's just a question of meeting old friends again," he says.

Born in Perquimans county and

(Continued on Page Three)

Eruption And Quake Shatter San Salvador

Cities of Interior Are Leveled and Dead Buried In Ruins

San Salvador, Dec. 20.—(U.P.)—More than 200 persons were killed and 400 injured in earthquakes, accompanied by volcanic eruptions, which devasted large areas of the interior today, according to official estimates tonight.

Center of the earth tremors was around the city of San Vicente.

With communications down, full extent of the damage could not be estimated.

Injured survivors were brought to San Salvador by Red Cross workers dispatched by the government.

New quakes occurred in San Vincente tonight, crumbling walls which had cracked in the first violent movements.

The quakes aroused long-dormant volcanoes. The entire department of San Vicente lies within the area of old volcanic mountains.

First and most violent of the quakes occurred in mid-morning just as a crowd of several thousand in San Vicente was participating in a religious procession. The panic of the populace caused many injures.

Only a few houses were left standing in San Vicente—until today a town of 26,000 population—dispatched said.

Earth shocks were continuing, indicating that every structure in the town might be leveled.

The church procession, headed by the image of Saint Vincent—the town's patron saint—was con-

(Continued on page five)

Albemarle B. & L. Paying a Dividend

Christmas holiday funds in Elizabeth City will be given an additional boost today when the Albemarle Building & Loan association mails checks amounting to approximately $5,000 to holders of full paid stock. The dividend is payable on January 1, but the association is sending out checks in advance of Christmas for the convenience of their stockholders.

Burfoot Plans Additions To Court House

Is Feeling Out Sentiment; Would Give Court Clerk and Register of Deeds More Room.

Plans for additions to the Pasquotank County court house, with the end in view of relieving the present congestion in the building, are being promulgated by Noah Burfoot, new chairman of the board of county commissioners, in an effort to determine or sound out public opinion on the proposal.

Mr. Burfoot's plan, which he has been contemplating for some time, would call for two ells added to the present building, one extending east and the other extending west. This is the only practical plan for adding to the court house building, since further elongation or heightening would be impracticable.

There is a definite need for additional space in the court house building, it is pointed out. Especially is this so with respect to the offce of the regster of deeds and the clerk of superor court. Both these offices, in which are kept myriad county records, are cramped for filing space and also for working space.

Then too, there is need for a room for meetings of the board of commissioners, which now

(Continued on Page Three)

High Hatters Will Play for Christmas Dance at the Hotel

Alfred Guy and his High Hatters will provide the music for the Christmas dance in the Virginia Dare Hotel ballroom Christmas night, it was announced yesterday by Ray S. Jones, manager of the Virginia Dare.

The High Hatters are well known here, having played for several dances at the local country club in recent years. They are rated as Norfolk's best dance band.

Mr. Jones said he is not yet certain whether the New Year's dance is to be held on New Year's Eve or on New Year's night. He says he is having difficulty in obtaining music for a dance on New Year's eve and may be compelled to have the dance on New Year's night.

Plenty of 102-Foot Piles To Be Had, Says A Local Lumberman

Just why the state highway commission should have trouble in obtaining 102-foot piling for the new Albemarle sound bridge is somewhat of a mystery to LeRoy S. Nixon, representative of Nichols Brothers, Inc., of Norfolk, piling contractors. The size is not unusual, according to Mr. Nixon, who says that some time ago several hundred feet of piling, measing from 95 to 115 feet were delivered on a job at Alexandria. As for 102-foot piles, plenty are to be had, he says.

TODAY'S LOCAL CALENDAR

A. M.
8:30 Mens Christian Federation
10:00 County Commissioners

SUNDAY CALENDAR

P. M.
1:00 Rotary Club will not meet
7:00 Boys Booster Club address by N. E. Aydlett at Jr. Order Hall
7:30 Pocahontas; Kiwanis Jr. Glee Club

Library hours: 10-12, 2-6

Strike Imminent In Steel And Automobile Industries

Michigan's Black Legion Head Dies Of Pneumonia

Cumberland, Md., Dec. 20.—(U.P.)—Isaac (Peg-Leg) White, reputed leader of Michigan's Black Legion, died at Memorial hospital today of pneumonia.

White, sought by Michigan authorities for seven months on charges of conspiracy to commit murder, arson and criminal syndicalism, was captured Monday night as he lay on a sick bed at Oldtown, 15 miles south of here.

His 25 year old widow and their four year old son are going to arrange to have the body sent there for burial.

The 50 year old White, said to have been a brigadier-general of the Black Legion when it was first organized, was indicted along with 22 fellow members several months ago.

He was captured without a struggle Monday by officers led by John A. Moritz, chief investigator of the Michigan attorney-general's office.

CONDITION ALFRED SAWYER REPORTED TO BE CRITICAL

Alfred L. Sawyer, prominent farmer and landowner of Belcross, was reported late last night as being in a highly critical condition, with death expected at any minute.

Fight for Recognition of Unions May Bring a Grave Crisis

By ARTHUR F. DEGREVE
United Press Staff Coresopndent

Washington, Dec. 20.—(U.P.)—Labor's big guns roared a warning tonight that strikes will be called in two of the nation's blue chip industries—automobile and steel—unless their officials recognize trade unions and bargain with workers collectively.

Stepping up his -100,000 per month drive to organize the mass production industries along "one-big-union" lines, John L. Lewis, steely-eyed head of the "rebel" C. I. O., struck swiftly tonight on two fronts. The thrusts may decide the outcome of the gravest labor crisis to confront the nation in years.

In Pittsburgh, Philip Murray, Lewis' chief aide, told 250 representatives of steel company unions, that a strike would be called in the $5,000,000,000 industry if it continues its "dog-in-the-manger" attitude" toward organized labor. The company union agents promptly joined the Lewis forces.

In Detroit, the United Automobile Workers— a C. I. O. union—inaugurated a furious drive to organize auto workers with a mass meeting attended by 2,000 strikers. The immediate objective of the auto workers is unionization of

(Continued on page five)

An Alpine Tragedy

WRECK of a German plane which spun into a crash in the French Alps, carrying seven persons to death. Propaganda pamphlets for Spanish rebels were found in the wreckage. German Capt.-Lieut. von Winterfeld was a victim.

Natl. Fisheries Convention To Discuss Shad

Shad Conservation To Be Major Issue of Coming Convention

North Carolina shad fishermen, alarmed at the decline in shad catches in the past few years, will be pleased to learn that the problem of shad conservation and the restoration of the shad population is to be a major issue of the National Fisheries Convention, to be held in Atlantic City next February.

The story is told in the following release, which has been authorized by the Eastern Fisheries Association, Inc., of New York City:

Shocked by the alarming decrease in the quantity of shad reaching the spawning grounds, commercial fishermen are demanding that a "Save-the-Shad" movement to be given the right of way at the coming National Fisheries Convention to be held in At-

(Continued on Page Three)

Air Visitor Says Arrow On Tank Few Points Off

Lt. Floyd Wood of U. S. Air Corps Got Lost by Following Arrow

The large black arrow painted on the top of Elizabeth City's municipal water tank and intended to point the way to the municipal landing field on the Weeksville road is several degrees off, according to Lieutenant Floyd B. Wood, of the United States Air Corps, who got lost when he used the arrow as a direction-pointer Friday afternoon.

Lt. Wood said the arrow points down the Pasquotank river instead of in the direction of the landing field. Using the arrow as a guide and not consulting his map, the lieutenant went four miles past the airport and had to turn back and pick up the airport, getting his bearings by the old abandoned race track on the Weeksville road, which was listed on his map which he consulted after realizing that the arrow was off several degrees.

He flew down here from Boston Friday afternoon to spend the week-end with his sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Smith, of 401 East Church street. He made the trip in four hours flying time—five hours of actual time — making brief stops at Mitchell Field, Long Island, and Langley Field, Va. He left here yesterday on his return flight.

Lt. Wood is stationed at present at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. His flight here was largely in the nature of a training flight. He was flying a Douglas observation ship.

Moscow Stirred By Burning Of Russian Ship By Spaniards

A Serious Development of Spanish Civil War

Overt Act of War

Russian Press Is Indignant Over "Incredible Criminal Provocation"

Moscow, Dec. 20.—(U.P.)— Soviet authorities charged tonight that the Spanish rebels burned a Russian ship, the Komsomol, on December 14 and added menacingly that "this is one of the most serious developments of the Spanish war."

(According to earlier dispatches from London, the Komosomol was seen in flames off the Algerian coast by a Belgian merchant vessel. A Spanish rebel warship was standing near by the burning ship.

The government spokesman said no news had been received about the fate of the crew of 25.

(Continued on Page Three)

Loyalists Try To Break Ring That Closes In

Major Offensive to North and East of Madrid to Prevent Encirclement

By LESTER ZIFFREN
United Press Staff Corespondent

Madrid, Dec. 20.—(U.P.)—Loyalist troops opened a major offensive to the north and east of Madrid tonight in an effort to prevent General Francisco Franco's rebels from surrounding the capital.

The attack started shortly before midnight from the Pozuelo and Usera sectors and entire divisions of government infantry swept along the Guadarrama slopes in an effort to cut the Burgos and Saragossa highways.

If the highways can be cut,

(Continued on Page Five)

Supreme Court Rules Agin Christmas Trees, Justice Brandeis Dissenting As Usual

Mrs. Brandeis Will Have Her Christmas Tree, the Other Old Men Notwithstanding; How Washington's Official Family Will Observe Christmas.

Washington, Dec. 20—(U.P.)—The supreme court of the United States today ruled against Christmas trees, Mr. Justice Louis Brandeis dissenting as he does in many cases.

Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes did not participate in the decision. In an opinion rendered by Mrs. Hughes it was said on behalf of the Hughes family, "We won't go into that."

The new deal cabinet however, showed an overwhelming majority in favor of trees. Even Attorney General Homer S. Cummings, undismayed by the action of the supreme court before which he often argues and sometimes loses, insisted upon having his tree, even though there is not a child in the house as an excuse for it.

"If he didn't have a tree the A. G. would be worse than a child," Mrs. Cummings explained. Everybody in the attorney general's house gathers around the tree Christmas morning to receive the

(Continued on page five)

Center Hill Farmer Is Struck by a Hit-And-Run Driver

Edenton, Dec. 20—Hugh White, 38, of Center Hill neighborhood, is in serious condition following a hit and run accident on the Suffolk highway just outside the city limits Saturday night. White was walking along the highway toward his home. It is thought he was bumming a ride. His left arm is broken. The car passed over his chest and he has a number of cuts and bruises about the face and body.

Herman Monds, first to see the injured man lying along the road, noticed a Model T. Ford leaving the scene, but was too excited to take the license number. Monds reported the accident to Corp. George Dail who brought White to Dr. J. A. Powell's office.

Sheriff J. A. Bunch and Patrolman Dail made a diligent search for the car, but no arrests have been made. Only information they have is that the car is a Model T Ford with one front light and no rear light.

White is a tenant farmer for T. C. Byrum, member of Byrum Bros. Hardware company, and has the reputation of being a first class farmer.

Tenants Must Be Given Aid

Government Help Required for Two Million

Nation's Headache

Lack of Initiative and Self-Reliance, Ignorance and Malnutrition, Aggravate the Problem.

Washington, Dec. 20.—(U.P.)—Government aid is necessary to lift the nation's tenant farmers from stark poverty, acting resettlement administrator, W. W. Alexander said tonight.

Alexander is a member of a committee named by President Roosevelt to study the tenancy problem and submit recommendations for relief legislation, expected to form the basis of a vigorous drive for congressional action early in the new session.

Most of the more than 2,000,000 tenant farmers can be made self-sustaining only with government help through a long-step-by-step process involving closely supervised credit and painstaking education in far mmanagement, Alexander said in an interview.

He forecast the administration farm tenancy legislative program would involve:

1. Federal loans to help impoverished tenant families buy their own farms.

2. "Character" loans at low interest rates to those who must remain tenants and now are forced to pay as high as 40 per cent annual interest on borrowed money.

3. Expert guidance in farm problems and education to teach the

(Continued on Page Three)

Chaco War Is Before Buenos Aires Meeting

Both Bolivia and Paraguay Dissatisfied With the Peace Terms

Buenos Aires, Dec. 20. —(U.P.)—South America's greatest threat to peace, the Chaco dispute between Bolivia and Paraguay, occupied attention of the Inter-American peace conference today.

Its work of cementing the western hemisphere in an accord of peace, friendship, and the promotion of trade virtually ended, the conference sought to bring together belligerents in the Chaco controversy.

Neither Bolivia nor Paraguay is content with the arbitration which has followed cessation of hostilities in the war over a jungle.

Most delegates to the conference agree there can be no hope of permanent peace in the Americas, until the Chaco question is settled.

Dr. La Fayette da Silva, Brazilian minister to Paraguay, left by airplane today for Asuncion, to plead with Juan Stefanich, Para-

(Continued on Page Five)