

STATE SHIVERS IN TEMPERATURE NEAR THE ZERO BOTTOM

Low for Night is Six Degrees Above, Reported by The Weather Bureau at Asheville.

14 AT RALEIGH IS OFFICIAL READING

Rocky Mount Has 13, While Greensboro and Salisbury Report Nine Degrees; Sun Shines Brightly Nearly Everywhere in State During Forenoon Hours.

(By The Associated Press) Mercury in official thermometers over the Carolinas got so cold last night that almost all of it ran down the bulb at the bottom of the glass.

Asheville, over in the mountains, was the plunging parade, with a low reading during the night at six above and three other reporting communities tied for second place with readings of nine.

Greensboro and Salisbury had nine degree readings, as did Burlington, where people got up shivering at 6 a. m. to welcome a bright sun.

High Point followed closely with 10 degrees at 6 o'clock, but there the sky was a bit overcast.

Hickory registered 11 degrees with blue clear and a sun promising a bit of warmth as morning progressed, while Gastonia had a fair morning and a reading at daybreak of 12.

Rocky Mount with a reading of 13 at 7 a. m. under cloudless skies, edged out Charlotte and Greenville, S. C., which had 14 degree readings. Raleigh also had a low of 14, the coldest of the winter by 10. Clouds leaved the sky there during the early morning, but the sun began to break through and warm up a bit. Generally skies cleared over the State and the sun began duty on time.

524 Licenses For Drivers Revoked Since Law Began

Raleigh, Dec. 21 (AP)—The State Highway safety division since November 1 has revoked 524 drivers' licenses, and 503 of the revocations followed court convictions of the owners on charges of drunken driving.

Arthur Fulk, director of the division, expressed the opinion drunken driving which is credited with causing the largest portion of the fatal accidents of highways of the state may be broken up by the driver's license law.

"I believe that when we get all our permits issued, and all details cleared up, we can do something to curb the drunken driving," Fulk commented. "When we get full enforcement of the statute, we will come close to ridding the roads of such drivers, and people will stop to think before driving after they have taken a drink."

U.S. Exports Gain Sharply In November

Increased Shipments To Italy Account For Much of Improvement Over '34

Washington, Dec. 21.—(AP)—United States exports to the rest of the world, including Italy, were shown by Commerce Department figures today to have increased in November over October this year and November last year.

The general gain was contrary to the usual seasonal trend. It was attributed by the department to larger shipments of unmanufactured cotton, automobiles and petroleum products.

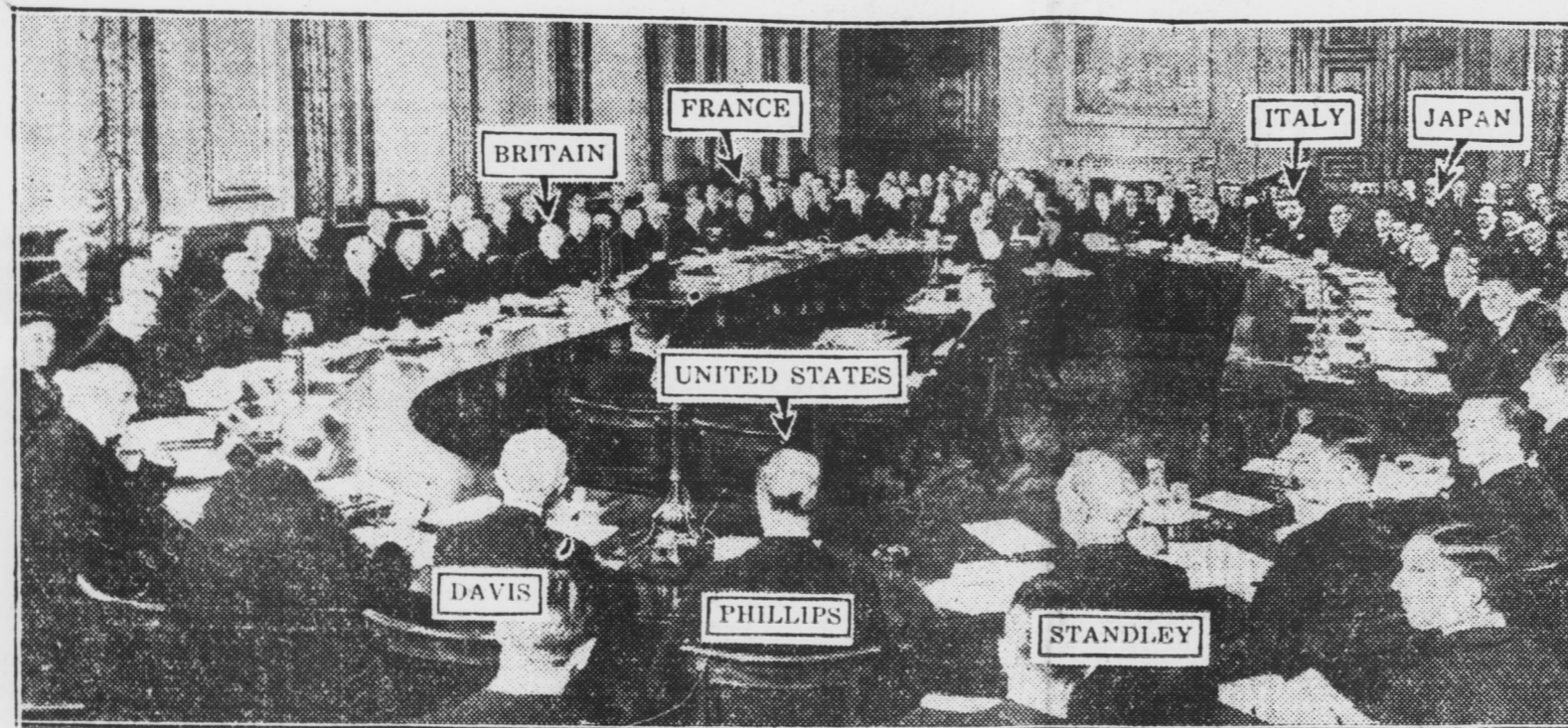
Total exports in November were placed at \$269,400,000, against imports of \$168,955,000.

This resulted in a favorable trade balance of \$100,445,000 for November. For the eleven months ending with November, the favorable balance was reported to have been \$197,433,000.

November exports to Italy were \$9,954,915, compared with \$8,418,608 in November, 1934, and \$6,221,366 in October this year.

One of the outstanding features of merchandise trade in November, the department said, was the contrary to seasonal increase in exports of unmanufactured cotton. The exports of

Nations' Positions at Parley Table Reflect Differences



It may have been accident or it may have been design that delegates of the two current aggressor nations, Italy and Japan, are seated as far away as possible from British, French and U. S. delegates at naval limitations conference in London, where this photo was made as the parley got under way. American delegates Norman Davis, Secretary of State Phillips and Admiral Standley have backs to camera. (Central Press)

Coldest Weather Of Winter Here; Mercury At Low Of 12

With an official thermometer reading announced as 12 degrees above zero, Henderson and this section today experienced the coldest weather of the winter. And it came on December 21, the shortest day of the year.

A high wind from the north blew during the day Friday, and by night had whisked in the frigid temperatures that had come apparently from the snows and zero temperatures of the Middle West and Northwest.

There was every warning Friday that the community was in for the worst of the winter thus far—and most people hope also for the entire winter season. It is seldom this section has more than two or three biting days like this has been. The weather man yesterday said there would be a hard freeze last night, and today reported the same warning for tonight, but held out some slight hope for a bit of moderation on Sunday, but with cloudy skies. All over the city frozen pipes were reported. Plumbers had their day. Water pipes not properly protected closed up under the driving force of that wind, and today housewives either had to call in help from the plumber, use the hot water basin themselves or do without water.

The night was clear, with stars shining, and a friendly sun beamed brightly all day today, and lent some encouragement and in a small way abated the bite of the frigid weather. It was not so bad as if the skies had been overcast.

JOHNSON TALKS IN M'DONALD'S TOWN

He Carries Gubernatorial "Facts" Fight Into "Enemy" Country.

STATE DEBT REDUCED

And With Its Reduction and Balancing of Budget, State Securities Crossed Par To Stave off Investment Disaster

Daily Dispatch Bureau, Raleigh, Dec. 21.—Candidate Ralph W. McDonald's wish to have some official statement of North Carolina finances by Governor J. C. B. Ehringhaus or by State Treasurer Charles M. Johnson, has been gratified by Mr. Johnson.

The State treasurer adopted somewhat the policy of Dr. McDonald, who came to Raleigh several weeks ago, assembled the newspaper men, took them to Revenue Commissioner Allen J. Maxwell's office and engaged in debate with the commissioner. During the controversy carried on over Mr. Maxwell's table Dr. McDonald declared that Mr. Maxwell is honest, "but woefully ignorant of taxation." Mr. Johnson did not summon the Forth scribes and bombard Dr. McDonald in the candidate's office. The treasurer was invited by the Rotary Club to speak before it. He did and he used figures which Dr. McDonald is at liberty to attack. The candidate has not yet made his assault, but he is due to do so. He asked for a statement from an official qualified by position to speak. Mr. Johnson went to what William Jennings Bryan called "enemy country."

Discussion State finances, Mr. Johnson told the Rotarians that January 1, 1935, the State owed \$135,139,000 and had approximately \$11,000,000 in the sinking fund invested in North Carolina bonds. This left a net debt of \$124,139,000. This left a net debt of the first biennium of the Ehringhaus administration the State owed

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Expeditions Begin Ellsworth Search

Washington, Dec. 21 (AP)—The State Department announced two rescue expeditions would start today from opposite Antarctica to aid Lincoln Ellsworth, missing explorer, and his Canadian pilot, Herbert Hollick-Kenyon.

Sir Hubert Wilkins was expected to sail from Magellanes, Chile, in his ship, the Wyatt Earp, taking an airplane flown last week from Kansas city to Magellanes by Henry Merrill.

The American Embassy in London cabled the department the British royal research ship, "Discovery II," would sail on the other side of Antarctica from Melbourne for the Bay of Wales.

PUBLIC IS DIVIDED ON EXTRA SESSION

Counter-Attack by Opponents May Avert Call Until Regular Term.

Daily Dispatch Bureau, Raleigh, Dec. 21.—Senator Harris Newman, who has been here this week expects to come back to the General Assembly of 1937, whether the route to Raleigh through the lieutenant governorship which he is not seeking fervently, or by nomination and election to the lower house.

He served two terms as member from New Hanover, then came to the Senate. He likes the legislature, but he does not wish to see the 1935 body convened again. "I see no necessity for calling us back here until the regular session," he said before leaving last night. "If there is some need for meeting the danger of doing more damage than good out to prevent the extra session."

Mr. Newman, who was named chairman of the Senate Finance Committee by Lieutenant Governor A. H. Graham, does not agree with the governor as to that special legislature. Mr. Graham is out for it. So is Dr. Ralph W. McDonald. Gossips say Clyde Hoey looks with favor on it, but

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JOE LOUIS AGAIN DENIES HE'S DEAD

Chicago, Dec. 21 (AP)—For the tenth time in three months, Joe Louis, sensational Negro heavy-weight boxer, today denied reports that he had been killed in an automobile accident.

No one was allowed to see the "brown bomber" but a giant Negro policeman stationed outside his door conferred with him, and then came out to announce that Joe had just eaten a hearty breakfast.

DIPLOMATS RESENT CRITICISM OF PLAN

England and France Made Offer To Avert Even Greater European War

TOOK RESPONSIBILITY

They Assumed Burden of League In Peace Mission, While United States Held Aloof Through The Years

By CHARLES P. STEWART, Central Press Staff Writer

Washington, Dec. 21.—Diplomats are too discreet to say much for publication. Confidentially, however, the staffs of the British and French embassies in Washington are decidedly resentful of widespread criticism of the joint plan of their respective foreign offices to end Italian-Ethiopian hostilities by giving half or more of Haile Selassie's realm to Mussolini.

Of course it is hard for them to dispute the charge that the settlement proposed jointly, at London and Paris, contemplated international acquiescence in the Fascist grab of most of the territory they coveted with a merely nominal concession to Ethiopia.

Nevertheless, the embassy staffs grumble, fault-finding with their so-called compromise comes with a particularly poor grace from the United States.

FEARFUL OF WAR

There is something to be said on the Anglo-France side of the question. Neither the British nor the French want a hand in another major war any more than Uncle Sam does. Yet they are fearful of precipitating one by trying to prevent it.

In short, an attempt at prevention

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Rebellion Feared In Mexican State By Labor Groups

Mexico City, Dec. 21 (AP)—Mexican government announced today that it had learned a rebellion was scheduled to start in Orizaba, industrial center of the State of Vera Cruz, where the Laborista party has its greatest strength.

The movement already had been frustrated, the Department of Interior stated, by seizure of arms and ammunition and arrest of six persons here in a raid on a house of Louis Morones, Labor leader, and associate of General Elias Calles.

The announcement of the proposed rebellion followed denials by both Morones and former President Calles, who returned here last week from Los Angeles, Cal., that they planned any revolutionary movement.

CLEVELAND CHOICE TO FAVOR LONDON

Kansas G. O. P. Aspirant Helped by Convention Being in Ohio City.

TOWNSENDITES READY

Will Also Meet in Cleveland and May Invade G. O. P. Convention; It's Happy Hunting Ground For 1936

By LESLIE EICHEL, Central Press Staff Writer

Cleveland, Dec. 21.—Ohio is a doubtful state and, for once, has no favorite son. Thus the Republicans chose Cleveland, metropolis of Ohio, for their 1936 national convention.

The convention, beginning on June 9, will be favored undoubtedly by characteristically "perfect" spring weather along the beautiful southern shores of Lake Erie. But there is no certainty that the political atmosphere will be so congenial.

Republicans have been speaking of Cleveland as a major city that recently elected a Republican mayor by the largest majority a Cleveland mayor ever received. That must be taken with a grain of salt. Cleveland mayoralty elections are supposedly non-partisan. In the preliminary election Harold Burton, running as a reform candidate, defeated Mayor Harry Davis, Old Guard Republican. But the runner-up was former Mayor Ray T. Miller, Old Guard Democrat. Thus Burton had a run-off with Miller. And the voters had no difficulty deciding. Thus Burton ran and won as a non-partisan reform candidate.

BEST CHANCES The guess is that Governor Alf M. Landon of Kansas will have the best chance in Cleveland.

The men who brought the convention to Cleveland may be classed as Landon and Hoover favor. Ohio, itself, probably would favor Senator William E. Borah, of Idaho.

The guess is, that at the opening of the convention in Cleveland those

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ETHIOPIANS ROUTED BY ITALIAN PLANES

Asmara, Eritrea, Dec. 21 (AP)—Italian planes bombed and routed an Ethiopian column of 3,000 between Quoram and Lake Ashangi today, said reports to Italian headquarters.

The Ethiopians were said to have suffered many casualties and to have fled to the bombing with strong anti-aircraft fire.

BRITAIN STILL SEEKING HELP AGAINST ITALY

Eyeing the Future



Political crisis brought on by public indignation over British-French plan to partition Ethiopia to end Italo-Ethiopian war has brought Sir Austen Chamberlain, former foreign secretary, back into the British spotlight. (Central Press)

London Fears Some Act of Desperation as Last Resort in Bucking League Decision.

ENCOURAGEMENT IS OFFERED BY POWERS

Approach Thus Far Confined to Mediterranean Nations; British Officer in Cairo Says Italy Cannot Penetrate Egypt With Forces Now Held in Libya.

London, Dec. 21 (AP)—The British government was stated by a reliable source today to be considering further precautionary measures against the possibility of a warlike act on the part of Premier Mussolini of Italy, who caused Great Britain's determination to reinforce sanctions against Italy.

A meeting of the Council of the League of Nations to discuss the question of mutual defense against an act of desperation on the part of Italy was mentioned in government circles, but was not confirmed officially.

At government circles, however, it was authoritatively confirmed that steps have been taken to see what support by other nations could be mobilized in the event of a warlike move. It was said that the inquiries thus far had been encouraging. So far the British government has confined its approach to Mediterranean powers.

A British officer in Cairo informed an Associated Press correspondent that it would require a bigger and more mobile force than the Italian army in Eritrea to penetrate Egypt from Libya.

For some time past, said the advices from Cairo, Great Britain has been mustering tanks in the vicinity of Matruh, near the border. However, Great Britain has not made a large concentration of either men or equipment there.

The attack appear to be based on a belief in some quarters that Mussolini eventually will have to sue for peace on terms offered by the League of Nations or else try some act of desperation.

HIGHWAY ACT FOR SO. CAR. RATIFIED

Floodgates of Federal Appropriations About to be Opened Also.

Columbia, S. C., Dec. 21 (AP)—A temporary highway control act was ratified by the General Assembly and signed by Governor Olin Johnston today in concluding a truce in South Carolina's highway war.

The act sets up an ex-officio supervisory board of State officials to direct the highway department through its chief engineer, since the governor demobilized troops that had held it for seven weeks.

Both branches of the legislature then adopted a concurrent resolution for sine die adjournment of the session.

ACTION BY LEGISLATURE TO START FEDERAL FUNDS

Washington, Dec. 21 (AP)—Belief was expressed in an official quarter here today that the South Carolina legislature, in establishing a temporary board to administer the State highway department, would pave the way for renewal of Federal road fund grants to the State.

L. E. Boykin, counsel for the Federal Bureau of Public Roads, was authority for the belief. "I can't say definitely, in the absence of a copy of the act itself," said Boykin when informed of developments in South Carolina.

WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA

Fair to partly cloudy and not quite so cold, but hard freeze to night; Sunday increasing cloudiness and warmer, possibly rain Sunday night and in extreme west portion in afternoon.

Thelma Todd's Death Is Dropped As Suicide Case

Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 21 (AP)—Police dropped the investigation of the question mark death of Thelma Todd today on the theory the film beauty was the victim of an accident—not a perfect crime—or suicide.

However, the grand jury gathered up the strange loose ends of the mystery, with the foreman, George Echeater, expressing belief the actress was slain in a "murder by Monoxide."

George Johnson, deputy district attorney, discounted the theory of murder, and pointed to the possibility of suicide. "It seems too difficult to believe Miss Todd went to that garage and started the motor of her car to keep warm," he said.

More than 30 witnesses, including film land celebrities, were summoned for the grand jury's first hearing next Monday in an effort to check every known action of the blond comedienne from the moment she left the night club party until her body was found last Monday some 30 hours later.

The grand jury foreman's cryptic statement that he had found evidence indicative of murder was supported apparently by the report of Tom Cavett, district attorney's investigator who disclosed bloodstains on the run board of Miss Todd's car, in which her body was found.

A dramatic midnight test by the district attorney's office to determine one hazy circumstance in the case—whether the actress walked up 270 steps from her sidewalk cafe to the garage and her death—was disclosed. A woman operative of Miss Todd's physical proportions and dressed similarly in furs, evening gown and dainty slippers, climbed the steps.

Farm Prices For Carolinas Lower In 1935 Than 1934

Washington, Dec. 21 (AP)—Farm prices in the Carolinas were lower this year than in 1934, but continued to remain considerably higher than in 1932.

The Agriculture Department, in a preliminary report of 1935 averages, said, however, that most crops had been increased to the extent that the 1935 farm value was greater than in 1934.

The average price of cotton was estimated at 11.40 cents a pound in North Carolina.

A 30 percent reduction in the average price of tobacco was reported for North Carolina, with the 1934 average preliminary placed at 29.9 cents a pound, compared to 28.5 cents in 1934.

Italy Won't Even Answer Peace Notes

Mussolini Shows His Disdain For Efforts To End Warfare In Africa.

Rome, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Premier Mussolini showed his disdain for the discarded Franco-British proposals for peace between Italy and Ethiopia today by refusing even to reply to them after ordering the East African campaign to proceed.

An official spokesman said the decision of the Fascist grand council, issued after a session last night, constituted Italy's only answer to the peace plan.

This decision referred briefly to British "repudiation" of the proposals and said Italy would go on "to the goal" designated by Il Duce as the nation's destiny. In directing confidently that his armies press on for conquest of Ethiopia, Mussolini posed his "unshakably united" people against the dis-

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