

# A MERRY CHRISTMAS

HENDERSON  
GATEWAY TO  
CENTRAL  
CAROLINA

## Henderson Daily Dispatch

24 Pages  
Today  
THREE SECTIONS

ONLY DAILY NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED IN THIS SECTION OF NORTH CAROLINA AND VIRGINIA.  
TWENTY-FOURTH YEAR LEASED WIRE SERVICE OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS. HENDERSON, N. C., FRIDAY AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 24, 1937 PUBLISHED EVERY AFTERNOON EXCEPT SUNDAY. FIVE CENTS COPY

# CHRISTMAS OBSERVED THROUGHOUT WORLD

## POLITICAL CRISIS FACING FRANCE AS CHRISTMAS COMES

### Communist Bloc in Chamber of Deputies Votes Support to Nationwide Strikers

### "STAY-IN" STRIKES SPREAD IN NATION

### American Rubber Company Involved in Disturbances; Debate Held Inevitable Before First of Year on Policies of Chautemps Government

Paris, Dec. 24.—(AP)—Rumblings of a political crisis grew louder in strike-harassed France today after the communist bloc in the Chamber of Deputies voted moral support to strikers.

As the increasingly serious wave of "stay-in" strikes showed no signs of abatement over Christmas, the Communists threatened to force a political showdown for the popular front government of Premier Chautemps.

Communist encouragement coincided with continued defiance by 2,000 strikers occupying the Goodrich Rubber Company plant and walk-outs by deliverymen. Other groups in the chamber were spurred to quick discussions of the situation.

The radical socialists, terming the communist stand an effort to block attempts of Chautemps to settle the strike, said debate on the interior policy was bound to come up before January 1.

### FOUR ARE DEAD IN QUAKES IN MEXICO

Mexico City, Dec. 24.—(AP)—Four deaths were attributed today to a series of earthquakes that left widespread minor damage to buildings and streets. A minute-long shock that rocked all southern Mexico yesterday morning was followed by two other lighter quakes this morning.

Dispatches from southern states told of minor damage and panic among the populace.

### DEMOCRATIC FUND RAISERS WORRIED

### They Can Get the \$12,500 in \$25 Lumps, but Small Fry Are Barred

Daily Dispatch Bureau, Raleigh, Dec. 24.—To announce a Jackson Day dinner, or not to announce a Jackson Day dinner—that is the question which is bothering Democratic fund raisers more than the famed "to be or not to be" worried the well-known Hamlet, Prince of Denmark.

So far Chairman R. L. McMillan and his associates on the group entrusted with the job of getting \$12,500 in North Carolina for use in next year's congressional campaign haven't been able to get around to saying what they're going to do; although it is known that they have been making efforts to get a suitable speaker for a January 8th gathering.

Here's what's worrying them. Under the plan forced on them (they didn't like it a bit and kicked like steers) by the Democratic National Committee, they're trying to raise the \$25,000 in uniform contributions of \$25 each. They believe this can be done, and considerable progress along that line has been reported.

But they don't want to limit attendance at a Jackson Day dinner to the \$25 boys, they want the smaller fry to be able to eat and hear speeches, too. At the same time, they fear that if they make it known publicly that the Jackson Day eating and listening will be open to all, it will have a bad effect on the \$25 Democrats, cutting down their number no end.

If and when the raising of the \$12,500



The Angels and the Shepherds. By B. Plochhorst

## Christmas

Shepherds engaged in nightly task  
Guarding their flocks beneath the mask  
Of midnight calm, beheld a star  
Gleaming in brilliance from afar.

Full of wonder they saw the path  
Of silvery light that cleaved a swath  
Of brightness over darkened hill.  
Hopefully they followed until.

They reached a stable near an inn  
Where two wanderers rested within.  
In the manger the Christ child lay,  
Whom they worshiped in humble way.

Wide-eyed and wondering a crowd  
Of folk gathered round Mary, bowed.  
And wise men entered her presence  
Bearing gold, myrrh and frankincense.

The luminous star born that night  
Gave to the world persistent light,  
That each his way might better wend,  
Till the approach of his destined end.

C. DAVID VORMELKER



Holy Night by Correggio

## Japanese Assume Entire Blame In Panay Sinking

### Cloudy Christmas Awaits Tar Heels

Raleigh, Dec. 24 (AP)—Lee A. Denson, in charge of the Weather Bureau here, forecast today North Carolinians would have a cloudy Christmas day, with a "light mist or drizzle occasionally."

It also is going to get a little warmer in the central and northeast sections and colder in the mountainous area tomorrow, he said.

### SAYS PANAY SUNK WITHOUT WARNING

### Commander of U. S. Gunboat Makes Official Report to Washington

Washington, Dec. 24 (AP)—The Panay's wounded commander reported officially today the American gunboat was sunk without warning by Japanese naval planes, which he said flew as low as "perhaps one or two hundred feet" to drop their bombs.

Lieutenant Commander James Hughes also said the Yangtze river was marked with huge flags when the attack occurred December 12. The weather was cleared and there was "good visibility," he noted.

His report, giving the first official eye-witness account of the bombing that has strained relations with Japan, was made public by the Navy Department after having been read by President Roosevelt and Secretary Hull. Its contents already has been sent to Ambassador Grew at Tokyo to bolster the American demand for apologies, indemnities and guarantees.

Hughes' detailed chronological story was sent by radio from Shanghai in advance of the findings of a formal board of inquiry. That report will be published tomorrow.

### WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA.

Cloudy, probably occasional mists or light rain tonight and Saturday; slightly warmer in central and northeast portion Saturday.

### Commander and All Others in Units Making Attack Said To Have Been Punished

### EMPEROR HIROHITO SANCTIONS COURSE

### Foreign Minister Hirota Personally Hands Ambassador Grew in Tokyo His Government's Note Accepting Full Responsibility; Protection Assured

Tokyo, Dec. 24 (AP)—The Japanese government today acknowledged full responsibility for sinking of the United States gunboat Panay by Japanese planes and said the flying squadron and "all others responsible" had been punished, and assured the American government "definite and specific steps" had been taken to prevent a recurrence.

Foreign Minister Hirota personally handed the note to United States Ambassador Joseph Grew at 7 p. m. this evening (5 a. m., eastern standard time) after approval by the cabinet and sanctioned by Emperor Hirohito. The text was not published in Japan.

It answered American representations after bombing of the Panay and three Standard Oil vessels in the Yangtze river above Nanking December 12.

These representations included a memorandum by President Roosevelt asking that the emperor be informed the American President viewed the incident with concern.

Hirota did not make clear how the responsible bombers were punished except they were dealt with "according to law."

### Dispatch To Take Christmas Holiday

In keeping with a custom as old as the paper itself, the Daily Dispatch will issue no edition tomorrow—Christmas day. A full holiday will be observed by the entire organization, and publication will be resumed on Monday as usual.

Meantime, the entire Dispatch personnel, from top to bottom, extends hearty greetings and best wishes to every one for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

## Big Seaport Of Hangchow In Jap Hands

### City Believed To Have Capitulated To Avoid Battle and Its Destruction

Shanghai, Dec. 24 (AP)—Japanese tonight announced Hangchow, rich Chinese seaport and capital of Chekiang province, 100 miles south of Shanghai, was captured today by troops simultaneously entering all the city's gates.

Full of the city to the invaders, who have overrun thousands of square miles of territory, came as United States authorities made strong representations to Japanese over a reported insult to the American flag at Wuhu December 13.

There was no information immediately on the extent of fighting around Hangchow, but indications were that the city had capitulated to avoid bombings and street fighting.

The six Americans in Hangchow were believed safe.

Earlier tonight Japanese had reported encircling units in five miles of Hangchow and declared the Chinese defenders were cut off.

The Japanese spokesman also announced a strong Japanese force had crossed the Yellow river, in Shantung province, obtaining a foothold on its southern bank.

## Amendment Backed By Committee

Washington, Dec. 24.—(AP)—Strong support developed today in the Senate Judiciary Committee for a constitutional amendment offered by Senator Norris, Independent, Nebraska, to make it easier to change the Constitution.

The proposal would require that if Congress should submit a constitutional change it would automatically go on the ballot for direct vote by the people at the next general election in each state.

This would hasten its consideration and prevent state legislatures from blocking a decision. Thirty-six states still would have to ratify an amend-

## Ford Company To Carry Decision To The Courts

### Labor Board's Ruling Charging Violation of Wagner Act Is Denounced

### WRONG AND UNJUST, FULL OF PREJUDICE

### That Is Characterization of Ruling; Company Ordered To Reinstate 29 Employees Board Held Were Fired for Union Activity; Must Not Fight Unions

Detroit, Mich., Dec. 24 (AP)—The Ford Motor Company, described by the National Labor Relations Board as a violator of the Wagner act, which displayed "unconcealed hostility toward unionization, prepared today to fight the board's decision in the United States Court of Appeals.

The company said immediately after the board findings were announced late yesterday the decision was "wrong and unjust" and based on prejudice.

Announcement of the appeal was in line with the general understanding in Detroit the Ford Company eventually would go to the Supreme Court of the United States, if necessary, to defend its views on "management and labor."

Main points in the board's findings, based on a long hearing held in Detroit last summer:

The company must reinstate 29 employees the NLRD said were fired for union activity;

It must cease discouraging membership in the UAWA or any other "bonafide" union;

It must stop fostering "dummy" labor organizations, such as the Ford Brotherhood of America; and

It must desist in its efforts to interfere with the rights of self-organization of labor through threatening, assaulting, coercing, beating or otherwise intimidating by force, propaganda, criticism or disparagement, this part of the order to include a ban on the use of vigilante or other similar groups such as the Ford service department, insofar as the latter is employed in restraining union activity.

The suggestion was one of scores inspired last year by the fight over President Roosevelt's court bill. Senator Hatch, Democrat, New Mexico, said he would ask to have it considered by the special sub-committee set up to consider the constitutional measures raised by the court issue.

### Treasury's Fund Of Gold Expands

Washington, Dec. 24.—(AP)—The Treasury's inactive gold fund reached its first anniversary today with \$1,232,000,000 on the books.

Starting with \$14,835,000, on December 24, 1936, the fund has grown into one of the most potent credit weapons in the nation.

Almost instantly, if it chose, the Treasury could turn this gold into cash. It could use the money to cut a big slice off the Federal debt or to finance Federal expenditures.

Secretary Morgenthau has indicated that neither of these projects is contemplated.

### AFFAIRS IN BRAZIL WORRY WASHINGTON

### U. S. May Clash With Germany and Italy if Civil War Comes

By CHARLES P. STEWART  
Central Press Columnist

Washington, Dec. 24.—Hints continue to come from Brazil that revolt is simmering under the recently created dictatorship of President Vargas.

It is a threat which worries State and Navy departmental folk in Washington considerably.

Naturally a state of civil war in the big southern state would, of itself, be exceedingly annoying to the United States. That, however, by no means is the worst that might befall.

Overseas' Intrusion?

President Vargas denies that he is either a Fascist or a Nazi. Perhaps it is true that he is neither, but just a plain dictator, New World fashion.

Anyway, he certainly would not submit tamely to having an imported brand of autocracy supplant his own regime. And, if he does have a rebellion to deal with, it is sure to be supported by Germany, Italy, Japan and Portugal.

Portugal and Japan are immaterial. To be sure, Brazil basically is Portuguese, but their pewee of a homeland cannot be at all useful to any movement on this side of the Atlantic. Japanese colonists are numerous in the

referred both to accusations made before Pilate against Jesus himself and to replies the Redeemer made to those accusations."

Moscow—Officials of the Soviet Union, where Christmas has been outlawed for 20 years, saw a reminder of Christmas Eve on Red Square itself. A tall electrically lighted Christmas tree in the court yard of the American Embassy.

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## GERMAN CRUELITIES UPON RELIGION ARE DEPLORED BY POPE

### Pontiff Also Defends His Church Against Accusations It Is Playing Politics

### CHRISTMAS TREE IN "RED SQUARE"

### American Embassy Defies Soviet Outlawry of Christianity; Fog and Rain Promised Londoners; Gunfire Instead of Carols Heard In China

(By The Associated Press.)

Vatican City.—Pope Pius today, in reply to cardinals' Christmas greetings, deplored religious persecution in Germany and defended the church against accusations of "playing politics."

A semi-official summary of the pontiff's remarks said: "After thanking the cardinals for their wishes, the holy father said he wished to add two precise words of fact and of principle. The word of fact consisted of affirming that real religious persecution exists in Germany and declaring that one wished he might say otherwise. The word of principle consisted of denying the accusation made against the church that it is not doing its religious duties but is playing politics. Against this accusation the pope protested, solemnly reaffirming that the church does not play politics, but promotes religion."

The pope illustrated all of this by referring both to accusations made before Pilate against Jesus himself and to replies the Redeemer made to those accusations."

### STORM WARNING BY WEATHER OFFICIALS

Washington, Dec. 24 (AP)—The Weather Bureau issued today the following storm warnings:

Advisory 10:30 a. m., northeast storm warnings ordered north of Atlantic City to Nantucket, Mass. Disturbance off North Carolina coast will probably move north-northeastward, attended by northeast winds and rain.

### WIDOW OF VICTIM OF AUTO AWARDED

### Mother of Exonerated Son Who Killed Breadwinner Given Home

Pittsburgh, Pa., Dec. 24.—(AP)—The chimney that Santa Claus slides down tonight for Mrs. Harry Brickett will be surrounded by a \$12,000 house, a gift for the mother of four widowed by an automobile accident. And it will be a gift from a woman she doesn't know, the mother of the youth who drove the car that killed Mrs. Brickett's husband and daughter.

Barney Cohen, counsel for Mrs. J. D. Bair, of Dormont, announced he was preparing a deed making over the house at the request of his client.

Mrs. Bair's 20-year-old son, George, drove a friend's car along a suburban highway last January 15. A tire blew out, the machine swerved and struck Harry Brickette and his 17-year-old daughter, Rita. They died instantly.

Last month a jury acquitted young Bair of a charge of involuntary manslaughter. Cohen pointed out the youth had no property and his mother had no responsibility for what had occurred. But, thinking the matter over quietly in her home as the Christmas season approached, she decided to deed the property over.