

LIMA DELEGATES AGREE ON UNITED FRONT

Drug Firm Offers New Sensations

Probe Extended Into Brooklyn Into Unsolved Murders of Meat Dealers; Three Surviving Brothers Will Be Questioned About Mystery Slayings

New York, Dec. 21.—(AP)—The F. Donald Coster-Phillip Musica mystery, already involving millions and international duplicity, took a new and more sinister turn today as Brooklyn detectives began investigating the swindler's possible connection with the unsolved murders of Joseph Cohen, wealthy poultry and fish dealer, and his brother, Barnett.

Police Inspector Michael McDermott ordered detectives to question members of the Cohen family, as well as Coster-Musica's three brothers, George Bernard-Musica, George Dietrich-Musica, and Robert Dietrich-Musica, who are being held in \$100,000 bail each on charges of violating the securities act of 1934.

The investigation started as Federal state and city authorities delved deeper into the fantastically involved activities of the Musica brothers. Philip, who became the respected head of McKesson & Robbins, Inc., and the brothers who aided him, all working under the elaborate guise of fictitious names and fictitious back grounds.

Coster-Musica killed himself last Friday after he had been exposed as the arch swindler in a million dollar scandal a quarter of a century old.

Three Children Burned To Death In Mt. Airy Home

Mount Airy, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Three small children were trapped in a flaming wooden house near here today and burned to death. All under five years of age, they were the children of Foy Midkiff, a filling station employe, here. The bodies were so badly burned identification was impossible.

The mother, hysterical and incoherent, said she had left the children about 10 o'clock to visit their grandmother. When she returned, the house was a mass of roaring flames, she said.

The fire was believed to have started from an open grate.

LATE JAY GOULD'S DAUGHTER IS DEAD

Margaretville, N. Y., Dec. 21.—(AP)—Mrs. Helen Gould Shepard, 70, daughter of Jay Gould, railroad builder, died at her summer home early today. One of America's pioneer philanthropists, Mrs. Shepard had been ill for two months.

In 1924, Mrs. Shepard testified at an accounting of her inheritance of one-sixth of her father's \$85,000,000 estate that she had given most of it to charity.

One-Third Of Teachers To Benefit

Salary Increment Plan as Proposed, Would Be About \$1,000,000 for Biennium

Daily Dispatch Bureau, In The Sir Walter Hotel.

Raleigh, Dec. 21.—Salary increases for North Carolina's more experienced teachers, as recommended by the governor's commission which studied the State's educational system, would apply to about one-third of all teachers in the State, according to estimates of Lloyd Griffin, School Commission head, based on accurate and complete figures on teachers for the year 1937-38.

According to these estimates, something like 7,500 teachers (white and colored) would receive the proposed \$5 per month increase for the school

Roosevelt May Play Hands-Off Attitude With New Congress

President Forbids Administrative Departments To Write Legislation for Congress; FDR's Message Will Merely Make "Affirmative Suggestions"

Washington, Dec. 21.—(AP)—President Roosevelt was reported in informed quarters today to have forbidden administrative departments to draft legislation for submission to Congress.

Congressional leaders, asking that their names be withheld, said the chief executive had advised them he had adopted a "definite policy" of leaving the job of bill-drafting up to Senate and House committees.

The President's forthcoming message to Congress, they said, merely "will make affirmative suggestions" for legislation.

Mr. Roosevelt's decision presumably would prevent future bill-drafting by such government officials as

U. S. Will Donate Food For Hungry Spaniards

500,000 Bushels of Wheat Monthly To Be Furnished by Commodities Corporation; Spanish Government Warship To Try To Run Blockade

Washington, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Sumner Welles, acting secretary of state announced today the Surplus Commodities Corporation was prepared to provide 500,000 bushels of wheat monthly for the next six months to relieve suffering and misery in Spain.

The wheat will be turned over to the American Red Cross, which now is attempting to raise funds privately for processing it into flour at a rate of 100,000 barrels monthly.

Welles said the State Department had received alarming reports of starvation and disease, particularly in loyalist Spain, and that the flour would save many lives. The Red Cross already has shipped 60,000 barrels of flour obtained from the Surplus Commodity Corporation to Spain on vessels controlled by the Maritime Commission.

GOVERNMENT DESTROYER TO TRY TO RUN BLOCKADE Hendaye, France, Dec. 21.—(AP)—With cold weather and floods still delaying General Franco's offensive, the interest of border observers turned today to Gibraltar, where a Spanish destroyer made ready to dash through the insurgent fleet toward home.

Government sources said the destroyer, which previously had blasted its way as far as Gibraltar through a large part of Franco's fleet, had been ordered to return to a government port as soon as possible.

Fugitive Is Caught Before Surrendering

Raleigh, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Will Jones fugitive escaped convict, sought for two years, wanted to surrender and quit going hungry, said Oscar Pitts, penal supervisor, today. But officers caught him before he could carry through his intentions to return to the Kenansville prison camp.

Jones, Pitts said, called him by telephone from Fayetteville yesterday and said that he wanted to give up, "that we had been hunting him long enough."

"I asked him where he had been," said Pitts. "And he said he had been working in Virginia, where he had lost his job and wanted to go to the camp he escaped from, or would he have to come back here. I told him that, in the spirit he was showing, to go ahead back to the camp. About an hour or an hour and a half later officers arrested him, and I understand he was arranging to go to the camp then."

Prison records show Jones was sentenced in November, 1932, to 20 years for second degree murder in Cumberland county. He escaped in July, 1933, and was caught that in December. His term was commuted to eight to twenty years in 1936. He escaped again November 30, 1936.

Doctrine Is Attacked By Hitler Paper

Berlin Journal Calls on South American Republics To Repudiate United States

Berlin, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Abolition of the Monroe Doctrine was urged upon the South American republics today by a weekly paper edited by one of Hitler's closest disciples, Ernst von Reventlow.

"We Germans have every interest in having the status of South America strong and independent," said an article by von Reventlow himself. "In order that these qualities may be fully developed, it is necessary that, among other things, the Monroe Doctrine and its various complements

be abolished. "Nothing more than an act of will is necessary to do this."

The four-column article was captioned, "Another American Imperialism Under Jewish Leadership," and contained familiar Nazi strictures on the alleged imperialistic attitude of the United States toward Latin-America.

TAR HEELS ACCUSED OF WHITE SLAVERY

Allegedly Took North Carolina Girls to Norfolk for Life of Shame There

Norfolk, Va., Dec. 21.—(AP)—Additional witnesses from North Carolina were summoned to testify today at the trial of Frank Edward Green and Vernon Shaw, charged with violation of the Mann act by transportation of four girls from North Carolina to a Norfolk house of ill fame.

Betty Louise Lewis, 28, who pleaded guilty last month to violating the Mann act, testified Green and Shaw each had a one-third partnership in the house here and that the two had sent her to North Carolina to get new girls.

Judge Luther Way, of United States District Court, has suspended imposition on the woman pending the present trial.

GREENVILLE NAMES PURCHASING AGENT

Charlotte, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Taylor Ben Douglas announced today the resignation of Marvin Westmoreland, municipal accountant, to become director of purchases and finances for Greenville.

Assembly To Fight Over Fund Division

Raleigh, Dec. 21.—In making decisions about appropriations for the next biennium, members of the 1939 General Assembly will be in possession of statistics showing that the State's tax collections are running just about level with those of the past fiscal year.

Through December 15, North Carolina had collected a total of \$26,057,926.33 from all revenue sources, a sum only \$843,134.12 short of the grand total collected during the corresponding period of the preceding fiscal year.

This difference, too, is more than accounted for by the falling off in inheritance tax collections, something which it is always impossible to foresee or to estimate.

Inheritance taxes through December 15, 1937, totaled \$1,478,529.75 against a mere \$24,411.98 this year, a difference of \$1,237,117.77.

Taking this into consideration, this year's tax collections are actually nearly half a million greater than last, the exact figure being \$393,983.65.

In view of these facts, the incoming General Assembly will certainly be in position to estimate receipts for the coming biennium at not less than actual receipts for the past two year period, and it is probable that appro-

Urges League of Americas



Lopez de Mesa, Colombian foreign minister and chief of the Colombian delegation to the Pan-American Conference at Lima, Peru, is shown as he addressed the committee for organization of peace as an advocate for an American "League of Nations," the project submitted jointly by Colombia and Santo Domingo. Dr. Mello Franco, president of the Brazilian delegation and acting chairman, is pictured at rear, right. (Central Press)

Japs Rush Troops Into Manchoukuo, Is Report Of Chinese

Shanghai, Dec. 21.—(AP)—The Japanese were reported by foreign sources today to have rushed troops into Manchoukuo to put down disturbances caused by units of China's eighth route army, which had crossed into the Japanese-dominated state.

Reports from Peiping said from 15 to 20 trainloads of Japanese had been crossing the border daily at a point for several days. A Japanese army spokesman, however, denied that any troops were being sent into Manchoukuo and said no trouble had been reported anywhere along the border.

The Chinese press reported also trouble was brewing in Formosa, where Formosans and Chinese residents were opposing Japan's strict war measures.

Crisis Abroad Grips America In Large Way

Washington, Dec. 21.—Five of Uncle Sam's most important ambassadors either are in the United States now, have just been here or will arrive shortly to post President Roosevelt personally concerning conditions in the various foreign countries in which they represent us.

The list includes Joseph P. Kennedy, here from London; William C. Bullitt, from Paris; Hugh R. Wilson, from Berlin; William Phillips, from Rome; Nelson T. Johnson, from Chungking, China. And it's reported that Joseph C. Grew will be summoned soon from Tokyo. That will make six altogether. Never before in the memory of the oldest inhabitant has there been such a veritable convention of America's key diplomats in Washington, practically all at once.

Washington, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Medical men indicted by the Federal grand jury on charges of violating the Sherman anti-trust act, said today they hoped for speedy advancement of the case directly to the Supreme Court.

The indictment, returned by a special grand jury yesterday, accused 16 Washington physicians, five officials of the American Medical Association, the District of Columbia Medical Society, the Harris County (Texas) Medical Society, and the Washington Academy of Surgery of acting in restraint of trade in medical activities.

The case may be tried next month, about the time the President's committee on health and welfare submits recommendations to Congress for a national health program costing \$50,000,000 to \$65,000,000 a year.

Washington physicians all refused to comment publicly. Several, however, said privately they hoped for speedy disposition of the case, "so that we know where we stand."

CHILD IS CLUBBED TO DEATH IN HOME

Waterbury, Vt., Dec. 21.—(AP)—Six-year-old Carolyn Bowers, one of three children of Mrs. Harry Bowers, a widow, was bludgeoned to death today in her Waterbury village home.

Town Clerk Perkins said the child apparently had been struck with an axe. Police were questioning the mother, who Dr. Charles Harwood said, was in a highly nervous condition.

PRISON FARM HEAD TO CENTRAL PRISON

Raleigh, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Ralph R. McLean, 31-year-old superintendent of Camp Polk prison farm, and a native of Asheville, will become Central Prison's deputy warden January 1, Penal Director Robert Grady Johnson said today. McLean, who has been with the prison department in various capacities since 1931 succeeds John Bray, newly-selected engineer and inspector of State buildings.

Dispute Of Ten Days Is Now At End

Disagreement on Wording Between United States and Argentine Is Smoothed Out; All Hands Apparently Pleased At Declaration Submitted

Lima, Peru, Dec. 21.—(AP)—The principal delegations to the Pan-American conference agreed today on a declaration of cooperative action against aggression, ending a ten-day dispute on wording between the United States and Argentine.

The declaration, highly reliable conference informants said, provides for consultation against aggression, the renunciation of force and subversive political propaganda.

Argentine won her point, in that European or other non-American nations were not named specifically. The United States attained its purpose, however, delegates said in obtaining a declaration to which all the 21 American republic could subscribe.

Many of the delegates held that it was fear of propagandist incursion by European totalitarian dictator states which inspired the resolution in the first place; that even if it did not specifically contain the phrase "aggression from without," its warning was evident.

A most reliable source said the United States, Argentine, Brazilian and Peruvian delegation chiefs agreed to a final draft at conferences lasting until early morning.

The Argentine insistence that the declaration be against all aggressors based on the contention that the United States might one day alter the good neighbor policy and be herself a potential aggressor.

Dr. Riddick Dies At His Durham Home

Durham, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Rev. J. T. Riddick, 67, pastor of Watts Street Baptist church here, and long a prominent figure in the Southern Baptist Church, died at his home early this morning following a heart attack.

He suffered a severe heart attack some time ago, but rallied and resumed his round of duties.

He was a native of Perquimans county, N. C. He was born November 10, 1871. Some fifteen years of his time in the pulpit were spent in Durham and about 24 in Virginia, especially in the Norfolk area. He held pastorates also at Newport News and Richmond.

Funeral arrangements are not complete, but services will be held here, probably tomorrow, and the body taken to Norfolk for interment.

French Try For Saving Of Islanders

Paris, Dec. 21.—(AP)—The French government asked United States naval authorities today to try to establish radio contact with 48 settlers who battled a raging storm on the isolated island of St. Paul, in the Indian Ocean.

The request was made after a day of unsuccessful attempts to reach them from French colonial stations. The government previously had sent an urgent call to all ships flying the tri-color in the Indian Ocean to rush aid to the islanders.

The plight of the settlers became known when a feeble SOS, flashed half way around the world, was picked up by an amateur radio operator in Gremerton, Washington. The message said:

"SOS St. Paul Island, Indian Ocean. Bad weather. Exhausted coal. Will Madagascar please call us? We hope

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3 days till Christmas SHOP EARLY