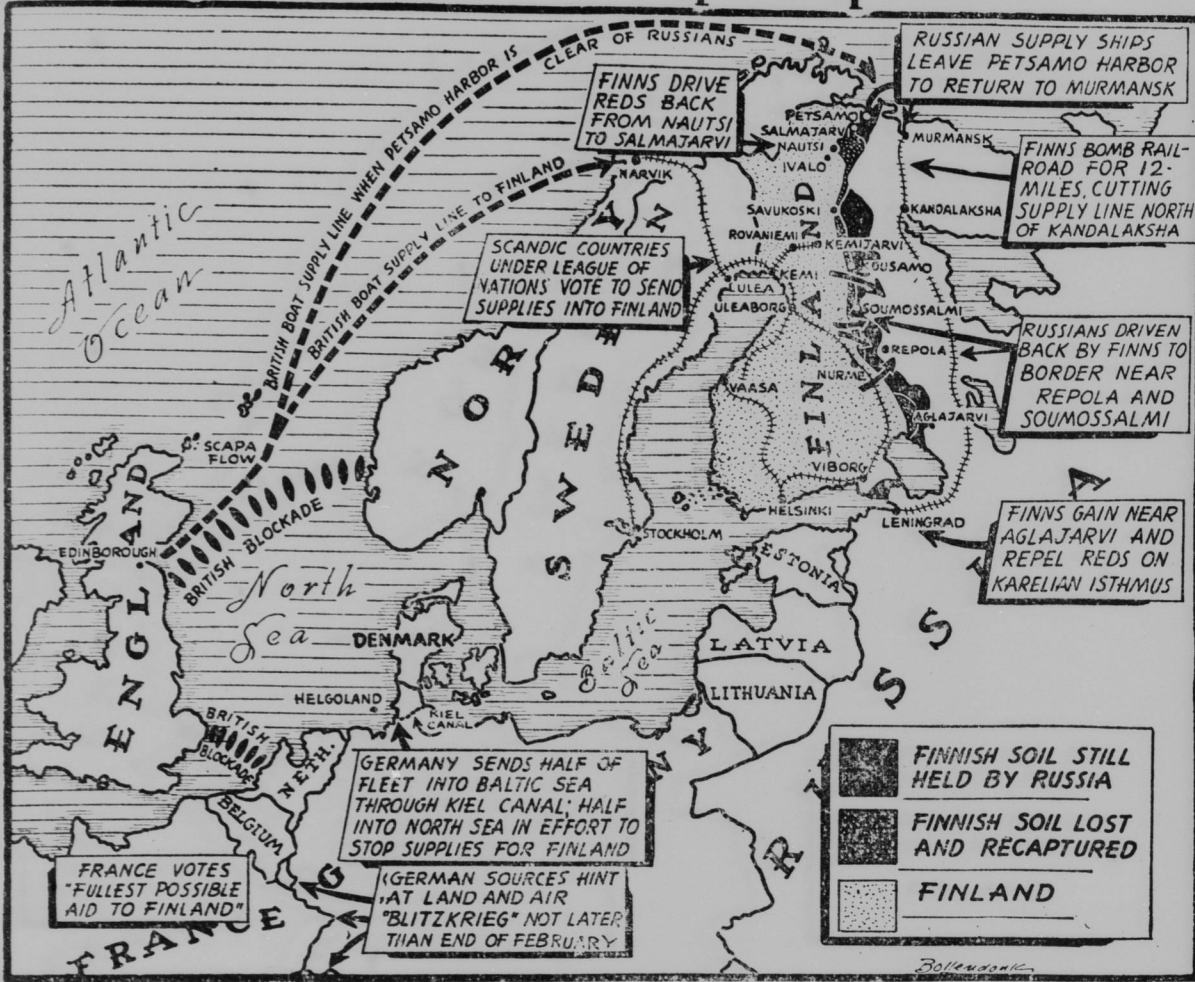


HOLIDAY DEATH TOLL IN U. S. PUT AT 640

General Winter Helps Stop Reds



Finland and General Winter stopped the western drive of the Communist bear, as shown on this map. Raging blizzards and frigid cold in the third of Finland lying north of the Arctic Circle, coupled with bombing of the vital Murmansk-Leningrad railroad, cut off Reds from food, munitions and shelter. Russian supply ships, fearing they would be ice-locked, left Murmansk as the Russian retreat turned into a near-rout.

Violent Christmas Deaths 25 As Reported Over The State

Ten Laid to Traffic Accidents, With Burnings And Other Causes Sharing in Tragedy; Henderson Wreck One of Greatest.

Charlotte, Dec. 26.—(AP)—North Carolina's violent deaths total at least 25 for the Christmas week-end, a survey showed today. Ten were blamed on traffic accidents, one man was killed by a train, one was shot to death, six persons were burned to death, another was killed by a falling tree and one death was attributed to exposure.

Earl Latham, 21, of Winston-Salem, died yesterday of gunshot wounds, which Sheriff Ernie G. Shore said he received in a road house near there Saturday.

Three persons were fatally injured in an automobile-truck collision near Henderson. They were Mrs. Judson Knott, her brother, W. T. Richardson, and Arnold W. Huber.

Walter M. Arnold, 81, and his 79-year-old sister, Miss Lerena Arnold, died in the ruins of their home near Franklin when it was destroyed by fire.

The victim of exposure was a Negro who was found dead beside a road near Lumberton.

Everett Ryals, 43, Coats farmer, was killed in an automobile accident Saturday.

Magaleen Edwards, 13-year-old Negro girl, was injured fatally at Stantonsburg when she jumped into the path of an automobile to escape an exploding firecracker.

D. B. Batton, 57-year-old Zebulon farmer, died of gunshot wounds. An automobile collision in Asheville cost the life of Mrs. Frances Barnett, 26.

Sheriff John Creech, of Jones county, said that J. F. Brinkley, a farmer of Maysville, hanged himself in the county jail here Sunday night, and that Dr. Charles L. Perry, Holiness preacher, of near Trenton, ended his life with a shotgun charge in the head Monday night.

418 Deaths Blamed On Automobiles

Death Toll High Above Last Christmas, With Only Delaware Having Clean Slate; Illinois Leads List; North Carolina Twenty-Five.

(By The Associated Press.) Violent deaths struck at the four corners of the nation over the three-day Christmas holiday, leaving 640 victims.

Traffic accidents accounted for 418 of the total, the rest resulting from fire, shootings, stabbings and other tragedies.

(By The Associated Press.) This year's three-day Christmas holiday brought death to at least 593 persons in accidents and other forms of sudden death, with the automobile traffic taking 397 lives.

Last year, 508 persons died in various kinds of accidents and as the result of violence in a similar three-day period.

Five states — Nebraska, Nevada, Rhode Island, Vermont and Wyoming — kept their death states clean last year, but this year, Delaware was the only one.

Illinois led the list this year with sixty dead — 29 of them in traffic, ten by trains, eight by suicide, seven by violence of one kind or another, and seven from other causes.

Chicago reported more than 1,400 traffic accidents over the week-end, and five states reported deaths by freezing or exposure, three of them in the South: Tennessee, North Carolina and New Mexico.

There were twelve deaths from

(Continued on Page Five)

RICE FOR WOLF?



There's talk that Raymond "Bear" Wolf (above), head football coach at the University of North Carolina, may be considering a possible offer as head coach at Rice Institute in Texas. He is spending the Christmas holidays at Graham, Tex., where he refused to discuss the rumors. He said he would not make a statement until January 1 or maybe January 15.

Wolf To Go To Rice If Freed Here

Houston, Texas, Dec. 2.—(AP)—Raymond (Bear) Wolf will be the next Rice Institute football coach, provided the University of North Carolina will release him from his present contract, unofficial sources here insisted today.

JAMES J. BRITT, 79, DIES IN ASHEVILLE

Asheville, Dec. 26.—(AP)—James J. Britt, former Republican representative from the eleventh district, and former chief counsel of the Federal prohibition bureau in Washington, died at his home here early today. He was 79 years old.

Finnish Seaport Is Shelled By Soviets But Finns Advance

Finnish Forces in 75 Miles of Murmansk Railroad, Sole Supply Line of Russians to Arctic Forces; Soviets Claim Success.

Vuopuri, Finland, Dec. 26.—(AP)—Long range artillery shells burst throughout the night on this seacoast city, previously abandoned by most of its citizens. Numerous fires were started, and homes in the southeast section were destroyed, but the damage was comparatively slight.

The Soviet Russian forces appeared to be concentrating on the area by long range hammering and air raids as the Finns took the war into Soviet territory in another sector, driving toward the Murmansk railroad, the Russians' main supply line to the far north.

Vuopuri firemen kept a constant vigil fighting flames started by the shells, apparently fired from batteries 25 miles away.

Russian war planes, in a four-hour raid over the ancient city yesterday, bombed a workers' section.

JOLSON DIVORCED BY RUBY KEELER

Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 26.—(AP)—Actress Dancer Ruby Keeler obtained a divorce today from Al Jolson.

Week To Be Dull Period Politically

Daily Dispatch Bureau, In The Sir Walter Hotel, Raleigh, Dec. 26.—The balance of this week, already broken into by Christmas day and with the New Year's Day holiday just around the corner, is likely to be one of the duller imaginable in Raleigh from the point of view of political and State departmental news.

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Hitler Crosses To France's Soil

Berlin, Dec. 26.—(AP)—Authoritative sources reported today that Adolf Hitler had walked across the frontier into France while he was spending Christmas at the front with soldiers at the Westwall fortifications.

It was the first time since 1918 that the fuhrer had set foot on French soil, these informants said. Then he was a corporal in the German army.

U. S. Clears German Prize Ship In Canal

Colon, Panama, Dec. 26.—(AP)—Despite a German diplomatic protest the British prize crew in control of a captive German freighter today was guaranteed clearance from Cristobal for a British port by the United States Army command for the Canal Zone.

The protest by Consul Walter Schmidt "has been entertained," said Major General David L. Stone, Canal Zone commander, and the freighter, the 4,930-ton Dusseldorf, was "free to proceed to sea."

The Dusseldorf was captured December 15 off the Chilean coast by the British cruiser two days after putting out from Valparaiso. With her swastika fluttering underneath a British naval ensign, and with British seamen pacing her decks with fixed bayonets, the Dusseldorf completed her transit of the canal in the late afternoon yesterday.

While the freighter was moving across the isthmus, the diplomatic

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Davies Is Given New Assignment In State Department

Washington, Dec. 26.—(AP)—Joseph E. Davies, American ambassador to Belgium, was designated by President Roosevelt today as a special assistant to the secretary of state to deal with war emergency problems in international trade negotiations.

Davies recently returned from Brussels to report at the State Department and the White House.

First Contingent Of Australians In England To Fight

London, Dec. 26.—(AP)—The first contingent of Australian forces to reach England since the war started landed at a south coast port today. All were members of the air force.

Arrival of the Australian squadron marked the second such demonstration of empire solidarity in little more than a week. The other was arrival of a division of the Canadian active force Sunday and Monday of last week.

The Australian contingent is a fully-trained squadron of airmen—pilots, gunners and observers.

British Steamer Is Torpedoed, Sunk On English Coast

London, Dec. 26.—(AP)—The British steamer Stanholm, 2,473 tons, was reported today to have been torpedoed and sunk with a loss of 14 lives off the west coast of England.

Ten survivors said the ship had been torpedoed without warning Christmas day. Most of the crew was below deck when a terrific explosion sank the ship, only two hours after she left port.

Seaman E. L. Evans said: "We had no warning, and no time to launch a life boat. I pushed a small raft we had on deck into the water, and scrambled onto it. We were picked up by a lifeboat of a Norwegian steamer, whose crew had heard the explosion."

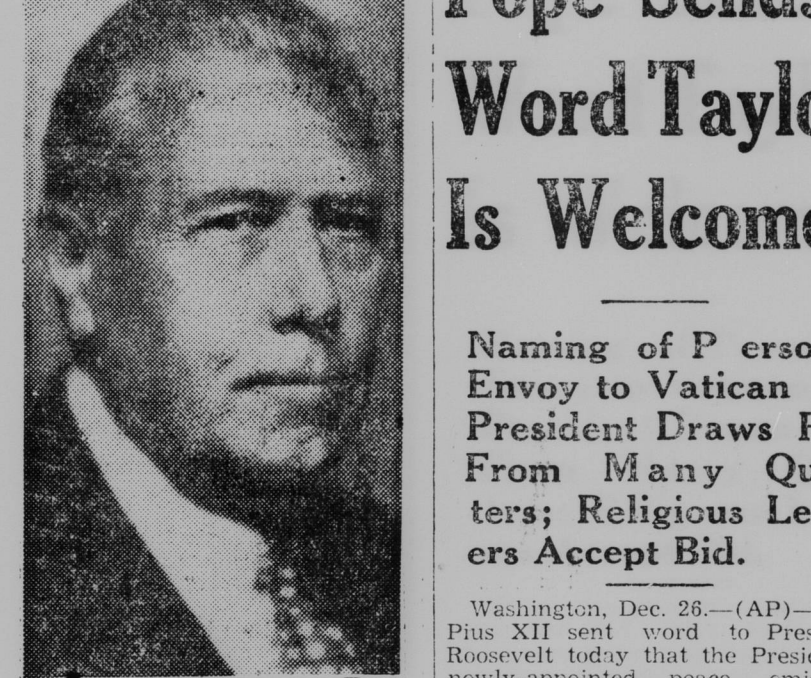
Weather FOR NORTH CAROLINA. Rain on the coast and snow or sleet, probably mixed with rain, in the interior tonight and probably Wednesday morning; slightly colder in the interior tonight and in east portion Wednesday.

Figures in Peace Move



President Roosevelt made history when he invited Catholic, Jewish and Protestant leaders to confer with him in an effort to secure peace for the world. His letter to Pope Pius XII was transmitted through Archbishop Spellman (left) of New York. Rabbi Cyrus Adler (right), president of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, represents the Jews.

Envoy of Mercy



Marking a new contribution by President Roosevelt to the cause of world peace is the appointment of Myron C. Taylor (above), former head of the U. S. Steel Corporation, as representative of the United States at the Vatican. The appointment coincides with the efforts of Pope Pius XII to bring peace to war-ridden Europe.

Sen. Norris Says He Will Run No More

Washington, Dec. 26.—(AP)—Senator George W. Norris, Independent, Nebraska, said today that he would never seek public office again when his present term expires in 1943.

The white-haired senator, after 37 years in Congress, said in an interview: "My work is done; my friends understand, and they won't ask me to run again."

Norris has said in previous years that he would not run for

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Christmas Raids By German Forces Beaten by French

Paris, Dec. 26.—(AP)—The French military reported today the repulse of pre-dawn Christmas raids by German patrols east of the Moselle river.

(The German high command said its troops had taken no action on Christmas.)

The heaviest skirmish, which the French officially described as "serious," began at 4 a. m., on Christmas, with artillery and mortar preparation. They said the French did not suffer a casualty in routing the Germans in an hour and half fight.

Pope Sends Word Taylor Is Welcome

Washington, Dec. 26.—(AP)—Pope Pius XII sent word to President Roosevelt today that the President's newly-appointed peace emissary, Myron C. Taylor, would be "cordially received" at the Vatican.

This was announced at the White House simultaneously with messages from Dr. George A. Euttrick, a Protestant leader, and Rabbi Cyrus Adler, a leader of the Jewish faith, accepting the President's invitation to confer with him periodically on problems of peace and the alleviation of war suffering.

The first of these conferences, Stephen Early, presidential press secretary, said, will be held at the White House tomorrow.

The President, in virtually identical letters to the pope, to Euttrick, president of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, and to Adler, president of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, said that eventually the time would come to re-establish peace in the

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So. Americans Seek To Avoid Red Outbreak

By CHARLES P. STEWART Central Press Columnist Washington, Dec. 26.—It's a fact that Communists do try to organize revolutions in American countries. I know from personal observation

in one country. I saw it tried in the Argentine republic shortly after the World War and the establishment of the Bolshevik regime in Russia. Things were in a state of flux then everywhere. It was an opportune juncture for red agitation.

I was running a Yankee-language weekly paper in Buenos Aires at the time. I'd been there for several years



Hipolito Irigoyen

(Continued on Page Four)

Marketing Quota Provisions Again Placed on Sugar

Washington, Dec. 26.—(AP)—President Roosevelt issued a proclamation today restoring marketing quota provisions of the sugar act.

"I have issued a proclamation today," the President said in a statement, "terminating the suspension of marketing quotas on sugar, which suspension was made necessary on September 11, 1939, by the extraordinary purchases of sugar by consumers immediately after the outbreak of the war in Europe, and the excessive speculative activity, and advancing prices which accompanied such purchases.

"Since that time, consumer hoarding of sugar has ceased, and the price of raw sugar has declined to the price which was in effect before the war. It should be noted that under the law the quotas may again be suspended if such action becomes necessary to protect the consumers."

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Pensions To Aged Start Next Month

Washington, Dec. 26.—(AP)—The Federal government puts into operation next month its far-reaching plan to provide mass security in the form of monthly retirement pensions for older workers and their dependents.

It will be the beginning of the monthly pay-off of old age insurance benefits under the social security law, and estimates indicate that during 1940 more than \$100,000,000 will be distributed to approximately 1,000,000 persons.

The social security pay-off will not approach the goals of various

(Continued on Page Five)

Mass Security in Monthly Retirement Is Approach to Social Security Goals; \$85 Tops Hard To Get.

Washington, Dec. 26.—(AP)—The Federal government puts into operation next month its far-reaching plan to provide mass security in the form of monthly retirement pensions for older workers and their dependents.