

## 42,000 CASUALTIES IN TURK EARTHQUAKE

### Two Negroes On Death Row Kill State Prison Guard

#### First Half Of 1940 Will Be Best Since 1929, Babson Says

Jobs, Wages, Farm Prices, Business Profits, Dividends to Share Improvement; Second Half Hinges on Presidential Nominees.

##### ROGER BABSON'S WORDS-EYE VIEW OF NEXT SIX MONTHS

**BUSINESS:** 10 to 15 Percent Gain Over First Half 1939.  
**TREND:** Some Dip From Current Peak Levels.  
**POLITICS:** No New Important Legislation.  
**MARKETS:** Uptrend But No Runaway Prices.  
**FARMERS:** Prices, Income And Profits Up.  
**WORKERS:** Jobs, Wages, Strikes Higher.  
**RETAILERS:** 8 Percent Gain In Sales; Prices Up 4 Percent.  
**CONSUMERS:** Less Than 5 Percent Rise In Living Expenses.  
**REALTORS:** Rents, Values, Activity Steady.  
**INVESTORS:** Selected Securities To Strengthen.  
**STIMULUS:** Best Six Months In Ten Years.

By ROGER W. BABSON  
Boston Park, Mass., Dec. 28.—(AP)—The peace, business in the first half of 1940 will be the best for any six months' period since 1929.

Jobs, wages, farm prices, business profits, and dividends should all turn in the gains over a year ago. They should even average higher than in the three months' period just closing. At the same time no sharp gains are in the cards for either taxes or living costs. Considering all factors, therefore, I predict that we will come closer to "good times" in early 1940 than in any year since 1929.

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#### Dies Board Wants Ban On German

Washington, Dec. 28.—(AP)—The Dies committee recommended today that Coln Ross, whom it described as "Nazi propagandist," be prevented from ever setting foot again in American soil.

Ross has been registered at the State Department as an agent for German interests, including picture companies, but the committee expressed the opinion in

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#### Seaboard's Business Is Best Since Year 1929

Norfolk, Va., Dec. 28.—Total operating revenues for the Seaboard Railway for November, 1939, were \$3,552,154, an increase of \$552,814, or 16.29 percent, over November, 1938. L. R. Powell, Jr., chief executive, announced today. Freight revenue amounted to \$3,193,266, an increase of \$410,536, or 14.73 percent, over November, 1938. Passenger revenue was \$427,904, an increase of \$121,022, or 39.46 percent, over November, 1938. Net railway operating income was \$490,431, an increase of \$99,978 over November, 1938. Both freight revenue and total operating revenues for November, 1939, were

Month	1939	1938	Percent
Freight Revenue	\$3,193,266	\$2,782,730	14.73 Inc.
Passenger Revenue	\$427,904	\$306,876	39.46 Inc.
Total Operating Revenue	\$3,621,170	\$3,089,606	17.54 Inc.
Net Railway Operating Income	\$490,431	\$390,453	25.61 Inc.

#### Desperate Escape Coup Is Failure

One of Men, Scheduled to Die Tomorrow, Confesses; Death Row Cell Unlocked With Pasteboard Key; J. H. Chessor Is Victim.

Raleigh, Dec. 28.—(AP)—State Prison Superintendent Oscar Pitts said today that two condemned men, one of whom was scheduled to die Friday for murder, had confessed the killing of a Death Row guard early this morning in an "escape attempt" that failed.

Pitts said the guard, J. S. Chessor, 65, was found at about one o'clock this morning on the lower tier of Death Row cells, strangled and bludgeoned to death.

Confession by Negroes.  
At about 3:30 a. m., Pitts said, Clarence Rogers and William Young, Negroes, sentenced to die for murder, confessed they had killed the guard in an attempt to escape from Death Row and the gas chamber.

Young was due to die in the chamber Friday morning for murder and burglary in Hoke county. Rogers was waiting for the Supreme Court to review his conviction of murder in Durham county last June.

Governor Hoey this afternoon ordered a 30-day reprieve for Young and a companion in crime, Nathaniel Bryant, after investigating officers said they did not think they could complete their inquiry by 10 o'clock

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#### French Beat Off Two Attacks From Germans In West

Paris, Dec. 28.—(AP)—French troops repulsed two German attacks yesterday in one instance in a hand-to-hand combat during a day of heightened patrol activity, described by military sources today as extending the length of the north flank of the western front.

The first German action started in the morning, in an offensive against a hamlet between the Saar river and the Vosges mountains. The second raid started an hour later in the same vicinity, with artillery barrages directed against the French advance posts. The German troops were driven to hand-to-hand fighting before being forced to retire, as the French held the post intact, military advisers said.

#### Pope Visits Italian King First Time

Rome, Dec. 28.—(AP)—Pope Pius XII visited Italy's king and queen today in a rare display of papal pomp and royal ceremony, signifying the ever closer relations between the Vatican and the Italian state.

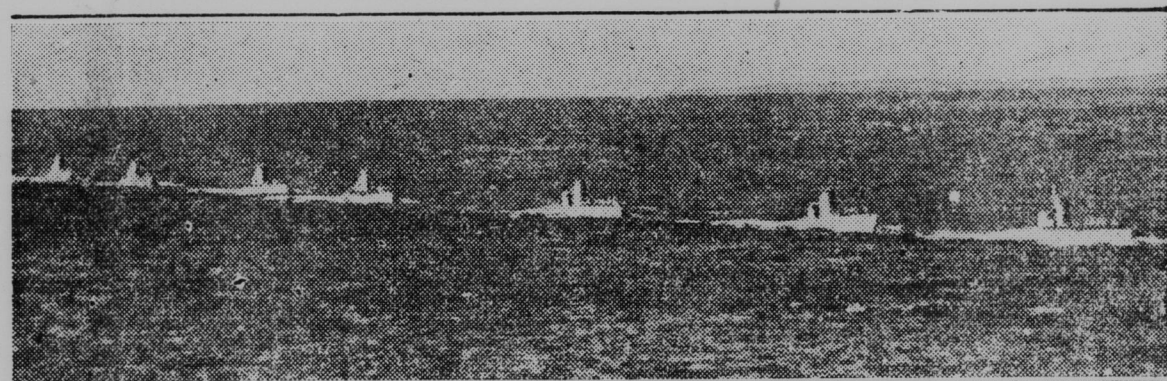
The glittering pageantry marked the first visit by any pope to the ruler of the present Italian empire, and the first call on a temporal prince in more than seventy years. It formally repaid the visit to His Holiness by King Vittorio Emanuele and Queen Elena a week ago.

Tens of thousands of Romans lined the streets to cheer the papal procession and receive the Holy Father's benediction.

The occasion, rich with color and formality, symbolized the final dissolution of any discord over unified Italy's seizure of Rome from the pope in 1870, and the city's designation as the Italian capital.

In some foreign eyes, the ceremonial also signified possible cooperation between the Vatican and government toward eventual peace efforts, but fascist authorities disclaimed any coordination of foreign policies.

#### Nazi Sea Raiders Off on Tour of Death



A flotilla of seven German submarines sets out for sea duty from the naval base at Kiel. Almost the entire Nazi fleet has now moved out of Kiel, one section turning westward to the North Sea, the other to the east and the Baltic. Britain believes the Nazis may be planning a desperate effort to break Allied blockade. (Continued on Page 5)

#### Finns Bomb Vital Soviet Rail Route

Invasion of Russia Pressed on Two Fronts; Soviets Resisting More Firmly in North.

Helsinki, Dec. 28.—(AP)—Finland's defensive invasion of Soviet Russia was broadened today by a second thrust toward the Murmansk railway, supply artery for red invaders in the far north.

At the same time, Finnish forces in the Karelian isthmus, southeastern Finland, reported that repeated Russian tank attacks were shattered on self with a series of bombing attacks.

Finnish airmen, cooperating with swift, phantomlike ski troops in white, were said to have carried their eastern offensive to the railway itself with a series of bombing attacks.

Paralleling the movement of ski patrols from Lieksa, Finns were reported advancing into Soviet territory toward the railway in the Sella area, where the line runs within 45 miles of the border.

Patrols crossed the frontier without intention of invasion, but because of necessity, in view of military conditions within the country, said a Finnish source.

On the isthmus front, each side retained its positions, despite Russian attacks with heavy artillery and tanks.

(Reports at Copenhagen said a Finnish attack on far northern Russian forces, which dug in near Salmijarvi, after a 50-mile retreat, apparently had failed in the face of strong Soviet opposition. Reports from northern Norwegian frontier stations said the Russians were making a determined stand south of Salmijarvi.)

#### Hooded Band Abducts Man In Anderson

Anderson, S. C., Dec. 28.—(AP)—Police Chief Wiley Driskell said today that Lanier Pruitt, operator of a garage just outside the city limits, reported that a band of about 40 white-hooded and robed men dragged him from his home during the night, carried him some distance, beat him and then released him.

Pruitt was quoted as saying he "had done nothing" and did not know why he was thus treated by the night riders.

Anderson S. C., Dec. 28.—(AP)—Police today were investigating reports that a band of about forty white-hooded men dragged a white man from his bed shortly before last midnight and carried him away, and intimidated other persons here.

City Detective Bill Acker was quoted as saying he saw some of the cars used by the men and trailed them. While following them, he said,

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**Weather**  
FOR NORTH CAROLINA.  
Mostly cloudy and continued rather cold tonight and Friday; possibly light rain near the coast.

#### Another of Bund Leaders Indicted

New York, Dec. 28.—(AP)—John Wheeler-Hill, secretary of the German-American Bund, was arrested today on an indictment charging him with perjury in the second degree, a misdemeanor. The indictment contained three counts, which cited 15 examples of alleged contradictory statements made by Wheeler-Hill to a grand jury during an inquiry into the affairs of Fritz Kahn, blind leader, now in Sing Sing prison on conviction of a larceny charge.

#### Carmichael Controller For U. N. C.

Trustees Unanimous For Committee Selection; Debate Admission of Girls as Freshmen.

Raleigh, Dec. 28.—(AP)—The trustees of the University of North Carolina unanimously elected William D. Carmichael, Jr., of New York and Durham, today as controller of the school. Carmichael is a native of Durham and an alumnus of the university. He is now a member of a Wall Street brokerage firm. He will succeed the late Charles T. Woolen.

The board debated an hour over a proposal to admit girls to the freshman and sophomore courses at Chapel Hill and N. C. State College units of the university, but deferred action until the June meeting.

It was voted to hold the June session at N. C. State College.

The board refused to recommend to the legislature that members of the executive committee and special committees of the board be reimbursed for expenses incurred in carrying out university business.

Award of a number of honorary degrees in June by the three university units was approved, but the recipients will not be announced until the awards are made.

#### Has New Method For Treating of Tobacco Disease

Columbus, Ohio, Dec. 28.—(AP)—The possibility of increasing the disease-resisting abilities of native tobacco with wild types was suggested here today by Dr. E. C. Clayton of the Federal Bureau of Plant Industry in a paper presented before the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Citing the heavy losses caused annually by diseases common to domestic tobacco, Dr. Clayton told of experiments with native tobaccos collected in Mexico, Central America and South America. Plants grown from about 1,000 such collections showed a wide range of disease resistance.

Plants from Central America showed resistance to root knot. Samples from Columbia successfully resisted mosaic, while some lots from Argentina proved to be tolerant to blue mold.

"It is not intended to suggest," Dr. Clayton pointed out, "that interspecific crosses provide anything more at present than a promising line of approach to certain difficult problems in tobacco disease control."

#### Farmers Are Satisfied By Program

Republican Survey, However, Shows Them Opposed to Trade Agreements And Concerned Over Federal Deficit Spending.

Washington, Dec. 28.—(AP)—After a seven-state survey, Representative Hope, Republican, Kansas, declared today that the average farmer is fairly well satisfied with the government's agricultural policies, but is concerned over the trade agreements program and the Federal deficit.

Hope is chairman of a 50-man Republican committee of House members which recently sounded out "grass roots" sentiment at several hearings. He gave this summary of the "voluntary opinions" expressed at the meetings, which he said were attended by both Republicans and Democrats:

1. Comment on the Federal farm program ranged from "lavish praise to severe condemnation," all seemed to think there should be "some kind of a government program"; complaints related mostly to administrative red tape.
2. The trade agreements were condemned for the most part, with the proposed Argentine treaty arousing the most opposition.
3. "Increasing concern" was manifested over the Federal deficit.
4. A desire was expressed for more emphasis on soil conservation than on crop control, as under the present program.

#### Grand Jury Will Probe Espionage, Sabotage Cases

Washington, Dec. 28.—(AP)—Attorney General Murphy said today that a special grand jury would be convened here January 2 to investigate espionage and sabotage on both coasts.

Murphy told his press conference that some of the information developed in proceedings would be "pared out" to various areas. The Justice Department chief said the jury would hear evidence also in connection with activities of foreign agents and the building trades monopoly inquiry.

#### Staff Chief Says Army Only 25 Pct. Prepared

Washington, Dec. 28.—(AP)—General George C. Marshall, army chief of staff, declared today that "the army machine is probably less than 25 percent ready for immediate action."

Addressing a joint session of the American Historical Association and the American Military Institute, Marshall said that "our problem, therefore, involves the development of a war force after the emergency has arrived."

The time necessary for the development of such a system, General Marshall said, is one of the factors kept in mind by the War Department in preparing for national defense. The other, he said, is obtaining maximum preparation at a minimum of expense.

"If we are to have a sound preparation for war," he added, "we must have better school text books and better methods of teaching history."

In a democracy such as in this country, he explained, military policy is dependent upon public opinion, and the military organization will be good or bad, depending upon how well the public is informed. He said that historians had been inclined to emphasize victories and gloss over mistakes, leaving the people "with a comfortable belief in our invincibility," which has been reflected in legislation that sometimes has resulted in neglect of the war machine.

#### Devastation Grows With New Tremors

Twelve Cities, 80 Villages Reported Demolished; Anatolia City of 40,000 Lies in Flaming Ruins.

Ankara, Turkey, Dec. 28.—(AP)—Officials announced today 42,000 persons were killed or injured in the region of Erzurum alone in yesterday's Anatolian earthquake.

New tremors shook Anatolia today, while a blizzard and fierce winds increased the sufferings of hundreds of thousands of homeless.

A heavy storm raged along the Black Sea coast, tearing ships loose from moorings and battering down seaside homes. With a temperature 22 degrees below zero, many of the thousands of earthquake survivors who had fled to fields were frozen to death, according to reports reaching Ankara officials.

Ankara, Turkey, Dec. 28.—(AP)—With 9,000 casualties already marked up to an earthquake catastrophe, fresh tremors magnified terror, devastation and suffering today in eastern and northern Anatolia.

New, unofficial estimates of the toll exacted by the first of yesterday's series of earth shocks, revised an earlier approximation of 8,000 dead. The new casualty total included both dead and injured.

Relief brigades fought fires in hundreds of villages.

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#### Germans Say Allies Pushed Finland On

Berlin, Dec. 28.—(AP)—The mouthpiece of the German foreign office charged today that Great Britain and France had deliberately incited Finland to resist Soviet Russia to upset northern Europe and thus interfere with the regular flow of supplies to Germany.

The semi-official commentary, Deutsche Diplomatische - Politische Korrespondenz, said that "from the moment it became certain that Russia was not willing to pull chestnuts out of the fire for the western powers, the efforts of those powers centered on bringing about complications in the north. On one hand, it seemed desirable to engage Russia there with her military and material resources; on the other, it was considered worth trying, through the resulting confusion, to interfere with the possibilities of supplying Germany from this area, which cannot be blockaded."

The Allies have no idealistic interest in Finland, the paper declared, but merely are using her for their own purposes.