

Santa Claus Is to Arrive in Roanoke Rapids Tonight

\$15 Billion Ceiling On Defense Is Aim

Washington, Nov. 26—(AP)—Senator Tydings (D-Md) served notice on the armed services today that the new congress will aim at a \$15,000,000,000 ceiling on defense costs next year.

"We must keep America strong and the world at peace," he said, "but do that with the idea that taxpayers also must survive."

"We will cut out every bit of military expense that is not fully justified," he told a reporter. Tydings is due to become Chairman of the Senate armed services committee when the Democrats take over Congress January 3. He also will be a ranking member of the appropriations committee, which has a hold on government pursestrings. "It is my hope," he said, "that for purely armed services at home and abroad we will make expenditure less and certainly greater than the present year."

The current defense budget ranges around \$15,000,000,000. But next year, Tydings said, "we may be able to cut it to 14 1/2, 14 or 12. We'll have to be a little their cases."

Tydings said the armed services committee plans to call in Secretary of State Marshall and Secretary of Defense Forrestal at the start of the next Congress for a full report on world conditions.

"Seal Season" Is Proclaimed By Mayor

Mayor W. Bernard Allsbrook today issued a proclamation designating "Christmas Seal Season" in Roanoke Rapids, and said every adult in Roanoke Rapids and Halifax County can enlist in the nationwide fight against tuberculosis by purchasing Christmas Seals.

The mayor pointed out that the sale of Christmas Seals annually is the sole means of support of the Halifax County Tuberculosis Association.

"Tuberculosis is a public health problem, a serious threat to everyone in this community, because it is spread from person to person," Mayor Allsbrook said. "We must give unqualified support to those who work directly to halt the spread of disease."

"We must show our desire to support the tuberculosis control work of this county when we purchase Christmas Seals. We are also taking a wise precaution when we take the association's sound advice and have our chests X-rayed regularly."

The proclamation issued by the Mayor is as follows:

"Whereas, tuberculosis is spread from person to person and constitutes a major public health problem, and

Whereas, tuberculosis claims the lives of approximately 50,000 Americans annually, killing more of our citizens between the ages of 15 and 44 than any other disease, and

Whereas, the Halifax County Tuberculosis Association is conducting a tuberculosis control program in Halifax County, and

Whereas, the Association's sole support is by the sale of Christmas Seals,

Therefore, I, Mayor of Roanoke Rapids, do hereby officially designate the period from November 22 to December 25 as Christmas Seal Season and do urge the residents of Halifax County generously support the 1948 Christmas Seal Sale."

Two Birds, Too Much For This Policeman

Boston, Nov. 26—(AP)—Two birds—a turkey and the stork—were too much for Patrolman John Mee in one day.

When he arrived home from his tour of duty Thanksgiving Day morning his wife told him he had better start preparing the turkey dinner for their two young children because she was going to the hospital.

Mee and the children, John 5, and Maureen, 2, had just finished dinner when he got a call to the hospital. There was a new member of the family when he arrived there—an eight pound girl.

It was then time to go back to work. Lt. Patrick J. O'Donnell heard his story.

"Take the night off," said the lieutenant. "Brother, you deserve it."

Weather

North Carolina—Increasing cloudiness and mild today and tonight followed by rain and warmer tonight with rains beginning in west portion this morning; Saturday, rain and mild becoming partly cloudy and cooler extreme west portion Saturday afternoon.

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Old Father Roanoke Says:

Let me introduce myself. I'm Old Father Roanoke IV. That "IV" shows how long Gramp (as his numerous progeny calls the one who usually occupies this space) has been around. This part of the country has several "The Thirds," notably the state golf champ, Robert Casey Josey III, but I'm probably the only "The Fourth."

My principal use for today's column is to appeal to you to be indulgent with Gramp. He's like the GAR and Confederate veterans. To hear them talk, you'd think they fought in the front lines in every battle of the War between the States from Bull Run to Appomattox. They've told those tales of heroic exploits so often they believe them themselves. The truth is, nearly every blue and grey veteran now living got in as drummer boys just before the end. Well now, about Gramp's columns, Miss Jessie Helen Belche, our learned history teacher says they ought to be collected together and titled: "Baron Munchausen's Latest Up-to-Date History of Roanoke Rapids."

If, after this exposure of Gramp, I get a chance to write more columns, I'll tell you some of the stories he has told me about his four marriages and his hundreds of romances. This time I'll just say a few words about his present wife, his fourth, who is 17-years-old. She married Gramp for his money. He gets \$30 a month government pension. That's all the money he's got, but you know what girls are like today. This girl wasn't satisfied until she got that. She takes the check right from Mailman Dewey Waters' hand every month; Gramp never sees a cent of it. That's the kind of wife he's got now. No wonder he wants to write a column. She

put the ball and chain around his ankle on Feb. 25 of this Leap Year. He was a Leap Year victim each of his four times to the altar. Doc Taylor diagnoses his obsession about "35 Days Before the End of Leap Year" as "Miserery Loves Company."

I'm 34 myself, but this 17-year old girl, young enough to be my daughter, is my step-great-grandmother—the third, by the way, to become my step-great-grandmother. So I suppose I'm the step-step-step-great-grandson of this girl who is half my age. Send that to Ripley and you'll get five bucks and Roanoke Rapids will get some publicity.

From what I've just told you, you may think Gramp is good, but he's even better than you think. Why do you think he's not writing this column today?

Because—now please hold your breath—this 82 year old great-grandfather, married only last February, became a father yesterday. Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 25, 1948. For the umpteenth time, too. He has lost track of how many times. All you need to do is, call him "Pop" and he'll add your name to his will.

You should have seen him down at the hospital yesterday. You'd think his mind would be on the baby he was having, but that's too ordinary. He was thinking about something much more exciting to him, his column.

After the baby came, Gramp was surrounded by Dr. Cutchins and Nurses Jenkins and Sadler. Thinking of the baby, they congratulated him. But the old coger, thinking they meant Wednesday's column, replied:

"Well, I couldn't have done it if I hadn't had the help of the two best printers down at the Herald."

Billion Dollars Spent In Price Support On Farm Products By U. S.

Washington, Nov. 26—(AP)—The government has put off—or set aside—over \$1,000,000,000 to help farmers keep their prices up on this year's record harvest.

This outlay, under the price support program, may reach \$1,750,000,000 before the 1948 crop marketing season ends, a survey showed today.

The bulk of the money has been distributed as loans on storable products, particularly grains and cotton. Whether the government gets its money back on these loans depends on future market prices.

Farmers have the option of (A) paying off these debts and reclaiming their mortgaged products, or (B) turning the products over to the government as full payment of the loan if prices do not rise above the support levels before the loans are called.

And whether the government loses money on products it takes over under loans also depends on future price developments. As a matter of fact, the government made money on products taken over before the war. They were sold at inflated war prices.

Loans are limited largely to non-perishable products. In the case of perishable items, the government buys the surplus outright and tries to dispose of it at home and abroad.

Cotton tops all products in price support outlays. The government has put out about \$385,000,000 in loans on 2,294,000 bales from this year's bumper crop of about 15,150,000 bales.

The Potato support operations, however, have attracted widest attention. The Government has bought about 65,500,000 bushels at a cost of about \$90,000,000. It has spent an additional \$10,000,000 transporting them to public institutions, to schools for lunch programs, to starch and flour mills, alcohol plants and to livestock feeders.

Plans for the 1948 Christmas party were made and the date speaker of the evening. He spoke on "What A Civic Club Can Do to Create Better Citizenship," with a Thanksgiving message.

Lion Jimmy Curran of the club attendance committee commented on the current attendance race between the red and blue



HIS MERRY SURLERMOBILE—Maj. Donald C. Surlis of Cisco, Tex., sees Chicago sights from what he calls his Surleremobile. He built the machine in Japan at a cost of about \$2,000. Push buttons open and close doors. A Jeep engine furnishes power.

Tabulation Shows 40 Percent Of School Bus Roads In First District Are Paved

By Lynn Nisbet

RALEIGH, Nov. 26—Completed tabulation on several of the state's ten highway divisions indicates that approximately half the road mileage traveled by school buses is now surfaced with water-resistant all-weather materials, ranging from full concrete paved to approved types of asphalt treatment.

Charles Ross, formerly the state highway commission, has been conducting a study of the school bus routes with respect to type of roadway. He has completed about the half the ten divisions, and in most of the others only one or two counties are outstanding.

The first division, made up of fourteen counties—Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Edgecombe, Gates, Halifax, Hertford, Martin, Northampton, Pasquo, tank, Perquimans and Warren—is regarded as average, and is used as basis for this article.

The first division has a total of 5,615.2 miles of public roads which are maintained by the state highway commission. School buses traverse 3,913 miles of these roads, of which 1,586.1 miles are classified as paved. That is 40.5 percent of the school bus routes paved.

The Ross survey goes further and breaks down the school bus mileage into four classifications: That over which only one bus travels, that over which two, three and four or more buses travel every day. Simple mathematics applied to this breakdown shows that while just about 25 percent of the one-a-day mileage is paved, more than 95 percent of the mileage traversed by four buses or more is of permanent all-weather construction. Two-bus roads average 47 percent paved while the three-bus routes are 82 percent paved. Without going too much into mathematical detail it is obvious that more than half the total mileage traveled

by school buses is over paved roads.

Of the first division's total mileage of 5,615.2 miles school buses use 3,913.4 of which 1,586.1 miles or 40.5 percent is paved.

Additional figures on mileage utilization and percent paved show that 2,118.3 miles are used by only one school bus a day of which 535.7 miles or approximately 25 percent are paved. Two buses a day travel over 1,282.00 miles, with 602.9 miles or 47 percent paved. Three buses travel 1,320.1 miles, 264.0 or 82 percent paved, while 193 miles are used by four or more buses a day, including 183.5 miles or 95 percent paved.

This tabulation for one division, representing about one-tenth of all state road mileage, may not be duplicated when the other divisions are checked, but it is believed to be fairly typical. It indicates that the goal set by incoming Governor Kerr Scott of every school bus route hard surfaced is a long way off but not as far as many people without factual knowledge of existing conditions have thought.

It may surprise many of the people, and particularly the bus drivers, who live on the 1583 miles of unpaved one-bus roads in the area that there are 1,586 miles of paved bus routes in the same territory, and that there are less than ten miles of unpaved roads in the ten counties of the first highway division carrying four or more buses a day.

State Highway Patrol Radio At Halifax In Operation

Halifax—A new police radio for this section went into operation here Wednesday afternoon, with the service on a transmitter-receiver outfit for the State Highway Patrol at the Patrol barracks south of here on highway 301.

Patrolmen at the barracks said today the new station will be in operation daily between eight in the morning and midnight, and advised that anyone in the area wanting to get a patrolman for any reason can do so quickly now by calling 617 in Halifax.

The Halifax patrol radio will operate as a subsidiary station to the Williamston radio, which serves the First Division of Troop A. A complete frequency modulation (F-M) radio setup of 50 watts power has been installed in the barracks and is now in operation.

There will be five men handling the radio duty at the Halifax barracks and will be on constant call during the station's regular operating hours.

Officers in this area have been awaiting the installation of the equipment for some time, and the facilities of the patrol radio will be used by other law enforcement officers in the area to work in conjunction with the Highway Patrol.

ROANOKE RAMBLINGS

By PAT NANTZ

Jack Brown, formerly of this city, until he moved with his family to South Carolina, is visiting with Walter "Bear" Myrick of Monroe street. . . .

Here is a recipe revised by the Reverend C. S. Grogan, which could be applied to some of the highway accidents that occurred yesterday. . . . take one sober man, one or two quarts of intoxicating drink. . . . put the man in a car, soak him in the beverage, then let him go. . . . in a half an hour take him from the wreckage and put him in a satin lined box. . . . now he is ready for the undertaker. . . .

Mr and Mrs. John C. Massey left yesterday for Florida. . . . they will visit with Mrs. Massey's parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Eldridge, Jr. . . .

Tonight will be the big night for the Yellow Jackets—they finish up this football season by playing the Weldon High team. It was called off Wednesday night because of rain. Let's hope they can finally play it tonight. . . .

The many friends of little Joyce Faye McDonald will be interested to know that she will not return home from her grandfather's home in Wilmington, until Sunday. . . . Joyce

Faye fell yesterday and is suffering with a badly sprained ankle. . . . She was visiting there with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. McDonald, when the accident happened. . . .

The woods around Roanoke Rapids, as well as other places, were filled with hunters yesterday. . . . and most of them seem to have had fairly good luck. . . . Emmett Clary was one of the lucky ones, as was Russell Joyner and Raymond Burton. . . .

Pvt. Jerry Kidd, son of Mr. and Mrs. D. I. Kidd, Sr., left Tampa, Florida, today for Chantua Field, Illinois. He has to report there, on Wednesday, December 1 but is expected to stop at his home, here, for at least one day, while traveling. Jerry is a '48 graduate of the local high school, and is now planning to study to be a propeller specialist. . . .

Thomas Hunter, machinist's mate, third class, USN, is serving aboard the destroyer USS Hugh Purvis, which is cruising in the Mediterranean Sea as part of the Sixth Task Fleet. . . . Hunter anticipates, seeing many of the countries of Europe and Africa by serving in the Mediterranean. . . . his wife, Mrs. Mary Hunter, resides at 1328 Roanoke Avenue. . . .

Gala Parade Led By Band to Mark Opening Of Yuletide Season

Roanoke Rapids' annual Christmas Opening will get under way here tonight at seven o'clock, when Santa Claus will start a parade from First Street up Roanoke Avenue accompanied by the Roanoke Rapids High School band.

Between Second and Third Streets the avenue will be closed to traffic, and Santa Claus will stop for approximately a half-hour in the block handing out gifts to all the children who have come to see him.

Maritime Strike End Agreed Upon

San Francisco, Nov. 26—(AP)—Terms for settling waterfront strikes on east and west coasts today cleared the decks for early resumption of normal American shipping.

Negotiators in the 86-day CIO Longshore strike on the Pacific Coast announced settlement terms last night. Earlier in the day negotiators agreed on peace in the 17-day strike of AFL Longshoremen on the Atlantic Coast.

Both tentative agreements must be ratified by the union memberships before some 515 strike-bound ships put to sea.

On the Pacific Coast four other unions are involved in the strike. But the Longshore terms are considered the key to peace. The four other unions scheduled meetings with management today.

Final settlement would return 92,000 to maritime jobs and many thousands more to work in other industries halted or curtailed by the strike.

It would release some \$30,000,000 of Marshall Plan cargo in eastern docks and restore business running into the millions of dollars.

The Pacific tieup, second longest in history, has cost by estimate of the Pacific American shippers about \$344,000,000 in trade at the rate of \$4,000,000 a day.

The negotiators agreement boosts the western Longshore basic wage by 15 cents to \$1.82 an hour, which was the amount the union was asking when it struck Sept. 2.

You Have A Housing Problem? Here Is A Major Difficulty

Wellington, Colo., Nov. 26—(AP)—You think you gotta housing problem?

The tiny three room James Geary residence, bulging with 10 persons already, will open its doors to six more today.

"I'll be glad to see them, of course, but where in the world can we put them?" said Mrs. Geary, 53, mother of seven and grandmother of eight.

The incoming six are her daughter, Mrs. Emma Dorsey, 26, of Panama, Iowa, and her five children. The Salvation Army boosted them along with bus and meal tickets yesterday after officers found them hitchhiking westward toward Wellington along a Nebraska highway near Omaha.

Mrs. Dorsey told Omaha officers she left behind at Panama, her unemployed husband, his five children by a former marriage and a sixth child, Shirley, 11 months, to be cared for by a neighbor.

Geary, 67, receives an old age pension and supplements that with odd job work. Six children are living with Mr. and Mrs. Geary and two grandchildren.

"About all we can do is ask the county welfare officer for relief," Mrs. Geary said when a newsman advised her of the Iowa relatives journey toward Wellington.

Bus officials at Cheyenne, Wyo., said at midnight the six Dorseys had not passed through there en route to Wellington.

Rain Expected In Carolinas

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Look for today's cloudy weather to break out into rain in the Carolinas, the weatherman said. Rain was expected to begin in the mountains this afternoon and move eastward across the states tonight and tomorrow.

Temperatures were expected to be mild today and tomorrow. Cooler weather was not expected generally until early Sunday, beginning before then in the extreme western portions by tomorrow afternoon.

There is an inch of snow on the tops of the Blue Ridge mountains in North Carolina, Virginia and Tennessee. It fell Wednesday night.

Temperatures got down to freezing in some Carolinas areas last night and early today.

Three Men Hurt In Auto Crash

Weldon—Three Rocky Mount men were injured in a car-truck Thanksgiving morning highway crash about three and one half miles south of Weldon on highway 301.

State Highway Patrolmen who investigated the accident said a 1941 Pontiac headed north damaging both vehicles badly and sending the three men to the Roanoke Rapids Hospital.

This morning at the hospital it was reported that James Williams is still a patient and is suffering from five broken ribs on his left side. His condition was reported to be "painful but not critical." Two other men, Robert Taylor and Roscoe Harrell, both occupants of the automobile with Williams, were treated yesterday at the hospital for severe bruises and slight cuts but were dismissed after outpatient treatment.

Patrolmen said Walter Lee Montgomery of Tampa, Florida, operator of the truck, which was carrying cucumbers to the Northern markets, was uninjured in the accident.

Officers said no charges had been preferred against drivers of either vehicle, adding that they are continuing their investigation of the wreck.

Kerr Scott Still Absent Without Leave

Raleigh, Nov. 26—(AP)—Efforts to locate Governor-elect Kerr Scott have run up against a blank wall since Monday.

Many of his friends have expressed concern over his unexplained absence. Scott had said he would meet with the Advisory Budget Commission Monday through Wednesday, but never made an appearance. The commission met to draft tax and spending recommendations to be made in the 1949 general assembly.

The last anyone admits knowing is that Scott and his wife closed their farm home at Haw River last Sunday. No one seems to know where they went or when they will return.

Scott is known for his independence. A brother said yesterday, when queried as to Scott's whereabouts: "Kerr doesn't tell us what he's going to do; he does as he pleases."

In Haw River, brother Ralph Scott said the family had expected him back for Thanksgiving day.

Another relative said Scott may have "gone up North somewhere, but I don't know where."