

Water Fight For Cross Leads To Struggle on Land

NEW YORK, Jan. 26.—(AP)—Punches and bottles were thrown in a battle on water and on land which developed Sunday from a dispute over who should get the honor for retrieving a cross thrown into the Hudson River in a Greek church ceremony.

The dispute started on a police launch and wound up on the shore, where 2,000 spectators were gathered.

High dignitaries of the Greek Orthodox Church were on the launch to preside over the ceremony, part of the annual observance of the Feast of the Epiphany.

Archbishop Salas threw the cross into the frigid water, and six youths and men dived for it. Elesterios Lambros, 17, seized the cross and started to swim back to the launch from which it had been thrown. Cheers rose from the crowd.

There was a sudden splashing in the water—and Constantino Kottekas, 40, who had won the honor of retrieving the cross for eight previous years, raised it above his head. Shouts of protest came from the crowd.

Partisans on the board and on the shore started battling as Kottekas swam to the launch.

Police stepped in as peacemakers, and tempers cooled after the ceremony committee ruled that Lambros first retrieved the cross.

Truman Asks Congress For Extra Millions for Expenses Not Previously Anticipated

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—(AP)—President Truman asked Congress yesterday for \$480,702,340 to pay government expenses not anticipated when appropriations were made for the current fiscal year ending next July 1.

Nearly all of the 60 items were included in his revised estimates for this fiscal year submitted to Congress two weeks ago with the 1950 budget.

The largest items in the request:

1. For grants to states for public assistance (aid to the aged indigent) to meet the federal share under social security law changes which became effective October 1, 1948—\$151,000,000.
2. For National Service Life Insurance for veterans, largely to meet unanticipated claims originating in the Philippines—\$55,000,000.
3. Veterans miscellaneous benefits, including higher costs of tuition, supplies and equipment for disabled veteran trainees, and aid to disabled veterans in acquiring special housing—\$44,189,000.

(Decreases in the 1950 budget, the President said, will be submitted later to offset part of the additional veterans requests for fiscal 1949).

4. Mail transportation and mail messenger service—\$70,000,000.

Mr. Truman's requests also included:

- Bonneville Power Administration; \$8,309,000 to cover increased costs from redesign of electric transmission lines, labor and materials and to provide additional money for operation and maintenance.
- To supplement estimates for construction from the general fund for the reclamation bureau; Columbia basin project, Washington, \$5,000,000.
- For Columbia River basin hydroelectric power projects, \$11,500,000.
- To continue construction of certain existing hydroelectric power projects, \$16,000,000. These include: Detroit reservoir, Oregon.

An additional \$2,500,000 was asked for the flood control emergency fund to complete repair, restoration and strengthening of levees in the Columbia basin made necessary by the 1948 floods.

The President also asked \$3,450,000 for TVA. Other requests included \$2,500 for a new automobile for Vice President Barkley.

Projected CVA Stirs Controversy In Spokane Area

SPOKANE, Jan. 26.—(AP)—Pacific Northwest leaders in the fight for and against a Columbia Valley Authority tightened their battle lines yesterday after President Truman requested legislation creating a CVA.

Business leaders, generally opposed to the plan, cautiously withheld comment pending study of the proposed legislation. There was no indication, however, that the president's direct request for a CVA would soften their opposition.

Kennard Jones, president of the Spokane Chapter of the Pacific Northwest Development Association, said a CVA would be "socialistic" and would turn over "dictatorial powers" to appointive officials.

J. K. Cheadle, chairman of the Columbia Basin Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, said the Chamber would have to study the requested legislation before deciding whether to continue its fight against a CVA.

Frank A. Banks, managing director of the Columbia Basin project, declined to comment. He supervises the Bureau of Reclamation's part in basin development.

Albert Leslie, secretary of the Spokane Central Labor Council, said "you can expect to hear cries of 'socialism' from the people who will be against a CVA. You'll always hear such cries whenever anything for the people is proposed."

Ouster of Professors Faces Two-Group Probe

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—(AP)—The firing of three University of Washington professors for alleged communist activity will be investigated by two educational groups.

The National Association of Education said last night Dr. Ralph McDonald, secretary of its higher education department, will look into the matter during a trip to the west coast within the next two weeks.

A broader probe was planned by the American Association of University professors, which was asked to enter the case by two of the discharged teachers.

Dr. Ralph E. Hilmstead, general secretary of the association of professors, said the group has no legal power, but indicated that schools usually attempt to com-

EDUCATOR DIES
MONTEREY, Calif., Jan. 26.—(AP)—Dr. Edward O. Sisson, 79, educator, author and lecturer and at one time professor at the Universities of Illinois and Washington and Reed College, Portland, Ore., died Monday. He was born at Gateshead, England.

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Dispute Over Boy Leads To Family Tragedy

PITTSBURGH, Jan. 26.—(AP)—A family dispute over a 15-year-old boy exploded into gunfire which killed the lad's grandfather, wounded his grandmother and put his father in police custody.

State Police Sgt. Metro Poloskey said the father, Meredith Neal, 49, Seattle, admitted the Saturday night shootings in a signed statement. Poloskey added Neal, an airplane company pattern maker, will be charged with murder.

Henry S. Bepko, 67, veteran Pittsburgh insurance man, died of his wife, Myrtle, 63, in a "very serious condition," hospital aides said. Bullets struck her in the abdomen and right arm.

Poloskey said the tragedy occurred shortly after Neal arrived from Seattle to take his son, Noel, 16, back to the West Coast city where Mr. and Mrs. Neal have been living for months. Young Noel had been living with his grandparents.

"Neal says the whole thing was the result of 'in-law' trouble but he doesn't elaborate," Poloskey said.

Army Romeo Asks Truman's Aid In Marriage Plan

BERLIN, Jan. 26.—(AP)—Edward J. Lada, the paratrooper with the complicated love life, has appealed to President Truman to help him get married and "legitimize his daughter."

"As one war veteran to another," he wrote in a letter to the president, "let me out of jail for one hour to marry my girl. I think my country owes me that."

Lada, whose home is in Newark, N. J., cracked the Russian blockade of Berlin last year by hitch-hiking from Paris to Berlin to see Ruth Rieck and their two-year-old daughter.

After he was jailed by the U. S. Army for entering Berlin without a permit, it developed he had more than one girl.

After an emotional tug of war between Miss Rieck and Ursula Schmidt, an actress, the latter ceded Lada and his affections to the mother of his child.

Lada escaped from jail once, leading to refusal by an American court here to allow him to be released on bail. The court said he couldn't be trusted.

Lada is awaiting trial on charges of illegal entry, jail-break, and illegal possession of currency.

Scandinavian Plan for Alliance Seems Doomed

STOCKHOLM, Jan. 26.—(AP)—Prospects for a Scandinavian military alliance appeared bleak today to most Stockholm newspapers.

Commenting on the outcome of the three-power Copenhagen conference, the newspaper Stockholm-Tidningen said it looked forward to the forthcoming meeting in Oslo between the Norwegian, Danish and Swedish governments "without any real hope."

Swedish Communists maintained their opposition to the Scandinavian alliance project.

If popular forces do not block such plans "Sweden will become a war base for dollar capitalism," the Communist Ny Dag said.

The three-day Copenhagen conference ended yesterday without having reconciled the conflicting views of the Swedish and Norwegian governments on the relations of the proposed Scandinavian military alliance to the Western Powers. Sweden wants it to be independent of the North Atlantic Pact.

Storm-Killed Cattle No Good for Steaks

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 26.—(AP)—Cattle killed by storms on western plains are no good for steaks.

Federal officials explained today that animals which have not been bled immediately after slaughtering can not be sold for human consumption.

Carcasses from the winter ranges can be salvaged for fats. Hides usually are cracked by freezing.

Trial Dated for Negroes Accused of Guam Murder

GUAM, Jan. 26.—(AP)—Three Negro soldiers charged with the kidnap, rape and murder of pretty Ruth Farnsworth go on trial Feb. 10 in the island court of Guam.

The 27-year-old San Francisco woman, a Navy civil service employee, died Dec. 14 as a result of being beaten, carried into the jungle and raped.

Accused are Privates Calvin Dennis, 26, and Herman T. Dennis, 20, half-brothers, from Frederick, Md., and Indianapolis, Ind., respectively, and Sgt. Robert W. Burns, 32, Spokane, Wash. They were given lie detector tests.

Blindfolded Man Tells Butter From Margarine

OXFORD, Eng., Jan. 26.—(AP)—Colin Prestige looks like the biggest boon to the dairy business since they invented the cow.

A 22-year-old Oxford law student, he battled a thousand last night in a series of trial runs to prove he can tell margarine from butter, blindfolded.

He's ready now for his big showdown with Dr. Edith Summerskill, parliamentary secretary for the food ministry, who has bet him a can of fish he can't do it.

The bet resulted from a lecture here Friday night in which Dr. Summerskill asserted people just think they can taste the difference. She invited Prestige to come up and see her at her London home any time he thinks he can prove otherwise.

Prestige made his practice tests—for the press—with three samples each of margarine and butter on crackers.

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Housing, Rent Control Laws Will be Speeded

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—(AP)—Senate and House leaders agreed today on a plan they said should speed action on new housing and rent control laws.

An administration bill calling for extension of rent controls to March 31, 1951, was introduced yesterday in both the House and the Senate.

Besides extending the controls two years from next March 31, expiration date of the present act, the new bill would tighten and broaden rent restrictions.

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