

DENFELD BITTER IN SPURNING LESSER JOB

Sharp Letter Dispatched To Secy. Of Navy

Command Of Forces In Eastern Areas Declined; Retirement Pondered

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—(AP)—The controversy over Admiral Louis E. Denfeld's dismissal as chief of naval operations—and his refusal of a lesser job—appears likely to simmer on until after Congress returns to the capital next month.

In a bitter letter to Navy Secretary Matthews, the four-star critic of defense department policies has turned down the post of commander-in-chief of U. S. naval forces in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean.

Denfeld's letter was made public by the Navy, at his request, yesterday. It recalled the secretary's report to President Truman that Denfeld was not loyal to his superiors and lacked proper respect for authority. In view of that statement, Denfeld wrote, other nations might not have the confidence in him that the commander of the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean fleet should enjoy.

The ousted chief of naval operations added:

"It is pertinent for me to observe, furthermore, from the events which have transpired since my testimony before the armed services committee of the House of representatives on 13 October 1949, that I would be under an undesirable restraint on the vital matter of Frank discussion with the military representatives."

(Continued on Page Two)

Santa Claus Asks Address Of "Judy"

Santa Claus wants to know which "Judy" wrote him a letter. When he visited at the Elks Christmas party last Saturday one of Judy's playmates handed him a note which read:

"Dear Santa: I was coming to the show but got sick last night. Since my playmate sent me something, 'Thank you, Judy.'"

Santa says there are a lot of Judys on his list and, as the Roseburg girl failed to include her address, he is at a loss to know which of his many little friends she might be.

So if Judy will have someone call the Elks temple and tell her address, she will get the same gifts of candy and fruit as received by other children at the Elks party—and maybe a little bit more, because she was sick and couldn't see the picture.

(Continued on Page Two)

Greyhound Lines Ask Package Rates Boost

PORTLAND, Dec. 20.—(AP)—A boost in charges for express shipments on Greyhound bus lines in Oregon was asked yesterday by the company.

The bus line proposed a new minimum for packages of less than 10 pounds going not more than 50 miles. It would be 75 cents compared with the present 45 cents. Other rates would go up about 10 percent.

Approval by the State Public Utilities commission is likely. There was no public opposition at the hearing.

Contract rates on packages shipped daily would be nearly doubled within the 50-mile zone, up from \$6 to \$11.25. For greater distances, the boosts would be relatively smaller.

Thieves Steal Santa's Outfits, Strip Tree

BALTIMORE, Dec. 20.—(AP)—Dear Santa:

It would be a good idea for you to keep a sharp watch on your sleigh and pack when you come here Saturday night.

Two of your suits, plus two sets of long white whiskers, have been stolen from cars here in the past several days.

What's more, someone stripped an outdoor Christmas tree of all its lights.

Lloyd Kirkley and H. M. Baldwin of St. Michael's, Md., told police that Santa suits were taken from their parked automobiles here.

Kirkley had been planning to take your part at a party.

Yes, Santa, you had better keep a sharp eye on things while you are in Baltimore.

Chance Slim For Youth Lost On Hunting Trip

WALLA WALLA, Dec. 20.—(AP)—Searchers pinned their hopes for rescue of 15-year-old Donald McDonald today on the slim chance that the missing Walla Walla youth had taken refuge in one of the vacant cabins dotting the rugged, snow-covered Blue mountain area.

The boy has been unsighted since wandering away from an old hunting camp on Monday last Thursday in the Black Snake ridge sector southeast of here.

Near zero cold, six-foot snow drifts and almost constant snow flurries hampered searchers and lowered chances of the youth's survival.

FORGERY CHARGED

Behring Robert Wilson, 27, Scottsburg, charged with forgery of an endorsement, was lodged in the county jail, with bail set at \$2,500, when arraigned in the Reedsport justice court, Sheriff O. T. "Bud" Carter said. He was accompanied to Reedsport and back by Deputies Dallas Bennett and Cecil Beaver.

HIGHWAY JOB LET

The State Highway commission today awarded a contract for rock production for the Trail and Eagle Point sections of the Crater Lake, Tiller-Trail and Little Butte highways to Fred Lerney of Blachly. The contract price was \$45,880.

Levy Fact Rant

By L. F. Reizenstein

If drought-stricken New York City were to confine its plea to Santa Claus in two words, they'd probably be: "Rain, dear."

The News-Review

ROSEBURG, OREGON—TUESDAY, DEC. 20, 1949

★ ★ 198-49

The Weather
Mostly cloudy with few showers today and Wednesday. Slightly warmer.

Sunset today 4:39 p. m.
Sunrise tomorrow 7:42 a. m.

Established 1873

Rent Control Will Remain, Council Decides

Issue Tabled After Public Views Learned

Sewers, Lights Asked By West Roseburg; Airport Plans Held In Abeyance

Rent control will remain in effect in Roseburg, at least temporarily.

The city council last night tabled the issue for further investigation, after hearing arguments for and against controls from local residents who packed the council chambers.

A group of landlords and a Chamber of Commerce representative asked the council to recommend to Governor McKay that rent be decontrolled in this area.

Opposition, however, included representatives from most organized labor groups in the Roseburg area.

Sewers, Lights Sought
Other important matters at the council meeting included the presentation of petitions, bearing the signatures of 178 property owners of West Roseburg, asking for the installation of sewers in that area. The petitions were referred to the police and health committees for study and recommendation.

A letter from the West Roseburg Improvement association

(Continued on Page Two)

Family Deaths in Fire Upped To 7

EMMETT, Mich., Dec. 20.—(AP)—Death took its sixth and seventh victims in the fire which destroyed the family of 14 today.

As sorrowing townspeople gave aid in the Christmas week calamity, 80-year-old grandma Louise, a heroine of yesterday's fire, succumbed with a granddaughter, Mary Lou, 13.

Both the elderly woman and the child died of burns in Port Huron general hospital.

Five other children, ranging in age from 3 to 11, were burned to death when trapped in an upstairs bedroom in a pre-dawn blaze which destroyed the family home.

Grandma Louise Bethway was buried while rescuing one child. There were 11 children in the family.

Mary Lou and a brother, Joe, 8, leaped from a window. But both had been burned badly.

Joe was reported in serious condition at the hospital today. The tragedy stunned this little village of 229 population.

President's Envoy To Vatican To Quit, Rumor

ROME, Dec. 20.—(AP)—Unconfirmed reports circulated in Rome today that Myron C. Taylor, former board chairman of the U. S. Steel corporation, will resign soon from his post as special representative of President Truman to the Vatican.

Taylor refused to confirm or deny the reports, adding that they were a "surprise to me."

A high Vatican source said the reports were credible because Taylor has been in poor health.

Taylor as a personal presidential representative has the rank of ambassador. The presence of a presidential representative at the Vatican has been criticized from time to time by Protestant circles in the United States.

Taylor was appointed to the post in 1939 by President Roosevelt.

Youth Convicted Of Slaying Girl's Father

JACKSON, Miss., Dec. 20.—(AP)—Ronnie Pitts, described by the prosecution as a debaucher with a criminal mind, was convicted last night of murdering the father of his teen-age schoolmate sweetheart.

The jury recommended that the 18-year-old youth be sentenced to life imprisonment for the slaying of Perry Henderson, vacuum cleaner executive and father of his sweetheart, Anna, Mississippi law requires that the trial judge be guided by the jury's recommendation in pronouncing formal sentence.

The state had sought the death penalty.

The youth told a lurid tale of illicit relations with his young sweetheart. He showed no emotion when the verdict was read.



(NEA Telephoto)

SOLE BENEFICIARY—A "lonely old man" she befriended

Willed Mrs. Leona Smith (above), a Chicago waitress, a fortune estimated at \$250,000. The will came to light when two elderly sisters-in-law of the late Lucien C. Walker, 83-year-old merchant, filed notice of contest in probate court against the waitress' claim. Mrs. Smith served him breakfast for 14 years and said she left her job to care for him in his final days, "because he wanted me at his side."—NEA Telephoto.

Traitor To U. S. Gets Prison Term

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—(AP)—Herbert John Burgman, former American embassy clerk in Berlin, was sentenced today to six to 20 years in prison as a traitor.

Burgman, 53, was convicted November 15 of treason for his wartime broadcasts over the Nazi radio. He is a native of Holak, Minn.

Federal district Judge Holtzoff sentenced Burgman and ordered him sent to the Federal penitentiary at Lewisburg, Pa.

The maximum penalty could have been death. The minimum for treason is five years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

Burgman admitted during his five-week trial that he made broadcasts over the German shortwave radio station "De-bunk" under the alias of "Joe Scanlon." He insisted, however, he had been forced to do so because of fear of the Nazi Gestapo.

Burgman served with the American expeditionary forces in the first world war and joined the state department staff in Berlin in 1921.

Mayor O'Dwyer Of N. Y. Weds Elizabeth Simpson

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O'Dwyer is 59 and his Texas-born bride 33.

Racketeers Prey On Business Men

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 20.—(AP)—Business men have been shaken down for substantial payments to gain certain privileges from city and county employees according to state investigators. Assistant Attorney General R. Royce Russell said yesterday that signed statements have been received from several business men.

The statements, Russell said, showed that the business men paid to obtain permits and privileges to which they were legally entitled. Payments were made under pressure, he added.

The commonwealth has been conducting a secret inquiry of city hall offices for some time as a prelude to a full grand jury probe.

Investigators were reluctant to discuss details of the newest shaken-down racket but said the practices were similar to those that resulted in the conviction of fire Marshal George J. Gallagher and several of his aides.

Gallagher and his assistants were convicted of taking payments for approving oil burner installation permits.

Good Samaritan Act Puts 2 Men In Hands Of Law

JERSEY CITY, N. J., Dec. 20.—(AP)—Sometimes it just doesn't pay to be a good Samaritan.

That's what Clifford Wiesbrod probably is thinking today.

Last night Francis Dilline stopped Wiesbrod's car and asked for a push to get his own stalled auto going.

Wiesbrod obliged.

As the two cars approached an intersection, Dilline's vehicle forged ahead by its own momentum and ran over Hudson County Patrolman Edward Mullins, police said.

Mullins was taken to Jersey city medical center with a fractured right knee.

Dilline was hooked by Hudson county police on a charge of assault and battery by automobile.

So was Wiesbrod.

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Milk Strike Threatened In Douglas Area

Producers Demand More Money From Dairymen, Spokesman Announces

A milk strike affecting the three principal inland Douglas county dairies may go into effect tomorrow, following a standstill in negotiations between dairymen and milk producers.

According to Ormond J. Feldkamp, Umpqua dairy co-owner, milk producers are asking more money for their products—a demand which local dairymen have not agreed to meet.

Carl Binder, Elkton, president of the Umpqua Valley Milk Producers association, said today there would be no strike.

"The milk will be delivered," Binder said. "However, if our request for a price increase, to be paid by the dairymen, is not met, the milk will not be dumped."

Affected are the Myrtle Creek dairy, the Roseburg dairy and the Umpqua dairy.

Binder said the local move is in line with similar action taken by milk producers in Medford and Grants Pass, some of whom deliver milk to the three dairies involved. Binder said his association is asking a straight ten cent increase in milk and butterfat, raising butterfat from \$90 to \$1 and milk from \$1.90 to \$3 per hundred-weight. The association is also asking a four percent plant average, an increase in the butterfat content put in milk at the time of bottling.

Feldkamp said milk prices for Oregon dairymen were set recently by the state milk control board and that most dairying communities are abiding by the ruling. He classed action by local producers as a "strike" to enforce.

BATTLE PLANS IN MAKING

Truman Shaping Agenda For Congress As G. O. P. Raises "Socialism" Cry

By FRANCIS M. LE MAY
WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—(AP)—Republican cries of "socialism" in Washington, while President Truman flexes his program, are heralding what may be the most interesting struggle in the new session of Congress.

The reconvening of Congress two weeks hence will signal the marshaling of forces for the conflict. The House and Senate face decisions on what Mr. Truman calls the "fair deal" and the opposition assails as the blueprint for a "welfare state" or "poorhouse state."

Learns After 36 Years He Didn't Kill Policeman

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 20.—(AP)—An itinerant horsehooper learned yesterday that a policeman he thought he killed 36 years ago is still alive.

"It's sure a load off my conscience to know that policeman didn't die," said 54-year-old Paul F. Lovey.

Lovey was brought here for questioning after he told Las Vegas, Nev., officers he had killed a Kansas City policeman January 24, 1914.

In checking Lovey's story, police took him to the Kansas City Star's library to read some 1914 newspaper clipping on a shooting. One of the clippings mentioned a patrolman J. B. Merritt.

"That's the man I shot," Lovey exclaimed.

"Well, you didn't kill anybody then," said police Lt. Harry Nesbitt. "Merritt recovered."

Merritt now lives near Galesburg, Ill.

An 18-year-old youth, Eugene R. Jacobs, was sentenced to four years at the state training school after being identified as Merritt's assailant, files on the Merritt case show. Police said they knew nothing of Jacobs' whereabouts now.

"That's what I've been afraid of all along," Lovey said. "That someone else had taken my rap."

Lovey has been charged with assault with intent to kill. He is being held without bond pending a preliminary hearing Jan. 12.

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Approval by the State Public Utilities commission is likely. There was no public opposition at the hearing.

Contract rates on packages shipped daily would be nearly doubled within the 50-mile zone, up from \$6 to \$11.25. For greater distances, the boosts would be relatively smaller.

Fireplace Burns Kill Aged Man; Home Razed

SCIO, Ore., Dec. 20.—(AP)—An elderly farmer tumbled into a fireplace yesterday and was fatally burned while a sick woman was aroused and led to safety from an adjoining apartment.

Linn county coroner N. S. Fulton reported Zide Charles McCashen, 74, was alone in one part of the double-dwelling. A motorist, Mrs. Carl Warren, detected the smoke and woke up Mrs. Floyd McCashen, a daughter-in-law of the fire victim.

The home later was destroyed. McCashen's wife and son, Floyd, were in Albany at the time. The family had moved to this area recently from Medford and purchased the rural home.

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PRESENTS BY CARLOAD

Stalin Swamped With Gifts From His Puppets On Eve Of 70th Birthday

By ALVIN J. STEINKOPF
LONDON, Dec. 20.—(AP)—The greatest giveaway jackpot program in history is on today, with Russia's Joseph Stalin on the receiving end.

Stalin, overlord of world communism, hits the jackpot tomorrow when he reaches the age of 70. How much the take in birthday presents is worth is anybody's guess. Tons and tons of gifts—so many that not in centuries could one man use them up—have descended on Moscow from the Communist world.

Reports reaching London through the Soviet Monitor and other channels indicate that there will be more than 1,000,000 parcels bearing the tag: "Happy birthday, Dear Comrade."

N. Y. City To Tap Hudson River For Needed Water

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—(AP)—City officials ordered "full speed" today on plans to tap the Hudson river for 100,000,000 gallons of water a day to help out in the shortage which threatens to last for years.

The Hudson tapping project—which normally would take a year to complete and cost \$5,000,000 to \$10,000,000—is counted on to supply somewhat less than one-tenth of the city's normal consumption of well over 1,000,000,000 gallons a day.

Formal city, state, and federal authorizations for the undertaking are required.

The plan—announced yesterday—is to run Hudson river water into the Delaware aqueduct at Chelsea, N.Y., about 15 miles south of Poughkeepsie. The water would be purified chemically at its source, and made "ultra-safe" by routing through reservoirs.

The New York City board of water supply announced the start of plans to tap the Hudson, about 50 miles north of where it empties into New York bay.

Similar plans were suggested after a conference at Albany yesterday between Gov. Thomas E. Dewey and state officials.

The governor accused the city of neglecting its water needs despite repeated warnings "by every state administration for 20 years."

The water shortage—most critical in the city's modern history—has been brought about by an increased population, expanded uses of water, outgrowth of sources of supply and continued drought.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS
King George, in a speech to the British parliament just before it recesses until January 24, closes with this prayer:

"I pray that under the guidance of almighty God we shall overcome the difficulties that will beset us and reach the goal of a STABLE AND PROSPEROUS economy."

There are sharp differences of opinion as to how we should go about getting it, but I think the "stable and prosperous economy" King George prays for is what all of us, all over the world, really want.

School Burglars Steal Presents And Bedding

BAKER, Dec. 20.—(AP)—Burglars entered Tiedemann school here over the weekend and stole presents and bedding.

The thieves entered the building sometime Saturday night, police said, and went through every room, picking up small amounts of money left in jars for Christmas seals, opening packages and strewn wrappings and contents around the building.

Also missing were some new blankets and sheets from the first aid room.

27 GERMANS QUIT PRISON

LANDSBERG, Germany, Dec. 20.—(AP)—Twenty-seven smiling German war criminals were fired today from the U. S. Army's Landsberg prison for good behavior during imprisonment.

They had served the greater part of three and five-year sentences given them by U. S. military courts for war crimes. All their sentences would have expired before next June 30.

None was a big-name Nazi criminal. These were the men who commanded Nazi concentration camps, who served as camp guards or mistreated captured American airmen.

The oldest was Friedrich Katz, 60, a former Wiesbaden policeman, convicted of taking part in the murder of American fliers.

Col. Walter R. Graham, the prison commander, said that 27 others probably will be released tomorrow. One other prisoner eligible for release is ill in the prison hospital.

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