

Roosevelt May Ask Great Defense Program

None Left Out As Christmas Feast Enjoyed

Hundreds of Families in Salem Vicinity Aided by Welfare Groups

Hotel de Minto Also Is Host as Delectable Dinner Served

Big-hearted Salem feasted on Christmas day without forgetting that many of its families could not provide themselves with a generous Yule table. Churches, school children, veterans, fraternal and service clubs and organized charities joined hands to make the day a real merry Christmas for all; yesterday their leaders expressed a belief they had achieved that goal. The Salvation Army distributed more than 150 baskets containing meat, staple groceries and fruit to as many families, with the Red Cross assisting as a clearing house to avoid duplication of effort. Adjutant John M. Allen reported yesterday. From the new army hall clothing and bedding also were delivered to families needing such articles. A crowd of children that packed the hall, Saturday night enjoyed a Christmas program and the arrival of Santa Claus, arranged for with the aid of the Kiwanis club. Many Given Baskets By Catholic Charities

More than 350 men, women and children enjoyed Christmas viands delivered to 74 families by the Catholic Charities of Salem, another Community Chest affiliate. Rev. T. J. Bernard, director, announced last night. The charities board, T. A. Windshar, August E. Hucklestein, Cyril A. Suing and Daniel McClelland, along with other Catholic laymen, assisted. Salem's transient visitors also were not forgotten, according to Patrolman Hobart Kiggins of the city police force, who has charge of Hotel de Minto. Twenty-six hungry knights of the thumb and rails were treated Sunday to a sumptuous dinner that included roast turkey, duck and geese, nuts, candies, cakes, pies and the other customary trimmings. After dinner they enjoyed cigars and cigarettes.

"The men were more than amply provided for," Officer Kiggins commented. "The many contributors to this dinner would have had their thanks in full had they been able to see the guests gather joyously around the 'hotel' tables."

From school rooms and church groups also came generous donations of foodstuffs and clothing distributed to needy families through private and public agencies.

More Receive Toys Than Ever Before

So many boys and girls found the Salem Elks lodge and the city fire department a true Santa Claus Saturday, when toys, clothing and candy were given away to all comers at the Elks club Saturday, that the committee yesterday had not been able to complete its count of registration cards.

"More boys and girls than we ever had before," reported Lou Thomas at the Elks office. "There were between 1500 and 1600. We ran out of candy before they stopped coming but sent out for more so that none had to go away disappointed."

Others on the Elks committee were Robert Cole, chairman; William Hammond, Joseph Kreuger and Percy Blundell.

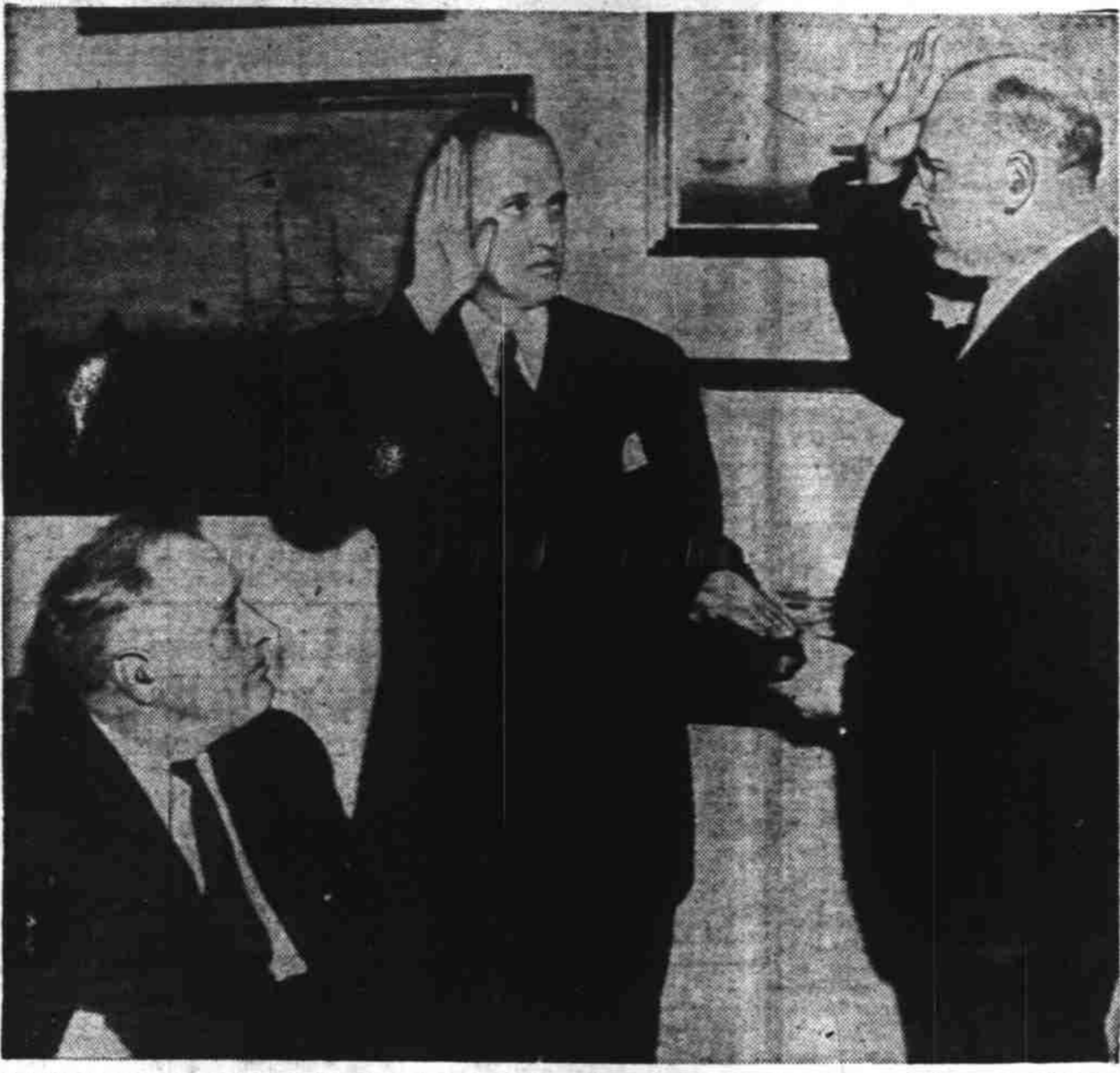
The hundreds, or possibly thousands, of toys given away were the handiwork of Salem's firemen, who for three months had been busy in their station shops repairing and repainting toys brought in by townfolk.

Elliott Roosevelt Attacks Mexicans

FORT WORTH, Texas, Dec. 26.—(AP)—Observing that "it would appear on the surface that the 'good neighbor' policy has gone far enough," Elliott Roosevelt asserted in a broadcast tonight that Mexican sales of oil from expropriated properties to Germany, Japan and Italy has created a problem for this nation which must be met.

"If Mexico wants to be a friend and a good neighbor, she might show it first of all by inviting an oil man representative from each of the foreign nations affected by expropriation measures to come to Mexico City and sit with Mexican officials in all of their dealings on oil."

HARRY HOPKINS TAKES CABINET OATH



The meeting room of the cabinet was the locale for Harry L. Hopkins' receiving of the oath of office, and attending a cabinet session in his new capacity as secretary of commerce. Telephone shows Hopkins, former WPA administrator (center) being sworn in by Associate Justice Stanley Reed of the U. S. supreme court, while President Roosevelt—who named Hopkins to the post—looks on. (Acme Telephoto).

Bomb Threat Note Held Crank's Job

Police Search Portland Store but Find not a Single Clue

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 26.—(AP)—Detective Captain John J. Keegan expressed belief today that the extortion-bomb threat that forced evacuation of the Sears, Roebuck & Co. store at the height of the last-minute Christmas rush Saturday was probably a hoax perpetrated by a crank.

Police searched the store but found no time bomb the extortion note, slipped into a cashier's cage, said was set to explode at 3 p. m. They questioned a part-time employe of the store they thought manifested undue interest in the plot but exonerated him.

The note made its appearance shortly before 2 p. m. Saturday when 5000 last-minute shoppers jammed the store. It demanded payment of \$2500 at an east-Portland address to a man who was described. It stated that when the money was paid the store would be given the location of the bomb by telephone in time to prevent its explosion.

Police and store executives hustled the customers and 300 employes from the store and locked the doors for the day while detectives began their fruitless search.

Harry Richman's Wife Hospitalized, Pneumonia

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—(AP)—Hazel Forbes Richman, wife of Harry Richman, night club entertainer and actor, who was admitted to Mount Sinai hospital yesterday suffering from bronchial pneumonia, was reported today to have passed a "comfortable night."

Insurgents Report Capture Of Strategic Loyalist City

HENDAYE, France (At the Spanish Frontier), Dec. 26.—(AP)—The Spanish insurgent military command reported tonight the capture of Borjas Blancas, strategic town 16 miles southeast of Lerida on the main Catalonian highway to Tarragona on the Mediterranean coast.

Insurgent radio stations broadcast a report from Gen. Francisco Franco's general headquarters that this important position fell in the fourth day of their general offensive in to the heart of the government stronghold in north-eastern Spain.

Borjas Blancas is approximately 35 air miles from Tarragona and is in the center of the insurgent campaign on the southern end of the Catalonian front.

Elsewhere in Catalonia Franco's troops reported a slow but steady advance in their thrust aimed ultimately at Barcelona, the government capital.

Just south of Borjas Blancas, the insurgents reported they penetrated the province of Tarragona in the vicinity of the Sierra De La Liens, where the government has erected a strongly fortified line. The insurgent columns in the mountains and those at Borjas

Only one Infant Is Santa's Gift On Salem's Yule

Just one Christmas baby, fitting symbol of the season, arrived in Salem on December 26—a check of local hospitals yesterday revealed.

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Smith of Gervais were presented with a 9-lb-pound baby girl, Mary Lee, born Christmas noon at the Bungalow maternity home. A baby boy born to Mr. and Mrs. Yoshikazu Horikoshi, route 7, just missed the day by a few hours. He was born at Deenness hospital Monday night.

Coulee Dam Cost Nears \$95,000,000

GRAND COULEE, Dec. 26.—(AP)—Estimates of the US bureau of reclamation and Consolidated Builders, Inc., indicated today the total expenditures in construction of Grand Coulee dam to the end of the year would be \$95,000,000.

The figure for equipment, materials and supplies, including actual expenditures and items for which contracts have been made, is about \$56,000,000 and for wages and salaries nearly \$29,000,000.

The figures for 1938 alone were estimated at \$22,000,000 and \$7,000,000 respectively.

The CBI listed the hourly pay rate of \$1.09 for the year, with average weekly pay checks of \$40.33. The average number of men at work on the project during the year was listed at 3169.

Stork vs. Santa

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 26.—(AP)—Santa got stiff competition from the stork in Portland. Twelve babies—eight boys and four girls—were born Christmas day.

Protest Renewed Against Bombings

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—(AP)—State department officials said today that because the Japanese government failed to reply satisfactorily to a earlier protest against ten bombings of American property in China, United States Ambassador Joseph C. Grew made a renewed protest today.

Nazis Are Silent On King Proposal

BERLIN, Dec. 26.—(AP)—The propaganda ministry said today nothing was known of United States Senator William H. King's proposal that Washington sever diplomatic relations and commercial ties with Germany.

The propaganda ministry was one of the few government offices manned during the Christmas holiday which ends tomorrow.

Since all newspapers closed shop for the holiday, there was no published comment on the proposal made by Senator King, Utah democrat, in a Washington interview yesterday.

Bernarr MacFadden Safe As Plane Noses Over

WESTFIELD, Mass., Dec. 26.—(AP)—Bernarr MacFadden, magazine publisher, escaped unhurt today when his five-passenger cabin plane nosed over as he was landing at Barnes airport.

France Takes Italian Note For Its Word

Next Move in Argument Over African Territory up to Italians

Daladier Plans Journey to View Corsica and Tunisia Areas

PARIS, Dec. 26.—(AP)—France told Italy today that she accepted the Italian note renouncing the 1935 Laval-Mussolini territorial treaty but that the accord must stand as the only basis for negotiations between the two powers.

Thus, the next move in the colonial issue was put squarely up to Italy as Premier Daladier, despite fascist cries of "provocation," disclosed plans to make his tour of Corsica and Tunisia a mighty "hands off demonstration" to Premier Mussolini's legions.

The French note was sent to Italian Foreign Minister Count Galeazzo Ciano by Andre Francois-Poncet, French ambassador to Rome. It answered Italy's note which declared annulled the 1935 pact. The pact gave more than 44,000 square miles of territory to Italian Libya and Italian Somaliland at the expense of Tunisia and French Somaliland.

Daladier to See Military Sights

Daladier arranged to travel by warship and to review huge parades in Corsica, France's Mediterranean island department, and Tunisia, her North African protectorate, in a tour of military fanfare.

Both territories have been prominent in the fascist territorial clamor raised in the Italian chamber of deputies last November 30 and given official encouragement by the Italian government's renunciation of the 1935 treaty, which also assured citizenship rights to Italian subjects in Tunisia until 1965.

Daladier announced his trip tentatively scheduled to start January 2, after the tension over colonies arose and touched off angry demonstrations on both sides.

Despite the pointed warning yesterday of Virgilio Gayda, assistant Italian editor, that Italy would consider such a voyage an unfriendly act, Daladier conferred on arrangements with Erik Labonne, resident-general in Tunisia, the French possession most coveted by Italy.

Japanese Troops Claim Victories

SHANGHAI, Dec. 26.—(AP)—The Japanese, striving to pacify unconquered south Shansi province in north China, announced today their forces had captured four towns and killed 600 Chinese in a new offensive.

They reported they had won control of hilly regions north of the Fen river radiating from Linfen, city which lies about 60 miles east of the Yellow river and about 200 miles northwest of Kaifeng.

British Bank Head Kidnaped by Arabs

JERUSALEM, Dec. 26.—(AP)—Rebellious Arabs today kidnaped a British bank manager, Louis Le Bourrier, and Noah, 28, Oscar, 15, and Cleitus, 12.

Coroner Walter McCoil said he had not been able to determine who was driving the auto.

Blizzard Crimps Europe Airliners

PARIS, Dec. 26.—(AP)—A blizzard caused suspension of all air transport services between the continent and England today for the first time in 10 years.

German, Belgian, Netherlands, Swiss and French air lines operating from Le Bourget air field to central eastern Europe were also grounded.

Purse Is Snatched

Two men snatched a purse from Mrs. J. F. Hughes, 567 Vista avenue, publisher, escaped unhurt today when his five-passenger cabin plane nosed over as he was landing at Barnes airport.

450 Lives Is Holiday's Cost With Traffic Tops In Reason for Tragedy

Accidents in Traffic Cause Loss of 341 Persons During Christmas Holidays; Fire Takes Lives of 21 People

(By The Associated Press)

The nation paid with more than 450 lives for its holiday weekend.

At least 341 of the violent deaths were caused by traffic accidents.

The total death count for the weekend, however, was short of the 500 fatalities reported last Christmas.

Fire claimed 21 lives this year: gunshot wounds 13; suicides 15; train accidents 12; drowning 6; and miscellaneous causes, the rest.

Largest death tolls by states included: California 25; Illinois 22; Michigan 26; Missouri 16; New Jersey 12; New York, including New York city, 37; Pennsylvania 28; Texas 35; Ohio 42; Indiana 17.

Seven states—Delaware, Iowa, Nebraska, Nevada, Rhode Island, Wyoming and Vermont—and the District of Columbia reported no violent deaths.

Northern States Get Cold Weather

North Dakota Mercury Is Below Zero as Whole Midwest Freezes

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—(AP)—Wind, rain and snow ushered the severest cold wave of the season into the northern states today.

Temperatures had dropped below zero in North Dakota and were falling steadily as far east as North Carolina. Readings of 10 below were forecast for the entire state of Nebraska.

Snow swept through the Dakotas and into Minnesota, where it drifted and halted highway traffic in some sections. Flurries were reported in Wisconsin, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa and Michigan, with more snow predicted for tonight.

Kansas and Missouri were out of the path of the storm, but the mercury dropped 20 degrees at Kansas City, and near zero temperatures were forecast for both states during the night.

Eastern states, the weather bureau reported, would feel the effects of the cold wave tomorrow night. Snow tomorrow was forecast for Tennessee, Kentucky, Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania and most of New England.

New York City and New England generally enjoyed clear, crisp weather today. Temperatures hovered around the freezing mark.

Storm warnings were issued by the weather bureau for Lake Michigan, and along strong north-westerly winds will blow, and for the Atlantic coast from Cape Hatteras to Sandy Hook, N. J.

Sub-zero temperatures were reported in Colorado, Montana and reported in Colorado, Montana and (Turn to Page 2, Col. 1)

Father and Sons Die at Crossing

WEST MANCHESTER, O., Dec. 26.—(AP)—A father and three sons were killed tonight when an automobile in which they were riding was struck by a fast passenger train during a blinding snow storm.

The dead were: Oca Stivers, 50, the father; and Noah, 28, Oscar, 15, and Cleitus, 12.

Coroner Walter McCoil said he had not been able to determine who was driving the auto.

Congress Eager to Find out Roosevelt Reaction to Vote

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—(AP)—Congress will be back in town next week eager to learn, first of all, what policy changes President Roosevelt may have adopted as a consequence of the obviously conservative trend of last fall's elections.

Whether it develops from a possibility into an actuality depends, by all accounts, upon the future course of Mr. Roosevelt and the new deal.

If the president, with the conservative wing of the party still smarting at the attempted party "purge" of last summer, and with the republican conservatives anxious to test their new voting strength, insists upon a militant liberal course, he will encounter, most observers believe, a militant opposition.

"We've got him stopped," was the opinion of one who has been unimpressed by arguments of some congressional critics that the United States is in a "critical" position. (Turn to Page 2, Col. 1)

hour bill for months. Since the election, the possibility of such a combination standing squarely in the path of the new deal has become a very real threat to the president.

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Executive May Report Nation In Great Need

Report Given That Pair of Messages on Needs of Defense Due

Quadrupled Air Fleet Is Contemplated by Head of Republic

By EDWARD E. BOMAR

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—(AP)—President Roosevelt was reported authoritatively today to have decided on a double-barreled recommendation to congress for national defense reinforcements of unprecedented peacetime magnitude.

Persons close to the administration said the chief executive intended to report, in the annual message he will deliver personally to a joint senate-house session on January 4, that the security of the nation and its neighbors was threatened by the armed might of aggressive dictator states.

A week later, under present arrangements, a special message will present detailed recommendations for an army air force of some 10,000 planes and numerous other measures.

Quadrupled Air Fleet Is Contemplated by Head of Republic

Thus, the administration contemplates a quadrupled military air fleet of at least 13,000 aircraft, including the minimum of 3,000 congress authorized for the navy in this year's billion-dollar fleet expansion act.

The magnitude of the air program has caused surprise here, especially in view of the fact that some high army officers had advocated, at least up to recently, a comparatively small air force of high quality.

Early in October Maj. Gen. Henry H. Arnold, new chief of the army air corps, declared that the country didn't need a great many more military airplanes, but needed a few more of high quality.

Under the development program being carried on at that time, the army was to have 2,320 craft by 1940. Gen. Arnold, in an interview, called this "a very good figure as things now stand."

These remarks were made about the time of the signing of the Munich four-power accord. Whether implications of that accord and the post-Munich events abroad have now changed Arnold's mind is not known. He could not be reached for comment tonight.

"Truce" Is Talked In Chinese Circle

HONGKONG, Dec. 26.—(AP)—Reports that Wang Ching-wei, former president of the Chinese executive Yuan, was en route to Hongkong to discuss "truce" terms with Japanese emissaries have caused lively discussion in diplomatic circles here.

First reports were that Wang, who is head of the so-called "peace party," would arrive today tonight his whereabouts today was a mystery. He has left Chungking, provisional Chinese capital, on a "sick leave," and was supposed to be coming here by way of Hanoi, French Indo-China.

The reports of impending "truce" negotiations could not be confirmed.

OSC Barometer's Editor Suspended From College

CORVALLIS, Ore., Dec. 26.—(AP)—Dick Kennedy of Portland, editor of The Barometer, Oregon State college student newspaper, has been suspended from school for the next two terms, George W. Peavy, college president, said today.

Peavy said Kennedy had violated a college regulation.

Holiday Tragedies Claim Four Lives

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 26.—(AP)—Auto accidents and fire took four lives over the Christmas weekend in Oregon.

Mrs. Marie Lesman, 40, Portland, was struck and killed by a car as she dismounted from a bus. Carl T. Little, 45, farmer, was burned to death when a big log cabin near Damascus, northeastern Clatsop county, was destroyed by fire.

At North Bend Adolph Aslakson, 40, was struck by a car and fatally injured.

A man identified as J. J. McGuire, 39, was struck and killed by a car at a Portland intersection.