

### U. S. Continues To Transport China Troops

CHUNGKING, Dec. 22 (AP)—The arrival of General Marshall from Nanking was followed by a China Central News Agency report today that U. S. Seventh fleet transporters had debarked central government troops from Haiphong at the Manchurian port of Hulutao on Friday. The number landed was not specified.

Reports from Peiping said that one concrete effect of Marshall's first talks with Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek on peace for China was a brightened prospect for the use of U. S. ships to carry huge Chinese occupation forces to Manchurian ports.

### Yuletide Plans Usual at Little White House

INDEPENDENCE, Mo., Dec. 22 (AP)—Except for President Truman's scheduled attendance at three Christmas dinners with all the trimmings, Yuletide plans were "as usual" at the "little White House" this year.

Last minute gift shopping, unaccompanied by secret servicemen, in the stores around the town square, Christmas tree decorating, and menu planning, including a 35-pound turkey with plain sage dressing, have absorbed the attention of the first lady and her daughter since their arrival late Wednesday night.

More strenuous, gastronomically speaking, are the items on the president's Christmas agenda.

Present plans call for the first of the chief executive's three feasts to be served at home immediately after his arrival from Washington Christmas day. A second dinner will be held at his mother's home in Grandview, with "maybe" a big Missouri ham, his sister, Miss Mary Jane Truman, admitted. The third meal will be eaten with his aunt across the street from his Independence home.

### France May Lower Franc

PARIS, Dec. 22 (AP)—Widespread speculation that the cabinet would meet tomorrow in a special session to decide on devaluation of the franc appeared both in the press and financial circles today, but there was no official confirmation.

Members of the constituent assembly predicted that devaluation of the franc, a step regarded by proponents as leading towards full scale resumption of international trade, would be enacted before December 31.

The government is known to want to stabilize its money before ratification of the Bretton Woods monetary agreement, scheduled for debate in the constituent assembly the day after Christmas.

### CONVICT RETURNS TIE

DENVER, Dec. 22 (AP)—Frank Dillon, Denver probation officer, received a Christmas tie from J. S. Gillespie in the state penitentiary whom he picked up for violating parole several weeks ago. On examining the tie he found it was his — one that was in the glove compartment of his car when he drove Gillespie to jail.

**FALSE ALARM AT HOSPITAL**  
Whistles and an apparent disturbance at the Oregon State hospital at approximately 11:30 p. m. Saturday, noted by residents of the neighborhood, were the result of a false fire alarm, attendants said.

ASTORIA, Ore., Dec. 22 (AP)—A proposal to construct a large mooring basin here for small craft has been approved by the U. S. district engineer corps. it was learned here today.

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### US Production Moving Despite Labor-Industry Squabbles

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22 (AP)—The labor department counted up the strikes since V-J day today and concluded that most of the nation's industrial plants "are proceeding with production without work stoppage or significant labor-management controversies."

From the end of hostilities in the Pacific through Dec. 21, the department estimated that about 1650 work stoppages occurred. The conciliation service was instrumental in settling 1256 of the 1450 which were terminated, the labor department said.

### State Building Program May Be Delayed

If bids on the construction of the new patients' cottage at Fairview home, state institution for the mentally incompetent, are considered out of reason when they are called early in January it is possible that a considerable portion of the state's postwar building program may be delayed until labor costs and material prices are stabilized.

The entire state building program involves an expenditure of \$10,000,000 approved by voters at a special election last June, of which \$6,000,000 is to be spent by the state board of control and \$4,000,000 by the state board of higher education. Another \$3,500,000 had been appropriated by previous legislature for postwar construction.

"It is our desire to proceed with the entire program," one member of the board said recently, "but present costs may tend to throttle the prospects of early construction."

Just how high building costs must be to over-balance what has sometimes been described as "the desperate need" for more accommodations at the state hospital here, other state institutions and the crowded colleges no one has said.

Some officials have predicted that a settlement of strikes, particularly in the lumber industry, might result in a level of building costs which would invite construction without material delay.

### State Assigned FM Channels

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22 (AP)—Tentative assignment of 42 FM (frequency modulation) radio channels to Oregon was announced today by the federal communications commission.

The tentative allocations for the state are: Albany, two channels; Astoria, two; Baker, two; Bend, two; Coos Bay, two; Corvallis, one; The Dalles, two; Eugene, two; Grants Pass, two; Klamath Falls, three; LaGrande, two; Medford, two; Pendleton, two; Portland, 12; Roseburg, two; Salem, two.

### Truman Slips Under the Wire

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22 (AP)—Have you ever arrived at the bank just a few minutes after closing time?

Well, that's what happened to President Truman today. Only he got in.

The doorman recognized the president and the tellers were happy to take care of his pre-Christmas business.

### Yakima Contributes to Kenny Foundation

SPOKANE, Dec. 22 (AP)—Yakima's contribution of \$10,000 to the Sister Kenny foundation for infantile paralysis control is the largest received from any of the 19 Inland Empire cities and towns reporting so far, State Chairman Joe Albi said today.

The drive in Yakima is headed by Orin E. (Babe) Hollingsbery, former Washington State college football coach.

### Bishop Baxter Recovering From Wounds

PASADENA, Calif., Dec. 22 (AP)—Dr. Bruce R. Baxter, 53, Methodist bishop for the Portland area, was recovering today from slash wounds and hospital attendants said he would be released.

The bishop was unable to account for the attack last night. He told police that when he got out of his car at a street intersection a "large negro" grabbed him. When Dr. Baxter resisted, the man fled after striking out with a sharp weapon. He made no demand for money or valuables.

Superficial wounds on the left hand and left side were reported by Huntington Memorial hospital where Dr. Baxter was treated. He was asked to remain there for observation and today his condition was described as "good."

Dr. and Mrs. Baxter came here to visit friends. He is the former dean of the University of Southern California school of religion and former president of Willamette university.

### Sidewalk Doors Collapse, Inquire

Dwight Bowen, 18, 1690 Mill st., escaped serious injury Saturday night at 9 o'clock when the steel overhead doors in the sidewalk in front of the Elsinore

theatre broke and fell on him. Bowen, a doorman at the theatre, had been in the basement and was ascending a ladder leading to the street when the ladder fell and the doors crashed in, cutting his scalp.

The first aid squad answered the call and took Bowen to a local hospital where his condition was reported as not serious.

### Police Comb Sweet Home Area for Men

ALBANY, Ore., Dec. 22 (AP)—Sheriff's officers and state police tonight were combing the Sweet Home area for several men wanted in robbery of three Brownsville stores.

Sheriff Mike Southard reported arrest of Jack Orville Mann, of Corvallis, a former Sweet Home resident, on a charge of burglary. He is being held in the Linn county jail.

The sheriff said Mann is charged with helping others crack a safe at the Graham pharmacy and getting \$2000, dynamiting a safe at the Carlson hardware where they obtained \$1000 and entering the Chambers grocery where they stole \$100 from a cash drawer.

Albany Police Chief R. L. Chandler said Mann was also listed wanted in connection with a robbery and burglary of a safe in Benton county.

### Congress to Face Problems Upon Return

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22 (AP)—No congress in recent years has faced an election-year docket as laden with controversy as that which confronts the 79th when it reconvenes next month.

Between January 14 when they come back from vacation, and next summer when they hope to get away for political campaigning, the legislators must grapple with more than a dozen major subjects, each primed with political dynamite.

There are many items on President Truman's legislative program that haven't been acted on, and there are many others, not on the chief executive's priority list, that are likely to become bitter issues.

The senate in particular faces a prospect of diving immediately into a row, with Senators Ball (R-Minn) and Chavez (D-NM) planning to bring up the bill for a permanent fair employment

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practices committee. That plan has started trouble every time it has come up. Senator Bilbo (D-Miss) already has let it be known he will filibuster.

Some time before May 15, congress must decide what it wants to do about the draft law. It expires then, and many members of congress want it to go right on with its dying.

The decision on the draft probably will be coupled with universal military training legislation the president has requested. The house military committee is in the midst of hearings on peacetime

military training now. Before the end of June, some decision must be reached about price controls. If nothing is done, the controls end automatically, for the price control law expired on June 30, 1945.

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