

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Sprague
If it can't be San Francisco, then let it be Boston for capital of the United Nations.

Retiring



Gen. Brehon Somervell, commanding general of the army service forces, who will be succeeded by Lt. Gen. Leroy Lutes upon his retirement Jan. 1.

Cities Urged to File Claim for Added Housing

Under the terms of a law passed by congress last Friday the federal government will dismantle surplus houses on government projects and transport them to the cities where needed and re-erect them on sites provided by the cities.

Word Of Results Delayed

Optimistic Air Fills Conference, Progress Made

By Eddy Gilmore
MOSCOW, Dec. 26 (AP)—The foreign ministers of the United States, Russia and Great Britain were said late tonight to have reached agreement on all points of their discussions.

(The Moscow radio in a broadcast heard in London said that the conference had ended and that Byrnes would hold a press conference at 7:30 a.m. Thursday.)

All world ills have not been solved, these informants said, "but progress, and great progress, has been made."

In London, foreign office officials were called back from holiday vacations to be at their posts for an expected release of the conference communiqué.

The air of optimism persisted here right up to the closing hours of the conference. Observers pointed out that the rapidity with which the three statesmen reached an agreement on peace treaty procedure indicated considerable progress.

U.S. Willing to Talk of Break With Franco

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26 (AP)—Although critical of all three regimes, the United States today took simultaneous steps in the direction of a diplomatic break with one European government and recognition of two others.

At his news conference Acting Secretary of State Dean Acheson disclosed these prospects: 1. The U. S. has indicated willingness to discuss with the British and French governments all aspects of the relations of the three countries with Generalissimo Franco's Spanish regime.

2. Once the U. S., Britain and Russia have concluded peace treaties with Romania and Bulgaria on lines laid down by the big three foreign ministers at Moscow, this government will be ready to recognize regimes of the two Balkan states.

Admiral Keyes Dies in London

LONDON, Dec. 26 (AP)—Admiral of the Fleet Lord Roger John Brownlow Keyes, distinguished British naval hero who emerged from retirement to serve his nation in the second World War, died in his sleep today after an illness of three weeks.

Game Commission To Erect Building

The state game commission has authority to purchase a building in Portland, on which it now holds an option, without consent of the state board of control.

Excess Blood Plasma To Go to Civilians

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26 (AP)—Blood plasma, the substance that saved thousands of lives on the battlefields, soon will be available without cost to civilians who need it.

Miners Trapped by Blast

Nip Guard Given Life At Labor

YOKOHAMA, Thursday, Dec. 27 (AP)—Tatsuo Tsuchiya, a prison camp guard who was the first war crimes suspect to be tried in Japan, was convicted today of killing an American prisoner of war and was sentenced to hard labor for life.

The U. S. war crimes commission adjudged that Tsuchiya, known as "Little Glass Eye," along with other Japanese "willfully, unlawfully and unmercifully beat and killed Pfc. Robert Gordon Teas of Streator, Ill., a survivor of the Bataan death march.

Tsuchiya described himself as a protector of the prisoners and said he could remember nothing about Teas. The little guard admitted he did hit some prisoners with his open palm, but only after his commander reprimanded him for being too easy on the men.

The prosecution claimed Tsuchiya beat Teas across the face with a rope when the starving American was caught with several tins of Red Cross food the Nipponese had appropriated for themselves.

Camp commandants ordered to trial are 1st Lt. Ked Yuri, accused of keeping Red Cross supplies from prisoners, of ordering an American bayoneted to death, and permitting others to die of starvation in solitary confinement; and 1st Lt. Chotora Furushina, charged with permitting torture and denying prisoners food, clothing and medical facilities.

Truman Named 'Man of Year'

NEW YORK, Dec. 26 (AP)—President Harry S. Truman was named today by Time magazine as its "man of the year" for 1945.

In selecting the president, Time said in its Dec. 31 issue, released tomorrow, that "the greatest of all 1945's great events was the atom bomb."

The president, the magazine said, "is somewhat unwittingly, somewhat against his own will, because more than any other man responsible for the bomb, its use in 1945 and its future."

Except for the bomb, the greatest events of 1945 would have been the surrender of Germany and Japan, and the greatest men of the year would have been Allied military men, the magazine declared.

British authorities said it was established that the native troops—Eurasians and Surinamese—did not know the identity of the car's occupant, and had sought to confiscate an Indonesian car.

Another unidentified Indonesian passenger in Sjahrir's car also escaped injury.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26 (AP)—Three senators take off tomorrow on a 30-day, "round-the-world" flight to see whether good military supplies are being thrown away.

Five-Day Quarantine Ends



PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 26—A smallpox quarantine on the troopship Grundy was lifted yesterday to give some 2000 servicemen a Christmas ashore. Ship's Christmas tree glitters on hatch top as men shoulder bags to leave.

Near 750 Meet To Nominate Walter Norblad

ASTORIA, Ore., Dec. 26 (AP)—Walter Norblad, republican nominee for congress in the first district special election Jan. 11, was given an independent endorsement here tonight.

The nomination assembly nearly filled the 750-seat Viking theater as residents of Astoria and neighboring areas nominated the 35-year-old Astoria attorney and World War II veteran to the congressional seat of the late James W. Mott.

Eugene Marsh, McMinnville, speaker of the Oregon house of representatives, nominated Norblad. The Astorian's name will be placed on the ballot as an "independent republican."

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Dutch Fire at Rebel Premier

BATAVIA, Java, Dec. 26 (AP)—Native Dutch troops fired a volley of bullets today at a car in which Sutan Sjahrir, premier of the unrecognized Indonesian republic, was a passenger, but Sjahrir was unharmed.

British authorities said it was established that the native troops—Eurasians and Surinamese—did not know the identity of the car's occupant, and had sought to confiscate an Indonesian car.

Another unidentified Indonesian passenger in Sjahrir's car also escaped injury.

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Truman's Pilot Took No Undue Risk on Flight

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 26 (AP)—Lt. Col. Henry T. Myers, pilot of the presidential plane, "The Sacred Cow," declared tonight that President Truman took no undue risk in his flight from Washington to Kansas City yesterday.

Commenting on reports that weather conditions had made the trip hazardous, the veteran pilot, who has flown Presidents Roosevelt and Truman and high military officials, described the journey as "just another routine flight, entirely devoid of any risk."

"After all," he added, "I think as much of my neck as the president does of his."

41st Division To Revert to National Guard

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 26 (AP)—Reassignment of the famed 41st infantry division to its pre-war status of national guard unit of the Pacific northwest is planned by the army, Brig. Gen. Thomas E. Rilea said here today.

The former assistant divisional commander of the veteran 41st said "plans are pretty well finalized at Washington for the reorganization of the national guard, and national guard units to be assigned in Oregon would be organized to the 41st."

He added that "in view of the fact that the 41st, formerly a 'square' division, was now streamlined and a triangular military organization, it might embrace less territory than did the old national guard division."

The old national guard 41st, veteran of New Guinea and Philippine campaigns and first American army combat division entering the southwest Pacific, originally had units from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana and Wyoming. Most of the men were from Oregon.

Solons to Check on Surplus Supplies

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26 (AP)—Three senators take off tomorrow on a 30-day, "round-the-world" flight to see whether good military supplies are being thrown away.

Senator Knowland (R-Calif), who used to be an army major in Europe, told a reporter that war was wasteful and that many useful things had to be thrown away.

"What we want to make sure of," he said, "is that there is no unnecessary waste now."

CIO Declares Electric Strike 'Inevitable'

By the Associated Press
CIO leaders last night declared a strike in the electrical industry was "inevitable," and Edgar L. Warren, chief of the U. S. conciliation service, said the action would be a "serious aggravation" of current industrial problems.

A walkout of 200,000 CIO electrical workers early in January was "inevitable," union officials declared, and government efforts to avert a strike appeared blocked.

The union's executive board will meet in New York Jan. 5 to consider calling a strike authorized by the membership earlier this month. A stoppage would affect 76 plants in 22 states.

The electrical workers, demanding a \$2 a day wage increase, have rejected an offer of a 13 1/2 cent hourly increase from the electrical division of General Motors Corp., which employs 25,000 electrical workers.

Man Killed by Flying Wheel

SILVERTON, Dec. 26—Thomas O. Farmer, 38, 402 Jefferson st., died at a local hospital as the result of injuries he received as an emery wheel at which he was working flew apart, completely severing the side of his face.

Farmer, who operated a wood-yard, was gumming a saw with the emery wheel when the accident occurred. He died one hour later.

He had been a resident of Silverton for the past 12 years. He is survived by his widow, Blanche, and three sons, Orville, 15, Wesley, 13, and Darrell, 8. His mother and a brother reside in Monitor and sisters in Portland and California.

Announcement of funeral arrangements will be made by the Ekman funeral home.

Ex-Convict Confesses Killing, Police to Drag River for Body

ALBANY, Ore., Dec. 26 (AP)—State Police Sergeant Earl Houston said today that S. D. McLain, 67, Portland, confessed shooting Bowman "because he talked too much." Jack Mann, 27, Corvallis, first told of the shooting when arrested at Albany on a charge of burglary.

Roy Moore, 55, Portland, the third man held in the burglary of a Brownville store, was not involved in the shooting. Earlier Houston quoted him as saying all three were involved.

Explosion Entombs 30 to 50

PINEVILLE, Ky., Dec. 26 (AP)—Although rescue workers late tonight had dug their way to a point approximately 4000 feet from where 30 to 50 coal miners were entombed, workers and relatives alike held little hope that any of the men would be found alive.

Trained mine rescue squads were balked at every step of the way by flames, gas fumes and fallen debris. A spokesman for the Kentucky Straight Creek Coal company said, however, that the latest rescue team to report had penetrated one and one-half miles from the mine entrance. Hope was expressed that the area where the miners were believed to be trapped could be reached tomorrow.

Violent Blast
Indications were that the explosion was a violent one, and Daniel Harrington, of the bureau of mines at Washington, said it was probable that all the trapped men were killed.

Highway Patrolman Austin Hall, who reported the latest developments, said the miners were believed to be trapped at the dead end of the two and one-half mile long mine.

All available means were being employed to combat the flames, which apparently had been burning since the explosion occurred about 8:30 a.m. Seven hours.

Rescue men had been in the mine seven hours, digging through piled framing, dislodged coal, smoke and gas fumes, when they came upon the fire.

Hall said it appeared unlikely that the explosion area could be reached short of "two or three days," and that there appeared little hope that the men could be reached in time.

Mine Operator W. E. Lewis said he believed there were "not less than 30 nor more than 50" men in the mine.

China Truce Hopes Dimmed

CHUNGKING, Dec. 26 (AP)—Hopes of an early truce in China's undeclared war received another setback tonight when a scheduled formal resumption of negotiations between government and communist leaders was postponed.

Representatives of the two sides met, but their encounter was described as an "informal social occasion," and a truce proposal which communists earlier had said they would deliver in writing today was not presented.

Mrs. Mansfeld Reported Sane
SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 26 (AP)—Three court-appointed alienists today reported that Irene Mansfeld, society matron, was sane and was not suffering from any "definite psychosis" on the day she killed Mrs. Vada Martin, a nurse whom she suspected of having an affair with her husband, Dr. John Mansfeld.

The report on Mrs. Mansfeld's mental condition was disclosed in the first session of her sanity trial which began here today.

Truman to Tell U.S. of Coming Bills Via Radio

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 26 (AP)—President Truman will carry his labor and other legislative proposals directly to the people in a radio address probably during the first week in January. It will be a state of the union address to start off 1946.

This announcement today came from the president at his federal building offices here in a news conference.

The president replied in the negative when a reporter said he heard the address would be an anti-labor one.

"Oh no, it won't be that, it will be on the overall legislative program—a state of the union address," he said.

(Washington today reported that the president also likely will deliver his annual address to congress in person on its reconvening Jan. 14, and that the speech may be sent by television broadcast.

The president's nationwide address to the people would precede his appearance before congress.)

Traffic Normal on Columbia Highway

Traffic conditions on the Columbia river between Portland and the Dalles were normal Wednesday for the first time in two weeks, R. H. Baldock, state highway engineer, reported. Snow was falling in the higher elevations of the state with rain in the lower areas.

Coast GI Jam To Be Broken

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 26 (AP)—Most of the 170,000 stranded veterans of Pacific war who spent Christmas in Pacific coast port cities will be home or on their way by New Year's day, army and navy officials indicated today.

Even during the greatest transportation tangle in the few days before Christmas, the average soldier was being held up in San Francisco only six days.

Army officials said they expected this time to be lowered before the end of the month.

OPA to Clarify Lumber Ceilings

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26 (AP)—The OPA today authorized its regional offices to fix dollar-and-cent price ceilings for retail sales of softwood lumber, shingles and hardwood flooring.

The agency described this as a move to obtain more effective control over prices for building materials.

Corporation Asks to Construct State Office Building, Portland

Indicating its interest in constructing a state building on the state's east Portland property, the Lloyd corporation of Portland on Wednesday asked the state board of control to provide details of the project.

Reports previously received from the Lloyd interests indicated that the corporation probably would accept rental certificates in payment for the structure. The only barrier to the rental certificate plan is a provision of law which provides that the state shall not issue in excess of \$700,000 of these certificates. It was estimated that a state office building, large enough to house all state departments now in Portland, would cost between \$1,500,000 and \$2,000,000.

Similar proposals are expected later by the board. Some state officials said they favored construction in east Portland because of the heavy traffic on the west side of the river. Two state buildings have been constructed and paid for on the rental certificate plan. One of these is the present office building in Salem and the other the state agricultural building.

Animal Crackers advertisement with image of a child and a dog.

No, no! Not through your teeth!