

### Imagination of 3 London Boys Leads to New Home in America

LAMARQUE, Tex., Dec. 26-(AP)—In London, England, not long ago, the imagination of three little boys, sons of a modest British couple, compelled them to write a letter to Texas to find out "all about cowboys," which they had read about in stories of the old west. The letter was addressed: "To a Texas cowboy." The letter was printed in a Texas newspaper. When Mrs. Glen Weber of Lamarque read the account, she sent the boys, Frederick Payne, 11, and his two younger brothers, Leonard, 8, and Skipper, 7, three pairs of blue jeans, just like cowboys wear, and some real cowboy shirts. Next, Orlando Blackburn, publisher of the Mainland Times, Lamarque, wrote the parents of the children. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Payne, in London, and asked if the boys could have permission to visit Texas if funds could be raised here. No sooner had that letter been sent than someone suggested that the whole Payne family be invited to make their home in Texas. The idea clicked. Contributions to finance passage for the family began to pour in at the Lamarque newspaper office. Mrs. Weber offered to donate land for the British family. Papers were signed and sent. British and American authorities agreed to agree, so red tape would be no problem. The London couple wrote: "The boys are beside themselves with happiness. Their father and I are just as happy. We've always dreamed of coming to America. And we can't believe it's true. Many of our London friends are sharing in the excitement."

### Pen Escapee Still Missing

Elmer Higginbotham, 42, who escaped from the state prison annex, seven miles south of Salem, Thursday afternoon, was reported as still missing late Friday night by prison authorities. Higginbotham, who is listed as being a native of Doris, Ala., and who was serving a 15-year sentence for assault and robbery and being armed with a deadly weapon, disappeared into the heavy fog surrounding the annex in the late afternoon after partaking of a Christmas dinner.

### Censors' Curtain Falls at Mukden

NANKING, Dec. 26-(AP)—The Chinese government dropped a censorship curtain on the fighting around Mukden today amid prediction that nationalist forces might have to make at least a partial withdrawal from the communist-threatened Manchurian front. Mukden, Manchuria's largest city, was last reported effectively surrounded as the communists increased their pressure on the outer defenses. Communication with China proper was broken except for air and radio.

### Kaiser-Frazer Corp. Repays Loan in Full

DETROIT, Dec. 26-(AP)—Repayment in full of a \$12,000,000 loan made by the Bank of America last February was announced today by Kaiser-Frazer Corp., automobile manufacturers. At the same time Henry J. Kaiser, board chairman, and Joseph W. Frazer, president, reported that the company is closing this year with a cash balance of approximately \$18,000,000 and with all trade accounts on a current basis.

### Truman to Sign Anti-Inflation Bill Monday

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26-(AP)—The president will act on the republican anti-inflation bill early next week, it was announced today, even as two GOP senators split on the best way to curb living costs.

The White House said that President Truman probably will act on the legislation Monday, issuing "an adequate statement" on it at the same time.

In the meantime, Senator Wherry (R-Nebr.) called for governmental economy as an anti-inflation measure and said the president needed no new control powers. This conflicted with the stand of Senator Morse (R-Ore.), who called for a big "economic gun" to avert a threat of an "economic bust."

Mr. Truman has been represented as likely to sign the GOP bill into law on the grounds that it contains at least some of his requests, such as export and transportation controls.

He has also been described, however, as critical of its reliance on voluntary industry agreements to divide up scarce materials and facilities in order to combat inflation.

Morse was one of three republican senators to vote against the GOP anti-inflation bill. Senators Wilson of Iowa and Langer of North Dakota were the others.

Morse said in an interview: "Many republican senators are fearful that inflation can not be checked except by an economic bust, unless their party comes forward with a program that gives the government an economic gun behind the door for use as may be needed."

### Bridges May Halt Arms Shipments If Strikes Involved

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 26-(AP)—Harry Bridges said today "it is quite likely" that his west coast longshoremen soon would "refuse to load arms and materials destined to be used against workers in other countries to smash their strikes."

Bridges did not name the countries. Last week the executive board of the CIO International Longshoremen and Warehousemen's union criticized the Marshall plan for relief to such countries as France and Italy where numerous strikes have occurred.

### Local Christmas Mail One-Fourth Higher than 1946

Mail cancellations at Salem postoffice for the last 16 days of the Christmas mailing period this year totaled 1,343,400, compared with 1,100,100 for the same period in 1946, Albert Gragg, postmaster, said Friday. This, indicated an increase of 243,300 for 1947 in cancellations alone in addition to the increase in articles handled through meters in various offices. The number of large business houses, offices and state agencies using metered mail was also increased during 1947, Gragg said. No packages are included in the cancellations for either year.

### Gasoline Explosion Toll Raised to 13

GARDNERVILLE, Nev., Dec. 26-(AP)—The death of three more persons today raised to 13 the toll of a gasoline explosion which drenched with flames the shack in which a party of Washoe Indians was celebrating Christmas. Sheriff James Farrell said the blast and fire followed an argument which ended when one Indian kicked over a stove and tossed a gallon jug of gasoline into it. The dead included three small children and an expectant mother.

### Masons Install New Officers

Installation of new officers of Salem's four Masonic lodges was carried out in joint ceremonies at the Masonic temple Friday night beginning at 8 o'clock.

In direct charge of the rites were three Oregon grand masters—Walter C. Winslow, Rex Davis and Milton Meyers, assisted by other past grand masters. Worshipful masters installed included Dr. Daniel Schulze, Salem lodge 4; Ray L. Heckinger, Pacific lodge 50; Edward J. Swaschka, Almsworth lodge 101, and Lyle Conover, Kingwood lodge 204. All other officers of the four lodges also were installed. Refreshments were served following the installation ceremonies.

### NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY at NORMANDY MANOR

Reservations Should Be Made Early. Limited to 100. 2 FLOOR SHOWS 2 11:15 - 1:30

SHEA & MALONE Mimic and Pantomime Artists SUPERB! - Says Walter Winchell in Curtain Call. "Gene Malone, a young man with stardust in his hair." GREAT! - Says Ed Sullivan in Variety. "Eddie Shea holds the spotlight." This Week's Headliner - "Sparks the New Revue at the Mayfair Room, Blackstone Hotel - Chicago" DALE HAGEN Singer of Sweet Ballads - - Salem's Own. FEATURING Juanita Manix (The body beautiful) in the Oriental Slave Girl Dance.

### Inflation Wins Top Spot in List Of Biggest 1947 News Stories

By Sherry Bowen AP Newfeature Writer Mr. and Mrs. America met the biggest news story of 1947 every time they sat down to breakfast during the year. The rising price of bacon and eggs—and everything else, cars, homes, clothing, luxuries—was the first on a list of 10 top 1947 stories compiled by editors of Associated Press newspapers.

Inflation was by no means the unanimous first place choice of the editors who, like the rest of the public, looked anxiously at the growing rift between the United States and other western powers on one side and Russia and her satellites on the other.

But "What will we use for money?" was the cry most editors found most strident. Throughout the year they saw progressively increased costs eating into budgets, disrupting plans, threatening economic trouble at every level.

As the year drew to a close Congress debated renewed control legislation with many predictions that federal action would be taken on a drastic scale.

The split between the United States and Russia was second on the editors' list, but the votes placed it only slightly below first place. That story was highlighted March 12 when President Truman stood before congress and announced that Greece was "threatened by the terrorist activities of several thousand armed men, led by Communists, who defy the government's authority."

The president's program to contain Soviet expansion was termed the Truman Doctrine. Rivalry rampant

As the focal point of communism, Russia accepted the challenge and A. A. Zhdanov, leader in Russia's ruling Politburo, said the United States "imperialist" policy would be opposed wherever it appeared. Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Vishinsky carried the Russian attack into the United Nations Assembly and the international rivalry appeared in almost every phase of U.S. foreign relations throughout the year.

The United States was not idle. Congress voted \$400,000,000 aid to Greece and Turkey. The inter-American security pact was negotiated and further activity led directly to U.S. aid to Europe—the Marshall Plan—which the editors put fifth on their list of 10.

After inflation and the U.S.-Russian rift, the editors placed the stories in this order: 2. The Texas City explosion. 3. U.S. aid to Europe. 4. The war contracts investigation. 5. India's freedom. 6. Elizabeth's wedding. 7. Palestine troubles. 8. The Florida-Gulf Coast hurricane.

### Truman Names 2 Men to FCC

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26-(AP)—President Truman today appointed Wayne Coy, radio director of the Washington Post, as chairman of the federal communications commission, effective immediately.

Coy succeeds Charles R. Denny, who resigned October 31 to become a vice president of the National Broadcasting company. Almost simultaneously, the president accepted the resignation of the commission of Ewell K. Jett, effective December 31, and named George E. Sterling of Portland, Me., to the commission in place of Jett.

During his 11 years in public service, Coy was secretary to former Gov. Paul V. McNutt of Indiana, administrator of the Indiana state welfare department and, from 1935 to 1937 was state and regional administrator of the old WPA.

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### Stockmen to Meet

BOISE, Idaho, Dec. 26-(AP)—The American National Livestock association will hold its 51st annual meeting here Jan. 13-15, Leon Weeks, secretary of the Idaho Cattlemen's association, announced today.

### Greeks Hold Off Guerillas

ATHENS, Dec. 26-(AP)—Government troops on two far-apart fronts were reported tonight to be holding off guerrilla forces some 3,500 strong, spurred to a new offensive by proclamation of a Greek communist state.

At Konitsa, about five miles below the Albanian border, the government garrison beat back approximately 2,000 guerrillas in withstanding the third violent assault in two days. Authoritative sources said the rebels' fire power was vastly greater than the army's.

Near Agrinion, 100 miles to the south on the main northward route, the bulk of some 1,500 guerrillas who had tried to take the city were reported surrounded in the village of Kato Proslava, 12 miles east.

### 2 U.S. Seamen Die, 8 Lost in Baltic Wreck

HELSINKI, Dec. 26-(AP)—The master of the wrecked American freighter Park Victory said today two crewmen had died of exposure and eight others were missing.

The officer, Capt. A. L. Zepp, arrived in Turku today with 37 other survivors. He said names of the dead and missing would be cabled to the Luckenbach Shipping agency in New York and made public after next of kin had been notified.

The captain said the 7,607-ton Park Victory, dragging her anchors in heavy seas, struck rocks off Uto island in the Baltic sea soon after midnight Christmas morning, broke in two and sank immediately.

A Sioman, Finnish pilot who was aboard at the time, said three lifeboats were launched toward the nearby islet but one did not reach its destination. One of the crew died on the islet, he said, and a second before rescue boats took the survivors to Turku.

### Snow Recalls Blizzards in Oregon Area

PORTLAND, Dec. 26-(AP)—The record snowfall in New York and its comparison with the blizzard of '98 tonight set old-timers recalling how the storms of '88 struck the northwest.

The nationwide storms kept this frozen region tied up for much of January that year. The Willamette river froze over at Portland and so did the mile-wide Columbia at Vancouver, Wash.

It was near the end of the month before a steamship bucked ice for two days to re-open the Columbia from Astoria to Vancouver. Railroad traffic similarly was paralyzed by heavy snowfalls.

In Portland the snow reached a depth of only eight inches, but the thermometer dropped to 2 degrees below zero.

Only once since has the Willamette frozen over — in 1919 when a newspaper photographer drove an automobile across the river. A two-day blizzard left 13.7 inches of snow.

The heaviest recorded fall in Portland was 27.5 inches in a 40-hour storm in December, 1892.

There appeared little prospect of similar happenings this December. The forecast is for light rain over the weekend in western Oregon and Washington with slightly warmer temperatures in the eastern parts of the states.

Harry Carson, 43, who told reporters he now drives a truck, said he was a bookmaker in 1936. He told newsmen this story: "A couple of years ago federal agents started bothering about the money I made in 1936 when I ran a book. They kept asking me for books and records and I told them I didn't have any. So they asked me how much I made. I said about \$1,000 a day. They told me there were 324 working days of the year and so that's how much they'd sue for."

Assistant U. S. Attorney Joseph M. Solon, who filed the suit in federal court, declined comment on Carson's assertion saying his office had not received complete files on the case from the treasury department. Solon added, however, "undoubtedly there is more basis than that for the suit."

U.S. HOCKEYMEN PLAY BOSTON, Dec. 26-(AP)—The United States Olympic team hockey squad will make its public debut tomorrow night when Coach Johnny Garrison sends his international charges against the University of Toronto sextet at the Arena.

Ends Today! (Saturday) "THE ENCHANTED FOREST" Color "LONE WOLF IN LONDON" "STATE" Phone 3731 - Cont. Shows From 1 p.m. RETURNING TOMORROW! IN RESPONSE TO YOUR MANY REQUESTS! HOW GREEN WAS MY VALLEY PLUS A NEW CO-FEATURE! (FIRST RUN) PIGEON O'HARA LEE CRISP McDOWALL ALSO! CARTOON - LATE NEWS!

Plan Now to Attend our Gala MIDNITE FROLIC! CAPITOL NOW 2 Ace Treats! POWELL LOY SONG OF THE THIN MAN KEENAN WYNN Apache ROSE Roy Rogers Plus Color Cartoon Warner News Dole EVANS Olin HOWLIN

Ladd's Looking for Trouble... AND DOTTIE'S JUST THE GAL TO GIVE IT TO HIM! Alan LADD Dorothy LAMOUR Robert PRESTON IN WILD HARVEST with Lloyd NOLAN Dick ERDMAN Allen JENKINS 2nd Hit "DICK TRACY MEETS GRUESOME" - with Boris Karloff Ralph Byrd - also - Technicolor Cartoon Warner News STARTS TOMORROW! WARNERS EL SINORE "Thal Hagen Girl" & "Three on a Ticket"

Too Late to Classify MAN'S Navy blue top coat, ex. cond., \$15. Size 36. Ph. 6821, or call at 1694 N. Commercial. KARTOON KARNIVAL TODAY! 12:30 P. M. Plus Our Regular Show! LIBERTY Cont. from 1 P. M. Ends Today! (Sat.) John Wayne "Dakota" James Ellison "Ghost Goes Wild" "Jesse James Rides Again" Tomorrow! THE PERFECT STORY FOR THE PERFECT STAR! LARY GRANT Mr. Lucky with LARAIN DAY Action Co-Ed! Gene Autry "Springtime in the Rockies" Cartoon - News GRAND PHONE 3467 - MATINEE DAILY FROM 1 P.M. PREVIEW TONITE! (One Feature) STARTS TOMORROW! THE SCREEN'S DAFFIEST, MOST DELIGHTFUL DUO! ... GROUCHO, the Groucho, and Charmin' CARMEN Serving up Hilarious Helpings of Songs, Romance and Fun! Groucho MARX Carmen MIRANDA ANDY RUSSELL STEVE COCHRAN GLORIA JEAN COPACABANA THRILL CO-FEATURE! Ken Witness JOHN SEAL - TRUDY MARSHALL PLUS! AIRMAIL FOX NEWS! FREE! Hats! Noisemakers! At Our Whoopie New Year's Eve Fun Jamboree!