

Dawn of New Year Finds Java Guns Silent, 3 War Areas Active

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IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Smyke

As the New Year dawns what are the signs in the sky? Do clouds hang low or does the sun promise to shine brightly?

No weather prophet of standing ventures to predict the weather for a full year ahead, and even less scientific attempts to forecast the economic and political climate for a twelve-month period, in accordance with custom, here goes.

Business: The long wave of inflation has crested, is starting to flatten out. No deep trough in sight for '49, though. Growing competition in business; slow construction in credit. Growing worry about deflation.

Labor: Higher wage scales for organized workers; more unemployment. Cut in cost of living to help, employed persons and those on fixed incomes. Few big strikes, maybe more little ones.

Farming: Another good year, and with better weather a better season for farmers of this valley. Producers of animal products to prosper; more risk on specialty crops.

Building: Fewer starts in private construction, both commercial and residential. Costs leveling off, perhaps lower by the year-end.

Congress: Bigger budget, higher taxes, no excess profits tax. New dealers will drive hard for welfare program.

Legislation: Ditto bigger budget financed by dipping into proceeds of income taxes. Lots of politics. Pressure groups busy.

Foreign Affairs: Cold war to continue, not get hotter. Slow recovery in west Europe. China, Greece a mess.

Wish: No pestilence in USA; low death rate, high birth rate to continue. Fewer divorces.

Looking back at my 1948 forecast I note some hits, some misses. Predictions in economic field were for inflation to come to a peak, retarding growth more competitive wages to go higher and credit become tighter. Also for prices of stocks and railroad income bonds to advance. Quite accurate, though not hard to make those guesses.

Sort of scattergun on foreign affairs. Palestine didn't prove as bloody as predicted. Greece didn't lapse into a Spanish civil war. I missed completely the Berlin freeze in the cold war.

On politics I escaped the fate of Elmo Roper and Dr. Gallup. I find I hedged on the outcome of the presidential election, saying the result couldn't be predicted safely then, that much depended on the republican nominees (How true). I said republicans would lose ground in congress, but not lose ground (How wrong). My guess for the next board of control was McKay, Newberry and Belton. That was two out of three, and only a near-miss on the third.

Advice for 1949: Don't overbid your hand.

Russians Cheer Industrial Gains

MOSCOW, Dec. 31-(P)—Moscow ushered in the new year with enthusiastic celebrations in restaurants, clubs and homes throughout the city.

The Russians were relaxed and enjoying themselves fully after having attained economic successes during 1948. Both industry and agriculture are operating, their leaders say, above pre-war levels and the stage is set for further rapid development during the coming year.

Editorials in Pravda and Izvestia hailed the economic achievements of 1948, especially in the coal, steel, oil and chemical industries.

Animal Crackers

By WARREN GOODRICH



"Forty-nine, eh? Which century?"

Rivers Leap Banks in New England

Rain Soaks Salem Area Celebrants

1.32 Inches of Rain Helps Top Yearly Norm

1948 began with rain in Salem and it ended Friday night the same way. New Year's day a year ago recorded 1.45 inches of rain and Friday's downpour added 1.32 inches. And it rained enough in between to bring the year's total to 49.15 inches, 11.21 above normal.

1948 was a wetter year than usual and colder than usual and the New Year sailed into Salem with a minimum of horn blowing and noise making and a downpour of rain Saturday. Police reported an unusual lack of activity in the city and county area.

Through New Year's eve police activity was routine and hospitals reported no accident cases.

only 60 clear days were recorded at the McNary field weather station. Mean temperature for the year was 51.3 degrees, 1.6 degrees below normal. Mean maximum was 61.4 and mean minimum was 41.2.

January 6 was Salem's dampest day with 2.42 inches of rain recorded in the 24-hour period. There was 1.3 inches of snow during the year. Half an inch of snow was recorded in January and March and 3 inches in December.

September 3—during state fair week—was the hottest day of the year with the mercury climbing to 88 degrees. December 24 was the coldest with 19 degrees.

Clouds covered the sky for over half of 1948's 366 days. 218 days were cloudy by weathermen's count. 88 were partly cloudy, and the remaining 60 clear. The thermometer topped the 90-degree mark on 13 days, and on 64 days plummeted to or below the freezing level.

December produced 25 of the cloudy days for the year, 4 were partly cloudy and 2 clear. Heaviest rainfall for the month was 1.34 inches on the 10th. Mean temperature for December was 37.4—3.5 degrees below normal.

Teenagers Riot in Miami

MIAMI, Fla., Jan. 1-(P)—Most of Miami's police force was called to duty late last night to quell a "riot" by an estimated 2,000 teenagers out to welcome in the New Year.

Police Lieutenant Ray Brock said rowdies set fire to boxes and crates lining downtown Flagler street after the King George jamboree parade passed. They then swarmed into a corner drugstore to pillage counters, he added.

Brock said motorcycle cops and at least one-third of the off-duty patrolmen were marshalled to hold back the mob.

Firemen also were called to the scene and managed to quench block-long blazes.

Tremor Felt In California

MONTEREY, Calif., Dec. 31-(P)—An earthquake—possibly part of a series which has shaken the west coast all week—blackened out two nearby towns tonight.

It also was felt in the western coastal residential district of San Francisco, 120 miles to the north. The blackout in nearby Pacific Grove and New Monterey was caused when the tremors knocked high tension power line together.

No other damage was reported, either here or to the north in San Francisco.

Residents in the western residential part of San Francisco—known as the Sunset district—reported two sharp shocks swayed Chandeliers.

Police to Watch for Old License Plates

State police said Friday they would begin arresting motorists next week for failure to display 1949 license plates on their cars. Long lines have been forming the past few days at the license windows in the secretary of state's department.

No orders had been issued Friday night for action by city police in stopping cars without 1949 plates.

Duck Gridders Sleep as Dallas Grooms New Year

By Larry Law

(WITH THE OREGON FOOTBALL TEAM, DALLAS, TEXAS) Dec. 31-(Special)—A nervous, jittery band of Webfoots went determinedly to bed at 9 o'clock tonight, three hours before big "D" blew its top greeting 1949 and 16 hours before the Cotton Bowl game. In the grand ballroom of the swank Adolphus hotel, some 600 Oregon fans had gathered for a hilarious New Year's eve dinner dance. Downtown Dallas was packed with howling, tooting mobs of people, and the great chiming stop the 30-story mercantile bank building peeled forth again and again with "Auld Lang Syne." It was "Happy New Year," everywhere you turned.

Earlier in the evening the team gathered for their customary pregame "talk session." It was evident from the start that the most nervous man in the crowd was "Jim Aiken himself."

Jim told the assembled ballplayers, "We had a truly great ball club at the end of the season. That was November 20. Whether we have one now is up to you fellows."

Big, durable Brad Ecklund, Oregon's all-conference center told his teammates, "We're representing the Pacific Coast conference, the people of Oregon and the university. I just know we're not going to let them down Saturday."

Aiken called on Dewayne Johnson of Silverton, the Webfoots' great defensive quarterback for a statement. Big "Swede" Johnson smiled slowly, "We're ready Jim mentally and physically. We'll whip those Mustangs for you. Just whip and see."

Stanley Anderson, a tackle on the Oregon team that played in the Rose Bowl January 1st, 1920, and lost a 7-6 heartbreaker to Harvard. "I played and lost," said Anderson. "I just hope you boys don't have to go through what I have had to go through 30 years. And I'm sure you won't."

Oregon's right tackle, Don Stanton, voiced the sentiments of the players when he said, "We've earned hard for our team. We've earned hard for our team. We've earned hard for our team."

The unusually silent players broke into a husky round of applause when Leo Harris, Oregon's athletic director read a telegram from Jim Aiken that had been named "Eugene's first citizen."

Jim flopped his hands in helpless embarrassment. "I don't know about that selection," he stammered. "I think they just did it to show you boys what they think of the great Oregon ball team."

At the conclusion of the dinner, Coach Aiken stood at the door and shook hands with each of his players as they left the room.

Players' Wing Quiet By 10 o'clock the players' wing in the hotel was dark and quiet. Outside, the rambunctious Texans were setting off the first of their New Year's eve fireworks.

Trainer Tom Hughes and Line Coach Dick Miller went quietly from room to room, checking to see if everyone was in bed, and offering mild sleeping pills to those bothered by the noise.

When the job was done, Hughes and Miller stood tiredly at the end of the long velvet corridor.

"Happy New Year Dick," Tom whispered.

Miller smiled wearily, "I hope so. Happy New Year to you Tom."

"C'mon, let's get some sleep too."

Sailors Accept Wage Agreement

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 31-(P)—Rosy peace prospects for the west coast maritime industry in 1949 were seen today as AFL sailors accepted a new wage agreement.

CIO longshoremen, three CIO seafaring unions and the independent marine firemen went back to work December 6 after a 95-day strike.

All the unions received pay increases.

EINSTEIN 'SATISFACTORY' NEW YORK, Dec. 31-(P)—Prof. Albert Einstein was reported in satisfactory condition tonight after undergoing an abdominal operation at Brooklyn Jewish hospital.

New Year's Day!

The Statesman's business office will be closed until 1 p. m., today. There will be no interruption in publication.

New Jersey, New York also In Flood Belt

By the Associated Press

Torrential rains turned streams and rivers into raging currents that leaped their banks in six northeastern states yesterday, bringing death, property destruction, disrupted communications and wholesale evacuations of families.

Property damage ran into the hundreds of thousands of dollars in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont and Maine. Railroad lines and highways were inundated.

Two deaths were reported, one in Massachusetts and one in New York.

The village of Risingdale, Mass., population 500, feared for a time total evacuation would be needed when turbulent waters churned near the brink of a power dam on the Housatonic river. However, only a few families had to be taken out as crews threw up sandbag barricades around factories and homes.

Flood conditions around Albany, N. Y., forced the New York Central railroad to reroute its Chicago-to-Boston trains through New York City to reach Massachusetts.

When the trains reached Albany they went to New York City and then transferred to New Haven railroad tracks to get to Boston. Most of the major chemical and textile factories and foundries in the North Adams and Adams, Mass., area were closed. Some sections of New England were drenched under more than six inches of rain.

In Newark, N. J., 3.10 inches of rain were measured from Wednesday through yesterday morning.

Welfare Cases Rise Sharply

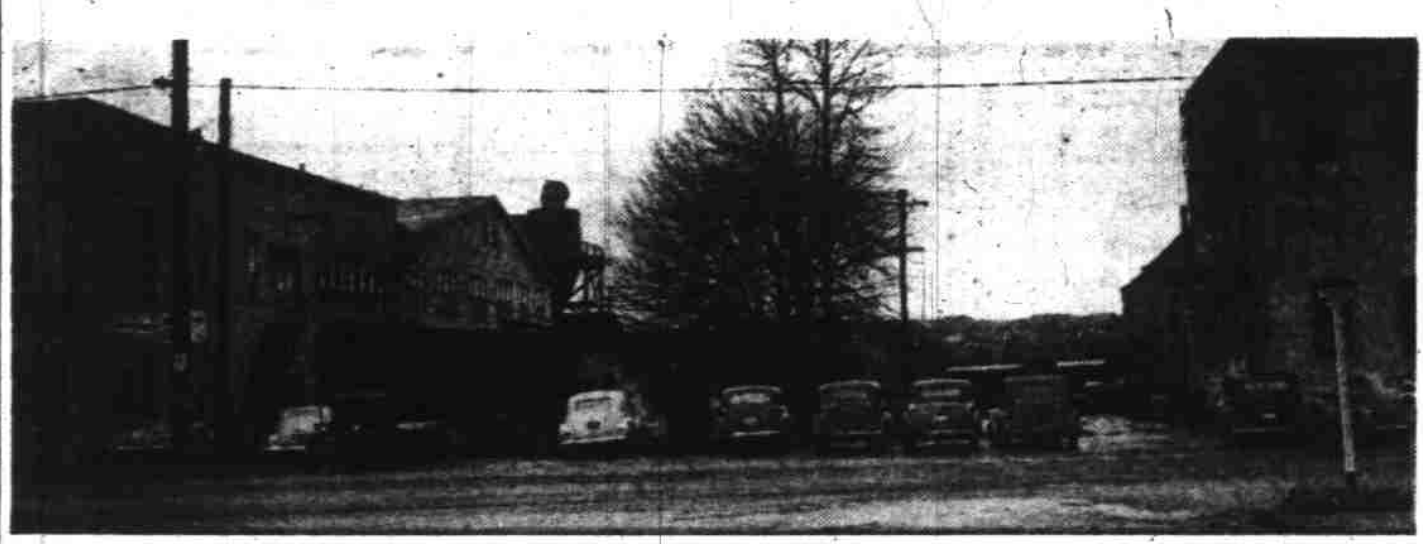
PORTLAND, Dec. 31-(P)—A sharp increase in relief applications, reflecting a growing unemployment, was reported to the state public welfare commission today.

Howard said 3,168 new applicants asked for relief in November—the largest number since February of 1941.

General relief went to 7,973 cases in November; an increase of 34.6 per cent above the preceding month. More than a third of those on direct relief are ill and unemployed.

The commission, hard pressed with demands for medical care, told the Oregon Association of Hospitals it could not promise to increase its payment to hospitals for welfare patients.

Move Starts to Clear Foot of State Street for Off-Street Parking Use



Looking across the Front street railroad tracks from State street, this photo shows a block of State street lying between buildings of Oregon Pulp & Paper Co. and Salem Iron works, where city parking spaces are sought by Aldermen Albert H. Gille. The street has long been used by the two industries. (Statesman photo).

Street Never Vacated by City, Now Used by Industries

By Robert E. Gangware

A move is on foot to provide more downtown parking space by putting to use the block of State street between Front and Water streets.

This part of State street lies between the Salem Iron works and the lumber division of Oregon Pulp & Paper Co. Both firms have been using the street for some of their operations for many years.

Alderman Albert H. Gille has introduced to the city council a resolution to open that street, but has asked that final action on the proposal be deferred, at least until the January 10 meeting.

Meanwhile, Mayor R. L. Elfstrom and other aldermen feel the

additional parking can be created by an arrangement between the city manager to serve notice on all parties "obstructing, using and occupying" the street except utilities authorized by the city, to remove obstructions immediately.

Gille states his main object in presenting the resolution is to make available new parking spaces downtown.

Gille estimates the area would provide at least 50 parking spaces and would be close enough to the shopping center to be attractive to persons seeking parking spaces downtown. "At least employees of those plants could park there and free some of the Front street parking area for shoppers," adds Gille.

Chiang's Peace Bid Spurned

By the Associated Press

The New Year dawned today in a world still troubled by fighting in China, Palestine and Greece. A Netherlands government spokesman said Dutch hostilities in Java can be considered to have ceased.

Western Europeans, who have lived for three years with the East-West cold war, hoped better times were ahead. They noted the revival of key industries, the inching upward of living standards and new financial strength acquired from the American-financed European recovery plan.

In Tel Aviv an Israeli military spokesman, for the first time, disclosed the Jews' second offensive in the southern Negev desert had crossed the partition lines set by the United Nations.

The crossings occurred southwest of Beersheba and southeast of Rafah, a big Egyptian frontier base near the coast. The spokesman declined comment on reports the Jews actually had fought into Egypt itself and captured an airfield intact.

The belief grew that possibly one more military campaign will have to be fought before the holy land gets peace.

The Netherlands spokesman said the Java hostilities can be regarded as terminated without the issuance by the Dutch of a formal cease fire orders to their troops.

Dutch in Control Jan Herman Van Royen, Dutch delegate to the United Nations, told the security council in Paris Wednesday that firing would cease in Java at midnight December 31.

And in Sumatra a day or two later The Dutch now control all of the major cities and the important economic areas of the Indonesian republic.

Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek offered the Chinese communists peace on his own terms or war to the bitter end. The communists immediately broadcast an indirect but effective rejection.

Elliott's Bond Refused; New Try Planned

PORTLAND, Dec. 31-(P)—Marion L. (Mike) Elliott today raised the \$110,000 bond needed to become Multnomah county sheriff—and it was rejected.

The board of county commissioners said the bond was not acceptable because the issuing company had written in a 30-day cancellation clause.

This latest development in the controversy over Elliott left Martin T. Pratt in office. Pratt was defeated by Elliott in the November election.

Elliott's attorney said, however, that he expected to have a new bond written—without a cancellation clause—by Monday noon, when Elliott planned to take office.

One firm refused to bond Elliott after he disclosed that he had made false statements about his past record during the sheriff campaign.

The cash collateral for the bond was raised by various backers of the new sheriff.

SEC. MARSHALL'S BIRTHDAY WASHINGTON, Dec. 31-(P)—President Truman today congratulated Secretary of State Marshall on his 68th birthday.



Old Congress Quits; McKellar Wins Post

By J. W. Davis

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31-(P)—The 80th congress—republican-run and Truman-blamed—went out of business today. The 81st will set up Monday under its new democratic management.

The House adjourned at 1:20 P. M. (EST), and the Senate followed suit eight minutes later. Most of today's formal closing was given over to oratorical tributes, but there were these positive developments:

1. Both branches voted a 60-day extension of life for the government reorganization commission headed by former president Herbert Hoover. Otherwise, the commission would have had to make its report to congress January 16.

2. The senate voted a 30-day extension beyond today for its special small business committee to wind up reports.

McKellar Chosen 3. Senate democrats chose Senator McKellar of Tennessee to be president pro tempore of the senate, a job carrying with it the use of a government limousine. The veteran McKellar barely beat out Senator Tydings of Maryland, 37 to 25. (The president pro tempore presides over the senate in the absence of the vice president of the U.S.)

3. Rep. McCormack (D-Mass) opened the way for the house to have a negro for a committee chairman for the first time in modern history. McCormack, who is to be the house democratic leader, said he would stand aside from the chairmanship of the house committee on executive expenditures in favor of Rep. Dawson (D-Ill.) negro member who is next in line for the post.

All Harmony Today Today's formal adjournment of the 80th congress was all harmony—even a bit jolly—in contrast with the bitterness surrounding its discussion in the 1948 presidential campaign.

Today, when congress was going through its ritual of quitting, the house sent word to the White House, in accordance with law, that it was ready to adjourn.

When Mr. Truman's reply was read—to the effect that it was all right with him—a ripple of laughter and applause ran through the ranks of members.

Cripple Burns In Tiny Home OREGON CITY, Dec. 31-(P)—Fire trapped a cripple in her tiny home a mile north of here tonight, burning her to death before aid arrived.

The body of Carrie Solomon, about 60, a county ward, was found near the door as if she had been trying to struggle to safety.

Origin of the blaze was undetermined.

Greyhound to Control Oregon Motor Stages WASHINGTON, Dec. 31-(P)—The Greyhound Corporation of Cleveland, O., and its subsidiary, Pacific Greyhound Lines of San Francisco, Calif., today were authorized to obtain joint control of Oregon Motor Stages of Portland, Ore.

The interstate commerce commission, authorizing the move, said the joint control will be acquired through purchase of Motor Stages' capital stock.

COMMUNIST SENTENCES FRANKFURT, Germany, Dec. 31-(P)—Gen Lucius D. Clay, American military governor, today committed to prison terms the death sentences of eight German war criminals. He affirmed the death sentences of seven others.

PLANE CRASHES IN ITALY ROME, Saturday, Jan. 1-(P)—Thirteen passengers and an undermanned number of crew members were believed to have perished last night when a South African transport plane crashed near Florence.

OSPREY GETS ESTATE PORTLAND, Dec. 31-(P)—The \$141,145 estate of Mrs. Eileen T. McMaster, widow of a Portland oil man, was turned over today to the Shrine hospital for crippled children. McMaster died in May at the age of 66.

Weather Max. Min. Precip. Salem 45 40 1.43 Portland 42 38 1.40 San Francisco 52 38 .11 Chicago 34 16 .00 New York 51 35 1.11

FORECAST (from U.S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem): Cloudy with rain early, becoming partly cloudy with showers in the afternoon and evening. Slightly cooler tonight.

SALEM PRECIPITATION (Sept. 1 to Jan. 1)

This Year 1948 1947 Average

21.36 19.71 17.21