



**Venetian Lacemaker**—An old woman works on a table centerpiece in old Byzantine design at Venice's Jusurun school where some of the famous modern laces are produced.

### Russia's Atom Explosion Held Big Story of Year

New York, Dec. 7 (AP)—President Truman's announcement that Russia has produced an atomic explosion was the biggest story of 1949 in the opinion of editors in all parts of the world except Russia.

It was first on every list in the annual poll of the outstanding events of the year compiled by the United Press.

The story broke on Sept. 23 and in most newspapers got the biggest headline type of any story since V-J Day in 1945.

"The core of the story was 14 words that were read and heard around the world," said Earl J. Johnson, UP vice president and general news manager. "President Truman said simply: 'We have evidence that within recent weeks an atomic explosion occurred in the USSR.' The UP flashed the news to all countries and editors instantly recognized it as the biggest news in four years. It marked the beginning of a new phase of cold war."

"Editors in the Soviet Union have not replied so far to our invitation to list the ten biggest stories. However, our Moscow bureau reports that the stories that received the most prominence in the Russian press this year included: Communist victories in China, announcement that the Soviet had possession of atomic weapons, organization of the East German republic, the series of notes exchanged between Moscow and Marshal Tito, the Soviet notes protesting the Atlantic pact as an aggressive action against Russia."

Here are the 10 biggest stories from the standpoint of American editors:

1. President Truman announces atomic explosion in Russia.

### Mrs. Hamilton Heads Rural Polk Women

Dallas—The Polk county farm home and rural life committee met at the county court house in Dallas to discuss and review the recommendations of the farm home and rural life committee made at the 1948 planning conference, according to Miss Elsie Marco, Polk county extension agent, home economics. Plans and recommendations were made which will be valuable in planning the Polk County Extension program. Miss Frances Clinton, state extension agent, home economics was present at this meeting.

Mrs. Robert Hamilton, Rickreall, was elected to serve as chairman for 1950. The other members on this committee who were present were: Mr. Herman Amos, Monmouth; Mrs. Charles Bowman, Independence; Mrs. Leo Buyserie, Rickreall; Mrs. Wendell DeHaven, Dallas; Mrs. William Knower, Rt. 8, Salem; Mrs. Grove Peterson, Independence; Mr. Don Rowland, Rickreall; Mrs. Ross Simpson, Dallas; Mrs. D. Van Otten, Amity; Mrs. Ernest Vanderzanden, Independence; Mrs. William Thurston, Independence; Mr. Edwin Totten, Dallas; Mrs. Winona Trick, Dallas; Mrs. Warren Wheelock, Monmouth; and Mr. Josiah Wills, Dallas.

### Lebanon Merchants Erect Xmas Tree

Lebanon—The retail merchants volunteer committee has erected a giant cedar tree on the corner of Main and Academy streets. The men trimmed and prepared the tree for illumination, and supported it with the use of four guy wires.

The Lebanon division of Crown Zellerbach donated the tree from properties north of Lebanon. Dean McKean contributed his services and the use of his truck and boom. Albert Carlson assisted with special equipment, and additional help was donated by the Linn County Telephone company.

### White House Reducing Test Declared a Dead Heat

Key West, Fla., Dec. 7 (AP)—The White House reducing contest today was officially declared a dead heat.

A month ago, President Truman complained that his military aide, Maj. Gen. Harry Vaughan, and his doctor, Brig. Gen. Vaughan and Graham accepted the challenge and made a deal. They would each get down to 200 pounds by Thanksgiving day if the President dropped from 180 to 175.

Today, Graham reported that all bets were off. The man who missed his weight by the widest margin was supposed to pay the others \$10 a pound for his margin of failure.

Graham said, however, that each contestant lost the same amount of weight—between three and four pounds. And they all agreed to call it no contest.

### Promotion for C. E. Paulson

Chester E. Paulsen, 215 South Lancaster drive, Salem, is employed as an engineer specialist with the state highway department in Salem, will be promoted this week to the position of cost analyst in the contractors' analysis department in Salem, according to the highway personnel department.

Paulsen as assistant to E. H. Clymer, chief cost analyst, will assist in the supervision of engineering specialists in analyzing contractors' costs, estimating contract construction costs, and establishing equipment rental rates on contractors' equipment used on state work.

Paulsen received his engineer training at Oregon State college and has worked continuously for the department since 1929, holding a variety of positions including chairman, materials inspector, and topographer. Before coming to the highway department, he was employed by the army engineers and bureau of public roads.

He will return next Monday. Acting governor in his absence will be Senate President William E. Walsh of Coos Bay.

### Rex Beach, 72, Writer Ends Life

Sebring, Fla., Dec. 7 (AP)—Rex Beach, 72, nationally known novelist, was found dead of a pistol wound in the head at his home near here this morning.

His death was pronounced suicide by County Judge J. Howard Livingston and Sheriff Broward Coker.

Beach had been suffering from a throat ailment for three years. His body was found by a nurse who brought him breakfast, the sheriff said.

His nurse, Miss Tania Simonian, found the writer in his pajamas on the floor of his second story bedroom. The body lay by the bed in which he had slept through the night.

Robert Fox, his secretary for



Rex Beach

**Floyd Jones Honored**  
Falls City—Mr. and Mrs. John Gilbert honored her father, Floyd Jones, with a birthday dinner at their home. The invited guests were home folks, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Don Cummins and son.

Mrs. D. E. Cummins, Billy Gilbert and the hosts, Mr. and Mrs. John Gilbert.  
The Detroit Red Wings defeated the New York Rangers 15-0 in 1944 at Detroit for a record National Hockey league score.

**Still Salem's Largest and Most Complete Toyland!**

**SANTA WILL BE HERE**  
Friday 4:30 to 5:30 and 7:00 to 8:30.  
Saturday 11:00 to 12:30 and 2:30 to 4:30.

**BRING THE KIDDIES FOR FREE CANDY AND FLEER'S BUBBLE GUM!**

### Home Service Group Meets Here Thursday

Home service workers from eight valley chapters of American Red Cross will meet in Salem Thursday for a conference, sessions to be in the Salem Y.M.C.A. between 10 a. m. and 4 p. m.

Miss Catherine Little, home service field consultant with the Red Cross, will be here to conduct the meeting, going over with the workers the programs in home service and procedures followed.

Red Cross chapters to be represented in the meeting include those from Benton, Clackamas, Lane, Polk, Linn, Washington, Yamhill and Marion counties.

**McKay Leaves**  
Governor Douglas McKay left by train today to attend a meeting in Chicago of the executive committee of the conference of state governors.

155 N. Liberty Phone 3-3191

**GIGANTIC GIFT SHIRT ASSORTMENT**  
Men's Sanforized broadcloths in an assortment you'd never expect to find for under \$3. Regular or spread collar styles in whites, stripes, fancies and new "dusty-tone" pastels. Mercerized for extra luster and wear. All colorfast. Choose now for gift-giving.

**249**

**NEWEST IN RAYON GIFT NECKTIES**  
For those hurry-up gifts that you want to look carefully selected—grab up some of these big, generously cut neckties. Lustrous rayons with wrinkle-resistant liners. He's sure to like them!

**100**

• Other rayon ties—new patterns..... 1.50

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**SEE OUR WIDE VARIETY AT LOW PRICES! SHOP 'TIL 9 FRIDAY NIGHT**

**LUXURIOUS RAYON SATIN SLIPPERS**  
Still puzzled about what to give her? Either pair of these will solve your problem! Both are colorfully embroidered, both have supple leather soles. In blue or black, sizes from 4-9.

**2 98**

**BLACK BALLERINAS OF RAYON VELVET**  
Petite, graceful slippers like these are as much a part of Christmas as mistletoe! Delightfully embroidered, and padded leather soles make them completely restful. Sizes from 4 to 9.

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**CHILDREN'S MOC-STYLE SLIPPERS**  
They're so comfortable, because they're made of soft, flexible capeskin! Extra warm, too... they're lined with felt! In bright red, with padded capeskin soles and heels. Sizes 8-3.

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**COZY SNAP-ON SLIPPERS FOR CHILDREN**  
A snug bootie style that keeps them warm from their toes to their ankles! Made of soft, smooth capeskin and lined with felt. Bright red, with padded leather soles. Sizes 8 to 3.

**2 19**

**MEN'S LONG-WEARING OPERA SLIPPERS**  
He'll enjoy the comfort of these classic opera slippers long after Christmas! They're made of smooth, soft capeskin, with sturdy leather soles. In rich brown, sizes from 6 to 11.

**3 29**

**SALE! 3.98 MEN'S BROWN KID ROMEOS**  
Shop now for Christmas... and save! These are our most popular men's slippers, and small wonder... they're great for relaxing, walking or driving! With easy-flexing leather soles.

**3 44**  
Size 6-12

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