

THE WEATHER HERE

CLEARING AND COOLER TO-NIGHT; lowest temperature near 25; increasing cloudiness Sunday, highest temperature near 45.

Maximum yesterday, 48; minimum today, 30. Total 24-hour precipitation .18; for month 1.26; normal, 1.82. Season precipitation, 10.99; normal, 12.76. River height, 1.2 feet. (Report by U. S. Weather Bureau.)

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Australians Oust Socialists From Control

Free Enterprise Coalition of Parties Defeats Laborites

Sidney, Dec. 10 (AP)—Australia's socialist labor government was defeated in yesterday's parliamentary election by a coalition of the right wing for a return to free enterprise, having secured a majority in the lower house.

In the elections, Australians also voted for 42 senators which, with the 18 senators whose terms have not yet expired makes an upper chamber of 60 seats.

Because of the proportional representation method of voting, labor is virtually certain of winning 18 seats. It already has 15 members in the senate. This means that labor will have at least 33 members—a majority. The senate strength, however, has no bearing on the choice of the government. The cabinet must have a majority in the lower house to maintain power.

Labor Controls Senate Before the election liberal and country party leaders conceded labor would likely continue to control the senate. However, they expressed belief the labor-dominated senate would not obstruct legislation of a liberal-country party government.

The Sydney Sun summed up the election result with the heading: "Socialism Gets a Hiding." It said:

"Labor has been repudiated most wholeheartedly in the metropolitan areas of states ruled by labor governments (Queensland and New South Wales). These figures reflect the rebellion of Mrs. Australia, the housewife, who is fed up with restrictions, shortages and controls. In the defeat of the Chifly government is a verdict for the democratic way of life."

The best-informed political observers expressed belief that Australians are tired of controls and the trend toward more socialization, tired of rising prices—which may or may not have been the fault of government. (Concluded on Page 5, Column 7)

Blizzards Hit Midcontinent

Blizzards and a fast moving cold wave bore down on a wide stretch of the midcontinent Saturday, threatening the season's most grueling weather.

The Chicago weather bureau issued cold wave, snow or blizzard warnings for residents of eight states.

The storms or bitter cold were forecast for a wide belt from Oklahoma to eastern Montana, North and South Dakota, Nebraska, eastern Montana and western Kansas were in the path both of blizzards and a mass of Arctic air. Bitter cold and heavy, blowing snow also were forecast for Minnesota and Wisconsin. The cold wave was expected to dip as far south as northwestern Oklahoma by Sunday.

Temperatures were expected to dip to an extreme of 20 below in the Dakotas by Sunday night. Another mass of cold air brought severe cold to residents of the northwestern states Saturday.

Light snow or freezing rain made highways dangerously slick over wide areas of the country. Blizzard conditions were forecast for western Nebraska and Kansas and Oklahoma.

Light rain or snow was falling from Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan southward into the Ohio valley and Appalachians and southwestward into the southern plains.

Dallas Auto Knocks Over Phone Pole

Dallas, Ore., Dec. 10—An accident more spectacular than destructive is reported by Fred Green, of Dallas, whose automobile knocked down a telephone pole on the Salem-Dallas highway just outside the city limits early Saturday morning.

Green's machine struck the pole, taking out a ten-foot section, and then went into a ditch. The upper portion of the pole, supported by wires, rested on the mid-section of the automobile, giving the appearance of growing out of the wreck. Green escaped with a cut hand.

Nationalist Garrisons Join Chinese Reds

Kunming Troops Desert and Seize Yunnan Province

Hong Kong, Dec. 10 (AP)—The Chinese nationalists lost all but three meager fingertips holds on China proper today. And they were ready to give up one of those—newly abandoned Chengtu—just as soon as they could complete its evacuation.

The other two are Sichang, in Sikang province—virtually surrounded and worthless; and the Luichow peninsula opposite Hainan island. The Reds are reported preparing to attack on the peninsula to prevent nationalists from fleeing to Hainan.

New Developments These were today's fast developments: The nationalist garrison at Kunming—an estimated 40,000 troops—deserted and seized both that city and its province, Yunnan, for the Reds. It was a coup for former Gov. Lung Yun, one-time friend but now bitter foe of Chiang Kai-Shek.

The deserters seized 12 planes at Kunming airfield. Later, one of them, flown by Capt. F. E. Birkman, San Francisco, roared away under fire. Only one bullet hit it. A Skymaster of the Pacific Overseas Air Service (POAS) it carried 57 passengers to Hong Kong. Another took 20 passengers to Hong Kong. (Concluded on Page 5, Column 6)

Bonneville to Increase Power

Portland, Ore., Dec. 10 (AP)—Bonneville power line loads will be increased 30 percent in Portland, the Willamette valley, and southwest Oregon Sunday when power output from about three Grand Coulee generators go into action.

The increased power load will go through the Bonneville Power Administration's new 230,000-volt transmission line from North Bonneville to Troutdale, Ore., Administrator Paul J. Raver said.

The \$1,110,000 line and terminal facilities were completed this week by the Midland Constructors, Inc., Los Angeles.

Bonneville lines with the new 230,000-volt line will carry peak loads of 750,000 to 800,000 kilowatts to the lower Columbia area. This compares with the previous line capacity of 550,000 to 600,000 kilowatts over the present two-230,000-volt circuits.

Raver said "strengthening the entire Grand Coulee-Bonneville-Portland-Chehalis-Seattle loop of the Columbia river system with the new line will increase system stability. It will help minimize serious lightning and other outages on major transmission facilities."

The administrator said "a second North-Bonneville-Troutdale 230,000-volt line is planned to bring future generation from McNary dam directly to Portland load centers." Power requirements of Portland and Willamette valley load centers are expected to exceed 1,300,000 kilowatts by 1954," he observed.

Audit Shows County Tax Paying Slackening

By DON UPJOHN

Annual audit of county finances as filed by Bowers, Davis and Hoffman, auditors, covering the year ending June 30, 1949, reveals that taxpaying has been distinctly slackening in the past three years, the uncollected taxes as to June 30, this year, totaling \$419,288.80 as compared with \$266,141.87 at the end of the preceding fiscal year and \$213,952.83 at the end of the 1947 fiscal year, or approximately twice the uncollected taxes at the end of the current fiscal year as compared with 1947.

Percentage of total collections to the current levies also have dwindled from 97.14 in 1947 to 95.88 in 1948 and to 94.16 in 1949. Each succeeding year the total roll has been larger, also reflecting that even with larger rolls each year, the percentage collected has constantly dwindled.

The report cites certain deficiencies of collateral securities covering bank accounts to which attention of the officials was called. The report also advises that a property suspense fund has been erroneously credited to the general fund. Distribution of this



Ward Party Leaves Sunday

Taku Bar, China, Dec. 10 (AP)—Angus Ward's party is scheduled to leave Red China, finally, tomorrow—aboard a tug.

But the 20-odd members of the U. S. consul general's staff are not expected aboard their ship of hazen—the Lakeland Victory—before late at night. Their 16-mile trip from Tientsin down the Han river to Taku bar, in the gulf of Chihli, will require about 10 hours. They will start at noon.

Capt. Paul R. Sexton of the Lakeland—no U. S. army personnel, including a doctor, and no correspondents or photographers—would be permitted ashore during the Lakeland's stay.

Nor will anyone be permitted to meet Ward at Tientsin to accompany him back aboard.

Maj. William E. R. Basch, an army doctor, had requested permission to meet Ward in Tientsin. The ship is expected to sail Tuesday or Wednesday.

Robert Puck, German born Tientsin agent of the Pacific Far East Lines, said he was told Ward and his party of 20-odd "are in good health and good shape."

The Lakeland anchored today at Taku Bar, 16 miles off Tientsin.

Navy to Lease Its Giant Planes

Washington, Dec. 10 (AP)—The navy wants to lease its two giant Lockheed airplanes to a commercial airline. Reason: It can't afford to run them itself.

Announcing that the 180-passenger air transport planes are available on a five-year lease, the navy said:

"The reduced military budgets do not permit the continued operation of the planes by the navy. If the planes can not be leased they will be stored at the navy's plane storage base, Litchfield park, Ariz."

Members of the Cherrian committee planning for the tree's decoration this year and for the program are Fred Starrett, Judson Bressler, Robert M. Fischer, Jr., Marty Boesch and Douglas Yeater.

The tree, first decorated by Cherrians in 1913 and then the first living Christmas tree, today is the tallest living Christmas tree to be lighted. It is possible that this may be the last year that the tree will be lighted, because of its height, and Cherrians now are making plans for the planting of another tree for decoration next year.

Effect of seasonal shutdowns was shown by an increase of nearly 10,000 claimants reporting to local offices during the last week of November. The number of claims—initial, waiting and compensable—reached 40,592, more than in any week of 1947 or 1948.

Jobless Benefits Pass \$17 Million in Oregon

Unemployment compensation payments in Oregon passed the \$17 million mark during the first week of December to establish a new weekly high for any year since first benefits were paid in 1938, it was announced Saturday.

With payments being made to unemployed at a rate of over \$800,000 a week, the 1949 total may pass \$19,000,000, of nearly 14 per cent above the previous high in 1946 when war workers were changing to peace-time jobs.

Already this year's benefits are more than the combined total for 1947 and 1948 and officials of the unemployment compensation commission say that 1949 payments will probably equal the entire amount paid out of the end of the war—nearly eight years after payments began.

During November \$1,938,454 were to unemployed workers, considerably more than three times the \$535,656 paid out a year ago.

Oregon's covered payrolls, after a strong comeback in April, May and June when a new record of \$242,747,807 was established, fell short again in the late summer.

At the end of the third quarter pay rolls were running about \$15 million lower than for the same period a year ago. In 1948 state payrolls aggregated \$875 million. The 1949 figure will depend upon wages paid during the fourth quarter, reports for which will be tabulated early in 1950.

Every unemployment compensation office in the state with the single exception of Coos Bay more than doubled 1948 unemployment payments. Portland was slightly below average with three and one-half times last year's benefits, while The Dalles, Medford, Eugene and Roseburg led with totals more than six times as high.

Eugene with payments totaling \$1,142,000 passed Salem to quadruple last year's figure of \$277,715. In third place Salem paid out \$990,596, while Oregon City, Astoria, Coos Bay and Klamath Falls were close together just over the half-million mark.

Annexation Asked Portland, Dec. 10 (AP)—A proposal to extend the Portland city limits about two miles to the southwest was made today. It came from a group of residents in the community of Multnomah, who asked an election to be annexed to the city. Previously the community has opposed such a merger, but the group said sentiment was shifting.

Spies Confess To Aiding Tito

Sofia, Bulgaria, Dec. 10 (AP)—Five witnesses at the Kostov treason trial this morning testified they carried on espionage for the Yugoslav intelligence service. They appeared against 11 Bulgarian communists charged with treason, espionage and sabotage to aid Yugoslavia.

They said they worked against the fatherland front and the communist party under direct instructions of Yugoslav embassy officials in Sofia.

Irial Nikolov, identified as a former Nevrokov district prosecutor, said he followed Yugoslav intelligence instructions to carry out subversive activities in Macedonia, aiming at the annexation of Bulgarian Macedonia to Yugoslavia.

Pre-Christmas Santa Claus Eve Big Success

Rain and Cold Fail To Dim Enthusiasm Of Youngsters

By STEPHEN A. STONE

It rained, and it was cold. But Salem sparkled Friday night.

The eager eyes of cute school-girls sparkled happily as they squirmed about among the thousands who milled in Salem streets. Laughter rippled from the lips of matrons. The behavior of small boys, if rude at times, was forgiven, and the faces of their dads or uncles glowed when some strange but pretty woman tapped their shoulders and said "Tag. You're Santa Claus."

Overhead in the streets the colored Christmas lights that studded the evergreen garlands added gaiety to the always brilliantly-lighted city center and Yuletide music played from a dozen places.

Crowds were as dense as the Capitol Shopping Center, and at other business spots farther out, as they were downtown. All car parking stalls were filled early in the evening, and the new stores in the center were congested with patrons throughout the shopping hours.

All Salem Turned Out It seemed that all Salem turned out for the first of the pre-Christmas Santa Claus nights, which are to be each Friday. It was a happy crowd, even though it was necessary to find shelter indoors at times. This filled the (Concluded on Page 5, Column 8)

Parachuting Santa Caught

Fort Lauderdale, Fla., Dec. 10 (AP)—Santa Claus parachuted into town today, got hung up in high tension wires and was rescued as hundreds of kids wept and cheered.

There were oohs and ahs as Santa hit the silk over the edge of Stranahan field in mid-city but the happy outcries became yells of concern as the red-suited visitor, caught in a brisk wind, was blown into power lines.

The field was jammed with several thousand kids and their parents. Horrified children saw Santa swing hard against a utility pole as the chute tangled, then dangled helplessly 45 feet above the ground.

Jack Niles, 22, the chutist, was shaken up but unharmed. His descent knocked radio station WFTL-WGOR (FM) off the air for a time, but miraculously none of the electricity struck Santa.

"Mommy, Santa Claus is trapped," was screamed by hundreds of young throats.

Fire department ladder trucks were called, but before they arrived John W. Bell, a utility lineman watching the event, quickly shinned up a pole in borrowed climbers.

Bell fashioned a line over crossbars, swung it over to Santa Claus who unharnessed his parachute. A ladder meantime was placed under him and the not-so-jolly St. Nick lowered himself and scrambled down to the arms of a mob of anxious youngsters.

Hyde Park, N. Y., Dec. 10 (AP)—Elliott Roosevelt said today he was going into radio and television production.

The second son of the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt said he and Morgan Jones, New York City radio and television executive, had formed the firm of Roosevelt and Jones, Inc.

Roosevelt said he would serve as a director of the new firm.

At Santa Claus Tag Night last night little Leonard Sabrowski couldn't find one of the civilian Santa Clauses but here he tells his hope to Bill Iguldin, Kris Kringle for Miller's department store, as his brother James waits his turn.



United Nations Assembly Ends 1949 Session

\$8 Million Voted to Finance International Regime at Jerusalem

New York, Dec. 10 (AP)—The United Nations Assembly adjourned its 1949 session at 1:21 p.m. (EST) today after hearing Russia accuse the western powers of a "black plot" against peace.

Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Jakob A. Malik sounded the "war" note in the midst of the customary round of congratulatory speeches at adjournment time. He termed the Assembly's work "unsatisfactory."

The 59-nation assembly had been in session since Sept. 26. Malik said the United States and Britain used the Assembly meeting to cover up what the Russians call plans for a new war. He said Russia stands for peace and will continue to stand for peace.

Pride in Record Assembly President Carlos P. Romulo told the delegates he felt they could take justifiable pride in their achievements. He expressed the belief some progress is being made toward world peace despite the fact that "no startling results" are evident.

"The Assembly has neither yielded to despair nor acknowledged failure," Romulo said. U.N. Secretary-General Trygve Lie also contended the big powers have taken some positive steps toward settling their basic differences.

"We have moved forward," Lie said, "to a point where the world has reason to hope for a step-by-step resumption of real negotiations between both sides. This, in itself, would be substantial improvement over the situation that has prevailed over the past three years."

Some Unity Achieved U. S. Delegate John Sherman Cooper told the Assembly a remarkable degree of unity had been achieved on such measures as the "essentials of peace" resolution which was supported by 53 out of the Assembly's 59 members. The Russian bloc was against it.

The last major decision of the assembly was the adoption of the U.N.'s 1950 budget of \$49,641,733, including \$8,000,000 to finance the setting up of the proposed international regime for Jerusalem approved last night. The Assembly disposed of 88 separate items during its 12 weeks of deliberations. It held 57 plenary meetings and its seven major committees held 384.

Brain Trusters Visit Truman

Key West, Fla., Dec. 10 (AP)—President Truman's brain trusters basked impartially today in the rays of the Florida sunshine and the sunlight of the presidential smile.

The Key West holiday bloomed into full glory as everyone put aside his pencils, his law books and his ideas to relax over the week-end.

Budget? You wouldn't think there was a budget in sight to see the staff at play—volley balls raised high, horseshoes circling above the sands of the beach, bronzed arms splashing in the waters of the gulf.

Cast aside for the Saturday and Sunday holiday were the language of "the state of the union" message, the strategy of another fight in congress for the "fair deal," and the taxes to finance it.

The staff, particularly the working force, was divided, not over policy, but how to take their time off. There was quite a pilgrimage to Havana. Others went to the golf courses, or out to sea to fish. But mostly they swam with the president.

And the president, a happy man from all appearances, put aside the cares that normally dominate his day to let everybody "take off" for a couple of days. He will return to work Monday on the "state of the union" message, the budget and economic messages.

Lockwood Reappointed Portland, Dec. 10 (AP)—Charles A. Lockwood was unanimously reappointed state game director by the state game commission today. Lockwood's new term would be indefinite. His old term would have expired Dec. 31.

Bridges Trial Third Through

San Francisco, Dec. 10 (AP)—After four tumultuous weeks of the Harry Bridges perjury trial, government prosecutors estimated today they are about one-third through their half of the bitterly-fought case. It looks like a long trial ahead.

"I'm hoping to wind up the government case by mid-January," said Chief Prosecutor F. Joseph Donohue.

Kermit Charles Krolek, electronics engineer, ex-communist business agent for the Portland, Ore., local of the American Radio Telegraphers association—declared he saw Bridges act as chairman at Long Beach communist meeting, also attended by Schmidt, which framed a program and slate of candidates to be pushed at the Maritime Federation of the Pacific convention—testified he saw Bridges and Schmidt at communist meetings in Portland, Ore., in 1937.

Every trick in the bag popped out in defense tactics. "I'm entitled to trap lying witnesses by any trick I can—I make no apology for my method," snapped Bridges lawyer once. He is under a 6-month jail sentence for contempt, slapped on early in the trial by Federal Judge George Harris, based on courtroom conduct and flouting of court rulings. The sentence is to be served after the trial. An appeal is in progress.

Prosecutor Donohue, promises another "punch witness" early next week.

Elliott Roosevelt In Tele Business

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