AUTOMOTIVE NEWS

TINY ISLAND IN PACIFIC BOASTS EIGHTEEN FORDS

One of the smallest and most inaccessible islands in the world, Niue lies in the vastness of the South Pacific ocean, "a dot on the horizon" to ships that raise her. Seventeen miles long and 11 miles wide, Niue is an island of the "raised coral" type. Because of its configuration and because it is entirely surrounded by a coral reef, Niue has no harbors. Passengers and cargoes destined for the island must be taken in on surf boats through a narrow passage cut in the coral reef.

Although the visitor reaching shore at Niue for the first time is doubtless prepared to see many strange customs and queer sights in this little outpost of civilization, he is somewhat taken aback when one of the first things that meets his gaze is a modern automobile. Niue boasts a fleet of 18, all Fords. Ford trucks and commercial cars dating from 1931 to 1937 account for 11 vehicles, while Ford passenger cars dating from 1928 to 1938 account for the remainder.

The residents of Niue have constructed a system of roads which enable them to utilize modern motor transportation in carrying on their two principal occupations, the production of copra and the raising of bananas.

Until recent years they depended solely on the production of copra, the dried kernel of the cocoanut, for a livelihood. During that period the island was almost isolated from civilization, being visited only two or three times a year by sailing vessels from Auckland, New Zealand. Then an unprecedented decline in the market value of copra forced the islanders to turn elsewhere for the principal source of their livelihood.

It was at this juncture that modern transportation, both ashore and afloat, came to the rescue. Although a coral island with an average soil depth of only six inches, uncertain rainfall and a complete absence of running streams, bananas and other tropical fruit have always grown well on Niue. Inauguration of a regular schedule from Niue to the port of Wellington, N. Z., by the government motor vessel Maui Pomare provided frequent refrigerated cargo service, enabling the islanders to capitalize on the banana crop. Annual shipments for the New Zealand market soon reached 30,000 cases, and Nieueans had a new source of income to replace the devalued copra.

Improvement of land transportation on the island was almost simultaneous with the coming of the steamer. The "Maui Pomare" was launched at Dublin in September, 1927. The first of the present fleet of 18 Ford cars appeared on Niue in 1928.

Amity Wins Contest

Corvallis, Dec. 2.—(AP)—The three man delegation from Amity won the Future Farmers of America corn judging contest at the annual state corn show at Oregon State college today. The trio included Edwin Heinonen, Robert Shields and Alvin Asher.

The world's smallest country is Vatican City, which comprises 108.7 acres. The world's largest country is the USSR (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) with an area of 8,144,228 square miles.

THE SNOW CRUISER HOLDS THE ROAD

Compare the now famous Byrd snow cruiser with the Studebaker Champion shown in the foreground. Then you'll have a fair estimate of its size. It literally takes up the whole road. The ten-foot high tires tower over the Champion, which has an overall height of 65 inches. This picture was made near Elkhart, Indiana.

RUSSIA SUFFERS HEAVY LOSS IN STUBBORN FIGHT

(continued from page one)

boxes and blockhouses, it was apparent that the Finns intended to make a stubborn stand.

The embattled Finns' will to resist was reflected in their public demeanor and statements of their leaders.

Vaino Tanner, foreign minister in the reorganized Finnish cabinet of Premier Risto Ryti, declared in a broadcast to the United States that the "independence and integrity" of Finland "cannot be destroyed by our eastern neighbor."

Soviet Firm

Soviet Russia, meanwhile, showed no weakening in her determination to batter down Finnish resistance and replace her government with one headed by a communist and proclaimed by the Soviet Union.

While Finnish officials in bomb-torn Helsinki heaped scorn upon its members a "peoples" government organized at Terijoki and recognized by the Russian government, was reported in a Moscow broadcast to have concluded a pact of mutual assistance and friendship with Russia.

The broadcast said the "Democratic Finnish Republic" government headed by communist leader Otto Kuusinen agreed to incorporation of Russian Karelia in Finland in return for Finnish islands, naval and air bases.

These were items in the original Finnish-rejected Russian demands which led to hostilities.

Kuusinen Scored

A Finnish government spokesman at Helsinki called Kuusinen "the so-called prime minister who lived 20 years in Moscow as a traitor to the Finnish cause and now is seeking revenge."

At Helsinki the government of Premier Risto Ryti held two meetings and decided to submit the problem of Finnish relations to the League of Nations, of which Finland is a member.

The Finnish-Russian conflict developed into bitter fighting on land.

Refugees said the Finnish column which drove red army troops out of the Petsamo district killed more than 150 in their bitter counter-attack.

A military communique issued at Helsinki said the Finns inflicted "heavy losses" on the Russians and Field Marshal Gustaf Mannerheim's orders of the day said the country would "fulfill its duty unto death" in the war that was "nothing but the final act in our war for liberty."

Scandia Fears

Reverberations of the conflict in the north spread to Scandinavia.

Norway, uneasy over Russian troops a few miles from her border, sent more reservists for border patrol duty in Denmark, her most northern district.

Speculation of the possibility of friction between Russia and England was aroused by an unconfirmed report that British warships had been seen in the Arctic ocean near Petsamo.

Sweden's government ordered further military preparedness but it did not appear that general mobilization of her forces had begun. She was understood to have 100,000 troops under arms out of a maximum reserve power of 500,000.

A Swedish official said Sweden's hope was to keep calm and preserve her neutrality because "we are small—too small—to be of any great aid to Finland."

Triple Victim Rites

Philadelphia, Dec. 2.—(AP)—A mother and two daughters—principals in a triple murder—were buried today, side by side.

Oregon Pioneer Passes

Silverton, Dec. 2.—(AP)—Clorinda Davis Ames, 81, pioneer Silverton resident, died today after a brief illness. Her parents settled in Oregon in 1846. Funeral services will be held at 2 p. m. Monday.

Use Mail Tribune want ads.

PRESIDENT ASKS 'MORAL EMBARGO' ON PLANE SALES

(continued from page one)

"moral embargo" might prove was a question for which officials here had no answer. There were reports in commercial circles, however, that the Soviets had discussed with airplane manufacturers in recent weeks the possible purchase of large numbers of all types of warplanes.

Despite the reports of neutral observers, such as Schoenfeld, Russian officials have not admitted the bombing of open Finnish cities. A statement from Premier Molotoff yesterday said that Mr. Roosevelt's appeal to Finland and Russia to refrain from bombing civilians was "pointless" because Russia was not bombing Finnish towns and did not intend to.

Both Stephen T. Early, Mr. Roosevelt's secretary, and the state department officials said they did not consider Molotoff's statement an answer to the president's message.

Expressions of sympathy for Finland continued today, and some senators suggested that congress declare a moratorium on that nation's debt payments to the United States. The tiny Baltic republic has been the only European country to keep up its war debt payments. It has indicated that it intends to meet the regular installment of $243,693, due December 16. Finland's aggregate debt to the United States is $8,233,157.

MURPHY CONTENDS UNIONS SUBJECT TO ANTI-TRUST LAW

Washington, Dec. 2. —(AP)—Attorney General Frank Murphy today rejected the American Federation of Labor's contention that unions were exempt from the anti-trust laws, and declined to interfere with the present anti-trust inquiry into the building industry.

In a letter to President William Green of the AFL, who had protested against indictment of unions and asked for a "frank statement" of policy, the attorney general said that the supreme court had ruled in several decisions that the anti-trust laws applied to the activities of labor organizations and their members.

"In the Chicago milk case now pending in the supreme court," the letter added, "your general counsel, Mr. Joseph Padway, conceded this to be true and frankly asked the supreme court to overrule its former holdings.

"In the enforcement of criminal statutes it is the practice of the department to follow the construction placed on them by the supreme court. In doing so in this instance, the anti-trust division has followed the usual practice, and I would not be justified in interfering with that course."

Murphy told Green, however, that he was "very glad to have the benefit of your views," and would be pleased to discuss the matter further with him, or receive any written statement which the AFL chief believed "might be helpful to the department."

Since the nation-wide building inquiry was begun in October, indictments have been returned in five cities, and in four of these labor unions or members have been charged with violating the Sherman anti-trust act.

RACING

Bowie, Md., Dec. 2. — (AP) — War Dog, three-year-old brown colt owned by H. F. Guggenheim's Falaise stable, splashed over a sloppy track with great relish and in 1:47 2-5 today to score a six-length triumph in the $5,000-added Thomas K. Lynch Memorial handicap, before a crowd of 12,000 closing-day fans.

W. L. Brann's Challephen, the favorite in the betting, finished second, half a length ahead of Bellair stud's Wise Lady. H. Friedberg's Bala Ormont was fourth.

The winner picked up a purse of $4,500 and paid $21.90, $7.70 and $5.20 for $2 mutuel tickets. Challephen returned $4.20 and $2.90 for $2 and Wise Lady $4.50.

PORTLAND SEVERS STATE RELATIONS

Portland, Dec. 2.—(AP)—Portland high schools broke relations with the Oregon High School Athletic association today.

Eldon Jenne, Portland schools' athletic director, recommended the severance because of strained relations existing for some time over regulations, particularly Portland's rule allowing ninth-term students to participate in sports.

The severance was friendly, Jenne said, and Portland schools will continue to cooperate with the association.

The break meant primarily that no more pre-season or post-season contests would be held between Portland schools and association members, including most of the other schools in Oregon.

MORE SNOW SPORT URGED IN PARKS

Minneapolis, Dec. 2.—(AP)—A bitter attack on legislation tending to restrict winter sports activities within national park areas developed at the annual convention of the National Ski association today.

A western delegation headed by Fred H. McNeil of Portland, Ore., presented a resolution in which it protested discouragement of winter sports in the park areas by the federal administration.

The resolution also went on record as against any further acquisition of additional park areas by the federal government with McNeil contending such a move would only further eliminate winter sports sites from public use under present restrictions. The protest will be lodged with the federal government in Washington.

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