

The Weather
Occasional rain tonight and Saturday, little change in temperature.
Highest yesterday.....43
Lowest this morning.....43
Precipitation......02
To 5 p. m. yesterday......03
To 5 a. m. today......03

Sunday Want Ads
Here it is Friday again. Just a reminder to write that Classified Ad. for the Sunday morning edition. Ads. in by 3:30 Saturday P. M. will be properly classified. Closing time 7 P. M.

WINNIE JUDD FOUND ON YUMA STREET



Washington, D. C., Dec. 15.—Copies of the building codes of Pacific Northwest cities are being examined to discover if they are responsible for monopolistic practices. This is part of the nation-wide inquiry into violations of the Sherman anti-trust law by manufacturers, supply dealers and unions, being conducted by the attorney general's office.

Getting down to brass tacks, the so-called trust-busting division is trying to remove obstacles which have been holding back dwelling construction. Three agencies of the government, FPA, USHA and the department of commerce, are interested in the promotion of new dwellings and their long ago discovered that one reason private individuals are not building homes is because costs are regarded as too high. Why costs are considered excessive is the nut to be cracked by Thurman Arnold, assistant attorney general.

Practices of certain labor unions is one factor; another of certain materials is another. Some indictments have been obtained against union leaders and manufacturers; more will follow.

BUILDING codes have, in many cities, been prepared by labor, dealers and manufacturers, each looking after its own interest. There is the matter of specifications—what can be used, what cannot—and this comes close to the heart of these codes.

A city's code has everything to do with the growth of the community, the expansion of housing and commercial buildings. The code can make a dwelling so costly that a prospective home-owner hesitates to build and this, in turn, creates a housing shortage.

SPECIFIC drawbacks: Unions limiting the amount of work a craftsman can do, with particular reference to electricians, plumbers, carpenters. Refusal of

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SCHOOL VACATION TO START DEC. 22

The annual 12-day school vacation during the Yuletide will start on Friday, December 22 and end Wednesday, January 3, City School Superintendent E. H. Hedrick announced today. He explained that classes would be dismissed on the afternoon of December 21, and reconvene the morning of January 3, giving students and teachers a full 12 days of leisure.

Twenty-six hundred students and 100 teachers, in the city's six public schools, will enjoy the vacation period. Christmas programs are now being planned for the last day in all schools.

During the holidays the usual repair and renovation work will be done in the school buildings, and everything will be clean and shining upon the resumption of studies in 1940.

CRAZED FUGITIVE TELLS OF LONG WALK ON DESERT

Murderess Hollow-Eyed and Emaciated When Picked Up—Persecution Claimed

Yuma, Ariz., Dec. 15.—(AP)—Winnie Ruth Judd, crazed murderess who escaped from the Arizona state hospital for the insane December 3, was captured today on the main street of Yuma, and tearfully told of walking across all but 20 of the 200 miles of desert between here and Phoenix.

Mrs. Judd, hollow-eyed and emaciated, was picked up by Patrolman Henry Stahl, who had been informed by several persons that they had seen a woman answering her description.

Goes Peaceably
The fugitive, whose escape nearly two weeks ago was her second in six weeks, offered no resistance when Stahl walked up to her on the street.

She broke into tears at Sheriff T. H. Newman's office and cried out she had fled from the persecution of hospital attendants.

"I wasn't trying to run away," Sheriff Newman quoted her as saying. "I was trying to get away from those doctors."

Sheriff Newman said Mrs. Judd readily admitted her identity.

"She's kind of excited, but not bad," the sheriff said.

She sat nervous and weeping in the sheriff's office as she related her experiences.

Mrs. Judd told the sheriff she had been between here and Phoenix since her escape through a door to a hospital ward.

She said the only automobile ride she obtained was for about

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LONDON, BERLIN DIFFER IN AIR BATTLE REPORT

London
London, Dec. 15.—(AP)—An attempt by British warplanes to finish off a crippled German cruiser in the North Sea precipitated one of the heaviest aerial conflicts of the war, it was disclosed today.

Anti-aircraft batteries aboard warships conveying the cruiser increased the hazards of the fight and the British admitted the loss of three planes, but asserted they shot down four of Germany's.

Other British fliers last night and early today were reported by the air ministry to have bombed Nazi seaplanes at Sylt, island base off the southwest coast of Denmark, and the islands of Borkum and Norderney, island bases off the northeast coast of The Netherlands, without loss.

The German cruiser, reported to be a vessel of 6,000 tons, was torpedoed several days ago by a British submarine and apparently called headquarters for help.

When sighted by British aircraft she was being escorted by destroyers, a submarine and covering warplanes and British and German fliers engaged amid heavy German anti-aircraft fire.

Air action over the North Sea, which gradually has been gaining momentum, began developing with the inauguration of the British "security patrols" designed to stop minelaying flights by German warplanes.

Authoritative sources said the British planes were worked in relays, involving a large number of craft.

Finland Willing to Negotiate If Soviet Foregoes Conquest

War Bulletins

HELSENKI, DEC. 15.—(AP)—DESTRUCTION OF A RUSSIAN DESTROYER BY COASTAL BATTERIES WAS REPORTED TONIGHT BY THE FINNISH HIGH COMMAND. IT ALSO ANNOUNCED 20 TANKS WERE CAPTURED AND OTHERS DAMAGED IN 24 HOURS OF FIGHTING IN WHICH THE FINNS DEFEATED THE RUSSIANS IN THE REGION OF SUOMUSSALMI.

LONDON, DEC. 15.—(AP)—THE BRITISH TANKER ATHELTEMPLAR, 8,939 TONS, WAS REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN SERIOUSLY DAMAGED BY "ENEMY ACTION" OFF THE EAST COAST TODAY. THE BIG TANKER'S CREW WERE REPORTED TAKEN ABOARD ANOTHER VESSEL.

SANTIAGO, CHILE, DEC. 15.—(AP)—CHILEAN AUTHORITIES ANNOUNCED LATE TODAY THE GERMAN FREIGHTER DUESSELDORF, PREVIOUSLY REPORTED SUNK BY THE BRITISH CRUISER DESPATCH, HAD BEEN CAPTURED—NOT SUNK.

POSTOFFICE OPEN TO 6 TOMORROW

Medford central postoffice will remain open until 6 p. m. tomorrow and on the following Saturday, December 23, it was announced today by Postmaster Frank DeSouza. Ordinarily the central office closes at noon Saturday.

Business hours will be extended on the next two Saturdays as an extra service to the public during the Christmas holiday season, Mr. DeSouza explained. The Christmas mail has now reached large proportions, he said.

GRAF SPEE MAY TRY DASH FROM MONTEVIDEO TRAP

Pocket Battleship Refueled; Crew Working To Repair Damage Done in Fight.

Montevideo, Uruguay, Dec. 15.—(U.P.)—The German pocket battleship Admiral Graf Spee began today amid growing expectation she would put to sea despite the increased strength of British warships lying off this neutral refuge a wait for her.

Oil was loaded into the Graf Spee from the German freighter Tacoma and the warship's crew worked to repair the damage caused by Wednesday's day-long shelling by three British cruisers which finally forced the German ship to take refuge here.

By Harold K. Mills
Montevideo, Dec. 15.—(AP)—Guaranteed refuge to mend damage to their ship, the crew of the German pocket battleship Admiral Graf Spee turned today to burial of their dead while the allies massed naval strength to keep the dreaded raider entrapped.

British diplomatic quarters indicated the 10,000 ton British cruiser Cumberland had been added to the guard patrol off Montevideo and official Argentine sources at Buenos Aires said they "understood" the 26,500-ton French battleship Dunkerque was steaming to join the coner.

Faces Big Force
Combined with the British cruisers Ajax and Achilles, victors over the Admiral Graf Spee in Wednesday's running battle off the Uruguayan coast, these warships would confront the 10,000-ton pocket battleship with more than 50,000 tons of naval power in any gamble for freedom.

A single British bomber which approached the air base at Borkum yesterday without dropping bombs was chased off by our air defense," it said.

"Two further British fighting planes tried to attack the island of Sylt. All four bombs fell into the sea outside the island.

"There was a larger scale air-fight in the afternoon hours which developed out of an attack by British fighters in the region north of the Frisian islands.

German pursuit craft shot down 10 of 20 attackers. One German plane was forced to descend to the sea.

"No special events in the west."

The reported British plane losses were interpreted by DNB (German official news agency) as a new demonstration of German air force superiority.

German planes were said to have been flying in the British ships, flying in close formation, and shot down ten, after which the others hid in clouds and turned homeward.

DNB said the raiders were the most modern type of Vickers and West London long-distance bombers and their repulse proved "unequivocally that the German air force is laying down the law in the Berlin air space."

Last Rites For Doug Fairbanks

Glendale, Calif., Dec. 15.—(AP) Family and intimate friends crowded into the Wee Kirk O' The Heather in Forest Lawn Memorial Park today to pay their last respects to the memory of Douglas Fairbanks, Sr.

Others, including luminaries of the motion picture world, clustered on the lawn outside the little church.

Still other hundreds, some curious and some presumably admirers of the vigorous characterizations of Fairbanks' long career, gathered at the cemetery gates.

Banks of floral offerings from friends and associates of the veteran actor overflowed the chancel of the church where his heavy bronze casket rested, and spread over the lawn outside.

2 More Indicted In License Probe
Los Angeles, Dec. 15.—(U.P.)—The county grand jury late yesterday indicted Merle Templeton, chief liquor enforcement officer for the Los Angeles district, and William Cook on 23 counts of bribery, solicitation of crimes and conspiracy in a rumormongering and liquor license racket investigation.

WHY SHED BLOOD? ASKS SPOKESMAN IN PEACE APPEAL

Finns Will Fight To Bitter End If Russia Persists In War Of Conquest.

Helsinki, Dec. 15.—(AP)—Finland told Soviet Russia today she was still open for peaceful negotiations but if Moscow's aim was "conquest" of the whole country then the Finns will fight to the end.

While the army was calling up all reservists who had not thus far reported to the colors, ordering them to report tomorrow fully equipped, Foreign Minister Vaino Tanner, in a radio broadcast to Soviet Foreign Commissar Vyacheslav Molotov, said the Finns were willing to suspend hostilities and resume negotiations.

Red Support Cited
He said negotiations would have to be on the basis of the principle that small nations have the right to self-determination.

Tanner, who took part in the long-drawn Kremlin negotiations which preceded the Russian invasion, recalled Russia had lent support to his principle.

He recalled also how the Moscow government broke off diplomatic relations with Finland, refused mediation by the United States, rejected Sweden's efforts at conciliation and spurned the League of Nations' appeal for mediation of the dispute.

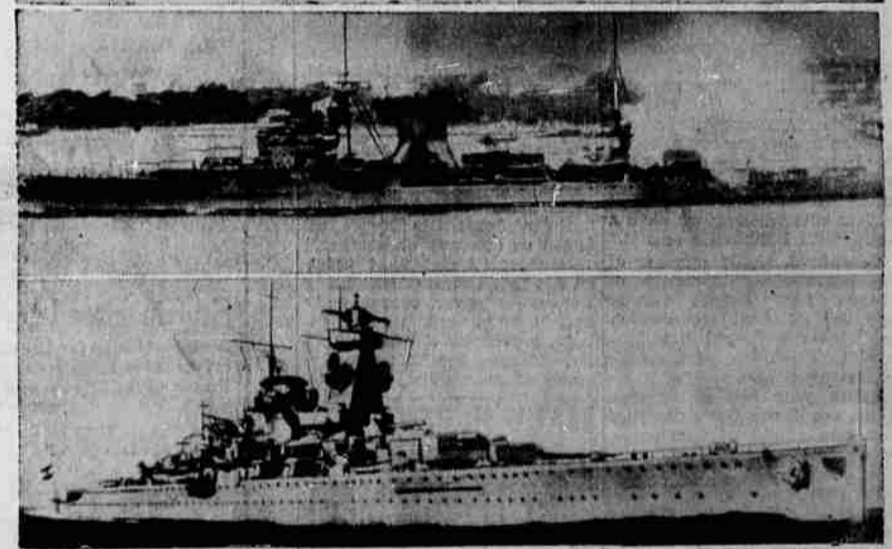
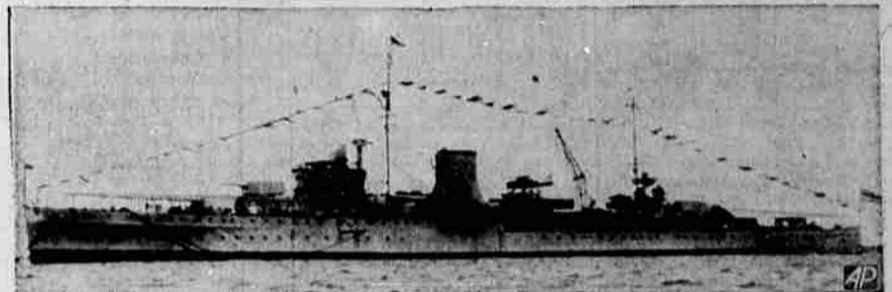
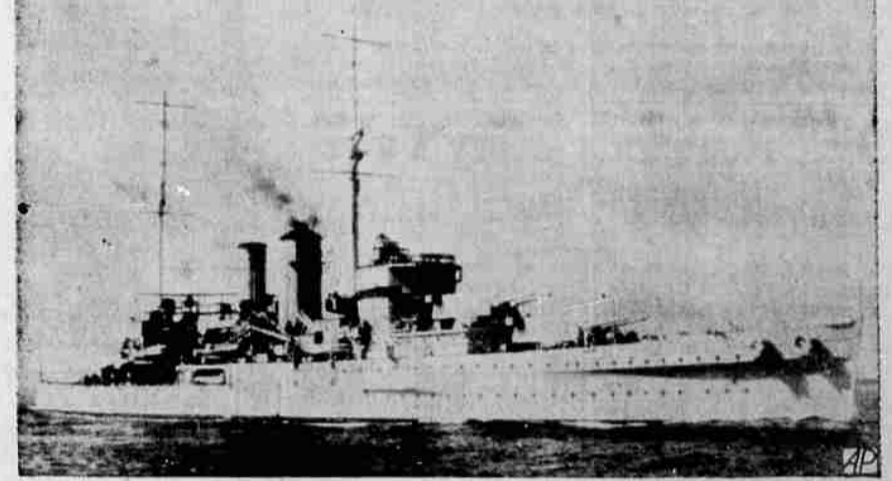
"However, the air is still open," Tanner said.

Fight To Finish
"Finland still is ready for peaceful negotiations," but if Moscow's aim is conquest of the whole country then the Finns will fight to the end.

"Already the first 16 days have shown that the war will be fierce and demand many victims. Why shed blood so long as there are other possibilities unexamined?"

Meanwhile Finland's defenders were retreating on the far northern front, holding their own on the vital Karelian Isthmus and reporting successful counter attacks on the central fronts.

Ships in Fierce Battle Off Uruguay



The British cruisers Exeter, Ajax and Achilles (from top), forced the German pocket battleship Graf Spee to seek shelter in the neutral harbor of Montevideo, Uruguay, in a fierce battle off the Uruguayan coast. The Admiral Scheer, a sister ship of the Graf Spee, practically identical in construction and design, is the lower ship shown. The map locates the scene of the 14-hour fight.



MURPHY DENIES HIGH BENCH OFFER

Washington, Dec. 15.—(AP)—Attorney General Murphy said today he had not been offered a place on the supreme court and he did not believe it should be offered to him.

Murphy's remark was in response to a question at a press conference as to his feeling about a prediction that the democratic ticket in 1940 would be "Roosevelt and Murphy."

Murphy merely laughed at this, but when another reporter remarked "you wouldn't want to step down from the bench to run for president, would you?" the attorney general said: "None of these offers has been made to me and none should be."

BROWN SUFFERING FROM PNEUMONIA

New York, Dec. 15.—(AP)—Heywood Brown, 51, author, newspaper columnist and president of the American Newspaper Guild, is critically ill in the Harkness pavilion of the Columbia Presbyterian medical center, with pneumonia.

Brown was taken to the hospital last night with what was thought to be a case of grippé.

CHAMBERLAIN IN FRONT LINE VISIT

With The British Expeditionary Force in France, Dec. 15.—(AP)—British Prime Minister Chamberlain, leaving his famed umbrella at home, came to France by air today on his first visit to the British forces in France.

He landed at a French air base with his parliamentary private secretary, Lord Dunglass, and Major General H. L. Ismay, secretary of the committee for imperial defense.

BOYS FIND BODY OF WOMAN DEAD MONTH

White River, Cal., Dec. 15.—(U.P.)—The body of a woman, apparently dead a month, was found late yesterday by three small boys returning home from school.

The children, Merle Vincent, Jr., 12, his brothers, Jack, 10, and Jerry, 8, discovered the woman's ring-bedecked hand sticking from the ground less than a half mile from their home, which lies in a remote district west of Sequoia national forest and south of the Tule River Indian reservation.

SIDE GLANCES

by TRIBUNE REPORTERS

Mary Christensen paying her fare home from a vacation with an abundance of pennies, a gift from a prankster friend.

Doc Stan Phillips and wife Margaret running Eddie Cantor a close second for having a non-variety of children—the Phillips, though, probably being the advent of a third baby boy.

Cappy Bill Driscoll getting more and more lax about returning phone messages, he apparently, however, is not unimportant.