



MORE WAITING—Framed by jail bars and his jailers, Dr. Samuel Sheppard is led back to his cell after the jury failed to reach a verdict on whether he is guilty of the murder of his wife, Marilyn.

Europe Celebrates Biggest Christmas Since War's End

London — (U.P.)—Europe celebrated its biggest and gayest Christmas since the war Saturday.

Santa Claus was everywhere. Mountains of turkey were washed down with millions of bottles of wine and champagne. In England a group of American Airmen decorated a jeep like a sleigh and scattered gifts.

The festive spirit ran so high that even Moscow took note.

"Before I start," said a Moscow radio commentator, "I just want to wish a Merry Christmas to all who are celebrating the day, and to repeat that Christmas wish, which is surely the wish of us all, peace on earth and good will toward men."

American service men in Europe celebrated in a manner as close as possible to the home traditions. On the muddy North German lowlands, in the snowy Alps, in Turkey and under the Northern lights in Norway, the GI's gorged themselves on turkey.

The menu included more than a pound of turkey per man, plus everything from shrimp cocktail to mince pie a la mode. For this one day, soldiers and airmen recently told to cut down their weight were permitted to eat to their heart's content.

More than 40,000 service men

spent Christmas holidays with German families. Some 50,000 German orphans, aged and needy children were guests of the occupation forces.

Honorary Degree In Masonic Order Won by Local Man

John R. Pond, 703 Kenyon st., has been awarded the Masonic designation of Knight of the York Cross of Honour, it was reported last week.

This honorary degree, highest in the York rite of Freemasonry, is conferred only on those who have held the highest office in each of the four bodies of the rite. Pond becomes the 5,239th man to have received this award in the past 25 years in North America, although there are nearly 4,000,000 members of the fraternity.

His offices have included master of Warren lodge of Masons in 1954 (Jacksonville); high priest of Oregon chapter, Royal Arch Masons, (Jacksonville) in 1948; master of Table Rock council, Royal and Select Masters, (Medford) in 1952; commander of Malta commandery, Knights Templar, (Ashland) in 1954-5.

In 1953 he served as district deputy grand high priest of District 3. He was elected to membership in Oregon priory and his election confirmed by convention general of the order on Dec. 15. A certificate of membership has been mailed him.

There are 51 priories of the order in North America with a present membership of 4,400.

Part Time Pastor Kills Husband of Ex-Wife for 'Irk'

Watsonville, Calif. — (U.P.)—A self-ordained minister shot and killed his ex-wife's husband early Saturday because "he said something that vexed and irked me."

Booked on a murder charge by Watsonville police was Henry Herman Webb, 46, of Seagraves, Tex., who police identified as a part-time minister of the Church of God of Texas and a full-time farmer.

He declined to say what "vexed him" into whipping out a .22 caliber target pistol in the midst of an argument and pumping two shots into the head and three into the body of Steven Bradley Kirkendoll, 44, Watsonville.

However, police said they believed the argument was over the paternity of Mrs. Kirkendoll's four months old child. She was divorced early this year from Webb.

Surrenders to Police

After the shooting, Webb walked to the sheriff's office and surrendered to two deputies who were reporting for work with the statement: "I'm the man you want for the shooting."

Police said Webb arrived in Watsonville Friday night from Texas and called on his former wife Erma, 37, also a self-ordained minister. The argument ensued.

\$100,000 Blaze Disrupts Holiday

Los Angeles — (U.P.)—Officials termed a \$100,000 fire at the Biltmore hotel the only major fire to disrupt Christmas day festivities in Los Angeles county.

The fire broke out early Saturday in the Galleria room of the Biltmore and menaced some \$1,000,000 worth of paintings. Hotel spokesmen said there was some smoke damage.

Arson investigators said they had not determined the cause of the blaze.

Only one Christmas tree light fire was reported (at 6229 Mosley ave.) today. The county fire department said they had responded only to "minor" calls—one a rib roast that went up in smoke.

Bartender Arrested For Assault With Bat

Los Angeles — (U.P.)—George W. Redston, 52, a bartender, was held on suspicion of assault with intent to commit murder Saturday after he allegedly beat two customers with a baseball bat.

In critical condition at general hospital were Louis Car Roelcke, 30, and Danny B. Vincente, 25.

"These guys had been giving me a bad time all night," Redston told police. Officers said Redston had a prior murder conviction against him.

The Women's Auxiliary Army corps began its training at Fort Des Moines, Iowa, July 20, 1954.

Sunday, December 28, 1954

MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—THREE

Pope Pius Appears at Window To Bless 50,000 Pilgrims in St. Peter's Square

Vatican City — (U.P.)—Pope Pius XII appeared at the window of his sickroom Saturday to bless 50,000 pilgrims thronging St. Peter's Square below.

A huge cry welled from the throng as the frail pontiff stood with arms raised to heaven in front of the open window.

The 78-year-old Pope has been confined to his quarters much of the time since he collapsed Dec. 2 with a severe attack of gastritis and hernia of the diaphragm.

Speaks to Happy Crowd

The Pope climbed the small step in front of his window at 6:02 a.m. EST and remained in full view for two minutes. His papal benediction was relayed by loudspeakers to the happy crowd in the square.

"Here is the Holy Father," the loudspeaker announced.

Then the shutters of the window on the third floor of the papal palace opened. A flock of doves startled by the unfamiliar creak of the shutters wheeled off the roof above the window.

Pope Pius stepped on to the dais it appeared that two persons standing behind him had assisted him to the pedestal.

By chance the sun which had been beating brightly down on Rome since dawn happened to duck behind a cloud just before the Pope was due to appear. It was not shining as he stood at the window, warmly wrapped in a thick white cloak.

The whole crowd in the square, including American sailors and other servicemen, dropped to their knees on the hard cobblestones.

Crowd Cheers Pope

Only after the shutters closed did the pilgrims rise and loudly

shout: "Viva il Papa" "Long live the Pope."

Millions of Catholics all over the world prayed that the Pope would appear in person to give his personal blessing rather than record it.

They knew it was his most earnest desire to overcome what yesterday he called "the loneliness of suffering" and resume again his full activity as spiritual leader of the worlds 425,000,000 Roman Catholics.

Bells of Rome's 446 churches

resounded shortly before and after the Pope made his appearance.

The joyful pealing of the bells made the faithful recall words spoken over the Vatican radio Friday by the ailing Pope.

"O, if only men knew how to live out their whole lives in that atmosphere of joy, with those feelings of goodness and peace which Christmas pours forth on all sides. How different, how much happier, the earth would be."

A group of American pilgrims crossed into Jordan to attend Friday night's midnight mass here last night.

They included Rose Cramer, San Francisco, Calif., and Winifred Hines, Redondo Beach, Calif.

Nationalist Troops Attack Red Posts

Taipei — (U.P.)—Nationalist Chinese forces staged their first joint air and sea assault in three months Saturday against Communist positions off the South China coast.

The Defense Ministry said in an official communique that Nationalist air force and naval units hit Red Chinese installations at Chikusuan Island in the Tachen group north of Formosa.

It said Saturday's attack closely followed recent Nationalist aerial raids against St. Toumen Island and commando attacks at widely scattered points.

The report said Nationalist warships shelled the island for about an hour while Nationalist planes dropped about a dozen bombs.

There were no other reports of activity along the 300 mile island front.

Masons Will Observe Festival of St. John

The annual observance of the Festival of St. John the Evangelist will be held today at 3 p.m. at the Medford Masonic hall, with Medford Lodge 103 AF&AM as host.

Music will be furnished by John Lusk and Fred Graten. Robert Brewer will lead community singing. Master of ceremonies will be Chester L. Fraker, recently elected worshipful master of the Medford lodge. Refreshments will be served in the dining room following the service. All Masons, their families and their friends are invited to attend.

Dead line Sunday Classified is at noon Saturday; 10 a.m. Monday for Monday; other days 5:30 previous day.

World News Briefs

Tokyo — (U.P.)—Red China announced Saturday the death of Wu Chuan Yu, its outstanding swimmer who had been scheduled to compete in the 1956 Olympics at Melbourne.

Peiping Radio said Wu was killed in an airplane accident last Oct. 29 while en route to Hungary. No reason was given for the delay in announcing his death.

ISSUES WARNING

Bonn, Germany — (U.P.)—Chancellor Konrad Adenauer warned Saturday that "this is a dangerous time for peace" and called on Germans to give thanks that peace was preserved in 1954.

Adenauer spoke in a recorded broadcast to the German people

and reminded them of the plight of fellow countrymen under Communist rule in East Germany.

CALLS FOR REPEAL

Santiago, Chile — (U.P.)—Chile's chamber of deputies called on the government Saturday to repeal a new decree which calls for rationing of news print.

Publishers and newsmen have opposed the decree, which sets up a newspaper rationing board as a step toward restricting freedom of the press.

GIFTS ARRIVE

London — (U.P.)—The Yugoslav radio announced Friday night the arrival of 147,000 gift packages in Belgrade.

The packages, sent by the World Union of Churches and the Lutheran World Aid Group, will be distributed through the Red Cross.

PLAN LIBERATION

Tokyo — (U.P.)—Chinese Communist propagandists claimed again Saturday the Communist regime will "liberate" Formosa and "eliminate" the Nationalist government.

A Peiping propaganda broadcast monitored in Tokyo said "the Chinese people have full confidence as well as the strength to accomplish this sacred task."

LEADS ARMED FORCES

Quito, Ecuador — (U.P.)—Pedro Menendez Gilbert Saturday assumed direction of the Ecuadorian armed forces.

Menendez, formerly mayor of Guayaquil, was appointed minister of defense Friday in a move to crush a coup d'etat by military groups backing former Minister Reinaldo Varela Donoso.

Cotton Allotment Increase Planned

Washington — (U.P.)—Rep. Olin E. Teague (D-Tex.) said Saturday he will sponsor legislation in January to give larger cotton acreage allotments to farmers hit this year by the drought.

Teague said his bill would apply to cotton farmers in counties officially declared disaster areas. It would guarantee them an acreage allotment equal to that they received in the 1954 crop year.

Cotton allotments recently were cut for the crop year 1954.

"I have received many, many letters," said Teague, "from farmers in my district complaining of their notice of acreage allotment for 1955 and wanting to know if Congress was going to do anything about it."

Teague said he had tried and failed to get the Agriculture Department to provide some administrative relief for the drought-stricken farmers.

His proposal is expected to be one of a number on the subject of cotton allotments. Congressional experts on agriculture foresee a sharp fight on the issue but they do not expect the allotments to be increased.

One reason is that the cotton bloc itself is divided on the question.

Only One Scrooge, So Carols Continue

Long Beach, Calif. — (U.P.)—Police discovered Friday night there was only one "Scrooge" among the neighbors of the Clayton Boyer family, so permission to continue singing Christmas carols over a loud speaker was granted.

Officers did not identify the lone objector to the songs which Clayton Boyer, 42; his wife, Dorothy, 42; and son Robert, 14, have sung at Christmas for the last three years.

They merely joined neighbors who had insisted the music did more good than harm.

Dr. Sam Has Quiet Christmas; Gets Gifts in Prison

Cleveland — (U.P.)—Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard, convicted of murder in the second degree, spent a quiet Christmas day Saturday, in the Cuyahoga County jail where he ate a dinner of roast turkey with "all the trimmings."

Chief Jailor Mike Uccello said the holiday fare for all prisoners includes, besides the turkey, candied sweet potatoes, peas, stuffing, cranberry sauce and pie and coffee.

Sheppard was convicted last Tuesday of the bludgeoning-murder of his pregnant wife, Marilyn, 31, last July 4th. He was sentenced to life imprisonment in the Ohio Penitentiary in Columbus, the state capital.

However, Chief Defense Counsel William J. Corrigan won a stay of execution of the sentence while he filed an appeal for a new trial.

Judge Edward Blythin will rule on that motion next Thursday.

Saturday was not a visiting day at the jail but Uccello said that "being as it's Christmas," they might allow one or two visitors to see him, "depending," he said, "on who they are."

Had Visitors

Friday, friends and relatives came to see Sheppard in his regular cell. He had been moved from the "observation" cell where convicted murderers are kept for awhile so they may not have an opportunity to try to take their own lives.

Uccello said Dr. Sam had received "between 150 and 200" cards and letters as well as several gifts.

Taipei Chinese Rap U.N. Move

Taipei — (U.P.)—The Chinese Nationalist Assembly publicly denounced Saturday U. N. Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld's forthcoming trip to Communist China — charging it smacked of appeasement.

Assemblyman Gen. Ho Yin Ching said in a speech that Hammarskjöld's visit to Peiping would follow the pattern set at the Geneva Conference. He said there was evidence already that a compromising attitude was dangerous and appealing.

Earlier, Nationalist China's Vice-President Chen Cheng told the assembly the coming year would be the "beginning of darkness before dawn." He warned it will be the hardest year for Nationalist China in its bitter fight against the Communists.

He called for redoubled efforts to resist the Communist menace.

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