

## Adenauer Observes 79th Birthday on Eve of Big Battle

Bonn, Germany—(U.P.)—Chancellor Konrad Adenauer observed his 79th birthday yesterday in good general health and looking like a man in his mid-sixties.

There was some concern among his followers, however, that his battle to bring a resurgent West Germany into a firm alliance with its former enemies may affect his iron constitution.

For the first time, the granite-faced "grand old man" was showing some signs of strain.

But gifts and congratulations snowed under the concern over his well-being.

### Still Has Endurance

Adenauer still had the physical endurance to sit through long conferences and parliamentary debates that exhausted many younger aides.

Only once during recent weeks has the chancellor showed signs of weakening. He shocked millions of German radio listeners Dec. 10 when he cracked up publicly before the microphone while addressing the Bundestag (lower house) during debate on ratification of the Paris arms treaties.

Confused and unable to answer Socialist hecklers, Adenauer left the rostrum and sank down exhausted in his private office.

### Physical Checkup

Between Christmas Eve and New Year's, Adenauer rested quietly at Phoenix. But he took the precaution of subjecting himself to a careful physical checkup at the Bonn University clinic during the holidays.

The chancellor is scheduled to spend 12 days at his favorite vacation hideout in the Black Forest beginning next Saturday. He was said to have asked that this rest period be kept as free of work as possible.

### HANDY

Hattiesburg, Miss.—(U.P.)—When Leo Sprays reported to police headquarters that a friend of his had been missing for two days it took Sgt. Lester Blackburn less than a minute to find him. The "missing" man was in city jail.

## Greater Use of Lumber in '55 Seen by Manufacturers' Head

By JUDD GREERMAN  
President, National Lumber Manufacturers Association

Look for greater use of wood in new home construction next year.

You'll see more of it on the outside of new homes and more of it on the inside. What's behind this trend? Public demand.

Today's home buyers are demanding the beauty, warmth, and dignity that only wood can offer. They want a home of functional, advanced design that fits their needs and has a cheerful, friendly and comfortable atmosphere.

### More Wood Paneling

Today's home buyers are turning more to wood paneling — to relieve the glare from picture windows, to lend variety to their rooms, to cut down redecorating costs.

They're turning more to wood window frames — to escape the starkness of aluminum and steel, to minimize condensation, to avoid drafts.

They're turning more to wood floors — to give their homes lasting, practical beauty and the tread-resilience missing in most floor substitutes.

They're turning more to wood furniture — to accent style and durability in their home furnishings and because the desire to "touch wood" is ingrained in all of us.

They're turning more to wood siding and wood shingles — to give their homes individuality and distinction, to save on construction costs, to cut down their heating and cooling expenses.

Construction Picture Bright  
The demand for lumber in all types of new construction should continue brisk next year. But home building is lumber's brightest spot in the construction picture.

Recent studies indicate that the average U. S. Dwelling unit contains approximately 10,500 board feet of lumber. If as many as 1,300,000 new homes are started next year — as many government and private housing experts have predicted — the lumber used in home construction, alone, should total in the neighborhood of 13,000,000,000 board feet. That's roughly one-

third of our industry's average annual production in recent years.

We expect the trend toward greater use of wood in homes to be given added impetus next year by the Federal Housing Administration. FHA officials have indicated that they plan to give greater recognition in their appraisals to homes of contemporary design and quality materials. Wood fits these specifications perfectly.

FHA's new policy will permit builders to take full advantage of the economy, versatility and liveable qualities that wood imparts to a home.

As this is being written, furniture plants appear to be working out of the slump that plagued that industry during the early months of 1954. From the standpoint of hardwoods sold for furniture manufacture and other domestic uses, 1955 is expected to be better than the year now coming to a close.

Hardwood flooring demand has been high during 1954 and should continue strong in 1955. Total hardwood flooring production in 1954 was up about 12 per cent over 1953.

The new housing law will give a boost to home repairs, alterations and additions, another important lumber market. Recent Census Bureau figures indicate that home owners, alone, are spending about \$7,200,000,000 a year to fix up their properties. The National Association of Real Estate boards estimates that the

owners and tenants of rental properties, who weren't covered by the Census Bureau survey, are putting an additional \$5,000,000,000 into fix-up work.

That makes more than \$12,000,000,000 a year being spent to improve and modernize residential structures or about equal to estimated expenditures for new housing construction in 1954.

The do-it-yourself movement will continue to figure prominently in the home repair and improvement picture, and lumberman will continue to go all-out to service this important market.

### Production Down

Lumber production for 1954 is expected to total about 36,500,000,000 board feet — seven per cent below 1953 output. Lumber consumption, which includes exports and imports as well as changes in distributors' stocks, is figured at approximately 39,700,000,000 board feet for 1954 — three per cent below 1953. Exports for the year are estimated at 680,000,000 board feet — one per cent above 1953.

Extended strikes in the Douglas fir region were chiefly responsible for the decline in lumber output during 1954. If similar shutdowns can be avoided during 1955 and if construction prospects hold up, lumber production and consumption for next year should at least equal — and may very well exceed — this year's figures.

## Cabinet Members See 1955 As Good Year

Washington—(U.P.)—Four members of the Eisenhower Cabinet agreed today in their outlook for the new year 1955—A good year, they said.

Secretary of the Treasury George M. Humphrey repeated his earlier declarations that the U. S. economy is in good shape, and said the whole free world "has continued to advance toward our common objectives of a healthier and wider flow of trade and money."

Secretary of Labor James P. Mitchell said the new year finds "the economy moving briskly upward, and the job situation improving notably."

For the farmer, Secretary of Agriculture Ezra T. Benson said 1955 will be "one of continuing high levels of peacetime stability and prosperity."

Year of Progress  
Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay viewed the coming 12 months as "a year of the most substantial progress in carrying out the Interior Department's primary responsibilities for development of the nation's mineral, water and energy resources."

Humphrey said the greatest contribution this country can make to better world trade is "a healthy and growing economy at a high level of activity here in the United States," and he predicted this domestic situation would develop.

Mitchell said the post-Korea readjustment "has been hurdled successfully, and in a remarkably short time." He said the Labor Department is receiving reports of "re-hiring and increased demand in such consumer industries as automobiles, textiles, television and home laundry equipment."

"The most encouraging development," Mitchell said, "is that the American consumer has kept right on making steady gains in his standard of living." He said take-home pay has continued to be "extremely high as a result of wage increases and the tax cut of January, 1954."

Farm Products Demand Good  
Benson said the demand for farm products will be "at least as good" as 1954, and net farmer income "should approach the 1954 level of \$12,500,000,000."

He said farmers' gross income may decline slightly in the new year, because of acreage restrictions on wheat and cotton, but production costs will probably be lower, too.

"We have been in a period of farm adjustment in the new agricultural program initiated by the administration," Benson said, and we have made a good start toward developing effective methods of dealing with our most pressing problems of surpluses and unbalanced production."

He expressed confidence that "we are on the threshold of a profitable period for farmers who seize the opportunities of a promising today and tomorrow."

### Motive Sought in Boy's Strangulation of Sister

Gallion, O.—(U.P.)—Frederick Spears, 17, confessed slayer of his sister, Patricia, 16, was questioned further today by authorities in an effort to determine a motive in the strangulation-murder that climaxed a pillow fight between brother and sister. Frederick broke down and wept while viewing his sister's body in a funeral home here yesterday and admitted the slaying. For two days the boy steadfastly had denied any knowledge of the Friday killing.



**FOUND DEAD**—Widely known gland specialist, Dr. Paul D. Vella, 40, (left) was found dying beside the body of his patient, Mrs. Avon Bonner, 34, (right) in her Atlanta, Ga., home. They were discovered by Mrs. Vella when she investigated the doctor's failure to return from an early call to Mrs. Bonner's home. An autopsy revealed the doctor died of a brain hemorrhage. Mrs. Bonner's death is still being investigated.

## AFL Recommends Wage Hike Be Taken

Portland—(U.P.)—The executive board of the Northwestern Council, AFL Lumber and Sawmill Workers' union, has recommended acceptance of a 7½-cent hourly wage increase proposed by a panel which investigated the recent lumber strike. The policy committee of the CIO International Woodworkers union earlier made the same recommendation. The pay increase, which must now be approved by local membership of both lumber unions would extend to April, 1956.

Kenneth Davis, AFL executive secretary, said his group stressed the additional recommendation by the governors' seven-man panel for a joint management-labor committee to improve the lumber industry's negotiating procedures.

During the War of 1812, Andrew Jackson's 2,000 militiamen defeated 12,000 British Regulars in the Battle of New Orleans.

**CUSTOM MADE Luggage Covers**

Canvas or Plastic Variety of Patterns

Drive-In Service

**Selby Glass Co.**

303 N. Bartlett - Ph. 3-3613

**NOW IN FULL SWING!**  
**OUR BIGGEST STORE-WIDE**

YOUR FURNITURE DOLLAR IS WORTH MORE DURING OUR

**January Sale**

**FURNITURE-APPLIANCES-CARPETING!**

*This Sale has everything!*

**FAMOUS SIMMONS DEEPPREST**  
or 84th ANNIVERSARY  
**MATTRESS**

REGULAR \$49.95

**NOW \$37.95**

FULL OR TWIN SIZE

**Medford Furniture**  
SIXTH AND BARTLETT  
Phone 2-4848 or 2-4740

**GRAND VIEW MARKET**  
and Locker Plant  
Phone 2-8188  
1330 CRATER LAKE AVENUE

• STORE HOURS: WEEKDAYS 8:30 TO 7 — SUNDAYS 10 TO 7 •

**WE GIVE GREEN STAMPS**

Specials for Fri. & Sat. - Jan. 7-8

U.S. GRADE "GOOD" <b>BEEF POT ROASTS</b> <b>49¢ LB.</b>	<b>PILLSBURY Pan Cake Flour</b> <b>10 lb. Bag 89¢</b>
<b>PURE Ground Chuck</b> It's Delicious! <b>55¢ LB.</b>	<b>PARTY TIME CREAM STYLE— CORN</b> 303 Size Cans <b>2 Cans 25¢</b>
<b>TANGERINES</b> FANCY - RIFE - JUICY <b>2 Lbs. 19¢</b>	<b>CARNATION CORN FLAKES</b> LARGE 12-OZ. PKGS. <b>2 Pkgs. 25¢</b>
<b>NEWTOWN APPLES</b> <b>4 Lbs. 35¢</b> In Cello Bag	<b>AVOCADOS</b> LARGE SIZE <b>3 for 29¢</b>