

Joint Appeal Produces Christmas Lull in Cyprus

Hopefuls Keep Ears Turned To Howell Appling

By ZAN STARK
SALEM (UPI)—Political hopefuls are anxiously awaiting a formal announcement—expected as early as Thursday—that Secretary of State Howell Appling Jr. will not seek re-election.

Many observers discount reports that Appling, a Republican, has decided against seeking another four-year term. But some who would like to become secretary of state are red hot to get into the race. No announcements are expected, either from Democratic or Republican hopefuls, until Appling officially declares his intentions.

Survivors Give Praise To Greek Ship's Officers

CASABLANCA, Morocco (UPI)—Survivors of the fire-ravaged Greek cruise liner Lakonia praised the ship's officers today but accused some of the crew of panicking when the going got rough.

However, rescued members of the crew insisted they battled the blaze for more than two hours before it raged out of control and the captain gave the order to abandon ship. The 20,314-ton Lakonia, which left England Thursday night with 1,877 persons aboard, including 651 passengers, caught fire Sunday night 130 miles north of the Portuguese island of Madeira and drifted aimlessly for almost three days.

A spokesman for the ship's agents in London said a tug had secured a line to the smoldering hulk and is towing it to Las Palmas or Santa Cruz de Tenerife in the Canary Islands.

Montcalm Arrives
The British freighter Montcalm docked in Casablanca Tuesday night with 278 survivors and the bodies of 15 persons fished out of the water.

There was no panic among the passengers," said Albert Neal Spiller of Torquay, England, who was rescued with his wife. "The crew appeared to be the panicky ones."

There was immediate corridor speculation that Elstrom had marshalled strong Republican backing to run for secretary of state. Friends say he will announce his candidacy as soon as Appling's statement is issued.

Two Grass Fires Reported in Ashland

ASHLAND—Grass fires gave Ashland firemen some exercise Tuesday.

After putting one out along the Southern Pacific Railroad tracks during the morning, they were called out again in the early afternoon to control another at almost the same location.

The first fire was reported at 9:35 a.m. along the tracks near Eighth and A Streets. Then at 1:04 p.m. fire broke out again near the same spot. The cause was not determined in either case. No damage, other than a little burned grass resulted.

COAL OFFICIAL DIES
HAVERFORD, Pa. (UPI)—C. Francis Clement, 79, retired president of three coal companies, died Tuesday at his home after a five-year illness.

Elderly Man 'Very Glad' To Be Home With Family

LOS ANGELES (UPI)—A former Dutch tug boat skipper clasped the hand of each relative and kissed it in a Christmas reunion, remarkable because for six days his family thought he was dead.

Upon further examination of the remains in the company of her sister, Mrs. Margaret Morgan of Artesia, Calif., both women went to undertaker V. Jay Sponberg. They insisted a mistake had been made.

"All is yes," mumbled 92-year-old Chris John Wynaart, Long Beach, as he lay on his bed in General Hospital where the present was misty with the confusion of age and his speech lapsed frequently into his native Dutch.

Detective work led to the discovery that an ambulance picked up both Collins and Wynaart and took them to the hospital last Wednesday. Although General Hospital has a policy requiring unconscious or senile patients to have tag identities, there were no such tags for Collins or Wynaart.

Because of his age and health, Wynaart will never be told the "one-in-a-million" story of his own funeral, nor how he was mistaken for another patient who actually died last Thursday.

Funeral services were conducted Monday at Sponberg Mortuary in Long Beach for a man admitted to General Hospital the previous Wednesday as Wynaart. Instead, the body was that of John Collins, 80, a transient admitted at the same time.

"That's not our father," two daughters of the "deceased" Wynaart said when they approached to pay final respects after the funeral.

Mrs. Elizabeth Walls of Long Beach was the only member of the family to see the remains the previous Saturday after death.

At the time, she expressed doubts, because her father appeared to have changed beyond the point of recognition in the six months he had spent in a rest home.

After the service Monday, Mrs. Salisbury, commenting on the funeral Monday, said, "Anyway, it was a lovely funeral for Mr. Collins."

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CHRISTMAS GATHERING—It was a happy Christmas for the Andrew Fischer family of Aberdeen, S.D., shown above, with their three-month-old quintuplets and their five other children. Holding the quint is, from left, Denise, 3, with Mary Magdalene, Julie, 6, with Mary Ann; Danny, 8, with James Andrew; Charlotte, 7, with Mary Catherine, and Evelyn, 4, with Mary Margaret.

WEATHER

FORECAST: Variable cloudiness through Thursday. Patchy fog, early Thursday morning. Chance of a few light rain showers early Thursday. Low tonight 30-32. High Thursday 48-52.

Highest Yesterday 51
Lowest This Morning 31
Precip. in 24 hrs. Today .01

Our Skies Tonight

Sunset today 4:43 p.m.
Sunrise tomorrow 7:38 a.m.
Moonset tomorrow 3:01 a.m.
Full Moon (and Total Eclipse of the Moon) Dec. 30

VISIBLE PLANETS

Jupiter, high in southeast at sunset, will be high in southwest 8:42 p.m.
Venus, sets 6:22 p.m.
Saturn, in southwest 8:22 p.m.

Holiday Becomes Tragedy for Many

By United Press International
Americans by the millions today celebrated the year's happiest holiday, the birth of the Christ child, with prayer, feasting and family festivities.

For most it was a joyous time of children eagerly ripping the gay wrappings of gifts. For much of the nation the Christmas was white, but for some it was a tragic black.

At Least 100 Dead
The traffic toll mounted sharply Christmas morning and climbed well above the totals for a similar period in 1957, the last one-day Christmas holiday.

had estimated that from 200 to 250 persons would die during the holiday period in traffic accidents.

Worst Tragedy
The day's worst tragedy occurred at Charleston, S.C., when a portable oil stove tipped over while parents were bustling about in the pre-dawn darkness, preparing Christmas surprises. The stove spread flames through a wooden tenement, killing 12 sleeping children, all members of one family.

In Washington, Pa., one person died when a fire destroyed an old hotel where Andrew Jackson once stayed.

Monday Work Slate Dampens Holiday For Most Senators

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Prospects of a full work day Monday to spoil their holiday plans chilled the Christmas spirit for many senators today—especially with House members free until Jan. 7.

Senate leaders scheduled the Monday session to wind up congressional action on the \$3 billion compromise foreign aid money bill which the House finally passed Tuesday after the Johnson administration had lost on two previous tries.

The House promptly passed a resolution calling for congressional adjournment Monday until the next session begins Jan. 7. And its joyous members—many of whom overcame bad weather and transportation foul-ups to get back to the vote—scattered for home.

Gets Last Say
The long-fought-out aid compromise which kept both houses in all-night session last Friday gives the President the final say—on whether the export-import bank can underwrite credit on commodity sales, such as wheat, to Communist nations. The House originally voted a flat ban, but the Senate knocked it out.

Before approving the aid bill by voice vote Tuesday, the House voted 189 to 158 for the controversial amendment giving Johnson authority to underwrite the wheat credit. Voting for it were 187 Democrats and 2 Republicans. Opposed were 25 Democrats and 133 Republicans.

Senators Unhappy
The Senate, however, had other problems—including a full Christmas measure of unhappy members grumbling openly over the demand for their presence here Monday to act on the aid bill.

Pope Receives Warm Greeting In Roman Slum

VATICAN CITY (UPI)—Pope Paul VI got one of the most enthusiastic welcomes of his six-month reign today at a parish church in the Roman slum of Pietralata, where he celebrated the second of three Masses on his Christmas schedule.

The smiling, 66-year-old leader of the world's Roman Catholics was presented with everything from flowers to a live lamb.

With a wide smile on his face, he held the kicking lamb high above his head so the cheering crowds could see it.

After saying the Christmas Mass, the Pope paid an unscheduled visit to a house about 300 yards from the church, home of an elderly invalid woman.

Waded Through Mud
He left his black limousine a short distance from the home of 65-year-old Emilia Pratielli, who has been bedridden by paralysis for 15 years, and waded into the courtyard through mud and water left by heavy rains.

At the traditional reception in Nazareth's community center, municipal leaders spoke joyfully of the Pope's visit early next month. Prayers were offered for the safety of the pontiff, who will be the first Pope to leave Italy in more than a century and the first who has ever visited Palestine.

200 Take Part in Medford Program

The stillness of Christmas eve in downtown Medford from which all morning fog had been dissipated to reveal a star-studded sky was broken by the singing of carols by more than 200 voices at 7 p.m.

Participating in the program to bring "Christ back into Christmas," the citizens were led in song by William Johnston, master of ceremonies. Students, ministers and lay citizens from all walks of life entered the area, roped off at Main and Bartlett Streets for the program, and joined the singers.

Speakers, repeating the Christmas message, were the Rev. D. Kirkland West of the First Presbyterian Church, Capt. Kenneth Angel of the Salvation Army, the Rev. Robert E. Cull of the Assembly of God Church, Jack L. Willcuts of the Medford Friends Church, and the Rev. Katherine Bosworth of the Unity Church.

Hot coffee and hot chocolate were served by Friends of Sacred Heart Hospital, who moved through the crowd.

Plans for the observance were made by a committee composed of Lindy McCormack of Medford High School, John Gilbertson of Southern Oregon College, Mrs. Betty Jean McFarlane, Mrs. John B. Compagnon, Mrs. Cecilia Fichtner and Mrs. Arthur McCormack.

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'EYE BANK' AIDE DIES

LOS ANGELES (UPI)—Funeral arrangements were being made today for Miss Fanny Schulein, credited with a part in establishing the successful "eye bank" in New York. Miss Schulein, who came here 22 years ago, died Sunday in her Hollywood apartment.

Hot coffee and hot chocolate were served by Friends of Sacred Heart Hospital, who moved through the crowd.

Kindness of Weed Citizens Annually Remembered by San Francisco Man
WEED, Calif. (UPI)—For 14 years the children of this little community have received toys from a man they never met.

Since 1950, Christmas has been brighter for them because San Francisco businessman Frank A. McMillan has sent hundreds of gifts to be distributed by the staff of the city's hospital.

It is McMillan's way of repaying the city for its kindness to him in December of 1949 when most of his family was snuffed out in an auto crash. The head-on collision took the life of his wife and two of his three children.

His 5-year-old daughter barely clung to life as she was taken to the Weed Hospital.

Guarantee of Independence Halts Fighting

At Least 17 Persons Killed During Week

NICOSIA, Cyprus (UPI)—A joint appeal from Britain, Greece and Turkey produced a Christmas lull today in the fighting between Greeks and Turks in which at least 17 persons have been killed this week.

Heavy fighting accompanied by mortar and machine-gun fire raged in the city Tuesday night, but early today a government spokesman said the appeal from the three nations guaranteeing Cyprus's independence has produced a cease-fire shortly after midnight.

Sporadic machine-gun fire from an emplacement in the minaret of a Turkish mosque echoed through the pre-dawn darkness, but by daybreak the city was quiet. There were no reports of trouble elsewhere on the island.

It was uncertain, however, how long peace would endure among a people divided by traditional enmity between Turks and Greeks.

Order has been maintained here during the three years since Cyprus became independent. Fighting flared this week because of reported government plans to amend the constitution in a way which might lead to discrimination against the Turkish minority.

Unknown Friends Bring Joy To Victim of Cancer

BOWLING GREEN, S. C. (UPI)—A week before Christmas little Vicki Wray could only look forward toward a holiday darkened by cancer and empty of gift.

Two-year-old Vicki, the victim of a cancer which threatened her remaining eye, faced surgery at Duke Medical Hospital in Durham, N. C., which would leave her sightless.

But specialists decided such an operation was not immediately necessary to halt the advancing retinal blastoma. They postponed the operation, at least for a while.

No Moneys For Gifts
A week before Christmas Robert Wray, 39-year-old father of Vicki who works in a cotton mill here, had to trespass on private land to get his daughter a Christmas tree. He had no money for gifts for Vicki nor his eight other children.

Christmas eve was a far different sight at the Wray household here.

Unknown friends from across the United States showered Vicki and her family with money and gifts, which, at last counted amounted to more than \$11,000. Vicki's five-room home was littered with countless toys—so many, in fact, that the Salvation Army was littered with underprivileged children.

There were piles of toys, stacks of cards and letters, and three puppies.

Placed In Trust
The \$11,000 in cash was placed in the First National Bank of South Carolina at nearby Clover under the co-guardianship of bank Vice President David R. Bodie and Wray.

Bodie said the money would be used to finance the expected operation which would leave Vicki sightless and any other expenses of the family. The child had her right eye removed in July.

Idaho Mercury Drops To Five Below Zero
NEW YORK (UPI)—The lowest temperature reported to the U. S. Weather Bureau this morning, excluding Alaska and Hawaii, was 5 below zero at Idaho Falls, Idaho. Tuesday's high was 74 at Yuma, Ariz.