

By FRANK JENKINS
Hot news from Paris.
"The COCKTAIL PARTY COLD WAR is still on between UN Secretary-General Trygve Lie, a Norwegian, and the Russians."

Well, it started awa-a-ay back last year when Lie was re-elected to the post of secretary-general of the United Nations. The Russians didn't like it too far as I can read, they don't like anything much. They said the election was illegal (you've noticed, I suppose, that anything the Russians don't like is illegal.)

So—
The Russians started boycotting Mr. Lie's parties. Every time he'd give one, they'd stay away.

That went on until November of this year when Russia's Vishinsky softened a little and held a Russian movie party at his Paris house to which he invited Lie and his family. Lie had a previous engagement and didn't show up for the movie, but sent his daughter.

That trip to Paris and so, come December 8, when Lie threw a reception along with UN Assembly President Padillo Nervo of Mexico, the Russians ignored it. They didn't even send regrets. They just stayed away.

Then—
Last night in Paris Vishinsky threw a cocktail party and didn't invite Lie. This lked the round-faced jovial boss of the United Nations no end, so he called in the people of his staff and instructed each and all of them to stay away from Soviet parties to which their boss failed to get a bid.

There the matter rests. What the next move may be, only time can tell. Whether war will come of it remains to be seen.

Diplomacy, you see, has its rugged aspects. Still, despite the rigors of the cocktail wars, I suppose life on the diplomatic front is more endurable than life in the frozen foxholes out on the FIGHTING front.

Even on the congressional front the pattern of life is changing.

There was a time, far back in the early years of our country when the influence of the Founding Fathers was strong, when members of congress were supposed to go to Washington and spend their time enacting wise laws for the guidance of our young and promising country.

They stayed at home and tended to their knitting and our Presidents stayed at home and tended to THEIR knitting and with relatively few exceptions the people stayed at home and tended to the knitting that was theirs to take care of.

Then we got to running around. Mr. Wilson went to Paris after the World War. Not much good came of that. Then, in World War II, Mr. Roosevelt gadded all around. He went to Casablanca. He went to Tehran. He went to YALTA — and certainly not much good came of THAT.

Now it's congress that's doing the gadding. You can't pick up a paper without reading where this senator or that representative of this senatorial commission or that group from the house of representatives or somewhere else far away looking into the situation. And somehow I doubt if much good is coming of that.

Anyway, what I started to tell about was another diplomatic incident in Paris. Congressman Vorys of Ohio is over there. He listened yesterday to one of Vishinsky's speeches. Then he commented on it in public. He said:

"It (Vishinsky's speech in the UN political committee) was a malicious, putrid stream of vituperation. . . . You often wonder how it could come from the mouth of a man who you realize that there are certain kinds of contests YOU DO NOT ENTER WITH A SKUNK."

Diplomacy is wonderful, of course. And I suppose this Congressman Vorys thought he was doing his part in the diplomatic cold war. But I can't help wondering what Benjamin Franklin, one of the earliest and ablest of our diplomats, would have thought if he could have known that members of our government would come to Paris in a critical time and deliver themselves of billingsgate like that.

Yule Lighting Contest Ready

The Junior chamber of commerce Christmas lighting contest gets underway tomorrow night and continues through Sunday. Entries are due at the chamber office by tomorrow night.

Entries should include the name and address of applicant so judges can locate the contestants by district.

A \$25 grand prize is being offered by the California-Oregon Power Co., with four district prizes of \$5 merchandise awards being offered by Handy's, the Gunstors, Payless Drugs and the Oregon Woolen store.

A second grand prize of \$15 is being offered by the Klamath Falls Creamery.

Party Slated For Children

Entertainment at the all-children Christmas party at the armory Friday night will include the junior high school band, directed by Lt. Mar Jensen, and dancing, singing and acrobatics under direction of Mrs. H. W. Moore.

Among the youngsters who will take part in the entertainment are Edward Shearer, Don Taucher, Terry Fawver, Geraldine Steiner, Peggy Brown, Myrna Heaton, Sandra Pemberton, Harry and Larry Phair.

The program is to start at 7:30 p.m. and Santa Claus will make his appearance after the entertainment.

The Christmas party is sponsored by the Moose lodge and Junior chamber of commerce.



LOWERING THE BOOM with a five-ton safe on the end of its crane is Joe Vincze operating an OK Transfer Co. hoister. In window is John Janssen, foreman, supervising removal of huge safe from city hall offices.

Big Safe Takes One-Way Ride Out City Hall Window

By DAVE UNDERHILL
Back in 1914 it probably took two days to jack a five-ton safe up two stories and through a window into offices of the Klamath Falls city hall.

But yesterday, with the aid of modern moving equipment it took only about two hours to work the reverse process.

Today the five-ton, 64-inch tall steel plated safe sits in the OK Transfer Co. warehouse awaiting the outcome of its fate.

According to Municipal Judge Robert Elder the bulky steel container has costered city cash and records since 1914. It may have seen its last days of service for the city.

If pending deal doesn't fall through it will be transported to Tulelake for use by a firm there. Should the deal not be negotiated, Judge Elder said yesterday, the safe will be returned to service when new officers of the city hall are completed.

Moving the bulky container was a tough job. A long truck and trailer was backed at right angles to the city hall on Walnut street and a 25-ton hydraulic lift run as close as possible along the trailer bed to the wall of the building. Then the lift's hydraulic crane was hoisted to second story level and the hook attached to a chain lightened around the safe. (All this was accomplished after a window had been removed.)

Then with much jockeying by lift operator Joe Vincze and hand signals by foreman John Janssen, the safe was raised out the window and lowered to the trailer bed.

It took over \$35,000 worth of moving equipment, but the \$350 safe was moved without any mishap.

Santa Phone Off Tonight

The North Pole Phone Co. switchboard switches off at 8 p.m. tonight, but until that time Santa Claus and his helpers will be available by telephone from Klamath Falls by merely dialing 8128.

But tonight is the last night the Junior chamber of commerce-sponsored project will be carried on until next year.

The past two nights Santa and his helpers have received more than 600 calls from local youngsters. Each caller gets a postcard back.

Crop Report Hikes Hopes

WASHINGTON, (AP)—The government's first crop report for 1952 has raised official hopes that the coming year may see grain production again matching the nation's needs.

An agriculture department wheat crop forecast yesterday indicated that wheat production next year may exceed 1,200,000,000 (B) bushels. That would be the third largest crop on record.

A crop of this size would exceed the department's production goal of 1,160,000,000 (B) bushels and permit the addition of upward of 100 million bushels to a reserve supply that has declined from 427 million to about 335 million bushels in two years' time because of lagging production.

Similarly, reserves of livestock feed grains, particularly corn and oats, have declined sharply during the past two years, reflecting the fact that production has not kept pace with needs.

The department has appealed for larger feed grain crops next year. They will not be planted, however, until next spring.

Yesterday's report was limited to new winter wheat, seeded last fall. It forecast winter wheat production at 918 million bushels, assuming normal weather conditions until summer harvest. Such a crop would be 42 percent larger than this year's.

No forecast will be given for spring wheat until after it is seeded next spring. But a crop of 300 million bushels is possible. This year's spring crop was 242 million bushels.

Steel Peace Sought Today

WASHINGTON, (AP)—Steel industry and union leaders began government-sponsored talks today amid dimming hopes of preventing a New Year's Day strike.

Philip Murray, CIO president, threatened a walk-out to support new contract demands told reporters nothing has changed his previous position that the strike appears inevitable.

Murray sat down with representatives of 10 key steel firms in peace talks arranged by Federal Mediation Service Director Cyrus S. Ching.

John A. Stephens, vice president of U.S. Steel Corp., the industry's largest producer, declined specific comment as the talks started at the Stahler hotel.

"This is just the beginning," Stephens told reporters.

Ching said only that he intends to go ahead, get the varying positions of the union and employers, and strive for a settlement.

Truman Mum On Cleanup

WASHINGTON, (AP)—Pres. Truman today again postponed announcement of the drastic action he has promised to clean out "wrongdoers" in government.

The White House wouldn't even say whether the announcement—originally scheduled for last week—would be made before Truman goes home to Independence, Mo., next Monday for a short Christmas stay.

"I am not in a position to predict," Truman's Press Secy. Joseph Short told reporters.

There have been widespread reports that the president will set up a special unit, with Federal Judge Thomas F. Murphy of New York in a key role. Its job would be to look into allegations of corruption in government, take action against any officials found to have been acting improperly, and clean the names of all others.

Open Hearted Man Normal

LOS ANGELES, (AP)—Richard Russell, 30, who literally opened his heart to doctors could see his operation via color television, is home again.

Russell left General hospital yesterday and his surgeon, Dr. John C. Jones, says his heart, which had a restricted aorta (artery), is now perfectly normal. "And there is no reason why he should not be able to lead a normal life," Russell's operation, televised on a closed circuit, was observed by delegates to the American Medical Assoc. here and was also shown in New York. Dr. Jones described all his action during the three-hour surgery, in which he removed a section of the aorta that had diminished to the size of a matchstick.

Russell's blood pressure, which was 210, has dropped to 130, and soon will be down to 120, normal for him.

Ship Burns at Columbia River's Mouth, 11 Lost

Planes Seek Lifeboat; 103 Saved

ASTORIA, (AP)—The coast guard said today that eight passengers and three crewmen "possibly are missing" from the Danish motorship *Erria* burning in the mouth of the Columbia river.

The coast guard said 23 passengers and 80 crew members have been accounted for. These estimates were based on the belief that 114 persons were aboard the ship when it anchored just inside the mouth of the stream to await clearing weather before attempting to cross the bar. Crew members were unable to say positively how many passengers were aboard.

The coast guard reported one of four lifeboats launched from the *Erria* was missing and might have some of the 11 aboard. Planes went up to hunt it.

ALARM
A. T. Lowery, 66, Portland, who piloted the ship downriver, was one of two persons suffering minor injuries. He said he heard someone shouting "fire" and slid down a hoisting cable from the bridge, dropping the last 15 feet to the deck. His knees buckled and he was knocked out. He came to in a small pilot boat.

Earl Com. V. A. Johnson, commanding officer at Tongue Point coast guard station, said the 103 were taken to the barracks there and then were moved to the Astoria hotel.

Early reports indicated that only one of those aboard went into the icy waters of the Columbia river. He was Hugo Ray, Vancouver, B. C., a passenger, who grabbed a line hanging over the side of the ship when the fire broke out. The line was unsecured and he plunged over the side, but was quickly picked up by a coast guard vessel.

Ray's 11-year-old son, Bill, suffered a burned heel in the fire and was taken to a hospital here. Ray's wife and three-month-old son were safe.

The *Erria*, bound from Portland, Ore., to San Francisco, was burning "a mile off the coast guard station."

E. L. Blyth, Portland, a passenger, said a man and his wife, he knew only as a Mr. and Mrs. Brannon, possibly were missing. He said he had not seen them since the fire started. A boy in the family was safe, he added.

In San Francisco, the East Asia Lines also said that eight passengers and three crewmen were unaccounted for at 9 a. m., but emphasized that hope had not been abandoned for them.

MISSING
East Asiatic officials identified the missing passengers as: Miss Dorothy Meyers, G. F. Scott, Mr. A. M. Brunles and daughter, Elizabeth, and Mrs. C. M. Taylor. The home towns of the last five were not established but all were believed to be from Vancouver, Wash.

The missing crewmen, all of Copenhagen, are A. S. Iversen, T. Anderson and L. A. Haasen.

POW Report Brings Joy And Sorrow

WASHINGTON, (AP)—The defense department still had about 250 names to check today on the Communist-supplied list of American prisoners of war in Korea.

The Pentagon finished the first phase of the huge job at 8:30 p.m. last night. At that hour, about 2940 names on the full list of 3198 had been identified.

Telegrams making it a joyous Christmas season for hundreds of American families went out by last night to nearly all of the next of kin of the 2940 men. But the sorrow deepened for the many more whose sons were not listed.

About 75 soldiers on the identified list named nearest relatives at overseas addresses. Messages to these kin are to be sent today.

Prisoners identified at the Pentagon included 2724 soldiers in addition to the 75 with overseas next of kin, eight navy men, 58 marines and 76 airmen.

TOTAL LOST
There are 11,051 Americans officially listed as missing in action in Korea, so the release of the names meant tragedy in at least two homes for every one where it brought happiness.

Pres. Truman joined high military officials yesterday in emphasizing that the list is "completely unverified."

"This country has no way of verifying whether the list is accurate or inaccurate, true or false, complete or incomplete," White House spokesmen said.

"For the sake of the families whose sons are missing in action, everyone should treat this list with skepticism."

Two Husbands?

ATLANTA, (AP)—The prisoner of war list which brought joy to many homes across the nation left one woman in a state of tearful confusion today.

Twenty-two-year-old Agnes Sasser was reading the POW list yesterday when her eyes fell on the name of her first husband, Pfc. Dixon.

Dixon had been reported killed in Korea in May, 1951. In September, Agnes married Pfc. William C. Sasser at Fort McPherson, near Atlanta.

Then yesterday, word of her first husband came.

The first thing Mrs. Sasser did after spotting the name was call her present husband, Bill, who was stunned he couldn't say anything.

Later, walking up and down and wringing her hands, Mrs. Sasser told reporters, "I just don't know what to do. I haven't been able to think through. You have no idea how I feel."

Mrs. Sasser said she's sure the Dixon carried on the POW list is her first husband because "the serial numbers match."

But yet "the defense department told me Walter was wounded by bomb fragments at the front and died the same day."

Also, she continued, Dixon's \$10,000 insurance policy was paid in full sum by the government.

PROBE
The defense department says the discrepancy has been sent to Gen. Matthew Ridgway for investigation. The Sassers left Fort McPherson today for a two-week vacation at an undisclosed spot.

Before they left she was asked which husband she'll stick by.

"I don't know," she answered. "Bill and I may not even be married. Oh, I just don't know what to do."

Fresh Storm Blasts Wide Area of U.S.

By The Associated Press
The Northern two-thirds of the nation, buffeted by snow and cold for a week, was struck by a fresh storm today. Behind the storm was a new blast of icy air.

At least 228 deaths have been attributed to the severe weather of the last week.

The new storm whistled eastward, dumping tons of snow, sleet and freezing rain. Temperatures tumbled along the route of the storm, dipping far below zero in many areas.

Freezing rain glazed thoroughfares in the Kansas City area and created a hopeless traffic snarl. Many schools and business hours were closed.

The storm pelted the Rocky mountain area first. Colorado had snow and frigid temperatures. Denver, with five inches of new snow, reported a low of six below zero.

SPREAD
Then the storm spread over the Plains states, the Upper Mississippi valley and the Great Lakes region. It was expected to strike today in Virginia, Maryland, West Virginia and most of New England, and Ohio. The weather bureau issued a special bulletin warning of dangerous driving conditions in that area this afternoon and tonight.

Colder weather headed into the Midwest behind the snow. New England and Northern parts of New York state had sub-zero readings, too.

The severe weather appeared to follow the pattern of the past week, heavy snow and the ensuing cold. The storm-battered areas have reported a total of 26 deaths attributed to the severe weather of the past week.

It was 25 below zero in Havre, Mont., early today and 19 below in Sheridan, Wyo. The cold spots in the Northeastern section of the country included 16 below zero at Burlington, Vt., and Albany, N.Y.

SOUTH
It was chilly in parts of the South. A freezing rain and sleet pelted areas in the Middle Mississippi valley, the Lower Ohio valley and in parts of Georgia. Rain fell southward into the Lower Mississippi valley and the East Gulf states.

The Far Southwest and the Deep South appeared to have escaped the cold. The 28 above reading in Charlotte, N.C., early today compared with 68 in New Orleans; 72 in Brownsville, Tex., 73 in Miami, and 51 in Los Angeles.



WHILE MUCH OF the nation today was buffeted by cold and snow, and Klamath Falls wasn't exactly having a heat wave, shapely Joan Taylor, Paramount film starlet, shops for a Christmas tree in costume to match Los Angeles' balmy weather.

Lie Detector Test Planned

JACKSON, Mich., (AP)—A 44-year-old business executive faced a lie detector test today in the "strange death by freezing of his young bride."

Edward G. Spencer, vice president of a Jackson moving firm, was held without charge for investigation in the death of his pretty wife, Loretta, 21.

Prosecutor George Campbell said Spencer would be given a lie detector test by state police today in an effort to clear up what the prosecutor termed "several discrepancies" in his story.

Mrs. Spencer was found frozen and dying at 8 a. m. yesterday in the driveway of the couple's fashionable country home two miles south of Jackson. It was 6 below zero. Her arms and legs frozen, she died soon after in a hospital.

Spencer, who was divorced, married Loretta Naylor, his secretary, last May. He has seven children by the previous marriage.

Spencer told officers he last saw his wife Tuesday evening when she drove to Jackson to finish her Christmas shopping. He said he believed she was spending the night there with her mother when she failed to return.

Spencer was taken into custody after a nearby farmer told authorities he had seen Mr. and Mrs. Spencer Tuesday night. The farmer, H. F. Brooks, said he found the couple, their car stuck in snow in a ditch, at 10 or 10:30 p. m. a mile from the Spencer home.

Deputy Sheriff Harold Yarger said the farmer told him he recognized Spencer by the clothes he was wearing. The farmer said he called a wrecker at the request of the man in the car.

The car was deserted when the wrecker arrived.

War Drums Muffled By Weather

SEOUL, Korea, (AP)—Freezing weather and heavy fog muffled the drums of war along the Korean battlefield today.

Scattered small arms and artillery fire were heard in Pannumjon by truce teams seeing agreement on a Korean armistice.

There were no reports of any major action across the 145-mile front. Soldiers on both sides concentrated on keeping warm.

The Reds took an advance position from Allied troops on the Central front in the only action involving more than a patrol reported in the U. S. eighth army evening communique. United Nations outposts fought for three hours with a company of attacking Reds before pulling back to their own lines shortly before dawn.

Fire, Blasts Destroy Plant

SAN LEANDRO, (AP)—A 2½-acre paint plant was destroyed early today by an explosive fire that had nearby residents worrying about bombings or earthquakes.

Families in the vicinity of the Inter-coastal Paint Co. hurried from their homes when the mass of 55-gallon drums filled with paint thinner and oil began exploding about 3 a. m.

"It reminded me of bombings in London during world war two," said Joseph Nelson. He said the drums shot 200 to 300 feet in the air looking like pinwheels.

The city's civilian defense minor disaster plan was put into practice for the first time. George Horejsi, manager of the plant, estimated damage at \$500,000.

Weather

FORECAST—Klamath Falls and vicinity, and northern California: Mostly cloudy with few snow flurries through Friday. Continued cold. High both days 32. Low to night 18.

High yesterday 28
Low last night 17
Precip last 24 hours .05
Since October 1 .58
Normal for period .32
Same period last year 8.21
(Additional Weather on Page 10.)

BULLETIN

ICE SKATING
Moore park skating rink will be open 6 to 10 p.m. today if there is no rain.

You Think You Got Troubles? Look This Over

COLUMBUS, O., (AP)—How tough can things be for some people?

One Ohio newspaper man is having his share of troubles during the otherwise festive holiday season.

Bert A. Teeters, managing editor of the Springfield (O.) news and Springfield Sun, wrote a letter to Columbus newspaper friends wishing them a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Then he added:

"And, just to let you know how well off you are, here are the things happening to me since last Saturday:

"1. Eye glass frame cracked in cold New glasses.

"2. Partial plate cracked because of bone. New plate.

"3. Wife put all of my white shirts, underwear, handkerchiefs, etc., in washer. When she wasn't looking, the youngsters stuffed in her blue slacks. Now I have blue shirts, blue handkerchiefs, etc.

"4. Washer broke down this morning.

"5. Youngster going to hospital for tonsil operation tomorrow.

"6. Mother-in-law coming Thursday for indefinite stay.

"7. Dropped bottle of Christmas cheer. It broke.

"8. Everybody at new house job wanting to know this, that or the other, and running out of stuff.

"9. Have up to this moment bought no Christmas presents."

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SHOOTING HOURS

December 21
Open 7:02 Close 3:37

9 O'clock Special

EVERY MONTH dozens of people are sent on vacations to all parts of the world by Walt McIntyre, manager of the World Wide travel bureau. Here McIntyre dreams of those spots—a Mediterranean cruise, perhaps—over his office counter in the Winema hotel.