

In This Day's News

Thoughts on Christmas Eve: How came it that Joseph, with his wife Mary, who was then 'great with child,' were in Bethlehem on that day which, if the calendar had been then the same as it is now, would have been the 25th of December?

Why, heading the command of Caesar (Augustus, not Julius) they had come up out of Galilee, TO BE TAXED, Taxes, then, as now, were a thing to be greatly dreaded, for they bore down heavily upon the people, taking from them (too often for the benefit of the HIGH-UPERS) their substance which they needed for their sustenance.

When Joseph and Mary came up to Bethlehem, they were almost certainly wondering (even as you and I in these days) how after they had paid their taxes they were going to make what was left after taxes had been parted with GO AROUND.

But let's get on with the story, as Luke tells it. And so it was that, while they were there (in Bethlehem to pay their taxes) the days were accomplished that she (Mary) should be delivered.

And she brought forth her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes; and laid him in the manger; for there was no room for him in the inn.

It is probable that there was also no money in the possession of the humble carpenter and his wife (who had just paid their taxes) with which to pay for lodgings in the inn. Hence their lodging in the stable.

Many others were gathered there including the shepherds who were abiding in the fields who weren't living in the fields from choice, for, even in the relatively mild climate of the Holy Land, December was no time to be living out in the field. They were living there because they HAD TO. They had to live in the fields because among other things, they didn't have enough left after paying their taxes to be able to afford anything else.

And goes on: "Luce to the angel of the Lord came upon the glory of the Lord above and about them; and they were sore afraid."

"And the angel of the Lord said unto them, Fear not, for I bring you tidings of great joy, which shall be to all the people."

"FOR UNTO YOU IS BORN THIS DAY A SAVIOR . . ."

"And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying: 'Glory to God in the highest, AND ON EARTH PEACE, GOOD WILL TOWARD MEN.'"

"On earth peace, good will toward men."

How wonderful those words must have sounded to those shepherds there in the cold December fields. For it was WAR that had brought them to the pass where, after they had paid their taxes, there was little left to them but the cold day. It was war that had taken their sons to die in distant lands, for causes with which they had no sympathy.

And WAR, which had wrought all this evil, existed because instead of GOOD WILL among men there was IL WILL among men toward each other. And was costs money and results in heavy taxation.

Space is running out on us, We shall have to skip forward. The SAVIOR who was born that day in Bethlehem grew up. He had fasted in the wilderness for 40 days and 40 nights. He had been tempted of the devil. And, having resisted the temptation, he went forth to preach to the people. He gave them much good advice as to how to live so that they would be happier.

HE SUMMED UP his advice in these words: "Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them, for this is the law and the prophets."

The origin of Christmas was the birth of a savior—that is to say, A GREAT LEADER OF MEN. Jesus was such a leader. Most of the GOOD that has come to men in the past 19½ centuries has come as a result of His leadership and His teachings.

And the RULE that he gave to men (as quoted by Matthew) would bring to mankind, if it were followed universally, the peace and the happiness and the well-being that all men crave. I doubt if any other rule ever can or ever will bring to men what they want out of this life.

The odd part of it is that this rule would pay in the hard, realistic coin of dollars and cents, as well as in the coin of happiness and satisfaction, if it were UNIVERSALLY followed.

I think perhaps that if we would ponder MORE on these things at Christmas time and LESS on the MATERIAL aspects of Christmas, as we have come to know and be influenced by them, we would be IMMENSURABLY better off.

Highway Death Sets New Klamath Record

An automobile-truck crash yesterday on U.S. 97 just south of Crescent, killed Adam Vollmer, 50, of College Place, Walla Walla, Wash., and a Klamath County 1952 death toll to 30. That is an all-time high for carnage and death on the streets and highways of this county. The previous record of 29 deaths was established in 1949.

Boy in Coma 112 Hours

Gary Hansen, 18-year-old Yakima boy hurt in an auto accident last Friday night, remaining in a state of coma at noon today, 112 hours after his injuries were sustained.

He is at Klamath Valley Hospital. Young Hansen was one of seven boys hurt when two cars collided at 12:15 a. m. Wednesday as they pulled out of a service station in a stolen car.

Harold Coe, 22, murderer, and Merri Case, burglar, were nabbed by two state patrolmen who drove into the station behind them. They put up no fight.

Monday night Portland police arrested the first of the seven who gained their freedom early that day by tunneling under the wall. He was Ralph Courser, hospitalized with a broken jaw from a police bullet.

At about 11 p. m. Tuesday State Patrolmen Ralph Pope and Ray Judson received a radio report to watch for a Hudson stolen from Walla Walla.

Little more than an hour later, as they were swinging east out of Arlington, they saw it come into town from the east. They turned around and followed it.

The stolen car with Coe and Case in it stopped in the filling station and the men apparently had failed to see the police car until the two officers stepped up from it.

Officer Edward Hastings said Coe and Case, taken to the city jail, refused to waive extradition. Then they went to sleep.

Hastings said the warden at Walla Walla had been notified and had reported he would ask the FBI to take charge under the Dyer Act across state lines.

Meanwhile, the men will be held in the county jail at Condon. Hastings said the county jail was a good structure—but that guarding was advisable at the city jail.

Speedy Caesar Iirks Committee. LOWESTOFT, England (AP) — A jazzed-up version of the tragedy of Julius Caesar rocked this small East Coast town today — Brutus killed Caesar with a tommygun in a school dramatization of Shakespeare's famous play.

The town's education committee demanded an immediate inquiry into the school dramatization with Miss J. M. Mann, a town official, asserting that mothers are concerned about tommyguns in youngsters' hands at this time of year (Christmas, she meant).

The bewildered school headmaster, P. W. Hartop, tried to explain: "Our idea was to produce this great play in modern setting. We adhered strictly to its theme that violence does not pay. After all, the daggers used in the original form can be every bit as offensive as tommyguns."

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Loy Henderson, U. S. ambassador to Iran, returned Wednesday to make a new bid to break the British-Iranian oil deadlock. He will meet with Premier, Mohammed Mossadegh Thursday.

Weather. FORECAST:—Klamath Falls and vicinity and Northern California: Cloudy with scattered snow flurries tonight. Cloudy tomorrow. Low tonight 10, high tomorrow 20.

High yesterday 9, Low last night 6, Precip yesterday 0, Precip since Oct. 1 4.79, Same period last year 6.74, Normal for period 6.17

(Additional Weather on Page 4)

Wheeler, a Walla Walla, Wash., College student, was rushed to Portland in an effort to save a badly injured eye.

The two girls received one or two cuts and were taken to the Bend hospital after reports seriously hurt.

The Vollmers were en route to Lodi, Calif., for the Christmas holidays, and had hired Wheeler to drive their car, southbound on US 97, the Vollmer vehicle struck a Brooks-Seaton Lumber Company pickup truck which pulled out on the highway from a logging road.

Glen Osborn, driver of the truck, was not injured. Deputy Coroner Clarence Ward said the lumber company had a flagman stationed at the intersection to warn trucks of oncoming traffic on the highway, but that his signal in this instance was either ignored or misinterpreted.

The car hit the pickup, which was loaded with oil drums, broadside, and skidded it some 40 feet down the highway.

A Bend ambulance took the injured back to that city, and Wheeler was sent to Portland.

The body of Vollmer was brought here to Waller's Funeral Home.

ARLINGTON, Ore. (AP) — Two more of the tunnel-escape Walla Walla convicts were caught here at 12:15 a. m. Wednesday as they pulled out of a service station in a stolen car.

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Immigration Law Faces First Test

NEW YORK (AP) — Immigration authorities denied shore leave Wednesday to 299 of the French liner Liberté's crew of 974 in the first application of the McCarran-Walter Act, which is aimed at keeping subversives from landing.

Edward J. Shaughnessy, district director of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, made the announcement as the huge passenger ship docked at pier 88 in the North River.

He said 27 of the 299 had been denied shore leave only tentatively because their seamen's papers were not in order.

Of the rest, all but two were ordered to stay aboard ship for refusing to answer questions put to them under the law.

Of the remaining two, one admitted past Communist membership and one had a criminal record.

Officials of France and some other nations have protested the new law, which went into effect last night.

The Liberté was the first liner to reach port since then. Crew members were inspected on the high seas in relation to the new law by Immigration Officer Edward J. Martin, of East Orange, N. J., who left New York on the Liberté Dec. 9.

Shaughnessy said Martin worked 14 eight-hour days to determine whether any crew member came within the 21 basic causes for exclusion set forth in the law.

Shaughnessy said that in 270 cases aboard the Liberté the crewmen refused "to go into certain union matters and only would give identifying answers."

Shaughnessy told ship news reporters: "There have been indications that certain of the seamen's unions are dominated by Communist elements."

A thorough investigation is, of course, being made into these allegations or statements.

The Liberté development pointed up the sharp tightening of rules for immigration and naturalization under the McCarran-Walter law.

Washington observers believed the Liberté case also would furnish ammunition for both sides in an expected congressional battle over the new law.

However, the provision of the act involved in the Liberté case—a requirement for close screening of crewmen as to their political affiliations, any criminal records and other matters—is not the only point at issue.

Considerable criticism has been aimed at a section retaining the present system of national quotas for immigrants.

REPORT. The Justice Department yesterday quoted the inspector about the Liberté as reporting the 299 crew members gave only their names but refused to answer questions. He said among them were two with Communist connections and one with a theft conviction in France, making these three automatically inadmissible.

Forty-three others were reported to have had identification documents which apparently had been tampered with. Another 28 were said to have defective documents which might be corrected in New York.

Immigration officials in Washington said anyone violating the shore leave regulation would be picked up and returned to the ship.

CORRECTION. An obituary in yesterday's Herald and News on the death of Roy E. Mattson, omitted the name of a brother, Melvin Mattson, Pine City, Minn., in listing survivors.

Strife-Torn World Turns to King of Peace

By The Associated Press. Christians turned from the cares and sorrows of a troubled, strife-racked world today to begin the happy yet solemn ceremonies commemorating the birth of Him who preached the gifts of peace and love to all mankind.

As the last-minute rush for presents and festive goodies died away, millions of faithful lifted their hearts in Christmas Eve prayers of thanks and hope, and their voices in carols of joy.

Churches throughout Christendom threw open their doors to welcome all to traditional Christmas Eve ceremonies. In Bethlehem of Judea, a special Catholic midnight mass beginning in the Chapel of St. Catherine will end in the Grotto of the Nativity, on the spot designated by His followers as the birthplace of Christ nearly 2,000 years ago.

At the same time a Protestant service will be held on nearby terraced slopes that mark the traditional spot where angels announced the birth of Christ to shepherds watching their flocks by night.

Hundreds of pilgrims have arrived in the Holy Land to worship in the shrines connected with the birth of Christ. As in past Christmas times, the heavy border guards between Jordan and Israel—still technically at war—will step aside to permit passage to the holy places.

Pope XII will broadcast his annual Christmas message of peace beginning at 5 a. m. EST, today. The message will be beamed around the world in 23 languages. The Pontiff's Christmas Eve mass also will be aired by the Vatican radio at 5:40 p. m. EST.

More than an hour earlier, President Truman will deliver his last official Christmas message to the nation. He will speak at 4:30 p. m. EST, at the 30th annual Lighting of the Living Christmas Tree on the White House grounds.

Other chiefs of state and rulers prepared special messages. Queen Elizabeth II will broadcast hers—her first as Britain's reigning monarch—10, the world-wide British Commonwealth will inspire at 10:03 a. m. EST, tomorrow.

As Americans at home rushed their last preparations for the season, their thoughts went out to the thousands of fighting men spending Christmas in troubled spots around the world. Korea, Germany, Austria, Japan and other lands threatened by tyranny.

All these, however, will have their celebrations too. There will be packages from home and special Christmas dinners. And American troops the world over have shipped in to buy toys and food for needy children in lands that are their temporary homes.

In a Christmas message to his Catholic Poland and the Communists evidently are trying to discourage traditional Christmas celebrations. The authorities are sponsoring, as a counter attraction, New Year's Day festivities with lighted trees.

They also are attempting to replace Father Christmas—as Santa is known in Poland—with the Russian "Grandfather Frost." This worthy distributes presents on Jan. 1.

Van Fleet's words were echoed by his commander, Gen. Mark W. Clark, whose message to the United Nations' troops said the faith expressed in the Christmas spirit "will bring us to our goal."

"Although the world has passed through many dark and critical times these past two thousand years, it is man's belief, however dark the hour may seem, that eventually the light of fellowship will show the way of peace on earth," Clark declared.

The Chinese Communists even joined in the yuletide festivities on the Korean battlefield. A Red patrol decorated a Christmas tree on the snow-covered no man's land between Allied and Red lines. Some of the crudely written banners on the tree wished Allied soldiers a merry Christmas but others added a wish for the "cold death" of Allied troops if the United Nations Command did not give in at the suspended armistice talks.

Not too much is known about Christmas plans in Communist countries. In Russia, Christmas is celebrated on the West's Jan. 7 because the Russians use a different calendar.

In Russian-led, but still Roman Catholic Poland the Communists evidently are trying to discourage traditional Christmas celebrations. The authorities are sponsoring, as a counter attraction, New Year's Day festivities with lighted trees.

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Trio Arrested For KF Theft

East St. Louis, Ill., city police notified authorities here today they were holding three men arrested there in possession of a car and valuable loot stolen here Dec. 14.

The three men gave their names as Jimmy Dulane and Fred Maylor, Klamath Falls, and Charles Liles, Oskridge.

The East St. Louis police said the trio had a Buick coach, reported by Fred Taylor, 856 Riverside, to have been stolen here the night of Dec. 14. In the car were a check, protector, typewriter and a case of whiskey reported stolen early the morning of Dec. 14 from the office of the Klamath Potato Distributors, Merrill Highway. A Buick taken at the same time was found later when it had been dumped on the Algona Road.

The sheriff's office here today said that checks totaling about \$600 processed with the check protector and beating the forged signature of Elmer Lemler, Polalo Distributor, official had turned up here since the robbery.

Deputy Sheriff Dal Reed said Sheriff Murray Britton would probably seek extradition orders before going to Illinois to return the three men.

A message notifying State Police here of the trio's arrest first came from the men as "Jimmy Dulane" but a later phone check with the East St. Louis police made the name Dulane.

CHICAGO (AP) — The Brodie Siamese twins, their cord still attached, began their seventh day of separate existence Wednesday.

A week ago the 15 month old boys, who were born joined at the top of the heads, were separated in a 12 hour and 40 minute operation.

Bulletins from the University of Illinois hospital Tuesday night reported "no change for better or worse" for the twins.

Roger Lee, weaker of the boys, remained in a deep coma, his condition "very precarious."

Rodney Dee, the stronger twin, still remained in critical condition. He regained consciousness about 17 hours after the operation.

Both boys are in oxygen tents at the Illinois Neuropsychiatric Institute.

SHOOTING HOURS. DECEMBER 25 - 26. Open 7:05 — Close 3:40

Santa Hears From Klamath. The hearts of many young Klamath people this Christmas time are turned toward other youngsters in the world who may not have it so good—in Korea, Europe and other strife-torn areas. It's reflected in the letters they wrote Santa Claus and sent to him when he dropped down on Modoc Field here during Christmas opening.

They also think more of others even in their own families.

Little 8-year-old Jean Moore, 935 Newcastle Street, writes Santa Claus to forget the big and little boys and girls that have nothing to eat and wear." Another 8-year-old, Stanley Simmons, has a brother in the Navy he doesn't want Santa to forget.

Marilyn Lee Metter, 5122 Bryant Street, wrote "Please bring all the little boys and girls in other countries something, and bring peace to the world."

A 10-year-old, Shari Ramsey, 1604 Mitchell, told Santa "you can give me anything you want to, because there are so many children that are poor, that have not even had hardly a thing. I know when I was about four or five I thought you came down the chimney, but you are so fat so you have to squeeze in the door. Have a good trip back to the North Pole."

Five-year-old Stanley Jones, 2134 Dover Ave., wrote "Since my Mom says I must tell the truth to you—I have not been a very good boy this year, I try so hard and sometimes surprise my Mommie by being good. That's why I'm leaving it up to you to decide if I can get anything for Christmas."

Little Pamela Sue Gray, who lives alone with her mother at 2127 Garden Street, writes "and I want something nice for my Mommie as she is so good and takes care of me." Little Pam is six.

Of course, there are other rather serious matters that come up before Santa Claus—not necessarily from the youngsters, either. There's the letter Santa received here reading like this: "Dear Santa, I am 19 year old and would like to find a man under my Christmas tree on Christmas morning. Jean."

Reds Call Short Truce In Fighting

By MILO FARNETT. SEOUL, Thursday (AP) — The 31st month of the Korean war began quietly today with the Communists promising by loudspeaker to let up on their firing on one sector and delivering presents on another.

There had been bloody fighting only Wednesday on the Western Front, where the Chinese Reds were thrown back in hand-to-hand combat in an attempt to pierce the Allied line at T-Bone Hill.

Yet as Christmas Day broke, Red artillery fire began tapering off in the West.

A front report said few Red shells were fired near Panmunjon, southwest of the T-Bone section.

On the Central Front, near Sniper Ridge where the fighting was bitter last month, Chinese loudspeakers broadcast to Allied troops: "CEASE FIRE"

"We will cease fire from 8 in the morning to noon in observance of your Christmas."

Another division on the Central Front found toys, candies, dolls and banners wishing a Merry Christmas in front of its positions. Loudspeakers in the Red lines played "Silent Night."

This was in strange contrast to the day before, when the fighting had flared both in the air and on the ground.

High over North Korea, Allied Sabre jets roared into battle with an estimated 60 Russian-made MIG jets, the U. S. Fifth Air Force called it "a clawing free-for-all" in dogfights all over the North Korean skies. Sabre pilots probably destroyed two MIGs and damaged nine, the Air Force said.

BATTALION. The Eighth Army said a Guinean battalion of about 700 men attacked Allied trenches and bunkers on frozen T-Bone Hill, west of Chorwon. The battalion was supported by about 2,000 rounds of artillery—an intense barrage for a small action.

Red troops reached outposts of the hill between 2 a. m. and 3 a. m. but Allied soldiers, braced by reinforcements and a thunderous artillery barrage of their own, held fast and never were in danger of being overrun, an Eighth Army staff officer said.

MAJ. James Hagerstrom of Tyler, Tex., damaged three MIGs in the flashing air battles. He and 2nd Lt. Walter Fellman of Camas, Wash., started the first fight by breaking into a formation of three MIGs near the Yalu River, Manchuria — Korean boundary line. Fellman probably destroyed one and damaged another.

Then several dozen MIGs swept across from Manchuria to help the Red pilots. They were chased off by a flight led by Capt. Vincent Stacy of Crystal Falls, Mich.

Today's flareup in ground and artillery action came on the eve of the 31st month of the war and while Christian soldiers of the United Nations prepared for Christmas celebrations all across the frosty peninsula. However, the attack on T-Bone was the only action bigger than the usual patrol and probes. It was the first battalion-sized attack by the Reds in two weeks.

Eighth Army headquarters reported evaluated Communist casualties for the week of Dec. 15-21 dropped to the lowest since July. U. N. ground troops inflicted 1,631 casualties in that week — 50 per cent less than in the preceding period.

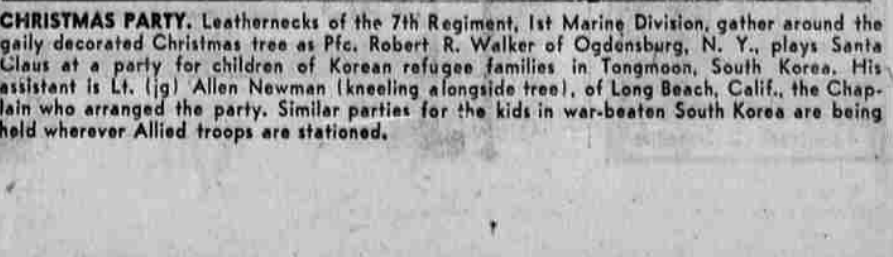
Casualties Top 128 Thousand. WASHINGTON (AP) — Announced U. S. battle casualties in Korea reached 128,083 Wednesday, an increase of 216 since last week.

The Defense Department's weekly summary based on notification to families through last Friday showed these new totals:

Table with 2 columns: Category and New Total. Categories include Killed in action, Wounded, Missing, Total, Battle deaths, Current missing.

Holiday. The Herald and News, like most other businesses, will take a holiday tomorrow and there will be no paper published. Publication will be resumed Friday.

LIKE MANY OF US, Werden Berger (right), Toppenish, Wash., suffered a frozen car engine and sought aid from Archie Hays (left) partner in the Hays-Nawn Service Station, S. 6th and Shasta Way.



CHRISTMAS PARTY. Leathernecks of the 7th Regiment, 1st Marine Division, gather around the gaily decorated Christmas tree as Pfc. Robert R. Walker of Ogdensburg, N. Y., plays Santa Claus at a party for children of Korean refugee families in Tongmoon, South Korea. His assistant is Lt. (jg) Allen Newman (kneeling alongside tree), of Long Beach, Calif., the Chaplain who arranged the party. Similar parties for the kids in war-beaten South Korea are being held wherever Allied troops are stationed.