



New Year's Gift

LAS VEGAS, Nev. (AP)—Two thousand women received a total of \$50,000 in silver dollars moments after the stroke of midnight today in the Sands Hotel's annual New Year's gift-giving.

Terminal Emptied

NEW YORK (AP)—The Grand Central Terminal waiting room was evacuated last night after an anonymous telephone caller said a bomb had been placed in an adjoining baggage room. About 150 persons were routed while police searched the area for an hour. No bomb was found.

Fight To Continue

JAKARTA, Indonesia. (AP)—President Sukarno vowed in a New Year's speech today Indonesia will continue fighting until it gets West New Guinea from the Netherlands.

Only 15 Holidays

MADRID, Spain (AP)—A government decree published today cut non-working national holidays to 15 a year and abolished all days off for local holidays.

30 Die In Wreck

NEW DELHI, (AP)—Thirty persons were killed and at least 100 injured today in a head-on train collision 45 miles north of New Delhi. A fast-moving train collided with a stationary train at Mohri.

20-DEGREE HARD FREEZE PREDICTED

Don't let this afternoon's fairly mild temperature fool you. Play it smart and get out your snuggles, for the weather man says it'll be chilly by tomorrow. The falling temperature was preceded by a drizzle today which left only a few puddles here and there, and a clearing sky. Today's predicted high of 50 will give way to a "hard freeze" by tomorrow. A taste of what is to come to the Piedmont was noted earlier today in Asheville, which had a trace of snow. Flurries are predicted for Carolina mountains tomorrow. The man says we may expect a high of 50.

Today's

Weather



COLDER

Cloudy with occasional rain this morning, clearing and much cooler with a hard frost tonight. Thursday sunny and cold. Low this morning: 40. Low tomorrow morning: 39. High today: 50. High yesterday: 54. High tomorrow: 42. Sunrise today 7:32 a.m.; sunset today 5:32 p.m.

More Weather Data on Page 2-A

Lots of Fellars

Had That Friend

SAN BRUNO, Calif. (AP)—Police set up a surprise roadblock Monday night to trap holiday celebrants and in four hours stopped 32 northbound automobiles. But the motorists appeared considerably amused and officer Fred Freitas was mystified as he found a trace of alcoholic breath on only five drivers. He drove a few blocks south and found the answer. Someone had painted a sign in large letters. It said: Roadblock. Lushers turn right.

Five Nabbed In New Year Liquor Raid

By JOHN JAMISON
News Staff Writer

Police joined the New Year's celebration last night at the Pyramid Club and staged a tightly planned raid which netted five arrests for violations of the liquor laws.

A festive crowd of more than 100 patrons at the Wilkinson Blvd. spot had its party spirits dampened temporarily when the first police whistle sounded at 10:30 p.m.

However, when midnight and 1958 rolled around the party-minded patrons cheered loudly while 20 police officers continued taking names and statements from witnesses.

FIVE ARRESTED

Arrested and charged with violating liquor laws and conspiracy to violate liquor laws were:

Joseph Walker Biggerstaff, 43, 334 Bruns Ave., operator of the club, released on \$2,000 bond.

John Holland (Jack) Waters, 36, El Rancho Motel, Wilkinson Blvd., co-operator of the club, \$2,000 bond.

Clyde Joseph Biggerstaff, 21, 334 Bruns Ave., unemployed, \$2,000 bond.

Marshall Biggerstaff, 23, 305 S. Summit Ave., bartender, \$1,000 bond.

Vivian Lou Clouse, 27, Watson Trailer Park, Beatty's Ford Rd., waitress, \$1,000 bond.

The five will be tried Jan. 16 in County Recorder's Court.

Last night's raid has been planned for more than a month by County Police Capt. George A. Stephens and Alcoholic Beverage Control Chief Henry D. Severs.

22 TAKE PART

Ten County Policemen, 10 ABC officers and two federal officers participated in the raid on the former El Morocco Club.

The officers met at 10 p.m. in County Recorder's Courtroom for a 15-minute briefing by Capt. Stephens. Each man was assigned an "area of responsibility" and shown his station in the club on a blackboard diagram.

Shortly before 10:30 a man and woman removed the inside chain from the club's front door and pushed the door open to leave. At that instant Patrolman Bruce Abercrombie rushed up the steps and grabbed the heavy wooden door before it could close.

He jerked the door open wide and Patrolman R. O. Brackley sprinted through, running smack into Jack Waters, stout, heavyset co-operator of the club.

WARRANT SERVED
Brooks was followed closely by other officers, one of whom served a search warrant on Waters.

Capt. Stephens entered the main ballroom, blew his whistle, and announced:

"This is a raid. Please keep your seats and leave everything on your tables just as they are."

NAMES, STATEMENTS
Then, according to plan, about half the officers went from table to table taking names and statements while the other half searched the kitchen and storage rooms of the club.

In the kitchen they found a spike with food orders about to be filled. On one of the orders were the words "2 vodkas" or "1 whiskey, 1 vodka."

In the ballroom an embarrassed couple answered questions for ABC agent Charles Spain. They had thought the place was still the El Morocco. They hadn't been there two years.

"Officer, can you please tell us how we can get out of here?"

Evening Prayer

Father, amid the turmoil and problems we face today, give us grace to listen quietly for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Help us to class firmly the hand that Thou hast always held outstretched to us in love. In our Redeemer's name. Amen.

—I'M A FEDERAL OFFICER—

Getting Out Rough On Agent

The federal undercover officer who gained evidence leading to last night's raid on the Pyramid Club had to see a lot of get out of the place last Monday night.

The agent—whose identity police wished withheld—gained entry into the former El Morocco Club on Wilkinson Blvd. on two occasions with a card-holding member.

On the second trip he apparently was seen collecting a number of whiskey for evidence, because when he started to leave a man at the door started to search him.

HAVE WARRANTS
"Have you a warrant to search me?" the agent asked.

"We don't need one," he was told, and the doorman called two other men over.

The officer stepped back, reached toward his 38 revolver, and said:

"I'm a federal officer. Unlock that door. Last night when they figured a big New Year's Eve party might produce more evidence for later use in court."

Confidential police files were fairly complete on the Pyramid Club and its operators even before the federal agent got inside the place.

The operators had told police that about 4,200 memberships had been sold at \$5 a clip—but there were only six lockers for storing members' bottles.

Road Death List Under Yule Toll

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

The nation's traffic deaths in the first hours of the New Year holiday appeared running below the heavy Christmas toll.

Motorists on New Year's Eve apparently heeded warnings of safety experts and used caution in driving, especially in sections of the Midwest where ice and snow packed highways made driving hazardous.

At the halfway point of the 26-hour holiday period, which started at 6 p.m. and ends at midnight tonight, 41 traffic fatalities were reported.

However, in the early morning hours, the toll rose steadily and was 25 as compared to 26 in the early hours Christmas morning.

One death was reported in a fire in Ohio, but no violent deaths in the miscellaneous or accident category were reported.

The National Safety Council, in a preliminary estimate, said 130 persons would lose their lives in traffic accidents during the 26-hour New Year holiday period. It estimated a total of 10 for the Christmas period but the final count was 225.

An Associated Press survey during a nonholiday period from 6 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 31 to midnight, 11 showed 44 traffic deaths, 13 killed in fires and 27 deaths in miscellaneous accidents, an overall total of 126.

New Year holiday traffic deaths have been well under the Christmas toll since World War II. Safety experts say the chief reason motorists make more long trips during the Christmas period.

Charges against ten other Negroes accused of taking part in the gangland-style battle were dismissed.

County Policeman Paul Reed testified during the long trial that "several of the boys have told me they are afraid of anything because they're afraid of what will happen to them when they get home."

Willie Sanders of Pineville—the only one of the 14 defendants to enter a guilty plea yesterday—was bound over to Superior Court after probable cause was found in a case charging him with assault with a deadly weapon with the intent to kill.

Local Doc Owns Real Fire Truck

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CHAINSaws
BECOME HIT
FOR THIEVES

DENVER — Although the chainsaw is a comparatively recent invention, there are nearly 25,000 of them in use in the United States. And there are chainsaw magazines, schools, clinics, contests, and fairs.

The demand for chainsaws in the timber country is so great that burglars specialize in stealing them, and police put out regular bulletins headed, "Chainsaws—hot."

While Presbyterian's candidate for local housewives' club, Mrs. M. Porter, 122 Placid Pl., welcomed a new son at 1:48 a.m.

At God Samaritan Mrs. Peggy Hunter, 1212 S. Caldwell St., gave birth to a son at 2:10 a.m.

At Mercy Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Aldridge of Julia Ave., Belmont, were presented with a boy at 6:16 a.m.

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Happy New Year?

His identity will remain anonymous, but he resembles lots of the Human Race today—too tired and sleepy to face the cameraman or the New Year. Instead, he stares into the mirrored side of his coffee pot and tries hard to realize he should feel happy about 1958. That's Photographer Jess Hunter's lens beside the face in the coffee pot.

Rousing Start

Marriage, Birth Mark New Year

The new year got off to a productive start here last night. One couple said "I do."

A bride and groom of the peace and another welcomed a new baby into the family, both before 12:01 a.m.

The infant with a fair for good fortune is the red-haired daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry R. Brady, 2815 N. Myers St. She was born at Presbyterian Hospital just two seconds past midnight, hospital officials said.

The newweds who will celebrate their anniversary with future New Years are Beverly H. and Barbara Ann Currin. They were married by Justice of the Peace William C. McFarlane at his home, 1901 E. 7th St., just seconds after the stroke of twelve.

Mrs. Currin is the former Barbara Ann Ferguson. She and her husband are from Charlotte.

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Another Train Hits Vehicle

By JOHN KILGO
News Staff Writer

Two Marines were killed early this morning on Sharon-Amity Rd. when their car ran into a parked Seaboard freight train on the railroad tracks near Sharon Memorial Park.

Investigating County Police officer R. B. Dixon identified the victims of the crash as Clifton Harold Jackson, 22, Perry, Ga.; and Billy R. Tucker, 22, home address unknown.

The two men—both of whom were sergeants in the corps—were stationed at Camp Lejeune, police said.

Police said the train was stopped on the double tracks across Sharon-Amity Rd. waiting for an east-bound Seaboard train to pass when the men ran into it.

PINNED UNDER TRAIN
The car was pinned under the parked train, police said, when the east-bound train came along and locked the 1933 Oldsmobile between the two trains.

Cl. Tucker—the engineer of the eastbound train—told police he was going only about 25 miles per hour when he spotted the car pinned under the parked train.

He said it took him only a short time to stop his train completely.

NO LIGHTS
Officer Dixon said there is a railroad crossing warning sign approximately 250 yds. before reaching the tracks, but there are no stop lights on the tracks to signal motorists that the tracks are blocked.

"They have the poles up in front of the tracks," Officer Dixon said, "but the lights haven't been put up yet."

Police said it had just started raining when the wreck occurred at 2:30 a.m. and the road was in a wet condition.

A witness to the tragic accident told police the men had passed him a short distance before reaching the crossing and they were traveling ever 40 miles an hour.

Officer Dixon said the two sergeants were apparently in Charlotte on a pass. "We found a three-day pass that expires tomorrow on one of the men," he said.

Father And Son Are Both Mayors

CONWAY, S. C. (AP)—This South Carolina city is the site of one half of a father-son mayoral race. James H. Conway is mayor here.

His son, James H. Conway Jr., is mayor of Daytona Beach, Fla.

Both are serving first terms. Each took the oath of office the same night last January.

If The Name Fits, Why Not Live There

BELLEFONTAINE, Ohio (AP)—A family of five who recently moved here from Long Island, N. Y., told the Chamber of Commerce they think Bellefontaine is the "dream" place to live.

They may be slightly prejudiced, though. Their last name is Bellefontaine.

At each home, the elder clants an ancient New Year's welcome to residents and the shooters fire a volley of shots into the air.

Chief assistant to Uncle Sidney is 85-year-old Peter Saine, who joined the New Year's shooting in the late 1920's.

This age-old custom of "reveling" in the new year apparently originated in Germany hundreds of years ago and was brought to Gaston County by early settlers.

Currenville, which has upheld the custom for at least 120 years, is the only community in the United States still observing it.

NO SINGING
There are no fireworks, no shooting, no singing. There are parties, but when the "reveling" and the shooting begins, most residents like to be in their beds.

It is in the town of the certain visit of the stroke of midnight. They will continue their rounds until 3 p. m.

Two cries and two groups of shooter: began the annual trek from house to house in this community of 3,500 a minute after the stroke of midnight. They will continue their rounds until 3 p. m.

Outside they'll hear this ancient chant:

Good morning to you, sir.
We wish you a happy New Year.
Good health, long life.
Which God may bestow as long as you stay here below.

May He bestow the house you are in where you go out and you go in.

Time by moments steals away. First the hour and then the day.

Small but last days may appear but soon they mount up to a year.

Thus another year is gone and now is no more of our own.

But it brings good of our remembrance as the year before the last.

But let none of us forget that it has left us much in doubt.

A favor from the Lord received since which our spirits have been given.

Marked by the unerring hand. This in his book our records stand.

Who can tell the vast amounts placed on each our accounts?

—'GOOD MORNIN' TO YOU, SIR'—

Squirrel Guns Usher In 1958

CHERRYVILLE — Fifty-eight-year-old Uncle Sidney Beam raised his still strong voice for local housewives' club, Mrs. M. Porter, 122 Placid Pl., welcomed a new son at 1:48 a.m.

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