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TRUMAN PROCLAIMS END OF HOSTILITIES

Federal Excise Taxes Will Be Rolled Back July 1

Truman Act Signals Cut In Special U. S. Levies

Liquor And Other Items Involved

WASHINGTON — (AP) — President Truman's proclamation terminating hostilities may automatically reduce the nation's 1947 tax bill by approximately $700,000,000.

Colin F. Stam, expert of the Joint Congressional Committee on Internal Revenue told reporters that, under Mr. Truman's action, excise levies—including those on liquor, jewelry, furs, luggage and many other consumer items—will be cut back effective July 1. The tax on liquor will drop from $9 to $6 a proof gallon.

The reductions were made mandatory in the 1943 wartime revenue act in which Congress stipulated the high war-imposed excise should be trimmed to specified levels six months after "the termination of hostilities."

YIELD $1,400,000

These special excise levies now are yielding about $1,400,000,000 annually. The savings in the last half of 1947 will be about $700,000,000.

These are the cutbacks to be effective under the proclamation, as of July 1:

Liquor—From $9 to $6 a proof gallon.

Furs, luggage, jewelry and toilet preparations—from 20 per cent of retail price to 10 per cent.

Admissions—From 1 cent for each 5 cents to 1 cent for each 10 cents.

Cabaret—20 per cent to 5 per cent.

Wines—Varied reductions according to type.

Beer—From $8 a barrel to $7.

Telephone—Long distance, 25 per cent to 20 per cent; local service, 15 per cent to 10 per cent.

Transportation of persons — 15 per cent to 10 per cent.

Dues and membership fees — 20 per cent to 11 per cent.

Initiation fees — 20 per cent to 11 per cent.

Electric light bulbs and tubes—20 per cent to 5 per cent.

Domestic telegraph, cable or radio dispatches — 25 per cent to 15 per cent.

Leased wires—25 per cent to 15 per cent.

Wire and equipment service—8 per cent to 5 per cent.

Billiard and pool tables and bowling alleys—$20 per year per table; $20 a year per alley, to $10 a year per table; $10 per year per alley.

Meanwhile, three more Republicans put budget balancing ahead of tax cutting as top White House advisers said President Truman would oppose any general slash in taxes by the new Congress.

At the same time, however, these Presidential intimates emphasized that the Administration will not fight tax law changes designed either to add to the production "incentive" or to wipe out any "inequalities" that may exist.

But none would say what changes along these lines might be in prospect.

The new "go slow on tax cut-

See EXCISE TAX on page 9-A

Rites Thursday For W. C. Fields

LOS ANGELES — (AP) — Private final rites for radio and movie comedian W. C. Fields will be held Thursday morning.

His widow, Harriet, from whom he was separated years ago, disclosed through her lawyer that an intimate friend would say a word of farewell and that only Fields' closest friends would attend.

Interment will be in Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Glendale.

Announcing that the body would be placed in a mausoleum, the attorney for Mrs. Fields said:

"We do not wish that he be cremated, as this is not favored by the Catholic Church. While we favored interment in the ground, he always opposed being buried in the earth and we are sure that he would be comfortable with what we have done.

Fields left instructions that his body be cremated.

1946 Traffic Toll Seen As 34,000

CHICAGO — (AP) — The nation's traffic death toll in 1946, the National Safety Council estimated today, will be approximately 34,000 as compared to the 28,600 killed in motor accidents in 1945 when wartime restrictions limited travel.

James B. Marshall

Man Of The Year

By DICK YOUNG
Charlotte News Staff Writer

Following its annual custom of recognizing the Charlotte citizen who has contributed most to the city's advancement, The News today designates Engineer J. B. Marshall as Charlotte's "Man of the Year."

The 1946 nominee for this good citizenship award has done more for Charlotte's advancement in the space of twelve months than any person in many years. His work as consulting engineer for the Planning Board and other groups, by all standards, clearly stamped him as the "Man of the Year." So thoroughly were the judges impressed that they were unanimous in voting for him.

Though Mr. Marshall has been employed in a professional capacity as an engineering consultant, his services reflected his strong personal interest in Charlotte and his zeal for its optimum development. There is, perhaps, nobody who knows the city, its deficiencies and its potentialities, as well as he is, and there is certainly nobody who has striven more intelligently to bring improvements to pass or more practically to schedule them according to cost and means.

For Mr. Marshall, the year 1946 climaxed a career of more than a score of years of unselfish service to Charlotte—years in which his ambition for the city's growth and development and his practical vision have combined to lay a strong foundation for the future.

The nominee's work was not limited to the Planning Board. He has also been consultant for the Zoning Commission, the Freedom Park Association, and the City Government itself. In these capacities he has given untold hours of research, survey, and investigation; in each case the force of his personality, the wisdom of his planning, and the sweep of his concept of the future left their mark.

A CITIZEN FIRST

So, in selecting for the first time a professional, the "Man of the Year" judges counted his labors as above and financial remuneration, and adjudged him a citizen first and an engineer second.

A review of his background, discloses training and experience which has produced the unusual citizenship attributes and professional qualifications that won for him the designation as "Man of the Year."

MR. MARSHALL

A native of Anderson, S. C., Mr. Marshall was graduated from the College of Charleston, and shortly thereafter began his engineering profession in the contracting field. It was while he was engaged in a construction project at Rock Hill, S. C., that he met his wife, the former Miss Lucille Frew.

More than twenty years ago he became associated with Tucker &

See MR. MARSHALL on page 9-A

Last Big-Money Fling?

Nation Set For Expensive, Noisy New Year Greeting

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

The nation's legion of New Year's Eve revelers, backed by substantial supplies of noisemakers and bottled cheer, will greet the infant 1947 with the biggest, loudest and by all indications the most expensive celebration in the history of the year-end blowouts.

Owners of night clubs, bars, hotels and restaurants in key centers of the nation rubbed their palms and told the same story: All reservations taken, record crowds awaited and cash register totals expected

In New York City night clubs were charging—without liquor—from $5 to $40 per person and had all the takers they could handle.

But many spokesmen for the entertainment industry in New York and elsewhere were predicting this New Year's Eve celebration would be the last big, easy money fling.

For the stay-at-homes and private partygoers there was some cheer from the fact that Scotch whisky was down from $1 to $3 a bottle in many New York stores. Bonded bourbon and rye had been slashed as much as $2.

The New York Police Department assigned 1,684 patrolmen and detectives to handle the tens of thousands of revelers expected to greet the new year in Times Square. The fire department assigned 190 of its men to duty in night clubs.

CHURCH SERVICES

Noisy celebrants were expected to rub elbows with the more serious minded en route to Night Watch services in many churches.

In the nation's capital the night clubs and hotels were looking for their biggest night of the year with top prices about $12 for dinner and dancing. Theaters scheduled special midnight shows and many Government employees planned to do the town because they had New Year's Day off.

Chicago was braced for what had shaped up as the biggest binge in its history. One Gold Coast spot was charging $100 a person but reservations generally averaged $15 for cover charges. Supper and favors ranged up to $18.30 a person with drinks extra.

Hollywood night clubs, which had felt the pinch of slackening trade, were sold out at table prices ranging from $15 to $25 for the more exclusive spots. A good time would cost an average of $50 per person, it was estimated.

Judges at Los Angeles, where more than 40 people were killed in Christmas holiday traffic, threatened jail terms for drunken drivers.

San Francisco expected a gay and expensive celebration even though New Year's Eve amnesty for liquor dispensers was ruled out and bars were ordered to close at midnight. Clubs were given a 3 A. M. closing hour. They were booked solid.

At Kansas City night clubs, restaurants and hotels were expecting record crowds even though cover charges had been increased to as high as $12.20 per person. An expanded police force planned a sharp eye for drunken drivers.

ATLANTA CELEBRATES

Atlanta night clubs believed they would do a $70,000 business. Leading clubs were charging from $12 to $19.20 a couple. A square dance and hill-billy jamboree "Til Milking Time" was scheduled for the municipal auditorium.

In addition to usual celebrants, Miami and New Orleans also were hosts to football crowds for bowl games tomorrow. Thousands of people were expected to gather on New Orleans' historic Canal Street for the midnight blowout and Miami planned a "King Orange" jamboree parade tonight with 2,500 marchers.

Gun Disguised As Camera

Woman Badly Injured In Strange Shooting

NEW YORK —(AP)— A woman was shot and seriously wounded today in the crowded Times Square subway station by a woman who, police said, told them she thought she was taking a picture of her victim with a camouflaged camera.

Instead, the package wrapped with a Christmas paper, contained a shotgun. The victim, Mrs. Olga Rocco, 30, was taken to Roosevelt Hospital in a serious condition with a wound in the left hip.

Police took the second woman, identified as Mrs. Pearl Lusk, to the West 54th Street Station for questioning and said she told this story:

HANDED PACKAGE

"I'm going to die. He threatened me before. This time he got me. He can have me now if he wants me. I'm a cripple. What happened to the police? I called them but he was too smart for them."

Several weeks ago she was employed by an insurance investigator who told her he was investigating a jewel case and wanted Mrs. Rocco photographed. Today the man met her at a Brooklyn subway station and handed her the package, which was about fourteen inches long with a small hole in it.

"This is a camouflaged camera," she said the man told her. "Follow that woman and take a picture of her."

When the other woman left the subway train at Times Square, Mrs. Lusk followed. Through the hole in the package she pulled what she thought was the shutter of a camera. There was a loud noise and Mrs. Rocco fell.

Patrolman William Walsh, one of the first police to arrive, said that a man who rushed to Mrs. Rocco's side reported she told him:

"I'm going to die. He threatened me before. This time he got me. He can have me now if he wants me. I'm a cripple. What happened to the police? I called them but he was too smart for them."

U. S. Urges Priority For Atom Issue

Arms Limitation Proposal Made

LAKE SUCCESS, N. Y.—(AP)—The United States in a surprise maneuver proposed today that the United Nations Security Council give top priority to the atomic energy problem in its quest for world-wide arms limitation.

Herschel V. Johnson, United States delegate and chairman of the Council, laid a brief resolution before the delegates as they met to consider a Russian resolution calling for the Council to tackle the whole problem of general arms limitation with the utmost speed.

WILL CONSIDER RESOLUTION

The Council, with Soviet Russia in agreement, decided to take up the arms resolution at a meeting to be held not later than next Tuesday.

At that time it will have before it:

1. A sweeping General Assembly resolution calling for world-wide arms limitation and reduction of armed forces.

2. The Russian resolution asking quick implementation of the Assembly proposals.

3. The United States resolution seeking to put atomic control at the top of the list.

4. A request from the Foreign Ministers Council for the Security Council to start consideration of Trieste, over which the United Nations will have general supervision.

Johnson offered this resolution to the Council:

"The Security Council:

"The Security Council resolves that:

"1. Pursuant to the General Assembly resolution of Dec. 14 concerning the 'principles governing the general regulation and reduction of armaments' it gives first priority to the establishment of international control over atomic energy and, accordingly, it will consider and act upon the forthcoming report of the Atomic Commission as soon as received:

"2. It will thereafter consider what further practical measures it should take and in what order of priority for the implementation of the said General Assembly resolution."

Millions Held

Snuff Estate Heirs Sought Over World

HARRISBURG, Pa. —(AP)— Difficulty of locating foreign claimants to the multi-million dollar snuff fortune of the late Henrietta E. Garrett of Philadelphia is holding up State claims to as much as $24,000,000, a Pennsylvania special deputy attorney general said today.

The 1943 Legislature enacted a law permitting the Commonwealth to collect an 80 per cent tax on property passing to a first cousin or other relative more remote in degree where there is no will.

Mrs. Garrett died in 1933 after disposing of my $62,500 of her wealth, estimated to be as much as $30,000,000. Claims for a share of it have been filed by more than 26,000 persons, many from foreign lands, and years have been spent by special masters sifting out the claims.

Stambaugh said the Commonwealth has held off legal action to recover 80 per cent of the estate until hearings on claims are terminated.

"They are having difficulty getting notices of hearings to foreign claimants," he explained. "They have been unable to determine since the end of the war whether they are living or dead."

Most of the foreign claims were filed before World War II broke out. A State law enacted in 1943 put a seven-year deadline on filing of claims in intestate estates and made it retroactive.

Chinese Complain Of U. S. Marines

LONDON —(AP)— The Moscow radio broadcast today a Tass dispatch from Shanghai reporting that a "Chinese women's association" had issued a manifesto protesting against what it called "the lawless actions of American Marines in China."

Tass said the manifesto complained in particular of the alleged rape of a Chinese girl student in Peiping, and declared: "This rude violence will not be discontinued as long as American forces remain in China."

No Reason To Bar Senator

Campaign Probe Majority Report Will Back Bilbo

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Chairman Ellender, Democrat, Louisiana, indicated today that Democratic members of the special Campaign Investigating Committee will tell the Senate they know of no reason to bar Theodore G. Bilbo from a Senate seat.

The Committee investigated charges that Bilbo intimidated Negroes from voting in the Mississippi Senatorial election.

Ellender told reporters after a 90-minute meeting of the Committee that he and the other Democratic members, Senators Maybank of South Carolina and Elmer Thomas of Oklahoma will file a majority report with the Senate when it convenes Friday.

Asked whether this meant that he favors the seating of Bilbo, Ellender replied:

"Unquestionably."

He said the Republican members of the Committee, Senators Bridges of New Hampshire and Hickenlooper of Iowa, will file a minority report.

Both of these Senators as well as Ellender, declined to discuss details of the reports they intend to submit.

The Republican Steering Committee is considering whether to try to bar Bilbo at the door when the Senate convenes Friday.

REPORT MADE

The Steering Committee already has a report from the Senate War Investigating Committee accusing Bilbo of using his office for "personal gain."

That report stemmed from an inquiry into Bilbo's relations with war contractors. The Mississippian has acknowledged that he helped get contracts, but he has denied receiving any payment for this.

Within Six Months

Operators, Lewis Must Reach Terms

WASHINGTON—(AP)—President Truman in effect today gave the soft coal industry six months in which to come to terms with John L. Lewis' United Mine Workers and take back possession of Government-operated mines.

In declaring an end to hostilities of World War II, Mr. Truman wiped out the Government's power under the Smith-Connally War Labor Disputes Act to seize mines and plants where strikes had impeded production for war.

Properties already under Government operation would continue that way no more than six months longer. This includes approximately 2,500 soft coal mines and facilities of the Great Lakes Towing Co., Buffalo.

The Government, through the Coal Mines Administration, has been operating the soft coal mines since they were seized last May 22, during the crippling Spring strike.

DEADLINE SET

The Smith-Connally Act, passed in 1943, provided that the power to operate seized facilities should continue for six months after end of hostilities.

Mr. Truman made it clear that his part of the act would be in force for another half-year, and the Interior Department and representatives of Lewis' union said the mines would continue under Federal control until noon June 30, unless returned earlier by agreement.

Soft coal operators, their own ranks split over negotiations with Lewis in a contract by which the mines could be restored to private operation, have not met officially with Lewis since last September.

Lewis has indicated he would not press for negotiations before the Supreme Court rules in the contempt case growing out of a recent seventeen-day strike in the soft coal fields. Most industry and union representatives are of the opinion that contract talks between the mine owners and union won't begin before Feb. 1.

Farm Parity Ends In '48

By OVID A. MARTIN

WASHINGTON —(AP)— President Truman's proclamation today ending hostilities limits Government responsibility in supporting prices of many farm products to only two years—1947 and 1948.

Had the proclamation not been issued until tomorrow, Government support would have been required for three years, 1947 through 1949.

Officials have estimated that the support program might be worth between $1,000,000,000 and $1,500,000,000 a year to farmers by 1949.

Here is the background of this situation:

In 1941 Congress passed legislation requiring the Agriculture Department to maintain "floors" on minimum prices of not less than 90 per cent of parity on many farm products for the war period and two full calendar years after the President or Congress proclaimed hostilities at an end.

ITS PURPOSE

The purpose was to encourage farmers to expand production to meet heavy war needs and to give producers time, after the war, to readjust their production to peacetime markets without running the danger of a sharp price drop during the readjustment.

(Parity is a theoretical standard for measuring market prices to determine the degree of their fairness to producers. Under farm legislation, parity prices are declared to be fair to producers and consumers alike.)

The price support legislation ap-

See FARM PARITY on page 9-A

Return Visit

Samaritan Hands Out $3,500 In Bowery

NEW YORK—(AP)—The Samaritan, who had to enlist the aid of police Christmas Eve to prove the legitimacy of the $1,100 he handed out to habitues of the Bowery, paid a return visit today to give away $3,500.

He found recipients of his largess so eager that police had to control the crowd.

The Samaritan, Joseph Bonavita, Brooklyn tavern owner, started his New Year's Eve by crossing Brooklyn Bridge, and handing out dollar bills and silver to pedestrians and truck drivers.

Reaching the Bowery, he was recognized. Men who hesitated Christmas Eve surrounded him shouting happy New Year. Bonavita returned the greeting and handed out cash. Soon he was surrounded by some 75 men. Eventually they pushed him into a second hand furniture store.

A traffic policeman heard the commotion, summoned other police and together they tried to break up the crowd. Eventually they took Bonavita to a Bowery restaurant and had the men line up to receive their bills.

"Line them up," the tavern owner told police, "I want to give them money for New Year's. It's wonderful to be able to give money away."

The crowd soon became too large. Bonavita began to shake with emotion and police took him in a police car to the Elizabeth Street Police Station, where he was sheltered from the eager men who sought his gifts.

Bonavita appeared distraught by his experience, and police communicated with his wife. A doctor was summoned and on his advice the tavern owner was sent to Bellevue Hospital for observation.

Part Of U. S. War Powers Wiped Out By Action

Others Will Go Off Later

WASHINGTON — (AP) — President Truman released part of the Government's extraordinary wartime powers today by declaring the period of hostilities ended at noon.

His action wiped off the statute books immediately eighteen emergency laws and set 33 others for an automatic end six months from now, or later.

SEIZURE POWERS ENDED

Ended at once was the Government's power to seize privately-owned plants and mines, invoked often during wartime labor disputes.

In six months — unless Congress intervenes with new laws — the Government must turn back to the private owners the coal mines it now holds.

And after that date, a series of emergency taxes will drop to old rates. Among these are excise levies on liquor, furs, jewelry and other luxuries. The liquor tax will drop from $9 to $6 the proof gallon. (A drawback tax of $6 a proof gallon, affecting industrial use of distilled spirits, drops back to $3.75.)

FARM PROGRAM

By acting before 1946 closed, Mr. Truman knocked one year off the Government's guaranteed price support program for farm products. It will go on for two years. But had Mr. Truman waited until 1947 to act, the program, which might cost a billion and a half dollars in a big crop year, would have extended through 1949.

The law provides that it is to go on for two years beginning with the first day of January immediately after a proclamation ending hostilities.

Mr. Truman's action does not affect many other powers.

There are more than 500 emergency laws. Some say they are to end with the "end of the war" or within some specified time thereafter. Others say they are effective for the duration of the "emergency."

Thus, the "period of hostilities" as used by Mr. Truman is largely a technical matter turning on language Congress used in each statute. He made clear that he was not proclaiming the war ended, or the officially-declared emergency over.

Consequently, the laws based on the duration of the "emergency" or of the "war" are not affected.

DRAFT ACT STATUS

The basic Selective Service Law for drafting young men, for instance, is hitched to duration of the emergency. It is not affected by today's proclamation.

But many statutes affecting the Army and Navy are. One is a law which exempted the War and Navy Departments from general restrictions on the num-

See TRUMAN on page 9-A

LeClerc Revealed As French Count

PARIS— (AP) —Gen. LeClerc, the man who led the victorious French Second Armored Division from Normandy to Paris, and who has now been called to Indo-China to command French forces against the Viet-Namese, is in reality Count Philippe De Hauteclocque.

The count assumed the name "LeClerc" early in the war, when he commanded a French Army unit in Africa, to keep the German department of his true identity. He feared that if the Germans learned his identity they would persecute his wife and six children, then living in German-occupied France.

"LeClerc" subsequently became so famous that an American correspondent prefixed the names "Jacques" to the pseudonym for good measure.

French newspapers still refer to him as simply "Gen. LeClerc," and the commander has adopted the nom de guerre as his usual signature, even for official purposes. He is listed in a French Who's Who, however, as "Count Philippe LeClerc De Hauteclocque."

WEATHER

Freezing rain tonight and Wednesday morning.

Temperature at 2:30 today 38
High and low last 24 hours 58-
Sunset today 5:
Sunrise tomorrow 7: