

WEATHER
Enjoy the mild weather while you can. Weathermen say it's going to get really cold tonight. No snow showers, however, was mild to agree with rain.

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US Will Probably Send Russia New Atomic Note Soon

WASHINGTON (AP)—The United States probably will send Russia a new note soon, according to an avowed agreement to atomic talks and suggesting ways to get them started.

Top officials, who are still going over Moscow's Monday message with a magnifying glass, have yet to decide precisely how this country should proceed. Some authorities believe an exchange through normal diplomatic channels will be undertaken.

However, such planning is going forward in the State Department and Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) on the assumption that secret talks among the world atomic powers will open up under the sponsorship of the United Nations Disarmament Commission in late January—about a month away.

A preliminary exchange of views which could be carried on by ambassadors, or perhaps by Secretary of State Dulles and Foreign Minister Molotov at the projected Berlin conference, might serve to clear the air of misunderstandings.

Any exist, officials said.

The Russian note conditionally agreeing to talks said President Eisenhower's proposal for an international atomic energy pool for peaceful purposes needed clarification—apparently on the point of whether the President would do atomic weapons control.

Dulles said yesterday the world might see a "recession of the horizon" of atomic warfare in 1954 as a result of America's initiative in reviving atomic talks and Russian agreement to participate.

Authorities said two major moves must now be worked out in detail:

1. The international atomic agency which Eisenhower proposed in a U. N. speech Dec. 8 must be reorganized so that the United States will be able to spell out precisely what kind of operation it would like to see, with what kind of membership, and with what safeguards against use for war of any atomic materials contributed for peaceful uses.

2. An answer must be worked out to what appears to be a modified Soviet proposal which probably represents the Kremlin's "new approach" to the problem of atomic control. Moscow's note served notice that the Soviet government would propose in any talks held that all participating nations pledge themselves not to use atomic weapons.

Reports Show Living Costs Dropped During November

WASHINGTON (AP)—The government reported today that living costs declined in November, reversing a steady eight months advance toward levels.

The index, compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, declined three-tenths of 1 percent to 115.1 percent above the 1914-15 average.

This is six-tenths of 1 percent higher than November, 1952 and 2 percent above the same month, 1950.

But it was the first drop since February, and indicated some stabilizing of the economy.

The index decline knocks about 1,100,000 railroad employees out of the penny-on-hour wage increase they would have received had the index stayed at its 115.4 October figure. Their wage rates are geared by union-management contract to index changes.

A rather sharp 1.4 percent decline in food prices was mainly responsible for the drop in the overall living cost index.

This encouraging word to American housewives was tempered somewhat, however, by indications that December prices may be a bit higher.

The labor statistics commissioner, Ewan Clague, said he has advance indications that food prices are advancing, mainly pork prices. He said this may prevent a further living cost decline for December when the bureau reports the December living cost level late next month.

"We've had a little firming in food prices in December," Clague said, and the expected lower clothing prices won't come until January and February sales.

The index figure announced at (Continued On Page 4, Col. 4)

Mystery Shrouds Finding Of Man's Body In Shallow Grave

PATKOGUE, N. Y. (AP)—How did he die? What his name? Who sent the letter that led authorities to his shallow grave on Long Island? Why was he buried, possibly alive, in the gut-of-the-way spot?

These were some of the questions police had to answer today after digging up the body of a man, apparently a hunter, in remote clearing not far from Long Neck's Great South Bay near Mastic Acres.

One clue was a signed ring bearing on the seal what appeared to be the letters "L.O.N." It was suggested that this might be a class ring of some student or former student at Eden College in North Carolina.

An unsigned letter to the commander of Westover Air Force Base, Chicago Falls, Mass., gave the information that led searchers to the grave. The letter said the dead man was in the Air Force.

Results of an autopsy were awaited. In the meantime the cause of death was not clear.

Brookhaven town police said early today that a preliminary coroner's inquiry showed the man was dead when buried, and that leaves had been stuffed into his mouth.

Last night authorities said the man apparently was shot in an accident, that the face seemed to have been patting away and that the body was riddled with shotgun pellets.

However, the initial coroner's finding reported no bullet wounds and indicated that reports of such injuries were due to the decomposition of the body.

Officials were looking into the possibility the dead man was an airman absent without official (Continued On Page 4, Col. 4)

Column Left

"..... a chief's amang ye taking notes and faith! he'll print it....." — BURNS

IT WAS a "Buck Harris Dinner" as usual that was celebrated here last week-end, and as usual there was something different about it. This time it was the speech by Sidney S. Alderman on the authorship of Shakespeare's works.

Members of the bar might have found some other subject more familiar, but none could have caused more comment. Lynn Nisbet, Raleigh correspondent for The Robesonian and other afternoon dailies, described it as the safest topic that a big railroad executive could talk about at this particular time, and one member of the bar who evidently had seen the Broadway musical, "Kiss Me Kate," recalled a couplet from one of its songs: "If you'll quote a few lines from Othello, they'll thank you a hell of a fellow."

A distinct declaration that it was a distinct claim for the county and district bar for the speaker to think they had enough intelligence to appreciate a talk on Shakespeare.

Perhaps the most popular comment was one attributed to Judge Harris himself: "Why, everybody knows who wrote Shakespeare's works. Cassell Britt, of course."

Whether the judge happened to make that particular remark, it was in the Buck Harris manner that has characterized the big dinner given in his honor here each year. Judge Harris paid his respects to fewer members of the Robeson bar this time, but as usual he was to date. He declared that Clerk of Court Frank McMillan had performed a splendid hand in making the Joe Nicholson bill disappear, and that Ormer Henry Jowers by going without a vest (Actually, Mr. Henry had on a (Continued On Page 11, Col. 4)



FRANCIS N. BARTEN of Cleveland, Ohio posted this sign "This Is Not One of Santa's Reindeer," after sobbing small fry in his neighborhood accused him of killing one of the reindeer they were presenting Christmas Eve. Bartlen, a veteran of many deer-hunting seasons, said "some of them were really peeved." (AP Wirephoto)

Contracts For 301 By-Pass To Be Awarded On Monday

The State Highway and Public Works Commission will award grading and construction contracts for the U. S. 301 by-pass around Lumberton on Monday. The award of the contracts had been delayed for a week while the commission gave them further study to be certain the construction of the highway would be completed on time.

Sixth Division Highway Commissioner C. A. Hasty said this morning that the contracts will be formally approved, with the usual stipulation that the Federal Bureau of Public Roads also approve. He said that the confusion of Christmas holidays prevents completion of the contracts today.

Mr. Hasty added that he expects work to begin "right away."

Bids total \$885,710.94, somewhat lower than the Highway Commission had thought they would be. Charles R. Shepherd, Inc., of Atlanta will do the grading for \$344,500.40; Bowers Construction Co. of 5330 130th St., P. E. Bonga of Whiteville will put up buildings on the right of way for \$10,800.00. In addition to the total bids the highway engineers add a standard ten percent for engineering charges and contingencies, but that amount may not be needed.

The 5.6 miles of 260-foot right of way passes west of Lumberton and connects with 301 North two and a half miles from Lumberton and with 301 South about a mile south of the airport.

French Are Still Voting

VERSAILLES, France (AP)—The French Parliament went through its 11th round of voting today and failed to elect a president of the republic after a week of fruitless balloting.

Ballooting with tired indifference, more than 500 deputies and senators refused to give their majority to either of the two chief candidates—Socialist Marcel Edmond Nagelen or Overseas Minister Louis Jacquinot of the conservative Independent party.

Nagelen got 372 votes, Jacquinet 338. The required majority was 441.

The rightists put up Jacquinet after Premier Joseph Laniel withdrew from the race last night.

NC Girl Accuses ACL In Racial Damage Suit

RICHMOND, Va. (AP)—A Virginia State College coed, who alleges that the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Co. is unlawfully interfering with her pursuit of a career in Carolina to Virginia, is asking \$25,000 damages in a racial discrimination suit filed in federal district court here.

In the complaint, Christine O. Grable of Fayetteville, N. C., said that last Nov. 29 she purchased a ticket in Fayetteville entitling her to transportation to Petersburg, where she attends college, on one of the defendant's trains. She said she boarded the train and was directed to a comfortable air-conditioned coach.

About 15 minutes later, she said, the conductor inquired whether she was white or colored. "The plaintiff failed to answer as the answer was obvious," the complaint stated. The conductor then in a loud voice demanded that she "move to a colored coach," she alleged.

After she refused to move and after she told the conductor, she was going to Petersburg, and that she had a large bag and was not going to, the plaintiff said the porter, at the direction of the conductor, "roughly grabbed her by the arm and forcibly carried her into an inferior 'Jim Crow' coach."

The defendant "has 20 days in which to answer."

Christmas Gift?

COLUMBIA (AP)—What do you suppose a thief would want with a manhole cover?

That was a question troubling police after a 250-pound cover was stolen Monday from a construction shack here. The contractor said the cover has a value of \$15.

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American POWs Crown Out Last Appeal With Red Songs

Fairmont Leader Dies Suddenly At His Home

FAIRMONT (AP)—Harry Weinstein, 65, one of Fairmont's most prominent merchants and civic leaders, died suddenly this morning at his home. Death came unexpectedly and Mr. Weinstein had not been ill prior to the fatal attack.

Funeral arrangements have not been announced pending word from a son in San Francisco.

The family has requested that no flowers be sent.

Mr. Weinstein came to America when he was two years old, with his parents, Simon and Ida Weinstein, who had made his home in Fairmont for about forty years.

He had been active in community and civic affairs in Fairmont. He was owner of a store in the town and also had extensive farming interests. Mr. Weinstein was a member of the town board of commissioners, having served for several terms. He had been active in the Elks Club, and was a Master and a Shriner. He belonged to the Civilian Club of Fairmont and was one of the most active members of the town board of commissioners.

Surviving Mr. Weinstein are his wife, the former Yola Kagan; two sons, Dr. Raeford L. Weinstein of San Francisco; first daughter, Mrs. Rosa Fleishman of Fayetteville, Mrs. Leola Dume of Baltimore, Mrs. Morris Silverstein of Gaston, Mrs. Hattie Svatburg of Brooklyn, N. Y., and Mrs. Sam Sackoff of Jacksonville, N. C.

Also surviving is an uncle, Aaron Weinstein of Lumberton.

Dulles Launches Drive To Win French Approval Of EDC

WASHINGTON (AP)—Secretary of State Dulles appears well launched on a high pressure drive to win French approval of controlled German rearmament by appealing to the French people over the heads of their political leaders.

For the second time in two weeks, Dulles has painted for the French people a picture of Western Europe virtually undefended by the United States unless they act speedily to play a European Defense Community (EDC).

He told the French, at a Paris news conference last week, that the United States might have to make an "agonizing reappraisal" of its foreign policy toward Europe unless the projected six-nation international EDC army comes into being.

He spoke to the French again yesterday when he said, in an address delivered at the National Press Club, that unless Germany shares its own defensive burden the United States might have to turn its back on Germany.

But at the same time he voiced confidence that EDC, styled by France's imagination, would be approved. His talk, hailed as a report on the North Atlantic Treaty Council meeting at Paris, amounted to a definition of the tough dilemma in which this government finds itself.

The United States urgently wants EDC, as a cornerstone of NATO, and with EDC apparently foundering it sees no acceptable alternative.

"That murky period is coming to an end," Dulles said. "As the day decision inevitably approaches, so does comprehension grow. Therefore, we can have high hopes."

During the past year, he said, the United States has called for EDC as "urgent," of "paramount importance," "needed," and "essential."

"But these weighty utterances seem not to have sunk in," he added, listing three factors he said made EDC essential:

1. The "immediate problem" of defending Europe with U.S. troops.

2. A need to restrain Germany under checkreins to prevent any resurgence of German militarism.

3. The problem of permanently sealing the breach between France and Germany.

As for U.S. troops in Europe, Dulles said America cannot now utilize German troops without EDC, nor does it intend to defend Germany by itself while the Germans sit on the sidelines.

Broadcast Ends Attempts To Woo Captives Home

PANJUNION (AP)—Time ran out at midnight Wednesday on efforts to change the minds of 22 American war prisoners who stayed with the Communists.

The 90-day period for explanations to war prisoners, expired hours after the Americans and other pro-free world captives, Chinese, Soviet and linked arms, a wild dance to drown out last-minute broadcast appeals to return home.

An Indian spokesman said that as midnight passed there was no prospect for repatriation from prisoners in the pro-free world camps.

The U. N. Command said earlier its broadcasts yesterday ended efforts to woo home the 22 Americans, 1 Briton and 27 South Koreans.

The Communists, who have pressed repeatedly for an extension of the explanation period, asked to interview more Chinese prisoners from the anti-Communist South China Command.

But the Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission ruled that the explanations had ended.

The commission approved a request from the pro-Communist Americans and the Briton to meet Alford and Redwood news correspondents inside their captives' internment camps.

RADIOCASTS

Loudspeakers outside the barred wire enclosure broadcast 42 times during the day—four appeals each to the 22 Americans, 1 Briton and 27 South Koreans who had been interviewed individually. All of the 22 South Koreans interviewed were expected to play with the Communists.

The broadcasts were greeted by wild demonstrations as the prisoners waved, sang, shouted and cheered in unison.

Only 17 Americans were counted inside the compound. The Indian command said three were in a nearby hospital and did not hear the broadcasts. Two others, apparently, remained inside the huts where the prisoners live. The Indian command said 19 were inside the compound.

News correspondents standing outside the wire identified from pictures Sgt. Richard Corbett of St. Paul, Minn., and Sgt. Andrew Cordron previously had been identified as leaders of the non-Korean prisoners.

With the end of the explanation period all of the Americans became absent without leave. In another 30 days they will be listed as deserters.

Under terms of the armistice all unrepatriated war prisoners are to be held in the neutral zone until Jan. 22, when they are to be released as civilians. During the 30-day period they can still ask for repatriation.

ALLIES REFUSE

The Communists want the prisoners kept in custody until a peace conference decides their fate, but (Continued On Page 4, Col. 3)

Braden Warns Of Communist Penetration Of Latin America

NEW YORK (AP)—Former Assistant Secretary of State Wendell Willkie today drew up a fiscal reform plan for Cuba containing proposals that "even the wildest-eyed New Dealer wouldn't try."

He says the plan would have bankrupted the Cuban government and kept Cuba from passing legislation to implement it.

The onetime ambassador to Cuba and Argentina testified yesterday before the U. S. Senate Internal Security subcommittee. Braden's government service was in the Roosevelt-Truman administration.

His testimony about White, a former assistant secretary of the Treasury, underscored a warning of Communist penetration in Latin America and a plea that Congress probe look into "the Moscow inspired conspiracy to destroy our country by spreading communism through the rest of this hemisphere."

Braden, in a prepared statement before his testimony, said the United States may yet lose Latin America to the Communists "as we did China." He added:

"This undermining of our national security has been contemplated and even at times abetted by our own government."

Braden said he first learned of White's plan to overthrow the Cuban government in 1942. He said he opposed the plan as "completely crazy and cooked up by the department's Latin American Division."

He testified that he refused to reverse his stand when directed to do so in a State Department memo to the Secretary of State, Cordell Hull's signature. He said he believed the directive came from Laurence Duggan, then head of the department's Latin American Division.

Priest Says, 'No Santa Claus'

BALTIMORE (AP)—For the first time in 32 years St. Alphonsus School yesterday gave its pupils a Christmas party without a Santa Claus.

Pagan felt that the traditional "Santa Claus" explained the Rev. Louis J. Mendell to 250 youngsters, "he is a good spirit who lives only in books, in the popular hand of fairy tales and hobo lines, and is not the real giver of the gifts you receive at Christmas."

The Catholic priest told the kids ranging from 3 to 14 that there was no place in the religious celebration for the "Santa Claus that many of you have seen standing on street corners."

Christmas mail has been flown to Korea as fast as it has been received in Japan and there is no backing, the Air Force said.

Christmas Mail

TOKYO (AP)—The Air Force said today it will make an all-out Christmas effort to deliver holiday mail to troops in Korea on time.

It said it will mobilize every available plane to ship mail from a ship due at Yokohama tomorrow noon.

Christmas mail has been flown to Korea as fast as it has been received in Japan and there is no backing, the Air Force said.



FOUR YOUNG PEOPLE DIED in this cramped auto which was hit broadside by a freight car overturned. (AP Wirephoto)

Freak Accidents Cause Damage

Property damage to automobiles, bridge railings, parking meter posts and barber shop doors were listed in a series of accidents reported by Lumberton police and the State Highway Patrol.

Officers Floyd Sells and Clarence Phillips reported that Lawrence A. Britt hit the post and barber shop door in a freak accident about 12:25 a. m. today. According to the report, Britt was making a left turn from Chestnut street into Fourth street and after turning left he crossed the street. Consequently it jumped the curb, knocked down a parking meter post, and came to rest against the door of Lorraine Barber shop.

The bridge railing accident occurred at 301 for a time about 9:15 a. m. Tuesday. Patrolman Daniel J. Jay Stephens, Jr., of Pennsylvania, had passed a car in heavy fog and crossed off the road to avoid a collision with another vehicle traveling into the fog without lights.

The chain reaction saw the car of Vestil Hedgcock of Miami, Fla., brought to a quick stop. Following came a car of the same make, driven by Jerome O. Jackson of the District of Columbia, Joseph Hall of New York and March S. Hall of Tampa, Fla.

Damage to the Hedgcock car was \$100, to the Jackson car \$175, to the Phillips car \$200 and to the Hall car \$150.

SHOPPING DAY TO CHRISTMAS

heavy fog. The railing was knocked down and the car plunged into the canal and submerged. Damage to car was \$1,000 and to the bridge \$150.

Four vehicles were involved in an accident which blocked highway 301 for a time about 9:15 a. m. Tuesday. Patrolman Daniel J. Jay Stephens, Jr., of Pennsylvania, had passed a car in heavy fog and crossed off the road to avoid a collision with another vehicle traveling into the fog without lights.

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