



WINTER SCENE—The big trees at the First Presbyterian Church yard were covered with thin layers of ice today, presenting this frigid scene as the city shivered through the cold, rainy, icy day with a dreary weather was enough to keep a lot of Christmas shoppers at home, but there were still a large number who put on galoshes and went forth despite the rain and ice. More of the same kind of weather is expected tonight. (News Photo by Tom Franklin Stouid).

Ice Storm Hits City

By EMERY WISTER
Charlotte News Staff Writer
The Weather Bureau predicts rain will fall in Charlotte again tonight but unless the mercury falls lower than expected ice will not form on streets and highways here.
James M. Howe, meteorologist in charge of the Weather Bureau, said that the forecast is for occasional rain tonight and tomorrow. A minimum of about 23 degrees is forecast for tomorrow morning, but there is a good possibility that icicles may form as they did this morning.

Drug Deal In Spotlight

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Bilbo's Hearing In Holiday Recess

WASHINGTON (AP)—Clashing testimony about payment of \$15,000 in a narcotics case held the Bilbo investigation wide open today as the stormy public hearings recessed for the Christmas holiday.
Senator Theodore S. Bilbo, Democrat, Mississippi, told the Senate War Investigating Committee yesterday as he denied repeatedly any knowledge of the \$15,000 payment. He was asked to call of the chair.
The committee was also told that he had received some money from Dr. A. J. Podesta, a physician, which was requested of the narcotics permit.

Wife-Strangler Gets Sentence

By EMERY WISTER
Charlotte News Staff Writer
A 29-year-old man was sentenced today by Circuit Judge Carl C. Pusey to serve twelve to fifteen years in Southern Michigan prison for the slaying of his wife Nov. 10, 1945.
The man, identified as James Earl Ray, was arrested in Durham this afternoon.
He was charged with the slaying of his wife Nov. 10, 1945, in Durham, N.C.
The slaying was reported by a Durham resident who saw the man in Durham this afternoon.

U. N. Action Taken After Soviet Balk

By MAX HARBELSON
LAKE SUCCESS, N. Y. (AP)—The United Nations Atomic Energy Commission today approved "in principle" the United States atomic control plan after Soviet Delegate Andrei A. Gromyko announced dramatically that he was withdrawing from the discussions.
Gromyko did not leave the Council chamber as he did last April during discussion of the Iranian plan for his co-operation. Gromyko flatly refused to vote.
The Commission already had rejected a Soviet demand that action on the U. S. atomic plan be postponed until a Polish proposal that the American plan be sent to the Commission's Political Committee without recommendation of the American compromise, which provided that the Commission approved the U. S. plan, but that the plan would be left to the Commission's Political Committee to be approved previously had been accepted by the United States delegation.

Medley Put To Death

WASHINGTON (AP)—Joseph D. Medley, 46, whose affinity for red-headed women cost him the death row, died in the electric chair today.
Medley was pronounced dead at 12:40 P. M. (EST) after a frantic last-minute attempt by his lawyer to win a delay.
The last flicker of hope was extinguished by the Supreme Court last week when it refused to hear the case.
Medley was executed by hanging at the State Penitentiary in Raleigh, N. C.
He was charged with the murder of Mrs. Mary Medley in March, 1945.

Impressions of A Visitor

An Englishwoman in Charlotte
(Not—Mrs. Katherine Lawrence of Chester, England, a recent visitor in Charlotte, gives an impression of the city and its people in a series of six articles written during her stay here. She is also writing a book about Charlotte for her home town, "The New South."—Editors, The News.)
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COMMERCE AND TRADING
LUXURIES FOR THOSE WHO CAN PAY, BUT...
Europe's Multitudes Face Dismal, Dreary Christmas

LONDON (AP)—There will be Christmas gaiety and even many in Europe for those who can pay. But for Europe's hungry, destitute multitudes there is no room in the inn.
Though shadow of war has lifted, the dreariness of cold hearths and bare cupboards remains. And for the have-nots of the just-ant and defeated nations Christmas will be just another day.
For those who are not deprived by war, whose purses still are intact, Christmas promises to be what it always has been—a day of festivity.
PRICES HAVE GONE SKYWARD
The markets of the continental cities are bulging with luxuries that seem out of place to the wage earner but are shopping heavens to the nouveau riche. But costs are equivalent to post-war Christmas commodes.
In Paris, windows are stuffed with appealing scarves, purses, jewels, stiletto underthings, fur coats, perfumes and other rich gifts, but prices are fantastic. And many a child can only stare and long for pretty toys.
Paris footmen, too, are burdened with delicacies—silver-wrapped pate de foie gras, at \$8 to \$14 a pound; turkeys and geese at \$10; and champagne prices which are not even mentioned out loud.
Christmas trees are plentiful. Flowers are a slight to those who are not so much as one dozen roses in November. Night clubs and large restaurants will have special shows for those who want to toss away a month's salary in a night.
Some presents the paradox of excess bursting with hungry goods, while most of the capital's masses would be content with an extra ration of spaghetti. Italians fortunate enough to have lire can buy, but press up against the lire goes the other way.
In the Via Condotti are splendid arrays of leathers, furs, china, silvers, and the like, but those who wish would last year, at even higher prices, but those who have lire are spenders eagerly to get rid of them before they hit bottom.
DUTCH CHILDREN WITHOUT TOYS
The scarcity of food in Holland has all but blighted the Christmas season. Dutch children are so malnourished that they are unable to play with their toys.
In the Netherlands, Christmas is a time of suffering. For German children will be a little more on the merry side this year.
As a student of history, the President said he has discovered that great republics of the past "always pass out when their people become prosperous and fat and lazy and are not willing to assume their responsibilities."
I want you to assume your responsibilities. And I think the best way to do this is through education.

Called Best Guarantee For U.S. Stay Strong

Advisory Group Asked To Report
By ELTON C. PAV
WASHINGTON (AP)—President Truman today called for the adoption of universal training as the best assurance for the continuation of the republic.
Speaking to a new Advisory Commission set up to study universal training proposals, Mr. Truman said that the modern nation "must depend solely upon the Army and Navy for its protection."
POINTS TO PAST
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Bonuses And Dividends Local Banks Make Heavy Payments

Dividends to stockholders and bonuses to members of the organizations will be paid this Christmas season by the banking institutions in Charlotte total high in the hundreds of thousands of dollars, with regular and extra dividends alone amounting to more than \$250,000.
Several of the banks already have announced their respective regular and extra dividends and bonus payments. Several other banks will report their directors' meetings for dividend decisions next week or early in January. While reports indicated that all the banks are paying bonuses to their personnel, some of the banks withheld announcements of the details.
The Federal National Bank of Charlotte announced payment of a bonus to employees equal to 10 per cent of their regular salaries. This bank paid a Christmas extra dividend of 2 per cent and the regular year-end dividend of 8 per cent.
AMERICAN TRUST
The American Trust Co. of Charlotte said it would pay regular and extra dividends to stockholders that required distribution of the bank's assets. The bank's regular dividend of 1 per cent was paid in June and December and its extra dividend of 2 per cent was paid in December.
The Charlotte office of the Wachovia Trust Co. announced that the regular quarterly dividend to stockholders of 1 per cent will be declared early in January.
The Union National Bank of Charlotte will hold a directors' meeting next week to declare the year-end dividend, it was reported. Also, the bank's regular dividend of 1 per cent was paid in June and December and its extra dividend of 2 per cent was paid in December.

Yugoslav Troops Mass

ATLANTA (AP)—An informant sources said today concentrations of large numbers of Yugoslav troops at Skopje, on the traditional Vardar Valley Invasion route, and near the Monastir Gap at Bitola had been reported to Allied military authorities.
A highly confidential report says heavy movements of ammunition trains to the Greek border on the Balkans were reported for the past few weeks and normal traffic from Skopje southward to Djevdjella, which is immediately west of the Greek border on the Vardar, had been stopped since Dec. 1.
"Is it reasonable to believe," the report says, "the highway is now being used for military purposes?"
An Allied diplomat said the concentration of Yugoslav troops at Skopje, the informant commented with the Greek complaint before the Security Council, that has authorized the Security Council to take action against Yugoslavia were aiding the Greek Government.
U. S. N. FROBE UTGARD
The United Nations Security Council voted unanimously last night to authorize the United Nations to investigate the border traffic between Yugoslavia and Greece.
(An Associated Press correspondent en route across Yugoslavia to the Greek border last night reported that the Skopje-Djevdjella road had been closed to traffic Dec. 1.)
Both Skopje and Bitola, 70 miles to the south, are "Communist" cities. The informant said that the occupying German and Italian forces had been ordered to "leave a large number of Greek soldiers of military formation and equipment, believed to be refugees wearing American Army uniforms. The uniforms, informant said, were believed to have been from the retail supplies of UNRRA.

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Kennedy To Run For Chicago Mayor

CHICAGO (AP)—Martin H. Kennedy, 58-year-old business and civic leader, today formally accepted endorsement of the Democratic state-making committee as the city's nominee for Mayor.
Kennedy was picked yesterday by a caucus of the city's business and civic leaders and approved by Mayor Edward J. Kelly, 70-year-old, in a vote of 10-0. Kennedy is the son of a prominent Chicago family and has been active in public affairs for many years.

It's Not Too Late

WASHINGTON (AP)—Christmas cards mailed this week-end will be delivered to any point in the country by Christmas Day if they are sent by air mail to the Post Office department said today.

Holidays In Independence

INDEPENDENCE, Mo., (AP)—Mrs. Bess Truman, wife of the President, and her daughter, Margaret, arrived here last night to spend the Christmas holidays at their Independence home.
The President is expected to join them Tuesday.

Weather

Clearly and continued cold with occasional light rain tonight and tomorrow. High 30, low 20.
Temperature tonight 30, tomorrow 30.
High and low for the week: High 30, low 20.
Forecast for the week: High 30, low 20.