

THE WEATHER
For Wisconsin: Fair tonight, Friday partly cloudy, continued mild.
Local weather facts for 24 hours preceding 7 a. m.: Maximum 39; minimum 22.

Thirty-Fifth Year—No. 10,873

Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., Thursday, December 2, 1948

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Berlin is Braced For New Attempts To Disrupt Voting

Red Hecklers Try To Break Up Rally Of Anti-Communists

Berlin — (AP) — Divided Berlin braced itself today for new Communist attempts to disrupt western sector election plans after Red hecklers last night tried to break up a western political rally.

In Russian-occupied eastern Berlin the new hand-picked Communist government gathered for its first meeting in the former central city hall from which the legally-elected government had been ousted.

In western Berlin, the elected city assembly, which has declared a state of emergency, called another meeting.

Officers Withdrawn

Western Allied liaison officers attached to the city government were withdrawn today from the central city hall.

Col. Frank L. Howley, U. S. commandant in Berlin, said: "We are going with the legal government. We only stayed there yesterday to witness the illegal act of the Communists of locking out the elected city officials."

Western sector German police forces were on the watch to break up anti-Communist election campaign rallies, prior to Sunday's elections.

Step Up Campaign

Undaunted by attacks by Communist rowdies western Berliners stepped up their campaign to get out a huge vote under the slogan "Berlin answers the Russian blockade."

One such rally resulted in fist fights and police intervention last night when Communist hecklers tried to break up a Social Democratic gathering in the American sector.

German police arrested nine hecklers, whom they identified as members of the Russian-sponsored Socialist Unity (Communist) party. One was an editor of the Soviet-licensed "Berliner Zeitung." All were released today after questioning.

Import Rowdies

The western press claimed one of the demonstrators were imported from towns in the surrounding Russian zone to create election disturbances.

American authorities were reported to have said they would intervene in the situation only if-

ficially requested to by German officials.

"It is a German matter," said Col. Robert A. Willard, chief of the U. S. army's Berlin command.

The anti-Communists have accused the Russian-backed Communists of imposing new transport hindrances against blockaded western Berliners.

The American-licensed news agency said the Communists are planning to interrupt elevated rail service to western Berlin on Sunday. This could keep from the polls 100,000 western Berliners who work in the Soviet sector.

The Communist-controlled trade unions and other so-called "mass organizations" appealed for public support of the eastern sector separatist government.

They offered food, fuel and even Christmas tree to western Berliners who would come over to the Russian sector to register for rations.

Armed Forces Merger, Budget to Be Checked

Washington — (AP) — Senator McKellar (D-Tenn.) advised the armed services today their financial rating with the new congress may rest on whether they can show a unification savings dividend.

The veteran lawmaker is slated for a key role in settling the mounting dispute over how much this country will spend on defense next year. He is due to become chairman of the senate appropriations committee, which must give clearance to spending requests.

A staunch administration supporter, McKellar indicated he is backing President Truman's plan to hold military outlays within a \$15,000,000,000 limit in the fiscal year starting July 1. Secretary of Defense Forrestal had proposed a budget allotment ranging up to \$23,000,000,000.

McKellar told a reporter he is "greatly interested in learning if consolidation of the army, navy and air forces has produced savings by elimination of duplications and overlapping. I certainly hope they have."

The Tennesseean added that his committee "is going to get to the bottom of this" with "full and complete hearings."

Opposition to boosting Truman's defense fund ceiling was voiced last week by Senator Tydings (D-Md.) who said the taxpayers "must survive." He is a member of the appropriations group and is slated to become chairman of the armed services committee.

The continuing quarrel of the merged military services meanwhile received fresh attention on the other side of the capitol.

Representative Vinson (D-Ga.) told a reporter that if the generals and admirals can't settle their arguments congress will take whatever action is needed.

The sharp-tongued Georgian, who was reelected to his nineteenth term in congress last month, is scheduled to head the house armed services committee.

Vinson did not comment on the military budget dispute. But he said "the country may just as well make up its mind" the defense program "is going to cost money."

He said that if the services can't work out their differences over wartime assignments his committee, "if necessary" will ask congress to pass "laws which clearly define the responsibility, role, and mission of each branch."

Says European Nations Need U.S. Supplies

New York — (AP) — Secretary of Defense Forrestal says the United States must supply western Europe with "a generous measure of equipment" to support the common defense plans of five nations.

Such aid is necessary to give meaning to the Brussels treaty signed by Britain, France, Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg — Forrestal said last night at the annual dinner of the English-speaking union.

Forrestal presumably meant military equipment, but he did not say so specifically.

Recalling that objectives of the Brussels treaty are being developed under direction of Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery into plans for concerted action for the common defense of the five nations, Forrestal declared:

"To make these plans meaningful, however, a generous measure of equipment will have to be given to western Europe, for these people cannot prosper while they live in fear of their lives.

"Just as the United States was the arsenal of democracy, so must it become a repository of hope, and by its strength banish from the hearts of its friends anxiety and fear of the future. For the people of western Europe are yet in need of the brightness of this new world to help guide them out of the darkness."

Forrestal said "it will avail us nothing to nourish trust in their ability to defend themselves," because:

"It is westward—to us—that they look for help and for the substance that will enable them to face the future with assurance—an assurance equal to their courage. By their courage they grant us greater hope that there is still a peaceful destiny for the future of mankind."

County's December Draft Quota Is 8

The draft quota for Wood county for December has been set at eight men, the local draft board was notified today by state headquarters of selective service.

The men, who have not yet been named, will report to the Stevens Point induction center December 16. From there, it is expected, they will be sent to Camp Breckinridge, Ky., for basic training.

The December quota is twice as large as that required in November.

Names of the eight men will be announced following this afternoon's meeting of the local draft board, Clerk Floyd F. Morgan said this morning.

ACCUSE HUNGARY REDS

Washington — (AP) — The United States officially accused the Hungarian Communist government of using false evidence as a basis for taking over \$25,000,000 of American-owned oil properties in Hungary.

Mother Nature Plays a Dirty Trick on Town

Jennings, Okla. — (AP) — Mother nature has played a mighty dirty trick on the 453 folks in this little Pawnee county oil town—their gas well has gone pooh.

And it's cold.

And the gas company won't do anything about it.

That's why Jennings is up battling before the Oklahoma corporation commission, trying to persuade the Oklahoma Natural Gas company—or any gas company, for as that matters—to get that gas going again.

The youngsters can't get their Saturday night baths. The new school stands empty. Fortunate families are burning coal and wood. You can cut the smoke—and gloom—with a knife.

Thirty-five years ago, when Jennings was founded, the townsite was planted smack dab in the middle of a big oil and gas field.

They just piped into a gas well right at the edge of town for heat—

See—NATURE—Page 15

Protect Workers From Raiders; Ban Liquor Sale

Kalamazoo, Mich. — (AP) — Law enforcement agencies moved in force today in the protection of two struck factories of the Shakespeare companies.

Approximately 75 city and state police and sheriff's men flung a guard around the plants, beset early yesterday by an organized band of 300 raiders.

Authorities said they were taking the step as a precaution despite the absence of any threat of renewed trouble. Since yesterday's dawn raid the scene had been relatively quiet.

While officers stood by, about 200 non-striking workers passed through picket lines without incident this morning.

500 On Job

Company officials predicted a force of 500 would be at work later in the day.

The company employed about 700 persons before the strike but has been operating with 500 recently.

In addition, the sale of liquor was banned by state order in this city of 60,000 population. Such a move is seldom made except in the case of an emergency.

The order, issued by the state liquor control commission, served to make Kalamazoo a "dry town" for the time being.

Investigations of the raid meanwhile were being pressed by state and local authorities and a grand jury was in the offing.

"Red Tinge"

State Police Commissioner Donald S. Leonard said the raid, carried out in military style, had "a possible Communist tinge."

The raiders swept on the plants in a 40-car caravan and proceeded to overturn and burn parked automobiles and to smash equipment. Workers were reported beaten.

Some cars of the raiders carried license plates from neighboring states, witnesses said.

Gov. Kim Sigler, ordering a grand jury investigation, said he was amazed at such an incident "in this day and age." He set state agencies to work in the inquiry.

Recover Rifle In Eau Claire

Eau Claire — (AP) — The 22 caliber rifle with which authorities believe two young people were shot to death was found today in 10 feet of water in Dell's pond.

Diver Carl Gause of Robinsdale, Minn., found the rifle in the approximate place Marshall Johnson, 32, charged with first degree murder in the shootings, pointed out he had thrown it.

Police said the death weapon would be taken to St. Paul, for tests by a ballistics expert. Dr. John Dalton, with portions of three bullets taken from the bodies of Raymond Smith, 18, and his 17-year-old girl companion.

The rifle was about 50 feet from the south shore of the pond, police said. Earlier Johnson had indicated he tossed the weapon into the pond about 200 feet east of where it was discovered. The first search was futile, but Johnson changed his story several days ago and Gause came up with the rifle after only a few hours in the water.

Johnson has pleaded innocent to the murder charges, although Sheriff Lloyd Thompson has quoted him as admitting he shot both youngsters in a wooded glen near the Eau Claire Country club golf course. The bodies, both nearly nude, were found the next day.

Local Bank Installs Recording Machine

Installation at the Wood County National bank of a Commercial Recordak, a device that provides photographic evidence of every transaction, was announced today by Richard J. Lawless, executive vice president. Lawless invited public inspection of the machine.

The machine automatically photographs as many as 140 documents a minute and preserves them on microfilm in a fraction of the space formerly required for 500 of its records, making them immediately available for reproduction on a special viewing screen.

China Communists Lay Claim To Important Base of Suchow

Police Guard 2 Struck Plants

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ADmits Raids

Kalamazoo — (AP) — The CIO United Steelworkers today said its members conducted a raid Wednesday on the Shakespeare companies, during which seven persons were injured and property burned and damaged.

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Notes Slight Drop in Some Price Fields

Washington — (AP) — President Truman's economic advisory council informed him today that there has been a "flattening out of some prices."

Dr. Edwin G. Nourse, the chairman, called at the White House to give Truman a report on the group's studies.

Afterward, he told reporters he advised Truman that the price situation appears to be brightening.

He added:

"They (prices) don't seem to be jumping through the ceiling."

The chairman of the advisory council recently was named by Truman to head a cabinet coordinating committee to play the anti-inflation program which the administration will submit to the new congress next month.

Nourse came from Truman's office carrying a batch of charts and graphs on the price situation. He said he had gone over them with the president.

Nourse said the charts record a "creeping advance" in the rent field, but show "food has had quite a down turn and is now moving down at a somewhat slower rate."

As for clothing, he said "there has been a softening of prices on quite a number of clothing items."

Asked whether the current situation added up to a more encouraging picture of the price situation, Nourse replied:

"I think so."

He added, in reply to another question, that Truman "was very much gratified" by his report "because he is deeply concerned" by the price situation.

In fact, Nourse added, it is "his very first concern."

State Petroleum Gas Ass'n. to Meet at Port Edwards Dec. 7

The winter meeting of the Wisconsin Liquefied Petroleum Gas association will be held at the Paper Inn, Port Edwards, next Tuesday, it was announced today by L. E. Rasmussen, Port Edwards, association president.

Principal speaker at the afternoon session will be T. W. Brazeeau, Wisconsin Rapids, whose subject is to be "The Bill of Rights."

A business meeting scheduled for 10:30 a. m. will open the day's program. Following annual reports, talks are to be given by I. F. Stutz, supervisor of fire prevention for the Wisconsin industrial commission, and J. V. Monaghan of Serval, Inc.

Following a luncheon in the Oak room and the address by Brazeeau, the meeting will conclude with discussion of new business and election of officers.

Suggests GOP Endorse Candidates at Parley

Marinette — (AP) — Harvey Higley, Republican state chairman, proposed today that endorsement of candidates be made an obligation of future state GOP conventions.

Higley said he would submit the recommendation to the executive committee of the Republican voluntary organization of Wisconsin at a meeting December 10 in Milwaukee. If it receives favorable action, the proposal must go to the 1949 state convention in the form of an amendment to the party's constitution.

"The original constitution of the Republican voluntary organization contained a provision for mandatory endorsement which continued until the Progressives of Wisconsin organized their own party," said Higley.

"The Republican party, being responsible for those who are candidates, will certainly take an active part in their selection



RIOTING AT SHAKESPEARE—An estimated 300 men riding in 40 cars outside Kalamazoo, Mich., staged a hit-raid on strike torn Shakespeare company plants. The CIO-USW have been conducting a strike at the two plants since September 7. Several workers were injured and a dozen cars were overturned. Overturned cars were in company parking lot.

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SWITCHMAN KILLED

Milwaukee — (AP) — Henry A. Fischer, 48, Waterdown, a Milwaukee Road switchman, was killed last night when he was run over by a locomotive in the Fowler street yards. Authorities said Fischer's foot caught in a switch as he signaled the engine to "come ahead."

Postoffice Ready For Christmas Rush

The Christmas mailing rush is expected to begin in Wisconsin Rapids the first of next week. Postmaster Joe Weber said today he announced that at the peak of the rush about 30 additional men will be employed to keep the mail moving rapidly.

The volume of business at the local postoffice has been unusually heavy since summer, the postmaster said, but no pre-Christmas mailing rush has yet developed.

As an economy measure, tax trucks owned by the National Guard have been borrowed by the post office to carry mail to a truck that will not have a mail room on board. The trucks are authorized on a nationwide basis.

Reports Theft of Articles from Church

Theft of a number of small items from St. John's Episcopal church here was reported today by Rev. B. L. Mavell, pastor of the church.

Among the items were a brown, clothbound guest register and a black loose-leaf notebook containing visitors' records. Also missing are a framed picture with a hand-lettered inscription of a bereft picture, and a prayer book.

The loss was noted about a week ago, Father Mavell said. He added that the things taken would be of little or no value to any party other than the church.



PFC. RICHARD CARLSON

Hold Services Saturday For Pfc. Carlson

Reburial services will be held at 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon at the Krohn and Berard chapel for Pfc. Richard D. Carlson, whose body has been returned from Naples, Italy, and is to arrive here Friday under military escort. The Rev. F. E. Kneckerbocker will officiate and interment is to take place in Forest Hill cemetery with military rites by Buckley-Baldwin post 2534, Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Pfc. Carlson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Carlson, 541 Eighth street south, lost his life in action on the Italian front on November 28, 1943. He entered service in August, 1941, received training in five camps in the United States and was sent overseas in June, 1943, participating in the North African and Sicilian invasions prior to being stationed in Italy.

Born in Milwaukee on December 12, 1921, Richard came to Wisconsin Rapids with his parents at the age of two months and continued to live here until his induction, graduating from Lincoln high school with the class of 1943.

Besides his parents he is survived by three brothers, Leon and Donald Carlson, Wisconsin Rapids; Herbert Carlson, at home; and Archie and Phyllis, Hazel, Wis., and one sister, Mrs. O. J. Allen, Wisconsin Rapids.

Funeral services will be held at 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon at the Krohn and Berard chapel.

5 to Represent City At Madison Hearing On Power Conversion

Five representatives of the city and the water and light department will appear before the state public service commission at a public hearing in Madison Friday afternoon to present formally the city's request for authority to rebuild the electric utility's distribution system.

The program contemplated by the city includes conversion of the system from the present 2,700 volts to a higher-voltage system of 12,000 volts, a reduction to 2,700 volts, and to install a number of substations to meet the system.

Representing the city are the mayor and Mayor C. C. Koenig, J. E. Stroh, manager of the water and light department, V. J. Baser, state auditor of the utilities, and Commissioner W. F. Pflieger, Jr. as chairman.

Charge Parent Of Dead Baby With Neglect

Marshfield — A warrant charging willful neglect of her children was issued this morning by Judge A. C. Wharfield against Mrs. Leona Messing, 41, Marshfield.

It was signed by Police Chief W. H. Wohlfahrt following a conference of local authorities and District Attorney H. A. Bunde, and was the outgrowth of the death Tuesday afternoon of Irene, one-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Messing, in their smoke-filled trailer home.

A small fire in a partition adjacent to a gasoline stove caused the smoke which asphyxiated the baby. Another daughter, two-year-old Vera, suffered no ill effects from the smoke.

Mrs. Messing told authorities that she had lighted the stove and placed a wash boiler partly filled with water on the stove to heat. While the water was heating, she said, she took a third daughter, Wanda, 4, and visited another trailer, leaving her two younger children asleep.

When Mrs. Messing returned to her trailer a half hour later she found the gas stove on fire and the trailer filled with dense smoke. Vera, she said, acted as though she were dazed, and the baby was dead.

Funeral services for the child will be held at Madison at 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon.

The district attorney requested the coroner to perform an autopsy. The Wisconsin statute under which the warrant was issued provides for a maximum penalty upon conviction of one year in county jail.

Top Officials Move Slowly On China Aid

Washington — (AP) — Top American officials moved slowly today in the face of urgent appeals from the Chinese government for help before it is too late.

Authorities said there is no doubt here that the situation created by Communist advances in China is critical. But they said these two factors work against any speedy American action:

1. Congress — which must authorize any additional aid — will not meet for another month.
2. Military and political conditions in China are considered so unstable that officials believe any program worked out now probably would not apply a month from now.

There are no indications that either the economic cooperation administration or the state department has yet presented President Truman specific plans for helping Chiang Kai-Shek's Nationalists in their battle with the Chinese Reds.

China's desire for swift American action was heavily emphasized by Ambassador Wellington Koo in a speech before the China institute in New York City late yesterday. The same theme probably will be stressed by Madame Chiang, wife of the Nationalist president, who arrived here yesterday. She gave no hint of her plans, however, before going into seclusion at the Leesburg, Va., home of Secretary of State and Mrs. Marshall.

"As the grave situation stands today," Koo said, "time is of the essence."

See—CHINA AID—Page 15

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The district attorney requested the coroner to perform an autopsy. The Wisconsin statute under which the warrant was issued provides for a maximum penalty upon conviction of one year in county jail.

Ranks of Three Nationalist Armies Exposed

Nanking — (AP) — The Chinese Communists laid claim tonight to Suchow, important government base 211 miles northwest of Nanking.

This exposed the rear of three government army groups moving slowly southward in an effort to support other Nationalist armies isolated under Communist attacks in the Suhstien and Pengpu areas ranging down to 100 miles from Nanking.

The Communist broadcast heard in Nanking said Suchow fell at 8 p.m. Wednesday.

A few minutes before the Communist broadcast, the government military spokesman, Gen. Teng

SEEKS APPOINTMENTS

Washington — (AP) — Madame Chiang Kai-Shek has asked for appointments with President Truman and Secretary of State Marshall to press for urgent American aid to the Chinese government in its fight against Chinese Communists.

Wen-Yi, had said all government troops in Suchow — estimated at about 250,000 — were concentrated for a march southward. He denied, however, that this meant Suchow had been abandoned.

Claire Chennault's China Air Transport pilots who dropped rice to Suchow had reported Communists within one mile of the city and that refugees were pouring out to the westward.

The Suchow garrison was last reported blocked about 25 miles south of Suchow by strong Communist opposition.

(The Communist broadcast, also heard in San Francisco, added a claim that the 110th division of the government's trapped twelfth army group near Suhstien had come over to the Communist side.)

Despite the dire military news, the Chinese government told foreign diplomats it had "no intention to remove the capitol" from Nanking.

A foreign office spokesman said that Jacques Meyrier, French ambassador, had replied in his capacity as dean of the diplomatic corps that the heads of foreign missions had decided to stay in Nanking.

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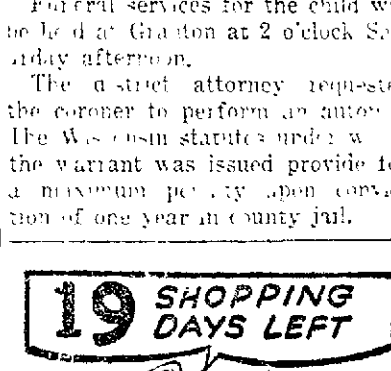
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19 SHOPPING DAYS LEFT



Buy CHRISTMAS SEALS