

THE WEATHER
For Wisconsin: Light snow to night and flurries Saturday. Colder. Fresh to strong winds.
Local weather facts for 24 hours preceding 7 a.m.: Maximum 34; minimum 18.

Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune

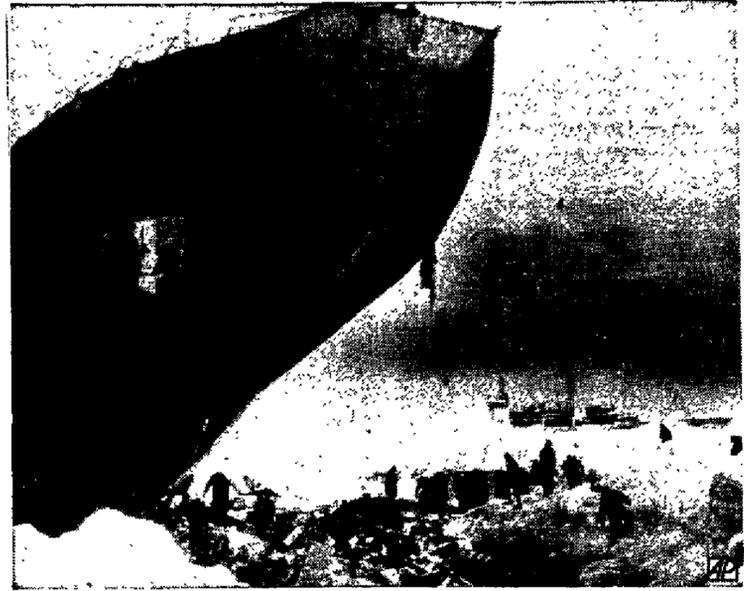
A CONSTRUCTIVE NEWSPAPER

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Thirty-First Year—No. 9655.

Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., Friday, December 15, 1944.

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GERMAN TRAWLER FOUND IN GREENLAND ICE FLOES—Coast guardsmen from the combat cutter Northland (background) find an abandoned German trawler (left foreground) recently in ice floes off Greenland's east coast. Finding of this vessel was one incident in series of coast guard actions in area which included capture of a second enemy ship, scuttling of a third, destruction of German radio-weather stations and capture of 60 Germans. (AP wirephoto from coast guard.)



GERMANS CAPTURED ON GREENLAND—Coast guardsmen guard a group of German prisoners who raise their hands in surrender after their capture on Greenland. The Germans were attempting to establish and maintain radio-weather stations. The coast guardsmen accounted for the capture of 60 German prisoners, destruction of two enemy bases, capture of a new armed trawler, and forced the scuttling of another with a third abandoned in the ice. (AP wirephoto from coast guard.)

SEVENTH ARMY DRIVES INTO GERMANY AT TWO PLACES

Churchill Abandons London Polish Government-in-Exile

PATCH'S MEN ARE FARTHEST EAST ON WEST FRONT

Greek ELAS Gives British Peace Terms

Athens—(AP)—Greek insurgents have handed the British terms for ending the 13-day leftist revolt, the Associated Press was informed by a reliable source tonight, with the possibility the British would accept them as a basis for an armistice.

Meanwhile, however, the ELAS hammered British defense positions in central Athens with fresh bursts of artillery and rifle fire and attacked Indian troops on the mainland north of Patras.

The ELAS reply to British proposals for ending the conflict was reported to contain three main points—amnesty for the rebellious political leaders, a national government representing all parties and a regency to rule until a plebiscite decides whether the country will remain a monarchy or become a republic.

The reply was temporarily withdrawn to meet British insistence that it be signed by ELAS military leaders as well as the parent organization, the EAM central committee.

British Ambassador Reginald Leeper sent for Emmanuel Sophoulis, Greek political leader who is believed acceptable to all parties, drawing speculation that negotiations for a new government were under way.

The possibility that the archbishop of Athens might be named regent also was reported.

The cleric was believed ready to accept formation of a government acceptable to all parties, pending a plebiscite to decide whether the country is to remain a monarchy or become a republic. However, in Athens there was no indication that King George would agree to the plan. The king is in London.

Infiltrating ELAS entered Omnia square during the night, laid Teller mines and engaged in a brief skirmish with British parachute troops before withdrawing. British See—GREECE—Page 7

MEETING WITH FDR AND STALIN SOON IS ASKED

(By the Associated Press) London—Siding with Russia in the Polish dispute, Prime Minister Churchill today confessed disappointment at delays in reconvening the big three and bespoke unity among the great powers lest a new structure of world government die in inception.

The prime minister virtually abandoned the London Polish government, at least as now constituted, and supported as reasonable the Russian demand for territory in old Poland which the exiled government has refused to yield.

Once Churchill spoke of conditions "if" the great powers agree. Again, he mentioned "how much a failure on the part of the three greatest powers to work together would damage all our hopes for the future structure of world government." A quarrel among these powers.

Washington—(AP)—Prime Minister Churchill, Premier Stalin and President Roosevelt will meet again soon after the latter's fourth-term inauguration.

Highly placed officials said the time had been set definitely.

ers, he declared, would fatally rupture this world organization.

Russia Gets Territory He said Russia was entitled to certain territory in the east of old Poland as a matter of reassurance about her western frontiers.

Poland, Churchill said, would be compensated for its sacrifice of Lvov and territory near the Ukraine by tracts of East Prussia and Danzig, to be wrested from Germany.

In one of the most significant common addresses of the war—a speech which drew from one member the comment that the Atlantic Charter has become a ghost—the prime minister also appealed to President Roosevelt and Marshal Stalin to meet with him "at the earliest possible moment."

Meeting Not Arranged Apparently distraught over diplomatic developments which have raised differences among the United Nations, the prime minister confessed disappointment that it had "been found impossible to arrange See—CHURCHILL—Page 7

Consolidated Closing Deals for Eagles and Hotel Witter Property

The local Fraternal Order of Eagles has received sanction from national headquarters to sell its building and land on the East side of the river to the Consolidated Water Power and Paper company and the deed was to be signed today. With the completion of this transaction, a Consolidated representative said an option on the Witter hotel would be exercised tomorrow and that both properties will be given to the city for park purposes along with the buildings and land presented at a council meeting last week.

Consolidated and the Ahdawagam Paper Products company have initiated a plan for beautification of the East side river bank, similar to work done on the West side several years ago, and which also involves postwar reconstruction of the East side business district. The project has been hailed by civic-minded persons as one long-needed and which will help to make Wisconsin Rapids one of the most desirable and progressive communities in the country.

Much of the land already has been acquired but there still are many properties to be obtained if the entire improvement program is to be carried out, a Consolidated spokesman said today. There still are five pieces of river front realty under consideration.

Eagles members voted unanimously at a meeting Wednesday evening to sell the property subject to approval of the Grand Aerie and now are investigating possible sites for a new clubhouse. Purchase of the Witter hotel had been contingent upon their decision.

Consolidated officials indicated these properties and others which they hope to acquire will be turned over to the city as rapidly as the various owners agree to sell. Mayor William T. Nobles previously indicated he would call a special meeting of the council whenever Consolidated wishes to present the land and one is expected to be held early next week.

White House Action There is a chance Davis may ask the White House to act simultaneously against Montgomery Ward in all seven cities. Presidential intercession might mean government seizure, as it did in the company's Chicago strike last spring.

First step in such procedure is to submit the case to Economic Stabilizer Fred M. Vinson. Davis said that move would be made Monday night if the company does not meet the latest board ultimatum in Detroit, at least.

John A. Rarr, Avery's labor relations manager, wired Davis that General Counsel Stuart Ball was hospitalized, and that it would be impossible to appear at the Detroit hearing, or at today's session on the other six properties.

J.O. Ellis Wins Guessing Contest And \$100 Bond J. O. Ellis, assistant sales manager of the Prentiss-Wabers Products company, is a \$100 war bond to the good today after winning an election-guessing contest staged by Arthur Towell, Inc., Madison advertising agency.

Ellis, who says there really is a Santa Claus, predicted a total popular vote in the national election of 47,566,283. The actual vote was 47,721,329. Runners-up were Aaron R. Korvin of Beloit with 47,894,231 and John L. Arent of West Bend with 47,981,100. Several hundred men took part in the contest.

Asked how he arrived at the winning figure, Ellis said "It was a pure, unadulterated guess."

NATIONAL STRIKE THREATENED BY WARD EMPLOYEES

Washington—(AP)—The possibility of a walkout in all Montgomery Ward stores at the height of the Christmas buying shopping season today hung over the newest collision between the big company and the war labor board.

WLB gave the firm until Monday night to meet the "terms and conditions" of WLB orders of August 1943 and May 1944 applying to its four Detroit stores where CIO-retail employees are striking.

This action came as Samuel Wolchok, president of the retail employees union, asserted that his group "is ready for an economic slowdown" with Montgomery Ward in all its estimated 500 stores and plants.

Nationwide Strike Wolchok said that if the government is unable to get compliance with the board's directives the union is prepared to call out Ward employees throughout the nation. Wolchok said it has a majority of the 60,000 to 65,000 Ward employees across the nation.

The Detroit strike was called last Saturday in an effort to force the company into complying with the directives.

Despite the refusal of Sewell Avery, Ward head, to send representatives to the board hearing in the Detroit case yesterday, WLB Chairman William H. Davis went ahead with plans to hold a scheduled hearing today on the company's position in stores or plants in Chicago, Denver, St. Paul, Portland, Ore., San Rafael, Calif., and Jamaica, N. Y.

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Northern Philippines Continuously Under Fire by U.S. Carrier Planes

HIGHER MILITARY RATINGS CREATED

Washington—(AP)—President Roosevelt signed a bill today creating the ranks of fleet admiral of the navy and general of the army. He then nominated three admirals and four generals for the new ratings.

To be admirals of the fleet, the first in decades, the president nominated William D. Leahy, his personal chief of staff; Ernest J. King, commander in chief of the fleet and chief of naval operations; and Chester W. Nimitz, commander in chief of the Pacific fleet and of Pacific ocean areas.

To be generals of the army Mr. Roosevelt named George C. Marshall, army chief of staff; Douglas MacArthur, commander in the southwest Pacific; Dwight D. Eisenhower, allied commander in chief in western Europe; and H. H. Arnold, commanding the army air forces.

Gen. John J. Pershing, retired, holds the unique rank of general of the armies of the United States.

Under the bill passed by congress, Mr. Roosevelt still may name one more fleet admiral.

Former Stevens Point Resident Is Injured West Bend, Wis.—(AP)—Mrs. Joseph Euton, 31, of Eau Claire, Wis., and William Tafelski, 37, of Milwaukee and formerly of Stevens Point, Wis., were injured critically when the automobile in which they were riding collided with a truck on highway 55 south of here today. Both were taken to a hospital here.

CHIMNEY FIRE Firemen responded to a chimney fire at the Peter Prusynski residence, 1739 Baker street, Thursday evening.

7 Shopping Days till Christmas

RUSS BATTLE TO SEVER SLOVAKIA

London—(AP)—Russian flying columns of tanks and motorized infantry have engaged a German elite SS force in a savage battle along the Ipoly river north of the Danube bend and little more than 85 miles east of the Slovakian capital of Bratislava, field dispatches said today.

This powerful thrust by elements of Marshal Malinovsky's Second Ukrainian army was closely coordinated with joint operations by his right wing and Gen. Petrov's Fourth Ukrainian army seeking to cut off the Germans in eastern Slovakia from a chance of escape.

(Although this dispatch did not make clear whether Malinovsky's forces had invaded western Slovakia, a Berlin broadcast said they had attempted to storm Jpolysag, a half-mile north of the border.)

These Russian attacks against the strongest natural defenses still guarding the shortest invasion route to Vienna, 115 miles to the west, came while Budapest, the outflanked Hungarian capital, quivered under siege warfare.

(The Moscow communique did not mention the Budapest battle, but a German broadcast said "the next few days will decide whether concentrated German and Hungarian forces will be able to stop the Russians.")

Chinese Close in On Railroad City Chungking—(AP)—Counterattacking Chinese are closing in on Hsichih and at the same time executing an outflanking movement against that city on the Kweichow-Kwangsi railroad, the Chinese high command said tonight. Hsichih is 95 miles from lost Luochow, former site of an important U. S. airbase. A point about five miles northwest of Hsichih was recaptured last night, the high command reported.

Two Women Will Be Tried For Kidnaping Milwaukee—(AP)—Eleanor Hansen, 27, and Marian Fiegel, 23, the latter of Wisconsin Rapids, are sane and able to stand trial on a charge of kidnaping 3-year-old Billie Clark from the toyland of a downtown store November 27, two psychiatrists reported today to Municipal Judge Herbert J. Steffes.

Acting on the report, Judge Steffes set Wednesday for the opening of the trial.

Donald Nelson Back From China Again

Washington—(AP)—Donald M. Nelson has returned to Washington from a second mission to war-weary China.

The White House said today he would report to President Roosevelt as soon as possible but would have nothing to say about his trip before seeing the chief executive.

Mill Worker Gets A "Merry" Ride in Giant Stock Tank

If the reader can imagine himself clinging to the agitator of an immense washing machine, revolving for 45 minutes, he can approximate the experience of Paul McKenzie on Wednesday afternoon at the Nekoska mill.

The mill worker suffered only bruises and a wrenched back in his tumble into the 12-foot stock tank, for he broke his fall by grasping an agitator. Only 18 inches of the slush pulp had been poured into the agitator, but as the machine revolved, McKenzie was jerked about, drenched in the slush.

He called for help but workers in the diffuser room did not realize the source of the noise. A fellow worker, George Arent, realized McKenzie's plight as he entered the room from the mill. He and other workers rescued the imperiled man, who, it is certain, stored up material for future bad dreams.

Lochner Interprets Churchill's Talk As Three Concessions to Stalin

BY LOUIS P. LOCHNER London—(AP)—Prime Minister Churchill wittingly or unwittingly rendered Marshal Stalin a three-fold service today by his forceful intervention in Polish affairs.

First, he supported unconditionally the Russian premier's demand for the annexation to the U.S.S.R. of Polish lands east of the Curzon line, areas in which Lvov has been the chief bone of contention.

Santa in Town

Santa Claus arrived this afternoon in the midst of a fluffy snow storm to greet a large crowd of Wisconsin Rapids children at his headquarters in the Cozy Lunch building. The merry gent will also be there at 7 o'clock this evening to see any children who did not have an opportunity to visit with him this afternoon.

Memorial Services For Damitz Sunday

Memorial services for Sgt. Dale F. Damitz, who was killed in action on Leyte island in the Philippines recently, will be held at the East Side Lutheran church in Wisconsin Rapids at 2 o'clock Sunday afternoon with the Rev. E. G. Koehle officiating.

Sergeant Damitz was the son of Mr. and Mrs. George Damitz, 1150 Eighth street south.

NO PEACE FEELERS

Rome—(AP)—A high allied diplomat, accredited to the Vatican, today described as "absolutely without foundation" reports published abroad that the Germans were seeking through the Holy See to obtain a more precise definition of the allies' demand for unconditional surrender.

Poland As Sea Power

This section is, however, not nearly as valuable as the portions of East Prussia offered to Poland, especially not the coastal area between the two outstanding ports of Danzig and Konigsberg. Considering that Poland already has the ultra-modern harbor of Gdynia, Churchill's rearrangement of the European map would make Poland a formidable Baltic sea power.

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KING GEORGE HAS BIRTHDAY

London—(AP)—King George VI, who was 49 Thursday, gave a birthday ball at Buckingham palace last night, the first dance there since the start of the war. Guests numbered about 100.

GERMANS FARTHEST EAST ON WEST FRONT

Paris—(AP)—The U. S. Seventh army, becoming the sixth allied army to invade Germany, drove two spearheads today over the boundary near the fortress city of Wissembourg and near Scheibenhart.

The crossing at Scheibenhart was only 3 1/2 miles west of the easternmost tip of France and 35 miles south of Mannheim and Ludwigshafen. This was the easternmost point allied armies have reached in northwest Europe.

The Seventh was the fourth American army to trample German soil. It crossed the frontier exactly four months after wading ashore on the French Riviera 425 airline miles to the south, but much farther as it wound through the mountains of southern and eastern France.

Roer Line Quiet

The First and Ninth armies, first to break into Germany, were drawn up along the Roer river 15 miles beyond Aachen where the Siegfried line was first broken in September. The bitter fighting appeared to be subsiding.

The Third army, which crashed into the industrial Saarland last month, was hacking its way slowly forward in the first works of the Siegfried fortifications on the Seventh army's left.

The Siegfried line was being shelled at perhaps its weakest point. The Germans said American artillery was cratering Karlsruhe itself. American divisions charged to within two miles of Wissembourg on the border, a natural invasion gateway into the Bavarian palatinate and kept to the flat German land between the Eifel range and the Bienwald forest. That French fortress town is 16 miles west of the Rhine.

Advances ranged up to seven miles. More than a dozen French towns fell.

German Reinforce

Gen. Hermann Balck, commander of German army group G, rushed reinforcements to his buffeted First and 19th armies. He also tried to relieve pressure by reinforcing the 600-square mile pocket around Colmar below Strasbourg.

His counterpart, Lt. Gen. Jacob L. Devers, threatened envelopment of the palatinate and the Saarland to the west from the rear. Devers' 14 or more American and French divisions stood on or near the Rhine for 105 miles from Switzerland to See—WESTERN FRONT—Page 7

Kelly Official Of State Unit

Vernon Kelly, Wood county treasurer, was elected vice president of the Wisconsin County Treasurers, Registers of Deeds and Circuit Court Clerks association at the final session of their annual joint convention in Milwaukee yesterday. Walter Peterson, Balsam Lake, Polk county clerk of circuit court, was named president and Albia Heal, Eagle River, Vilas county register of deeds, is secretary-treasurer.

Legislation to extend the present terms of state and county officials from two to four years was recommended, according to an Associated Press dispatch. The resolution stated that four-year terms would reduce the amount of time officials spend in campaigning for reelection. Another proposal calling for non-partisan election of county clerks was tabled, members pointing out that the legislature had turned down a previous suggestion to put all county offices on a non-partisan basis.

Nazi Labor Front Will Be Disbanded

(By the Associated Press) The Nazi-controlled labor front will be dissolved in conquered Germany along with other party organizations, but German workers will be allowed to form Democratic trade unions "when circumstances permit," a proclamation broadcast in the name of Gen. Eisenhower said today.

The proclamation said "all forms of free economic association and combination among workers will be permitted, provided that they do not assume any political or militaristic complexion."