

WASHINGTON IS MERRIEST CITY ON CHRISTMAS

Much of Holidays Centers About Festivities at White House.

By United Press
WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—The capital, regarded as the most cosmopolitan of American cities, is celebrating the holidays with as much or more abandonment and merriment than the rest of the nation.

The embassies and Washington society homes are aflutter with personal and social functions. It is the height of the winter social season—the last days of the Coolidge administration.

A considerable part of the holidays revolves around the White House, which has received from history picturesque observances which are religiously carried out.

Community Yule Tree

A great community Christmas tree, whose lights will be turned on by Coolidge, and a chorus of Noel singers to serenade the presidential couple, form the center of the "official" Yule observance.

President and Mrs. Coolidge usually listen to the Noel singers from the roof or veranda of the White House.

Mrs. Coolidge particularly is popular with the throngs who come to these occasions for a look at the First Lady.

Coolidge's task on New Year's day probably is the most wearisome of his entire year, physically at least.

This is the occasion of the public reception, when several thousands of Washingtonians, of all walks of life, come to the White House to give the President a holiday greeting. People line up at the great white residence on Pennsylvania avenue all during the day, starting as early as if they were trying to buy world's series tickets in order to be the first in line.

Congressmen at Home

In the old days, this occasion was much used by persons seeking jobs in the government, but nowadays the handshaking line goes so fast that there is no time except for a hurried greeting.

For this exciting season most of the members of congress return to their homes for the cheer of the family fireside.

But for a few congressmen from the extreme west, the journey is too long and their holidays are spent in their makeshift homes here. Many members have established permanent homes, however, and their families and servants are all there together, with no lack of cheer for failure to be among the voters of the home state.

SHIP PERILED IN GALE: RESCUE IS DOUBTFUL

High Seas Beat Back Vessels That Come to Aid.

By United Press
CORDOVA, Alaska, Dec. 25.—The ill-starred steamer Starr rode at anchor today in a gale, after the cable by which the ship was being towed by the tug Roosevelt had parted in the storm.

Bad sea conditions made rescue of the Starr doubtful.

The Starr went aground off Dark Island two weeks ago, fouling her propellers on a reef. At that time the Roosevelt went to her aid and the passengers were landed without mishap.

The steamer Northwestern proceeded to assistance of the Roosevelt last night on receipt of wireless messages, but the high wind kept both ships at bay.

MILLIONS SEE SHRINE

Gettysburg Is Magnet for Throngs of U. S. Tourists.

By United Press
GETTYSBURG, Pa., Dec. 25.—Gettysburg, battlefield shrine of the United States, draws more than 2,000,000 tourists annually.

This was estimated by battlefield officials following publication of the quarterly report of the battlefield guides.

During the quarter which ended in September guides conducted 473,112 persons over the field where the decisive battle of the Civil war was fought.

RADIO FAN KILLED

Cleveland Man Electrocuted While Erecting Aerial.

CLEVELAND, Dec. 25.—While erecting a radio aerial in his back yard, Ernest Savashni was electrocuted.

He and his son were attacking a long iron post to the roof of the garage when it fell across high tension wires.

Children Attend Party

By Times Special
CONNERSVILLE, Ind., Dec. 25.—Underprivileged children of this city were guests at a Christmas party financed by the E. W. T. Santa Claus fund.

Party Given 1,000 Children

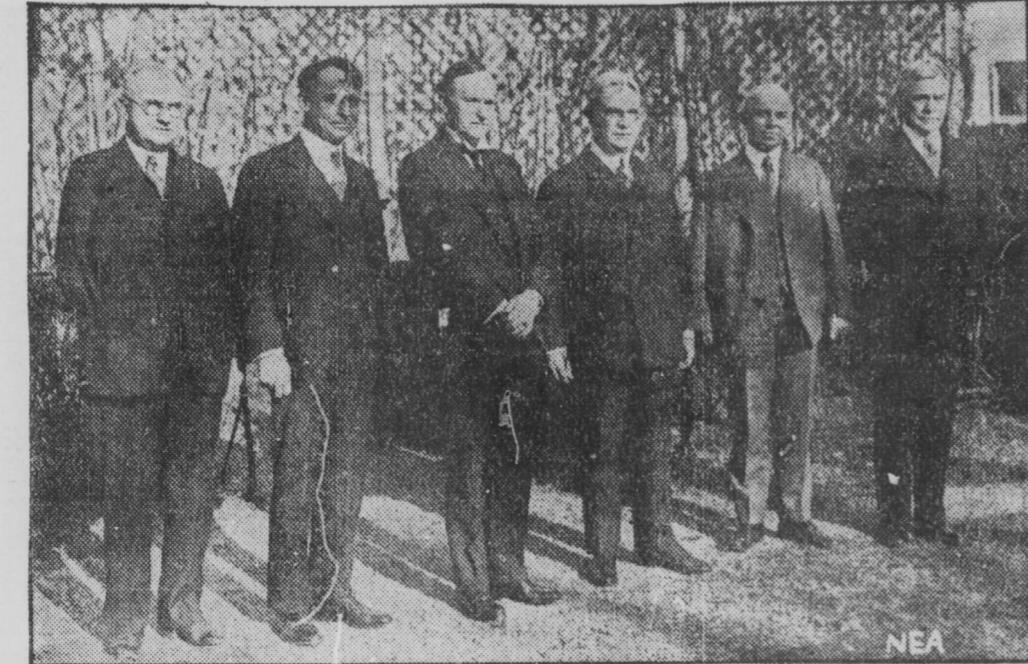
SHELBYVILLE, Ind., Dec. 25.—This city's annual municipal tree entertainment was given this morning with 1,000 children attending.

In the Air

Weather conditions at 9:30 a.m. at Indianapolis airport:

West wind, 3 miles an hour; barometric pressure, 30.38 at sea level; temperature, 34; ceiling, unlimited; visibility, three-quarters mile; ground fog.

Worked Seven Years; Won \$165,000,000



Seven years of bitter legislative controversy ended with the taking of this picture, for President Coolidge had just signed the Boulder Dam bill approving a government expenditure of \$165,000,000 for the vast power, irrigation and flood control project on the Colorado river. With him here are some of the western congressmen whose states will benefit by the Black Canyon dam: left to right: Dr. Elwood Mead, commissioner of reclamation; Representative Phillip B. Swing, California; President Coolidge; Senator Hiram Johnson, California; Representative Addison T. Smith of Idaho; W. B. Mathews of Los Angeles.

Long, Long Ago

Physician Sends Friends Unique Greeting Card: Recalls Old Times.

RECOLLECTIONS of "thirty years ago" on a Christmas greeting sent out by a prominent Indianapolis physician are causing comment among the doctor's friends.

The text of the greeting:

"I remember when eggs were three dozen for 25 cents, butter 10 cents per pound, milk was 5 cents a quart, the butcher gave liver away and treated the kid with bologna, the hired girl received \$2 a week and did the washin'. Women did not powder and paint (in public), smoke, play poker or shake the shimmie."

"Men wore whiskers and boots, chewed tobacco, spit on the sidewalk and cussed. Beer was 5 cents and the lunch was free. Laborers worked ten hours a day and never went on a strike. No tips were given to waiters and the hat-check grafter was unknown. A kerосene hanging lamp and a stereoscope in the parlor were luxuries."

"No one was ever operated on for appendicitis or bought glands. Microbes were unheard of. Folks lived to be a good old age and every year walked miles to wish their friends a merry Christmas."

"Today you know everybody rides in automobiles, or flies, plays golf, shoots craps, plays the piano with their feet, goes to the movie nightly, smokes cigarettes, drinks Rukus Juice, blames the H. C. of L. on the Republicans, never goes to bed the same day he gets up, and thinks he is having a wonderful time."

"These are days of suffragetting, profiteering, excess taxes and prohibition, and if you think life is worth living, I wish you a happy new year."

STOWAWAY PROBLEM CAUSED BY FLAPPERS

Younger Girls Seek Thrill at Sea; Companies Worried.

By United Press
CAPE MAY, N. J., Dec. 25.—The hazardous and adventuresome experience of stowing away aboard a ship as a new thrill, according to E. W. Arculus, veteran steward and former instructor of stewards for the United States Shipping Board.

Arculus, who recently visited old cronies in the seafaring colony of south Jersey coast, declared the romance of the sea is as keenly sought by young women as by members of the opposite sex—she has always considered the sea as a field of their own.

The steward said the number of young women who get a "kick" out of "hopping" aboard a trans-Atlantic vessel and stealing a ride to Europe is getting to be a serious factor with large companies.

SWITCHES CELLS; FLEES

Trick Enables Bank Thief to Escape From Prison.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Dec. 25.—By switching cells with W. H. Kramer, John Henry, bank thief, escaped jail here. A woman called L. J. Bradbury, lawyer, and asked him to obtain bond for Kramer.

Bradbury went to the jail, put up the bond, and made an appointment to see the supposed Kramer in his office. But the supposed Kramer, in reality Henry, never showed up.

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THREE HURT IN CRASHES

Traffic Mishaps Injure Two Men and Woman.

Walter S. Kerr, 50, and George W. Kerr, 67, both of Union City, were injured, the latter seriously, Monday night when the car in which they were riding crashed into another machine at Fifty-second and Illinois streets. Kerr suffered serious injuries on the chest and back. His brother sustained severe cuts and bruises.

Miss Alice Davis, 1239 Delos street, was cut on the head when the car in which she was riding collided with another at Rural street and Southeastern avenue.

Traffic Code Is Gift

Bound copies of the new city traffic code were the Christmas presents which City Clerk William A. Boyce Jr., gave to the mayor, board of safety, police and fire chiefs and city councilmen.

NEW MYSTERY ADDED TO AIR CHASE OF GIRL

Ruth McConnell Missing, Pursuer Slips Away in Plane.

By United Press

OMAHA, Dec. 25.—Back to the city from where he started by airplane his sensational pursuit of Miss Ruth McConnell, pretty New York girl, D. Olan Meeker, Rochester, N. Y., again eluded newspaper men and succeeded in taking off in an air mail plane at 3:30 a.m. today without being interred.

Meeker flew here from Reno, Nev. in the same plane which he used in his pursuit of the girl. It was piloted by "Chief" Bowhan, Indian aviator.

Meeker "crossed" members of the press at landing at Municipal airfield at 2 a.m. They had expected him at Ft. Crook air field. Learning he was at Municipal field, all reporters assigned to the story immediately drove to that point.

Meeker evidently passed them on the way, as he left on the air mail plane at 3:30 for Chicago.

Whereabouts of Miss McConnell is unknown here. "Chief" Bowhan claimed not to have knowledge of her movements. It is believed possible, however, that she and her mother are coming east from Salt Lake City on a fast passenger train.

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SANATORIUM IS PREY OF BLAZE

\$2,000 Damage by Fire at Old Shank Home.

Fire resulting from a defective fuse caused \$2,000 damage to the old Lew Shanks home at 16 Brookville road, now occupied by the Brookville Road Sanatorium, at 2:30 a.m. in Tuesday.

Only two patients were in the sanatorium, one a woman 76 years old. They were in the west wing and were not disturbed by the blaze, confined to the upper part of the east wing. The fire was discovered by an employee of the Lauth Chevrolet Company, owners of the building.

The sanatorium is operated by Mrs. Emma Gielow. Contents of the house were not damaged.

A fire of unknown origin did damage estimated at \$2,000 to the home of Ed Greenough, 2255 Meridian street, Monday afternoon. Much of the roof was burned off and contents of the home damaged.

The steward said the number of young women who get a "kick" out of "hopping" aboard a trans-Atlantic vessel and stealing a ride to Europe is getting to be a serious factor with large companies.

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