

REDS HOLD KEY TO ALLIED UNITY

Eden's Mission to Moscow May Outrank Churchill's Visit to U. S.

By EDGAR ANSEL MOWERER  
Copyright, 1941, by The Indianapolis Times and The Chicago Daily News, Inc.  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill will have no great difficulty in establishing their part of an Allied Supreme Council and even an Allied General Staff, into which the British dominions, Holland and China will doubtless be drawn.  
The difficulty is Russia, and for this reason Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden's visit to Moscow may be more important even than Mr. Churchill's visit to this country.  
For the war cannot be won on the sea. It must be won on land.  
Today land warfare on our side is waged by Russia which alone seems in a position to exert such constant pressure upon the German front as to limit, if not prevent, German offensives elsewhere.  
Need Mutual Confidence  
Russia and China are the great reserves of manpower near the actual battlefields, as the British acceptance of Chinese soldiers to defend Burma shows. Without the Soviets a supreme council would be a lame thing, incapable of synchronization of war effort believed essential to victory.  
Will the Bolsheviks in Moscow accept membership in such a council, with the full exchange of information that such a position implies? Well, in the words of one Russian official, "it all depends upon the degree of confidence that can be established."  
The Russians still distrust Britain and the United States to some extent. The Russians have not ceased to wonder why the British and Americans did not ask for military solidarity in the Far East before Japan struck at Pearl Harbor. Then, these same Russians admit, they were afraid that Japan would strike first at Vladivostok, as Hitler was pressing them to strike.  
Want Secrets Kept  
Another point that bothers the Soviet leaders is what they call the incurable garrulousness of the democracies. Russia, it is noted, managed so well to keep its own counsels that in time of peace it successfully held from the entire world the full extent of its military preparation.  
During the recent fighting, the Soviet baffled the German intelligence service and beat the German armies by collecting behind the lines and suddenly launching a mass of manpower of not less than 20 divisions. The democracies are, however, so "garrulous" that even a matter of strict secrecy, like the trip of Winston Churchill to this country, was known to many in both countries, including "even" newspapers.  
The Moscow leaders know they can keep secret matters secret and fear that the democracies cannot.

Need Mutual Confidence  
Russia and China are the great reserves of manpower near the actual battlefields, as the British acceptance of Chinese soldiers to defend Burma shows. Without the Soviets a supreme council would be a lame thing, incapable of synchronization of war effort believed essential to victory.  
Will the Bolsheviks in Moscow accept membership in such a council, with the full exchange of information that such a position implies? Well, in the words of one Russian official, "it all depends upon the degree of confidence that can be established."  
The Russians still distrust Britain and the United States to some extent. The Russians have not ceased to wonder why the British and Americans did not ask for military solidarity in the Far East before Japan struck at Pearl Harbor. Then, these same Russians admit, they were afraid that Japan would strike first at Vladivostok, as Hitler was pressing them to strike.  
Want Secrets Kept  
Another point that bothers the Soviet leaders is what they call the incurable garrulousness of the democracies. Russia, it is noted, managed so well to keep its own counsels that in time of peace it successfully held from the entire world the full extent of its military preparation.  
During the recent fighting, the Soviet baffled the German intelligence service and beat the German armies by collecting behind the lines and suddenly launching a mass of manpower of not less than 20 divisions. The democracies are, however, so "garrulous" that even a matter of strict secrecy, like the trip of Winston Churchill to this country, was known to many in both countries, including "even" newspapers.  
The Moscow leaders know they can keep secret matters secret and fear that the democracies cannot.

Need Mutual Confidence  
Russia and China are the great reserves of manpower near the actual battlefields, as the British acceptance of Chinese soldiers to defend Burma shows. Without the Soviets a supreme council would be a lame thing, incapable of synchronization of war effort believed essential to victory.  
Will the Bolsheviks in Moscow accept membership in such a council, with the full exchange of information that such a position implies? Well, in the words of one Russian official, "it all depends upon the degree of confidence that can be established."  
The Russians still distrust Britain and the United States to some extent. The Russians have not ceased to wonder why the British and Americans did not ask for military solidarity in the Far East before Japan struck at Pearl Harbor. Then, these same Russians admit, they were afraid that Japan would strike first at Vladivostok, as Hitler was pressing them to strike.  
Want Secrets Kept  
Another point that bothers the Soviet leaders is what they call the incurable garrulousness of the democracies. Russia, it is noted, managed so well to keep its own counsels that in time of peace it successfully held from the entire world the full extent of its military preparation.  
During the recent fighting, the Soviet baffled the German intelligence service and beat the German armies by collecting behind the lines and suddenly launching a mass of manpower of not less than 20 divisions. The democracies are, however, so "garrulous" that even a matter of strict secrecy, like the trip of Winston Churchill to this country, was known to many in both countries, including "even" newspapers.  
The Moscow leaders know they can keep secret matters secret and fear that the democracies cannot.

NEEDY IN WARREN TO GET BASKETS

Ten committees have been named from among members of the Warren Club, the Sunshine Society and the Hi-Y Club to prepare Christmas baskets for needy Warren Township families.  
Co-chairmen of the committees are Genevieve Kreiger and Bernice Berry. Eileen Pollard and Dick Gale, Marilyn Gleason and Richard Rodebeck, Patricia Rodebeck and Don Ping, Mary Wonnell and Harold White, Bertha Dickson and Clifford Tombs, Dorothy Peters and Marvin Rodebeck, Irma Fiel and Alan Caudell, Coils Snider and Charles Martin, and Dawn Steele and Albert Mathias.  
Seventh grade girl members of the Girl Scouts dressed dolls to be included in the baskets.  
GET CHICAGO DEGREES  
Three Indianapolis residents have been given degrees at the University of Chicago's 207th convocation. Mrs. Alice Reynolds Smith, 2030 N. Delaware St., was awarded a master's degree; James F. Falley, 87 E. 5th St., a bachelor's degree, and Milton F. Levey, 2015 N. Meridian St., doctor of medicine.

WAR MOVES TODAY

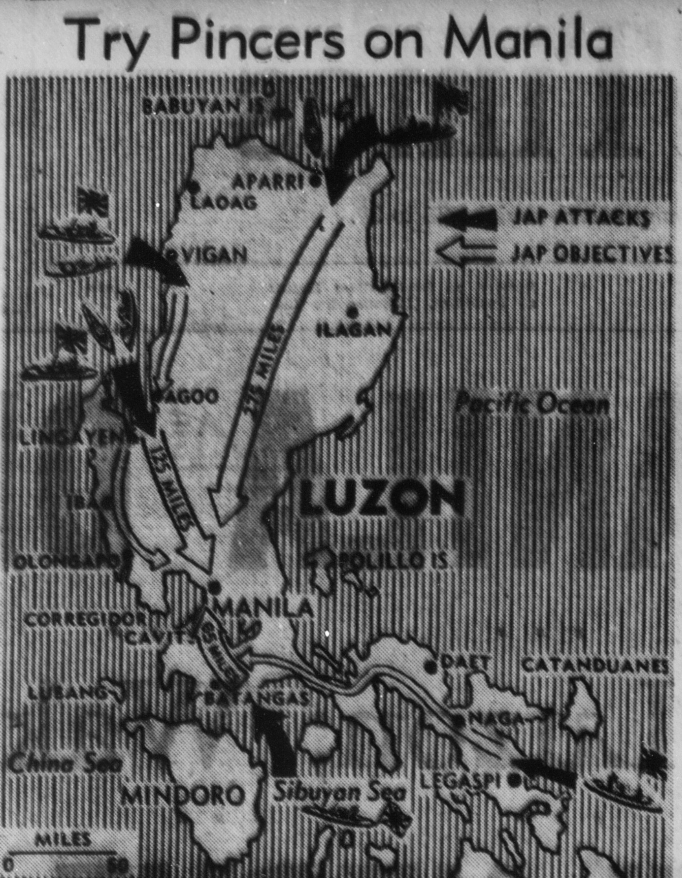
By LOUIS F. KEEMLE  
United Press Staff Analyst  
A fresh "war of nerves" has broken out in Europe. It may be just that or it may indicate a new move by Adolf Hitler in a direction which London is frantically trying to determine.  
The many rumors current in London and Bern, when boiled down, suggest that if Hitler is planning to move, it is probably in the direction of the Mediterranean and North Africa.  
After all, the Axis is in difficulty in Libya and it would be logical for Hitler to attempt some bold stroke to put the British back on the defensive and avoid being chased out of Africa entirely. The boldest, of course, would be to wrest control of the French coast and African bases from Vichy.  
If Marshal Petain, as reported, has resigned in favor of pro-Nazi Admiral Darlan, that would be easier to accomplish.  
It is known that Petain has resisted Hitler's demands, insisting on honoring his word that French forces would not be used against Britain. London believes that Darlan would have no such scruples.  
The report about Petain is only one of the many reaching London, and it is given more credence than most. Others include a report that German troops are moving in France towards Spain; that German air reinforcements are going to Italy, Greece and Crete; that German submarines are in the Mediterranean, and that new troop movements have been observed in Bulgaria.  
Hitler's possible Mediterranean operations depend to a great extent on how many men and planes he has been able to spare from Russia, where he is on the defensive along a vast front. The Russian campaign has been by no means stabilized for the winter.  
In view of the German retreat and the fury of the Russian assault, it seems unlikely that Hitler can spare much from the East if he is to establish firm winter lines to the rear of his present positions.  
With the French fleet in his hands, however, Hitler could cause the British serious trouble in the western and central Mediterranean. French submarines could be used to disrupt British sea communications. Surface vessels, working with planes, could improve Axis communications with Libya.  
At present, the British estimate that 60 per cent of Axis supply ships and transports never reach Africa.  
Hitler might even try to strike a body blow at British naval strength in the central Mediterranean by attempting a sea and air attack on Malta, the essential British island base lying between Sicily and Africa.  
This, it is suggested by London observers, might be accompanied by waves of paratroopers from Sicily in an attempt to duplicate the capture of Crete.

REDS HIT HARD IN NORTH AREA

By HENRY SHAPIRO  
United Press Staff Correspondent  
MOSCOW, Dec. 24.—The Red Army continues an uninterrupted advance on the Leningrad, Moscow and southwestern fronts, overcoming fierce rear guard resistance and breaking up an orderly German retreat, dispatches reported today.  
Forces under Gen. K. A. Meretskov smashed German defenses along the Volkhov River and pressed northwestward, threatening to entrap enemy troops holding the southern approaches of Leningrad, besieged for months.  
Another force, bolstered by ski detachments, pressed southwestward, aiming to flank Novgorod, while a southern army pushed on from the area around Lake Imen.  
The most notable success on the Moscow front was scored in the Tula sector where the Russians recaptured Gorbachevo, junction of four railroads linking Moscow and Kharkov and Seratov and Smolensk.  
Desperate German resistance and fierce counter-attacks failed to halt the Red Army advance along the Moscow defense area.  
Germany has rushed reserves—including Austrians, Czechs, Hungarians and Finns—for renewed counter-attacks on the Moshaisk salient of the Moscow front.

Try Pincers on Manila

This map shows the prongs of Japanese thrusts in an all-out drive underway on Luzon island today. A surprise landing today at Batangas, due south of Manila, indicated that the Japanese were attempting major drives upon the island capital from three points in a pincer operation. Earlier, an estimated 40 transports had attempted to land probably 40,000 troops in the Atimonan region, 75 miles southeast of Manila. The major attack is in the Lingayen bay, 135 miles northwest of Manila, where U. S. forces are fighting a Jap force estimated at from 80,000 to 100,000 men. The Japs have three other minor footholds on Luzon—at northern Aparri, western Vigan and southeastern Legaspi.



This map shows the prongs of Japanese thrusts in an all-out drive underway on Luzon island today. A surprise landing today at Batangas, due south of Manila, indicated that the Japanese were attempting major drives upon the island capital from three points in a pincer operation. Earlier, an estimated 40 transports had attempted to land probably 40,000 troops in the Atimonan region, 75 miles southeast of Manila. The major attack is in the Lingayen bay, 135 miles northwest of Manila, where U. S. forces are fighting a Jap force estimated at from 80,000 to 100,000 men. The Japs have three other minor footholds on Luzon—at northern Aparri, western Vigan and southeastern Legaspi.

'Wave on Wave of Bombers Poured Death Upon Manila'

(Continued from Page One)  
airbase just outside Manila. Damage there was reported slight although some buildings nearby were damaged.  
Bombs started crashing in the port area soon after the first air raid alarm sounded at 11:14 a. m.  
The "all clear" came at 11:39 after a 35 minute raid.  
A second alarm was sounded at 1:02 p. m. for a 45 minute raid ending at 1:48.  
The third alarm of the day was sounded at 2:58. The "all clear" came at 3:23 after a raid period of 25 minutes.  
Soon after the first alarm, watchers in the United Press building in the center of the city saw smoke rising from fires less than half a mile away.  
Touring the raid area after the first alarm period, I found a popular Army and Navy night club slightly damaged by splinters.  
Across the street bomb fragments and debris had damaged a large garage and partly wrecked cars and trucks inside. A bomb had struck in the curb in front of the building.  
So far as I could see all bombs in this raid landed in the port area.  
Saw Numerous Casualties  
I saw numerous casualties—all persons who had failed to use air raid shelters.  
In a shelter alongside a building which was severely damaged 30 persons emerged unharmed. Less than 200 feet away numerous persons were killed.  
Out of between 10 and 15 bombs dropped during the first raid in the main raid area, more than half landed in open spaces without doing damage.  
One bomb landed close to a main pier.  
Filipino firemen stuck to their posts during the second raid, while other people ran to shelter, and they managed to subdue all fires started in the first raid within half an hour.  
No Sign of Panic  
There was no sign of panic among civilians. Traffic policemen calmly directed cars and pedestrians on the way to shelter waited as usual until they had the "go" sign to cross streets.  
One victim of the raid, though he was not wounded, was A. D. Hill, Negro ex-service man of Nashville, Tenn. His automobile was wrecked, and buried with it were his pension and retirement papers, his passport and most of his clothes, as he was off the way to an evacuation area.  
Hill was cheerful, if annoyed, with the Japanese. Picking up several pieces of shrapnel, he tossed them toward me and said:  
"I was that close but they missed me."  
Philippines anger mounted at additional reports of Japanese bombing of a refugee camp at San Jose, in Nueva Ecija province, 80 miles north of Manila.  
Numerous civilians were killed, largely Filipino women and children from the Manila area.  
A witness to a Japanese attack on

REDS HIT HARD IN NORTH AREA

Hurling Forces at Nazis in Drive to End Siege of Leningrad.

By HENRY SHAPIRO  
United Press Staff Correspondent  
MOSCOW, Dec. 24.—The Red Army continues an uninterrupted advance on the Leningrad, Moscow and southwestern fronts, overcoming fierce rear guard resistance and breaking up an orderly German retreat, dispatches reported today.  
Forces under Gen. K. A. Meretskov smashed German defenses along the Volkhov River and pressed northwestward, threatening to entrap enemy troops holding the southern approaches of Leningrad, besieged for months.  
Another force, bolstered by ski detachments, pressed southwestward, aiming to flank Novgorod, while a southern army pushed on from the area around Lake Imen.  
The most notable success on the Moscow front was scored in the Tula sector where the Russians recaptured Gorbachevo, junction of four railroads linking Moscow and Kharkov and Seratov and Smolensk.  
Desperate German resistance and fierce counter-attacks failed to halt the Red Army advance along the Moscow defense area.  
Germany has rushed reserves—including Austrians, Czechs, Hungarians and Finns—for renewed counter-attacks on the Moshaisk salient of the Moscow front.

Two Men

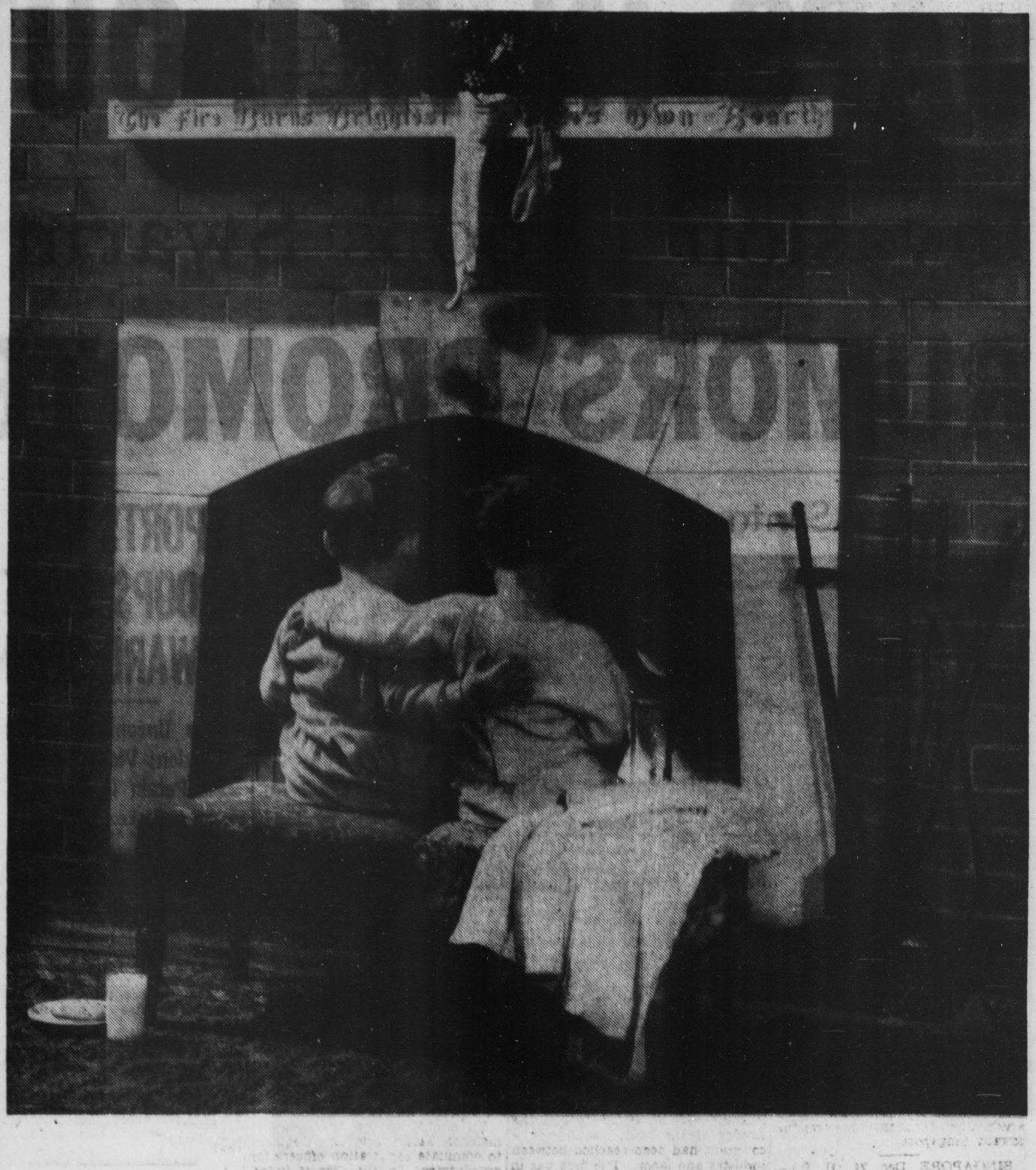
They Smiled and One Of Them Climbed Upon a Chair.  
(Continued from Page One)  
up the furrows of care and worry in a face that has, so often in these latter days, looked squarely into a world full of trouble.  
YOU COULD feel the quickening pulse of free peoples in the very atmosphere of that room.  
Because, more than all else, of the simplicity of the occasion—the comfortable laughter from men unafraid.  
Two men imbued with essence of democracy talked across a desk to representatives of a free press and a free people.  
On the desk were the knickknacks that clutter up the homes and desks of democratic people. In a basket in one corner, usually reserved for presidential papers, Christmas gifts were neatly wrapped.  
The President and the Prime Minister sat talking together as newspaper correspondents filed into the room, a slow stream because of the necessary careful inspection of their credentials by Secret Service men outside.  
"All in!" came the word from Bill Donaldson, superintendent of the house press gallery.  
The President had some news, about the creation of an office of transportation, about a meeting at 5 o'clock of the Anglo-American co-ordinating staff. Then he explained that he'd suggested that the Prime Minister need not answer questions, but the Prime Minister had said he would like to.  
SOMEBODY ASKED the Prime Minister a question.  
"Let's see you—stand up!" came a shout from the crowd.  
The President turned to Mr. Churchill and asked him if he would stand up.  
He did. But still he could not be seen by many in the rear of the room, as he realized. So he climbed right up in the big leather chair.  
A cheer broke out, and he stood there, smiling, for the spontaneous ovation.  
Then he sat down and answered questions, numbers of them.  
He was confident of victory, but was not over-optimistic about a collapse in Germany any time soon. What he wants is a collapse externally administered. Don't count on a collapse from within.  
He was grateful for the entry of the United States into the war, for Russia's amazing stand against Hitler.  
Then, and his voice was almost hushed, he spoke of England's dark and stormy months in 1940.  
AND, BEFORE the mind's eye, there rose the specter of tumbling homes, of grim, gaunt people in air-raid shelters, of desperate hopes.  
But no more.  
There was a man, now, who sat beside him.  
And millions and millions of others in great cities and small towns and on the farms, ready to stand beside him in a common cause, and work for it and fight for it.  
He finished, and smiled again.

Misplaced Bumps Spoil Boys' 'Perfect Crime'

Three drugstore delivery boys were in the custody of Police Juvenile Aid Authorities today. Theirs was not the perfect crime.  
At Headquarters yesterday, the boys, from 14 to 15 years old, told Detective Sgt. Elbert Romeril how they had been waylaid and slugged with whiskey bottles by bandits who escaped with \$16 belonging to two drug stores.  
They even showed the bumps on their heads to prove it. Detective Romeril, a mild-mannered man, chuckled sympathetically. He picked up the boys' felt hats, which were mashed and cut where the bottle blows fell.  
How odd, he wondered idly, that the cuts on the hats where the blows had fallen did not match the lumps on the heads—unless, of course, the boys were wearing their hats sideways. The detective stroked his chin and look hard at the boys. The boys admitted, then, they had taken turns bumping each other on the head with a length of iron pipe.  
Then, to make it look "real," they had thumped their felt hats with bottles on the sidewalk. All for \$16. It was not, Detective Romeril reflected, quite the perfect crime.  
LAMP BURNS 37 YEARS  
SALT LAKE CITY, Utah (U. P.).—A n old time carbon filament lamp, purchased in 1904, has been burning almost continuously at a Salt Lake City railroad switch board.

SMALLEST CHURCH ASKS RECOGNITION

ST. MARY'S, Pa. (U. P.).—Residents of this community are proud of Decker Chapel, the "smallest church in the United States," and are sponsoring a campaign to call attention to the tiny house of worship.  
The little church, which accommodates 30 persons, is always open to visitors, and last year 3800 people from 40 states came to see the chapel.  
The structure was built in 1856 by Michael Decker as a thank offering for his recovery from an injury.



The Night Before Christmas

'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house  
I. Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse;  
The stockings were hung by the chimney with care, In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there.  
VIII. And then in a twinkling I heard on the roof, The prancing and pawing of such little hoof. As I drew in my head, and was turning around, Down the chimney St. Nicholas came with a bound.  
IX. He was dressed all in fur from his head to his foot, And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot; A bundle of toys he had on his back, And he looked like a peddler, just opening his pack.  
X. His eyes how they twinkled! His dimples how merry! His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry! His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow And his beard on his chin was as white as the snow.  
XI. The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth, And the smoke it exhaled he held like a wreath; He had a broad face and a round little belly That shook when he laughed, like a bowl full of jelly.  
XII. He was chubby and plump—a right jolly old elf— And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself. A wink in his eye and a twist of his head, Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread.  
XIII. He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work, And filled all the stockings; then turned with a jerk, And laying his finger aside of his nose, And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose.  
XIV. He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle, And away they all flew like the down of a thistle; But I heard him exclaim, ere he drove out of sight,  
VII. As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly, When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky, So, up to the housetop the couriers flew; With a sleigh full of toys—and St. Nicholas, too!

"Merry Christmas To All and to All a Good Night"

This Immortal Poem Is a Part of Every Child's Christmas  
For several years it has been the pleasant privilege of L. S. Ayres & Company to make it available to our younger friends.

L. S. Ayres & CO

DON'T GET JITTERY

Just Call  
RL. 9441  
our telephone switchboard will be open until  
10:30 P. M.  
Christmas Eve,  
Wednesday, Dec. 24th  
to answer any questions on late deliveries or other service problems.  
L. S. AYRES & COMPANY