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## REDS TRY TO RAISE CASPIAN SEA LEVEL

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2 (U. P.).—Russian scientists are trying to raise the level of the Caspian sea which has been diminishing for centuries, according to the National Geographic society.

The sea is now down to 85 feet below ocean level, creating serious problems for navigators and fishermen.

Russian plans include rechanneling rivers to bring more water into the Caspian, blocking off parts of the sea by dams and completing the Manyehski canal.

### AIR SERVICE BEGINS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2 (U. P.).—Pennsylvania-Central Airlines announced today that it will start daily high-speed passenger service between Washington, Chicago and Norfolk Jan. 10.

## SCIENCE WINNERS TO BE NAMED SOON

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2 (U. P.).—Results of the fifth annual science talent search tests taken by several thousand high school seniors will be announced this month, Watson Davis, director of Science Service, said today.

The 40 winners in the competition will receive expense-paid trips to Washington where they will compete in March for \$11,000 in scholarships. The scholarships are provided by Westinghouse Electric Corp. to encourage youthful scientists.

### C. & S. WILL ADOPT SHORT WORK WEEK

A 40-hour five-day work week will be adopted by Chicago & Southern Air Lines, Inc. for all employees beginning Jan. 1, the office here said today.

No reduction in take-home pay will accompany the reduction from a 48-hour week, officials said.

## TWO KILLED IN TRAIN WRECK

Twenty Hurt as Coaches Jump Track.

BLANEY, S. C., Jan. 2 (U. P.).—Two persons were killed and 20 injured early today when the engine and four coaches of the Silver Meteor, Seaboard Line's New York to Miami streamlined passenger train derailed four miles north of here.

The dead were Mrs. Helen E. Wilson, wife of a Negro soldier in New York City, and her daughter, Beverly. Her husband Altona was among the injured.

J. E. Mayer of Jacksonville, Fla., a passenger on the train, said that the coaches plunged from the right-of-way and off an embankment.

SMITHS GROVE, Ky., Jan. 2 (U. P.).—Three persons were in the Bowling Green City hospital today as a result of injuries suffered when the crack Chicago-Miami streamliner South Wind rolled backward into a freight train two miles north of here last night.

Ten persons were injured and taken to the hospital. All but three later were released. The three remaining were Robert S. Woodford, 31, of Chicago; Mrs. Gra's Sooscran, 62, of Franklin, Ind.; and George Steier, 21, of Louisville, Ky.

LICHFIELD, England, Jan. 2 (U. P.).—The death toll in a London-Midland-Scottish train wreck here last night reached 17 today.

Railway officials estimated at least 100 other persons were injured when a fish train rammed into the rear of a four-coach train which was stopped at the station to load passengers bound for London after the holiday.

## VA PLEDGES MORE AID FOR VETERANS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2 (U. P.).—The veterans administration faces its biggest year hampered by a shortage of hospitals, personnel, and office space.

But a spokesman last night promised ex-servicemen brighter prospects in 1946 than in the past year. He said recent legislation will make the difference.

In a radio address (ABC) Brig. Gen. Henry B. Lewis, Gen. Omar N. Bradley's acting director of organization, predicted that a half million veterans would be in schools by fall under the liberalized G. I. bill of rights.

With looser restrictions on loan guarantees, Lewis said VA hopes to approve a quarter of a million loans in the year, most of them for homes. Business loans may total 42,000 and farm loans 7500.

The veterans administration hopes for more and better doctors, nurses and technicians as result of a newly-passed bill creating a new medical department within the VA. President Truman has not yet signed the bill but, barring a veto, it will automatically become law tomorrow.

Lewis said VA wants at once 1000 doctors, 100 dentists and 1200 nurses. More will be needed during the year.

## GERMANS NOT MUCH INTERESTED IN TRIALS

NUERNBERG, Jan. 2 (U. P.).—The majority of German people are so absorbed in food, clothing and shelter problems that they are not much interested in the Nazi war crimes trials, it was disclosed today in a survey conducted by the allied control division.

Samplings of German opinion were taken in cross-section surveys in 38 cities and towns of the American zone from Oct. 29 to Dec. 1 in an effort to obtain the people's reaction to the trials.

Of those questioned, more than 80 per cent said they believed the defendants would receive a fair trial. About 5 per cent believed Rudolf Hess should be acquitted and 5 per cent admitted they had learned from the trials that their leaders had betrayed them.

## CHICAGOAN DROWNS DURING ICY SWIM

CHICAGO, Jan. 2 (U. P.).—Coastguards dragged Lake Michigan today for the body of a 38-year-old office worker who drowned after a New Year's day swim in the icy waters.

The victim was Richard Zirkle, Chicago.

His swimming companion, Nicholas Dubois, a tailor, said he saw Zirkle "disappear from sight." Dubois said he and Zirkle, regularly went swimming during the winter and sunbathed on the ice along the shore.

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