

# ZERO WEATHER SWEEPS STATE

## CALVIN COOLIDGE

### Split With Wilbur Over Navy Looms

President Reaffirms Declaration That He Is Opposed to Any Armament Competition. May Mean Cabinet Rift

Washington, Dec. 15.—President Coolidge's determination that the United States shall not engage in any armament competition, irrespective of what other nations may do, was positively reaffirmed and emphasized at the White House today.

The president told callers that he could see little hope for the future from the standpoint of world peace and economic well-being, if nations resume the business of armament racing, and so far as the United States is concerned, Mr. Coolidge made it clear his administration will have none of it.

Washington, Dec. 16.—A distinct rift has developed between President Coolidge and his secretary of the navy, Curtis D. Wilbur, over the American naval policy.

Today Washington was filled with renewed reports, which could neither be positively confirmed nor positively denied, that Secretary Wilbur will soon part company with the administration and either accept a reappointment to the judicial service or retire to private life.

President Coolidge is said to have been irked by some of Secretary Wilbur's confidential testimony before the house naval affairs committee, which has been coming out piecemeal for a week. Wilbur's views, which reflect those of the general board, differed widely from those expressed by the president in his message to congress and his subsequent speeches and papers.

In his message to congress President Coolidge said: "Frequent reports will reach us of the magnitude of the military equipment of other nations. We shall do well to be little impressed by such reports or such actions."

### QUARTERMASTER MOVING DELAYED

Nothing will be done by the government until the end of the fiscal year in restoring the quartermaster depot to Omaha, according to word received Monday by Clarke G. Powell, commissioner of the Chamber of Commerce, and Maj. Gen. George B. Duncan of the Seventh Corps area.

### We Have With Us Today

W. O. Granicher, coffee and sugar grower, Guatemala, C. A. Mr. Granicher has lived in Guatemala City, Guatemala, for the last three and a half years. He is a buyer with the big firm of Quesada & Co., Inc., owners of thousands of acres of sugar and coffee plantations in the Republic of Guatemala.

### 2 BANK ROBBERS GET QUICK ACTION

Greeley, Colo., Dec. 15.—Quick justice was handed out Monday to Jesse T. Layton, alias David Lockhart, 25, and Ernest McCauley, alias John Small, 32, when they pleaded guilty in district court to robbing the First State bank at Kansasburg, Colo. After hearing their pleas, District Judge Neil E. Graham sentenced each to from 20 years to life in the state penitentiary, just 72 hours after they had robbed the bank of about \$500.

### Farm Crops Value Is \$9,479,902,000, but Volume Is Low

Washington, Dec. 15.—This year's harvest of important farm crops, the highest priced in five years, though not the greatest in volume of products, was valued at \$9,479,902,000 today by the Department of Agriculture.

Better prices than last year placed the value \$753,913,900 higher than last year, when the total, as revised, was \$8,726,889,000, and \$1,653,882,000 higher than in 1922, when they aggregated \$7,073,027,000.

The combined acreage of the principal farm crops was smaller this year than last, there having been a total of 355,210,400 acres, as compared with 355,594,730 in 1923.

Both the spring and winter wheat crops were extremely satisfactory, but corn had an unfavorable season. Cotton, planted late, was affected by drought to some extent, but a fair crop was produced. A large crop of potatoes, on a smaller acreage than in recent years, resulted from unusually favorable weather.

### REPORTED DEAD IN MINE FIGHTING

Charleston, W. Va., Dec. 16.—One person was killed and several wounded in fighting that broke out at Kayford, in the Cabin Creek coal mining district this morning. It was announced at state police headquarters here.

### FATHER AND TWO DAUGHTERS BURN

Ogden, Utah, Dec. 16.—Lewis Hoopes and his two daughters, 10 and 14, were burned to death early this morning when fire destroyed the Hoopes home at Tetonia, Idaho, according to word received here.

### Coolidge Probably Will Not Leave Washington

Washington, Dec. 15.—Possibility of any trips following adjournment of congress and the inauguration is considered slight by President Coolidge.

### Slayers of Americans Given Death Sentences

Tirana, Albania, Dec. 15.—Five of the murderers convicted by court-martial of the murder last April of Robert L. Coleman of San Francisco and George B. DeLang of New York, have been sentenced to death. Three others have been condemned to 19 years' imprisonment with hard labor.

### Shaw Ordered Held

Chicago, Dec. 16.—George Shaw, a shell-shocked war veteran, was ordered held for murder by a coroner's jury for the killing of his father, Bruce A. Shaw, wealthy inventor, with a saber.

### Child Sees Mother Shot by Father

Man Kills Wife and Then Takes Own Life; Quarreled Over Christmas Packages. Six Children Survive

J. G. H. Lang, 56, Lake Manawa, shot and killed his wife at their home Tuesday morning because she would not show him the contents of a Christmas package.

After emptying the chambers of his revolver, he carried the smoking weapon to his bedroom, reloaded it and fired two bullets into his own heart.

He died at the feet of his 12-year-old stepdaughter, Luella, who had seen him shoot her mother.

The dying mother called to the girl: "Miss Luella, I'm dying. Run for help."

The child ran shrieking from the house and called neighbors. The mother died 30 minutes later in the arms of her daughter and son, Harold, 19, who came to the house a few minutes after the shooting. Officers had not then arrived.

According to the child's sobbing story, the argument began while she was seated with her father and mother at the breakfast table. Her father had sent a package addressed to Mrs. A. D. Solonsky, Mrs. Lang's daughter, who lives at Webster City, Ia. It had been lying on the counter in the grocery store which Lang operates adjoining his home.

"What's in the package?" he demanded, the girl told officers. "Just some knick-knacks," the mother replied. "Nothing that would interest you."

Angered by Evasion. The evasion angered her husband, the daughter said. He insisted on knowing what the package held, and his wife grew determined that he should not know. They argued heatedly.

Lang suddenly interrupted the argument to say: "I want you to tend the store today."

Still worried over the argument, Mrs. Lang refused.

"I've got a rash on my neck," she said. "It might be contagious; some of the customers might get it."

Empires Revolver. Her husband rose from the table without a word, the child said, and went to his bedroom, adjoining the dining room. Mrs. Lang also rose, and walked into the living room. The daughter, Luella, was in her bedroom, adjoining the living room.

Suddenly Lang appeared in the doorway between the living room and dining room, holding a shiny nickel plated revolver.

### Humor of Dempsey-Taylor Nuptials Crops Out Again After Divorce News

Film Actress, on Eve of Receiving Her Decree From Kenneth M. Peacock, Refuses to Affirm or Deny Plans to Become Bride of Boxer.

By Universal Service. Los Angeles, Dec. 15.—With Philadelphia courts apparently grinding their way toward a divorce for Estelle Taylor, film actress, from Kenneth M. Peacock, the rumor of Miss Taylor's engagement to Jack Dempsey has taken on new life.

Dispatches from Philadelphia today stated that the suit was filed in September and that the report of the master in the case, filed November 14, has just been approved. The report listed no exceptions. Under the Pennsylvania law, the case now goes to the judge for decision and when, as in this case, no exceptions are listed, the judge usually grants the decree.

"I didn't know that things were moving so fast, but I certainly hope it's true," said Miss Taylor today. She admitted that the divorce suit had been filed, but said that she

had not heard what had happened. "Jack Dempsey?" she said. "Well, right now I'm not saying anything about anything. There are lots of things I would like to say, but I might say just the thing that would start a lot of trouble, and I've had enough already."

"However, if the decree is granted, there may be some news. Rumors that Miss Taylor and Dempsey were engaged became lively when the two 'just happened' to catch the same train for the east a month or so ago."

Miss Taylor is due to figure in another court case soon, when she goes to San Francisco to testify in the 'fur coat' affair that revolves about Max Graf, film producer. Associates of Graf charge that he embezzled the coat from the company and gave it to Miss Taylor. He says he provided it for a movie scene and that it was included in regular expenses.

### Carl Hough Calm at Life Sentence

"You've Said It All," Slayer Responds to Judge's Query.

Special Dispatch to The Omaha Bee. Bedford, Ia., Dec. 15.—Standing alone before a bar of justice, in an empty courtroom, his parents having deserted him, Carl Hough, 23, today heard Judge Homer Fuller pronounce life sentence upon him in district court here for the murder of Miss Lillian McKenney of Herrick, S. D., whose bruised body was found under a bridge 13 miles west of Bedford last August 13.

Judge Fuller, in passing the sentence recommended by the jury 10 days ago, further urged that the parole board never consider a parole for the convicted slayer.

Hough showed little emotion as sentence was pronounced, maintaining the same nonchalance as throughout the trial. When asked by Judge Fuller if he had anything to say, he looked up and remarked, "Not a thing. You have said it all."

None of Hough's relatives nor those of the slain girl were in the courtroom at the time, they having returned home after the trial.

Motion of Hough's counsel for a new trial Monday was denied by Judge Fuller this morning. Hough will be taken to Fort Madison penitentiary Wednesday to start his life sentence.

### WOMAN ENDS LIFE ON MATE'S GRAVE

Brentwood, N. Y., Dec. 15.—Choosing her husband's grave in Brentwood cemetery as a pyre, Laura Baker killed herself by fire and poison today.

A physician said he believed Mrs. Baker swallowed poison, saturated her clothing with gasoline and then turned herself into a living column of flames by applying a match. Empty bottles which had contained a poison and gasoline were found near the grave.

### Dogs Domesticated as Long as 7,000 Years Ago

Chicago, Dec. 15.—Proof that dogs were domesticated as long as 7,000 years ago has come out of the ancient tombs of Kish, the oldest city of which history has record.

Prof. S. Langdon, in a report to D. C. Davies, director of Field museum, today told of finding three clay canine figures in a chamber of the palace library of Kish. Another figure was found in the tomb of a child, indicating the archaeologist declared, that dogs were regarded as playmates of children.

### Gretna Approves Paving Bonds

Taxpayers of Precinct Vote \$25,000 to Gravel Highway.

By a vote of 203 to 21, the taxpayers of Gretna precinct today voted bonds in the amount of \$25,000 for graveling eight and a half miles of highway through the precinct of Gretna. The stretch to be gravelled is one of the links that when completed will make a through gravel highway from Omaha to Lincoln. The piece to be improved by today's voting extends six miles south from Gretna to the line of Melia precinct and two and a half miles north and east to connect with the gravel road at Elk-horn.

Some time during the latter part of December or early in January the voters of Melia precinct will vote on three miles of highway, that will be the last connecting link in the Omaha-Lincoln highway. The action of the voters in the Gretna precinct is taken to assure success of the other proposition.

### RESERVE BANK PLANS ARE TOLD

The new structure of the Omaha branch of the Federal Reserve bank of the Tenth district, with headquarters at Kansas City, will not bear the name of Kansas City in large letters, according to word received in Omaha from Governor W. J. Bailey of the parent bank. Bailey said the letters were not meant to be placed on the bank and that the drawing submitted was simply an architect's conception.

### LIONS TO HEAR LEGION PARSON

Father J. A. Agney, chaplain for the American Legion, was to give a talk on his recent trip to Europe at the noon meeting of the Lions club Tuesday noon at the Hotel Fontainebleau. Gilbert Gendall, Boy Scout executive, was to give a short talk. Charles Osborne is chairman of the meeting.

### Shoulders Sold for Ham by Peddler at Oakland

Oakland, Dec. 16.—At a loss of 13 cents a pound for pork the people of Oakland have learned the difference between hams and shoulders through the misrepresentation of a stranger who recently drove into town with a load of what he called home-sugar-cured hams, obtained a peddler's license from the city clerk and disposed of nearly all at 39 cents a pound.

### New Superintendent at Annapolis Naval Academy

Washington, Dec. 15.—Rear Admiral Louis M. Nulton has been selected by the Navy department to succeed Rear Admiral Henry B. Wilson as superintendent of the naval academy at Annapolis, when the latter retires from active service next February. Admiral Nelson now is in command of battleship division No. 2, in the fleet in Pacific waters.

### Garage Is Sold

Special Dispatch to The Omaha Bee. Columbus, Neb., Dec. 15.—Sale of their garage here and the distributing agency for automobiles in Platte and adjoining counties by Purnell & Wilson to Trovbridge & Johnson of Elgin, Neb., was completed today.

### State Bares Conduct of Poisoners

Evidence of Indiscretions of Pastor and Elsie Sweetin Brought Out When Her Confession Barred.

Hight Waves His Signals. Mr. Vernon, Ill., Dec. 15.—Losing its fight to have go to the jury the alleged confession of Mrs. Elsie Sweetin, that she thrice gave poison to her husband, Wilford, at the instigation of Lawrence M. Hight, the prosecution today opened a new line of testimony, when witnesses were called from Ina, Ill., to tell of the conduct of the co-defendants at the time Hight was pastor of an Ina church.

With the alleged confession ruled out, the state prepared to produce everything it could to show that proper relations existed between Mrs. Sweetin and Hight before and after the death of Wilford Sweetin.

Evidence as to a "pile," which stood some distance from the Sweetin home and upon which Hight is alleged to have climbed to wig-wag signals to Mrs. Sweetin, came first.

At Camp Meeting. This testimony was introduced as to remarks alleged to have been made by Hight when he preached the funeral of Wilford Sweetin, the man for whose murder he is now on trial.

Then there was evidence as to alleged indiscretions of Hight and Mrs. Sweetin at a camp meeting a few weeks after Sweetin's death, at which Hight was one of the exhorters and at which Mrs. Sweetin occupied a cottage adjoining that of the Hight family.

Mrs. Olive Clinton of Ina testified she attended this camp meeting and that she frequently observed Hight leave the tabernacle, the large building in which services were held, and connect with the gravel road at Elk-horn.

Shortly after this, she said, Mrs. Sweetin would "leave the tabernacle and go north to town."

Mrs. Irene Christian of Ina testified that during the months of last May and June, she saw Hight go to the Sweetin home frequently.

### TRAIN HITS TRAM; 3 PERSONS DEAD

Helena, Mont., Dec. 16.—Three persons were killed, two others probably fatally hurt and six less seriously injured just before noon today when a Great Northern train crashed into a street car on a crossing here.

### Difficulty on Southern Pacific Is Now Settled

San Francisco, Dec. 15.—The differences between the Southern Pacific company and its workers in engine service, which resulted recently in an overwhelming vote to strike, have been amicably settled, according to an agreement made public today by the company.

### Bride of Rhinelander Will Demand Alimony

New York, Dec. 15.—Notice of an application by Mrs. Alice Jones Rhinelander for \$1,000 alimony and \$10,000 counsel fees from Leonard Kin Rhinelander pending trial of his action for annulment of their marriage was served upon Leon R. Jacobs, Rhinelander's attorney, by Judge Swinburne of New Rochelle, counsel for Mrs. Rhinelander.

### SHOALS MEASURE WINS IN SKIRMISH

Washington, Dec. 15.—Supporters of the Underwood Muscle Shoals bill won a sweeping victory in the senate today. Combining with administration forces, they defeated an amendment to the measure by Senator Smith, democrat of South Carolina, which would have prevented leasing of the huge nitrate and power project to private interests.

The vote, regarded as a conclusive test of strength in Underwood bill, strongly indicated its final passage by the senate.

### Christmas Suicide Pact Principal Is Given Prison Term

Dan Deetz Enters Guilty Plea to One of Charges Against Him; Accounts for Poison Tablets.

Grand Island, Neb., Dec. 15.—Dan A. Deetz, principal figure in the recent alleged intriguing in the district court, and held on several charges including the concealing of stolen cars, today decided to plead guilty to this charge, and to take his sentence, Mildred Camp, the fugitive witness, wanted in the case, has not as yet been brought back from California, but is on the way, in the custody of the sheriff.

Deetz, in a statement to the court, said that he obtained the poison, of which he sent one tablet to Mildred Camp, for a suicide pact to be carried out at Christmas time, from Mrs. Deetz, but not for that purpose. Mrs. Deetz had procured the tablets to protect him from disease which he had indicated might be caught in jail.

Deetz denied that he had himself stolen the automobile in question and when sentenced to from five years to 10 years in the penitentiary, protested with the statement that he had been told by Attorney McDermott, of Kearney, that Attorney Subr had agreed to recommend an indeterminate sentence of from one to 10 years.

Attorney Subr denied this, demanded an inquiry by the court and when it was made, a statement of Attorney McDermott was that he had merely expressed his opinion to Deetz that this would be the sentence.

### FOUR KILLED ON WAY FROM DANCE

Sterling, Colo., Dec. 15.—Four young persons who had attended a dance at the Elks club here, were ground to death under the wheels of a Burlington train at midnight while they were en route to Hiff, 12 miles from Sterling.

The dead are: Vivian Gill, 20, and Esther Black, 20, teachers in the Hiff, Colo., school; Walter Mast, 24, Sterling, and John Shugart, 25, a traveling salesman.

### Serbian Troops Attack on Albanian Frontier by Associated Press.

London, Dec. 16.—The Albanian Legion in London this evening received a message from Tirana stating that "the prefecture of Dibra wires that a violent bombardment began early this morning on the Serbian frontier against the Albanian troops."

The message declared that the Albanian commander of the Cosovo district "wires that the first attack on the Albanian frontier was made by Serbian troops, who, after they crossed the frontier, were replaced by irregulars. Fighting continued all along the frontier. Yesterday the customs authorities of Scutari captured at Zogai a boat full of ammunition coming from the Montenegro frontier."

### Radical to Prison.

St. Joseph, Mich., Dec. 15.—Charles E. Ruthenberg, whose conviction on a charge of violating the Michigan syndicalism act recently was upheld by the state supreme court, has been ordered to appear before Judge Charles White Monday for sentence.

## 24 Degree Drop in Day Is Recorded

Snow Flurries Accompany Cold Wave Here; Motorists Stranded by Low Temperature.

## Four Fires Reported

Sub zero weather, accompanied by a brisk north wind, held Nebraska and Iowa in its grip Tuesday. Four fires were reported as a result of the weather, three near Columbus, Neb., caused by exploding oil stoves and one near Council Bluffs caused from an over-heated flue pipe.

For the first time this season Omaha received a taste of zero weather. The thermometer stood at 24 at 5 Tuesday morning but the temperature was dropping rapidly and at 11 it was four degrees above zero. At noon Meteorologist M. V. Robins announced a reading of one degree above zero. That mark was held until 1 when the mercury sank to zero. It remained at zero until after 8.

## Three Farm Fires

Slight snow flurries marked the day. It was almost too cold for a good snow storm but hard dry flakes, whipped by the wind fell at intervals all day. Meteorologist Robins declared that .01 inch of moisture fell during the day.

Motorists, who had neglected to fill the radiators of their cars with non-freeze solutions were in difficulty about the down town streets. A common sight was some unfortunate working valiantly with auto crank to start a cold and stubborn motor.

Columbus, Neb., experienced zero weather Tuesday evening. The thermometers there registered one degree below zero at 8. The falling temperature was accompanied by a sharp north wind. Business was almost brought to a standstill.

Three fires near Columbus were laid directly to the cold weather. At three homes oil heaters in bedrooms exploded. All the fires were at farm homes. The first was at the home of Arthur Jackson. The second was at the home of Mrs. Ida Jackson and the third was at the home of E. H. Zourich.

## Cold Wave General

The flames in every instance were controlled quickly and damages were slight.

At Norfolk, Neb., the mercury dropped to four degrees below zero. A sharp wind, which struck the town just prior to the cold snap, continued through the day and colder weather was expected.

The cold weather was general over northern Nebraska and South Dakota. Roads, for the most part, remained free although at some of the little-used roads the freezing weather developed ruts that made driving a little difficult.

## Herriot Improved.

Paris, Dec. 15.—Continued improvement in the condition of Premier Herriot was reported today. The decision of his physicians that he must remain in bed for some time was unchanged.

## Summary of the Day in Washington

The senate considered the navy appropriation bill. The senate indicated a preference for private operation of Muscle Shoals.

The Weather

For 24 hours ending 7 p. m., December 15, 1924.	
Precipitation, inches and hundredths	Total 51. Total since January 1, 25.35
Hourly Temperatures.	
8 a. m.	12 a. m.
9 a. m.	1 p. m.
10 a. m.	2 p. m.
11 a. m.	3 p. m.
12 m.	4 p. m.
1 p. m.	5 p. m.
2 p. m.	6 p. m.
3 p. m.	7 p. m.
4 p. m.	8 p. m.
5 p. m.	9 p. m.
6 p. m.	10 p. m.
7 p. m.	11 p. m.
8 p. m.	12 m.