

WEATHER FORECAST

Partly cloudy, colder tonight. Tomorrow increasing cloudiness followed by rain or snow at night. Diminishing northerly winds.

The Daily Argus

BEAUTIFUL WORLD

Through eyes of young girl. Bronx woman finds life still beautiful. Story, picture, page 11.

ESTABLISHED APRIL 1, 1892 United Press Wire Service MOUNT VERNON, N. Y., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1937 Associated Press Wire Service PRICE THREE CENTS

JAPAN ADMITS GUILT: AMERICANS IN PERIL

NEW MOVE TO AID B-W UNDER WAY

Officials of 6 Communities Settle On Tax Terms

TO DRAFT PLEA Judge Knox to Be Asked to Rescind Order for Shutdown

Officials of six municipalities and minority bondholders went into action today in an 11th hour attempt to prevent cessation of service on the Westchester and Boston Railway already doomed by a Federal Court order.

Believing there is hope of saving the road from shutting down on Dec. 31, officials and representatives of minority interests are planning a new plea to United States District Court Judge John C. Knox, who yesterday signed the formal court order directing the receivers to end operations.

When the new plea will be made, was not revealed, but it is expected representatives and attorneys for Westchester communities will appear before Judge Knox early next week to seek to have his order rescinded or amended.

Following a three-hour conference in City Hall here, representatives of the minority interests appealed to officials to cooperate in the move to seek continuation of operations, for a three-month period.

Officials agreed to the plan and tentatively offered to settle pending tax certiorari actions on a monthly basis. In other words, municipalities will cancel one-twelfth of the taxes involved for every month trains are operated after Jan. 1.

Mayor Pearsall conferred last night with a majority of the City Council members and they agreed to go along on the proposal, and signified their willingness to compromise the pending certiorari suit on a monthly basis.

'Honest Jim' Reilly Dead; Pelham Political Leader



Village Head 12 Times, Veteran Is Heart Attack Victim

(Special To The Daily Argus) NORTH PELHAM, Dec. 23.—"Honest Jim" Reilly was retired for the last time. The man who was Village head 12 times and Deputy Sheriff for 25 years died of a heart attack last night at his home, 11 Chestnut Avenue. He was seventy-two.

Thirty of those seventy-two years Mr. Reilly, who once was a blacksmith, devoted to politics. A Republican, he broke away from his party three times to run on an Independent ticket. He was twice successful.

In the last Town campaign, he supported an Independent Party which backed the Democratic candidates. Left Ireland at 16 Mr. Reilly came to America from Ireland when he was sixteen. He lived for a short time in Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin, where he practiced the blacksmithing trade he had learned when he got to the "new" country.

He came to Pelham in 1893, and 12 years later staged a whirlwind campaign for Village President, on an Independent ticket. A picturesque figure, he played a prominent role in politics from then on. Elected again when the Republicans and Democrats put up one slate, Mr. Reilly ran two more years on a victorious Pelham ticket.

When he retired from Village politics for in 1908, while still Village President, he was appointed inspector of the Bronx Valley Sewer Commission. In 1911 he became Deputy Sheriff, in which capacity he served the County for 24 years, until State laws compelled him to retire again. In 1920 he "retired" from his blacksmith shop. "If automobiles hadn't become so fashionable," he said last year, "I'd be shoeing horses yet."

Defeated in 1931 Despite his constant avowal that he was "retiring," Mr. Reilly ran for Mayor in 1931 and lost by 27 votes. Last March he decided to fight Mayor Dominic Amato in the Republican primaries, but finally withdrew on the advice of his physician. In the last town campaign in November, he formed an independent party and backed the Democratic ticket. While he was in office, "Jim's" board meetings usually necessitated the presence of a police officer, whom he would call unhesitatingly at the first sign of mutiny. Out of office, he held "court" on "Reilly's Bench" at Sixth Street and Fifth Avenue.

DELAY LOOMS IN CITY VOTE ON BUS LINE

Action on Petition for New Route to Be Taken By New Board

PLEA IS RECEIVED

Allman Refers Proposal To Committee Headed By Miller

Action on the Westchester Surface Ways Company's petition for permission to run a new bus line, connecting the City's central business sector with outlying areas, is expected to be delayed until the Common Council has organized for 1938, it was learned today.

Petitions for a franchise or a terminable bus permit were formally received by the Common Council last night. They were referred to the Bus Transportation Committee, but as the 1937 committee will cease functioning, the petitions are expected to be handled by the new committee which will be announced on Jan. 3. Alderman John K. Miller is at present chairman of the bus committee.

The petitions were presented by Henry L. Hecht, attorney, who said the company is ready to execute a bond for faithful performance of any franchise or permit.

Aldermen Silent No comments were made by the aldermen after the communications had been read. Alderman William N. Allman, who was presiding referred the proposals to the committee.

Consideration of the petition is expected early next month when the new bus committee meets. This committee will go into conference with Mayor Pearsall to discuss the Third Avenue Railway System's proposal to continue a nickel fare on its bus routes providing special taxes are repealed.

COURT ADJOURNS DRIVER CHARGES

Man Accused of Intoxication By Patrolman

John J. Misiewicz, twenty-seven, 29 South High Street, was granted an adjournment to Dec. 31 in Special Sessions today on hearing of charges of driving while intoxicated and failing to obey the signal of a police officer.

He was jailed last night after an automobile in Gramatan Avenue nearly ran down Patrolman Ralph Pompea when its driver apparently became confused.

Acting City Judge Vernon F. Murphy provided his release from jail but ordered police to hold his car. His postponement in City Court today was granted by City Judge Jacob A. Bernstein.

Late News Bulletins

Navy Signs Contract for 21 New Planes WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (UP).—The Navy today announced award of a contract for \$5,200,538 for the purchase of 21 naval patrol bombing planes from the Glenn L. Martin Company, of Baltimore, Md.

White Christmas Still in Doubt

It's still in doubt whether we will have a "White Christmas." The Weather Bureau today predicted "rain or snow tomorrow night." The northwest winds which were to bring rain last night and early this morning, changing to snow by midday, shifted to north and the precipitation did not come.

DRIVER FREED IN CAR DEATH

New Rochelle Matron Exonerated By Squire After Probe

Medical Examiner Amos O. Squire, presiding at an inquiry into the City's two most recent highway fatalities, today reserved decision in fixing blame for the death of Mrs. Susie Kierman, 417 South Second Avenue. He discharged a driver whose car killed Mrs. Minnie James, 439 South Eighth Avenue, Dec. 15.

Discharged was Mrs. Heloise N. Samek, 63 Brookdale Avenue, New Rochelle. She was absolved of blame in the death of Mrs. James, sixty-eight, struck when she stepped into East Lincoln Avenue, near Darwood Place. The domestic died a few hours afterward at Mount Vernon Hospital.

Dr. Squire said he would announce a decision "within a few days" in the death of Mrs. Kierman, sixty-seven, struck in Sandford Boulevard near Second Avenue by an auto driven by Frank Krakle, 442 South Fifth Avenue. The driver was represented by Vernon F. Murphy, acting City Judge.

RAILROAD FARE RISE IS PROBED

ICC Official Queries Line On Effect of Rates

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (AP).—An Interstate Commerce Commission official indicated emphatically, by comments and questions, today that he was uncertain of the effect a proposed 1/2 cent increase in passenger coach fares would have on travel.

PEARSALL GREET'S CITY'S EMPLOYEES

Municipal employees drew their Dec. 31 paychecks today, and at the same time were presented with greeting cards from Mayor Pearsall. The Chief Executive expressed appreciation for the cooperation received from employees and officials during the year.

EXTRA HOLIDAY GIVEN WPA MEN

Projects Shut Down Until Monday by Authorities WPA workers in Mount Vernon and other Westchester municipalities were granted an extra holiday with a ruling no work was to be undertaken on projects tomorrow. All activities here were to close this afternoon and will be resumed on Monday morning.

POLICE OFFICIALS ATTEND EXERCISES

Deputy Public Safety Commissioner Andrew M. Anderson and Chief Inspector of Police Michael I. Silverstein attended commencement exercises at the New York Police School in the 165th Infantry Armory in New York City last night.

WEST COAST GUARDED BY DESTROYERS

Two Newest Ships Take Over Detail in Navy Maneuvers

JAPANESE RELEASED

Fishermen Held on Suspicion Allowed to Leave Harbor

SAN DIEGO, Calif., Dec. 23 (UP).—The Navy's two newest and most powerful destroyers, the Balch and the McDougal, took over the patrol of the Southern California coast today during mysterious fleet maneuvers.

Bluejackets in launches, armed with machine guns, guarded San Diego Bay where on Tuesday night they halted and detained four Japanese fishing boats. It was indicated that the Navy air force might join the demonstration. Commercial and private pilots were ordered to keep clear of the area along the Mexican border between Calexico and San Diego.

There were 500 Navy planes based at North Island. The challenging of the Japanese boats was learned only through unofficial sources. It was reported that three Japanese boats were halted at the entrance of the bay and were tied up all night Tuesday at the Navy quarantining station.

The fourth Japanese boat was escorted back to the Navy pier after the crew failed to respond to the Navy boat's signal to halt. The Japanese boats are of American registry. They are engaged in tuna fishing, and work out of the San Diego harbor. The harbor was closed to all boats, and any that encroached were to be stopped and searched according to Navy regulations. The crew of at least one of the tuna boats was said to have been entirely Japanese. The fishing boats were all released Wednesday morning.

2 NAVIES SEEN AS NECESSARY

Representative Claims U. S. Has Need for Fleets

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (AP).—An assertion that the United States should have two navies—one each for the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans—came today from Representative Maas (R-Minn.), senior minority member of the House Naval Committee.

Maas, terming the Panama Canal indefensible, declared the American battle fleet in the Pacific would be "totally inadequate" in the event of hostilities. Commenting on reports that President Roosevelt has recommended a \$50,000,000 increase in the Navy's 1938-39 appropriation to start construction of two more battleships and several smaller vessels, Maas said a proposal to ask for four battleships in addition to the two recently begun was under discussion.

EXTRA HOLIDAY GIVEN WPA MEN

Projects Shut Down Until Monday by Authorities WPA workers in Mount Vernon and other Westchester municipalities were granted an extra holiday with a ruling no work was to be undertaken on projects tomorrow. All activities here were to close this afternoon and will be resumed on Monday morning.

Approximately 200 workers including white collar employees were granted the extra holiday. Municipal employees will get a half holiday with City Clerk and Finance Department, closing at noon tomorrow.

POLICE OFFICIALS ATTEND EXERCISES

Deputy Public Safety Commissioner Andrew M. Anderson and Chief Inspector of Police Michael I. Silverstein attended commencement exercises at the New York Police School in the 165th Infantry Armory in New York City last night.

Fordham Expert Reports Series Of Earthquakes

NEW YORK, Dec. 23 (UP).—Father Joseph J. Lynch, Fordham University seismologist, said today that the university's instruments indicated that a series of "quite terrific" earthquakes had occurred in the Pacific Ocean off the southern coast of Mexico, probably in the Gulf of Tehuantepec.

The instruments indicated, he said, that the quakes were centered about 2,300 miles southwest of here and were of sufficient intensity to be felt far inland. Today's tremors were recorded at 8:25 A. M., and 8:29 A. M. Two other quakes were recorded previously, one at 10 P. M. Tuesday, the second at 2 A. M. yesterday.

SAVE WOMAN FROM FUMES

Eastchester's Emergency Squad Revives Victim After Heroic Dash

(Special To The Daily Argus) EASTCHESTER, Dec. 23.—Found unconscious yesterday afternoon on the kitchen floor in the home of her daughter, with gas pouring from two range jets, Mrs. Mary Pinto, thirty-five, was revived by members of the Eastchester Fire Department Emergency Squad after 30 minutes' respiration work.

A grandson, Joseph Scordato, twelve, returned home from school at about 3:20 P. M. and was attracted by the continued barking of the family dog.

BENNETT RULES AGAINST METER

Parking Tax on State Seen As Illegal in Decision

ALBANY, Dec. 23 (AP).—Any municipal parking-meter or similar tax that results in increased costs to the State is illegal, in the opinion of State Attorney General John J. Bennett, Jr.

Bennett's opinion was given at the request of Corporation Counsel Lawrence R. Ormiston of Waterbury, who asked if a previous ruling exempting State-owned automobiles from such taxation also applied to cars privately owned by State employees.

"It does not believe that the right to tax depends principally on the question of ownership," Bennett said. "I feel that if the car is actually engaged in State business, and the result of a tax is an increase of cost to the State, such a tax is illegal."

\$300 CONTRIBUTION IS BOON TO NEEDY

(Special To The Daily Argus) PORT CHESTER, Dec. 23.—More needy families will get Christmas baskets here than in previous years and there will be more in each basket as a result of a \$300 contribution received today by the Santa Claus committee.

The local Christmas charity group said it was the largest single gift here in many years. The check came from John W. Fries, general manager of Almen Estates, a real estate development in King Street.

INVADERS ENCIRCLE HANGCHOW

U. S. Nationals To Evacuate City Before Attack

ARMY CLOSES IN

Tokyo Now Confesses Machine-Gunning Of Panay Crew

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (UP).—Secretary of State Cordell Hull announced today that the Government has now received complete reports on the Panay machine-gunning incident and has decided, as a result, to make additional representations to the Japanese Government.

SAVE WOMAN FROM FUMES

Eastchester's Emergency Squad Revives Victim After Heroic Dash

(Special To The Daily Argus) EASTCHESTER, Dec. 23.—Found unconscious yesterday afternoon on the kitchen floor in the home of her daughter, with gas pouring from two range jets, Mrs. Mary Pinto, thirty-five, was revived by members of the Eastchester Fire Department Emergency Squad after 30 minutes' respiration work.

A grandson, Joseph Scordato, twelve, returned home from school at about 3:20 P. M. and was attracted by the continued barking of the family dog.

He went inside, and when he found his grandmother in the gas-filled room, ran across the street to the home of David Hawthorne, ex-captain of Union Corners Hose Company.

Eastchester police were notified, and Hawthorne and his wife ran to the Scordato home. They dragged the unconscious woman outside the house. In the meantime police had notified the Fire Department, and the Emergency Squad made a fast run, covering the three-mile trip in less than five minutes, with Assistant Chief Robert J. White.

FOREIGNERS WARNED TO EVACUATE HANGCHOW

SHANGHAI, Dec. 23 (AP).—Japanese authorities warned foreigners tonight to evacuate Hangchow, Chekiang Province, east and seaport southwest of Shanghai, to escape the danger of a Japanese attack on the city.

The United States and Great Britain, both of which have nationals in the area south of Shanghai, were among powers whose Consuls received the warning from Japanese consular officials.

OFFICERS ORDERED FOR DESK POST

WHITE PLAINS, Dec. 23.—Board of Trustees of Dobbs Ferry has until March 1 to continue a stipulation entered into by the village and the State. The stipulation was entered into by the village and the State to work in the village police department with uniformed officers. This was revealed today by the village clerk, William S. Conroy, secretary of the village through an impulsive move on the village committee. Joseph F. Wadsworth, village trustee, said that the stipulation was entered into by the village and the State to work in the village police department with uniformed officers. This was revealed today by the village clerk, William S. Conroy, secretary of the village through an impulsive move on the village committee.

INSIDE TODAY table listing various events and pages.