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MOUNT VERNON, N. Y., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1937

Associated Press Wire Service

PRICE THREE C

JAPAN ADMITS GUILT; AMERICANS II

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, publican, he broke away from his was not revealed, but it is ex- party three times to run on an pected representatives and attor- Independent ticket. He was twice neys for Westchester communities successful. will appear before Judge Knox In the last Town campaign, he early next week to seek to have supported an Independent Party his order rescinded or amended.

Following a three-hour confernce in City Hall here, representatives of the minority interests appealed to officials to cooperate in the move to seek continuation of lived for a short time in Iowa, operations, for a three-month Minnesota and Wisconsin, where

Officials agreed to the plan and trade he had learned when he got tentatively offered to settle pending tax certiorari actions on a monthly basis. In other words, municipalities will cancel onetwelfth of the taxes involved for every month trains are operated after Jan. 1.

Mayor Confers

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

New Rochelle's City Council already had acted on the proposal came Deputy Sheriff, in which and it was reported today Scars- capacity he served the County for dale also had approved the plan. North Pelham is expected to go along as is White Plains. No word of Eastchester's views was made known today.

Minority bondholders, also claim several large financial institutions. who hold Westchester and Boston bonds are anxious to keep trains moving on the road to protect valuations of property on which they for Mayor in 1931 and lost by 27

Hope Is Seen

Officials declared if the road was permitted to continue operations for a three-month period, there was hope of preventing shutdown, as reorganization moves could be started and completed, while trains cratic ticket. were still operating.

Warnings were made at the conference that realty and tax valuations on property in sectors served by the railroad, would suffer if service was shut down. Several officials expressed opinions, the municipalities not only faced big reductions in the tax valuation of the railroad property but private residences and commercial property bordering the right of way would also depreciate in value.

Sale Threatened

First threat to sell property here because of contemplated shutdown of the railway came today from Alfred D. Sage, 655 Lafayette Ave-

He filed a protest with the Department of Taxation and Assessment demanding a decrease in tax- though he had not known Mr. Reilly able valuations of his property. Mr. as long as some, he also thought Sage claimed he purchased his highly of him. home here in 1914 because of commuting facilities on the Westchester and Boston.

The petition asked that valuations be reduced to make up for the inconveniences and extra expense of using the New Haven

A solemn high requiem Mass will be offered by the Rev. Father "Mount Vernon officials," he Arthur Campbell in St. Catherine's Church, North Pelham, at 10 A. M. wrote, "have in the past, seemed to think it was creditable to pay Monday. Interment will be in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. the highest educational taxes, but for my part I have always con-sidered them exorbitant." STORE FIRES DELAY

INSIDE TODAY

6 Mr. Stork 13 North Bronz 19 Patterns 12 Pelhams

'Honest Jim' Reilly Dead; DEI Pelham Politicial Leader IN



Thirty of those seventy-two years

Mr. Reilly, who once was a black-

Mr. Reilly came to America from

he practiced the blacksmithing

He came to Pelham in 1893, and

13 years later staged a whirlwind

campaign for Village President

on an Independent ticket. A pic-

turesque figure, he played a promi-

ent role in politics from then on.

Then he retired from Village

politics for in 1908, while still Vil-

lage President, he was appointed

inspector of the Bronx Valley

Sewer Commission. In 1911 he be-

24 years, until State laws compelled

him to retire again. In 1920 he

"retired" from his blacksmith

"If automobiles hadn't become

so fashionable," he said last year,

Defeated In 1931

Despite his constant avowal that

votes. Last March he decided to

fight Mayor Dominic Amato in the

Republican primaries, but finally

withdrew on the advice of his

In the last town campaign in

While he was in office, "Jim's"

tatingly at the first sign of mutiny.

Lauded in White Plains

Gordon Miller, Village Counsel

of North Pelham, paid tribute to

Mr. Reilly in Supreme Court at

he was held in great esteem by

members of the bar living in the

The remarks will be written into

Supreme Court Justice Raymond

Surviving are four sons, Philip

and Robert of Mount Vernon, John

of White Plains and William of

Pelham; a daughter, Mrs. Kenneth

experienced today between Mount

Vernon and the Bronx when a series of fires in small stores on

Nereid Avenue caused the sound-

Surface cars on White Plains

ing of two alarms.

Stanley of Pelham, and 10 grand-

the court record and copies sent

and Fifth Avenue.

Pelhams.

children.

to the family.

'I'd be shoein' horses yet.'

physician.

to the "new" country.

smith, devoted to politics. A Re-

JAMES REILLY

which backed the Democratic

Equalization Rates for 1938 Differ Slightly From This Year's

(Special To The Daily Argus) WHITE PLAINS, Dec. 23.—A tax equalization table for 1938 apportionment of State and County taxes among the county's 22 municipalities, differing slightly from that of 1937, was presented this afternoon to the Board of Supervisors. Elected again when the Repub-It will be laid over for action icans and Democrats put up one next week, following adoption of slate, Mr. Reilly ran two more the new County budget next Monyears on a victorious Pelham

New Rochelle Drops

Only in one instance does the new table differ materially from that of the preceding year. New Rochelle, which decreased its assessed valuations this year by nearly \$5,000,000, by far the largest decrease of any of the 22 municipalities, is dropped in its percentage rating in the table from 94 to 91. Yonkers, which decreased valuations by less than \$25,000, is retained at the rating of 99; Mount Vernon, increasing its values slightly, is held at 90, and White Plains, the fourth city in the county, which decreased its assessments by \$1,800,000, is dropped in the rating only one point, from 98 to 97.

Look Ahead To 1939 No other municipality changes more than one point, either up or down. It was reported unofficially that the Tax Equalization Committee wished this year to November, he formed an independ- make as few changes as possible, ent party and backed the Demo- looking ahead to 1939 when a new County Tax Commission, appointed by the County President to be electboard meetings usually necessi- ed next November, will take over tated the presence of a police of from the Supervisors this task of ficer, whom he would call unhesi- tax equalization each year,

Out of office, he held "court" on ROBBERY MARS HOLIDAY SPIRIT

White Plains today, stating that Mean Crooks Pilfer Toys and Christmas Funds

(Special To The Daily Argus) NEW ROCHELLE, Dec. 23.-The Christmas plans of two families were marred here yesterday when E. Aldrich, presiding, said that al- Mrs. James Russell of 54 De Witt Court today was granted by City met, including salaries of school Place was victimized by a purse snatcher, and Daniel Bockino of New York lost the Christmas presents he had purchased for his chil-dren to a thief who plundered his

Bockino had parked his car in the rear of a Huguenot Street restaurant but left the left rear window open. When he returned. a doll, talking movie projector and other items valued at \$24.50 had been stolen.

Mrs. Russell had walked only s block from her home carrying \$16 her husband had given her to buy Christmas presents when a thief TRAFFIC IN BRONX snatched her black envelope purse

YANKS' PITCHER DIVORCED

BARNSTABLE, Mass., Dec. 23 (AP).-Mrs. Cordelia Ireland Broaca, pretty wife of Johnny Broaca, suspended New York Avenue and automobile traffic was pitcher, was granted a divorce tohampered but elevated lines were day on grounds of cruel and abunot affected. Cause of the fires sive treatment in a decision returnnot immediately determined. ed by Judge Collen C. Campbell. onto the top of their descending cage,

DELAY LOOMS

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 New Rochelle Matron Exthe City's central business sector with outlying areas, is expected to be delayed until the Common Council has organized for 1938, it was to the City's two most recent highlearned today.

Petitions for a franchise or a Dec. 6 of Mrs. Susie Kiernan, 417 terminable bus permit were for South Second Avenue. He dismally received by the Common charged a driver whose car killed Council last night. They were re- Mrs. Minnie James, 439 South ferred to the Bus Transportation Eighth Avenue, Dec. 15. Committee, but as the 1937 committees will cease functioning, the Samek, 63 Brookdale Avenue, New petitions are expected to be Rochelle. She was absolved of handled by the new committee blame in the death of Mrs. James,

present chairman of the bus com- near Darwood Place. The domestic The petitions were presented by Mount Vernon Hospital. Henry L. Hecht, attorney, who said the company is ready to execute nounce a decision "within a few

any franchise or permit. Aldermen Silent

No comments were made by the aldermen after the communications had been read. Alderman William The driver was represented by N. Allman, who was presiding referred the proposals to the com-

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. Mayor Pearsall, asked about the proposed new bus line, had no comment to make. He said he had not

Hearing Approved The Council last night adopted an ordinance calling for a public hearing on the petition of Beracchia Brothers, of Yonkers, for permission to continue its Yon-

seen the petitions.

kers-Playland bus line. The hearing was set for Jan. 12. but no opposition is expected, as the company has operated the bus route during Summer months for the past two years. The present application is for a two-year permit to run over Mount Vernon streets, and to make stops here for picking up and discharging pas-

COURT ADJOURNS DRIVER CHARGES

Man Accused of Intoxication By Patrolman

John J. Misiewitcz, twenty-seven, 29 South High Street, was rate would not affect the volume 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 we jailed last night after an automobile in Gramatan Avenue nearly ran down Patrolman Ralph Pompea when its driver apparently became confused.

Acting City Judge ernon F. Murphy provided his release from jai' but ordered police to hold his car. His postponement in City Judge Jacob A. Bernstein. Late News Bulletins

Company, of Baltimore, Md.

mediation later today.

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.

Now the Weather Bureau says it will grow steadily colder tonight and that the winds will go back to east and increase to bring rain or snow Christmas Eve, deoending on the temperature.

DRIVER FREED IN CAR DEATH

onerated By Squire After Probe

Medical Examiner Amos O. Squire, presiding at an inquiry inway fatalities, today reserved decision in fixing blame for the death Discharged was Mrs. Heloise N.

which will be announced on Jan. sixty-eight, struck when she 3. Alderman John K. Miller is at stepped into East Lincoln Avenue, died a few hours afterward at

Dr. Squire said he would anbond for faithful performance of days" in the death of Mrs. Kier-Krakie, 442 South Fifth Avenue. Vernon F. Murphy, acting City

have been killed here this year by automobiles.

ICC Official Queries Line On Effect of Rates

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (AP) .-An Interstate Commerce Commissioner 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 Commissioner Claude C. Porter,

hearing an application of eastern lines for the increase pelted F. J. Wall, vice president of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad, with queries as to the advisability of the proposal, Wall, arguing that his line must

obtain additional revenue to meet increasing costs of operation, said 45 percent of the New Haven expenses result from providing passenger service and that 71 percent of its passenger revenue comes from coach fares. Based on returns for the 12

months ended last May 31, the witness asserted an increase from 2 cents to 21/2 cents a mile in coach fares would give the New Haven \$3,400,000 more revenue annually. Porter commented that it was an assumption that an increased

PEARSALL GREETS CITY'S EMPLOYES

Municipal employes 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 employes and officials during the year.

Payrolls aggregating \$160,800 were

DESTROYERS Two Newest Ships Take Over Detail in Navy

JAPANESE RELEASED

Maneuvers

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

There were 500 Navy planes based at North Island.

The challenging of the Japanese that three Japanese boats were Pinto, sixty-five, was revived by Military Attache at Wash halted at the entrance of the bay members of the Eastchester Fire described at length the incident and were tied up all night Tuesday Department Emergency Squad afnan, sixty-seven, struck in Sand- at the Navy quarantine station. ford Boulevard near Second Ave- The fourth Japanese boat was esnue by an auto driven by Frank corted 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 Com

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 ves sels, Maas said a proposal to ask for four battleships in addition to the two recently begun was under discussion.

Maas said he intends to introduce legislation to create a general staff for the Navy similar to that of the Army. He said it was designed to unify control of the Navy, now divided among bureau

EXTRA HOLIDAY **GIVEN WPA MEN**

Projects Shut Down Until Monday by Authorities

WPA workers in Mount Vernor ind 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.

cluding white collar employes were granted the extra holiday. Municipal employes will get a half holiday with City Hall offices. except those of the City Clerk and Finance Department, closing at noon tomorrow.

Approximately 400 workers in

tem today when one cab was pushed into the East River and POLICE OFFICIALS

Deputy Public Safety Commis sioner Andrew M. Anderson and Chief Inspector of Police Michael . Silverstein attended commence ment exercises at the New York -There's twice as mill.
Police School in the 165th Infantry in the J. J. Christmas CAPETOWN, South Africa, Dec. 23 (AP). - Seven miners were killed today when a one-half ton rock crashed Armory in New York City last

WEST COAST Fordham Expert INV Reports Series INV GUARDED BY Of Earthquakes EN

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 Tehuan-

The instruments indicated, he said, that the quakes were cen-tered about 2,300 miles southwest of here and were of sufficient intensity to be felt far inland.

Today's tremors were recorded at 8:24 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.

Father Lynch said the quakes, while related, were not at exactly the same spot, indicating that "some major rock strata was slipping." with the disturbmoving progressively nearer the shore,

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 boats was learned only through un- her daughter, with gas pouring official sources. It was reported from two range jets, Mrs. Mary twelve, returned home from school at about 3:20 P. M. and was attracted by the continued barking

> of the family dog. Finds Woman Overcome He went inside, and when he ound his grandmother in the gasfilled room, ran across the street to the home of David Hawthorne, ex-captain of Union Corners Hose

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.

Victim Revived Under the directions of Dr. John F. Weston, the Emergency Squad volunteers, using an inhalator, brought the woman back to con-

Neither police nor fire officials could learn how the woman was

BENNETT RULES AGAINST METER

Parking Tax on State Seen As Illegal In Decision

ALBANY, Dec. 28 (AP), - Any municipal parking-meter or similar tax that results in increased costs to the State is illegal, in the opinon of State Attorney General John J. Bennett, Jr. Bennett's opinion was given a

the request of Corporation Counsel Lawrence R. Ormiston of Watertown, who asked if a previous ruling exempting State-owned automobiles from such taxation also applied to cars privately owned by State employes.

tax depends principally on the tionals in the area south of question of ownership," Bennett hal, were among powers 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 ax is illegal."

Previously the Attorney General told the State Comptroller's office that a municipality had no right to collect a parking-meter fee on a State-owned vehicle.

\$300 CONTRIBUTION IS BOON TO NEEDY

PORT CHESTER, Dec. 23 -More OFFICERS ORDER 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 The local Christmas charity

group said it was the largest sing check came from John W. Fries. ATTEND EXERCISES a real estate development in Kin

CHRISTMAS FAMILY GROW

PHOENIX, Ariz. this season. Twins wer

U. S. Nationals Tol To Evacuate City Before Attack

ARMY CLOSES I

Tokyo Now Confesso Machine-Gunning Of Panay Crew

BULLETIN WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (UP Secretary of State Cordell He announced today that this Go ernment has now received plete reports on the Panay bos ing incident and has decided, the basis thereof, to make ditional representations to Japanese Government.

TOKYO, Dec. 23. (AP)

The Japanese Army tod

admitted for the first til

the machine-gunning Americans in the Yang River Panay incident, but not mention firing on United States gunboat itse Lieutenant Colonel Yosh Nishi, former assistant Japan which the Panay and three vestigation held at Pukow, ac the Yangtze from Nanking. (Nishi's investigations formed the basis of previous coial Japanese army statements the Panay incident. He flew in

Shanghai to Tokyo yesterday submit his detailed report to War Office. at Shanghai, had issued a de of American charges that Japan army boats had machine-gu

the Papay. (On the same day, the Japa Foreign Office spokesman at To reversed the Government's pr ous denial that Japanese craft had fired on the Panay.)

Japan Orders Foreign Interests Protected

TOKYO, Dec. 23 (UP).-Ja received Government orders to spect foreign interests even at risk of permitting Chinese to cape, it was understood today. Reference to the new or was understood, will be mad

States and British Government on the attacks on the United States gunboat Panay and the British ; boat Ladybird. Issuance of the orders w garded here as noteworthy, in of previous assurances that yould be taken to guard again

notes to be sent to the Un

tacks on foreign interests.

The Foreign Office, it learned today, has begun draf a reply to American notes. Foreigners Warned To Evacuate Hangehow SHANGHAI, Dec. 23 (AP)

chow, Chekiang Province and seaport southwest of Shi to escape the danger of re The United States and "I do not believe that the right to Britain, both of which have tionals in the area south of B Consuls received the warning Japanese consular officers, The notification also h

Shaoshing, about 35 miles so east of the provincial capital.

Japanese declared the defend of Hangchow would be trapped compelled to withdraw by for steadily completing encircles of the seaport from three sides

American and other foreign dents were endangered by the (Continued on Page To

FOR DESK

WHITE PLAINS, D

Navy Signs Contract for 21 New Planes

nounced award of a contract for \$5,200,538 for the purchase

of 21 naval patrol bombing planes from the Gienn L. Martin

Cab Pushed Into River in New York Strike

in the taxi drivers' strike against the Sunshine-Radio Sys-

another set afire. Nathan Frankel, Mayor F. H. LaGuardia's

labor adviser, was scheduled to make another attempt at

Seven Miners Killed in South Africa.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23 (AP).—Vandalism was renewed

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (UP).-The Navy today an-