THE WEATHER
(Airport Reading)
Yesterday: High, 61. Low, 35.
Today: Partly cloudy; cooler.

THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION

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University Plans Huge Plant Here

By HERMAN HANCOCK

Plans for erection of a $2,500,000 10-story combination library and classroom structure to house the Atlanta Division of the University of Georgia were unfolded Tuesday night by Dr. George M. Sparks, Director.

Dr. Sparks announced the new building program as a supplement to disclosure of plans to settle the weeks-long controversy between the City and University authorities over use of a lot at the southwest intersection of Courtland and Gilmer Streets.

University officials have insisted that the City-owned tract, on which Atlanta proposed to construct a $300,000 combination fire headquarters and signal system, was essential to the development of the center, and Tuesday Sparks and others announced the University has almost completed negotiations through which the City would move its proposed structure to the southeast corner of the intersection leaving the southwest area for development by the University.

Only a few remaining details remain to be worked out before the proposal is submitted to Mayor Hartsfield and City Council. Under the plan, the University will buy the southeast corner and give it to Atlanta in exchange for the strategic southwest tract which the City now owns.

Dr. Sparks said the University's plan to erect a $440,000 library on the tract will be expanded so that the University will build a 10-story structure for class rooms and administration along the library. A $1,000,000 program already has been planned. These plans will be expanded rapidly, Dr. Sparks predicted.

Funds for the development will be obtained by matching available funds from the Federal Government, Dr. Sparks was enthusiastic about the development, and said Federal matching funds may be secured from several sources, two of which are the Meade bill and the more recent measure offered by Sen. George D. Aiken, of Vermont, which provides $250,000,000 for educational advancement.

The expansion will be done gradually, Dr. Sparks said, but eventually all University activities will be centered in the new structures and the entire building at 24 Ivy St., N. E., will be abandoned and will be leased to private business to provide an income for the Atlanta University Center. At the present time, about one-fourth of the Ivy Street structure produces $62,000 annually in rentals.

"We are happy that it now appears we will be able to get the site we need so much for the development of the University Center," Dr. Sparks said. "While we cannot do everything we want to do there immediately, we are planning the new huge development. We also are planning for a student body of 10,000 within the next few years. With funds available to us, we can match available Federal funds and proceed to develop a great University Center on the site. In addition, abandonment of the Ivy Street property will give us a good income if it is leased to private industry."

Police Search Ends

NEWARK, N. J., Dec. 23—(UP)—Mrs. Edward W. Laird told Newark police Tuesday they could call off their 11-state alarm for her missing husband. She said she had found him doing penance for drunken driving—in the Newark jail.

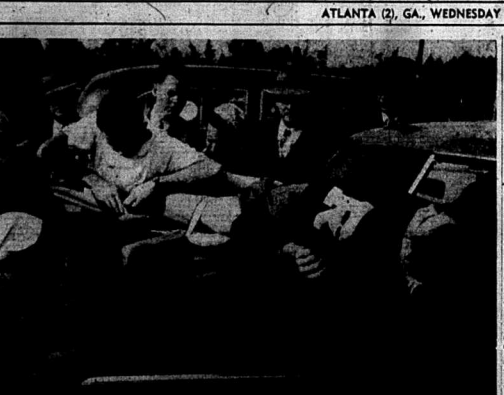

Photo By Julian Madden

EMERGENCY—Curtis Wiley, of Gainesville, is treated by a Grady Hospital interne for a broken leg Tuesday after a freak accident that tossed him from motorcycle he was riding to hood of a car. County Patrolmen H. W. Smith and C. W. Austin, who investigated, quoted Wiley as saying he thought he would fly through the windshield. The accident took place near the intersection of Clairmont Road and the Buford Highway, when Wiley collided with a car driven by R. J. Mesenheimer, of Winter Chapel Road. Bystanders aided the interne as he set Wiley's leg in a traction splint.

Floridan's 'Avoid Georgia' Appeal Fails To Win AAA's Indorsement

The American Automobile Association is not going to advise motorists to avoid Georgia, as one of the AAA's representatives in St. Petersburg, Fla., has urged the Association to do.

National publicity recently was given the St. Petersburg AAA manager's charge that tourists are being ill-treated by speed traps in Georgia counties.

The Florida AAA representative was rebuked Tuesday in a Constitution editorial which deplored unfair treatment of tourists, but declared the entire State is not to blame. The editorial suggested that routing tourists away from Georgia by the AAA would be just as unfair as it all Georgians boycotted St. Petersburg and withdrew their membership from the AAA.

In Washington the AAA headquarters declined to comment.

"The American Automobile Association as a National Organization is not recommending that affiliated clubs route motorists around Georgia. We are gratified that the Governor of Georgia, Chambers of Commerce and Automobile Clubs are taking steps to improve enforcement methods and treatment of out-of-state motorists."

The AAA headquarters did point an accusing finger at both Florida and Georgia, however, with these remarks:

"The fact is that the American Automobile Association receives more complaints concerning enforcement methods in both Florida and Georgia than in any other section of the nation.

"Southeastern States, with a tremendous stake in tourist trade, should as a matter of good business if for no other reason, take every practicable step to assure that out-of-State motorists are given equitable and courteous treatment. We will advise all affiliated clubs that Georgia authorities are taking steps to improve enforcement conditions."

The AAA message was addressed to C. C. Straw, Secretary of the Georgia Motor Club, who relayed it to The Constitution.

Carol, Choral Groups Offer Holiday Music

Midnight Christmas carol services will be presented by a group of Atlanta churches tonight, while other choral groups will offer holiday musical programs throughout the day Thursday.

One of the season's most impressive programs of music will begin at 11 p. m. today at Peachtree Christian Church. This service features the traditional procession of 100 candle-bearers and the full choirs which will sing antiphonally.

Dr. Robert W. Burns, Pastor, will preside at the altar, assisted by the Rev. W. S. Van Arsdale, Jr., and Dr. William V. Garner.

The annual Christmas Eve program of Carols of the Nations will be sung by the choir of Druid Hills Presbyterian Church beginning at 11 p. m.

Christmas choral music will highlight the Holy Communion service at All Saints Episcopal Church at 11 p. m. The congregation will sing the carol, "Silent Night," and the choir will offer "A Lovely Rose Is Blooming," and other songs.

A sermon by the Rev. Theo G. Ahrendt, Pastor, will feature the Christmas Eve worship at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church at 8 Evangelical Lutheran Church at 8 p. m.

Festival Midnight Mass of Christmas will be observed at 11:15 p. m. today at the Liberal Catholic Church of St. Michael the Archangel.

Holy Communion will be observed at the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church at 11:30 p. m. today and again at 10:30 a. m. Thursday.

A carol service will be presented at 11 p. m. today at the Episcopal Church of Our Savior. The traditional Midnight High Mass will begin at 11:30 p. m.

Saint-Saens' Christmas oratorio will be sung by the choir of the Cathedral of St. Philip beginning at 11 p. m. today. Dean John B. Walthour, Rector of the Cathedral of St. Philip will celebrate Holy Communion at 11:30 p. m.

Dr. Roimundo de Ovies will celebrate Holy Communion at 10:30 Thursday.

The St. Cecelia Mass by Gounod will highlight services at St. Luke's Episcopal Church at 11 p. m. today. The Rev. J. Milton Richardson, Rector, will deliver the sermon. Holy Communion will be observed at 11 a. m. Thursday.

Midnight Mass will be said beginning at 12 midnight at the Cathedral of Christ the King. The Rev. Fr. Joseph Cassidy will officiate.

Aderhold Post To Balkcom

Warden A. C. Aderhold plans to retire in February as warden of Tattnall State Prison, and he will be succeeded by Robert F. Balkcom, former deputy warden, who is returning to the State Prison as deputy warden in January.

This was learned exclusively by The Constitution Tuesday night.

A retired Federal warden, Aderhold agreed to help the State revamp its State Prison in February, 1944.

At a recent meeting, the State Board of Corrections elected Balkcom as Deputy Warden. Balkcom at present is making a tour of the Southern States, studying administration methods used in other State Prisons. He will assume his duties as Deputy Warden in January and will be promoted to Warden when Aderhold retires.

Flames Sweep Five Buildings At Myrtle Beach

MYRTLE BEACH, S. C., Dec. 23 (UP)—Fire of undetermined origin swept through two restaurants, a small cafe, an amusement palace and a residence on the Atlantic Boardwalk here Tuesday night doing damage estimated at between $75,000 and $125,000.

The Myrtle Beach Fire Department, the Myrtle Beach Army Air Field fire fighting unit and the Conway, S. C., Fire Department joined forces in battling the blaze for more than two hours.

No one was hurt.

Pleasant Yule Slated for City

Continued mild temperatures and rainless—if somewhat cloudy—skies will combine to make Christmas, 1947, pleasant for Atlantans, the Weather Bureau said.

The official forecast calls for slightly cooler temperatures today, followed by cloudy skies and little change in temperature Thursday.

The mercury will range between a high of 56 and a low of 42 today. Thursday's high is expected to be 48 degrees. Tuesday's readings were: High, 61; low, 35.

Tolstoy's Son Is Dead

LONDON, Dec. 23—(AP)—Sergei Tolstoy, elder son of the late Count Leo Tolstoy, the Russian writer, died Monday night in Moscow, the Moscow Radio said Tuesday night.

Thread Firm Sets New Home

The American Thread Company, largest manufacturer of industrial sewing threads in the United States, Tuesday announced it was having a new home built at West Peachtree and Eleventh Streets for its Atlanta office.

A residence at 1049 West Peachtree St., N. W., is being demolished to make way for the Company's 25,000 square foot new sales and service branch. Completion is expected in May.

The lease, for an unnamed period of years at an aggregate rental of $255,000, was handled by John O. Chiles, Vice President of Adams-Chiles Realtors. The owner and lessor is R. A. C. Realty Company, a Massell enterprise. Details of the transaction were handled for American Thread by E. A. Johnson, Atlanta Branch Manager.

A complete stock of sewing threads, crochet cotton, knitting wools, stamped goods and Star Brand instruction books will be carried, as well as the threads needed to service the Southeast's growing industrial demands, Johnson said.

American Thread has five Southern mills located at Talladega, Dalton, Bristol, N. C., Troutman, N. C., and Clover, S. C., and five Northern mills in New England.

In 1948, the American Thread Company will celebrate its fiftieth year in business. Plans for the Golden Jubilee include a promotional and advertising campaign for radio, magazine and newspapers. Exhibits also will be held in several of the largest state fairs and women's expositions in the United States during the year.

Gas Company Control Now In Georgia

By WELLINGTON WRIGHT.

Control of the Atlanta Gas Light Company, long held in New York City, has come back to Georgia.

People in 90 Georgia cities and towns already have bought 38 percent of the common stock of the Company, more than enough to assure control, and the distribution of the stock is still unfinished.

Rock G. Taber, President of the Atlanta Gas Light Company, the oldest chartered corporation in Georgia, says he expects that within a year Georgia stockholders will own more than 50 percent of this stock. Usually, a new corporation set-up, ownership of 15 or 20 percent of Company's stock is sufficient to give control.

In line with the new situation, the stockholders will soon elect an 11-man Board of Directors and Taber expects that eight of these directors will be Georgians, the majority of them from Atlanta.

Until recently, the Atlanta Gas Light Company was under control of the Consolidated Gas and Electric Company, of Baltimore, Md., a holding company. The present setup is in compliance with an order of the Securities and Exchange Commission to free the Atlanta Gas Light Company from such control. Consolidated is complying with this order by exchanging its holding of the Atlanta company's common stock for its own preferred stock.

Concerning the new set-up, Taber said Tuesday:

"The Atlanta Gas Light Company is in the throes of stock distribution, thus complying with the order of the SEC to get it out from under control of the holding company. This deal is practically consummated, and from the information now at hand approximately 38 percent of the common stock of this company is now held in about 90 towns in Georgia.

"We are anxious to make this a locally-owned company and feel we have made an excellent start. By the middle of February, we hope to have a new Board of Directors consisting of 11 men, and it is our hope that eight of these men will be from Atlanta and environs, with perhaps two or three from New York City."

The Atlanta Gas Light Company, chartered in 1856, serves more than 25 Georgia cities and towns, including Atlanta. It is now preparing to extend its lines to other cities in the State.

Under its new capital set-up, At-

Continued on Page 8, Column 5

SO THERE!

I've Said It, And I'm Glad

Why can't people who call themselves Christians buy their Christmas trees instead of stealing them from farmers around the edge of town?

They might just as well snatch one from in front of a store and run as to sneak out by the country and steal one.

The devil's worst curse on one who stole my favorite little cedar.

C. L. PERDUE,
Flat Shoals Road, Rt. 1.
Decatur.

And do you, too, have a gripe? Send it to "The Gripe Editor," The Atlanta Constitution, P. O. Box 4357, Atlanta 2, Ga., and we'll help you get it off your chest. But keep it short—not more than 150 words.

U. S. Will Evacuate Panama Army Bases

Force Held To 10-Mile Canal Zone

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23—(AP)—United States troops assigned to the defense of the Panama Canal will be pulled back within the Canal Zone proper following Panama's rejection of an agreement covering the lease of 14 strategic sites in that Republic's territory, the State Department announced Tuesday.

The announcement, made late in the day, upset earlier predictions by United States officials that this country would go on using the 14 sites, including a B-29 bomber base at Rio Hato, 70 miles from Panama City.

The lease agreement, concluded by diplomats two weeks ago, was turned down 51 to 0 Monday by the Panamanian Legislature.

"In accordance with all statements made to the Panamanian Government in the course of the negotiations, the necessary steps will be taken immediately with a view to the evacuation of all sites in the Republic of Panama outside the Canal Zone where United States armed forces are now stationed," the State Department said.

"This withdrawal will be completed as quickly as possible consistent with the number of personnel and the amount of material involved."

The Army announced Tuesday night it will begin withdrawal of its forces from the Panamanian territory immediately. It estimated that no more than 2,000 ground and air force troops are stationed at the 14 sites.

The Rio Hato Bomber Base is considered the most important of the installations. The other 13 are mainly flighter strips and radar stations built as part of the close in defenses of the Canal.

After the Panamanian Assembly's vote was known, but before the State Department announced the forthcoming evacuation of the bases, members of Congress proposed that the United States draw up plans for a new Atlantic-Pacific Canal, perhaps across Nicaragua. Congressional sources had earlier had forecast that the 14 sites would be kept in use, under the contention that the wartime agreement under which they were put into service is still in effect. They contended that the 1942 agreement was effective until one year after the final peace treaty with Japan, but Panamanian officials disagreed.

Although in the view of United States officials the Government has a right to go ahead, using the defense sites, they said it would be impracticable to retain them in the absence of a new agreement.

One administration official who asked anonymity attributed the action of th Panama Legislature to a "wave of hysteria." He said it was quite popular in some Latin American countries to oppose the United States as "the colossus of the North" and that the Panama action was an extreme example of the sentiment.

The official said "some Communist influence" had been brought to bear, but added that "this was not a Communist manuever as such. The Communists just took advantage of the situation."

"The next move is up to Panama," he asserted. "I can't say there will never be renewed negotiations for leases in the future, but I know of no plans for such now. We are moving out in a very permanent fashion."

Santa to 1,000,000

FRANKFURT, Germany, Dec. 23—(AP)—The U. S. Army said Tuesday it had entertained nearly 1,000,000 German children at Christmas parties.

1,523 'Draft' Violators Get Christmas Pardons

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23—(AP)—Christmas pardons by President Truman Tuesday restored citizenship rights to 1,523 persons convicted of violating the wartime Draft Act. They included conscientious objectors and others.

Most, if not all, of those affected already have served their sentences. The effect of the President's proclamation is a blanket restoration of "political, civil and other rights."

The President acted on the recommendation of an Amnesty Board which he set up a year ago and reviewed 15,805 cases.

The Board was headed by Owen J. Roberts, former Associate Justice of the Supreme Court. He was assisted by Willis Smith, Raleigh, N. C., attorney, and James F. O'Neil, National Commander of the American Legion.

Their report said the 15,805 Selective Service violation cases considered included approximately 10,000 willful violators, 4,300 Jehovah's Witnesses, 1,000 religious conscientious objectors and 500 other types."

The list of those pardoned did not indicate in which class the Board placed each individual.

"Of this total," the report continued, "618 were granted Presidential pardons because of a year or more service with honorable discharges from the armed forces. An additional approximate 900 entered the armed forces and may become eligible for pardon upon completion of their service.

"When the Board was created there were 1,200 offenders in custody. Since that date, an additional 550 have been institutionalized. At the present time there are 626 in confinement, only 76 of whom were in custody on Jan. 6, 1947."

The Board said it rejected recommendations that it advocate a general amnesty to all violators, asserting such a blanket action would have restored full civil status to some men "who neither were nor claimed to be religious conscientious objectors."

The Board said its work was di-

rected "chiefly to examining the propriety of recommending restoration of civil rights to those who have been returned to their homes."

Although two-thirds or more of the cases studied concerned "willful violation," the Board said it found in some instances that such violation was due to "ignorance, illiteracy, honest misunderstanding or carelessness not rising to the level of criminal negligence."

But many of the wilful violators had prior criminal records and others had "ulterior motives" for draft dodging, the report said. It concluded that those who for such reasons evaded the law indicated no respect for civil rights anyway and were not recommended for pardons.

The Board said it also did not feel justified in recommending clemency for men who pounded their objections to war service "on intellectual, political or sociological convictions resulting from the individual's reasoning and personal economic or political philosophy."

(List of Georgia Pardons, Page 2)

Yugoslavs Grab 160 Fishermen, Italians Report

ROME, Dec. 23—(AP)—The Italian news agency ANSA reported from Bari Tuesday that some 30 Italian motor fishing boats which went to sea recently from Southern Adriatic ports had been captured by the Yugoslavs.

The dispatch quoted crewmen of the one boat that returned to port. It said the boats had crews totaling 160 men and were carrying big catches of fish.

FOR GOD'S SAKE, DON'T

A Second to Eternity

OMAHA, Dec. 23—(AP)—A railroad engineer whose train nearly crashed into a car at Fremont, Neb., last Sunday Tuesday told the young couple in the car: "You were one second from eternity. . . . Please, for God's sake, don't try it again."

Neither the couple nor the engineer was identified. The engineer's letter was published in the Omaha World-Herald. It said, in part:

"When you drove your car across directly in front of a speeding passenger train . . . it was so close that I, in the cab, could see the young girl (your sweetheart, I presume) throw her hands up in front of her face and cringe up against you in stark horror.

"If I were that young girl I'd pull away from you, fast. You probably say you love her; I wonder. Those we love we try to protect.

"Wouldn't that have been a nice Christmas present to hand your mother—a broken and battered body. And how do you think that we in the cab of that engine would feel. We don't want to hit you, but we are helpless.

"You and your girl were one second from eternity Sunday. Son. If I were you, Son, and you, too, Sis, I'd thank God for that split second. I said a prayer . . . when I realized you were going across. Perhaps that's what saved us all. And please, for God's sake, don't try it again."

Constitution Staff Cuts—Pat Livingston

SANTA CLAUS TONIGHT—This bright-eyed patient in the Children's Ward at Grady Hospital is expecting the same visitor that thousands of other Atlanta youngsters are looking for tonight. Not bothered by the plaster cast on her foot, she plays with the balloon given her at the Christmas party in the Children's Ward Tuesday.

BEST CHRISTMAS LISTENING: WCON

Bing Crosby, President Truman, Lionel Barrymore, Loretta Young. Those are names of people you'll hear today and Christmas over WCON, as The Constitution station and ABC celebrate 1947's greatest date—Christmas.

These names are just a few that will come tumbling from your radio if your dial is set at 55. Look at the story and picture on pages 11 and 12, and consult WCON's complete schedule. That WCON program schedule, with the easy-to-read hour figures, is your guide to the best entertainment there is! Try it!

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TWAS THE NIGHT...

Are the kiddies all excited
Cause Santa's coming soon?
Are they eager for tomorrow?
Will they go to bed at noon?
How you wish you could afford them
The bikes they wanted so?
It's not too late, search Want Ads
You'll find them yet, I know.

CONSTITUTION
WANT ADS
WAlnut 6565

ALLIED WITH CHRISTMAS

Spirit of 'Opportunity' Donations Has Deep Meaning for Atlantans

Atlantans will join the peoples of the troubled world in observing Thursday, the birthday of the Prince of Peace.

They will take time from the excitement of Santa's visit to the children, the merriment of gala parties and family reunions and the festivity of Yule dinners around overladen tables to think, too, of the deeper meaning of the day.

Since the Wise Men brought gold, frankincense and myrrh to the Child in the manger 2,000 years ago, the spirit of giving has been closely allied with Christmas.

For more than 25 years, The Constitution's Opportunity Fund has given Atlantans the opportunity to give at Christmas—not just to those who will return their gifts, but to the needy.

Many "Opportunities" have been described in daily stories.

There is Edward R., a 16-year-old boy, who can't earn quite enough to support his widowed mother and small sisters and brother.

There is Miss G., a lonely spinster near 70, who recently was released from a mental hospital and is in need of financial aid until she can readjust herself and return to work.

There is Mr. S., doomed to die with a brain tumor, whose frail wife and five small children are cramped in bleak surroundings and suffering from malnutrition.

There is Marianne, a young unmarried mother-to-be, who is in desperate need of financial assistance, if she is to rebuild the "new life" she wants.

There are many more which have not been told.

Behind these stories is a true case of actual need in Fulton or DeKalb County. Your contribution to the Opportunity Fund at Christmastime will help these unfortunate families all through the year.

One dollar donation was mailed from an invalid in Fancy Gap, Va., Miss Emma Quisinberry, who wrote: "I am sending this little gift with a prayer in my heart that others who can give may do likewise. The Lord told us to love our neighbors."

Address YOUR contribution today to H. H. Trotti, Treasurer, Opportunity Fund, care The Constitution, Atlanta.