FRONT PAGE

Japan signs on the Missouri

The six-year world war ended this morning on the deck of an American battleship.

A heavy overcast covered Tokyo Bay as Japan's envoys came aboard. Their Foreign Minister walked with a cane. General Douglas MacArthur accepted the surrender for the Allies. Beside him stood two generals freed from Japanese prison camps. He signed with six pens and handed one each to them.

At home it was still Saturday night. In houses with a son or a husband in the Pacific, people let themselves say out loud that he would be coming home.

"Let us pray that peace be now restored to the world, and that God will preserve it always," General MacArthur said.

BUSINESS & MONEY, FRONT PAGE

320,000 stay out at General Motors

Auto workers spend Christmas on strike at 96 plants.

Five weeks into the strike, 320,000 hourly workers at 96 General Motors plants have now spent Christmas out of work.

“There is no turning back now that we have been forced to turn down this strike road,” Mr. Walter P. Reuther has said.

The union asks a 30 per cent increase in wages. If the company says it cannot pay the raise, Mr. Reuther asks that it open its books and prove it.

SPORTS, FRONT PAGE

Robinson signs with Montreal

Black players have been kept out of the major leagues. On Oct. 23, 1945, Jackie Robinson signs with a Brooklyn Dodgers team.

Jack Roosevelt Robinson signed today to play next season for the Montreal Royals. The Royals are the Dodgers' top farm club. Robinson is 26, a Black shortstop with the Kansas City Monarchs. Baseball's color line faces its test.

Robinson said he "realized how much this means to me, to my race and to baseball." The minor leagues, like the majors, have kept the line. No Black player has crossed it in the majors this century.

LIFE & ARTS, PAGE 4

Thousands in line for nylons

The nylon stocking is back from the war.

In August, soon after the surrender of Japan, the du Pont company said it would make stockings again. They would be in the stores in September. Soon “Nylons by Christmas” was heard everywhere. The company has forecast 360,000,000 pairs a year. But the supply has fallen far short of the demand.

By 1942 nearly all nylon had gone to war. It was used for parachutes, tire cords, ropes, shoelaces, mosquito netting and hammocks.

BUSINESS & MONEY, PAGE 2

A steel spring walks downstairs

Christmas shoppers watch a shipyard engineer's toy step down a board.

Mr. Richard James made the toy. Today he brought 400 steel-wire springs to Gimbels. Christmas shoppers watched the toy walk down a sloping board. In ninety minutes they bought all of them, at a dollar apiece.

Mrs. Betty James found its name, Slinky, by turning the pages of a dictionary. It means graceful in movement.

Mr. James was working at the Cramp Shipbuilding Company, on the Delaware River. One of his springs was knocked off a shelf. It "stepped" its way down and came to rest standing up. He saw a toy in it.