

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1952.

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CLOSE FINISH LIKELY IN YACHT RACE

HOBART, Tuesday.

Indications are that the Sydney-Hobart yacht race this year will result in a close finish tomorrow night.

An 1,800-square mile aerial survey of the course today showed the 44-ft. Victorian yawl, Landfall, to be the leader from the 48-ft. Sydney cutter, White Cloud.

At 6 p.m., Landfall was only 150 miles from the finish, and was battling into a strong southerly breeze.

White Cloud was about ten miles astern, followed about six miles astern by the Sydney 35-ft. cutter, Nocturne, with another Sydney boat, the 54-ft. yawl, Ruthean, a further eight miles astern.

Following Ruthean was the Tasmanian 35-ft. cutter, Terra Nova, another eight miles astern.

About 10 miles to windward of Terra Nova was the Sydney 35-ft. yawl Moonbi, which, if she maintains her position, should go very close to winning the race on time.

Following a few miles astern of Moonbi were the South Australian 38-ft. ketch Ingrid, Solweig, Kurruwa III (Victoria) and Kintail (Tas.).

The positions show that the leading craft are within 40 miles of one another.

Qantas radio officer, John Amos, aboard the mother-ship Lauriana, reporting on the race to station 2SM to-night, said that White Cloud and Landfall had both registered their position as five miles north of Cape Forester, about two-thirds down the Tasmanian coast.

Amos reported that inland storms had made reception very poor and he had been unable to contact many of the competitors to ascertain their positions.

The two leaders, were about 100 miles from Hobart, and were

EISENHOWER SURVEYS GLOBAL PROBLEMS

NEW YORK, Tuesday.

President - Elect, Mr. Eisenhower, held a lunch - time discussion on international economic problems yesterday.

"We had quite a 'go-around' on these problems," Mr. Hoffman, former chief of the Marshall Plan foreign aid programme in the Truman regime, later told reporters.

"I wish I could tell you we added a great deal of light to Mr. Eisenhower's knowledge, but we found that he knew more than we did."

In addition to Mr. Hoffman, those present were Messrs. John McCloy, former U.S. High Commissioner in Germany; Milton Katz, former Special Envoy in Europe, and Robert Cutler, who was an adviser to Mr. Eisenhower during the election campaign.

Mr. Hoffman, now director of the Ford Foundation, said that Asia, Europe and the Middle East came up for discussion.

In reply to questions, he said there was no mention of Stalin's Christmas Day statement indicating a willingness to meet Mr. Eisenhower.

The President - Elect, he added, was mainly interested "in the current situation in Europe, as we knew it." There was specific discussions of the raw materials situation and the whole question of natural resources. But Mr. Eisenhower's interest was not confined to Europe.

"Mr. Eisenhower's concern is a global concern."

In response to other questions Mr. Hoffman said he had no current opinion on whether U.S. foreign aid should be cut. He was not familiar with all the facts.

He added, "I don't mind telling you that he thinks the 12,000 million dollars (about £5,357 million) we spent to help Eur-

"harmony" lunch in a bid for co-operation with Congress. The lunch is important additionally because Mr. Taft is due to be elected Senate majority leader when the 83rd Congress convenes on Saturday, and he will be the most influential Republican in the Senate.

The other Republican leaders who will attend the meeting are Senators Styles Bridges, prospective Senate temporary president; Leverett Saltonstall, Party Whip; and Eugene Milliken, prospective chairman of the Republican conference.

Subjects the Senators are expected to discuss with Mr. Eisenhower are Stalin's views on East-West tension and other vital issues of foreign and domestic policy—including the Eisenhower-Churchill talk next week.

Medical Exam for Man on Assault Charge

SYDNEY, Tuesday.

A man accused of assaulting a woman at East Hill yesterday had told detectives he had no urge, and "did not know what came over him," Mr. Stoneham, S.M., was told in Liverpool Court today.

Ross Adrian Lee, 30, store-

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