

### Taxing Plan For Standing Timber Draws Attack

SPOKANE. —(AP)— Taxing formulas used for standing timber drew criticism at the forestry section session of the Northwest Scientific association here.

Stuart Moir of Portland, forest counsel for the Western Forestry and Conservation association, declared that the general property tax levies make standing timber a liability. He said they have resulted in forced liquidation. He expressed the belief that "more equitable taxation" would result in more long term revenue.

Moir asserted the timber should not be treated as current, commercial inventory, "because it cannot be sent to market yearly to bring income from which taxes are paid. Owners are forced to pay the tax from other in-

### New Polio Cases Exceed 5-Year Weekly Average

WASHINGTON — (AP)— There were 154 new cases of polio during the week ending Dec. 24, the public health service reports. The five-year average for that week is 90 cases, the agency said. During the preceding week, ending Dec. 17, there were 243 new cases.

The cumulative total for 1949 through Dec. 24, is 42,184, compared with 27,483 for the same period of 1948. The previous all-time record was set in 1916, with 30,000 cases. Health service officials said most of those cases were paralytic, however, since many cases that did not result in paralysis then were not diagnosed as poliomyelitis.

### PITTSBURGH NOISIEST

NEW YORK. —(AP)— Pittsburgh, with its narrow, crowded streets, is the nation's noisiest city, a sound research laboratory reported. Los Angeles is the quietest.

come. Timber thus becomes a liability and forced liquidation has been a result. He said the growing of new forests and the good management of old ones is being discouraged by the property taxes used in most states. He cited a new law in New Hampshire as a step in the right direction.

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RECRUIT CLYDE W. HATCHER, 17, son of Otis M. Hatcher, Route 2, Roseburg, is home on Christmas leave from Ft. Ord, Calif., where he is undergoing basic training. After completion in January, Clyde will be sent to Japan for occupation duty.

Assigned to the Corps of Engineers, he will study automobile mechanics during his enlistment. Hatcher, a former member of the local National Guard unit, was enlisted through the Roseburg Recruiting station in September. He likes the army and said he has gained 30 pounds in his first three months of service. (Photo by M/Sgt. Rose).

### STEALS SHOW AT 92

SALISBURY MILLS, N. Y. — (AP)— You had to be good to steal the show from the principals at a golden wedding anniversary celebration here.

But that's exactly what Mrs. Margaret Cawein, 92, did. She attended the golden wedding celebration of her son, John, and his wife, Amelia, both 72. Five generations, numbering 60 guests attended, and the oldest of these was Margaret.

### Wife Urges U. S. To Find Husband, Believed Captive

LONDON, Jan. 3. — (AP)— The wife of an American architect who disappeared while traveling in Communist eastern Europe last August declared Friday he is being "held incommunicado" somewhere behind the Iron Curtain.

She pleaded for stronger U.S. efforts to find out what had happened to the man, Hermann H. Field, saying that four months was a long time for "me and his two small children to be anxiously awaiting news of him."

The wife, Mrs. Kate Field, said she had been silent about her husband's disappearance up to the present because she had been assured "everything is being done to find out who arrested my husband."

Field, director of building plans for a Cleveland, O., college, is one of three Americans, all related, who disappeared between May and the end of August.

Field was last seen in Warsaw. He is known to have booked passage on a plane for Prague but the plane reached the Czech capital without him and his name had been scratched off the passenger manifest.

The Polish foreign office told the American embassy in Warsaw they were "reasonably certain" Field had not been taken into custody in Poland.

Hermann's brother, Noel Field, was last heard of in Prague last May. Noel's wife, Herta, has not been heard from since she informed Hermann's wife from Prague that Hermann had not arrived there.

Noel Field was termed a recruiter for American Intelligence groups in testimony in the Hungarian treason trial of Laszlo Rajk, former Communist foreign minister of Hungary who was hanged Oct. 15. Witnesses in the second perjury trial of Alger Hiss in New York described him as a former member of a Communist cell in Washington.

Rats are declared to cause an annual damage of around \$2,000,000,000 in this country, of which about half is the food supplies they eat.

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