



AWARD WINNER—Bob Baltimore was named this week as Jaycee of Month by the Bend Junior Chamber of Commerce. He was selected for his work in planning the organization's program. The award winner for the month of August was Vic Kaiser for his work with the annual pet parade.

Puerto Rican phone expansion may have set record for year

By Jesse Bogue
UPI Staff Writer

NEW YORK (UPI)—When representatives of the U. S. Independent Telephone Association gather in Miami Beach next week for their annual convention, some may well envy the rate of growth established last year by the Puerto Rican Telephone Company.

The number of telephones in the island commonwealth grew by 35 per cent in 1962. K. Woodrow Benckert, president of the company, said it might well be a record for expansion in any one year.

It was a reflection of the industrial expansion which has been and is taking place in Puerto Rico. Industries need communications, and their number, under the influence of Operation Bootstrap, has shown some startling increases over the past 15 or more years. In 1962 alone, there were 169 new companies introduced to the

commonwealth.

The Puerto Rican Company, a subsidiary of International Telephone & Telegraph, has more than 133,000 telephones in service and is adding 22,000 more this year. Benckert, in a statement released here, noted that in 1959, when the company was awarded an 8.35 per cent return on invested capital, a forecast called for investment of \$52 million in the next five year period.

But along with the growth of the commonwealth's industrial plant, the investment figures ballooned, and by the end of this year the telephone company will have invested more than \$110 million, double the 1959 estimate. Since Jan. 1, 1959, telephones in service increased by 97.3 per cent.

Its rate of growth, of course, is the result of a situation unique in Puerto Rico. There are few areas of the United States where a comparable expansion of industrial enterprise has taken place over a similar period of time. The last year's growth rate of Benckert's organization contrasts with the Bell System growth of 4.4 per cent in 1962, and with the independent telephone industry of 5.4 per cent. In operating revenues, the Puerto Rican Company ranks 29th in operating revenues among the USITA membership.

The independents themselves will be represented by an estimated 3,500 telephone officials at their Florida Convention. They will discuss the overall problems and triumphs of 2,645 operating companies, their manufacturers and suppliers, their 100,000 employees and 600,000 stockholders.

Independent companies serve more than half of the geographic area of the nation. In 1962 their plant investment was estimated at \$5.5 billion and their revenues at \$1.4 billion.

Cause of death not determined

PORTLAND (UPI)—Coroner's deputies today were still trying to determine cause of death of Nona Christine Jackson, 28, whose body was found Sunday in a brush area near Gresham. She had been dead for some time and decomposition of the body hampered efforts.

Sheriff Donald Clark said a Longview man told officers he had been with her on the morning of May 27. He said the man was "cooperative" and was not a suspect.

All equipment was "functioning normally," Tass said.



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Blustery winds drive showers across parched Midwest area

By United Press International
Blustery winds drove showers across the Midwest today as scores of communities gladly watched the driest October on record pass.

The fire threat remained high in parched forests and fields. New York City imposed sweeping new water restrictions, but rains brought measurable moisture to most of Ohio for the first time in 48 days.

The Weather Bureau at Sioux City, Iowa, and Topeka, Kan., said last month was the hottest October on record in those cities.

In New York City, where some streams and wells are at an all-time low level and records showed October to be the driest one in 94 years, a new water conservation program was announced.

Restaurants were asked not to serve water unless a cus-

tomers asks for it. Barber shops, hotels, garages and other major water consumers also received water-saving instructions.

Water in the city's six reservoirs dropped to less than 30 per cent capacity.

Nearly 3/4 inch of rain fell at Findlay, Ohio, during the night and lesser amounts fell through the state Thursday.

Columbus, Ohio, received .09 inch, making October the driest on record. If it had not rained, October would have been the first calendar month on record to pass without measurable rainfall.

A state of emergency was declared in the small town of College Corners on the Ohio-Indiana border because of a water shortage. Only 24 inches of usable water remained in the town's reservoir.

The heaviest rainfall of last

Kennedy quashes gossip that Johnson will be dropped

By Raymond Lehr
UPI Staff Writer

WASHINGTON (UPI)—President Kennedy has gone about as far as he can go to quash gossip that Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson will be missing from the 1964 Democratic national ticket.

The President told a news conference May 9, 1962 that Johnson would be on the 1964 ticket if he wished. Kennedy repeated this pledge in equally direct language Thursday.

"... Assuming that you run next year, would you want Lyndon Johnson on the ticket and do you expect that he will be on the ticket?" one of Thursday's news conference questioners asked.

"Yes, to both of those questions. That is correct," The President replied.

Speculation that Johnson might be dropped from the month hit Pittsburgh, Pa., Thursday—a tenth of an inch—making it the driest October ever.

Democratic ticket next year has been based more on political assessments than on evidence.

The vice president has been widely credited with providing Kennedy's margin of victory in 1960 by his campaigning in his home state of Texas and other southern states.

Questions are now asked whether Johnson would draw any support to the Democratic ticket from the South, especially if the GOP nominates Sen. Barry Goldwater of Arizona.

CARVES BIGGEST COW

MADRID (UPI)—Spanish sculptor Otero Besteiro explained today that he is trying to carve the world's biggest sculpted cow out of a rock near here because "I like animals."

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the favorite of southern Republicans.

The President took a playful swing at Goldwater Thursday when asked about the senator's charge that the administration was trying to manage news.

"I am confident he will be making many charges even more serious than this one in the coming months and in addition he, himself, has had a

busy week selling TVA and giving permission to or suggestions that military commanders overseas be permitted to use nuclear weapons and attacking the president of Bolivia while he was here in the United States, and involving himself in the Greek election."

"I think it would not be fair for me this week to reply to him."

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(one was \$17.88)

\$16.00

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