

Utah Officials Seek Polygamists Who Left 7 Wives, 31 Children

Salt Lake City, Utah—(U.P.)—Utah authorities, determined to wipe out the practice of polygamy by members of a dissident sect, searched today for two men who left their seven wives and 31 children and fled in an attempt to escape prosecution.

Already jailed in the new campaign was Louis A. Kelsch, 49, a stone mason who has five wives and 31 children in the three apartments and two adjoining cabins of his Salt Lake county farm.

Others Not Revealed

Names of the other two men were not announced publicly by County Attorney Frank Moss, directing the anti-polygamy campaign in Salt Lake county.

Moss said the men—both of whom had been arrested in the last major drive here 11 years ago—apparently had learned of the complaints and had run away.

At the same time it was revealed that the 1955 session of the Utah Legislature had quietly appropriated \$20,000 to Attorney General E. R. Callister Jr. to be used for "law enforcement."

Fund Understood

Although nothing was said about polygamy in the legisla-

tion, it was understood that the fund would be used "to wipe out plural marriage," a practice that was outlawed before Utah became a state.

Members of the fundamentalist sect to which all known advocates of polygamy belong claim their strength in Utah to be as great as 20,000 men, women and children.

However, state officials believe there are no more than 5000 adults and their offspring on the rolls of the Fundamentalists.

The sect members purport to follow original teachings of the Mormon faith. However, the recognized church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints forbade the practice of "plural celestial marriage" in 1890.

Kelsch and the other men were charged with unlawful cohabi-

tation—a crime for which Kelsch was convicted in 1944.

Polygamy Return Admitted

He spent 31 months in the Utah State prison before returning to his quintet of wives and his brood of offspring. One of the wives, Elsie, has 11 children. Another, Susannah, has nine. Barbara and Eleanor have four each and Leona has three.

Moss said that Kelsch had admitted returning to polygamy upon his release from prison and living with the five women "on alternate nights and siring children as fast as he could."

The county attorney quoted Kelsch as saying that the divine law which he followed took precedence over Utah state law which bans unlawful cohabitation.

Scene of Mass Raid

Authorities suggested that some of the suspects might have left Salt Lake Valley and gone toward the Arizona side of the border hamlet of Short Creek. Short Creek itself was the scene of a mass raid on July 27, 1953, by Arizona police who arrested 36 men who had 86 wives and 154 children.

Short Creek is also a Fundamentalist center and other units of the sect reportedly are thriving in several Southwestern and Northwestern Utah communities and in Sonora, Mexico, and Cranston, British Columbia.

Grange

Sams Valley Grange

The Sams Valley Grange met Oct. 25 with Master Ralph James in the chair. During the business meeting it was voted that the Grange should send a letter of appreciation to the county court for the work done on Tresham lane. Due to the cooperation of the county commissioners, the road has been nicely surfaced and is now a pleasure to drive over.

It was also decided that the next meeting, which falls on Nov. 22, would be a gala one with turkey, ham and all the Thanksgiving trimmings. There will be entertainment and the evening will start with the dinner at 7 p.m. in the banquet room of the Grange hall. The turkey and ham will be furnished by the Grange, also the coffee. The balance of the dinner will be potluck. All Grange members and their families are invited.

The lecturer's hour consisted of a film on the production of beef cattle by Monarch Feed and Seed and also an interesting talk by their representative. The theme of the evening was "hard times," and there were several interesting costumes. Donna Straus and Gilbert Mack won the prizes. After participating in some Halloween games the men did some spirited bidding on the lunch boxes the ladies had filled and decorated. The meeting concluded with lunch and coffee in the banquet room.

4-H Club

Central Point Poultry Club

The first meeting of the Chuck's Poultry club was held Tuesday, Oct. 25, at the home of the Taylors. It was called to order by President Joan Dobrot. We are going to have a different program by a different member each meeting. Joan Dobrot is going to do a demonstration of culling chickens for our first program next meeting.

New officers elected were: president, Bobey Kuest; vice-president, Joan Dobrot; secretary, Alice Thompson; reporter, Phyllis Taylor; song leader, Donna Debric; and sergeant at arms, Craig Wright.

Joan Dobrot gave a talk on her trip to Pacific International Livestock Exposition at Portland. Chuck told us just what breeds of chickens are best for what we want. He said it is best to stay with the straight breeds and not buy crosses.

We are going to have the members bring the refreshments in alphabetical order.

Phyllis Taylor, Reporter.

Portlander Arrested For Lewd Pictures

Portland — (U.P.) — A 33-year-old Portland barber who claims to be the "most publicized barber in the Northwest" was arrested here yesterday on a charge of possession of "lewd pictures and conducting a lottery."

Robert Cummings posted \$500 bail after his arrest. Multnomah County Sheriff Terry Schruink said a cache of lewd pictures confiscated at Cummings' barber shop may be the largest ever seized in the Portland area.

Taken by deputies were rolls of motion picture film, 500 still pictures, bundles of football pool receipts and lottery tickets and a pinball machine.

Cummings' publicity stunts have included shaving a man while blindfolded, cutting a pole-sitter's hair and cutting a giant's hair while standing on a ladder.

Cumberland Gap was discovered in 1674 by Gabriel Arthur.

Catholic Church Establishing Foothold in Southern States

Washington — (U.P.) — The Roman Catholic Church has figures to indicate a steady membership gain in the American South—a resolutely Protestant area for more than three centuries.

The number of Catholics in the so-called "Bible Belt" is still quite small compared to the Protestant population. But it has been growing steadily since World War II.

Figures compiled by the National Catholic Welfare Conference show that Catholic dioceses in 17 southern and border states had a total membership of 4,157,512 at the start of 1955, a gain of more than 40 per cent over the 1945 total of 2,778,381.

Establishing Foothold

The Catholic Church is finally establishing a firm foothold in such states as Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Florida which have a long history of open hostility toward Catholicism.

Catholic population in North Carolina has nearly tripled in

the past 10 years. It has approximately doubled in South Carolina, Virginia and Florida.

Despite these gains the Deep South remains by a wide margin the "least Catholic" section of the United States. Nationwide, about 20 per cent of the population is Catholic. But in the South, Catholics constitute less than one per cent in each state except Maryland, Louisiana and Texas.

Spanish Heritage

Maryland, about 25 per cent Catholic, and Louisiana, 33 per cent, were settled originally by Catholics from Europe. The 1,550,000 Catholics in Texas reflect in part its Spanish heritage and in part immigration from Catholic Mexico.

A Catholic historian, The Rev. James P. Shannon of St. Thomas College at St. Paul, Minn., believes three factors have contributed to the postwar spread of Catholicism in the South.

In a recent issue of the Catholic magazine "America" he listed them as:

1. The vigorous stand against

racial segregation taken by Bishop Vincent S. Waters of Raleigh, N. C. A decree issued by Bishop Waters on June 12, 1953, banning segregation in all Catholic churches in North Carolina, has "convinced many a southern Negro that he is genuinely welcomed in the Catholic Church."

Industry Movement Cited

The movement of industries from Massachusetts and other traditionally Catholic areas to new sites in the South.

"The percentage of Catholic managers and key personnel taken south from New England by migrating industries has been well in excess of the national average," wrote Father Shannon. "Southern towns which never had a Catholic parish are now finding themselves with a resident priest, a Catholic church, and a nucleus of Catholic residents who automatically deserve social recognition in the community because of their position within the much-coveted industry."

Television Helps

The television has helped to make the Catholic Church better known and less suspect among Southerners.

In support of this statement, Father Shannon told the story of a southern mountaineer who had always refused to speak to the local Catholic priest. One day, after TV became commonplace in the area, the mountaineer approached the priest on the street and inquired:

"Preacher, do you belong to Mr. Sheen's persuasion?"

The priest replied that he and Bishop Fulton J. Sheen, a television regular, were both Catholic priests.

"Whereupon," said Father Shannon, "the old gentleman invited the missionary into his home and announced to a startled family, 'This here is a man of God—same as Mr. Sheen.'"

Red Rulers Claim Famine Due To Bad Distribution

Hong Kong — (U.P.) — Like old Mother Hubbard, many a person in Communist China is finding the cupboard bare these days.

The Peiping rulers admit it, but they stoutly insist it is not because of a nationwide food shortage. It can be traced directly, they say, to improper distribution of "adequate" supplies on hand.

The government on Aug. 25 decreed strict rationing of grain, something the Reds thought about as far back as 1953.

In November, 1953, the country came under what the Communists labeled "planned purchase and planned supply" of grain. This was not really rationing but involved the government buying surplus grain from farmers and then selling it back to those who needed it.

In some areas, a loosely-connected rationing system was imposed on sales, but this was nowhere near being nationwide nor was it very effective.

Last year's terrible floods, the worst in a century, further dented production, and in March of this year the situation bordered on outright disaster. The government was having a tough time providing grain to the 240,000,000 persons who do not grow their own, such as fishermen and laborers, and to persons who are stricken by floods and by drought.

Distribution Faulty

Those peasants who kept production up to snuff had become worried by this time and were buying back their own grain even though they didn't have any immediate need for it. That imposed a further drain on existing supplies.

The central committee of the Communist Party acted on April 28, to ease the strains. It directed that a reorganization of grain distribution be made.

By June 18, the Peiping Peoples Daily was saying that the situation had eased but that continued efforts were of absolute necessity.

The economic boss, Chen Yu, then got up before the National People's Congress July 21 and spoke on the grain crisis, an item not on the agenda. He pooh-poohed any thought of food shortages and said there was enough food for China to continue to export foodstuffs, and that importing food wouldn't help matters.

He charged that the hungry were getting hungrier and the fat were getting fatter because officials had not kept a tight grip on distribution. He accused peasants of hoarding grain they didn't need, thereby preventing adequate supplies being sent to calamity-stricken regions.

More Production Needed

The whole blame, in other words, rested squarely on the sagging shoulders of the people themselves. Grain production—(169,500,000 tons in 1954)—was sufficient, if everyone played ball. And exports (roughly 1,000,

000 tons last year) weren't hurting anyone.

Production, of course, must be raised to keep in step with the ever-increasing consumer demand, he added.

Then, on Aug. 25, the state council lowered the boom and ordered outright rationing. It calls for persons doing "exceptionally heavy physical labor to get 600 catties (798 pounds) of grain per year. Those doing mere heavy work will get 638 pounds. Persons doing light work and university and middleschool students will receive 511 pounds, white collar workers 447 pounds, adults and children over 10 years of age 400 pounds and children under 10 smaller amounts depending on age.

The rations are a grim reminder to the population that the Peiping regime has not achieved all it promised.

In 1953, an official Communist report set at 840 catties (1,117 pounds) the per capita requirements of China. All this sounded rosy to the people. But actual per capita production that year hit only 600 catties, and it has dropped each year since.

Would-Be-Bride, 13, Returned To Mother

Portland — (U.P.) — Juvenile authorities said 13-year-old Virginia Bevelhimer, who almost married a 53-year-old man last month, would be put on a plane today to join her mother in Michigan.

The case came to attention of authorities after the girl and Roy Franklin applied for a marriage license at Vancouver. The wedding was halted.

Mrs. Barbara O'Callaghan, counselor at the juvenile home here, said Mrs. Emil Bandurske, the girl's mother, had been located in Michigan and that the girl would be sent there.

Porcupine Cooking

Recipes Requested

Portland—(U.P.)—The Western Pine Association today appealed to the public for recipes—for cooking porcupine meat.

The Association said porcupine damage to pine trees was becoming as serious as forest fires and insect damage. It hoped that promotion of the prickly animal as a table delicacy might reduce its population in the forests.

PRINEVILLE MAN NAMED

Lincoln, Neb. — (U.P.) — L. E. Coles of Prineville, Ore., was elected first vice-president of the National Reclamation Association yesterday, putting him in line for the presidency next year. Guy C. Jackson Jr., Anahuac, Tex., is the new president.

There are about 65,000 producing gas wells in the U.S.

Woman Given 30 Days To Decide on Sentence

Ventura, Calif. — (U.P.) — A judge Wednesday gave Mrs. Florence Alene Sandberg, 33, of Camarillo, Calif., 30 days to choose between a \$6 fine or a two-day jail sentence for driving her automobile after dark without lights.

The judge refused to accept Mrs. Sandberg's defense that she didn't need the lights because she can "see like an owl."

Police Question

Suspect at Distance

Detroit — (U.P.) — Police questioned John E. Stinson, 29, at a distance Wednesday and decided they did not want to jail him "just because I got into a little old restaurant fight."

The officers found Stinson hiding under a pile of refuse in a garbage truck.

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 - Tomato Catsup, 14 oz. 5 cans \$1.00
 - New Potatoes, No. 300 10 cans \$1.00
 - Fruit Cocktail, No. 300 4 cans \$1.00
 - Cream Corn, No. 300 8 cans \$1.00
 - Whole Kernel Corn, No. 300 8 cans \$1.00
 - Peas, No. 300 6 cans \$1.00
 - Green Cut Beans, No. 300 5 cans \$1.00
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