

Church Leaders To Request Funds For Surplus Flow

Washington —(U.P.)— Church leaders will appeal to President Eisenhower to break a bottleneck that is restricting the flow of America's surplus food to hungry families overseas, informed sources said Saturday. The bottleneck is a shortage of funds to pay ocean freight on the surplus farm commodities the agriculture department has offered to give to relief agencies for distribution abroad. Informants said less than \$5,000,000 is now available in the special fund Congress voted last year to pay ocean freight on relief shipments of surplus foods. Congress provided that President Eisenhower could enlarge the fund at his discretion by transferring to it any money that was appropriated, but not spent,

Courtroom Jam Keeps Fines Coming In

Redding, Calif. —(U.P.)— Judge Joseph F. Aleck Jr. complained Saturday that the courtroom jam caused by his cramped quarters is creating a serious problem. "Some motorists have been detained so long paying parking fines that they have another ticket by the time they get back to their cars," the judge said.

Workers Agree To Hourly Pay Increase

Klamath Falls —(U.P.)— Employees of the McCloud River Lumber company at McCloud, Calif., have accepted an average 8 3/4 cents an hour wage increase, the Pine Industrial Relations council said it had been informed Saturday. The wage hike, to be applied on a graduated basis, is retroactive to Dec. 1. CIO International Woodworkers of America local 664 which represents the McCloud workers said the wage increase was approved by a 73 per cent majority.

for other foreign aid purposes. Protestant, Catholic and Jewish relief agencies, which took the lead in organizing the "share our surplus" program, are now planning a joint appeal to the President to exercise this power. They will tell him that a relatively modest diversion of funds, say \$10,000,000 or \$15,000,000 out of the current overall foreign aid budget of more than \$2,500,000,000, would make it possible to double or triple the flow of surplus foods to needy people in all parts of the world. They also will point out that any extra funds which the government spends on ocean freight will be recovered in the long run by saving farm surplus storage charges.

Bid For Stewart, 99 Light Awarded

Salem —(U.P.)— The State Highway Department awarded five contracts yesterday for road jobs in scattered sections of the state. They included: Traffic signals at Stewart ave. and Pacific highway in Medford. Awarded to Steek Electric Company, Roseburg, \$6600. Grading and paving 6.13 miles of the Sherman highway between Moro and Grass Valley. Awarded to Roy L. Houck & Son, Salem, \$386,230.50. Production project on The Dalles-California highway, 10 miles southeast of The Dalles. Awarded to C & W Crushing Company, \$22,400. Grading and oiling 2.42 miles of McMinnville airport—Dayton junction section of Three-Mile Lane secondary highway. Awarded to Roy L. Houck & Sons, Salem, \$238,301. Grading 9.02 miles of North Santiam highway near Sublimity and Stayton. Awarded to Durbin Brothers, Eugene, \$211,888.50.

New Transformers Installed by BPA

Vancouver, Wash. —(U.P.)— The Clark county PUD announced here Saturday that the service capacity of its McLoughlin Heights substation would be doubled with activation of a new bank of transformers installed by the Bonneville Power administration. The Bonneville transformers will channel power through the PUD's substation on the heights and the one at Vancouver shipyards. Cutover is scheduled for early Sunday morning. Capacity will be increased from 12,000 kilovolt-amperes to 24,000 KVA.

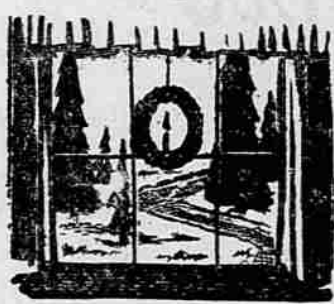
Pellet Pistols Said In County Schools

Pellet pistols, highly dangerous weapons which cannot be classed as toys, have been reported in various county schools recently, according to the county schools office. Law enforcement officials said the pistols, which sell locally for \$5.98, possibly have been the cause of broken street lights and other lights in some areas, and are potentially highly dangerous. Two 14-year-olds were apprehended by one school principal who discovered the weapons in their clothing. He said it is possible to fire lead pellets at a rate to penetrate leather.

Is That So?

What in the world has happened to our old-fashioned snowy Christmases, anyway. And with it, those delightful Christmas card scenes of snowy roads, frosty windows, and eaves dripping with icicles?

Looking into the far past we know of course that some 20,000 years ago half of North America was buried under a great cover of ice while the remainder of the continent, quite likely, shivered in each winter's cold grip. Only one thing made the icecap retreat — warmer weather. But bringing the subject down into our own lifetime, winters have actually been getting increasingly genial—neither are they as severe nor as long as they were in grandfather's day. Particular-



ly along the eastern third of our continent.

Weather reports from such diverse points as Montreal, Canada, Washington, D. C., and Boston, Mass., bear this out. In Montreal, Quebec, snowfall which averaged 130 inches 75 years ago is today averaging around 80 inches; the frequency of sub-zero temperatures of the turn of the century go below zero only about half as often. In Washington, spring weather has moderated considerably; during the 20 years from 1872-1892, there were a total of 354 days of freezing temperatures—that averages 17.7 each spring; in the 20 years from 1913 to 1933, there were only 237 freezing days, averaging 11.85, almost a third fewer. And this same trend toward winter mildness holds in Boston. There the duration of snow on the ground has lessened seven days during the past 50 years and the mean winter temperature for December, January and February has risen three-and-one-half degrees in the last 100 years. To return to Montreal for the moment, the mean temperature there for March has gone up even more, nearly four degrees.

Would Bring Ice Age For those who may think this 3 to 4 degree rise in temperature trivial, weather experts hasten to say that a drop of only 10 to 15 degrees Fahrenheit would bring back the ice age! Besides the indisputable figures of weather stations, there are other signs of our tempering winter climate. During the past 25 years, bird watchers have found a considerable in-

crease in the number of species of birds wintering in our north-eastern states and provinces—and considerably north, too, of their traditional ranges—birds such as cardinals, tufted titmouses, turkey vultures, blue-winged warblers and Carolina wrens. And of the mammals, notably the opossum.

There is of course the counter-argument that warm-blooded birds and mammals can adapt themselves to colder temperatures. But what of trees? These, too, seem to be on the northward trek. Explorers are bringing back reports that larches and birches are colonizing a new ground well beyond the timberline in northern Quebec, and in former areas they are growing much faster than they did 40 years ago.

Demonstrably, too, northern waters are growing warmer. For example, Hudson Bay and Hudson Strait are now ice-free for several weeks longer on the average and West Greenlanders are now catching cod in abundance 750 miles up beyond Cape Farewell, southern Greenland, where formerly the cod was seldom found.

To return then to our white Christmases. As it stands today, as the winters are moderating, the odds against waking up to falling snow on Christmas morning are remote for about three-fourths of the U. S. In the Mississippi Valley it may mean going as far north as St. Louis, Missouri; along the Western Coast, perhaps it may be necessary to go as far north as Alaska—and even there, to take binoculars to see it up in the mountains; along the Eastern Seaboard, as far north as New York City—and even here, snow has fallen only seven times on Christmas Day in the 50 years from 1903 to 1953 and only on seven others was it on the streets.

Prospect Always Present Despite the apparent moderation of winter, the possibility of having a "good, old-fashioned Christmas" is always present—and far from being a thing of the past. After all, Boston had the most snowy winter of its entire history during 1947-48 and, unfortunately, I happened to be timber cruising in New Hampshire when the temperature dropped to 53 below zero, January, 1934. And me in a tent!

However, the writing seems to be on the wall. For versifiers at least. The search must go on to find words to rhyme with "green" and not "white" when it concerns Christmas and outside of serene and scene they are not easy to come by. (Copyright, 1955, by Eugene Burns—Released by McClure Newspaper Syndicate) Free: By special arrangement with the editors of the Encyclopedia Americana, my panel of

Study Possibility W. Peddicord Had Second Accomplish

Portland —(U.P.)— Police Saturday were investigating the possibility that William Clarence Peddicord, 38-year-old blind man who confessed setting of a bomb in Meier and Frank Department store last April, had a second accomplice in his abortive attempt. Detective Lt. Len Heller said Saturday there was a "good possibility" another man was involved in the \$50,000 extortion scheme. "There is a lot we still have to get out of Peddicord before this case is wrapped up," Heller said. The officer said it was believed Peddicord may have had a driver.

Implicated with him was his sister-in-law, Joyce Keller, 28. They were held under \$75,000 bond on charges of attempting to injure persons and properties with explosives. They are scheduled to be arraigned Tuesday. It was disclosed Saturday that Peddicord had hired Attorney James Hafey to represent him. Nicholas Granet, who recently defended Victor Laurence Wolf in a murder hearing, said he also would be connected with the Peddicord defense.

To Be Examined Granet said that as soon as the "confusion" was straightened out he would ask the court to appoint two psychiatrists to examine Peddicord. "There is no question but what Peddicord suffers from a persecution complex," the attorney said. It was also brought out that

judges will award each week to the reader who sends me the best true-life nature adventure, the best nature observation, or the best question on nature and wildlife, a complete 30-volume set of this world-famous reference work in a handsome Sealcraft binding. Each week new submissions will be considered. Sorry, I simply can't answer your many friendly letters. Please address your letter to: IS THAT SO! c/o Medford Mail Tribune, Box 575, Sausalito, Calif.

Doctors Give High Spots Of Ike' Exam

Gettysburg, Pa. —(U.P.)— Highlights of a report by Dr. Paul Dudley White after examining President Eisenhower Saturday:

Health—The President's recovery from his Sept. 24 heart attack is "excellent and encouraging." There are "no symptoms of deterioration" of his heart. His general health is good and heart action is "fairly well stabilized."

Fatigue—The fatigue reported after an examination in Washington last Saturday had nothing to do with the President's heart condition. It probably was a "nervous symptom" connected with his increased official activities. Trip South Recommended

Trip—A trip south probably to Augusta, Ga., was recommended to give the President a chance to get more exercise. Cold and inclement weather has restricted him here. The President probably will do some chipping and putting but will not play a full game of golf. The idea of more exercise is to prepare the President for resuming a full work load.

Work Schedule—The President should be able to return to the White House by Jan. 9 and resume a fairly normal work load. Some time in mid-February he will be examined again to see how well he stands up to his first truly heavy work schedule.

Complete Recovery Mid February Complete Recovery—it will be about mid-February before physicians will be able to tell how complete the President's recovery has been.

Second Term?—White said the President will have to decide himself whether to run for a second term, that as a physician he had no political prognosis.

"The future rests in the laps of the Gods as it more or less does with all of us..." White said, "with average luck and common sense care it is possible for the President to live for years and be fully active."

efforts of the Portland Better Business bureau to stop the blind chemist's quick money-making schemes ultimately led to his arrest Thursday night. Peddicord, father of five children, was selling distributorships for auto battery additives and nylon stocking "washes." Robert R. Blyth, assistant manager of the bureau, said. His methods were so questionable Blyth called in postal inspectors. The postal authorities got hold of a typewriter Peddicord had owned and given to friends. The machine proved to be the one he used in writing notes in the attempted extortion. Peddicord at time of his arrest had been selling pencils for a living. Other support for his family came from state aid to the blind and aid to dependent children. He had operated a chemical works which failed 10 days before the department store plot.

Dr. Lawson Named Director of Group Dr. Earl L. Lawson, Medford, has been named district medical director of the American Cancer society's Oregon division, it was announced yesterday. Russell M. Colwell, vice-president of the First National Bank of Portland, has been elected president and Dr. A. C. Hutchinson, Portland, vice-president.



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