

Neuberger Fails To Lure Cohorts

Portland—(UPI)—Sen. Richard Neuberger (D-Ore.) was reported to have failed in efforts to bring together members of Oregon's congressional delegation for a breakfast meeting to discuss problems affecting the state.

The Washington, D.C. bureau of the Oregon Journal said Sen. Wayne Morse and Reps. Edith Green and Al Ull-

man, all Democrats, were "too busy" to attend a meeting there Monday, as they also were last Thursday.

Neuberger's office indicated it would try to get the delegation together again later in the week.

The other members were reported to be taking the position that breakfast meetings in the past contributed to disunity instead of harmony.



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Disappearance of Martin Family Continues To Baffle Officials

Portland, Ore. — (UPI)—Sunday, the 7th of December, 1958, was a good day to go hunting for a Christmas tree. Or so it seemed to Santa Claus.

Santa Claus was Kenneth R. Martin, 54-year-old service manager for a Portland electrical firm. For many years, he had dressed his husky frame in a red suit and distributed giant candy canes to his neighbors for Christmas.

Consequently the northeast Portland street where Martin and his family lived was known as "Candy Lane" at yuletide.

Yes, it was a good day to look for a tree and some greenery. Skies were cloudy but there was no threat of rain. The temperature was in the 50s, unseasonably warm. Martin and his wife, Barbara Jean, bustled their three pretty daughters—Barbara, 14, Virginia, 13, and Sue, 11—into the family station wagon. They set out on their expedition at about 2 p.m.

No one knows if they ever found a Christmas tree. The Martins haven't been heard from since.

Where are they? How could a family of five vanish from the face of the earth? These questions have led to an exhaustive search—one of the biggest in the history of the Pacific Northwest.

One Solid Clue
So far there is only one solid clue.

Late in the afternoon of the day of the disappearance, Martin purchased five gallons of gasoline in Cascade Locks, a town on the Columbia river 40 miles east of Portland. A gasoline credit receipt bearing his signature arrived in the mail at the Martin home two weeks after Dec. 7. The signature was identified as his. No purchases have been made with his gas credit card since then. No checks have been drawn on the Martin bank account since Dec. 5.

There have been hundreds of "leads." The Multnomah county sheriff's office here—the central agency filtering all information pertaining to the Martin case—carefully looks into each tip and "clue."

Sheriff Francis Lambert said that six weeks after the disappearance the Martin file in Multnomah county alone included 201 "tip" letters, 207 other reports and several hundred telephone calls, a "conservative estimate."

The week after the family vanished, bulletins were circulated in eight Western states. Two weeks later, 6,000

circulars were distributed nationally to law enforcement agencies.

A reward of \$1,000 will be paid for information leading to discovery of the family. Relatives and friends raised \$900 and \$100 was donated by a motor safety club.

Puzzle Complicated

The disappearance of the Martin's 1954 cream and red-trimmed Ford station wagon only complicates the puzzle. Forests, rivers, lakes, trails and mountains within a 50-mile radius of Portland have been searched again and again by authorities. An initial lead that the Martins possibly headed for Mt. Hood east of here to collect greenery prompted a massive hunt on the 11,245-foot peak, highest in Oregon, but also proved fruitless.

On the theory that the Martin car might have plunged into the Columbia river, the Army Corps of Engineers lowered the level of water five feet in the lake behind Bonneville Dam. Portable sonar equipment rigged on boats was used to probe the river depths. Results were negative.

Some "tips" have been on the visionary side. On Dec.

29, a woman phoned authorities that she had a vision the family was "in water by a totem pole," but she didn't know exactly where.

An orchard owner reported he saw a man and woman gathering greenery Dec. 7 east of Portland in a canyon where an old Indian burial ground was located, adding that one week later he noticed a flock of buzzards swooping into the canyon. A check was made but nothing was found.

'Seen in Iowa'

One letter came from Burlington, Iowa. It was from a police clerk who had seen the Martin circular and was quite certain he saw the family in Burlington last Christmas Eve.

Other tipsters suggest the Martins are in a wooded ravine, a sealed tunnel or railroad boxcar or a deserted cabin. Some think the five were kidnapped or murdered, or both.

The children on "Candy Lane" are particularly perplexed by the whole thing. They still can't understand why Santa Claus—at least the one they knew the best—never came around last Christmas.

HILTS

Community Club Meets

By MRS. M. F. CAVIN
Hilts-The Community club held their regular meeting at the club room in the community center Feb. 12 with Mrs. Art Blanchard as hostess.

Pinochle and canasta were played, with Mrs. Art Hartman scoring high and Mrs. Frank Greaves low in pinochle, and Mrs. Ozzie Bernheisel high and Mrs. Frank Ayris low in canasta.

Mrs. Ernest Spannaus, Mrs. M. G. King and Mrs. Fred Haynes were also present. Gingerbread, whipped cream and coffee were served.

Mrs. Donovan Ward visited Wednesday at the home of Mrs. Robert Fremd in Ashland.

Mrs. Tony Marin returned home Thursday after being hospitalized for several days at the Ashland General hospital.

Roland Rainwater, Grady Bobjohn and George Hamilton, attended the Logger's equipment display held in Redding Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Spannaus were week end visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harold McFerrin and son in Redding.

Mrs. Ray Middleton and

their one-month-old daughter, Rey Lin, were guests of honor at a shower given Thursday evening, Feb. 12, at the home of Mrs. Roger Ceccato.

Mrs. Pat Killingsworth of Hornbrook were cohostesses. Games were played and refreshments were served to Mrs. George Hamilton, Mrs. Robert Goodwin, Mrs. Michael Nunes, Mrs. Italo Marin, Mrs. Bill Sherman and Mrs. Bill Thomas of Yreka were also present as well as Mrs. Mart Stryker and Mrs. Naomi Owens of Hornbrook.

Sending gifts but unable to attend were Mrs. Vic Van de Weghe, Mrs. M. M. Sief, Mrs. Carroll Davenport, Mrs. Harvey Frye, Mrs. Don Ward and Mrs. T. D. Killingsworth of Hornbrook.

Janet Benson and Marcia Cavin played accordion solos and Marsha Simmen a piano solo at the recent Valentine tea given at the Methodist church in Hornbrook by the Women's Society.

At a recent meeting of the Music club at the studio of their teacher, Mrs. Paul Green in Hornbrook, Pat Fox was awarded first prize for her scrapbook on folk music and Marsha Simmen second prize.

Receiving honorable mention awards, also on their scrapbooks, were Janet Benson and Paula Eastman. Each member played a piano or accordion solo.

"Classical composers and their music" has been chosen as the subject for the club's new project.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Jackson were dinner guests at the Ozzie Bernheisel home Wednesday.

Pvt. and Mrs. Ben Dawson Jr., are the parents of a baby girl born Feb. 17 at the Ashland General hospital. She weighed 7 pounds 5 ounces and has been named Nancy Ann.

Dawson is in the Army and is stationed at Ft. Lewis. Mrs. Dawson is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mel Barron.

The Bridge club met Thursday afternoon, Feb. 19, at the home of Mrs. Al Simmen. A luncheon was served prior to the bridge game.

Present were Mrs. M. G. King, Mrs. H. G. Thompson, Fred Fred Haynes, Mrs. Ernest Spannaus, Mrs. Frank Graves, Mrs. Frank Ohlund, and Mrs. Malcolm Robinson of Montague.

High score was won by Mrs. Spannaus, second high by Mrs. Simmen and low by Mrs. King.

A bake sale was held Wednesday afternoon, Feb. 18 at the store by the girls of the seventh and eighth grade. The money received is to go towards the fund to make it possible for the school basketball teams to compete in the tournament to be held in Alturas later in the spring.

Bill Takes Governor Off Forestry Board

Salem—(UPI)—A bill to remove the governor from the State Board of Forestry passed the Senate Monday. The measure provides for the Board to name its own chairman. Previously the governor has been chairman.

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