

# 4 Suspects Arrested in Huge Narcotics Ring

## Pharmaceutical Industry Accused of Overcharging Public for Prescriptions

Washington—UPI—A small drug manufacturer charged today that the pharmaceutical industry is overcharging the public by at least \$275 million yearly for prescription medicines.

The accusation was made before the Senate anti-trust subcommittee by Seymour N. Blackman, executive secretary of Premo Pharmaceutical Laboratories of South Hackensack, N.J.

He blamed high drug prices on the "blitz" advertising and promotion techniques used by the big drug companies. This, he said, persuades

doctors to use their brand names in writing prescriptions and enables them to capitalize on a "beautiful natural monopoly."

## Scattered Strength Displayed by Market

New York—UPI—Stocks came under pressure in generally routine first hour turnover today.

The market displayed scattered strength in a firm opening, but many issues fell from their best levels in subsequent trades, especially in the rail and steel sections.

Steels dipped on the suspension of steel negotiations and losses ran to more than a point in Youngstown and a half or more in Bethlehem and U.S. Steel. Republic was unchanged after a firm opening.

**DOW - JONES AVERAGES**  
New York - (UPI) - Dow-Jones final stock averages: 30 industrials 672.74, up 1.48; 20 railroads 154.40, up 0.02; 15 utilities 87.22, up 0.12, and 65 stocks 218.03, up 0.36. Sales Thursday were about 3,170,000 shares compared with 3,430,000 shares Wednesday.

Thursday's prices on selected stocks:

Allied Chemical	122 1/2
Alum. Co. Am.	10 1/4
American Can	42 3/4
American Motors	78 1/2

AT&T	76 1/2
Anaconda Copper	63 3/4
Arco Steel	75 3/4
Bendix Aviation	74 1/2
Bethlehem Steel	55 3/4
Boeing Air	55 3/4
Caterpillar Corp.	33 3/4
Chrysler Corp.	66 3/4
Continental Can	47 3/4
Crown Zellerbach	56 1/2
Curtis Wright	32 3/4
Dow Chemical (xd)	97 1/2
Du Pont	26 1/2
Eastman Kodak	108 1/2
Firestone	131 1/2
General Electric	94 1/2
General Foods	103 1/2
General Motors	52 3/4
Georgia Pacific	49 3/4
Graham Paige	23 1/2
Greyhound	21 1/2
Gulf Oil	108 1/2
Homestake Mining	42 1/2
Idaho Power	46 3/4
I.B.M.	439 1/2
Int. Paper	136 1/2
Johns Manville	90 1/2
Katy	5 3/4
Kennecott Copper	32 3/4
Lockheed Aircraft	93 1/2
Montana Power Co.	25 1/2
Montgomery Ward	50 1/2
New York Central	29 1/2
Pac Gas & Elec	61 3/4
Penn. J. C.	119 1/2
Penn RR	16 1/2
Radio Corporation	70 1/2
Richfield Oil	78 1/2
Safeway	36 1/2
Sears	48 1/2
Shell Oil	76 1/2
Soco Mobil Oil	40 3/4
South Co.	40 3/4
Southern Pacific	22 1/2
Standard California	47 3/4
Standard Indiana	42 3/4
Standard N. J.	49 3/4
Sun Mines	61 3/4
Texas Co.	83 3/4
Texas Gulf Sulfur	18 3/4
Tex Pac Land Trust	19 1/2

## Products Necessary

Blackman said the drug industry spends about \$275 million a year "propagandizing the physician" even though the products advertised "are absolutely necessary and an artificial demand need not be created."

Blackman was called as a witness as the subcommittee headed by Sen. Estes Kefauver (D-Tenn.), dug further into charges that high-powered advertising campaigns by medical firms have confused doctors, raised prices and may harm patients.

Transamerica	29 3/4
Trans World Air	19 3/4
Tri-Continental (xd)	39 3/4
Union Carbide	146 1/2
Union Pacific	31 1/2
United Aircraft	42 1/2
United Air Lines	36 1/2
U. S. Rubber	66 3/4
U. S. Steel	100 3/4
Youngstown S & T	133 1/2

## Civil War Veteran Said Near Death

Houston, Tex.—UPI—Dr. Russell Wolfe said today that he believes "death is only a matter of hours away" for Walter (Old Reb) Williams, 117, the last surviving veteran of the Civil War.

Williams is suffering from his fourth attack of pneumonia this year. Dr. Wolfe, who has treated him for several years, said his condition is critical and he is very weak.

His condition has been critical in the past, however, and he has recovered.

He has run a fever of 103 degrees since Sunday and is under an oxygen tent. He has not eaten in five days.

Williams was 117 Nov. 14.

## Fancy-Living California Pair To Face Charges

Los Angeles—UPI—A man and his wife who lived in a \$50,000 home in an exclusive suburban area and employed a maid faced charges today as part of a gang accused of importing and selling \$20 million worth of heroin in the past five months.

Robert Newton Gardner, 36, and his attractive wife, Charlene, 25, were arrested Thursday at their Buena Park home. Also arrested were Hector Verdugo, 33, El Sereno, Calif., and Johnny Salazar Jr., 23, of nearby Montebello.

Police said they found a cache of \$150,000 worth of heroin hidden in the Gardner garage. The arrests climaxed a four-month investigation by Los Angeles, state and Buena Park police. The Gardner home had been under 24-hour surveillance for the past month, police said.

Gardner, thought by his neighbors to be a successful business executive, admitted to police he was leader of the ring.

Gardner and his wife were members of a country club in the area and took part in the suburb's social life. Sanchez said. Gardner actually is an ex-convict and had no regular job, police said. His only income was \$135 from a monthly annuity.

Have One Child "But on this he has maintained a maid, two expensive cars and belongs to a country club."

Gardner and his wife have one child who was taken to juvenile hall following the arrests. Gardner and the others were all booked on felony narcotics charges. Mrs. Gardner was later released on bond.

Mrs. Gardner admitted accompanying her husband on trips to Mexico and living there in a lavish manner but denied any knowledge of heroin transactions. Police said Gardner purchased about six pounds of uncut heroin weekly in Mexico from a man identified as "Big Mike Barigan" and then gave it to a "runner" to bring into the United States while he followed at a safe distance—but close enough to keep watch on the man carrying the heroin.

\$10,000 an Ounce Sanchez said pure heroin sells for \$10,000 an ounce when peddled to users. He said the two other men arrested, Verdugo and Salazar, distributed the heroin after it was brought back to the U.S. Both men refused to make statements to police.

Police said they learned of Gardner's dealings Aug. 5 when they arrested Louis Padilla, 36, Wilmington, Calif., and seized \$350,000 worth of heroin.

Gardner has served prison terms for armed robbery, kidnaping and abortion, police said.

## Oregon Forest Project For Israel To Be Set

Portland—UPI—Entertainer George Jessel is scheduled to be here Dec. 28 to launch the Oregon Evergreen Forest project at the annual Jewish National Fund Chanukah banquet.

During the last 25 years more than 20 million trees have been planted in Israel through efforts of the Jewish National fund. The group hopes this year to plant a forest for every state in the union.

The Oregon forest will consist of about 40,000 myrtlewood trees.

## Hatfield Takes Stand On Birth Control

Salem—UPI—Gov. Mark Hatfield has explained his stand on birth control.

He said although the government should not encourage it, he felt there is nothing wrong in this country distributing birth control information to over-populated nations that request such information.

## BLAST KILLS FOUR

Yokohama, Japan—UPI—Four persons were killed and at least 98 injured in an explosion triggered by a collision between a dynamite-laden truck and a gravel truck in a densely-populated district of Yokohama before dawn today. The blast destroyed 31 houses and damaged 200.

The British and foreign Bible society estimate sales of the Bible this year will reach 30 million. Last year the total was 26 million.

## MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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## Ringleader in No. Carolina Prison Escape Seized After Wrecking Stolen Automobile

Martinsville, Va.—UPI—Charles W. (Yank) Stewart, ringleader in the escape of 20 convicts from North Carolina's "Little Alcatraz" prison, was captured early today.

Stewart, 52, was caught after he wrecked a stolen automobile during a police chase. Only six of the 20 convicts

who fled the maximum security prison Tuesday were at large today.

Bend—UPI—A woods fire, a December rarity, which covered about a quarter of an acre in the Deschutes National Forest three miles south of Chemult was reported this week.

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# La Pointe's

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**Full skirted plaid dresses**  
Only \$15.95 . . . advertised in the big cities for \$19.95. Black and white silk and cotton. Full skirted plaid, bateau neckline. Crisp white cuffs. A slim patent belt. See our ad in tonight's paper.

**Knit dresses**  
Only \$24.95 . . . nationally \$29.95. 2-piece knit dresses in new spring colors. Lilac, ruby, navy, aqua, embroidered details on bodice. Self belt. Easy skirt. 14 1/2 to 20 1/2. It's worth a trip to Medford to shop La Pointe's.

**Handsome coats**  
only \$29.00 and \$38.00. Would be \$39.95 to \$59.45 if not specially purchased. Fine fabrics. Newest styles. Black and all the lovely new shades. Shop tonight (Friday) till 9.

**Lace bib sheath dresses**  
Only \$12.98 . . . should be \$14.98. Step in sheath dresses with rich Venice type lace on bodice, peter pan collar. Shimmering magic crepe with the look of silk. Blue, brown or green print. Shop La Pointe's tonight (Friday) 'til 9.

**Car coats**  
only \$8.79 . . . should be \$9.98. Water repellent poplin car coats with quilted taffeta lining. Cute pockets and collar trimmed with knit. 2 different styles, same magic price. Christmas red, beige, smoke, light blue. Lovely to give, fun to receive.

**"Better Than Gold" hose**  
60 gauge, 15 denier, box of 3 pair \$1.95 . . . that's only 65c per pair. "Better Than Gold" seamless 3 pair for \$2.75 . . . that's less than 92c per pair. "Better Than Gold," our pride and joy.

**100% orlon jacket sweater**  
Only \$12.98 . . . nationally \$14.95. Fashion's favorite cardigans in orlon bulkie knit. Jacket style with turtle neck collar. 2 big patch pockets. She will love it—beautifully gift wrapped by La Pointe's.

**Warm PJs**  
Only \$4.98 . . . nationally \$5.98. Christmas candy striped flannel pajamas. Long sleeves. Convertible collar. Cozy long trousers with wide elastic band at waist. Tuck in a La Pointe's Gift Certificate.

**Long gift robes**  
Only \$5.49. Made to sell for much more. Cotton flannel wrap robes . . . full length in darling tie print pattern. Cuffs on 3/4 sleeves and wide lapels corded in red. Clever envelope pocket. Blue with red and green. Shop La Pointe's tonight (Friday) till 9.

**Nylon slips for Christmas**  
Only \$3.49 . . . nationally \$3.98. Deep nylon lace on bodice and back. Bias midriff fit. Wide scalloped lace at hemline. White and lovely colors of pink, blue, red. A wonderful Christmas surprise.

**Maternity party dresses**  
Only \$15.95 . . . should be \$18.95. Satin look warp printed 2-piece maternity dresses. Lovely subdued floral print, triple space buttons down front. New butterfly sleeve with clever velvet bows. Visit La Pointe's Stork Nook till 9 tonight (Friday).

# La Pointe's

It's a Wonderful Store



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15<sup>95</sup>  
FULL SKIRTED  
SILK  
AND COTTON  
HINTS  
OF SPRING

La Pointe's  
IT'S A WONDERFUL STORE  
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SHOP LUCAS & HOWARD'S  
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<b>Solid Maple CAPTAINS' CHAIRS \$1650</b>	<b>GOSCO Chrome Kitchen STOOLS \$595</b> Color Choice	<b>9x12 LINOLEUM RUGS \$488</b>	<b>MILK STOOLS Solid Maple \$190</b>
<b>SOFA PILLOWS Washable Covers From 99c</b>	<b>POLE LAMPS 3 Bullets \$1088</b>	<b>T-V TRAYS Set of 4 \$795</b>	<b>FIREPLACE ACCESSORIES Screens from \$9.88 Grates from \$1.75</b>
<b>Biltwell BAVENO &amp; ROCKER 3 Plastic Top Occasional Tables 2 Table Lamps \$15900</b>	<b>Lay Away for Dad STRATOLOUNGER With Vibrator \$6895</b>	<b>DOUBLE DRESSER With Mirror BOOKCASE BED BOX SPRINGS &amp; MATTRESS \$12995</b>	
<b>Walnut STUDENTS' DESKS Plastic Top \$3650</b>	<b>Cocoa Entrance DOOR MATS Colors \$225</b>	<b>OCASIONAL TABLES 2 Step Tables 1 Coffee Table Plastic Top \$2495</b>	<b>BUNK BEDS With Innerspring Mattress—Ladder Complete \$9995</b>
<b>TELEPHONE STANDS Walnut or Blond Finish \$1250</b>	<b>Virtue DINETTE SETS Table and 4 Chairs \$4895</b>	<b>Unfinished STUDENTS' DESKS \$1995</b>	<b>Brass and Copper WASTE BASKETS 99c</b> While they last.

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