

Home Builder Files Lawsuit Against FHA

Washington —UPI— A West Coast homebuilder filed suit against the federal housing administration Tuesday, charging the government agency barred him from federal housing activities without just cause.

The suit was filed in U.S. district court on behalf of Herbert R. Ketell, a Burlingame, Calif., builder active in the Portland, Ore., area.

It charged that FHA Commissioner Julian A. Zimmerman illegally barred the Ketell Construction Co. last March from federally connected housing activities.

The suit claimed the FHA "has continued to alter and change various accusations and criticisms made in letter form from time to time," so that Ketell "has never been able to ascertain the exact basis for the action taken against him."

It denied that Ketell knowingly violated federal housing laws, and said that if any violations did occur, they were before any law had been passed that outlawed them.

Ketell's suit asked for a court order invalidating the FHA's action against him.

Radio Europe Staff Poison Try Told

Munich, Germany —UPI— Officials of Radio Free Europe said today Communist agents put atropine (a poisonous alkaloid) in salt shakers at the station cafeteria last month in an effort to poison members of the staff.

The attempt failed because officials of the anti-Communist broadcasting station were warned by a double agent that the salt had been poisoned.

A statement issued by the station identified the tipster only as "a person ostensibly used by a foreign Communist power for sabotage purposes."

Icy Spots, Snow On Oregon Roads

Salem —UPI— Icy spots were reported at many locations on Oregon highways today. There was packed snow at West Diamond Lake and Astoria.

Ice was reported at Basque, Burns, Seneca, Baker, Meacham, Lakeview, Bly, Klamath Falls, Chemult, Willamette pass, Lapine, Ochoco summit, Green Springs, Siskiyou, McKenzie pass, Sunset and Wilson river summits, Warm Springs junction and Government Camp.

MINING OFFICER DIES

Duluth, Minn. —UPI— Rudolph T. Elstad, 64, president of the Oliver Mining Division of the U.S. Steel Corp., died Monday.



'I WANT MY MOMMIE'—This youngster took one look at Santa Claus' beard and at a party for orphans given by Austin, Texas, high school students. (UPI telephoto)

School News

H. P. Jewett School

Students of the H. P. Jewett Elementary school in Central Point are not only looking forward to Christmas, they are doing something about it. Room decorations are varied.

Mrs. Katherine Leavitt's second grade class has made Santa Claus faces out of paper towels and stuffed them with crumpled news papers. They made red crepe paper hats for them as well as white hair and beards of cotton. At present, students are making a "Know Your Evergreens" bulletin board. The children take different kinds of evergreens to school. These are labeled and pinned on a white flannel board. Stories are written about them.

Mrs. Olivia Ryerson's second grade students announced that because the Christmas story made them think of the camel, their class decided to learn more about the animal.

Mrs. Zelma Foote and Mrs. Oakley Bowers' first graders are responsible for the Christmas display of the angels and Santa and his reindeer around a tree in the window of the Faber-Stratton Insurance office. Mrs. Foote's class room houses some realistic models of Frosty the Snowman, made of cotton.

A large Nativity scene and a tall Christmas tree have been painted by the youngsters in Miss Ila Mae Higinbotham's first grade class. Each child also has painted a picture of a toy he would like to have for Christmas.

Mrs. Frances Tonn's first graders have been making Christmas decorations for the room. They have a big Christmas tree with colored words for ornaments. Large angels also have been made by the pupils.

Mrs. Grace Cline's class has combined reading practices with Christmas decorations. They have put their words on Christmas bells and when a

pupil can read all the words on a bell, he may ring it. Toys have also been painted to put on the Christmas tree.

Griffin Creek School

Griffin Creek school will present its Christmas program Tuesday, Dec. 22, at 7:30 p.m. in the school gym. The band, primary grades and fifth and sixth grade chorus will take part. All parents, friends and interested persons are invited.

Dec. 9, report cards were sent home for the second six weeks. Those on the honor roll are Carolyn Giles, fourth grade; Helen McKee, Elizabeth Peters, Carol Stuart, Linda Youmans, fifth grade; George Bassett, Anne Bannister, Judy Youmans, sixth grade.

The fifth and sixth grade art classes are sending decorations to Camp White to decorate the tables and Christmas trees. We made little Christmas trees, bells, a Santa Claus and other things.

The children of Griffin Creek school are collecting canned goods for Christmas baskets for the less fortunate people in our community.

The two first grades have visited the fire hall and brought toys for the firemen to repair and distribute.

Mrs. Alma Austin's fourth grade is getting ready for Christmas. We have been making little bells out of egg cartons. For our mothers, we are making centerpieces made out of plaster of paris and ornaments. Some of us are making vases. We also made decorations out of tin foil.

In Mrs. Mary Overstreet's fourth grade the children are making ornaments out of pine cones, which were painted. Wayne Daniel is going to bring the Christmas tree for our room. We are going to make some chains to go on the tree.

In geography we are in the

Wall Street Chatter

New York —UPI— Investors befuddled by academic jousting can steer a middle course—defying both the bulls and the bears, according to inside Wall Street.

Simply buy convertible bonds, the firm tells its readers. The dual nature of these securities offers the sophisticated investor a comparatively safe depository for his funds, it notes.

Conservative or high tax bracket investors with second thoughts about buying common stocks on margin will find the purchase of sound convertible bonds on small margin an ideal speculative medium, it adds.

"Of immediate interest are depressed oil, aircraft, textile and rail convertibles."

Eldon A. Grimm of Walston & Co., appeals to the patient investor: It's quite obvious, he notes, that Kaiser Industries has good speculative potential. "One source has estimated . . . the stock at 15 is priced at a discount of about 30 per cent from total present-day values."

Gersen of Wall Street comments on the business outlook: " . . . It is not the immediate rally (stock market) that counts, but the extent of the follow-through to determine just how the market appraises the business scene. . . . The market has a way of looking many months ahead and discount — the future — that is the reason it is such a good business barometer."

NO MOTION IN COURT
London —UPI— Judge Leslie Block didn't like the atmosphere in his Old Bailey courtroom Tuesday. He said he would refuse to sit in the court again until the ventilation is improved.

grasslands in Africa. We have been learning about many famous men in history.

On Nov. 25, the following boys received letters for football: George Bassett, Mike Bradley, Lindell Carney, Donald Giles, Wesley Ober, Larry Peterson, Jimmy Steinback, Dale Fowler, Dwight Roman-chuk, Chuck Sander, Nicky Briggs, Billy Standridge, Dennis Fowler, Eugene Music, Terry Partasas, Geof Stathos, Ray Young and Manager Curt Pitts.

Japan's Christmas Celebration Mixed With New Year's Eve

Tokyo —UPI— Japan will celebrate Christmas this year in the usual way—getting it all mixed up with New Year's Eve.

Christmas Eve is this country's annual excuse for a big binge, much in the manner of New Year's Eve in the Western world. There will be wild drinking, shopping sprees and even sacrilegious strip shows.

The predominantly Buddhist and Shintoist Japanese borrowed elements of both holidays from the West. But in the process, the spirit of the two occasions became transposed.

New Year's is celebrated like the Western Christmas. It is a sober family holiday, a time to clear up old debts, visit friends and relatives and swap gifts.

But at Christmas—or rather, "Kurisumasu"—all the stops are out. It's unabashedly commercial, frankly a-religious and generally hilarious.

Pockets Jingle
Everybody's pockets are jingling with cash, for most major companies give year-end bonuses amounting to one or two months' salary.

As quickly as the cash comes in, it goes out. Department stores ring up a whopping \$200 million in sales in the month of December, one-fifth of their annual total. They lure customers in droves with sales and elaborate displays of Christmas trees, tinsel, crepe and artificial snow.

Whatever cash is left over after the "ochusan," or little lady, makes her Christmas and New Year's purchases, "donna-san," the man of the house, is likely to spend in a long level on Christmas Eve.

In Tokyo alone, one billion yen (\$2,778,000) worth of rice wine and whiskey will flow down one million gullets.

Police Have Hands Full
Tokyo's Ginza is like New York's Times Square on New Year's Eve, with as many as two million merry-makers thronging the area. By Christmas morning, the police gen-

erally have their hands full clearing the sidewalks of drunkards.

Christmas has a long history here, but only recently has it developed into the nation-wide spree that it is today. The first Catholic Christmas was celebrated nearly 400 years ago; the first Protestant Christmas nearly 90 years ago.

These were traditional, sober Christian celebrations, but in the last 14 years Christmas has evolved into a holiday called "Kurisumasu," celebrated with overflowing good spirit by a nation predominantly Buddhist and Shintoist.

The Japanese, hungry and cold in the first years after World War II, watched the occupying Americans celebrate Christmas and New Year's. With typical ingenuity, they took the color and good cheer from one, the roaring inebriation from the other, and turned the whole thing into "Kurisumasu."

Particularly appropriate to Japan was Santa Claus, for his gay red-and-white suit happens to match the nation's traditional festival colors.

The only trouble is it would take Sumo wrestlers to fill out the suits properly while most of the men for the

role are scrawny, clean-shaven, sallow-complexioned mites who stand perhaps five-and-one-half feet tall and weigh 130 pounds after a good meal.

Girl Santas are really the

rage. They look down at you from advertising posters in subways and on buses, clad in fur-trimmed red hats and tight shorts. They wait on you behind the counters of shops. They even pour drinks for you in some cabarets and coffee shops.

But the last word in profanity generally comes from the burlesque houses of Tokyo's gaudier amusement centers.

Every year at least one of them proudly features bare-chested girls in fur-trimmed red g-strings giving a soulful rendition of the "Ave Maria."

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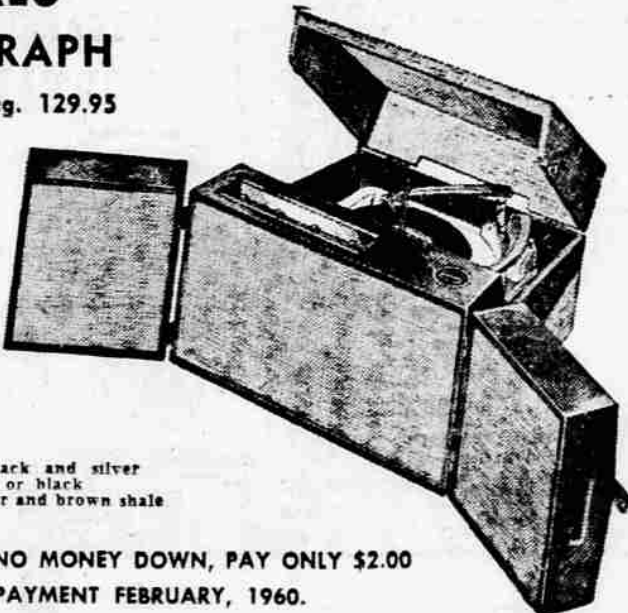
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