



CHRISTMAS APPEARANCE—The White House in Washington takes on the appearance of Christmas as two trees in the entrance on the North Portico are lighted for the first time. Note the wreaths in the windows. President and Mrs. Eisenhower plan to spend the holiday in the Executive Mansion. (UPI Telephoto)

Oregon Supreme Court Decisions

Salem - (UPI) - The Oregon supreme court Wednesday affirmed a \$17,500 judgment for Katherine M. Livingston in a malpractice suit against Portland General Hospital and Dr. Donald Nickelsen.

The hospital had appealed from the court of Multnomah county Circuit Judge James W. Crawford.

Dr. Nickelsen operates the hospital.

Mrs. Livingston fell and fractured her left forearm. She was treated at the hospital and the arm put in a cast.

Complained of Pain

She complained that the cast was too tight and her arm was swelling. She continued to complain, the court said, and was readmitted to the hospital for treatment but the cast was not removed or loosened.

The cast was on for five weeks and during that time the woman complained of "terrific pain." Mrs. Livingston charged that when the cast was removed, a piece of plaster was imbedded in the flesh inside her arm at the elbow joint. She sued.

The high court in a decision by Justice Pro Tem Dal King said the case was "properly submitted to the jury" and the evidence was "ample to sustain the verdict and judgment."

In a Lincoln county case involving the Channel apartments at Depece Bay, the court reversed a foreclosure decree in the real estate contract.

Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Karn brought suit against Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Pidoock and Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Sullivan. The latter couples asked for invalidation of the contract to buy the building after it was learned the structure overlapped its property line.

In another decision written by Justice King the court said "whether intentionally or not, the buyers were led to believe that the building they were purchasing was well within the property lines and that those lines were misrepresented to them."

Circuit Judge Richard Anderson was reversed.

Other decisions: Mary Lou Marchant vs. Frank Ray Clark, appellant; appeal from Columbia county; opinion by Justice Pro Tem E. H. Howell; Judges Howard K. Zimmerman and Avery A. Combs affirmed; auto collision case with order setting aside a

verdict and judgment for Clark affirmed, with new trial granted Marchant.

Judge Affirmed

Hattie M. Draper, appellant vs. LaVelle Mullenex, et al; appeal from Multnomah county; opinion by Justice Harold Warner; Judge Herbert M. Schwab affirmed; an order denying a petition for writ of review affirmed on a claim of \$800 plus attorney's fees of \$350.

Lee Ann Kroft by her guardian Lester Kroft, appellant vs. Fred Grimm of Fred Grimm Fuel Service; appeal from Clackamas county; opinion by Justice William Perry; Judge Ralph M. Holman affirmed; action on behalf of a minor run over by a truck, judgment for the fuel company affirmed.

Helen G. Nelson vs. Jere J. Nelson, appellant; appeal from Washington county; opinion by Justice Kenneth O'Connell; Judge Glen Hieber reversed and case remanded; order denying modification of a divorce decree to reduce child support payments reversed.

Elderly Said To Lack Insurance

Washington - (UPI) - Less than half the nation's elderly persons have any form of hospital insurance, the Public Health Service estimated Wednesday.

A PHS report said 46 per cent of the men and women 65 and older have hospital insurance, 37 per cent have surgical insurance and only 10 per cent have insurance covering doctor bills for non-surgical care.

The report said two-thirds of all Americans have some form of health insurance. But coverage varies widely according to age, income and location.

The statistics were expected to bolster demands in Congress for a medical care program for the aged operated and financed through the social security system.

POLICE CHIEF NAMED

Nyssa, Ore. - (UPI) - Robert W. Love, 27, formerly a patrolman for the Boise police department, today reported for duty as the new police chief here.

Small Worlds Around Us

By Lynn M. Watkins

The Souse 'Drinks Like a Fish? No He Doesn't'—Fish Don't Drink

In the entire world of living creatures, man is the only one who drinks liquids other than milk or water. Of the nine hundred thousand kinds of beings he is unique in this respect.

Of course, whatever he drinks contains mostly water, but he is after the flavor, the reaction, or the excuse. His body chemistry, like that of the ant, the elephant, the reptile, or the bird, is dependent on water.

Ofttimes, to describe another's drinking habits, we sometimes say, "He drinks like a fish." Probably the steady opening and closing of a fish's mouth gave someone the idea the fish was gulping water constantly.

Actually, the fish is only breathing. The wide open mouth pulls in the water, passes it across the gills, which absorb the oxygen, and force it out through the gill covers. The fish must have oxygen, the same as humans, but they secure it in a different manner.

Basically, a fish doesn't need a drink. Immersed constantly in this medium he absorbs a small amount through the skin by sort of an osmosis process. Secondly, a fish never sweats, no matter how fast he swims, or how much he exerts himself. His environment changes slowly.

There is never too sudden a temperature change. Being cold blooded, with a body temperature slightly higher than his surroundings, he reacts quickly to water changes, seeking deeper and cooler water when the air temperature is high, or shallow water when conditions are more suitable there.

In the third, and probably the most important aspect of his life, the fish receives what water he actually needs from the food he eats, either animal or plant. Nature equipped the fish, as well as other creatures that live or feed in the water, with a clever little trap door in the back of the mouth.

This small fleshy gate allows the fish to open its mouth wide, but prevents water from running down the throat. This gate works automatically, and guards him all his life. In fact it keeps him from drowning. He doesn't have to think about "closing the date," he grabs a mouthful of food, closes his mouth, forcing the water out of the gill openings, swallows the food without gulping even a teaspoonful of water.

So the adage about the man "drinking like a fish" is meaningless. Fish are moderate "drinkers."

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