

Coin Shortage Worries Director Of Mint

By JOSEPH D. HUTNYAN
United Press International
WASHINGTON (UPI)—Miss
Eva B. Adams, director of the
Mint, is the nation's No. 1 wor-
rywart about money.

In recent years, she has
grown fidgety about the worsen-
ing coin shortage, caused main-
ly by the advent of the vend-

ing machine era and aggravated
by those who collect, hoard
or destroy coins.

Now, it seems, she has an-
other problem — the melting
down of nickels produced during
World War II and selling of
their silver content, which is
worth about 7 cents.

The keeper of the country's
coin supply said that if the
nickel melters don't slow down,
nearly a billion 5-cent pieces
minted during the war years
could disappear in the next four
or five months.

She emphasized that it's not
the principle of the thing — it's
the money.

"We've searched the statutes
and we can't find anything
about this that is illegal," Miss
Adams said. "But because of
our critical coin shortage, it's
definitely against the public in-
terest."

The Mint produced about 870
million of the so-called "silver
nickels" from 1942 through 1945.
It's quite likely that a large
number of them are still in ex-
istence — or at least were un-
til recently. Mint technicians es-
timate the life of a single coin
at between 15 and 20 years.

Normally, the 5-cent piece
has 56 per cent copper, 35 per
cent nickel and 9 per cent man-
ganese.

But during World War II —
when nickel was needed for
warplane and other weapons —
the 35 per cent nickel content

was replaced with the same
amount of silver.

Rising silver prices — the
highest in more than 40 years —
now has made the silver in the
wartime nickel worth 7 cents.
It also made nickel melting a
profitable business for the firm
with the proper equipment and
manpower.

LONG LABELS
SAN FRANCISCO (UPI)—If
all of the foot labels printed
each year in California were
strung end to end, they would
stretch more than one million
miles, according to the Califor-
nia State Chamber of Com-
merce.

Miss Adams admits that she
doesn't know just how many of
these nickels are disappearing
daily from the coin stream.

However, it is believed that
two or three metal refining
firms currently are gathering
the wartime nickels and ex-
tracting their silver.

Each of these would have to
be a fairly sizable operation.
Getting the silver out of a nick-
el is not exactly the kind of
project that a do-it-yourselfer
could handle in his basement.

It requires rather sophistica-
ted industrial equipment and in-
volves a complicated refining
process in which chemicals and
electricity are used.

Technicians in the mint also
point out that in order to make
a profit, a company would have
to melt down many thousands
of the nickels. Otherwise, the
2-cent-per-coin profit would
evaporate in overhead costs.

This means that a refining
firm — in order to make it
worthwhile — would have to
employ a rather large team to
search for these wartime
nickels among the billions of
coins that flow through the
economy each day.

No one knows exactly how
they would go about carrying
out this assignment. The best
guess is that they would check
banks or other financial institu-
tions or businesses which re-
ceive large amounts of coin

from parking meters, vending
machines or similar devices.

Miss Adams is fearful that
the publicity given the wartime
nickel will add to her woes even
if the companies melting them
down decided to get out of the
business.

She said the fact that more
persons are finding out that
these 5-cent pieces have 7 cents
worth of silver could cause
large-scale hoarding.

Actually the volume of coins
involved is very small com-
pared to the nation's total coin
supply.

STAR GAZER

By CLAY R. POLLAN
Your Daily Activity Guide
According to the Stars
To develop message for Friday,
read words corresponding to numbers
of your Zodiac birth sign.

ARIES MAR. 21 APR. 20 5-15-26-37 31-60-81-90	TAURUS APR. 21 MAY 21 35-46-68-75 78-72-84-85	GEMINI MAY 22 JUNE 21 6-21-32-43 53-78-83-87	CANCER JUNE 23 JULY 23 11-14-25-26 48-59-70	LION JULY 24 AUG. 23 10-22-33-44 54-65-74	VIRGO AUG. 24 SEPT. 23 7-19-30-41 52-64-73	LIBRA SEPT. 23 OCT. 23 3-16-27-38 47-61-71	SCORPIO OCT. 24 NOV. 22 1-13-24-35 46-58-69	SAGITTARIUS NOV. 23 DEC. 22 2-18-29-40 50-63-82-89	CAPRICORN DEC. 23 JAN. 20 8-12-23-34 37-67-79-86	AQUARIUS JAN. 21 FEB. 19 9-20-31-42 45-56-80-88	PISCES FEB. 20 MAR. 21 4-17-28-39 49-62-72
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Accident Occurs On Unopened Freeway

Oregon State Police reported
a number of cars were reported
in roadside ditches due to dense
fog and icy pavements Tuesday
night.

TUMBLING TUMBLEWEED
LOS ANGELES (UPI)—That
tumbleweed rolling across the
fields isn't just tumbling idly.
Farm advisor Ralph LaRue
says one plant of Russian this-
tle may spill as many as 24,700
seeds while it spins along.

PORTLAND (UPI)—The
Portland Development Commis-
sion was given a \$1,442,305 grant
by the federal government Tues-
day.

Klamath Falls Elks Give Band Concert

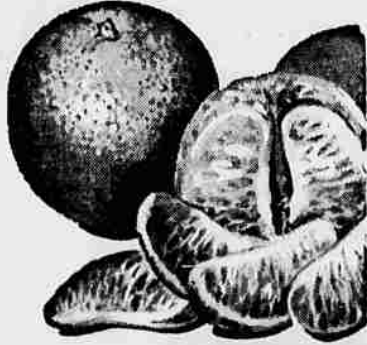
WHITE CITY—The Elks band
of Klamath Falls made their
sixth consecutive annual visit
to the Veterans Administration
Domiciliary last Thursday, and
presented a 1½ hour concert
that was attended by an over-
flow crowd of member resi-

dents, according to Paul C.
Bethel, chief of recreation.

The band was under the direc-
tion of Oscar Denault, esteemed
loyal knight, who started the
program by conducting the band
in the "Washington Post
March" by Sousa. The mem-
bers heard band favorites, in-
cluding a tone poem by Moehl-
man, and a Victor Herbert spe-
cial by trumpeters Robert Chil-
cote, Dave Johansen and James
Metler.

After a brief intermission,
several marches and solos were
played, with the program con-
cluding with Sousa's "Stars and
Stripes Forever."

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Groceteria
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FOR THE BRANDS
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and Grape
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8-LB.
BAG **49^C**

NEW CROP NAVAL
ORANGES

OREGON SOLID HEAD
CABBAGE
PERFECT FOR STEW OR SALADS

5^C
POUND

3 DOZEN FOR 1.00

GOLDEN DELICIOUS
Apples **9^C**
POUND

GROCETERIA BAKERY
COCONUT CAKE Only **98c**
FLAKEY DANISH B. HORNS **6/29c**
LEMON CREAM PIES **49c**
GOLDEN CORN BREAD 15-Oz. Loaf **29c**

M.J.B.
COFFEE 1 lb. **59^c** 2 lbs. **1¹⁷** 3 lbs. **1⁷⁵** 6-oz. **99^c**
BONNIE
TUNA FOR CATS 6-Oz. **2/29^c**
ZEE
WAX PAPER 100 Ft. Roll **19^c**
WILSON
VIENNA SAUSAGES **5/1⁰⁰**
WILSON
CORNERED BEEF 12-Oz. Tin **39^c**
GROCETERIA FINE
PEANUT BUTTER 3-lb. Jar **99^c**

ZEE TISSUE
4 Roll Pack
29^C

BETTY CROCKER
DATE BAR MIX
EXCELLENT FRUIT CAKE BASE
14-oz. Package **39^C**

WHITE'S GLACE'
FRUIT MIX 59^C
1-LB. CELLO BAG
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AT MONEY SAVING PRICES

BETTY CROCKER
ANGEL FOOD MIX
5 FLAVORS
49^C
Pkg.

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GREEN PEAS • SOLID TOMATOES
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YOUR CHOICE
7 FOR 95^C

BLANCHED ALMOND MEATS 12-Oz. **99c**
SLICED ALMOND MEATS 10-Oz. **69c**
PREMIUM ALMOND MEATS 12-Oz. **89c**
SLIVERED ALMONDS 5-Oz. **59c**
ALMOND PASTE 8-Oz. **79c**