

Texas Town Very Healthy

HOWE, Tex., Feb. 12 (AP)—Meet a town with no kidney stones, a thriving North Texas community of 600 with an exceptionally high death rate from old age.

Why this happened to Howe is not fully explained, but Dr. J. L. Shelby, the Grayson county town's only physician, said:

"I've been here since 1909 and I've never caught a citizen of Howe with a kidney stone. I don't know the reason—the fine soft water supply may have something to do with it."

The city draws its water from a nearby 900-foot well in the Woodbine sand, the same sand that produces oil in East Texas.

"Kidney stones are not uncommon among folks in the outlying areas who get their water from other wells," the amiable, white-haired, 74-year-old physician stated.

"This is a mighty clean town, too. As city health officer for 37 years, I can say that the average death rate of Howe is far under the national death rate for all causes except old age. We have an exceptionally high death rate from old age. We have 20 citizens older than 80 out of our preacher-count population of 600. I call it the preacher count because the Methodist and Baptist preachers went around and counted everybody recently. The last census gave us 546."

Seaman Freed Of Desertion Charge

SEATTLE, Feb. 12 (AP)—William A. Rivers, a seaman from San Diego, won acquittal in federal court today on a charge of having deserted a ship at Empire, Ore., a year ago. Rivers said he had gone to Coos Bay to send a telegram and that he later failed in attempts to catch up with the ship at Portland and Bellingham.

Princess Visits Danny Kaye Show

LONDON, Feb. 12 (AP)—Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip turned up last night among the fans of American comedian Danny Kaye, now the toast of the London stage.

They paid a surprise visit to his show at the Palladium and afterward shared a half hour with Kaye in his dressing room, chatting, laughing and sipping champagne. With the royal couple were the Marquess of Milford Haven, who



was Philip's best man at the wedding in November, and Sharman Douglas, debutante daughter of U.S. Ambassador and Mrs. Lewis Douglas.

Bigger Indian Staff Asked

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12 (AP)—The decentralization program of the Indian office can operate efficiently only if it has enough personnel, William Zimmerman Jr., assistant Indian commissioner, said Wednesday.

He asserted that congress voted the service only about one-half what it asked for this year.

Zimmerman had been asked by a reporter for comment on a bill setting up district Indian offices. These are in Oklahoma City, Billings, Mont., Portland, Ore., Minneapolis and Phoenix. Zimmerman said the Indian of-

ice has not had money to carry out fully its decentralization plan. He also said not as much authority has been delegated to the districts as could have been had more funds been available.

"This congress, he declared, should 'have the issue clearly before it.' If the congressmen want to close the district offices, he said, Washington headquarters will have to handle approval of certain contracts and the making of certain appointments now delegated to them.

It would cost as much to do this in Washington, he added.

Dam Won't Change Fishing Rights

SPOKANE, Feb. 12 (AP)—Indian fishing rights will not be affected by construction of McNary dam, the government said yesterday in

answers to suits filed by the Nez Perce and Yakima tribes.

The answers, filed by Federal District Attorney Harvey W. Erickson, contend that plans to include a fish ladder at both sides of the river barrier will prevent damage to the fishery. Construction of a fish hatchery below the dam also is contemplated, he said.

Hearing on the case is tentatively set for April in Yakima district court.

The Nez Perce tribe has requested damages of \$10,000,000 and the Yakimas seek \$20,000,000.

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