

1952 May Set Record As Worst Year For Polio

By WARREN BENNETT
 Associated Press Staff Writer

The nation is undergoing its worst polio epidemic in history, reports the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

There were 2,824 new polio cases reported by the U.S. Public Health Service for the week ending September 6, latest for which national figures are available. This is the highest single weekly total ever recorded and brings the number of 1952 cases to 27,359.

This year's epidemic already is within five per cent of the total number of cases for all of 1951, third worst year on record—up to now. The worst previous year was 1949 when 42,366 cases were reported.

On the Pacific coast, polio continues to present a serious problem. Polio incidence in California is lower only in comparison with the more heavily stricken regions of the southwest and midwest. Farther north, Washington is one of the major trouble spots in this year's outbreak.

This year's epidemic brought a record demand for iron lungs. In August when it became evident the nation might be facing its worst polio siege, the National Foundation ordered 200 more respirators and factories worked overtime to produce them.

During the week ending Sept. 6, 186 iron lungs were sped to emergency areas by plane, train and truck, bringing the total for the year to 1,077—more than in any previous full year.

The National Foundation, which is supported solely by March of Dimes contributions, was compelled to go into debt \$5,000,000 in 1950 and again in 1951 to provide funds for patient care. The Foundation spent \$22,000,000 on patient care in 1949 and \$21,000,000 in each of 1950 and 1951.

A Foundation spokesman said that 69.7 per cent of all March of

Dimes funds go for patient care. With more cases than ever before, plus the added factor of increased costs, the spokesman said the Foundation is certain to spend more on patient care this year than ever before.

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Hughes Sells RKO Shares For Seven Million Dollars

HOLLYWOOD (AP)—Millionaire industrialist Howard Hughes announced early today the outright sale of his controlling interest in RKO Pictures Corp., producers and distributors of motion pictures, for \$7,000,000.

Purchasers are a group of California and Midwest businessmen headed by Ralph Stolkin, 34-year-old Chicago mail order millionaire.

The sum covers the purchase of 1,013,430 shares of stock at \$7 per share. This amounts to about a 30 per cent interest in the studio.

Recent reports said Edward Burk and Robert Hayes of San Antonio, Tex., and Ray Ryan of Evansville, Ind., would be associated with Stolkin in the deal.

Hughes, who owns an aircraft plant, an oil tool business and a big interest in Transworld Airline, issued this statement on the transaction:

"The buyers have assured me that they will pursue a program of top-grade production of motion pictures for exhibition and motion pictures.

"They further assure me their plans encompass a strong policy of distribution in this country and throughout the world, utilizing the full facilities of the world-wide RKO distributing organization."

RKO Pictures Corp. is one of two firms stemming from Radio-Keith-Orpheum Corp. Hughes still owns \$28,000 of 3,914,913 shares outstanding—of 24 per cent—in RKO theaters Corp. This corporation is the other firm growing out of Radio-Keith-Orpheum.

Stolkin is no newcomer to Hollywood. He headed screen associates, which produced the Dean Martin-Jerry Lewis film "At War With the Army."

Friends say Stolkin is something of a financial wizard. He is said to have parlayed a \$15,000 loan into Empire Industries, which net-

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Gideons To Meet Here

Klamath Falls will be the state convention site in 1953 to the Gideons convention, Vote for Klamath Falls against Medford was 26 to 22, according to E. V. Zell, treasurer of the local camp, who with Mrs. Zell and others, went to Coquille for the state convention, Sept. 19-21.

Some 150 delegates attended the convention and 250 were present for the banquet last Saturday night. Going up for the banquet were Mr. and Mrs. John P. Sexton, Mr. and Mrs. Rodney C. Larson and Mr. and Mrs. B. K. Robinson.

State officials are Harry Reicher, Washington County Camp president; Fay Miller, Albany-Corvallis Camp, vice president; Ed Newman, Rogue Valley Camp, secretary; John Schilling, Coos-Curry Camp, treasurer and Mr. Wilson, Portland Camp, chaplain.

GRAND BEACH, Canada (AP)—A 6-foot bear which frequented the business section of this community for three weeks was finally cornered by a party of sharpshooters at the town dump, and killed.

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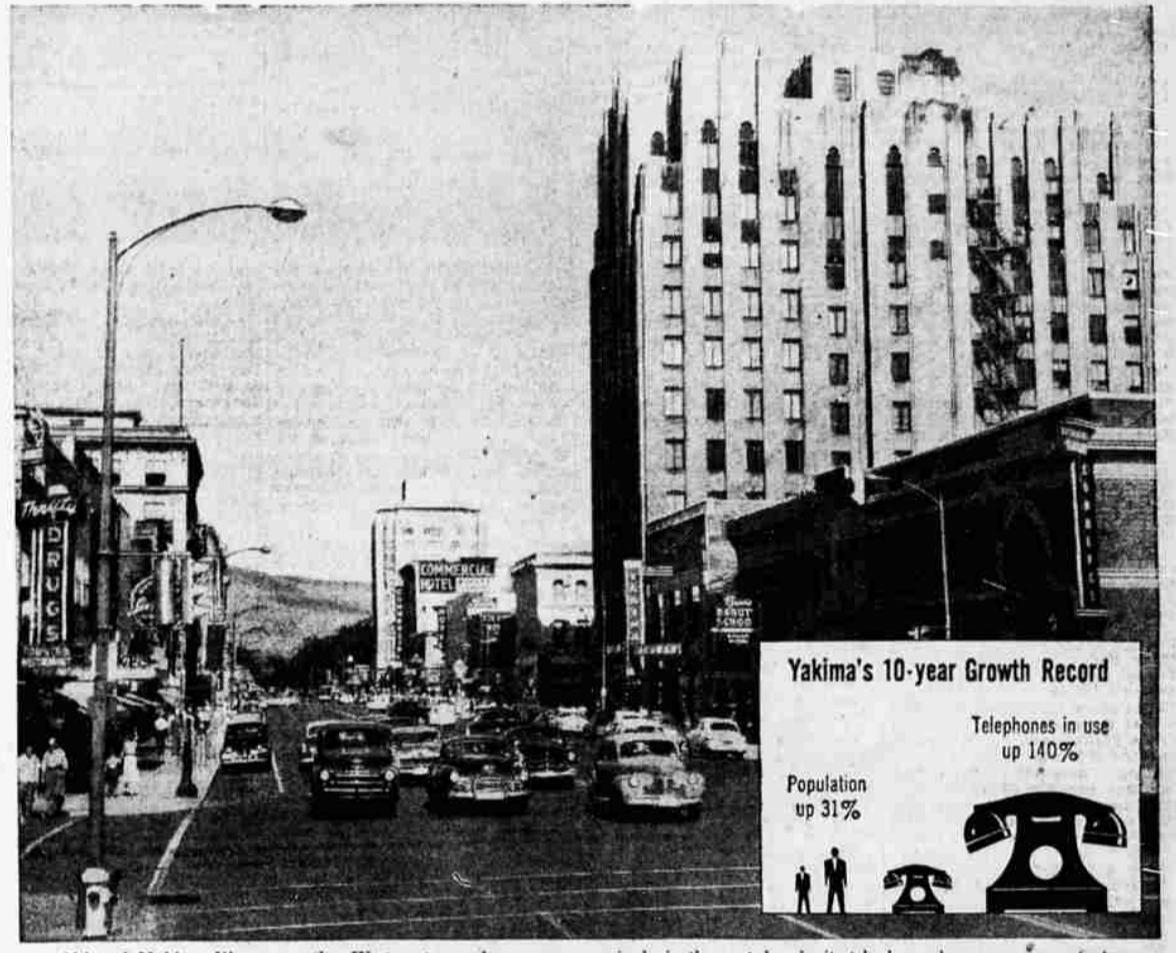
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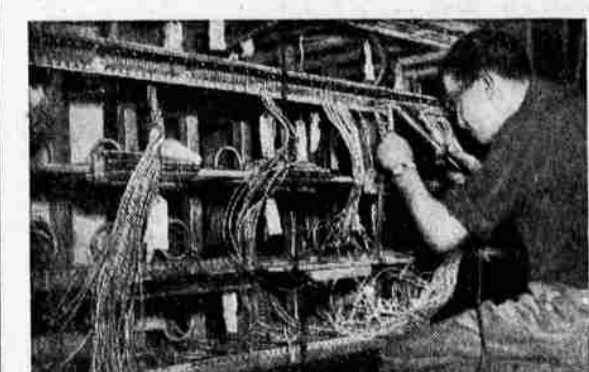


Although Yakima, like many other Western towns, has grown amazingly in the past decade, its telephones have grown even faster.

What's going on in Yakima?

You may find this is the telephone story of your town, too

1. Lying at the foot of the majestic Cascade Mountains in central Washington is fertile Yakima County, now ranking sixth in agricultural production among all the counties in the nation. Its economic center is the city of Yakima which, of course, has shared the county's growth during and after World War II. Our Yakima exchange area has, for instance, grown from about 54,000 population in 1942 to more than 71,000 in 1952. Prosperity has come to the valley, too. The county's income, in 1942, was about \$59 million. In 1952, it will approach \$161 million. And in these figures lies the challenge of record-breaking telephone growth: More people in the area—with more money to spend for telephones. Here's how we accepted that challenge.



2. We began building new telephone facilities in the city of Yakima shortly after materials became available following the war. An addition—three stories and a basement—was added to our telephone building, enlarging it by more than 50 per cent. We put in more than 28,000 miles of wire between 1946 and 1951. We had 43 operators at work in Yakima in 1942. Today there are 142 operators. We put in enough central office equipment to double our call-handling capacity between 1943 and 1951.



3. Telephones went in—and fast—as a result of our putting more than \$4 million into Yakima's telephone plant in just ten years. Today there are about 23,000 telephones in Yakima. In 1942 we served about 10,500. But even this increase, rapid and expensive as it was, hasn't been enough. For a time, we practically caught up with Yakima's demand for new telephones. But, once again, more people in Yakima want telephones than our equipment there can serve. Yet, in the face of materials shortages, we'll keep doing our best to take care of our present orders...as well as those which we know still lie ahead.

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Throughout the West, the Yakima story has been repeated in hundreds of places. Fast as the population has grown, the telephone has grown at an even faster rate...twice as fast, in fact, in the territory we serve. For at today's prices, the telephone is so economical more people can afford it...so useful, more people want it.

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