

Jolly Saint Nick Missing From Top U.S. Toy Store

By GAY PAULEY
UPI Women's Editor

NEW YORK (UPI)—The nation's best-known toy store has no Santa Claus!

This came as quite a shock to me; I expected Santa with his "ho ho ho" and "what do you want for Christmas sonny?" to be as traditional with F.A.O. Schwarz as its catering to the carriage trade.

"We don't have a Santa because we don't believe anyone can imitate the old gentleman," said Charles Veysey, executive vice president of the 86-year-old company. "Santas after all are to attract children, and we don't need to do that."

"One year," he added, "someone dreamed up the idea we should have some telephone Santas; let the children call and at least talk. The result was pandemonium. Our switchboard was jammed. Businessmen complained they couldn't get a call home to their wives to tell 'em what train they'd be on. We gave this up in a hurry."

But even without Saint Nick the store is a wonderland for children, and nostalgic adults at this time of the year. Especially a wonderland if pop is well-heeled.

Casing two floors of what Veysey said was 20,000 square feet of space containing 9,000 types of toys, I found these stuffers for the Christmas stocking:

A cedar log cabin, measuring six by nine feet, with porch and lookout tower, for \$563. Veysey said eight already had been sold by mail order, including one to a customer in Switzerland.

A child-size Thunderbird, battery-powered for \$507; an off-white monkey, who sits and smokes (honest), for \$295; a six-foot, stuffed okapi, for \$295; a life-like cow, who chews her cud, for \$175.

A grocery store with groceries for \$95; a toy refrigerator, bigger than some of those in modern apartment kitchens, for \$50; a sink, for \$72.50; and a two-story colonial doll house, for \$218.

Women's Club Names Chiefs

WEED — Installation of officers and acceptance of bylaws set the newly formed Weed Republican Women's Club Federated activities in official motion at the organizational meeting held November 19.

Mrs. Lucile Hosmer, San Mateo, and Mrs. Helen Hollenbeck, Quincy, president and vice president, respectively, of the California Federation of Republican Women Northern Division, were the guest speakers for the meeting held at the Weed Courthouse.

Mrs. Hosmer installed the newly elected officers for a two year term including: Mrs. Isabel Eiler, Gazette, president; Mrs. Louise Vidricksen, vice president; Mrs. Elwin Adams, secretary; Mrs. Merilee Franklin, treasurer. Appointed officers include: Mrs. Etta Kyle, membership, who is handling registration of charter members this week; Mrs. Marna Young, parliamentarian; Mrs. Lucille I. Gaynor, public relations; Mrs. Virginia Mellon, chaplain.

The new slate of elective officers was reported by the nominating committee that included: Mrs. Vidricksen, chairman; Mrs. Hazel Hickey, Mrs. M. Tobin and Mrs. Dorothy Mitchell. The bylaws committee consisted of Mrs. Camille Zwanziger, Mrs. Leland Stone and Mrs. Kyle.

The Weed RWC Federated will meet monthly and welcomes Republican women to join.

SHIP SCHEDULES SERVICE
BREMEN, Germany (UPI) — The 32,000-ton Bremen, West Germany's largest postwar ocean liner, will make its maiden voyage to New York July 9, 1959, the ship's owners announced today. North German Lloyd Co. said the vessel, the former French liner Pasteur now undergoing modernization at a Bremen shipyard, will make regularly scheduled runs between Bremerhaven and New York.



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"That includes the curtains," said a saleswoman.

Veysey assured me there are plenty of toys less astronomical in price — some for as low as \$1. But it's the larger sales that get mentioned most frequently. There was the year a customer bought an entire electric train display for \$3,000; the time a Canadian bought a whole window display which included reindeer, huskie, seal, Eskimo and simulated ice.

Veysey said toy preferences run in cycles, and this year looks like a good one for individual items such as a ballistic missile, a satellite launcher, and a fish that swallows another. Sometimes even with all its years of experience, Schwarz misjudges the length of a cycle.

"We're still trying to get rid of Davy Crockett caps," the store's chief buyer said.



ALL-STAR GIRL among Siskiyou County 4-Hers is Carol Lee Hammond of the Etna 4-H Club. Here she is awarded the blue and gold star by Marion Brooks, president of the 4-H County Council, at the county's achievement night.

NONAGENARIAN MARRIES
ESTORIL, Portugal (UPI)—Antonio Bruno Vargas and his new bride Rosa Soares de Navarro left here today on their honeymoon. He is 90 years old and she is 88. They were married in the chapel of St. Pedro de Estoril here Friday.

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Montgomery Circuit Jury Acquits Negro Of Charge

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP)—A Circuit Court jury deliberated just 10 minutes Friday night before acquitting Edward Davis, 27, Negro, of charges that he attacked the Rev. Ralph D. Abernathy with a hatchet.

Davis' 21-year-old wife had testified earlier that she had submitted to unnatural sexual relations with Abernathy three times before her marriage.

Davis testified in his own de-

fense and denied that he made any real effort to harm the Negro minister.

He said he was armed with a pistol and a hatchet when he went to Abernathy's office, but said he carried the weapons "only to scare him up real good."

Davis, former halfback at Alabama State College, had been accused of attacking the integration leader Aug. 29. He said he went to Abernathy's office to warn him

to leave his wife alone. She testified that Abernathy "never stopped chasing me" even after she married and that he had telephoned her on the day her husband went to see him.

Mrs. Davis testified that she submitted to unnatural sex relations with Abernathy when she was 15 years old. She was a member of his church at that time, but has since joined another church.

Abernathy a leader in the Montgomery Negro bus boycott nearly three years ago, denied that he had ever had sex relations with the woman.

Abernathy, called as a witness by the defense, testified that Davis once offered to "bump off" any candidate for governor that Negro leaders in Montgomery didn't want elected.

Davis denied making any such offer.

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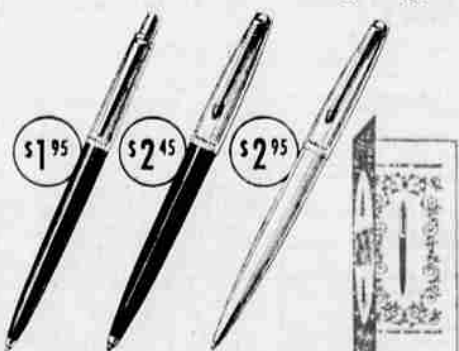
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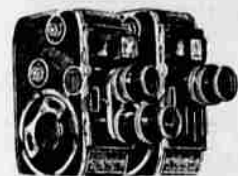
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