



OREGON CENTENNIAL STAMP will go on sale February 14, 1959 at Astoria. It was designed by Robert Hall of Newtont, Connecticut. It will be printed in blue-green color and initial printing will consist of 120 million stamps.

## Oregon Centennial Stamp Slated For February Sale

The four-cent Oregon Statehood Centennial commemorative, to be placed on sale February 14 at Astoria, will symbolize the end of the long overland trek of its original settlers, according to Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield.

Robert Hall of Newtont, Connecticut, is the artist who designed the forthcoming commemorative stamp. It emphasizes a rear view of an unhorsed covered wagon, typical of those used over the Oregon Trail by the early settlers. The stamp design depicts the covered wagon in the center with Mount Hood to the right. The terrain slopes to the left, or west, meeting the Pacific Ocean.

The new stamp, measuring 0.84 by 1.44 inches, arranged horizontally, will be printed in a blue-green color in sheets of 50, electric-eye perforated and printed by the rotary process. An initial printing of 120 million has been authorized.

Collectors desiring first day cancellations may send addressed envelopes to the Postmaster, Astoria, Oregon, with remittance to

## California Weather

United Press International  
San Francisco Bay Area: Fair today with some high cloudiness, cloudy tonight and occasional light rain Saturday; high today 62-67; low tonight 45-52; gentle winds becoming southerly 8-15 m.p.h. Saturday; rain probability 30 per cent tonight and 70 per cent Saturday.

Sierra Nevada: Mostly fair today and tonight; cloudy Saturday with occasional rain. Yosemite: northward late in day; cooler northern ranges Saturday.

Sacramento Valley: Fair with variable high cloudiness today; increasing cloudiness tonight; cloudy Saturday with occasional rain likely most of valley by late in day; cooler Saturday; high today 65-70; Saturday 60-65; low tonight 42-48; gentle winds becoming southerly 10-15 m.p.h. Saturday.

San Joaquin Valley: Fair today and tonight; cloudy Saturday with occasional very light rain possible from Stockton northward; slightly cooler; high both days 63-68; gentle winds.

Northwestern California: Low overcast near coast and high cloudiness inland today; cloudy tonight with occasional rain. Fort Bragg northward beginning during the night and spreading to entire area by Saturday afternoon; slightly cooler inland; high today and low tonight 54-60; Ukiah 63-65; Santa Rosa 66-65; coastal winds southerly increasing to 15-30 m.p.h. Saturday.

Population of Ireland is about 2,989,700.

## Weather Table

United Press International  
Temperatures and rainfall for 24 hours ending at 4 a.m.

|                | High | Low | Rain |
|----------------|------|-----|------|
| Albuquerque    | 58   | 32  |      |
| Atlanta        | 52   | 34  |      |
| Boise          | 41   | 23  |      |
| Boston         | 31   | 25  |      |
| Brownsville    | 74   | 53  |      |
| Chicago        | 40   | 32  |      |
| Denver         | 59   | 39  |      |
| Detroit        | 32   | 28  |      |
| El Centro      | 70   | 42  |      |
| Fairbanks      | -3   | -10 |      |
| Fort Worth     | 64   | 37  |      |
| Fresno         | 65   | 31  |      |
| Helena         | 59   | 29  |      |
| Kansas City    | 55   | 39  |      |
| Los Angeles    | 73   | 48  |      |
| Miami          | 75   | 49  |      |
| Minneapolis    | 37   | 29  |      |
| New Orleans    | 66   | 40  |      |
| New York       | 38   | 30  |      |
| Oakland        | 72   | 53  |      |
| Oklahoma City  | 61   | 39  |      |
| Phoenix        | 72   | 45  |      |
| Pittsburgh     | 33   | 30  |      |
| Red Bluff      | 72   | 33  |      |
| Reno           | 60   | 17  |      |
| Sacramento     | 64   | 37  |      |
| Salt Lake City | 48   | 25  |      |
| San Diego      | 73   | 48  |      |
| San Francisco  | 66   | 52  |      |
| Seattle        | 54   | 38  |      |
| Spokane        | 67   | 32  |      |
| Stockton       | 67   | 32  |      |
| Thermal        | 70   | 34  |      |
| Tucson         | 79   | 42  |      |
| Washington     | 42   | 25  |      |

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## Famous Letter Writer Schedules Retirement

By H. D. QUIGG  
United Press International  
NEW YORK (UPI) — Sixty-one years ago Virginia O'Hanlon wrote one of the world's most famous letters. In it she asked the question—Is there a Santa Claus?

"I am ready to retire," said the gentle, blue-eyed lady today. She spoke with only the slightest quaver, in sure, cultured cadences.

"Next July, I will be 70 years old, and I've been teaching in the New York public schools roughly 43 years. I intend to finish out the spring term. Retirement is mandatory at 70."

One short half-term as a junior principal and then retirement in a quiet apartment in Manhattan, the island that has always been home for Mrs. Laura Virginia O'Hanlon Douglas. She was born in Manhattan July 20, 1889, not far from the spot where Clement Clarke Moore wrote the verse that begins "Twas the Night Before Christmas."

Her father, Dr. Philip F. O'Hanlon, a physician and surgeon, later moved his family up-town into a four-story brick house with brownstone trimmings at the front. Her room had a fireplace where she always hung a stocking on Christmas Eve. The tree was in the parlor downstairs.

"One of my earliest memories is of the sound of the bells on the sleighs outside—a lovely sound in winter—I'm sorry children don't hear them now," she said. "And I still have the old-fashioned ornaments we used on our Christmas tree. They are used to help decorate the tree of my seven grandchildren every year."

One day, when Virginia O'Hanlon was eight, she came home from Public School 93 with word that some of her little friends were saying there is no Santa Claus. She put it squarely up to her father.

"My dear father was always a great pal of mine. I felt he was being equivocal in the way he was answering—he wasn't saying yes with conviction, and he wasn't saying no. I told him I was going to ask our family newspaper, the Sun. Papa was delighted—it was an out for him."

Virginia got a sheet of the family's best heavy writing paper. She went to her father's second-floor office, took a stub pen, and wrote a letter starting "dear editor" and ending: "Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?"

The answer, an editorial written by Francis B. Church in the Sun, has been reproduced all over the world and is held to be the most famous editorial article ever written.

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## SP-AF Spat Termed Draw

VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. (AP)—The battle of train vs. missile has been declared a draw.

The question of which has priority—train or missile—came up Tuesday during the first West Coast launching of a Thor intermediate range ballistic missile.

Several rains were waved through while crews prepared to launch the Thor. The tracks pass through the base about three quarters of a mile from the launching pads.

The Air Force said it has signed an agreement with the Southern Pacific Railroad not to schedule missile firings to interfere with scheduled train movement. The SP, in return, agreed that unscheduled freight trains would be delayed on each side of the base during firings.

## Inquest Set For MacLaren

SALEM (AP)—An inquest today is scheduled here in the case of a MacLaren School for Boys inmate who died after a fight.

William James, 16, Grants Pass, died Thursday as an ambulance rushed him to a Portland hospital.

School officials said James 11 hours earlier had been knocked down in a fight for an empty chair in a cottage at the Woodburn institution.

An autopsy was held later Thursday, and coroner's deputy Lee Edwards said a skull fracture and brain hemorrhage caused death.

School officials said James was knocked down while fighting with Donald Paul Long, 15, Toledo.

Long had been sent to the school Nov. 14 after being arrested on a burglary charge.

James was returned to the school Nov. 10 after escaping earlier. Police also had arrested him on a burglary charge.

The fight occurred Wednesday afternoon. Hours later the youth became ill. When he went into convulsions, James was rushed to Portland.

Police said Hanson's head struck the stair steps and the floor. He was dead when a doctor arrived. Hanson's parents said he tripped and fell while bringing Christmas decorations downstairs.

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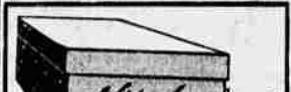
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## Carpenter Dies In Stair Fall

ATLANTA (AP) — An Atlanta carpenter fell down a flight of stairs Thursday night with an armful of Christmas decorations and was killed.

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Sun about such things as pronunciation of words," she said, "and when I wrote my letter I never expected there'd be anything but a yes or no answer."

"Our first word of the editorial came when a lovely gentleman, Mr. Matthews, an officer of the Actor's Fund, met my father and said: 'Did you see today's answer to Virginia's letter?'"

The famous answer assured Virginia, that there is indeed a Santa Claus—"he exists as certainly as love and generosity and

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Cigarette Lighters  
Lunch Kits  
House Thermometers  
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Watches  
Razors, Gillette Gem Enders  
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Ash Trays  
Shaving Sets  
Shaving Soaps  
Nail Sets  
Sun Ray Lights  
Pencil Sharpener  
Heat Pads  
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Comb Brush Sets  
Tobacco Pouches  
Cigarette Cases  
Shaving Mirrors  
Shaving Brushes

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Compacts  
Boxes Candy  
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Heating Pads  
Jewelry  
Lighters  
Lipsticks  
Manicure Sets  
Perfumes  
Playing Cards  
Soaps  
Toilet Waters  
Cotys Sets  
Revlon Sets  
Travel Alarms  
Jeweled Perfume Bottles  
Jeweled Powder Boxes  
Ash Trays  
Atomizer Perfume  
Body Powder  
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Armored Cars  
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