

### College Chief Said Missing

MARSHALL, Mo. (AP)—Dr. M. Earle Collins, president of Missouri Valley College, has been missing since early Christmas Day.

His wife notified police when he failed to return from Christmas Eve church services.

But a son-in-law, Jamie Hogue, said "We are not worried about him." He said Dr. Collins, 55, had planned to leave Thursday for Orlando, Fla., where the school's football team plays East Texas State in the Tangerine Bowl Friday.

Hogue said Dr. Collins, at the last minute, apparently changed his plans to leave in the afternoon from Kansas City and caught an early morning train at Springfield, Mo., instead.

Dr. Collins' car was found near the railroad station in Springfield and a railroad ticket agent identified a picture of Dr. Collins as that of a man who bought a ticket for Orlando. The man showed identification to obtain a ministerial discount.

Missouri Valley is a Presbyterian college and Dr. Collins is a church elder.

A reporter and the station master at Birmingham, Ala., went through the train from Springfield when it stopped there Thursday night but did not find Dr. Collins.

Later, Hogue said the family believed the college president may have left the train at Memphis and continued his trip by air. But a search in Memphis for him was unsuccessful.

### Unloaded Pistol Kills Trucker

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—A truck driver killed himself Thursday night while trying to prove his pistol wasn't loaded.

Police said Michael W. Buckley, 25, was showing his .32 automatic to his mother-in-law, Mrs. Manuel Baesa, when she begged him to put it away.

"Don't worry," he said. "This isn't loaded. See..."

He raised the gun to his right temple, squeezed the trigger and fired a bullet through his head.

### Lad Flees Meal With Revolver

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—A juvenile detention home inmate stole a pistol and ammunition and fled from a private home where he had been invited for Christmas dinner, police reported.

Lewis Waldman, 13, was arrested two hours later by Patrolman H. E. Lay of the suburban Belle Meade police department.

Lay said the boy still had the .38 caliber pistol and 75 rounds of ammunition in his pocket.

### REPORT CIGARETTE SALES

NEW YORK (UPI)—Business Week Magazine said Thursday night a record 424 billion cigarettes were sold in the United States this year.

### Young Engineer's Voice Heard On Space Satellite

CORONA, Calif. (AP)—The young engineer's voice crackled across the heavens:

"This is Prado Dam United States Army Signal Research and Development Laboratory, Corona, Calif. . . ."

Then Sam Findler read the President's now famous satellite Christmas message.

Tumbling through the dark void of space, the orbiting Atlas satellite picked up the transmission and broadcast it back to another tracking station at Ft. Sam Houston, Tex.

Thus, last Saturday, the voice of Findler, 34, became the first other than the President's to be broadcast from outer space.

The engineer from Neptune,

N.J., told Thursday how it was done.

Early in November Findler headed an 11-man team that moved like a band of well equipped gypsies into the rolling foothills near Prado Dam, about 50 miles southwest of Los Angeles. Their job was secret to set up a satellite tracking station and stand ready.

On a hillside a few hundred yards from a busy highway, Findler and his men set up the portable generator, radio direction finder, four large coil antennae and other material needed to track and talk to the satellite.

They managed to brush off questions by occasional passers-by. The team lived a few miles away in a Corona motel. They avoided the townspeople. There were many pinocle games in the motel room. Time dragged.

Then last week at Cape Canaveral, Fla., the Atlas blasted off with a fiery swoosh. The waiting for Findler and company had ended.

"The satellite arrived over Corona within two minutes of the predicted time and was within one half degree of predicted bearing," said Findler.

Since then Findler's team of Army and civilian engineers have kept an around the clock watch on the 4-ton satellite.

Findler read the President's Christmas message to the station's communication experiments. Since then other messages by voice and teletype code have been transmitted to and re-broadcast back from the satellite.

The tracking station, one of four, will remain in operation as long as the satellite can broadcast.

### Grandchildren Get Fire Engine

DENVER (AP)—Santa Claus normally doesn't need much help but when the order is for a fire engine, it helps to know a fellow like Marvin K. Maus.

Maus has three grandchildren—Don, 3, Dick, 5, and Debra, Maus, 6. They wanted a full-fledged fire engine for Christmas. It happens that Maus is representative of the American-LaFrance Corp., which manufactures fire equipment. He knew of an old retired engine owned by the Boulder, Colo., fire department.

Christmas morning, the grandchildren heard a fire engine wailing and ran to the window. The monstrous red vehicle parked at the curb outside was theirs.

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