THE FIRST STEP to summer camp was taken Friday when Girl Scouts opened their annual cookie sale. Proceeds will help finance 10 days at Camp Esther Applegate at Lake of the Woods for about 250 girls. The girls will sell their distinctive mint cookies door-to-door and at special downtown centers until April 6. These hard working scouts are Marliss McFarlane, left, and Christine Stoneburg.

FIRST PRIZE in an essay contest sponsored by Merrill VFW Auxiliary at Merrill High School went to Janice Hedrick, center, 15-year-old sophomore. Left is Charlene McMenamy, third place winner, a 15-year-old sophomore. Joyce Noonan, 17, a junior, and second place winner is shown at right. Contest theme was "Civil Defense — An American Tradition." Mrs. Alonzo Hodges was chairman for the event.

Chief's Policy To Get Test

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP)—President Frondizi's tighten-your-belts policy goes to a national test Sunday when more than 10 million Argentines vote for half the federal congress.

But government supporters say that the worst that could come to Frondizi would be a loss of prestige, and not any practical political defeat.

A crushing victory for the opposition parties or for the "blank" vote asked for by the outlawed Peronista and Communist parties would mean a moral defeat for the Frondizi government and its free-enterprise, austerity economic program. But it is virtually impossible for the administration to lose its control of Congress.

Even a complete defeat in Sunday's election of 97 members would leave Frondizi's Intransigent Radical party in the majority in the House.

Most observers believe the government party's candidates will win at least 30 seats. This would give them a two-thirds majority in the House.

The all-Intransigent Senate has no vacancies this year.

The election campaign has been carried out mostly on economic issues, with Frondizi's forces harping on the theme that a vote for them is a vote for the future of the country.

INQUEST OUTDATED

WENDOVER, England (UPI) — The local coroner planned to hold an inquest on a recently unearthed skeleton, but cancelled it yesterday when pathologists reported the bones were about 500 years old.

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Emoters Rehearsing

LAKEVIEW — The annual all high school play, sponsored by the junior class of the Lakeview High School, is in rehearsal for staging the evening of Friday, April 1, in the high school auditorium.

A mystery thriller, "The Night Is My Enemy," is the choice for this year's performance and from the opening line to the final curtain suspense and terror are interwoven with humor to provide an entertaining evening.

Faculty director is Mrs. Fern Walton, and student director is Kathy Wallis.

Chosen for the cast were Sandra Watts as Roane Shepperley; Mary Lee Scoville as Tessie; Janet Faris as Margaret Biller; Jim Griener as Tommy; Sherry Jarman as Hester Fontaine.

Marie Simms will play Augusta Garvey; Milton Davis, Gerald Clayton; Mike Tooke, Ora Fontaine; Pete Kimzey, the inspector; Bob Ackerman, Hubert Biller.

Others assisting in the production are Judy Barry, Donna Riggs and Lynda Baker, costumes; Susan Jones, properties; junior class, publicity.

Hazel Porter, Martha Bush, Lois Edwards, Elva Bratton, Mary Fenimore, Carole Tainter and Elaine Morehead will handle make-up; Dick Maxwell, Sandy Meisner, Larry Yates and Larry Decker, stage; Gayle Teet, prompter; Onneta Elie will be business manager.

Court Records

KLAMATH FALLS MUNICIPAL COURT

Carl Lloyd Brown, disorderly conduct, dismissed.

Donald Huitt Switlick, reckless driving, $25 or five days.

OK TO SUE STAR

DUBLIN (UPI) — Plough Productions Ltd. of Dublin has received permission from the high court here to serve a summons on American television star Ed Sullivan.

The company claims Sullivan owes it $3,000 for the right to use its filmed interview between playwright Sean O'Casey and actor Barry Fitzgerald, even though the film was not used.

Secretary Of Agriculture Will Probably Quit Post

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Where does Ezra Taft Benson go from here?

It is obvious that the secretary of agriculture does not see eye to eye with Vice President Richard M. Nixon on farm policy. Nixon is almost certain to be nominated for President at the Republican National Convention in July.

Assuming this, how secure will be Benson's position in the cabinet? To long time observers, it seems far too late for the controversial farm chief to change his concept of what is best for American agriculture to mesh with that of Nixon. Benson is a strong party man. So, in order to avoid embarrassing the prospective candidate, will he resign, or will he sit out the campaign, conducting merely a holding operation until the Eisenhower administration expires next Jan. 20?

It was clear to reporters at a Benson news conference last week that he is not enthusiastic for Nixon as the Republican nominee. He withheld endorsement of Nixon's candidacy. But he said that he believed Nixon would make a good President.

Benson noted that Nixon now is the only candidate for the Republican nomination. He said "It would appear" that if there was no other candidate "he would have my support." Later, before TV cameras, Benson modified this somewhat by saying "It would appear that I will be in support of the vice president because he's the candidate that seems to be the one that will get the nomination."

The differences between Nixon and Benson apparently began in 1955 when the price of hogs dropped sharply. Nixon called Benson to his Capitol Hill office and reportedly there were sharp words between them over Benson's refusal to support the price of live hogs. The idea of support of livestock prices was and is entirely foreign to the Benson-Eisenhower farm policy.

Then, last Dec. 31, after New York Gov. Nelson Rockefeller had withdrawn from the Republican presidential race, Benson held a news conference in which he attempted to identify Nixon with the administration's farm program.

At that time, Benson endorsed Nixon's candidacy.

"Yes, he is my candidate, of course," Benson said. "He appears to be out in front and I feel he would make a good President."

"I see no reason why he wouldn't support the (farm) program he supported and helped develop."

Nixon said nothing. But shortly after the first of the year he began delving into farm policy on his own, without Benson's advice.

At his March 17 news conference, Benson answered testily when he was asked twice if he and Nixon had conferred on a farm program that Nixon might espouse.

"This whole discussion is wearing pretty thin," Benson said, his face flushed.

Benson has been a whipping boy for Congress. He has been criticized, sometimes harshly, by members of both parties, by innumerable farmers, and by all major farm organizations except the American Farm Bureau Federation.

His neck has been on the chopping block often, and many times it appeared the ax would fall. At least one congressional delegation of Republicans asked President Eisenhower to fire him.

Benson weathered all storms. He has said that either of his presidents—of the United States and of the Mormon Church—could get his job at any time. Neither ever asked for it.

But things have changed, and will change more. After the July convention Eisenhower, his powerful friend, will become more of a lame duck president. Eisenhower's voice in the Republican party will become less loud than it is now. It might not be loud enough to save Benson's job as it has many times.

If Nixon develops his own farm program, and it is at variance with Benson's, where can Benson go except back to Salt Lake City to resume his duties as an apostle of the Mormon Church?

The July convention action could make his political position untenable.

GATES IN BERLIN

BERLIN (UPI) — U. S. Defense Secretary Thomas S. Gates arrived here Thursday for a 20-hour visit in what he called "the crucial outpost of the free world."

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