

Klamath Nursing Home Patients Looking Forward To 'Share Christmas' Program

By RUTH KING
A "Share Your Christmas" program for the elderly men and women who live at the Klamath Nursing Home is proposed by the Herald and News, with folks of the Klamath Basin asked to give a helping hand.



MRS. AMELIA WICKERSHAM has been in Klamath Falls for many years. Friends and customers will remember her as an office assistant at the R. H. Dunbar Insurance Agency. She was hospitalized after an illness and spent many months in bed but is improved. Here she chats with Mrs. Madelyn Brown, R.N., superintendent at the nursing home for three years who has been with the staff since June, 1954. Mrs. Wickersham has one son, Gerald B. Wickersham, a daughter, Mrs. Howard Dooge, both of Klamath Falls, five grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.



AMBULATORY AND WHEEL CHAIR residents gather in a big, clean, cheerful room to rest, visit, read, play games or listen to the radio. Visits from friends and families, and the fact they are sometimes remembered in other ways by folks elsewhere, bring happiness to those unable to longer fill a niche in the work-a-day world. Olaf Olson, left, born in central Sweden, came to the U. S. in 1914, eventually reached Klamath Falls in 1925 and went to work as a logger for many of the big lumber mills. He doesn't smoke, likes candy. Center is Wisconsin born Vernon Hewitt, here since 1927, who spent several years as a steam shovel operator with Dunn and Baker. His children are in Minneapolis. He smokes. Right is Hughey Barnes who came from Oklahoma in 1914 and worked with Olaf Olson. He has no

Caryl's Lawyer Decides To Back Accused Airman

TOKYO (UPI) — George T. Davis, the San Francisco lawyer who defended Caryl Chessman, said he had decided to take the case of a young California airman accused of strangling a Japanese bar hostess.

Davis told UPI he made the decision after talking to Airman 2.C. Ronald P. Martin, Visalia, who will come to trial Dec. 19 on charges of killing Miss Kako Bijun.

Hearing the case in Japanese District Court will be Judge Yuzo Kawachi, who presided over the trial of American soldier William S. Girard who killed a Japanese shell picker on a firing range three years ago.

Davis came to Japan Sunday on a ticket paid for by citizens of Visalia to talk with Martin and to decide whether to defend him.

Also in Japan was Martin's mother, Mrs. Anne Pannicia, who also had her fare paid for by Visalia contributions. She returned to the United States Thursday. Davis left Thursday for Hong Kong and Manila and then return to the West Coast.

Martin was accused of killing the girl after making a round of bars with her and then going to her house. He was charged with first choking her with a towel and then with two knotted handker-

chief. Earlier reports said the slaying followed an argument over a small debt the girl said he owed her.

Davis made it clear he would base his defense on Martin's mental condition.

"This case deserves thorough psychiatric treatment and analysis," he said. "I'm going to try to persuade the War Department to let me return with a top flight psychiatrist from the Bay Area in order to interrogate this boy under sodium pentathol (so-called truth serum)."

"This boy is so foggy about details of what happened that night and so mentally unbalanced that I can't have a normal complete interview with him. The only way I think it can be done is under pentathol."

Martin, who was 20 at the time of the killing, is confined at the U.S. Air Force Base at Tachika, Japan, near Tokyo. Although he will be tried by Japanese courts, he will be held in U.S. military custody until a decision is reached.

joy out of Christmas. It's the clasp of a hand, a pat on the back, the personal visit that brightens the eyes of those who through illness, financial difficulties or lack of family now live as a group.

This year the Herald and News proposes to play Santa Claus to the folks out there, just under the brow of the hill off Summers Lane.

A jolly Santa, complete with filled pack will head for the big "parlor" at the home to distribute gifts, personalized gifts with names of the elderly on Christmas tags for an hour of fun before Christmas. The newspaper will provide ice cream and cake.

Persons in the community are being given an opportunity to provide the gifts.

We spent part of an afternoon at the home last week to find out what is most dear to the hearts of those who will be distant from their hearths when Dec. 25 comes. Their wants are few.

Like all women, from first to last, they love colognes, the solid kind that can be handled easily by stricken hands or in bed without spilling. They like bath powder, too, and the nurses who minister to their patients with gentleness and understanding, promise it will be used. Pretty bottles that add a bright note to a bedside table will be cherished for a long, long time.

We were surprised not one whit to discover that almost without exception the men liked to smoke. Other faces brightened when they asked for cookies, home-baked cookies, no doubt with thoughts of other years in a kitchen somewhere, with spicy whiffs coming from a hot oven.

Spending an afternoon with the folks out there is an experience that should be shared. They come from the business world, from

families where possibly economic pressure has forced a separation... they have been teachers and secretaries, housewives and farm women, loggers and railroad men, caskinners and carpenters. Many have no relatives left to visit them. Others have families far away. Some have faithful sons and daughters who visit them regularly but who have found the care of an aged parent impossible under today's living demands. Whatever the reason for their being there, they crave contact with the outside world. They need to see folks to chat a bit, to be told some interesting bit of news, to be read to. Some are blind, some cannot hear or walk. Some have speech impediments following illnesses.

Anyone who wishes to help bring Christmas cheer to the elderly at the home this year may join with the Herald and News in this "let's everybody help" Christmas party planned for the afternoon of Thursday, Dec. 22, at 2:30 p.m.

Gifts may be sent or brought to Ruth King at the newspaper office, wrapped and tagged with the name of the person for whom it is intended. The paper staff will be responsible for getting the gifts safely into Santa's pack and will speed him on his way to say "Merry Christmas" to the men and women at the nursing home. Names and requests follow:

MEN
Emil Baker, Wm. Penn Cigars. Harry Campbell, Copenhagen. Pete Celen, Granger. John Crawford, Candy, Cross Word Puzzles. Melvin Doty, Candy. John Drescher, Candy. Vernon Hewitt, Pall Mall. Ole Johnson, Candy. Roy Jones, Candy. Nick Keneally, Velvet. Salvin Kiron, Pall Mall. James MacDonald, Prince Albert.

ANDY PETERSON, Gum.
Olaf Olson, Copenhagen. John Elliott, Candy. James Skyler, Peerless. Ben Shelley, Camels. Jack Smith, Copenhagen. Mike Triola, Camels. George Thoma, Candy. Louis Villa, Cookies. Jules Wallaert, Cookies. Ernest Sanders, Wm. Penn Cigars.

Nine Children Thrown From Burning House
LA PLATA, Md. (AP)—"Throw out the children, then jump yourself," called the trapped wife of a tenant farmer to her 21-year-old daughter.

The daughter—Rose Ella Powell—threw nine brothers and sisters from the second story of the frame house before searing flames swept through the entire structure. Seven members of the family, including Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dana Powell and five children died in the fire.

The entire frame building had become "one big torch" by the time firemen arrived, and two fire companies stood by helplessly. Flames were so intense that the seventh body was not recovered until three hours after the alarm sounded this morning.

The burning house, which was in a tobacco-raising area of southern Maryland's Charles County, was spotted by several neighbors who called the alarm. Authorities believe the blaze may have started with an overheated wood-burning stove on the first floor.

Killed in the fire were Powell, 43, and his wife Viola, 45; their four children James, 10, Barbara Regina, 10, John Allen, 8, and Joseph, 3; and old cousin of the Powells, Phillip G. Yates.

only seconds away from death. Surgeons at the University of Florida teaching hospital severed two electrical wires to the ventricle, attached them to a battery device, which sends impulses to the heart.

"It's just wonderful," said Godwin, who may soon go back to his job as a night watchman at a lumberyard.

Willie Adjusts Own Heartbeat With Batteries

GAINESVILLE, Fla. (UPI) — Willie Godwin can adjust his own heart beat mechanically. He generally keeps it about 76 beats a minute.

He just regulates a little electrical device attached to the right ventricle of his heart—normal for normal activity, faster (up to 100 beats a minute) for greater activity.

A year ago he came down with what doctors call the Stokes-Adams Syndrome, which means that the heart sometimes beats irregularly or even not at all for short intervals.

This sometimes caused Godwin to lapse into unconsciousness.

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David Carkhuff, Copenhagen. Fred Haas, Pall Mall. Huey Barnes, Diabetic Candy. John Gerbino, Cookies. Anselmo Minato, Cookies. Emil Steinseifer, Candy. Mike Jackich, Candy. Louis Zattalin, Camels. David Skeen, Cookies. Larry Halaas, Pall Mall. Arthur Pepper, Philip Morris. Charles Beigman, Pall Mall. William Bishop, Pall Mall. Willie Bradley, Pall Mall. Louis Rhodes, Camels. Eugene Montgomery, Camels.

WOMEN
The women like mostly some good smelling stick cologne, bath powder etc. They are:
Veronica Collman, Della Coulter, Mary Lawton, Grace Lohf, Rose Noah, Evelyn Miller, Anna Murphy, Jane Nancarrow. Olga Norine, Blanche Whitmer, Mrs. C. Maguire, Irene Reed, Anna Wallin, Amelia Wickersham and Minnie Davis.



THE EARLY DAYS of the ranchers can be recalled by Mrs. Veronica Collman who came to the Swan Lake Valley with her family to ranch in 1909. The land is near the old Lucien Applegate ranch and still produces grain and other crops. Today, after six years of living at the Klamath Nursing Home, Mrs. Collman is happy in her attractive surroundings but welcomes visits and small surprises.

Negro Youth Finds His Dream

MOUNT VERNON, Wash. (AP)—A South African Negro youth will have a home, job and warm-hearted reception on his arrival in mid-month to fulfill his dream—an American education.

The home for 22-year-old Legson Kayira—with the William R. Atwoods and their nine children at suburban Bayview.

The job—chore for his room and board.

The reception—Skagit Valley Junior College students meeting him at the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, about Dec. 15.

A fund-raising goal of \$650 to pay his transportation from Khar-toum, Sudan, has been exceeded by more than \$50, committee reveal.

Most adults think at least four times as fast as they talk, tests reveal.

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