

By FRANK JENKINS
There was a mysterious storm in the San Diego area the other day. It brought light snow down to the 2500 foot level in the surrounding mountains. There was a reasonable amount of rain at the lower levels. The total area covered by the precipitation, including both snow and rain, was quite small.

The weather bureau describes the whole affair as a puzzler, but adds that one Edmund Jeffery, a free lance rainmaker from Olympia, Washington, had nothing to do with it.

Jeffery, who operates by setting out pans filled with mysterious crystals, had put out his pans in a big way in the area where the moisture fell. He says, as quoted by the inquiring reporters: "I pulled out all the stops" (by which he means, one presumes, that he had set out all his pans, heaped up with his mysterious crystals). "I'm taking full credit for this storm."

Hmmmmmmmm.

If a douser, or a water witch—whatever he may be called in the area in which he operates—can take a forked twig and tell the well drillers where to drill to find water, why can't another operator set out a pan full of mysterious crystals and call in the rain?

Anyway—

Up this way we can't help being interested in Mr. Jeffery and his pans and his crystals. Water is our life blood. With plenty of it, our future will be bright. If the shortage of the past few years continues, we'll be looking at our hole cards. It's true that the current water year is starting out somewhat more auspiciously, but the year is young yet. We can use a lot more precipitation than we have had.

Maybe we'd better ask this man Jeffery to come up and pay us a visit.

Question:
Can man make weather?
Nobody knows.

Anyway, there will be trouble either way. People who want to go on picnics and people who WANT RAIN will never be able to agree.

Maybe it's just as well the way it is.

Man Found With Snakes

NEW YORK (UPI)—An autopsy was ordered today on an elevator operator who was found dead in his one-room apartment that was crammed with a zoo full of snakes, turtles, parakeets, cats and a 22-foot python.

Police who forced their way into the apartment of Roland Rolando, 37, found one of the snakes, an eight-footer, slithering loose under a bed. They killed it with an ax.

Authorities said they could not tell without an autopsy whether Rolando, who held a doctor of science degree, died of natural causes or poisoning from a snake bite.

Police went to Rolando's apartment Tuesday after he had been reported missing since Saturday. He lives there alone.

Poor Nations In Need Of Aid

PORTLAND (AP)—The United States should gear its foreign aid program to help underprivileged peoples, Gov. Mark O. Hatfield said Tuesday.

"We should help the people help themselves. The purpose should not be to make them wards of the United States. Too often our money is drained off at the top by political interests before it can seep to the people."

Hatfield said he became convinced on his recent trip to South America that money should be directed to health, education and job training.

Car Sold

This ad ran three days at a cost of \$4.00 and the advertiser sold the car.

You may not have an old car to dispose of but most everyone has some usable article that's no longer needed. Get ready cash for Christmas by selling surplus things through the Want Ads. It's easy. Just call TU 4-8111 or drop in at 1301 Esplanade. A Herald and News ad writer will be glad to help you word your ad. Pay cash, or pay for telephoned ads within five days, and receive 50c discount.

Weather

Klamath Falls and vicinity — Partial clearing tonight and fair Thursday. Low tonight 18-24; high Thursday 38-46.

High yesterday	42
Low last night	20
Precip. last 24 hours	none
For year	4.37
Last year	.84



A CLOSE STUDY of the termination activities of the Klamath Indian Reservation, particularly the trust arrangement, is being made by members of the planning committee of the Reservation Business Council of the Colville (Washington) Reservation. This reservation is slated for termination in the near future. They are spending a week here, and are shown during a conference with remaining members of the Klamath Indians. Seated, left to right, are Barney Richards, Colville; Boyd Jackson; Lucy Covington, Colville; Dibbon Cook and Jesse Kirk, Standing, same order, are William Picard and Mrs. Lorraine Misiaszek, both of Colville, and Joe Ball and Elanathan Davis, Klamath remaining group.

Banker's Daughter Is Kidnaped, Held For \$25,000 In Ransom

EVERETT, Wash. (AP)—The 17-year-old daughter of a banker in the small town of Sultan, 30 miles east of here, was reported kidnaped Wednesday and being held for \$25,000 ransom.

George Oelrich, manager of the Sultan branch of the First National Bank of Everett, notified sheriff's officers he received a telephone call about 9 a. m. from an unidentified man.

Then his daughter, Hazel Irene, 17, was called.

Board Plan Would Boost State Teaching Profession

SALEM (AP)—The state Board of Education Tuesday advanced two major projects it said would upgrade Oregon's teaching profession.

The board approved in principle a plan to ask the 1961 legislature to require elementary and secondary school teachers to have five years of training.

This would call for revision of education training in Oregon colleges and universities. It would also label as "substandard" teachers on emergency certificates with less than that.

The board said it hoped under the Oregon Plan to try out new teaching proposals aimed at improving teacher training.

●The board hopes to get grants, possibly from the Ford Foundation, for projects in team teaching, television teaching, teacher interns and aides, program development and teaching machines.

In the proposed certification law a review committee, appointed by the board, would act on questionable cases of ethics and proficiency.

The board was told that the Lane County Reorganization Committee has approved a Cottage Grove administrative school district, effective next July 1.

A report said that Lane County has reduced the number of its school districts from 47 to 20.

The report said at this time only five counties in the state have not submitted a reorganization plan. They are Gilliam, Jefferson, Klamath, Sherman and Wheeler.

Two of the counties, Gilliam and Jefferson, have indicated they will submit plans early in January.

The report said that the number of districts in the state has been reduced from 709 on Aug. 20, 1957, to 504.

Well-Known Singer Dies

APPLE VALLEY, Calif. (AP)—Death caused by cancer has silenced the deep, rich voice of baritone John Charles Thomas, 68, one of America's most beloved singers.

The barrel-chested star of opera, concert stage and radio died at his home Tuesday. Ill for months with intestinal cancer, the singer had spent his last days in a coma.

Although still widely sought for concert appearances, Thomas retired from the circuit in 1953. Since 1954 he and his wife, Dorothy, had lived in this desert community northeast of Los Angeles.

24 Hours Of Agony End For Man Trapped In Cistern Sand Cavein

HOLLY SPRINGS, Miss. (AP)—Rescue workers looped ropes around a trapped man today and pulled him free from the red, wet sand of a cistern in which he had been trapped for almost 24 hours.

Weak but calm throughout the ordeal, Harry Miller, 44, Negro, was hauled out of the 20-foot cistern by crews who had worked since noon Tuesday to free him.

Miller, who helped direct his own rescue, was conscious and in good spirits. He was put in an ambulance and taken to a hospital.

The rescue workers, both whites and Negroes, took turns in

U. OF ORE. LIBRARY
NEWSPAPER SECTION
GEN. REF. AND DOCUMENTS DIV.
EUGENE, ORE.

Herald and News

Bulletin

District Judge Dayton E. Van Vactor, 65, died at 12:10 p. m. today in Hillside Hospital.

The judge had been hospitalized for two weeks with leukemia. He is survived by the widow, Mary, 2027 Fremont Street. Judge Van Vactor had presided over district court since 1949. Prior to that, he was district attorney.

Would Add Area Timber To System

PORTLAND (AP)—Sen. Maurice Neuberger, D-Ore., is planning steps to add the Klamath Indian Reservation timber to the national forest system.

"I plan to consult with other members of the Oregon delegation on the best means of adding this area to the national forests, including the possibility of creating a new national forest with headquarters at Klamath Falls," she said Tuesday.

JFK Reaches Half-Way Point In Cabinet Picking

WASHINGTON (AP)—President-elect John F. Kennedy has reached the halfway point in filling his Cabinet — five down and five to go — and the odds seem fairly good that he plans to add another either today or Thursday.

His fifth selection, announced late Tuesday, was that of Robert S. McNamara to be his secretary of defense. McNamara, 44, is president of the Ford Motor Co.

Kennedy is announcing no timetable for his choices. All he would tell reporters, camping outside his Georgetown doorstep in bitter cold Tuesday night, was that he expects to complete his Cabinet within the next few days.

Nor was there any clue in the schedule he announced for today as to which post he will fill next. His first appointment was with Gov. Luther H. Hodges of North Carolina, already named to be secretary of commerce.

Most of his other appointments were with congressmen with a wide variety of interests.

Among those expected to see Kennedy are Reps. James W. Trimble of Arkansas, Frank M. Clark of Pennsylvania, Lester R. Johnson of Wisconsin, Albert Thomas of Texas, Victor L. Anuso of New York, Edith Green of Oregon, Michael J. Kirwan of Ohio and Francis E. Walter of Pennsylvania.

But Kennedy doesn't disclose all his callers in advance. Reporters

Fire Claims Lives Of 7

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP)—Fire swept through a rural home at nearby Wertzville early today killing a mother and six of her nine children.

The father and two other children were injured and taken to Harrisburg Hospital. Another child was staying with neighbors.

Firefighters were hindered by the near-zero temperatures. Fire Chief Charles J. Shank Jr. said the family was that of Mr. and Mrs. Nef Walker, both 36.

Battle Raging For Vientiane

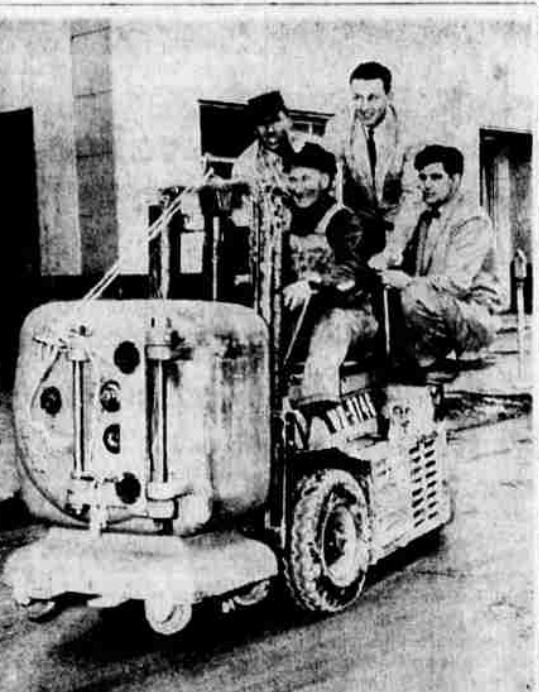
VIENTIANE, Laos (UPI)—The pro-Western forces of Gen. Phoumi Nosavan battled their way slowly toward the center of Vientiane today against stiff resistance of Capt. Kong Le's Russian-supplied leftist forces.

The indecisive fighting took on some of the characteristics of the war in Korea with Russia flying in mortars and other ammunition for the pro-Communist forces trying to hold the capital against the assault by pro-Western troops.

The fighting centered around army headquarters and the Ministry of Defense and at one point Phoumi's artillery set fire to the army headquarters building. But Kong Le's fighters held firm.

There's Christmas excitement in the air at the Klamath Nursing Home where men and women are looking forward to a visit from Santa Claus. This week Junior Red Cross boys and girls from Conger School took a tree and trimmings and went out to help get ready for whatever may pop into Santa's mind. Left to right are Conger School students Vicki Lehto, Steve Minch and Paula Morrison. A second big tree was set up this week by Pete O. Medberg who for 18 years has gone to the woods and brought in a tree for the home. The "Share Your Christmas" party sponsored by the Herald and News on Dec. 22 will center around the gaily decorated trees.

Bomber Makes Historic Flight



STEP BY STEP, the Pelican Theater is being dismantled by Empire Wreckers. Windows are being taken out, fixtures dismantled and the concrete hull of the once elegantly furnished theater will soon be coming down also to make room for a parking lot. Here, the safe is taken from the building and wheeled off down Eighth Street. Left to right, taking the ride, are Marvin Norrick, Ernie Fullen, Wally Hitt and Ernie Sessom.

Texan Seen As Prospect

WASHINGTON (AP)—President-elect John F. Kennedy was quoted as saying today he is considering appointing Rep. W. R. Poage, D-Tex., as secretary of agriculture.

Rep. Albert Thomas, D-Tex., said Kennedy told him that during a conference at the president-elect's home here.

This did not seem to rule out the possibility that several others who have been mentioned for the agriculture post are also still being considered.

Some of Kennedy's campaign remarks have been interpreted as a promise the post would go to a Midwesterner.

Standing in front of the president-elect's Georgetown home, Thomas told newsmen in response to a question that they had discussed possibilities for secretary of agriculture.

"I told him we have got a good candidate in Texas, and he said he is giving him consideration," Thomas said.

French Fire On Big Mob

ALGIERS, Algeria (UPI)—French gendarmes opened fire today on a mob of thousands of Moslems gathered in the center of the city where they shouted slogans of the rebels who have battled French troops for six years.

First reports did not indicate the number of killed or injured but government sources reported five previous days of bloodshed left 122 persons dead and 2,000 injured.

Shooting Times
OREGON
December 15
6:55 a.m.—4:35 p.m.
CALIFORNIA
December 15
6:37 a.m.—4:35 p.m.

17,000 Acres Of Tule Lake Land Will Be Sold On Bids In January

Advertisements for approximately 17,000 acres of the Tule Lake Sump lands will be published the third week in December with the bid openings scheduled the third week in January.

These lands are a part of the reclaimed portion of Tule Lake that has been developed by the Bureau of Reclamation, but is still in federal ownership.

The areas are divided into geographical leasing units by the flood protection dikes. The bids for the various leasing units will be extended over a period of several days.

The "Frogpond" area and lease area "H" adjoining to the west will be covered by the first advertisement. The "Frogpond" area will be irrigated as it has in the past while this portion of area "H" will also have spring irrigation for the first time this year. Leases in these areas will be for one year only and with the same cropping pattern as has been permitted in the past.

The second advertisement will cover the southern portion of the Southwest Sump. This area will be winter flooded this year. Leases will be for one year only and grain will be the only crop grown.

The "League of Nations" lease area and the area "H" adjoining to the west will be the third crop.

10,000-Mile Hop Ended Without Any Refueling

EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. (AP)—A U.S. Air Force B52G jet bomber landed today after a 10,000-mile nonstop flight without refueling, breaking two world long-distance flight records, the Air Force announced.

The eight-jet Boeing bomber was aloft 19 hours, 45 minutes after taking off at 7:07 a. m. Tuesday from the runway on which it landed.

It was flown by a crew from the 5th Bombardment Wing at Travis AFB, Calif., on a closed circuit course to El Paso, Tex.; Andrews AFB, Md.; Harmon Base, Newfoundland; Eielson AFB, Fairbanks, Alaska; Philip, S.D., and back here.

Lt. Col. Thomas R. Grisom, 36, Rapid City, S.D., commanded the plane and a seven-man crew on the historic flight, a mission of the Strategic Air Command's combat ready alert forces.

The swept-wing B52G in today's accomplishment weighed 480,000 pounds gross at takeoff. It is 156 feet long. It is from the 23rd Bomb Squadron at Travis, a component of the 15th Air Force commanded by Lt. Gen. Archie J. Old Jr., whose headquarters is at March AFB, Riverside, Calif.

Gen. Old said the flight is further evidence of the SAC's global capability.

"The B52G, combined with the Hound Dog air-to-ground guided missile, is one of the most formidable weapons ever designed," he said.

"This record flight demonstrated again the versatility of the nation's manned-bomber force and its ability to strike any enemy target any time from anywhere on the globe."

The B52G has a range of more than 10,000 miles, flies at 650 miles an hour and can carry two Hound Dog missiles, one under each wing. The nuclear-warhead missiles have a range of more than 500 miles at supersonic speeds.

The B52G also can carry a nuclear payload in its bomb bay, more destructive power than was dropped by all Axis and Allied bombers in World War II combined.

Moon Shot Is Delayed By Trouble

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)—Technical trouble today forced at least a one-day postponement of an attempt to launch an American space craft toward an intended orbit about the moon.

The 388-pound space craft is intended to become the first lunar satellite. Its load of electronic equipment is designed to make the most extensive study yet attempted of the moon's environment.

The countdown on the 98-foot Atlas-Able booster rocket progressed to within seven minutes of the scheduled lift-off time today when the attempt was called off.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration reported only that technical difficulties had prevented the launch. It did not reveal the nature of the trouble.

Scientists had only a 21-minute span from 2:58 a. m. to 3:19 a. m. EST—in which to fire the rocket to put it on the proper course to the moon, 240,000 miles away. When it became apparent the trouble could not be corrected in time, the shot was postponed.

Today was the second day of a five-day period in which the moon is in a favorable position for the launching if the trouble is minor, another launch effort may be made Thursday. If the Atlas-Able does not get off the pad by Saturday, the shot will be put off until the next ideal period, 28 days from now.

The space craft carries instruments to measure such space phenomena as radiation, magnetic fields and micrometeorites. This data could help prepare for manned flight to the moon.

French Fire On Big Mob

ALGIERS, Algeria (UPI)—French gendarmes opened fire today on a mob of thousands of Moslems gathered in the center of the city where they shouted slogans of the rebels who have battled French troops for six years.

First reports did not indicate the number of killed or injured but government sources reported five previous days of bloodshed left 122 persons dead and 2,000 injured.

Shooting Times
OREGON
December 15
6:55 a.m.—4:35 p.m.
CALIFORNIA
December 15
6:37 a.m.—4:35 p.m.