

# Oregon Oldsters Shun State's Medicare Plan

SALEM (UPI)—Oregon's Medical Care for the Aged program (MAA) has upset the belief that people flock to take advantage of something for nothing.

When MAA went into effect on Nov. 1, 1961, it was estimated 55,000 would take part.

On Nov. 30, 1962 — 13 months later—4,576 were enrolled. During that same period 9,042 had applied, and 6,744 had been found eligible to receive benefits.

During the 13 months \$103,747 had been paid to doctors, \$327,332 to hospitals, and \$21,429 to nursing homes under MAA.

Response to the program has been so low that the governor's advisory committee on MAA has recommended coverage be broadened.

The recommended changes have the "enthusiastic endorsement" of Gov. Mark Hatfield.

The revitalized program is expected to up enrollment to 15,000—still a long way from the original estimate of 55,000.

Major change suggested is inclusion of "major medical" benefits.

A spirited publicity campaign is called for to encourage more elderly persons to take advantage of MAA.

\$1,500 annual income or a married couple with less than \$2,000 annual income.

Liquid assets of less than \$1,500 for a single person or \$2,000 for a married couple.

All that is needed is an application at the county welfare department office and a request to be enrolled.

It costs the individual nothing. The plan is financed by federal, state and county taxes.

Ignorance of the program is cited as the major reason for its low degree of acceptance.

The advisory committee told Hatfield "despite early and continuing publicity by the Public Welfare Commission, many eligible persons are encountered who have no awareness of its availability or whose knowledge of MAA is so faulty and incomplete as to prevent their applying for coverage."

"Providers of service are also not properly informed in many instances, so that they may fail to recommend this potential resource to a patient when it might be needed and applicable."

Another problem suggested by the committee is the "reluctance or refusal to enter the program because of its identification with a public assistance agency."

Under the present law, anyone meeting these requirements can enroll:

- 65 years of age or older.
- A resident of Oregon.
- Individual having less than

# Fidel Lashes At Kennedy

HAVANA (UPI)—Premier Fidel Castro lashed out at President Kennedy today and ridiculed the United States for paying "indemnification" for 1,113 ransomed Cuban invasion prisoners.

"They call it ransom," Castro said. "We don't care what they call it."

"They had to agree to pay indemnification."

"For the first time in history imperialism has paid war indemnification."

Castro's speech was the highlight of his regime's observance of its fourth anniversary in power. He spoke after a two-hour review of Cuba's armed might before a reviewing stand of 400 Communist notables.

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And there is criticism of the benefits now offered by the program. In the words of the committee: "The present plan departs too much from the principles of protection for the patient where he needs it most—in the area of major medical."

# Study Of State Highway Fund Allotments Urged

SALEM (UPI)—A study of how highway funds should be allotted to counties and cities was called for today by the Legislative Highway Interim Committee.

In its report to Gov. Mark Hatfield, the committee recommended the transportation research institute of Oregon State University conduct the study under the 1963 Highway Interim Committee, and that the study be financed by the highway fund.

At present cities receive 10 per cent and counties 19 per cent of the total highway funds transferred to the highway commission for distribution.

The funds come principally from registration fees, fuels tax and weight mile tax, with a minor amount from fines.

During calendar 1961 approximately \$12 million was distributed to counties, and \$6.25 million to cities under the 19 per cent - 10 per cent formula.

The committee reported "Some witnesses testified that the burden upon the cities was much greater than that upon the counties and that the ratio should be altered to provide the cities with 12 per cent and counties 17 per cent."

"At the conclusion of the hearings the committee was convinced that the respective burdens and problems of cities and counties had changed considerably."

The committee said, however, no information was produced to indicate how a new formula should be determined.

**Birdlife**

ACROSS

- Expert diving bird
- Sea eagle
- Extinct bird
- Chemical suffix
- Female ruff
- Female
- Appellation
- Expire
- Quivering
- Permit
- Heating device
- Protest
- Through
- Winglike part
- Austere
- Dispassionate
- Boundary
- Light touch
- Final
- Metal
- Brew
- In three ways (comb. form)
- Flouts

DOWN

- Small tumor
- Short jacket
- New Guinea
- Port
- Military assistant
- Sharp
- Expunger
- Legal point
- Fiber knots
- Night before an event
- Infirm
- Masculine
- Heavy blow
- Emmetts
- Simian
- Vulgar fellow
- Meal
- Nautical term
- Topers
- Ireland
- Climbing plant
- Things done
- Small pastry
- Great Lake
- Moradine dye
- Eternity
- Racket
- Fishermen of a sort
- Hawaiian
- Killed
- Belief group
- Star
- River duck
- Pseudonym of Charles Lamb
- Uncommon
- Rodent
- Cameroons
- Against

Answer to Previous Puzzle

# 'Blocking High' Weather Phenomena Sparks Frigid Blasts That Numb, Kill In England

Editor's Note — Europe and the eastern United States still are suffering from some of the worst winter storms of the century. To investigate their causes and effects UPI assigned a team of reporters: Daniel F. Gilmore, for London and Europe; James W. Ryan and Jack O'Brien, for Maine and the East Coast; Norman Runyon, for the weather bureau meteorological experts in Washington.

## Biography of the Storms

A UPI Extra  
A UPI Team Report

At 18,000 feet above the cold blue-grey waters of the North Atlantic in the days just before Christmas, a mass of air formed into what weathermen call a "blocking high."

Circulating there between Greenland and Iceland, unseen by human eyes but marked on the charts of meteorologists, this wind pattern helped forge a vicious machine of nature that has now clobbered two continents.

Nearly 600 persons died in Europe for reasons attributed directly to the storm, either from auto accidents, drownings, asphyxiation or freezing. In the United States, the death toll was scattered and much smaller, but the property damage from wind and cold was huge.

Joseph D. Panaro, of Maybrook, N.Y., who had seen and survived a great many storms in the 65 years of his life, died when the car in which he was riding was involved in an accident caused by blowing snow.

Arthur Barber and his wife, Daisy, of Robert's Place, Dorchester, England, froze to death on the back seat of a Vauxhall sedan which was stalled in a giant snowdrift on the A333 road three miles north of Weymouth, England.

## London Hit Hard

London, which has fogs, found itself covered in snow. At times it was too cold to ski in the famed winter sports grounds of the Austrian Alps. Fourteen inches of snow fell on Marseilles, on the Mediterranean coast of normally sunny southern France. It was the storm in 61 years.

Spawed by a combination of weather factors around the globe, timed almost with the precision of a rocket countdown, the great winter storms that blew out 1962 and slid in 1963 were among the most severe of the century.

They were still around today, and the "blocking high" that helped cause them still is hovering above the Atlantic at latitude 64 north and longitude 31 west.

This huge pressure area that was born before Christmas week-end pulled in Arctic blasts from Siberia that now have swept across Europe. But at the same time it disturbed wind patterns in the Western Hemisphere and caused the big East Coast storm to crumple up the Atlantic seaboard and bury parts of New England.

Europe took the first blow. "It's been the worst cold wave since 1947," said Gordon H. Robbins, deputy senior meteorological officer in the British Air Ministry. "The worst snow blizzards, according to our records, since 1927."

Nothing Stopped Invasion

The high pressure area that had built up between Greenland and Iceland blocked off comparatively warm winds from the Atlantic. These winds, and the Gulf stream, provide England with its usual damp but temperate winters. But with the "blocking high" in place, there was nothing to stop the windy invasion from Siberia.

While Europe moaned, and Rome newspapers reported "the

coldest Christmas of the century," while snow coated the crater of Mt. Etna in Sicily and avalanches cut off millionaires and the young set in ski resorts throughout Switzerland, a storm began moving up the eastern seaboard of the United States.

At weather bureau headquarters in Suitland, Md., outside of Washington, the experts consulted the prevailing patterns, examined data from the computers, and agreed that an onslaught was en route.

Last Saturday, at Suitland, experts such as Harlan Saylor, chief of the analysis and forecast branch of the National Meteorological Center, decided to alert weather bureaus around the coast that a big storm, then located near Cape Hatteras, N.C., was building up. Their notice moved about 1:30 p.m. EST.

By then it was snowing, and later raining, in Washington itself. New York City was soon to be hit, and the Giants and the Green Bay Packers would play for the National Football League championship in Arctic cold.

## Storm Moved North

The storm pressure area continued to move north. It attracted bitterly cold air from Canada. The "blocking" area over the Atlantic prevented it from sweeping out to sea. And the storm turned toward Maine.

The highest weather bureau in the northeastern United States is atop 6,228-foot Mt. Washington, in New Hampshire's magnificent White Mountains not far from the Maine border. In 1934 the temperature there fell to 47 below. The record almost was broken Sunday night.

At 10:30 p.m. Guy Gossett, 28, a 6-foot, 100-pound member of the observatory staff, struggled along a 20-foot long walk and found the thermometer reading 41 below.

The storm was in full force. At Bangor, Maine, the snow began at 4:10 p.m. EST on Saturday. When it ended at 3:23 a.m. Monday, 29 inches were on the ground which already had been covered with 10 inches from a previous snow.

In Washington, the weather bureau was grim. A 30-day forecast issued Monday said that temperatures should continue "below season normals" over the eastern third of the nation.

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# Plant Rocked By Explosion

RIVERSIDE, Calif. (UPI)—An explosion rocked part of the Aerojet General's ordnance facility near here Wednesday, and Riverside Community Hospital reported 17 persons were treated for injuries.

At least two of those engaged in work of a classified ordnance project were seriously hurt, attendants at the hospital said.

Aerojet General later reported 12 persons were admitted to the hospital, most of them with minor injuries.

It said it regarded the explosion as a "small" one.

Security measures were quickly enforced. The California Highway Patrol was turned away when an officer sought to investigate reports of an explosion.

Six ambulances were sent to the Aerojet General facility in the hills about eight miles west of here. The building where the explosion occurred was separate from several other structures, and damage was restricted to the one unit, a firm spokesman said.

# Poet Fights Blood Clot

BOSTON (UPI)—Poet Robert Frost, 88, critically ill, fought back from a third major complication Wednesday.

The nation's unofficial poet laureate was hospitalized three weeks ago for a urinary block, then had a heart attack, and Tuesday night became a victim of a pulmonary embolism—a blood clot in his lungs.

"He is comfortable today and has sustained the episode satisfactorily," said Dr. F. Lloyd Muscels of Peter Bent Brigham Hospital.

"Clotting is a common complication in the aged, especially when they must spend long periods in bed."

The hospital said Frost was well enough before the attack Tuesday to receive a visitor.

**STAR GAZER\*\***

By CLAY R. POLLAN  
Your Daily Activity Guide According to the Stars

To develop message for Friday, read words corresponding to numbers of your Zodiac birth sign.

ARIES	1 Financial	31 Opinion	61 Heart
Taurus	2 Love	32 Coping	62 Feet
Gemini	3 Luck	33 News	63 Feet
Cancer	4 Think	34 Now	64 Or
Leo	5 Love	35 News	65 Out
Virgo	6 You're	36 Neglect	66 Or
Libra	7 Thoughtful	37 Bygones	67 Up
Scorpio	8 You	38 Change	68 Or
Sagittarius	9 Excitement	39 For	69 Or
Capricorn	10 Study	40 For	70 Study
Aquarius	11 Study	41 Letter	71 Arrang
Pisces	12 Study	42 For	72 Arrang
	13 Love	43 Some	73 Study
	14 Doubtless	44 Worth	74 Study
	15 Bygones	45 Use	75 Discus
	16 Love	46 You	76 Discus
	17 Love	47 For	77 Arrang
	18 A	48 Necessary	78 Excite
	19 Or	49 Or	79 Arrang
	20 Or	50 Or	80 Or
	21 Or	51 Or	81 Or
	22 Or	52 Wonderful	82 Romantic
	23 Flowers	53 A	84 Money
	24 Or	54 Or	85 Or
	25 Or	55 Or	86 Temp
	26 Or	56 Or	87 News
	27 Or	57 Or	88 Or
	28 Or	58 Or	89 Or
	29 Or	59 Or	90 Or
	30 Or	60 Or	91 Or
	31 Good	61 Adverse	92 Neutral

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