



**"SANTA" HONORED** — The Mount Shasta Auxiliary Police Department recently presented the city's "Mr. Santa Claus," Joe Melo, left, with an engraved plaque in recognition of his untiring contributions to the Christmas season. For 23 years Melo has played the role of Santa Claus at various functions, in addition to serving as St. Patrick each March 17 for a number of years. Charles E. Rosecrantz, captain of the department, makes the presentation. Melo said this will be his last year as jolly old St. Nick. He plans to retire and turn the red suit over to a new candidate.

## Supporters Will Enter Mrs. Smith In Illinois Primary

CHICAGO (UPI)—Supporters of Sen. Margaret Chase Smith, R-Maine, had her implied blessing today for entering her name in the Illinois presidential primary.

In Washington, Mrs. Smith said she was "honored and flattered" by the decision of Illinois Republicans to enter her in the state primary in April.

Mrs. Smith said in a statement that she talked to the group in Washington Dec. 6 and they urged her to run.

"I responded that I had no objection but that I had not made a decision on whether to enter presidential primaries and would not make that decision for at least another month," she said.

"Naturally the complimentary action they have started will be a factor in my ultimate decision," she said.

In Chicago, State Rep. Lewis V. Morgan Jr. told a news conference Monday that his real intention was in getting Mrs. Smith to run for vice president.

"Personally, I support Sen. Goldwater for president," Morgan said.

Morgan said the large number of votes he expected Sen. Smith to receive would help convince the GOP national convention of her political worth.

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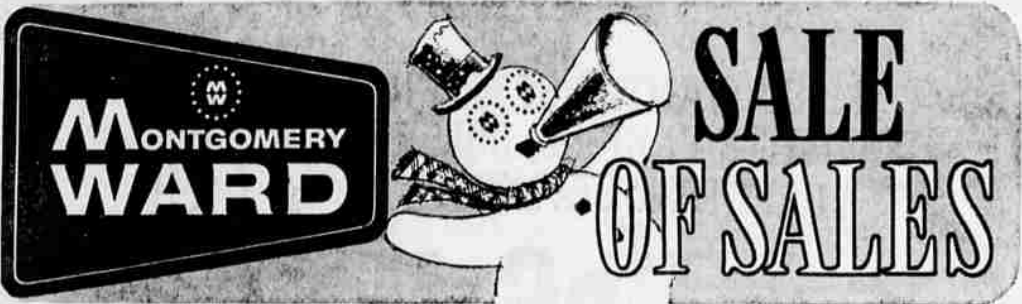


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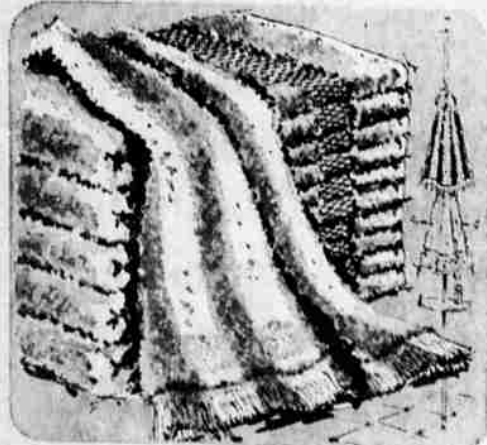
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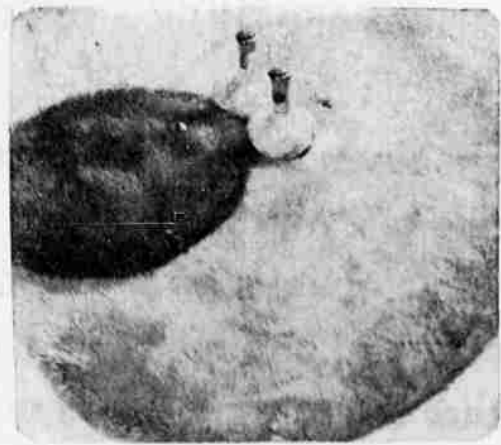
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