

Retailers turn to markdowns to lure consumers

By JOYCE M. ROSENBERG
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Having digested millions of pounds of turkey and trimmings and sated themselves on football games, Americans turn today to the next order of business for Thanksgiving weekend — hitting stores and malls for the start of the Christmas shopping season.

Some will be lined up, waiting for stores to open. But consumers are expected to browse more and buy less this year, analysts said.

"There are some good buys out there, but people don't have the wherewithal to take advantage of them," said Susan Tiffany, managing editor of Everybody's Money, a quarterly consumer magazine published by the Credit Union National Association in Madison, Wis.

Retailers will attempt to lure consumers with special sales and markdowns on merchandise before Christmas Day — a phenomenon virtually unknown in retailing until the late 1980s.

Markdowns began showing up several years ago as consumers began shopping later and later in December, giving storeowners a large case of the jitters.

Then, in 1989, several big department store chains, all owned by the Campeau Corp. of Canada, slashed prices in a vain attempt to



(AP Laserphoto)

Early morning shoppers crowd through the doorways of Lazarus department store in Columbus, Ohio, this morning as it opened at 8 a.m. on the busiest shopping day of the year.

avert bankruptcy proceedings. Other retailers, trying to stay competitive, cut prices too.

Consumers got used to the idea and held off their purchases until prices came down.

Unlike past holiday seasons, markdowns showing up this season generally will be part of plans drawn up by retailers months ago.

Dayton Hudson Corp. Chairman Kenneth Macke said his battle plan was set, but declined to divulge details.

Thomas J. Tashjian, an analyst

with First Manhattan Co., said some retailers — especially those in the Southeast and Midwest — will escape heavy discounting. But in California and the Northeast, where the economy has been most sluggish, retailers will be forced to cut prices to bring in sales, he said.

Consumers don't appear to be in the mood to spend this year. The Commerce Department said Wednesday that consumer spending dropped 0.3 percent in October, the biggest decline in six months.

"People are hunkering down... We still find ourselves in a recessionary setting," said Janet Mangano, a retail industry analyst with Burnham Securities Inc.

"I'm not going to buy a lot," said Barbara Shaw, a 32-year-old teacher's aide who was interviewed on a recent trip to a Milwaukee mall.

Shaw said she's more concerned about putting food on the table than about putting presents under the tree for her three children.

"When you finish paying rent and utility bills and other kinds of bills, there's nothing left," she said.

In Detroit, General Motors Corp. said it was canceling bonuses this season for salaried workers in a move expected to save more than \$60 million.

About 100,000 GM employees in the United States and another 7,000 in Canada won't get the \$600 holiday bonus, company spokesman John Mueller said.

GM's 300,000 hourly workers, covered by the United Auto Workers, will get their bonuses, Mueller said. The bonuses will be paid next week.

GM, which is facing one of the worst economic slumps in its history, has lost more than \$2.2 billion through the first nine months this year.

Senators manage four-month extension on popular perk

WASHINGTON (AP) — A perk that allowed senators to use campaign funds for official business won't die Jan. 3 as originally planned. Congress decided this week to continue the practice until May 1.

Lawmakers insisted, however, that the policy really will end in May and no more extensions will be granted.

The Jan. 3 expiration was set in legislation approved a year ago that would have made Senate policy compatible with a House ban on use of campaign money for official purposes. Senators pleaded for more time — and got it — when the four-month extension was inserted into an emergency spending bill that passed Congress on Wednesday.

The chairmen of the Senate and House appropriations subcommittees for the legislative branch both went along with the extension during conference committee deliberations. But they insisted they won't agree to any more changes.

"I said all right (to the extra four months) but no more extensions," commented Rep. Vic Fazio, D-Calif., chairman of the House legislative branch subcommittee.

Fazio said the House has been rankled for quite some time about the Senate practice, which permits use of campaign money to help run offices, furnish them, lease cars for senators and pay for newsletters to constituents.

The anger spilled over in Octo-

ber 1990, when senators complained about the cost of taxpayer-financed mass mailings by House members. The House members retorted that senators had lower costs because they subsidized their mailings with campaign money.

Compromise legislation placed restrictions on House mailings and imposed a prohibition on the Senate use of campaign money for official expenses. The House sought to impose the ban immediately, but the Senate pleaded for time to implement the change — and was given until Jan. 3, 1992.

Sen. Harry Reid, D-Nev., chairman of his chamber's legislative appropriations subcommittee, insisted there was no trickery behind the latest extension. Reid said he and Fazio have a "committed goal to make the rules the same" for both houses.

"The problem is, we need a few months to implement it," said Reid, who was quick to add that the extension was not his idea.

"The Rules Committee just needs more time to put things in order," Reid commented, acknowledging that the rules panel didn't exactly rush to prepare for the change in the year since Congress agreed to the new policy.

Senators said questions could arise, for instance, on how to pay for a senator's trip home if he or she mixed campaigning with official functions.

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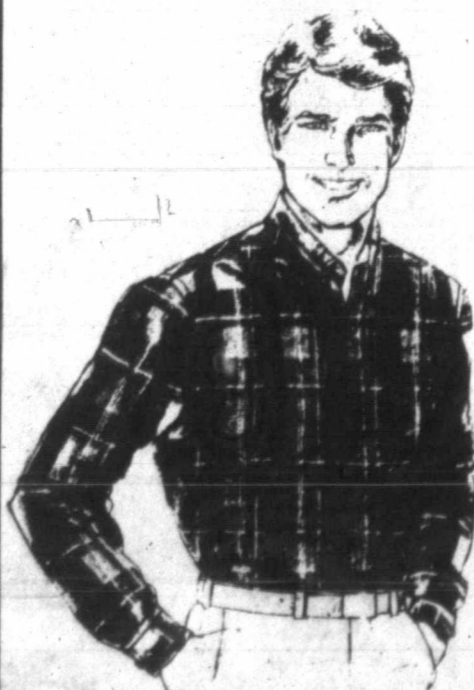


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Federal army withdrawing from key barracks in Yugoslavia

By NADA BURIC
Associated Press Writer

ZAGREB, Yugoslavia (AP) — The Serbian-led federal army began withdrawing from one of its largest barracks in Croatia today, but new fighting was reported elsewhere in the secessionist republic.

A convoy of several hundred federal army vehicles began leaving the Marshal Tito barracks near the Croatian capital, Zagreb, this morning, Croatian defense officials said. A European Community spokesman, Ed Koestal, said the convoy was not being interfered with.

The withdrawal of federal forces from the republic has been a key element of truce efforts in the past, and if it continues without problems this time could go a long way toward reducing tensions in Yugoslavia.

Also today, Croatian and federal army officials held talks with the

International Committee of the Red Cross on exchanging political prisoners and getting humanitarian aid to the fallen city of Vukovar and the blockaded port of Dubrovnik, Koestal said.

Fighting was reported on Croatia's central front and along an eastern highway, and villages around the strategic city of Osijek in eastern Croatia were reported under sporadic artillery attack.

Seven wounded were brought to Osijek's hospital today, Croatian radio reported. Osijek, Croatia's biggest eastern city, with a population of 140,000, has been under siege from federal forces for months.

Despite the scattered battles, however, the latest cease-fire — the 14th in the 5-month-old civil war — appeared to be generally holding. The United Nations has said it would not dispatch its troops without a stable truce.

On Thursday, Croatia agreed to allow U.N. soldiers to patrol battle zones in the republic. Previously, Croatian President Franjo Tudjman only supported sending U.N. peacekeepers to the republic's borders in an effort to end the war against army forces and ethnic Serb fighters.

Thousands of people have died in battles since Croatia declared independence June 25. The Serb-led army and ethnic Serbs opposed to secession have taken control of more than one-third of Croatia.

Croatia contends Serbia is trying to permanently annex territory. But the army-led forces claim the 600,000 ethnic Serbs would face persecution in an independent Croatia.

Tudjman said on Croatian TV on Thursday night that the republic's leaders agreed U.N. peacekeepers should go "to the areas where war operations were carried out" as

well as on Croatia's eastern border with Serbia.

Earlier, Tudjman and other Croatian officials said they feared sending peacekeepers through the republic would lead to a loss of the Serb-controlled areas. Serbia has urged that U.N. forces be allowed to patrol throughout the republic of 5 million people.

The Croatian parliament scheduled a session for next Wednesday and Thursday to enact a law on minority rights, reportedly providing for cultural autonomy and some local self-government for Serbs.

Germany and Italy said Thursday they would recognize Croatia's independence by the end of the year if no peace solution is found. They also said the countries would recognize Slovenia, which also declared independence June 25 and reached a truce with federal officials in July.



(AP Laserphoto)
Elderly women from the besieged Croatian town of Osijek, Yugoslavia spend a quiet moment in a refugee camp in Pecs, in southern Hungary, after their arrival Thursday.

Russian Federation demands say in economic decisions

By LESLIE SHEPHERD
Associated Press Writer

MOSCOW (AP) — The Russian Federation, the economic powerhouse asserting control over the Soviet Union's finances, today demanded a say in all important economic decisions in the country.

Angry Russian lawmakers charged they should have been consulted before the national legislature on Thursday debated a 90 billion-ruble deficit spending measure designed to keep the Kremlin from going broke as early as Monday.

The package was approved by one chamber of the Supreme Soviet, but not the other, and legislative rules were unclear about what happens next.

Russia, the largest and richest of the remaining 12 Soviet republics, contributes 80 percent of the national budget, noted Alexander Kotenkov, coordinator of the Russian delegation to the Supreme Soviet.

Kotenkov told the Tass news agency that he was speaking on behalf of the Russian Federation legislature. Russia has already taken control of the country's money supply and most of its income-producing industries, and has cut off funding to about 80 national government ministries.

On Thursday, the upper chamber of the national Supreme Soviet authorized the State Bank to give 90 billion rubles to the national Finance Ministry to pay its bills for the fourth quarter of the year. That's \$159 billion at the

highly artificial official exchange rate.

The resolution was not approved by the lower house of the legislature, which was unable to muster a quorum. That chamber was not scheduled to meet again until Tuesday.

New rules of legislative procedure adopted after the failed August coup and the restructuring of the central government were unclear about whether both chambers had to approve the resolution, or just the upper House of the Republics.

Without the funds, the State Bank said the Kremlin could run out of money by Monday, the start of the fourth quarter of the fiscal year. State Bank Chairman Viktor Gerashchenko said the bank had only 3 billion rubles (\$5.1 billion) left.

Gerashchenko told the legislature that unless the money was granted, "We shall have to cut short all spending."

His deputy, Valerian Kulikov, said this would include stopping "the financing of all budget expenses, including spending on the armed forces and parliament," according to the independent Interfax news agency.

But Valery Manilov, head of the Soviet Defense Ministry information department, said today it would be "lethal" to allow the country's present defense system to disintegrate.

"It would be cataclysmic for all the nations of our country, for all the sovereign republics, and is something responsible politicians must not allow," he told a briefing.

Communist Party calls on members to rally around leaders

BEIJING (AP) — The ruling Communist Party urged its 50 million members today to rally around the leadership and improve their "cohesion and combat capability."

The call came in a communique issued by the 175-member Central Committee, one of the party's top decision-making bodies, at the end of a secretive five-day meeting. The state-run Xinhua News Agency reported briefly on the

communique's contents.

The meeting was held as the party battles growing pressures from abroad to liberalize, and threats at home to its economic and political control. Efforts to work out comprehensive solutions to these problems have been stymied by rancorous internal debate.

Every Central Committee meeting of the past few years has thus become a test of the body's ability to

reach consensus on even basic policies. Its last meeting was in December 1990, and produced a confusing communique that mingled hard-line and reformist ideas.

This week's meeting had been expected to promote two vice premiers and a key military officer to a higher-level party body, the Politburo. However, Xinhua did not immediately report any personnel decisions.

It said the communique "stated it is necessary to run the party strictly and earnest efforts should be made to promote the building up of the party's ideology, organization and working style. There must be improvements of the understanding of Marxist-Leninist theories and Mao Tse-tung thought on the part of the party cadres ... Thus enhancing the party's cohesion and combat capability."

Libya promises serious probe of crash

ROME (AP) — Facing increasing Western pressure, Libya said today it has questioned two Libyans accused of carrying out the 1988 bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 and that it is promising a thorough investigation.

The statement by Libya's Foreign Ministry contrasts with comments a day earlier by Col. Moammar Gadhafi, who rejected as "laughable" the charges by the United States and Britain.

Washington, London and Paris turned up the heat on Libya this week over the matter. U.S. officials

have not ruled out military action to retaliate for the bombing over Lockerbie, Scotland, that killed 270 people.

The United States and Britain demanded Wednesday that Libya turn over two alleged intelligence agents — Abdel Basset Ali Al-Meghari and Lamem Khalifah Fhimah — who have been indicted in the bombing. Arrest warrants were filed earlier this month.

The Libyan leader said Thursday that authorities could not find one of the men and said the suspects would never be extradited.

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Religion

Kelton church named outstanding in giving

By BEAR MILLS
Staff Writer

KELTON — Despite an active membership of about 20, the First Baptist Church here has been recognized by the Baptist General Convention of Texas as one of the outstanding congregations in the state.

During the recent Texas Baptist convention in Waco, First Baptist Kelton was honored as the leading body in per capita giving to the cooperative program.

Cooperative Program funds support Southern Baptist schools, seminaries, universities, hospitals, children's homes and church planting in Texas, as well as domestic and foreign missionary efforts.

Rev. Max Baird, who lives near Goodnight, has filled the pulpit at the Kelton church for more than a year.

"I'm doing supply preaching," Baird explained. "We have 20 showing on the roll right now."

"I was raised in the church and they licensed me in 1959 to preach and ordained me in 1967. I've been preaching here 14 months. We just try to serve the Lord wherever he opens the door."

Larry Heard, missions director of the Top of Texas Baptist Association, said, "I really think an emphasis on missions is the key to giving. That church has had strong connections with missions in various ways. That has caused them to feel good about themselves as they see results of what they have done."

He said that involvement includes church members going on short-term mission trips, seeing the dollars at work first hand.

"That is their history and they believe in giving," Heard said.

Even though Kelton is considered by some a dying community, Baird said the spirit of doing for others is very much alive at First Baptist.

"They are a body of baptised believers and Jesus is their first love," he said of the membership. "They give their part and more."

Does Baird ever have to twist their arms to contribute to the offering?

"Never," he said. "They give because they want to. They want to help reach the lost around the world."

Baird described the membership as being mostly senior citizens.

"Most of the members are 61 or 62 years of age like me," he said. "The Methodist church disbanded this summer and one of their ladies comes over here."

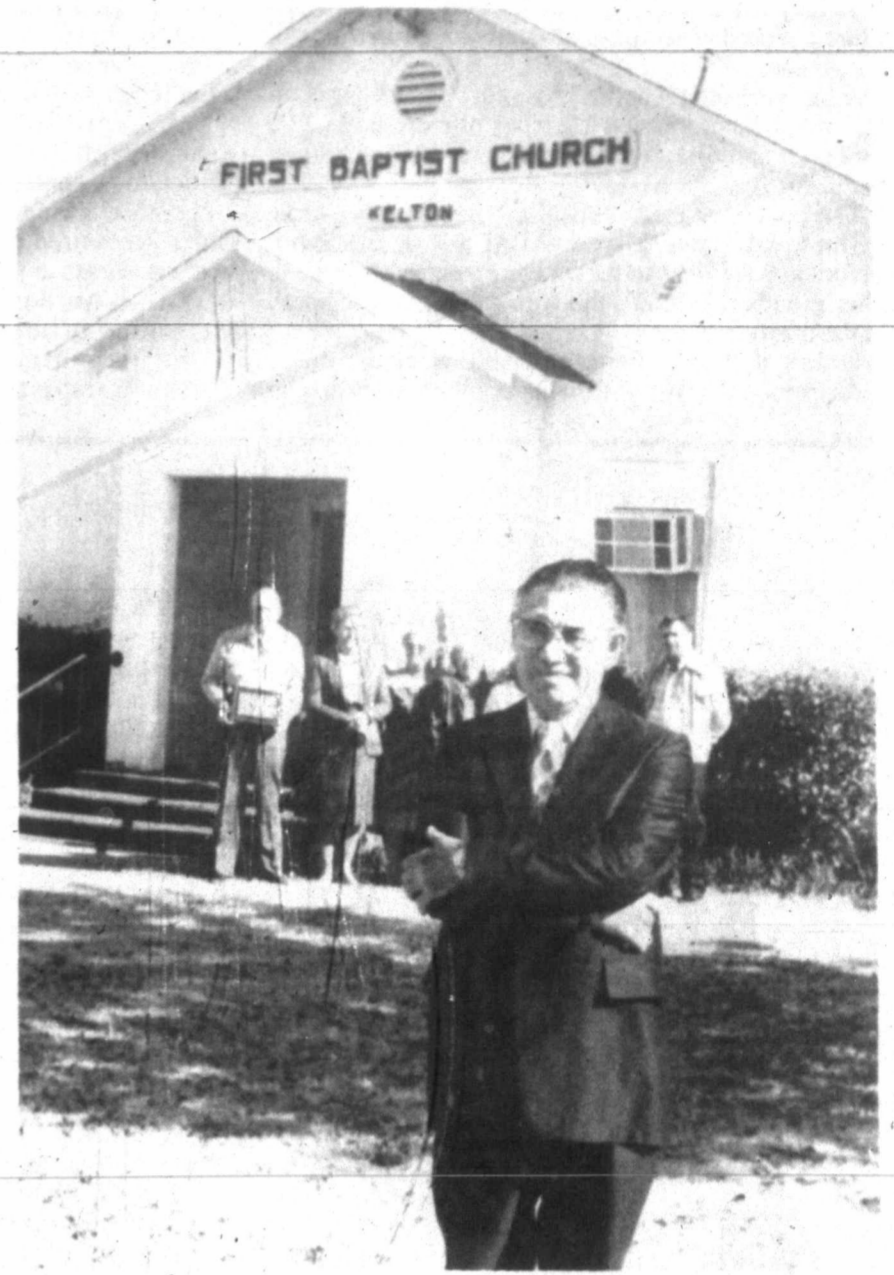
"We do have a couple of young

couples who drive in each Sunday. Kelton is home to them and they say they love old country preaching and old country folks."

Baird said First Baptist Kelton has two trademark qualities, their willingness to help people and "the strong fellowship in this church."

"It touches you, you know?" Baird said of the love he feels each Sunday. "One little boy of a couple who comes from Pampa said he likes coming to church here because they tell me about Jesus and Betty (Baird's wife) gives me chewing gum."

Asked about First Baptist Kelton's future, Baird said, "The church doesn't look like it will ever grow to what it once was because the people just aren't here. But we hope it will stay until there just aren't any more people to come."



(Staff photo by Bear Mills)

The Rev. Max Baird stands in front of First Baptist Church Kelton, where the membership has been recognized for its large per capita giving.

Language of Jesus barely surviving in Syrian hills

By ED BLANCHE
Associated Press Writer

MAALLOULA, Syria (AP) — Within a generation, the sound of the language that Jesus spoke may fade from this mountain village, one of the world's few remaining pockets of Aramaic speakers.

More than 3,000 years old, Aramaic is being continually absorbed by modern Arabic — Syria's official language.

In Maaloula, the language is "only spoken, not written," said Palajja Sajaaf, the mother superior of the St. Takla Greek Orthodox Convent, said to be one of the oldest holy shrines in Christendom.

"It's being diluted all the time. If the language of our Lord, possibly the oldest in the world, is to survive," the children should be formally taught it at school, she said.

The 44-year-old nun, swathed in the black robe of her order, said that down through the centuries the language has been passed verbally from generation to generation by the people of Maaloula and two smaller nearby villages, Jaba'din and Najafa.

"I hope it will never die because it's a link with the Lord Jesus and is very precious. The people here are proud of this tradition, of having kept the language alive all this time."

But she said the children, bombarded by Arabic, are mispronouncing the language, and there are fears that Aramaic could die within a generation or two.

The language's survival is also threatened by people drifting away from the mountains to the cities and beyond, to America and other faraway lands.

Such records as there were of Aramaic, which is closely linked to Hebrew and Syriac, are believed to have been destroyed during the French mandate from 1922 to 1946.

The language stems from the Arameans, the forebears of the modern Syrians, nomads who settled around Damascus in the 13th Century B.C. Hundreds of years before the birth of Christ, Aramaic was spoken throughout the Middle East.

The language spoken in the cluster of villages perched on cliff sides in the ochre-colored Qalamoun Mountains, 35 miles north of Damascus, is known as Aramaic's "western dialect," which was spoken in the Levant before the Islamic conquest in the 7th Century.

Scholars say that there are still small pockets in Iraq, southern Turkey and the southwestern Soviet Union where the so-called "eastern dialect" is still spoken.

Christianity has survived Islamic domination in the mountains around Maaloula, which in modern Arabic means "entry way." But it originally derived from the name "umm al-ma'alouleen," or "mother of the afflicted."

That referred to St. Takla, who was buried here in A.D. 85, according to the mother superior.

Legend has it that when Takla was 18, she was converted to Christianity and fled her enraged father. When she got to Maaloula, her way was blocked by the steep, craggy cliffs.

She prayed for deliverance and, the legend says, the mountain before her split in two, opening a narrow gorge through which she fled.

Today, Maaloula is no longer the isolated outpost of Christianity it once was. A four-lane highway ris-

ing from Damascus into the barren mountains passes three miles west of the village.

But St. Takla's icon-covered shrine attracts a steady stream of Christians and Muslims to take the water that trickles down the rock face in the grotto, where a single gnarled tree grows, or drips from the roof because it is said to have healing powers.

The villagers live in a jumble of flat-roofed houses, painted ochre, mauve and white, perched on the cliff side in a labyrinth of narrow passageways, overlooking the narrow valley with its walnut and mulberry trees.

Old men sip bitter coffee in street-side cafes, nodding to villagers riding donkeys as battered, smoke-belching buses wheeze their way up the narrow hillside streets.

High on the cliff faces on either side are crosses painted by villagers who must have risked their lives to imprint the emblem of Christianity on such inaccessible spots.



The Rev. Dwayne Stone and family.

First Assembly of God to host Spiritual Dynamics Explosion

First Assembly of God, 500 S. Cuyler, is to host a Spiritual Dynamics Explosion Crusade Sunday through Wednesday, Dec. 1-4, with Evangelist Dwayne Stone of Jenks, Okla.

The Rev. Stone is to be the featured speaker nightly, accompanied by the music ministry of his wife, Susan.

Sunday services are to be at 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., with week-night services beginning at 7 p.m.

The Rev. Stone is the founder and president of Victory Ministries.

His missionary work has taken him to several foreign countries. He and his staff have built churches in Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico and Thailand, and a Bible school in Ecuador. They have conducted crusades in several Latin American countries.

The Rev. Shugart, pastor of First Assembly, reports that the members of the church are looking forward to the revival meeting with anticipation.

The public is invited by the church and pastor Shugart to attend the special services.

Study: Political and doctrinal tendencies found to coincide

NEW YORK (AP) — Despite exceptions, church leaders who are conservative on doctrinal matters also tend to be conservative on social issues. Similarly, liberals show the same bent in both fields.

Each camp's uniformity of approach, whether to religious beliefs or governmental policies, was brought out in an unusual survey of church decision-makers.

That linkage of religious-political attitudes, on right and left, has been indicated in some church conflicts. Exceptions also appear, as in Pope John Paul II's conservatism on doctrine and liberalism in some political areas.

However, the new study provides concrete data showing that conservatism or liberalism about religion tends to conform, respectively, to conservatism or liberalism about social issues.

A range of Protestant denominations, including those both of the smaller, evangelical wing and those of larger, mainline bodies, were included in the survey of their leaders.

Of 3,000 national executives and staffs, national board members and regional executives and staffs who were sent 15-page questionnaires, 1,497 sent completed responses, a high return rate of nearly 50 percent.

Preliminary findings of the study by the Rev. William McKinney of Hartford Seminary and Daniel V.A. Olson of Indiana University were reported in the recently issued 1991

Yearbook of American & Canadian Churches, published by the National Council of Churches.

Most of the leaders in each denomination are married, college-educated and ordained to the ministry, their ages averaging more than 50. A fourth report annual incomes of more than \$60,000. Few are poor, the researchers said.

Questions to determine theological tendencies brought out the strong doctrinal conservatism of leaders in three evangelical bodies, the Assemblies of God, the Baptist General Conference and the Evangelical Free Church.

Most believe the Bible is accurate and authoritative not only in faith and practice but in historical and other secular matters. Most believe in divine judgment after death, with some rewarded and others punished.

However, these views were affirmed only by small minorities, less than a fourth, of leaders of two mainline denominations, the United Church of Christ and the United Methodist Church, and less than 40 percent of American Baptists.

Paralleling their liberal doctrinal views, United Methodist and United Church strong majorities said U.S. defense spending should be reduced, and that the distribution of income in American society is unjust.

Agreeing, but less strongly so, were the doctrinally middle-road American Baptists.

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Brazilian street children march to protest alleged death squad murders

By KEN SILVERSTEIN
Associated Press Writer

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP) — Filling the streets where they live and die, thousands of raggedy, homeless children protested the alleged death squad murders of poor youths.

A boy lying on a wooden cross carried by four companions led the procession Thursday of more than 6,000 people, including a group of mothers whose children were slain.

"The police are mean animals. When they beat you, they hit to kill," said 13-year-old Alex Rosa dos Santos, barefoot and shirtless in the march organized by human rights groups, UNICEF, the Roman Catholic Church and the mayor's office.

Murders of children living on their own on the streets have tripled in the past year in major cities, according to

studies by social and church groups. Brazil has about 12 million street kids, compared with 5 million in 1985.

The National Movement of Street Boys and Girls says more than three children were killed every day in Brazil during the 12 months ending in June.

But the government of President Fernando Collor de Mello says the number of murders is exaggerated and actually has declined since last year.

"We want to live, but Brazil condemns us to die!" the youngsters chanted, as office workers in the banking district threw confetti from windows on the procession.

People working to aid the children believe many killers are retired or off-duty police officers hired by local merchants to "clean up" high-crime areas.

"These murders are the work of death squads and police officers, and they continue because of the impunity of the killers," said Lucia Regina Campista, a lawyer with the Defense

Center for Children and Adolescents.

This month, six children ages 9 to 17 were killed in the Baixada Fluminense slums north of Rio. A seventh victim, a 16-year-old girl, escaped with a head wound by playing dead.

About 20 mothers of murdered children marched in the parade, their heads covered by black shawls.

"My son was innocent, a worker," said Denilda Ribeira de Souza, whose 15-year old boy was grabbed by two men and shot to death Sept. 6. "They mixed him up with someone else. Now, we want justice."

Another mother, Bernadette Pedro Morena da Silva, said her son Luiz Carlos, 15, was killed because he was peddling marijuana.

"The police have to arrest kids involved with drugs, but it's insane to kill them," she said, her voice shaking.

Behind her, kids in torn, filthy clothes sang church hymns, danced to a samba beat throbbing from a sound

truck. Dozens of schoolchildren in neat blue-and-white uniforms marched alongside in support.

Some children carried signs saying "Killing Is Not a Solution" and "We Want To Live in Peace."

Luciano Chagas lives on the street, shining shoes and stealing to help support his mother, brother and sister.

"Yesterday, a policeman hit me and said, 'If I see you again, I'll have to kill you,'" Chagas said. "But I can't afford to be afraid, because I have nowhere else to go."

Alceni Cuerra, the minister of child affairs, recently announced a big school construction campaign he said would help reduce the killings.

About 7 million children now don't attend school, and 7 million more go less than two hours a day, he said.

Guerra said, "There will be crimes against children as long as they are in the street, but solving the problem will require other things, like a fairer distribution of wealth and land reform."



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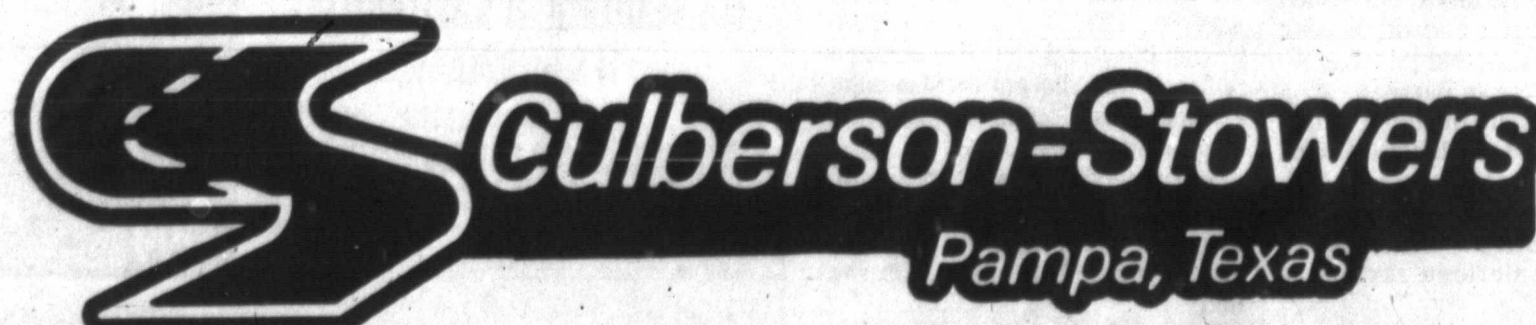
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CHEVROLET - PONTIAC - BUICK - GMC - TOYOTA



Lifestyles



(Staff photo by Cheryl Berzanskis) This is the uniform of flight instructor James H. McCarty, AAF, of McLean. It is one of the items on loan to the museum for the exhibit

McLean-Alanreed Area Museum commemorates Pearl Harbor

The fiftieth anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor is being commemorated by a special World War II exhibit at the McLean Alanreed Area Museum in McLean.

"Since it was the 50th year, we felt it was worth some extra efforts to remind everybody it was a world wide conflict," said F.J. Hess, chairman of the board of directors of the museum.

The exhibit includes photographs of area men who served during the war, medals, ribbons, dog tags, uniforms, weapons, newspapers of the era and a World War II parachute.

McLean resident LaVerne Hess painted background murals. The exhibit was designed by Back and Leta Mae Hess with items on loan from area residents.

The exhibit is scheduled to run through Feb. 1, 1992.

'Messiah' set for Sunday in Perryton

The 37th annual presentation of Handel's "Messiah" is planned for 6 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 1, in the Perryton High School auditorium. The performance will feature more than 130 voices; eight area soloists, members of the Amarillo Symphony orchestra and Perryton musicians, Gay Unruh and Tom Knighton. The production is under the direction of Cloys Webb.

Soloists are Debbie Blackshear, Gary Hall, Keith Harris, Donna Sheppard, Beverly and Roy Wiebe, all of Perryton; Patti Peil, Darrouzett; and Kendra Unruh, Balke, Okla.



Dear Abby

Abigail Van Buren

Cary Grant's 'Meditation' is as full of grace as he was

DEAR READERS: Five years ago today, Cary Grant died — just seven weeks before his 83rd birthday. Not a bad score. He couldn't have written a better ending himself.

Cary Grant was a superstar in every sense of the word. He wore his stardom with grace and dignity, and for all his fame and adulation, he remained incredibly unspoiled.

In his later years, he made occasional appearances in theaters around the country, billed simply as "A Conversation with Cary Grant." He didn't need much advertising; one small ad would appear in the local newspaper, and the house was immediately sold out.

Everywhere he appeared, he received a standing ovation simply for walking out on the stage. He had no routine; he just sat perched on a long-legged stool in the center of the stage with a spotlight beamed on his famous face, and for two hours he answered random questions from the audience. They loved it. And so did he.

He closed his "conversation" with a piece he called "A Meditation," saying he didn't know who wrote it, but it expressed his own sentiments about growing older. It also expresses mine. And here it is:

"Now Lord, you've known me a long time. You know me better than I know myself. You know that each day I am growing older and someday may even be very old, so meanwhile please keep me from the habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion.

"Release me from trying to straighten out everyone's affairs. Make me thoughtful, but not moody, helpful but not overbearing. I've a certain amount of knowledge to share; still it would be very nice to have a few friends who, at the end, recognized and forgave the knowledge I lacked.

"Keep my tongue free from the recital of endless details. Seal my lips on my aches and pains: They increase daily and the need to speak of them becomes almost a compulsion. I ask for grace enough to listen to the retelling of others' afflictions, and to be helped to endure them with patience.

"I would like to have improved memory, but I'll settle for growing humility and an ability to capitulate when my memory clashes with the memory of others. Teach me the glorious lesson that on some occasions, I may be mistaken.

"Keep me reasonably kind; I've never aspired to be a saint ... saints must be rather difficult to live with ... yet on the other hand, an embittered old person is a constant burden.

"Please give me the ability to see good in unlikely places and talents in unexpected people. And give me the grace to tell them so, dear Lord."

P.S. DEAR READERS: Many books have been written about Cary Grant, but if you want to read the only authentic history of his life and loves, get the book "Evenings With Cary Grant" by Nancy Nelson, published by Morrow. It's an absolute treasure.

Gray County 4-H'ers take food show honors

Twenty-six Gray County 4-H'ers shared their food-nutrition knowledge and skills by participating in the 1991 Gray County 4-H Food Show. These 4-H'ers had completed a 4-H foods-nutrition project, prepared a nutritious food, written a day's menu, completed a project record form, and answered questions about nutrition and their food project.

The 4-H'ers earning the opportunity to represent Gray County in the District 4-H Food Show include the following:

JUNIOR DIVISION (ages 9-12)

Nutritious Snacks and Desserts — Lorin Hall of 4-Clover 4-H Club with Ginger Bears

Breads and Cereals — Angie Davenport, Rabbit Raiders, with Country Oatmeal Bread

Main Dish — Lori Hefley, 4-Clover, with Three Bean Rice Casserole; alternate, Jessica Fish, 4-Clover

Fruits and vegetables — Barry Brauchi, E.T., with Heavenly Orange Fluff; alternate, Moriah McCracken, 4-Clover

INTERMEDIATE DIVISION (ages 13-14)

Main Dish — Jennifer Williams, Leaders of the Future,

with Tropical Chicken Pitas; alternate, Kim McDonald, 4-H Fashion Club

Fruits and Vegetables — Shelly Davenport, Rabbit Raiders, with Spinach Diana; alternate, Brian Brauchi, E. T.

SENIORS (ages 14-19)

Nutritious Snacks and Desserts — Grace Sutton, 4-H Fashion Club, with French Apple Tart; alternate, Amanda Kludt, 4-H Fashion Club

Fruits and Vegetables — Kirk McDonald, E.T., with Copper Carrot and Cauliflower Salad; alternate, Miki Rose, 4-H Fashion Club

Main Dish — Dennis Williams, Leaders of the Future, with Apple Stuffed Chicken Rolls

Breads and Cereals — David Kludt, E.T., with Sourdough Blueberry Bread

Other 4-H'ers making outstanding showings were Sarah Shuman, Valerie Joiner, Lori Stephens, Andrea Abbe, Shauna Broaddus, Nikki Bockmon, Amanda Cline, Nonnie James and Leilani Broaddus.

Additional special awards presented included the following:

Rookie Award — Jessica Fish,



These young people participated in the 4-H food show. Front row, left, Lorin Hall, Angie Davenport, Barry Brauchi, Jessica Fish, Lori Hefley. Middle row, left, Shelly Davenport, Brian Brauchi, Grace Sutton, Kim McDonald, Jennifer Williams, Moriah McCracken. Back row, left, Dennis Williams, Kirk McDonald, Miki Rose.

4-H Clover

High Point Junior — Barry Brauchi, E.T.

High Point Intermediate — Shelly Davenport, Rabbit Raiders

High Point Senior — Grace Sutton, 4-H Fashion.

Rabbit Raiders 4-H Club hosted this year's food show.

Judges for the show were Jana

Pronger, Hutchinson County Extension Agent; Joan Gray, Wheeler County Extension Agent; Sharon Morris, Katie McDonald and Gaylene Skaggs, Pampa High School home economics teachers; and Joan Quillen, dietician with Coronado Hospital.

The District 4-H Food Show is set for Jan. 4 in Dumas.

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The Pampa News Comic Page

The World Almanac® Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Of medicine
7 Poetic foot
13 Emotional shock
14 Flowering tree
15 Wraparound headress
16 Develops
17 Sharp bark
18 Chisel
20 Look at
21 Lacking foot parts
23 Hi or bye
26 Wool-washing residue
27 Glossy fabric
31 Edible bulb
33 Fashion designer
34 Skier Jean Claude
35 Fragrant
36 Leisure

DOWN

1 — bitty
2 Wild sheep covering
3 Waterproof covering
4 Wipe hard
5 Adult insect
6 Boats
7 Pictured

Answer to Previous Puzzle

J	A	P	A	N	F	L	O	R	E		
F	I	N	A	L	E	E	U	R	O	P	E
O	N	T	I	M	E	W	I	G	W	A	M
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X	I	I	N	E	A	R	S	U	S	R	
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S	A	N	E	T	S	E	R	S	V	P	
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55												
57												

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WALNUT COVE

By Mark Cullum

This is Lori's room, Aunt Gerbie. We put up new wallpaper just last week, and—
AAAUGH! A SPIDER!

How awful! Glen, there's a big, black spider in Lori's bedroom!

You know I've always been terrified of spiders. Well...we'll just let you sleep in Andrew's room instead. You'll be fine in there.

I don't guess I could borrow that spider...

Not a chance. I was down at the creek all morning hunting for him.

ARLO & JANIS

By Jimmy Johnson

WANJ! SOME NOT-YET-EATEN TURKEY?

"LEFTOVER" IS SUCH A NEGATIVE TERM!

EEK & MEEK

By Howie Schneider

MONTAGUE'S MEALS

BREAKFAST SPECIAL

MISTAKES & EGGS

SHE USED TO MAKE 'EM WITHOUT THE EGGS

B.C.

By Johnny Hart

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO HIT ME?

NOPE.

WHEN?

SNAP

Astro-Graph

by bernice bede osol

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) You might have an opportunity to put into practical application today something recently taught you by a friend. It should work as well for you as it did for your pal. Know where to look for romance and you'll find it. The Astro-Graph Matchmaker instantly reveals which signs are romantically perfect for you. Mail \$2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 91428, Cleveland, OH 44101-3428.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) In career or financial matters today, don't be hesitant about bargaining for better terms. Accumulated small concessions could turn out to be very significant.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) If you honor your promises to the "nth" degree today, you'll gain even greater respect than you already have.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Even though you would probably be more considerate if positions were reversed, an associate who will do you a favor today is being as magnanimous as he can.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) You might be required to make a decision that will impact others as well as yourself today. If it's predicated on what's best for all concerned, it should work out well.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You're in a good achievement cycle, so try to focus on objectives that are truly meaningful — even if they've been too difficult for you to attain up to this point.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) A serious matter has a splendid chance of being resolved today, provided it's discussed in convivial surroundings. Invite the other party to a fun happening you've been wanting to attend.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) This is a favorable time to make a change that you feel could benefit your family as well as yourself. Don't wait for it to come about on its own.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You might have to deal with someone today whom you tolerate but do not really like. As long as developments are being conducted fairly, don't let your feelings disrupt things.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) If you feel your past performance warrants a bonus or promotion, this is a good day to bring the matter to the attention of your boss. However, you must be diplomatic, not demanding.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) If a group you're involved with appears to be leaderless or lacking in direction, don't be hesitant about asserting yourself today. You're the one who can get things on track.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) If you're presently involved in something that has the potential to generate steady returns, give this situation top priority until you have it properly locked down. It's a winner.

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MARVIN

By Tom Armstrong

GEE, BITSY, I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE AN ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCATE

I'M NOT

I'M A BATHROOM ADVOCATE

SAVE THE TREES

MARMADUKE

By Brad Anderson

BURGER-TO-GO

"Check them. There's no living with him if he thinks someone else got the biggest one."

KIT N' CARLYLE

By Larry Wright

I LOVE THANKSGIVING LEFTUNDERS.

ALLEY OOP

By Dave Graue

T...THEY'RE VANISHING!

W...WE CAN'T DO THAT, MARTY!

YOU HEAR? OUR VISITORS FROM OLYMPUS ARE CHARLATANS, COLONEL!

I HEARD, GENERAL!

W...WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO? K...KILL US?

KILL YOU? DON'T BE SILLY! WE HAVE NEED FOR YOUR KIND!

WINTHROP

By Dick Cavalli

MY DAD SAYS AN OPTIMIST SAYS THE GLASS IS HALF FULL...

AND A PESSIMIST SAYS IF THERE'S THAT MUCH LEFT IN IT...

IT PROBABLY TASTES ROTTEN.

SNAFU

By Bruce Beattie

Luigi couldn't figure out for the life of him why people were laughing.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bill Keane

"Mommy, my mouth feels empty."

CALVIN AND HOBBS

By Bill Watterson

I'VE DECIDED I WANT TO BE A MILLIONAIRE WHEN I GROW UP.

WELL, YOU'LL HAVE TO WORK PRETTY HARD TO GET A MILLION DOLLARS.

NO, I WON'T. YOU WILL.

ME?

I JUST WANT TO INHERIT IT.

THE BORN LOSER

By Art and Chip Sansom

HEY, POP, IS THE CHARGE CARD CLEAR?

ABSOLUTELY... WHY?

OH, NOTHING...

I WAS JUST ANKING UP MY CHRISTMAS LIST...

FRANK AND ERNEST

By Bob Thaves

GOOD TIMES ARE JUST AROUND THE CORNER

PEANUTS

By Charles M. Schulz

YES, MA'AM... WE GOT THE BINDER OFF HER HEAD... YES, I HAD TO DO SOME SNIPPING WITH A SCISSORS..

NO, MA'AM, SHE DIDN'T WANT TO COME TO SCHOOL TODAY... SHE SAID PROBABLY NOT FOR A LONG TIME..

GARFIELD

By Jim Davis

GARFIELD, WE'RE GOING TO THE PARK

WHOOPEE

YOU KNOW THE RULES. NO FLOWER STOMPING...

AND...

'EAH, 'EAH, NO SWAN MAIMING

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Woman finds patient is father she sought

MAYWOOD, Ill. (AP) — A woman's search for the father she had never seen ended when she was sent to draw blood from a heart patient and discovered he was the man she had been looking for.

Beverly Blake always carried a copy of her birth certificate with her father's name, Charles L. Cole.

She searched for the name Cole through telephone directories, groups that reunite parents and children and admission lists at hospitals where she worked.

"I would think: 'Where is he? What is he like? What does he do?' I knew the man was out there," she said.

Ms. Blake's parents were divorced before she was born. She had never seen a picture of her father.

"As the years went by, I got antsy," she said. "I knew he was getting older, and I didn't want him to pass away."

Last month, the 41-year-old phlebotomist was sent to draw blood from a patient in intensive care at the Loyola University Medical Center in the Chicago suburb of Maywood.

The man was recovering from a heart attack, and his chart identified him as Charles L. Cole, 69, born in Harrisburg, Ill.

Because of the patient's shaky health, Ms. Blake said

she did not immediately tell him what she suspected.

"I had the needle, and he said to me: 'Honey, are you a good stick? Do you do your job well?'" she recalled. "I told him yes, but I was shaking. I was sweating. My legs were ready to buckle."

Ms. Blake said she called her mother's brother and had him talk with the patient by telephone. The uncle's conversation verified the patient was her father, she said.

On Oct. 7, Ms. Blake entered Cole's room and called him "Daddy."

"He said, 'C'mon over here.' I jumped onto his bed. We just held each other in his room until midnight," she said.

"I started living all over again from that moment," Ms. Blake said.

Cole, a former Marine who spent much of his life traveling the world, said he never knew he had a daughter.

"It's a new chapter in my life," he said. "I feel wanted. I just wish I had known about her before now."

Ms. Blake lives in a suburb near her father's Maywood home.

"We're not trying to catch up on lost time," Ms. Blake said. "We're just thinking ahead about all the happy time we have to spend together."

Court upholds couple's refusal to rent on religious grounds

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A state appeals court ruled the religious rights of a couple would be violated if they were forced by fair housing laws to rent an apartment to an unmarried man and woman.

The state Court of Appeal in Los Angeles ruled Wednesday that landlords John and Agnes Donahue violated state discrimination laws by refusing to rent to Verna Terry and Robert Wilder in January 1987.

But the court said the Donahues, who described themselves as devout Catholics, were entitled to an exemption because of their "sincerely held religious belief that fornication and its facilitation are sins."

The court's 2-1 ruling said that the state's interest in protecting unmarried couples from discrimination was not so paramount as to outweigh the Donahues' right to free exercise of religion under the state Constitution.

The court overturned a ruling by the California Employment and

Fair Housing Commission that the Donahues violated two state laws by refusing to rent to Terry and Wilder, who were awarded \$7,480 in damages in 1988.

"We felt we were perfectly within our rights," said Donahue, 71. "If it had gone against us, we were prepared to appeal to the state Supreme Court."

Deputy State Attorney General Kathleen Mikkelsen said the state likely would appeal.

In 1987, after Terry and Wilder filed a complaint, the housing commission ruled the Donahues had violated state laws prohibiting "marital status" discrimination and the Unruh Civil Rights Act, which prohibits arbitrary discrimination.

The commission said it couldn't rule on the Donahues' religious freedom claims because the state Constitution prohibited it from doing so.

The landlords appealed, and a Superior Court judge ordered the commission to reconsider its rul-

ing. The commission appealed the judge's order, leading to Wednesday's decision.

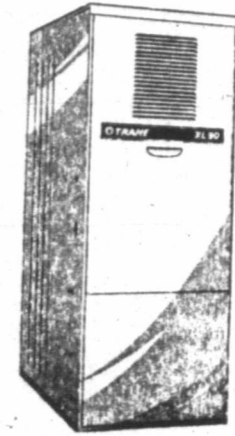
The majority opinion by Judges Roger W. Boren and Paul Turner said an old California Supreme Court decision allowed the state to provide greater religious protections than those offered by the federal government.

Dissenting Judge Margaret

Grignon said the law didn't prevent the Donahues from practicing their religion.

"They are engaged in secular, commercial conduct performed for profit. ... The statute does not require the Donahues to aid and abet 'sinners,' it merely requires them to act in a non-discriminatory manner toward all prospective tenants," she wrote.

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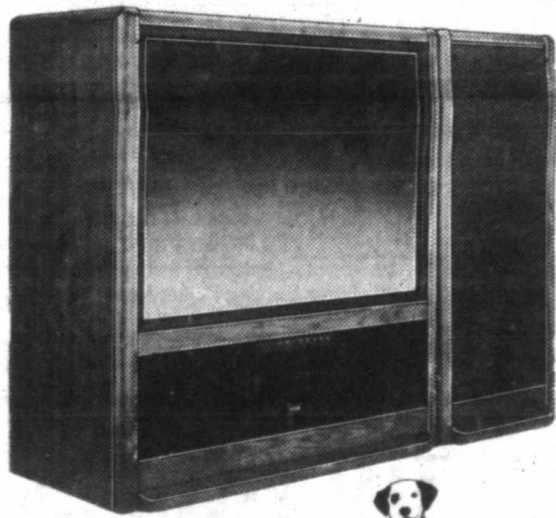
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