Grasshopper Mystery Unfolds

PLYMOUTH, Mass. (AP) — Plymouth County Dist. Atty. Stanley Littlefield says a former steeplejack arrested on drug charges may be able to shed some light on the theft of the historic grasshopper weather vane from atop Boston's Faneuil Hall.

Frank W. Price, 38, of Taunton turned himself in to police on the charges unrelated to the grasshopper theft. He was arraigned in Plymouth District Court Tuesday and was ordered held in $3,500 bail. A hearing has been set for Thursday.

"There is some indication that Price knows something about the grasshopper," Littlefield said. "We're going to follow it up because of the value — not just monetary but also historic — of the landmark."

The 4-foot, 80-pound weather vane was reported stolen last Friday.

Price worked on the grasshopper in 1966 and was paid by the city for regilding the copper piece designed in 1742 by Shem Drowne.

Price reportedly called a Boston newspaper before turning himself in and said he had information that could lead to the grasshopper.

"There is some indication he knows something about it," Littlefield said. "I don't know whether he got his information from the newspapers or whether he really knows something about it, but we'll find out."

Meanwhile, in Camden, Maine, police reported the theft of a rooftop weather vane worth "several thousand dollars," the trademark of Down East magazine.

The antique eagle vane was purchased in Boston several years ago by editor Duane Doolittle.

Police said bolt cutters were used to remove the 2-foot high, 60-pound weather vane from the roof of the magazine building.

Petition Denied

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (AP) — Middlesex Superior Court Judge John J. McNaught has denied a petition requesting that he order New England Telephone Co. to destroy 800,000 copies of the 1974 directory and to stop distribution of 1,300,000 others.

The request came from Clambake International, Inc., which said the telephone company failed to include an advertisement for the firm in the yellow pages of the directory.

Clambake said 75 per cent of its business during 1972 and 1973 was derived from yellow pages ads. It said an ad was submitted for the 1974 directory, but the telephone company failed to include the listing.

New England Telephone officials told the court Monday that the company would lose $50,000 and 100 tons of paper if Clambake's request was granted to destroy and hold up issuance of directories.

—Obituaries—

EVELYN SENIOR

Evelyn Senior, Former GTD Analyst, Dies

BERNARDSTON — Mrs. Evelyn J. Senior, 56, of Brattleboro Rd. died this morning at Franklin County Public Hospital, Greenfield, after several months of failing health. She was the wife of John A. Senior, Greenfield Recorder copy editor and Pioneer Valley Regional School Committee chairman.

Mrs. Senior was born in Northfield June 17, 1917, the daughter of the late Henry A. Johnson and Mrs. Hazel (Dunnell) Johnson. She was graduated from Northfield High School in 1935 and from Bay Path Institute, Springfield.

She was employed at Greenfield Tap & Die Corp. for 22 years as a production analyst, retiring two years ago. She was also a prime mover in establishment of the Evelyn G. Lawley Memorial Fund for Pioneer Valley Regional School students who made the most improvement each year in mathematics, and served as its secretary-treasurer. She was a member of Northfield Trinitarian-Congregational Church.

Besides her husband she leaves a daughter, Penny, at home; a stepdaughter, Mrs. Priscilla Clapp of Bernardston; a stepson, Dave Senior of Warwick; a brother, Robert D. Johnson of Northfield; her mother and a nephew.

Funeral services will be Thursday at 2 p.m. at Hodgen's Funeral Home, Greenfield, followed by cremation and interment in Center Cemetery, Bernardston. There will be no visiting hours. In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, 239 Main St., Greenfield.

MISS DODS FUNERAL

LEVERETT — Funeral services for Miss Agnes M. Dods, 63, of Long Plain Rd., who died Sunday were Tuesday morning at the North Leverett Baptist Church with Rev. David Fife officiating.

Burial was in Plain View Cemetery. Bearers were Carlyle Field, Sr., Carlyle Field, Jr., Robert Dods and Douglas Gauthier.

BROTHER DIES

Among survivors of retired school teacher John J. Mack, 85, of 3 Cleveland St., Springfield, who died Tuesday in Mercy Hospital, is a sister, Mrs. Robert P. Dolan of 117 Hastings St.

Services will be Friday at 9 a.m. at the T. P. Sampson Funeral Home, Springfield, followed by services in Our Lady of Hope Church. Burial will be in St. Michael's Cemetery. Calling hours will be tonight, 7-9, and Thursday, 2-4 and 7-9 p.m.

Fernand Gamache

ORANGE — Fernand J. Gamache, 81, 208 East Main St., died Tuesday at Athol Memorial Hospital.

He was the husband of the former Eva Paquet. His first wife, the former Bertha Thibault, died in 1961.

He was born at St. Louise, Province of Quebec, Jan. 11, 1892, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cleophous Gamache. He had worked many years for the Bogert Hopper Box Co., retiring in 1947.

He was a veteran of World War I, a member of Orange Post, American Legion, and of St. Mary's parish. He was the last surviving charter member of the Wheelerville Community Club.

Besides his widow, he leaves two daughters, Mrs. Pauline M. Kelleher of Orange and Mrs. Corinne H. Bellows of Phoenix, Ariz.; four sons, Leopold J. Gamache of Springfield, Fernand A. and Roland J., Gamache, both of Orange, and Maurice J. Gamache of Enfield, Conn.; a sister, Mrs. Mary L. Cote of Gardner; 15 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

The funeral will be Friday from the Witty Funeral Home, followed by the Liturgy of Christian Burial at St. Mary's Church at 10. Burial will be in Gethsmane Cemetery, Athol. Calling hours at the funeral home will be this evening and Thursday evening 7-9.

Julia Barber

BERNARDSTON — Mrs. Julia Louise Barber, 76, of South St., died this morning at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Genevieve Purple of 298 Log Plain Rd., Greenfield.

She was born in Greenfield March 21, 1897, the daughter of Clarence D. and Lucy (Wrisley) Pratt. She was very active in the Bernardston Grange and in Goodale United Church.

Besides her husband, Myron E., she leaves; five sons, Stephen G. of Leyden, Leland of Gill, Perry A. of Greenfield, Louie A. of Freeport, Fla., and Daniel F. P. of Biloxi, Miss.; two daughters Louella N. Atherton of Bernardston and Genevieve L. Purple of Greenfield; three brothers, Albert Pratt of Darien Conn., Harold and Louis Pratt of Bernardston; a sister, Mrs. Lottie Streeter of Bernardston; 29 grandchildren, six great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Services for Mrs. Barber will be at the Goodale United Church of Bernardston Saturday at 2 p.m. with Rev. Edward A. Roberts officiating. Burial will be in the Center Cemetery. Calling hours at the McCarthy Funeral Home in Greenfield will be Friday from 7 to 9 p.m.

Dorothy Kraft

SHELBURNE FALLS — Dorothy (Morse) Kraft, 49, of 16 Conway St. died Tuesday night at Franklin County Public Hospital, after a period of failing health.

She had been a resident of Shelburne Falls for the past 14 years, previously living in Greenfield and in Vermont. She was born Jan. 6, 1925 in South Royalton, Vt.

She was a secretary at Barrett and Baker's, Greenfield.

She is survived by her husband, Clifford W. Kraft; a son, Ethan Allen, Jr., two daughters, Mrs. Hope Hurlbert of Greenfield and Mrs. Laura Ferris of Stanfordville, N.Y.; a brother, Henry Morse, Jr., of South Royalton Vt.; four sisters Mrs. Sarah Ryan of Randolph, Vt., Mrs. Louise Bent of Barre, Vt., Mrs. Lucy Lyman of Sharron, Vt., and Mrs. Ruth Rogers of Bethel, Vt., five grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Services will be Friday at 2 p.m. at the Smith and Kelleher Funeral Home with Rev. Ben E. J. New officiating. Burial will be in Arms Cemetery and calling hours at the funeral home will be Thursday from 7 to 9 p.m.

Some Towns Lose Out On Lottery

BOSTON (AP) — Communities which assess their property at full market value, in compliance with state law, were hurt in the recent distribution of $35-million in state lottery revenues, says State Rep. Paul Schneiders, D-Canton.

A recent study of nine communities showed that the five which recently reassessed property to full market value received substantially less than those assessed at less than half market value, Schneiders said.

Elizabeth Cox of the Massachusetts Department of Corporations and Taxations said lottery revenues are distributed to communities according to a formula which in part considers the equalized property valuations set by a state formula as an indicator of a community's need.

Mrs. Cox said all communities may not have been brought up to full market value by the state formula, and those which were not would have an advantage. A new formula is being developed for 1975, she said.

Schneiders said Canton, assessed at 97 per cent of market value, received $58,000 in lottery revenues while Milford, assessed at 30 per cent, received $126,276. Canton has 17,000 residents and Milford 19,352, Schneiders said.

"Communities that are disobeying the law by assessing their property at less than full value often received two and three times more lottery aid than those that properly assess their property," Schneiders said.

Defense--

(Continued from Page One)

no figure, sources indicated that the increase could be as much as $6 billion to $8 billion.

As for the budget as a whole, Ash said it would carry a deficit of between $6 billion and $10 billion.

While not providing a precise figure on what the budget would be, Ash said he did not see any way of avoiding going over $300 billion. This would be an increase of at least $27 billion.

Ash said the new spending program will include funds for a start on national health insurance, although he said it will be 1977 before that proposed program would have a significant dollar impact on the budget. Nixon is expected to detail his national health insurance plan soon and send legislation to Congress early this year.

Ash said the budget will contain significant amounts for research and development in energy. The budget will reflect a 5-year, $10 billion energy research program recommended by Dixy Lee Ray, chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission.

Ash said the administration energy research proposal would not vary substantially from the AEC plan, which calls for federal spending of $1.6 billion in the first year.

The research program would put heavy emphasis on development of coal and would continue present programs to develop nuclear energy, Ash said.

Ash said the budget will contain a new revenue sharing program for transportation, under which money can be sent out to localities to spend for their transportation needs.

MASTALIZ RITES

SOUTH DEERFIELD — Services for Walter H. Mastaliz, 63, of 12 Braeburn Rd., who died Sunday at Cooley Dickinson Hospital, were Tuesday morning at Kostanski Funeral Home, Greenfield, and at St. James Episcopal Church in Greenfield. Rev. Peter Chase, rector, officiated, assisted by Rev. Stanley M. Wooley, Jr., associate.

Burial was in Holy Name of Jesus Cemetery in South Deerfield with Rev. Francis P. Niemiec reading committal prayers. Bearers were Alfred Finkowski, Jr., Eugene Allard, David Mastaliz and Richard Carroll.

Thomson--

(Continued from Page One)

rest with the people, through their elected local and state representatives, and not the United States government in Washington."

As an example of the abuse of federal powers, the governor cited his continued opposition to legal assistance programs, which, he maintained are used to harrass elected city, town, county and state officials.

"This system of lawyers supposedly helping the poor, has resulted simply in lawyers suing established elected authorities, and harrassing them," the governor said. "It was set up by the federal government with no accountability to local or state officials."

He warned that, if the trend toward centralization continues in the United States, the states will "cease to exist" and governor's will become merely "district managers" for the federal government.

The governor's appearance in the VFW Hall, which was festooned with signs "Give 'em hell, Mel," and "America, Love It or Leave It," was scheduled as a result of a pre-election campaign appearance here just before state elections in 1972. At that time, Thomson vowed he would return to town if he were elected governor.

Like the people of Western Massachusetts, the people of Southwestern New Hampshire have chided public officials for courting their votes at election time, but forgetting their existence between election days.

Turning to the multi-million dollar oil refinery proposal, Gov. Thomson said that, whether or not the Olympic Refinery-Durham Point project becomes a reality, an oil refinery will be built, if not in New Hampshire, somewhere in New England.

He said the New Hampshire site was selected because it offers adequate needed fresh water supplies — 3,000 to 6,000 gallons per minute — and ocean facilities deep enough to handle 300,000 ton tankers with draws of 80 feet.

Warning that the energy crisis eased somewhat by the current mild winter, will continue for years, he called for immediate action to develop offshore oil beds on the Continental Shelf off New England.

"This can be done with adequate environmental safeguards, but only if we go about it in a business like manner," and only if we forget political expediency" he said.

Noting that the Alaskan Pipeline, delayed by environmentalists for four years, could now be producing badly needed oil for the nation, Thomson chastised his fellow New England governors for helping to delay the project.

"The New England Governor's Conference sponsored a resolution urging the federal government not to develop the Alaskan pipeline," he said. "I was the only one to vote against the resolution.

"And, during a hearing on proposals to develop off shore oil on the Atlantic Coast, Gov. Sargent of Massachusetts called for more money and more time to study the proposal, while I told them there was a desperate need for additional oil, and that I believe the drillers can't get out there fast enough."

At the end of the talk, which drew prolonged applause, Kiwanis President Kendall Baker presented Gov. Thomson a sheepskin produced in Winchester, "to keep you warm during the present energy crisis."

Medicaid Cost $466 Million

BOSTON (AP) — Medicaid cost $466 million in Massachusetts during the last fiscal year, an increase of 26 per cent in the face of a rise in the number of cases of 5 per cent, according to the Public Welfare Council.

The council said Tuesday the biggest increase was $30 million in payments to licensed nursing homes.

Limited Bus Service

NORTH ADAMS, Mass. (AP) — Limited bus service is scheduled to be restored later this month in northern Berkshire County, according to J.T. Bus Co. President John C. Tiegens.

Tiegens said he will begin daily runs between North Adams, Adams and Williamstown no later than Jan. 21. The service could begin as early as Monday, he said.

Tiegens was granted a state Department of Public Utilities license to operate passenger service last month.

He also operates school bus service here and in Pittsfield.

Montague--

(Continued from Page One)

return for our assessment," Zukowski said) the assessors would anticipate the tax rate to drop to pennies per thousands "or perhaps less."

"It could never drop to zero because we would get nothing from the plant," Girard said. "But, if the plant is worth as much as they say, we could drop the rate pretty low."

But, there are other factors. "If there is a tremendous leap in the costs of services needed for the town, the rate would not drop as quickly," Avery said. "If a lot of people began coming in and new schools and public services had to be built, the costs would slow the decrease."

A less extreme, and more likely, estimate of what the future holds, would be a partial assessment of the plant. Even then returns to the town are large.

If the plant is assessed at only 10 per cent of its estimated costs or $135 million, the property value of Montague would be tripled. Therefore the tax rate could be cut to one-third. "That's if everything else remains the same," said Avery.

At the other extreme. would be the threat of a state control of property taxes on nuclear plants.

If that were to happen the tax rate could be affected much less in that there might still be a large influx of business and need for services.

Assessment would begin as soon as construction was started and continued each year until completed. One problem the board will be facing though, is what value to place on the facility.

"We would have to take their word for its value as we do with the Turners Falls Dam now," Avery said. "They give us a figure, and it's a good one, and we accept it."

Montague must now sit back and see what happens, if anything. It will be an interesting, and long, wait.

Accident--

(Continued from Page One)

car was northbound on Upper Rd., at a high rate of speed when it passed a car. It apparently went out of control about a quarter of a mile down the road, on a long right hand curve, police said; struck a utility pole, flew into the air about 30 feet, rolled and ended up on its side against a second pole, with its front end wrapped around the pole.

Neither pole was damaged but, police said, the wreckage was so twisted that a cable on the town truck trying to remove the car snapped and struck operator John A. Laskoski of Bernardston across the mouth.

Police took him to Franklin County Public Hospital at 7:20 for treatment of facial cuts and chipped teeth.

Laskoski was reported in satisfactory condition this morning at the hospital.

Registry of Motor Vehicles Insp. Joseph E. H. Bonnette investigated the accident.

The body was transported by Mercy Ambulance to Franklin County Public Hospital, where it was later released to McCarthy Funeral Home.

Wells, worked for his father, Roger Wells of South Deerfield. He had been married less than a year to Candace L. Wells and was a graduate of Frontier Regional School.

U. S. — Cuba Relations Unchanged

By GEORGE GEDDA
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Renewal of diplomatic relations with Cuba is not likely to occur in the forseeable future despite conciliatory statements by Cuba's ambassador to Mexico, U.S. officials believe.

According to official sources, the United States will require more direct evidence of a change in Cuban policy toward Washington before the two nations can think realistically about an end to their 13-year estrangement.

By late Tuesday it was learned that the administration had decided not to initiate attempts to clarify Cuba's position.

The Cuban ambassador in Mexico, Fernando Lopez Muino, caught officials by surprise Monday night by telling newsmen that Cuba is prepared to discuss a restoration of relations with the United States once the hemispheric embargo of the Caribbean island is lifted.

It was the first time in the memory of Cuban experts here that an official of the Cuban government had mentioned, in a public forum, the possibility of renewing relations. At one point in 1972, Prime Minister Fidel Castro said he would never negotiate with President Nixon.

The State Department expressed cautious interest at Lopez's statements but declined for the time being to attach long-range significance to them.

Officials said that perhaps the most compelling reason for pessimism over the prospect for a U.S.-Cuban detente is that Cuba has shown no desire to disavow its commitment to support revolution elsewhere in the hemisphere. Castro reaffirmed the policy last week, just three days after Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger described it as a chief obstacle to reconciliation.

Store Said Bankrupt

WORCESTER, Mass. (AP) — J. Robert Seder, court-appointed receiver for Denholm & McKay Co., Inc., said Tuesday he will file a motion in U.S. District Court in Boston within a few days to have the firm declared bankrupt.

Denholm & McKay, a downtown department store, has been under protection of the federal court since Sept. 19 when it filed for permission to seek an arrangement with creditors under Chapter 11 of the federal bankruptcy laws.

Seder said he will ask that the firm be declared bankrupt because the current owner, Worcester Properties, Inc., failed to comply with a court order to file a plan for an arrangement with creditors by Jan. 4.

Wayne Accepts Challenge

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (AP) — John Wayne, who in films has helped settle the West and win wars, has accepted a challenge from the Harvard Lampoon and will take on the questioning of Harvard students, the Boston Globe reported today.

The Lampoon, an undergraduate humor magazine, challenged Wayne last month.

Following a screening of his latest film, "McQ," Wayne will appear on stage at the Harvard Square Theater Jan. 15, the Globe reported.

VITAL STATISTICS

Births

MAYO — At Case Western Reserve University Hospital, Cleveland, O., Jan. 8, a son to Dr. and Mrs. Joseph W. Mayo of 2609 Hampshire Rd., Cleveland; grandson of Mr. and Mrs. George Mayo Sr., of Greenfield and Mr. and Mrs. Antons Primanis of Saginaw, Mich., great-grandson of Mrs. Mary Mooney of Greenfield.

OUELLETTE — At Franklin County Public Hospital, Jan. 8, a son to Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Ouellette of 66 Central St., Turners Falls; grandson of Charles Ouellette of Howard St., Ludlow.

ROYER — At Farren Memorial Hospital, Jan. 8, a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Peter E. Royer, of 29 Mechanic St., Shelburne Falls; granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Gougeon and Mr. and Mrs. Ernest H. Royer, all of Shelburne Falls; great-granddaughter of Mrs. Emma Gougeon of Northampton, Mrs. Maria Arabia of Shelburne Falls, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Weber of Colrain, and Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Royer of Heath.

Marriages

BELSY - ATWOOD — At Denver, Colo., Miss Judith M. Atwood of Calif. and Stephen F. Belsky of Warwick.

Deaths

BARBER—At Greenfield, Jan. 9, Mrs. Julia L. Barber, 76, of Bernardston.

KRAFT — At Franklin County Public Hospital, Jan. 8, Dorothy (Morse) Kraft, 49, of Shelburne Falls.

GAMACHE — At Athol Memorial Hospital, Jan. 8, Fernand J. Gamache, 81, of Orange.

SENIOR — At Franklin County Public Hospital, Jan. 9, Mrs. Evelyn J. Senior, 56, of Bernardston.

WELLS — At Deerfield, Jan. 8, James A. Wells, 21, of Greenfield, formerly of South Deerfield.

Utilities--

(Continued from Page One)

money to fight a case. So the consumer is out millions because we can't get $50,000 from the legislature."

Gitlin said the DPU had contributed some of its funds to the council to help hire accountants and expert witnesses.

"But then we started criticizing their decisions on the last Edison case and the telephone case so (DPU Chairman Robert) Meade told us we wouldn't get any more money."

This will be the second time the DPU has been allowed to make the assessments against utilities. They originally got the authority in 1972, but that legislation also specified the agency's 1973 budget would have to be $1.75 million to trigger the special appropriation. It wasn't and the utilities saved $250,000 that year. However, the new law eliminates any trigger figure.

The DPU in a Dec. 31 letter to Taxation Commissioner Nicholas Metaxas asked that the special assessment bills be sent out to Massachusetts utilities for this year.

New England Telephone will pay the largest share of the assessment with a bill for $75,905. The payments range down to an 85 per cent assessment against the Elizabeth Island Telephone Co.

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Loin End Roast ..... lb. 99¢
Roasting Chickens ..... lb. 59¢ 5 to 6 lb. avg.
Essem Kielbasa ..... lb. $1.39
Round Pot Roast ..... lb. $1.49
California Broccoli ..... bch. 39¢
Yellow, Ripe Bananas ..... lb. 12¢

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Maine—Steaming Clams ..... lb. 49¢

California Celery ..... bch. 19¢
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Foster's Market will open at new location Monday, Jan. 14 at 8 a.m. on Conway St. at Allen St. (God willing).

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