



The Comet Sportster, a sleek new hardtop version of Mercury's Comet luxury compact, will go on sale at Mercury dealerships on January 26. The Sportster, which will be offered in the Custom series and the S-22 bucket seat series, increases the total number of Comet models to 14. Two convertibles were introduced in October. The Custom Sportster will have a factory suggested list price of \$2,125, and the S-22 will be \$2,266. Prices include a fresh air heater, which is a delete option, but do not include Federal and local taxes, preparation and delivery charges and transportation.

## New Year Brings Back Old Problems

CAPE CANAVERAL (UPI)—The new year has brought some old problems back to Cape Canaveral. One is the Minuteman missile's late-blooming inability to hit targets.

Minuteman is the "Instant ICBM" that the United States declared war-ready last Dec. 11. Thus there is some concern that of Minuteman's last four shots only one has been successful.

The latest mishap came Monday. It was the first rocket shot of 1963 from this sprawling missile testing center.

The 54-foot rocket was blasted from the bottom of an 85-foot launching silo and aimed at a target more than 5,000 miles away. It missed.

The Air Force, which talks at length about successes, managed to sum up the entire proceedings in two sentences which said little more than that the missile "fell short of its intended range."

Other sources gave more information. The Minuteman, after a sparkling start, ran into upper-stage troubles. The net result was that the rocket quit working too soon. Just why could not be determined immediately.

Minuteman's problems, although hardly of the magnitude of those in the Air Force's late Skybolt program, have reached the serious stage. One of the missiles blew up in a shot from Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., Dec. 10 and another fell short of its intended target in a test from Cape Canaveral Dec. 20.

The only success in that period was a rippling 5,000-mile shot Dec. 14. That was a test of an improved "Wing-2" Minuteman. The shot Monday also involved one of the updated models which, among other things, has a peepier second stage and a modified guidance computer system.

This is the second siege of troubles to hit the Minuteman program in four months. Following two blow-ups, the rocket was grounded for a spell last October until the problems—found to be

in the guidance computer—could be solved.

Minuteman is a three-stage solid-fueled rocket which the nation is counting on as the bulwark of its ICBM force. The Air Force will install nearly 1,000 of them in buried launching sites throughout the United States during the next three years.

The first 20 already are on station with nuclear warheads at Malmstrom Air Force Base near Great Falls, Mont. Theoretically, all 20 could be launched on just 32 seconds' notice.

Missile experts eventually hope to cut this "reaction time" in half, to 15 seconds. Liquid-fueled ICBMs such as the Atlas and Titan-1 require at least 15 minutes' warning to get off the ground.

## Gov. Welsh One Of Ten Best Dressed

INDIANAPOLIS (UPI)—Governor Welsh was named Monday night among the 10 best dressed men in Indiana.

The Mens Wear Retail Association named the 10 at a banquet. Welsh was honored along with industrialist Joseph E. Cain, sportscaster Sid Collins, loan executive Robert P. Ratz, all of Indianapolis, and Earl Hoppel, LaPorte banker; John P. Scanlon, Muncie insurance executive; Carl Suedhoff, Fort Wayne advertising executive; William C. Crimmins, Van Buren banker; Gene Brooks, Mount Vernon attorney, and Dewey Hooper, Terre Haute physician.

Samuel J. Freeman, chairman of the board of L. Strauss & Co. was named outstanding retailer of the year. The association elected Milton Abel, Marion, president; Robert Seibert, Jasper, first vice president; Aubrey Robinson, Mount Vernon, second vice president, and Stanley Brenneman, Berne, secretary-treasurer.

## Three Judges Seek End To Paper Strike

NEW YORK (UPI)—Three court judges met today with union and publishers representatives in an effort to find a way out of the stalemate which has left the metropolitan area without nine major daily newspapers for a month.

The judges, investigating the dispute as a board of public accountability, met after the striking printers asked Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy Monday to investigate possible antitrust violations by the publishers in shutting down five of the newspapers which were not struck.

The printers apparently set no representative to talk with the board this morning. The publishers were represented as were the photographers, the deliverers and the newspaper guild.

The New York Publishers Association countered the printers' request by saying it would cooperate with Kennedy if an investigation is "properly brought by the Department of Justice."

The International Typographical Union called the strike just one month ago against the New York Times, Daily News, Journal-American and World Telegram. The NYPA immediately closed down the Mirror, Post, Herald-Tribune, the Long Island Press and Long Island Star-Journal.

The ITU in a telegram to Kennedy said the agreement to shut down, "is one which eliminates competition among the newspapers involved and therefore raises the question whether the antitrust laws of the United States are being violated. Section 1 of the Sherman act specifically."

The publishers have offered a \$9.20 weekly package over a two-year period and printers are asking for an estimated \$38 package for the same period.

## Sale Of Pryor Home Is Announced Today

Mrs. Pauline Haugk, local broker, announced this morning the sale of the home of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Pryor, at 959 Highland Park.

The home has been purchased by Mrs. Maxine Massoth, a former resident of Chicago. Pryor was manager of the Northern Indiana Public Service Co. in Decatur, recently transferred to Valparaiso.

## Youth Charged With Check Transportation

ELKHART, Ind. (UPI)—Walter Lee Lantz, 20, Elkhart, was held here today pending arraignment on a federal charge of interstate transportation of stolen checks.

Federal Bureau of Investigation agents arrested Lantz Monday in connection with the theft of \$500 worth of checks from a Tampa, Fla., transportation company. The checks were cashed in Tampa, Fort Wayne, South Bend and Elkhart.

### Door Rattles

At night, when a strong wind causes a bedroom door to rattle, thus disturbing your dreams, tie a strip of cloth around the outside doorknob, then bring it around and tie it to the knob inside the room. Then, when you close the door, the rattle will be "two more." Of course, when you eventually can squeeze in the time, it's best to get at the real seat of the trouble for a permanent cure.

### Tree Surgery

If a storm or high wind has split or broken a limb on one of your favorite trees, remove the injured limb with a smooth saw cut as near the main trunk of the tree as possible, and then protect the exposed wood from decay and from insects by covering it with several coats of shellac.

If you have something to sell or trade — use the Democrat Want ads — they get BIG results.

## Reports Sent To Five County Grand Juries

INDIANAPOLIS (UPI)—Chief Examiner B. B. McDonald of the State Board of Accounts said today the board has sent reports to five county grand juries in connection with a small scale highway land scandal for which a former supervisor already is under indictment in Marion County.

The supplemental report concerns Robert F. Grenat, Indianapolis, who worked as a sales supervisor for the Indiana State Highway Department from June 13, 1961, until he was fired April 12, 1962.

The first report was sent only to the Marion County grand jury. The completed report was sent to prosecutors in Clark, Wayne, Franklin, Jay and Lake Counties for presentation to their grand juries.

The new report said the total shortage charged against Grenat amounts to \$2,661 and this was due to cash shortage of \$525, failure to report \$406, altering figures on reports \$530 and unaccounted for in a final settlement in which he turned in \$2,944 was another \$900.

Many of the land deals were for Interstate 65 in Clark County. But some were for Interstate 74 in Franklin County, Interstate 70 in Wayne, Indiana 606 in Wayne and U.S. 136 in Jay, in addition to land deals for Interstate 465 in Marion County.

The board said "the circumstances that permitted such irregularities were primarily due to too much responsibility being placed in one individual and a lack of internal control."

The report said that procedures for internal control "to eliminate the possibility of a recurrence" are now in operation in the highway department.

Grenat was indicted in Marion County in connection with the first report.

The board said that of 476 transactions handled by Grenat, letters were sent and replies received from 414 in a check on whether there was a difference between the prices on record and the prices actually paid.

## Miss Mary Inniger Dies This Morning

Miss Mary L. Inniger, 61, of 256½ North Jefferson street, Berne, died at 6:15 o'clock this morning at the Adams county memorial hospital. She had been ill since last May and bedfast for the past nine days.

Born in Monroe township Oct. 14, 1901, she was a daughter of Christian and Catherine Liechty-Inniger, and was a lifelong resident of Adams county. She had been employed as a seamstress at the Berne Overall & Shirt Co. for 38 years until ill health forced her retirement.

Miss Inniger was a member of the First Missionary church at Berne.

Surviving are three brothers, Amos L., Homer L. and Ervin L. Inniger, all of Berne, and two sisters, Mrs. David L. (Adella) Habbeger of Ossian, and Mrs. Chris F. (Wilma) Zurcher of Monroe route 1. One brother and one sister, are deceased.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p. m. Thursday at the First Missionary church, the Rev. C. H. Wiederkehr officiating. Burial will be in the MRE cemetery. Friends may call at the Yager funeral home after 1 p. m. Wednesday until 12:30 p. m. Thursday, when the body will be removed to the church.

## Bank Bandit Caught In Revolving Doors

NEW YORK (UPI)—That old gag about revolving doors—once you get in them, you can't get out— is not funny to a 19-year-old bandit named Isaac Worthen.

Worthen, armed with a sawed-off shotgun, robbed a midtown bank Monday and was highballing it toward the street when quick-thinking bank guards trapped him in a revolving door and twirled him into the arms of police officers.

The gunman walked into the Bowery Savings Bank across from Grand Central Station just before closing time and, strolling up to teller John Percival, presented his credentials: a double-barreled shotgun and a note. "Shotgun, \$7,000 cash," the note read.

"I got real scared when I saw that gun and I pretended to be counting out the \$7,000," Percival said. But instead, he pressed an alarm button near the money drawer and handed Worthen a bundle of "hot" bills — money with serial numbers previously recorded in case of a holdup.

The robber shoved the money into his pocket and made a beeline for the door.

That's when he got into trouble. Mike Frank, 60, a bank guard, tried to trap him and Worthen stumbled, firing both barrels of his shotgun while off balance. The pellets from the blast whistled past Frank's leg and carved a hole the size of a grapefruit in a nearby wastebasket.

As Worthen ran into the revolving door, three other guards grabbed a section of it and kept it from turning until police arrived. Then the guards spun him out into the street.

## State Parole Board Reviews Peak Case

INDIANAPOLIS (UPI)—The Indiana Parole Board is reviewing the case of Robert A. Peak, 46, Milan attorney who was convicted of aiding former Indiana highway chairman Virgil Smith in certain deals of a highway scandal in 1955 and 1956.

The board began a three-day parole hearing at the Indiana State Prison Monday and is scheduled to end its hearings Wednesday. The case of Peak was continued from the December meeting.

A favorable decision by the board would mean freedom for Peak who was sentenced to two simultaneous terms. One sentence was for 1-3 years for falsely notarizing a deed to land along the Madison Ave. Expressway in Indianapolis which was made out in a fictitious name.

Peak also was sentenced to a term of 2-4 years for conspiracy to embezzle in connection with the same sale of back lots along the expressway. The minimum time of the terms was served as of last Dec. 14.

Peak was convicted in Marion County Criminal Court March 14 and May 17, 1961.

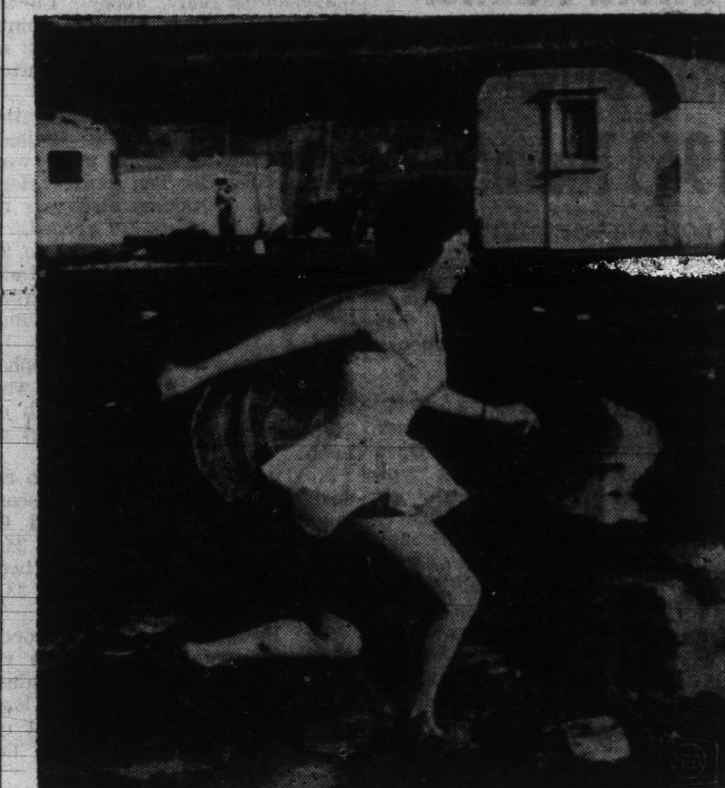
## Freed Under Bond On Tax Evasion Charge

INDIANAPOLIS (UPI)—David Lee, 40, Terre Haute coal salesman who disappeared after his indictment on a federal income tax evasion charge, was free today under \$10,000 bond.

Lee, who had failed to appear for arraignment on the charge last week, surrendered Monday on a bench warrant issued by Federal Judge S. Hugh Dillin. He was arraigned Monday before a U. S. commissioner here.



FINAL AUDITIONS were held Monday evening for the Decatur Jaycee production of "The Music Man," in the music room of Decatur high school. A part of the large crowd of budding Thespians attending the final auditions are pictured above. Reid Erekson, shown standing at the rear, is director of the production, along with his wife, Evelyn. —(Photo by MacLean)



BALLET DE MUD—It's not in the program for the Heros Circus, this ballet de mud. Downpour turned the parking grounds near Rome into a quagmire. The "ballerina" is on her way to rehearsal.

## Committees Named By Band Parents

A meeting of the officers of the executive board of the newly formed Decatur band parents association was held recently, with various committees selected.

Finance, uniform and publicity committees were chosen by the officers. Mrs. Hubert Zerkel, Jr., was named chairman of the uniform committee, composed of Mrs. John Hefner, Jr., Mrs. David Langston, Mrs. Carl Noll, Mrs. Paul Jurt, Mrs. Glen Ellis, and Mrs. Marvel Johnson.

The finance committee is composed of Charles Houk, Nelson Doty, and Don Whitaker. Mrs. Randolph Brandyberry reads the publicity committee, selected by the executive board officers.

Formed Recently The organization was formed recently by the parents of the Decatur public school children, with Mrs. Kenneth Singleton elected its first president. Smith, vice president; Mrs. Carl Smith, vice president; Mrs. Carl Baxter, secretary; and Mrs. Ar-

thur Beeler, treasurer. The group will meet twice a year, once in the fall and once in the spring, with officers elected at the spring meeting.

Group Purposes Purposes of the new organization are: To arouse and maintain interest in the various phases of the instrumental music program in the Decatur public schools.

To lend support, both moral and financial, to the general instrumental music program in the Decatur public schools.

To cooperate with the Decatur school board and music instructors to keep the department at the highest possible degree of efficiency.

To build and maintain an organization which will help promote the general activities of the instrumental music department of the public schools.

Porcelain in the Kitchen You can use a good grade of furniture polish on porcelain kitchen appliances and cabinets. This protects them from scratches, finger marks, and grease. Dust them frequently with a dry cloth to keep them shining.

## Two Drivers Fined By Justice Of Peace

Two fines were paid in justice of the peace court Monday evening, both on charges of reckless driving. David Allen Gage, 20, 339 N. Eleventh St., paid a fine of \$1 and costs, amounting to \$18.75, as a result of his arrest following an accident.

Geraldine S. Hamrick, 19, Wren, also paid a fine of \$1 and costs, for a charge levied against her on Jan. 1 after an accident.

## Probing Alterations In Assessment Sheets

WINCHESTER, Ind. (UPI)—The Randolph County Board of Tax Review is investigating alterations of tax assessment sheets in the office of the county assessor.

The investigation, touched off when about 1,900 residents appealed their property tax assessments, showed that many of the assessors' sheets had been altered to increase property valuations as much as 60 per cent.

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