

The Spokesman-Review
16 Tuesday, Jan. 4, 1955.

TEXAS OFFICIAL IS THREATENED

Call Comes to Attorney Prob-
ing Land Scandal

CUIERO, Texas, Jan. 3. (AP)—The attorney general of Texas was threatened today with "a bullet in the back of the head" if he comes to probe Texas' veter-
ans' land sales scandal.

The threat was telephoned to Attorney General John Ben Shep-
perd's home in Austin, the state capital.

Mrs. Sheppard was described as temporarily "hysterical" after the maid who took the call in-
formed the attorney general's wife.

Governor Allan Shivers prom-
ised a thorough investigation. State police were at the home minutes after the call.

Shivers said the threat was "probably the work of some prankster or someone with a warped mentality" but said "it will cause a full investigation to be made."

Sheppard, with an assistant at-
torney general, Sam Ratliff, was closeted with the Dewitt county grand jury here at the time, prob-
ing the land sales.

Reporter Threatened

Raymond Brooks, veteran cap-
ital reporter for the Austin Amer-
ican-Statesman, received a similar threat at his home at about the same time today.

Sheppard told the Associated Press that he had received an earlier threat but it had gone through his office switchboard.

He said he planned no change in his daily routine.

The call today was taken by a maid, Bertha Marie Sneed, at the Sheppard home. The caller first asked for Sheppard, then Mrs. Sheppard and finally told the maid to give this message to the attorney general:

"If John Ben Sheppard doesn't lay off the land deal case, he is going to get a bullet in the back of the head."

The man then hung up.

No one has been able to de-
termine the profits in some veterans' land deals, but they appear very large.

Board Chairman Quits

Only last week end, Texas Land Commissioner Bascom Giles,

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Many of us go the "first mile" on a job, put in 8 hours, let the boss do the worrying. But only those who go a "second mile" reach the top.

In January Reader's Digest, business leader Bruce Barton tells how the Bible passage he once called "non-sense" has helped carry him, many others to success. Get January Reader's Digest today: 40 articles of lasting interest, including the best from leading magazines and current books, in condensed form.

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LAXATIVE
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**TAKE
PHILLIPS'
MILK OF MAGNESIA
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WAKE UP FRESH
FULL OF LIFE

PHILLIPS'
MILK OF
MAGNESIA

HELLS CANYON MOVE ASSAILED

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3. (AP)—A move by public power groups to reject plans for three private power dams in the Hells Canyon area was denounced in scathing terms today by lawyers for the federal power commission and Idaho Power company.

The lawyers submitted argu-
ments against a motion asking the FPC to dismiss the Idaho Power company's applications to build three dams in the Snake river between Idaho and Oregon, where the federal Hells Canyon project has been proposed.

FPC Attorney John C. Mason said the "inadequacies and blun-

ders" in the motion of the National Hells Canyon association "are so numerous as to make it fall of its own utter lack of substance."

Idaho Power termed the motion "sham and frivolous—a mere repetition of motions previously made and denied" by the public power groups after long hearing on the company's applications.

MONKEYS SUFFOCATED

LONDON, Jan. 3. (Reuters).—London airport officials today held an inquiry into the deaths of 300 monkeys headed for New York from India. The monkeys were found dead in a truck they were loaded into when their plane was delayed. Altogether there were 1600 monkeys in the shipment.

361 ARE KILLED DURING HOLIDAY

By Associated Press

The new year's holiday week end cost the nation at least 361 accident deaths—255 of them on streets and highways.

The traffic death toll was substantially less than that of Christmas week end a week earlier when 392 were killed by motor vehicles. However, the Christmas traffic deaths and the overall toll of 315 accident fatalities both set records for a two-day holiday period.

The 255 lives lost in traffic last week end also far exceeded an estimate by the National Safety

council which said before the hol-
iday cars would kill 240.

Commenting on the combined cost of 687 dead in traffic mishaps during the two 34-hour holiday periods, Ned H. Dearborn, safety council president, said it was "enough to make every decent American citizen sick at heart."

WELL-WISHER FINED

WELLINGTON, New Zealand, Jan. 3. (Reuters).—A young hus-
band was fined \$28 today by a court for firing a rifle at his wife and other guests at a New Year's party "to wish them a happy New Year."

AVIA'S FILM BOYCOTTED

ROME, Jan. 3. (Reuters).—The Catholic motion picture center in Rome today advised Catholics to boycott the United States film "The Barefoot Contessa," starring Ava Gardner.

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**Buying, Selling, Renting or Trading
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A Year-End Telegram to the 10,000 Ford Motor Company Dealers of America

(Text of a message sent by Henry Ford II, President, Ford Motor Company,
shortly after the close of business in 1954)

1954 was a great year for America.

We proved that we can have peace and prosperity
at the same time.

1954 was a great year for Ford Motor Company, too.

In 1954, our domestic payrolls totaled more than
\$950,000,000, averaging better than \$18,000,000
each week.

1954 was the best sales year in the 51 years we
have been in business.

In 1954, the American public bought more Ford
Motor Company passenger cars and trucks than in
any other year. In total, our customers selected
and purchased more than 2,000,000 Fords, Lincolns,
Mercurys, Ford trucks and Ford tractors.

During 1954, the public swing to the Ford passenger
car was clearly established.

Complete sales information for the industry is
available, at this moment, only to November 1st.

For the first 10 months of 1954, more people
bought Ford passenger cars than any other make.
In fact, for the entire 15-month period from
August 1, 1953, to November 1, 1954—a postwar
period of free competition—the Ford car is first
in sales . . . and our sales are continuing at a
leadership rate.

We are proud of this record for 1954. We are
grateful to the people who made the record possible
—our employees, our dealers, our suppliers and,
most importantly, our customers.

As still another great year for America begins, we
remind ourselves that any achievements of ours
are made possible only by the kind of country in
which we live and work.

We believe that American freedom and American
opportunity are the silent partners of all the
individuals and all the companies that have helped
keep this country always new, young, vigorous
and strong.

Henry Ford II

Ford Motor Company

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