

Fluoridation Appears In

HELENA (AP) — The controversial issue of water fluoridation in Montana's cities and towns passed a crucial test in the Montana Senate Tuesday, with the legislators giving tentative approval to a fluoridation measure.

Senate Bill 18, sponsored by Sen. John C. Sheehy, D-Billings, calls for fluoridation content of one part per million (ppm) in the water supply of all Montana cities with populations of 1,000 or more.

Abortion Bill Dies

HELENA (AP) — Introduced with verbal fireworks from supporters as well as opponents, a controversial abortion bill sponsored by the state's lone female representative died a quiet death Tuesday in the Montana House.

Only five persons voted in favor of HB 544, one of them Dorothy Bradley, D-Bozeman, who introduced the measure "not because I support it but because it should be aired."

The House accepted the "do not pass" recommendation of the Public Health, Welfare and Safety Committee on a roll call vote taken at the request of Rep. James H. Burnett, R-Luther.

Not a word of discussion was heard. This was in sharp contrast to an earlier effort to kill the bill before it had what turned out to be a well attended and very vocal public hearing.

Joining Miss Bradley in trying to keep the bill alive for later for more debate were Reps. Francis Rardonou, D-Harlem; Arthur H. Sheldon, D-Libby; Jack Gunderson, D-Power; and Dan Yardley, D-Livingston.

Killing the plan that would have given Montana one of the nation's most liberal abortion laws were 93 representatives.

Six house members did not vote. They were Reps. L. M. Aber, R-Columbus; William R. Campbell, R-Missoula; Conrad F. Lundgren, R-Kalispell; W. S. Mather, R-Billings; Herschel M. Robbins, D-Toundup and Kenneth M. Wolf, R-Shelby.

The bill would have left the question of abortion strictly up to the mother and her doctor. Present Montana law authorizes abortion only in cases where the mother's life is at stake.

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Carl Krueger, 70 Succumbs Tuesday

Carl Krueger, 70, an area resident since 1915 and a ranch worker on Grasshopper Creek for many years died early Tuesday at a state hospital following an illness of many years.

He was born Nov. 10, 1900 at Glenwood, Wis. and came to Beaverhead County from that state.

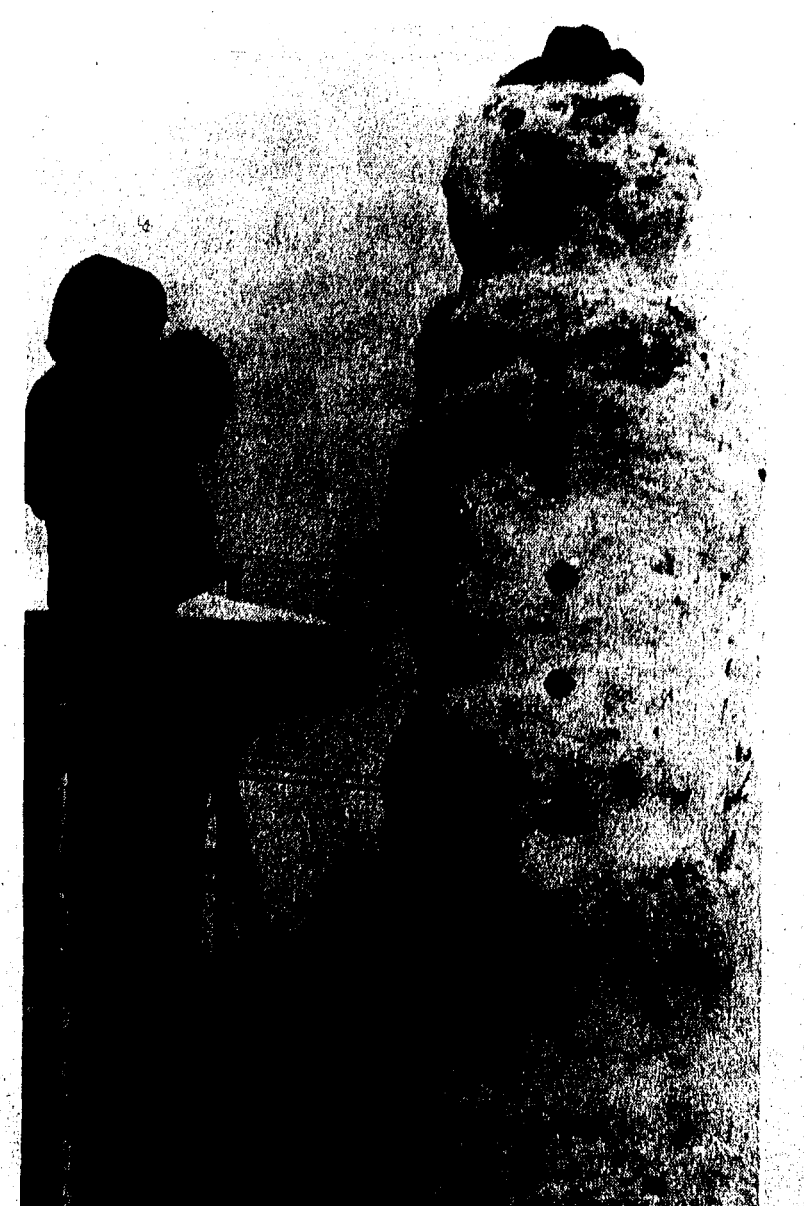
Several cousins, living in Montana and California are believed to be the only survivors.

Graveside services will be held at the Mountain View Cemetery of Dillon with Rev. James Dickinson officiating, and interment will be in the family plot.

Hotel in Butte Has Fire Damage

BUTTE (AP) — Fifty residents of a downtown Butte hotel were evacuated early today by Butte firemen and policemen when a fire was discovered in a third-floor room of the six-story Leggat Hotel.

Butte police credited Butte firemen with fast action in containing the smoky fire. One policeman said a fireman saved his life.



Giant Snow Sculpture

Chris Fisk, son of Coach and Mrs. Russell Fisk, with Christy the Else poodle, admires the giant snowman constructed at the corner of East Reeder and Nelson streets by Patti and Robin Else and Brad Remely. The giant snow sculpture, which received its final touches from Chris at the top of a ladder, was about 12 feet tall and came into being Tuesday evening after a generous fall of wet snow which left 17 inches moisture.

Connally Absolved By Senate

WASHINGTON (AP) — John B. Connally Jr., nominated to be secretary of the Treasury, has won a clean bill of health from the Senate Finance Committee on his dealings with the estate of wealthy oilman Sid Richardson.

The committee, by a 13-0 vote, approved Connally's nomination Tuesday after a two-hour public hearing he had requested to explain his role in administering the Richardson estate.

Sen. Russell Long, D-La., chairman of the committee, indicates he wants the Senate to consider Connally's nomination Friday. But a vote may be delayed until next week because of the request by Sen. Fred R. Harris, D-Okla., to see agreements under which Connally accepted \$750,000 from the Richardson estate.

Harris was the only committee member to question Connally in depth about the fees and the agreement under which Connally had accepted them on a delayed basis while governor.

Connally stressed he had violated no Texas laws by accepting the deferred payments, because the money was for services performed before he took office.

Harris' questions indicated he wants to determine whether Connally, a former secretary of the Navy, opted to defer payment of the \$750,000 beyond time allowed under tax regulations.

As secretary of the Treasury, Connally would be the only Democrat in the Nixon Cabinet, succeeding David M. Kennedy who will become an ambassador at large.

County's Problems Studied

Beaverhead County commissioners Mel McDowell and Jim Barrett with chairman Phil Lovell met Monday and Tuesday to cover routine matters which included a session with Forest Service personnel to discuss the Wise River-Polaris road, the scheduling of a hearing on school district problems and discussion of excess water problems on the Rattlesnake.

A road, which is a school bus and mail route, has been flooded by ice and water recently, near the old Jack Roberts place on Rattlesnake. A lane with permission of the owner, has been opened by county crews to allow traffic and men are working to drain the roadbed.

The R. J. Scruton engineering firm will be in Dillon Wednesday afternoon to meet with representatives of the Wisdom sewer district to begin plans for a survey of the project.

The commissioners scheduled a public hearing Wednesday, Feb. 10 at the Beaverhead County Court house to determine boundaries of District 36 (Centennial) where the school has been discontinued. The hearing of citizens and school personnel will determine distribution of income from taxable valuation of \$440,000 to be distributed to area high schools.

Welfare affairs were discussed Tuesday and routine matters of management discussed and the bills approved.

New Storm Hits East

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
A new winter storm dumped snow into the northern and central Rockies today and scattered freezing rain eastward to the Mississippi Valley.

Arctic cold retreated from the Midwest but held firm in the Northeast, where heavy demands for electrical power Tuesday brought renewed voltage cutbacks

Denver Mint Stamps Halves

DENVER (AP) — The Denver Mint began stamping out the new cupro-nickel Kennedy half dollar today, supervisor Mrs. Betty Hlby said.

The new version of the rarely seen 50-cent piece will contain only copper and nickel—just like dimes and quarters.

Some 1.2 billion Kennedy halves were turned out by the Denver Mint from 1964 to 1969, but hoarders took them out of circulation almost as soon as they appeared. They were 40 per cent silver.

Mrs. Hlby said production of the cupro-nickel version will gradually be geared up to two million halves a day.



Newly-installed members of the Parkview Junior High School Chapter of National Honor Society, and charter members under the new charter are: Front row (from left) Linda Bandler, Kim Conover, Alison McCandless and Breta Koehne. Middle row: Kathy Bergstad, Jeanette Hull, Geraldine Peterson, Sheila Haugo and Margaret McNally. (Back row) Cregg Taylor, Blake Harmon, Valaine Briggs, Christine Traugher and Donna Pancheri.

Sales Tax Measure Appears in Jeopardy

HELENA (AP) — Speaker James P. Lucas, acknowledging there is a distinct possibility the sales tax bill may not pass the House, said Tuesday Montanans may have to live with a "barebones governmental budget."

"This is not necessarily bad in a period of economic downturn such as we have now," the Miles City Republican said. He was commenting on an Associated Press report the sales tax may fail in the House.

Astronauts View Texture of Moon

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP)—Apollo 14's astronauts inspected their moon-landing craft Antares today and reported it "immaculate" as they streaked toward the grip of lunar gravity and a Thursday morning orbit of the moon.

To the Mission Control center they televised a picture of their target, a shimmering half crescent that loomed larger and larger as their home planet shrank in the distance.

Astronauts Alan B. Shepard Jr. and Edgar D. Mitchell, who are to attempt a precision landing in the ancient Fra Mauro highlands Friday, floated through a connecting tunnel into the landing vehicle, hooked to the nose of the command ship Kitty Hawk, during the transfer which began at 4:20 a.m. EST.

Stuart A. Roosa remained alone in the command vehicle. Before opening the tunnel hatches, Mitchell manned the

Shooting Mishap

Dillon Police officers Leo Erdman and Bruce Knox were called to take a statement concerning a gun accident which occurred Sunday about one mile west of Badger Pass.

According to the statement Steve Huffaker, 20, and Tim Swartz, 19, were practicing quick draws, when an accidental discharge from one of the guns, (they were not sure which), struck Huffaker in the left leg above the ankle.

Swartz brought him to Barrett Hospital where he received treatment and was dismissed Tuesday.

The report said the GOP-backed sales tax bill, HB586, could go down on a 52-52 tie while its best hope for passage would be by a 53-51 vote. Not inconceivable would be a 53-51 House vote against the plan to raise \$60-\$65 million from a broad-based sales tax in the 1971-73 biennium.

Lucas noted the Democratic administration's major revenue proposal—to boost income taxes by disallowing federal taxes as a deduction—has been rejected by

the Republican-controlled House. Expanding on his statement that a bare-bones budget is not necessarily bad, Lucas said the state "is not too different than an average family which is tightening its belt in order to live within present income."

"We're cutting the governor's budget now," Lucas said. "This is being done regardless of what revenue measures pass or fail. It means that if we do get the sales tax the extra revenue would be used principally for property tax relief."

Asked how extensive the cut will be, Lucas said: "About 10-15 per cent is being taken off the proposed increase of some \$34 million in new money."

In explaining why the sales tax bill's future is so shaky, he said: "When you broaden an average family which is tightening its belt in order to live within present income, you also broaden the opposition."

"Also," he said, "some people have genuine reservation about the bill's present form."

"The vote will unquestionably be close, either way," Lucas went on. "If it should be advanced to the Senate, we are certainly open to proposed amendments to bring out the most acceptable type of program."

Lucas said the GOP's basic goal "is to accomplish some property tax relief by a reduction in voted school levies which last fiscal year totaled \$23 million statewide."

"In addition, over the last two years, deficiency school levies totaling \$17.5 million automatically went onto property at the local level."

He said this happened because the legislature didn't appropriate as much money as it told school districts to expect.

"This is the worst type of property taxation, because it stems from a broken promise," Lucas said, adding: "It's one method of balancing the biennium budget while actually being \$17.5 million short."

In reply to a question about what money would make up a barebones budget, Lucas said: "Present taxes plus the natural growth in the state's tax system."

He said growth should produce about \$17 million in new money for the general fund. This could rise to \$20 million with such changes as bringing banks under the corporation license tax and taxing table wines.

After a day in orbit, in which the combined ships will dip to within 11.5 miles of the surface, Shepard and Mitchell once again transfer into Antares, separate and make the diving descent to the moon, skimming over 600-foot-high ridges, craters and mammoth boulders to touch down in the Fra Mauro highlands near the Ocean of Storms.

Scheduled landing time is 4:16 a.m. Friday. Within hours, Shepard and Mitchell are to become the fifth and sixth humans, all American, to set foot on the moon. With television relaying his step to the surface, Shepard is to be first down the ladder at 8:53 a.m.