

Columbia Missourian

Johnson leads Tigers
over Cal Poly Pomona

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70th Year — No. 79

Good Morning! It's Saturday, Dec. 17, 1977

16 Pages — 15 Cents

In town today

7:30 p.m. "A Christmas Carol,"
Stephens College Warehouse
Theater.

Movie Listings on Pages 14 and 15.

Insight Red menace threatening agriculture

Efforts to control fire ants hampered

By James P. Sterba
N.Y. Times Service

HOUSTON — The forebears of solenopsis invicta, like some other American colonists, were stowaways. The best guess is that they hid among nursery plants aboard riverboats out of Paraguay and landed at Mobile, Ala., around 1840.

Leaving natural enemies in their old country behind, they flourished in the United States. Today, solenopsis invicta — better known as imported red fire ants — infest 190,531,685 acres (76,212,694 hectares) of pasture, cropland, suburbs, parks and backyards in 10 Southern states.

Their poisonous sting drives laborers and livestock from fields and children from playgrounds. Their colony mounds ruin farm machinery and lower land values. Their aerial breeding habits make them difficult to push back. They are moving west across Texas at a rate of 30 miles (48 kilometers) a year.

Last Thursday, production ceased on the one insecticide deemed most effective by farmers and ranchers at controlling the ants. Called mirex, it is a relative of heptachlor, a cancer-causing agent. Last year, under a federal order, must be expended by next June 30. After that, its use is banned.

Farmers are frantic; environmentalists are pleased. And as a political battle takes shape over the ant and its antidote, scientists have stepped up efforts to develop new methods of control.

"It's the top pest menace in Texas right now," said Reagan V. Brown, the state's agriculture commissioner. "We have insecticides for cotton boll weevils, and biological control has done a wonderful job against screwworms in cattle. But unless we can use an insecticide or find some biological control breakthrough against fire ants, they are going to knock a big hole in our ability to produce food."

By adding other chemicals, scientists have developed a new form of mirex that degrades, or breaks down chemically, much faster in the soil than did previous formulations. But its widespread use requires a minimum of two years of successful animal feeding studies. The Environmental Protection Agency is under pressure from farm groups to allow its interim use and from environmental groups not to allow its use until testing is completed.

Brown, siding with Texas ranchers, says that controlled use of mirex bait in any form — at one-90th of a pound per acre — is far less damaging to the

Med school dean prods faculty

By Mark Cowing
Missourian staff writer

"We are far too concerned about form, and far too little concerned about substance," the dean of the University School of Medicine told his faculty Friday.

In his first formal assessment of the medical school's progress since becoming dean more than two years ago, Dr. Charles C. Lobeck delivered what he called a "critical overview" to about 150 of the 280 regular faculty members.

Lobeck said the school's problems are "reflected in over-administration, emphasis on how things operate, emphasis on how information is delivered, not its quality . . . emphasis on appearance, not the stuff of which we are made."

A specific indication of "our quality problem," he said, is the stagnation in money being received from grants, contracts and gifts. There has not been an appreciable increase since 1974, when the medical center received \$5 million.

This is "disturbing," especially in light of a 20 percent increase in applications for federal grants and a 90 percent rise in applications for non-federal grants, he said.

"The easiest way to get a grant is to be so good that the quality of your work demands it. One or two substantial pieces of work are worth more than an infinite number of unimportant pieces," he said. "We must become more competitive."

He also complained that scholarly quality is low. Of the faculty's 567 papers written in the past three years, only 93 have been published in "major

professional journals, he said.

This represents an "extraordinary" production rate of almost two papers per faculty member, but an acceptance rate of only 16 percent. He estimated that in an average institution 50 to 70 percent of professional papers are published.

"It is my belief that our output of potboilers is far too high and our true scholarly output far too low," he said.

"Faculty responsibility is at least as important as faculty freedom and is largely a question of self-discipline," he said. "Faculty freedom is freedom to pursue one's own intellectual course; it does not include freedom to do nothing."

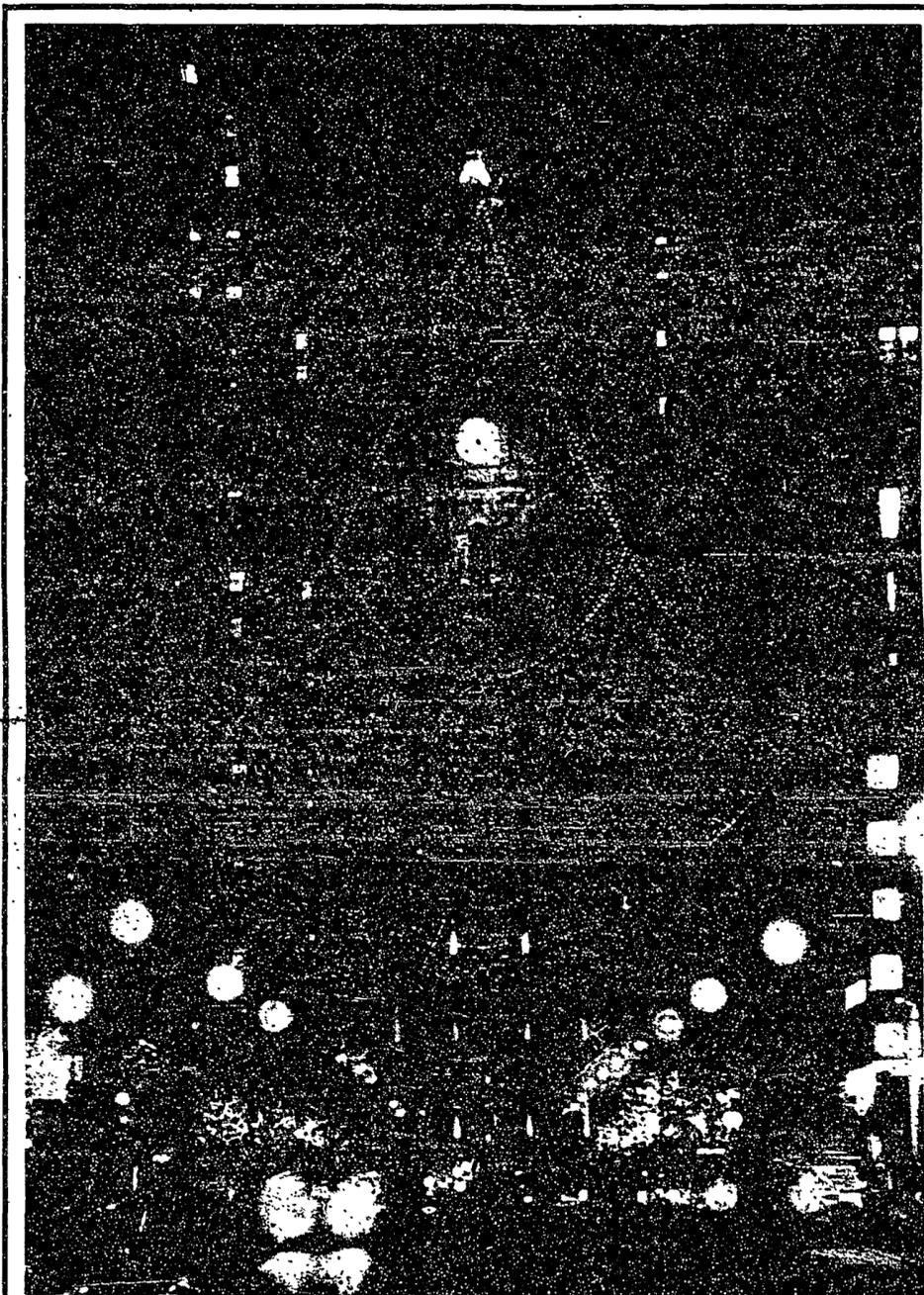
Lobeck said there has been some progress since 1975, when, he said, he found a medical center that took "comfort in mediocrity without a stress on

the content or quality of our work."

Departmental studies and chairmanship search committees have been instituted, three new chairmen have been appointed, the dean's office staff has been reduced by more than half and a council system has been established to provide "faculty and student input into the decision-making process," he said.

But more is needed, he said.

He emphasized that the medical school should strengthen its recruiting efforts, improve the quality of faculty and student thought, aggressively seek funds from the public and examine all "educational and scholarly efforts in (See DEAN, Page 12)



Christmas glow

Christmas has come to downtown Philadelphia. The three 60-foot (18.3-meter) trees of lights spanning Broad Street brighten

the city with 450 light bulbs each. The light trees lead to City Hall.

UPI telephoto

Curators vote to increase fees for dormitories

By Sara Thomasson and Jeff Gordon
Missourian staff writers

The University Board of Curators voted 6 to 1 Friday to approve increases of housing fees at the Columbia, Kansas City and Rolla campuses.

Curator Robert Dempster strongly opposed the proposals because, he said, he is "fearful we will deny some of our students the right to attend the University."

Dempster said he particularly was concerned with minority students being unable to afford the 15 percent housing increase coupled with a 13 percent tuition hike — both of which will go into effect next year.

"I think we have soaked the students as much as they can be soaked," he said. "Somebody here has to stick up for the students."

He said the University is becoming too expensive to serve its function as a land-grant institution.

Subsidizing the dormitories was one proposal discussed to keep dormitory rates lower, but at a press conference after the meeting President James C. Olson emphasized that all housing should be self-supporting.

"All students should not be called upon to subsidize those who do live in the dormitories," Olson said. More than 6,000 students live in University housing on the Columbia campus.

Dale Bowling, vice president for business management, said that, if the increases were not approved, the University would be operating under a \$1 million deficit on the Columbia campus alone next year. Utility rates have risen 30 percent in the last year and inflation rates are continuing to rise at 7 percent per year.

Housing rates on the Columbia campus for the academic year will be increased to \$1,400 from \$1,220 for a double room and to \$1,690 from \$1,460 for a single room. Married student housing will be raised \$6 per month for both one-bedroom and two-bedroom apartments.

In better news, Olson announced that full accreditation has been granted to the College of Veterinary Medicine, which has been on probation since its first class graduated 27 years ago.

The primary reason for not having

accreditation until now has been poor facilities and funding, not instructional quality, Olson said.

The Council on Education of the American Veterinary Medical Association gave the college accreditation because new buildings were completed last spring.

Olson also reiterated his opposition to establishing a school of optometry on one of the four campuses until existing programs are improved.

"It seems to me that we must achieve a greater level of quality with existing programs before assuming massive new responsibilities such as those which would be entailed in a school of optometry," he said.

Controversy over the possibility of creating a school of optometry two years ago embroiled University officials — who didn't want it, and legislators who did.

The Coordinating Board of Higher Education voted last Saturday to investigate again the feasibility of putting a regional optometry school on the Marillac portion of the University's St. Louis campus. The proposed school would cost \$1.5 million if the Marillac buildings were used, as opposed to \$13 million if new buildings were constructed.

Up to 80 percent of the costs of the school would be paid by the federal government, and the remainder would be paid by states using the school.

In other business, the curators received the first draft of a report from a 13-member University committee studying the uses of the Weldon Spring property. Proposed uses of the 8,088-acre (3,275-hectare) tract are:

- Ecological research center for the study of undisturbed shoreline in relationship to its woods and uplands.

- Youth recreational and educational center to expand existing facilities of a boys' camp located on the property and provide for leadership programs.

- Animal behavior center to study indigenous animal life or breeding of endangered and exotic species in cooperation with the St. Louis zoo.

- Culture environmental center for development of extensive Indian and preindustrial archeological sites to educate students and public.

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U.S. leaders: Israel offers 'sacrifices' for peace

From our wire services

WASHINGTON — Prime Minister Menahem Begin Friday disclosed Israel's secret peace proposals to President Carter and to senators who called them "excellent" and said they involve "many sacrifices . . . on the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, everywhere."

Carter briefed Egypt's President Anwar Sadat by telephone immediately after a two-hour, closed White House meeting in which Begin spelled out, with the aid of maps, his proposals for a peace settlement with Egypt and

"a process for resolving the issue of Palestinian Arabs."

Begin and Carter also scheduled a follow-up meeting for tonight to keep the ball rolling while the preliminary Cairo peace talks were in weekend adjournment.

After his White House conference, Begin lunched at Blair House, his guest lodgings, with a group of senators influential in congressional foreign policy matters and disclosed his proposals to them as well — on condition they tell no details.

"I think it is an excellent plan," said Sen.

Henry Jackson, D-Wash. "They are most impressive proposals, and when the world finds out about them, they will see we are really on the road to peace."

"I think the moderate Arabs will buy it. I think the moderate Palestinians will buy it. The radical Arabs and Palestinians will not buy anything anyway," Jackson said.

Sen. Jacob Javits, R-N.Y., a staunch friend of Israel, called the proposals "a credible basis for peace" and said Begin "is asking his country to make many sacrifices."

Asked what the sacrifices were, Javits said,

"I think sacrifices in every area in which sacrifices are expected, respecting the position of the Israelis today and where they stand — on the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, everywhere."

"I think that the prime minister is determined, if it can be humanly done, to bring peace now," he said.

The Carter-Begin meeting took place against a background of speculation that Begin would offer limited autonomy to the West Bank Jordanian territories — where some Arabs want to build a Palestinian state — and to withdraw from most of Egypt's Sinai Peninsula lands.

Neither would comment on the reports, some of which originated from what seemed to be officially inspired leaks in the Israeli press.

Carter refused to answer reporters' questions as he ushered Begin to his car, and the Israeli, entering Blair House, would say only that "we discussed the most important problems concerning the peacemaking process."

The White House issued a statement saying the two leaders "discussed underlying principles which could guide future negotiations"

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Sea life found below ice shelf

WASHINGTON (UPI) — A television camera lowered down a quarter-mile (.4-kilometer) deep hole through Antarctica's Ross Ice Shelf has revealed a rich community of marine life near the bottom of the "lost sea" below, it was reported Friday.

The initial pictures also showed that the sea floor 685 feet (209.3 meters) beneath the bottom of the great ice sheet was paved with small angular stones covered by a thin layer of sediment.

On two occasions, a fish slowly swam across the view of the camera and its light after it was lowered into the frigid, sunless waters for the

first time Thursday.

A message from John Clough, scientific director at the scene of the international exploratory project, said the television view showed other signs of life in the forms of tracks, trails and burrows on the sea floor.

"That indicates a rich bottom dwelling community of organisms," said Dwayne Anderson, chief scientist for polar programs of the National Science Foundation, which directs U.S. studies of the Antarctic.

Clough said the waters beneath the Ross Ice Shelf have been covered for at least 120,000 years. There had been speculation that scien-

tists would find a lifeless environment beneath the ice because of the absence of sunlight and because the area is so far from nutrient sources.

"This is clearly not the case," Anderson said. "There evidently is sufficient circulation to bring in adequate nutrients to sustain a relatively rich community."

The next step in the effort to explore the dark waters beneath the ice will include the lowering of baited lines and traps to try to capture some of the creatures.

Summer is approaching in Antarctica and

(See FIRST, Page 12)

Exotic hens lay golden eggs

Chickens rule the roost at the Marit Poultry Farm, the largest producer of rare and exotic chickens in the state. This week, Vibrations observes the varieties of fowl at the Windsor, Mo., farm and finds that hens laying golden eggs are nothing to squawk at.

Children around the world are the subject of a Vibrations photo gallery this week. During an 8-month trip to 26 countries, our

photographer discovered it's a small world after all.

Seventy-year-old Ed Turbett has been fascinated with railroads and trains for the last 64 years. A former brakeman and mechanic, he spends most of his time today at the Jefferson City train depot, watching the trains come and go. Read this and more in Sunday's Vibrations magazine, part of the Columbia Missourian.