

Voyager ... Eyeing Jupiter's transparent ring

PASADENA, Calif. (UPI) — Voyager 1 has discovered a flat ring of rocky space debris several miles thick orbiting the planet Jupiter, scientists reported Wednesday.

The startling find makes Jupiter the third planet in the solar system known to be encircled by chunks of ice or rock. Saturn's spectacular rings were discovered in 1610 and rings were seen around Uranus two years ago.

The outer edge of Jupiter's ring begins 34,000 miles (54,440 kilometers) from the top of the planet's turbulent clouds. The width of the ring is unknown but extends at least 5,400 (8,600 kilometers) miles in toward Jupiter.

The discovery was an unexpected scientific bonus in the robot spacecraft's journey of exploration. It already has returned more than 16,500 pictures of Jupiter and five of its moons. The probe now is headed toward a November 1980 rendezvous with Saturn and its spectacular ring system.

Jupiter's ring has been invisible from Earth because of its thinness and its transparency when viewed from any angle except straight on.

Dr. Bradford A. Smith, of the University of Arizona and head of the scientists analyzing Voyager's pictures, said the ring was spotted during a single long-shot look Sunday for a

possible ring around Jupiter in the planet's equatorial plane.

"We were very lucky," he said at a news conference at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory control center. "Incredibly, the edge of the ring fell within our field of view."

The lens on Voyager's telescopic camera was left open 11.2 seconds and, thanks to a slight nodding motion of Voyager, the resulting picture produced six edge-on images of the ring. Each appeared as a bright line across a dark background.

Smith said it was not known how far the ring extended in toward Jupiter. The size of the

particles also was not known, but Smith estimated that they orbit Jupiter every seven hours.

"As an intuitive guess, we're talking about pieces of rock that may be tens of meters or perhaps hundreds of meters," he said.

He said the ring thickness could be no more than 18 miles (28.8 kilometers) thick, and probably was considerably less thick.

How the ring was formed is also a mystery. But Smith said it could be material left over from when Jupiter formed 4.5 billion years ago, or it could be debris from the break up of a satellite that wandered too close to Jupiter.



A Voyager scientist shows a representation of Jupiter's newly discovered ring.

Columbia Missourian

71st Year — No. 150

Good Morning! It's Thursday, March 8, 1979

2 Sections — 20 Pages — 15 Cents

Mailbox Tattle Tale saves inventor steps

By Stephanie Lieber
Missourian staff writer

Earl D. Hallett got tired of walking the 600 feet (180 meters) from his rural home on Route 2 to the mailbox to see if the mail had arrived.

So he did what any other octogenarian retiree would do — he invented a device to tell him when the mail had come.

Now when the mailman opens Hallett's mailbox, an orange piece of rectangular metal fitted underneath the box swings down. Explains Hallett, "When that mailman goes, that thing tells on him, that's for sure."

He christened his patented invention "Tattle Tale."

Hallett's mailman isn't the only one who gets told on anymore. After Hallett wrote Entrepreneur magazine to request marketing advice, he began receiving offers from distributors and mail order companies around the country.

To his surprise, he learned the magazine had written a short feature about his invention. Since that January article, he has sold 500 Tattle Tales and formed his own company, Creative Enterprises, to market them and other inventions in the making.

And at an age when most successful entrepreneurs are either retired or

buried, Hallett is just beginning. Well into his 80s, the retired supervising freight agent for the New York Central Railroad is working on even more inventions whose nature he is reluctant to discuss.

"I couldn't dare tell you that," he laughed.

Whatever they are, they and the Tattle Tales are keeping Hallett and his wife Marie, who paints them, busy. Which is what Hallett set out to be after a brief retirement in Florida.

"We went down to Florida one winter and we were down there for three months," he said. "I never felt so worthless in my life. I didn't have anything to do, only just run around (See MAILBOX, Page 10A)



At right, Earl Hallett relaxes in his "workshop." Above, Hallett's rigged mailbox.



Judy Stern

Campbell calls pot action strict

By Scott Morgan
Missourian staff writer

City Manager Stuart Campbell said Wednesday he feels the disciplinary measures imposed by Columbia Police Chief David Walsh are "very strong," and that Walsh's earlier briefing to him differed somewhat from the final account the police chief gave the press.

Campbell said, "We're talking about a sizable monetary loss to the officers involved. Along with this very serious monetary punishment, to add a year's probation — I would say this is pretty substantial disciplinary action."

"Chief Walsh did inform me of the allegations against the officers when the investigation began. There were allegations reported to me that were somewhat contrary to what the chief has presented as the results of what I'm

sure he believes is a full investigation," Campbell said.

Campbell did not say what the earlier allegations were or how they differed from the final results Walsh gave.

Campbell said he "stepped out of the picture" when Walsh reported that there might be charges filed against the officers.

"I was not directly involved with the investigation nor his final decision. I have to remain objective until the appeal period is over."

"Walsh had to go on the strength of the facts uncovered in the investigation and then make a final decision himself. He weighed his alternatives and decided he didn't have enough information or evidence to charge the officers with any more than what he has

(See WALSH, Page 10A)

House OKs first step in blue law repeal bill

By Susan King
State capital bureau

JEFFERSON CITY — A bill granting Boone County, 17 other counties and the city of St. Louis the option to repeal Sunday closing laws won tentative approval in the Missouri House Wednesday by a vote of 94-62.

The measure, sponsored by Rep. Gary Sharpe, D-Hannibal, would allow voters in those counties to repeal the laws that prohibit the sale of non-essential items on Sunday. Reps. Larry Mead and Harold Reisch, both R-Columbia, voted for the bill.

Five counties already have repealed blue laws. This option has been granted to counties that border shopping areas where the laws already have been repealed.

The bill originally included 12 counties, but amendments to add Cole, Pike, Lafayette, Moniteau, Cooper, St. Louis County and St. Louis City were adopted on the floor.

An amendment to allow Greene County to repeal was defeated.

The measure still faces final approval in the House before going to the Senate, and Sharpe said the inclusion of the St. Louis area may "lessen the bill's chances to be passed this session."

Sharpe said that in the past, residents of the St. Louis metropolitan area have been opposed to the repeal of Sunday

closing laws, partially because shopping areas in East St. Louis, Ill. do not pose an economic threat to Missouri retailers. He also said that the St. Louis Retail Clerks Union has voiced opposition to the repeal.

A second amendment, which Sharpe said would weaken his bill's chances, was defeated 109-42. Rep. Phillip Scaglia, D-Kansas City proposed an amendment that would have offered the option of repeal to all counties.

Rep. Larry Mead, R-Columbia, said that although he supports statewide repeal "philosophically," he voted against the amendment because it "would have killed the bill."

"The piecemeal approach is necessary because we just don't have the votes to get the laws repealed statewide," Mead said.

Rep. Harold Reisch, R-Columbia, agreed.

"Politically the bill (with Scaglia's amendment) just would not fly in the Senate. We've still got a lot of counties that don't want blue laws repealed. By being specific we can include only those counties that do want repeal and exclude those who do not."

In addition to Boone County, the other counties in Sharpe's original bill are Andrew, Atchison, Holt, Jasper, Johnson, Marion, Monroe, Nodaway, Pettis, Ralls and Saline counties.

Chamber advocates public views

By Jay Lowndes
Missourian staff writer

The Columbia Chamber of Commerce is changing its role by advocating business points-of-view toward public issues to its present booster effort among business people.

In 1978, the chamber endorsed right to work and rezoning of a portion of Stephens Park for apartment construction. This year the chamber supported the American Air Filter and sewer revenue bond proposals.

Bylaws restrain the group from endorsing candidates, but recent bylaw changes allow its board of directors to take positions on issues without a referendum of the entire membership. Until last year, the chamber had not spoken publicly for business on local issues in recent years.

Developing tactics to increase aggressiveness on local issues, Al Murfin, executive vice president, is

Insight

cultivating chamber public-affairs divisions to involve more members in local government.

A recent poll of the chamber of commerce board of directors showed support for a League of Women Voters-style system of keeping on top of developments in local government. Seventy-five percent of chamber board members polled said that if asked, they would monitor the meetings of a local government board or commission and file with the chamber reports of meeting highlights.

Increased Columbia attractiveness as a business location is the chamber's objective. Its economic development division corresponds nationwide with companies planning to relocate. Chamber promotion of Columbia's business advantages is given partial

credit for Georgia-Pacific's new Columbia wholesale building material warehouse and for manufacturing plants planned by American Air Filter of Shelbyville, Ky., and Watlow Electric of St. Louis.

Despite increased aggressiveness, changes in the chamber's program are not coming fast enough for some.

Prominent citizens recently have criticized the business community leadership potential of such present chamber programs as picnics, awards, business internships, tourist and new resident information and fraud alert.

Bob Pugh, Missouri Store Co. executive and former Columbia mayor, says the chamber of commerce is not taking the lead. During his tenure in local government, Pugh did not see the chamber appear more than twice on local issues. He thinks that increased cooperation between the University and the rest of Columbia has made chamber goodwill promotions on campus un-

necessary.

"They have been a mixed bag trying to build bridges between town and gown," he said. The chamber sponsors a welcoming picnic in the fall for returning University, Columbia College and Stephens College faculty.

Columbia mayor and chamber board member Les Proctor says the chamber has not adequately promoted business interests in Columbia. He wonders if business people are apathetic toward the chamber because business has been good.

Chamber advocacy and promotion efforts combat apathy, but diverse interests create problems for spokesmen trying to represent independent business people. Local home builders, downtown merchants, physicians, attorneys, realtors, apartment owners and restaurant owners all have seen fit to establish

(See CHAMBER, Page 12A)

Antonio: School district is financially sound

By Gary Bradley
Missourian staff writer

State Auditor James F. Antonio said Wednesday night the Columbia School District is one of the best he has seen in terms of accounting and financial management.

At a public meeting at the Columbia Board of Education office, Antonio gave a report of a special state audit his office and the certified public accountant firm of Williams-Keepers-Oliver-Payne and Rackers had conducted on the Columbia school district.

"We found the Columbia School District to be in sound financial condition and operating under good management," Antonio said. Although he said there were no major problems in the district, Antonio made recommendations to improve the district's management practices and accounting controls.

One factor prompting the audit was a request from a group of citizens, led by Ed Bartolacci, 4610 Mexico Gravel Road, who became concerned by the

district's decision to reduce bus transportation service to students.

Antonio said the auditors evaluated the transportation system in the district to the extent that the district moved away from district-controlled facilities to outside-run facilities, but could not come up with any recommendations as to which is more feasible.

He said the district had implemented staggered school-starting times after the outside firm was hired, which could have reduced the cost of transportation because of a decline in the number of buses needed.

After reviewing management practices, Antonio said, the number of administrative personnel and facilities could be expanded.

He also suggested the district establish a policy for selecting the public accounting firm to annually audit the district.

In response to Antonio's report, board President Patsy Garner said the board was pleased with the auditors' findings. Bartolacci also expressed delight with the audit report.

Inside Today



Into the Hall

Hack Wilson, an awesome slugger of the '20s and '30, and former National League President Warren Giles were voted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in a special veterans' balloting Wednesday. Read about it in Sports, Page 5A.



In town today

9 a.m. Boone County Court, fifth floor, County-City Building.
3:30 p.m. "The How and the Why of the Business Story," Isadore Barmash, financial reporter for the New York Times, University's Memorial Union Auditorium.
7:30 p.m. "The Rimers of Eldrich," University's Gentry Hall Theater.
8 p.m. "The Lack of Privacy in Computers," Robert E. Smith, University's Jesse Auditorium.

Movie Listings on Page 11A.



In Tehran Wednesday, six men accused of sex crimes and other crimes against the state face an Islamic revolutionary firing squad. In other developments, Iranian oil began flowing back to the United States, the first such shipments in two months. Story on Page 3A.