

*New Year's Day, Jan. 1, 1974
Tuesday, Reid Collins - Sub.*

ENERGY

Carrying out President Nixon's orders for "tough and thorough" investigations, the Federal Energy Office says it's looking into at least two complaints of possible overcharging for heating oil by the Sun Oil Company. And in Detroit, a local attorney's BILLION-dollar class action suit against twelve major oil companies may never come to trial because of a recent Supreme Court ruling. But attorney James Tucker says he'll press the action anyway - charging that the current oil shortage was created artificially. Also today, Democratic Congressman Les Aspin of Wisconsin charged that officials and stockholders of some oil firms made near five-MILLION dollars in contributions to the Nineteen-Seventy-Two G-O-P presidential campaign.

NIXON

President Nixon and some members of his family

observed the New Year's holiday quietly at the Western White

House - although ~~the President spent~~ ^{HE DID SPEND} some time at his desk,

~~during the early hours of New Year's Eve - conferring with~~

*~~SIGNATURE - AND CONFERRING WITH~~
aides on the energy crisis and the Mid-East situation. And*

in the Mid East, Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir's Labor

party - victorious though weaker after yesterday's

elections - is seeking coalition partners who'll agree on a

strategy of compromise at the Geneva peace talks.

WEATHER

Vast sections of the nation's midlands - from the Great Lakes to Missouri and the Rockies - are in the grip of a bitler cold wave - with temperature readings of forty-five below in some areas. But in Pasadena, California, the City of St. Louis won the sweepstakes prize in the annual Tournament of Roses parade - with a float entitled - "Happiness...is a snowflake."

TEAGUE

Republican Congressman Charles Teague of California - died today of a heart attack while visiting his son, Mayor Alan Teague of Santa Paula, California. Representative Teague was sixty-four.

PLANE

An Italian airliner crashed and burned in heavy fog near Turin in northern Italy today - killing thirty-eight of those on board. Three passengers and one crew member survived. An airline official says all on board the plane were Italians.

POPULATION

As Nineteen-Seventy-Four gets underway, the Census Bureau estimates that some two-hundred-eleven-MILLION-seven-hundred-thousand people are living in the fifty states. This represents a gain of about one-and-a-half-MILLION over Nineteen-Seventy-Three.

TAPE

As the New Year begins, Lowell Thomas has some thoughts on America's place in the world - especially from the viewpoint of a Canadian friend.

TAPE RUNS: 4:40

OUTCUE: So long until tomorrow...

EXCERPT FROM LOWELL THOMAS BROADCAST

January 1, 1974

Hello Everybody:

This is Lowell Thomas speaking from an island far out in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. And tonight, as we all know, is the beginning of a new year. Have you ever heard that Americans are not too popular in other parts of the world? Maybe so. I've never encountered any of that. And at the beginning of this year - how would you like to hear something that sounds just the other way. I have a friend up in Canada by the name of Gordon Sinclair - he's a TV and Radio commentator - and from this moment on - I am going to give you Gordon Sinclair's comments concerning our country and our people. From here on Gordon Sinclair:

"This Canadian thinks it is time to speak up for the Americans, as the most generous and possibly the least appreciated people on all the earth. Germany, Japan and to a lesser extent, Britain and Italy, were lifted out of the debris of war by the Americans, who poured in billions of dollars and forgave other billions in debts. None of these countries is today paying even the interest on its remaining debts to the United States. When the franc was in danger of collapsing in Nineteen-Fifty-Six, it was the Americans who propped it up. And their reward - to be insulted and swindled on the streets of Paris. I was there, I saw it" - says Gordon Sinclair.

And then he goes on: "When distant cities are hit by earthquakes - it's the United States that hurries in to

help. This spring fifty-nine American communities were flattened by tornadoes. Nobody, nobody helped them. The Marshall Plan and the Truman Policy pumped billions upon billions of dollars into discouraged countries. Now newspapers in those countries are writing about the decadent warmongering Americans. I'd like to see just one of those countries that is gloating over the erosion of the United States dollar - I'd like to see it build its own airplanes. Come on let's hear it. Does any other country in the world have a plane to equal the Boeing Jumbo Jet, the Lockheed Tri-Star or the Douglas DC-Ten? If so - why don't they fly them. Why do all these international lines, except Russia fly American planes." Remember, this is a Canadian speaking, Gordon Sinclair.

He goes on: "Why does no other land on earth even consider putting a man or a woman on the moon. You talk about Japanese technocracy and you get radios. You talk about German technocracy and you get automobiles. You talk about American technocracy and you find men on the moon. Not once, but several times and safely home again. You talk about scandals and the Americans put theirs right in the store window for everybody to look at. Even their draft dodgers are not pursued and hounded - they are here on our streets in Canada, and most of them, unless they are breaking Canadian laws - are getting American dollars from Ma and Pa at home to spend here in Canada. When the railways,

of France, Germany and India were breaking down through age - it was the Americans who rebuilt them."

In fact, the Americans - now this is L. T. speaking - we Americans - built that great railroad across Siberia for the Russians long ago.

Gordon Sinclair again: "When the Pennsylvania Railroad and the New York Central went broke - nobody loaned them an old caboose and both are still broke. I can name you five thousand times when the Americans raced to the help of other people in trouble. Can you name me even one time when someone else raced to the Americans in trouble. I don't think there was outside help even during the San Francisco earthquake. Our neighbors have faced it alone. And I am one Canadian - who is damned tired of hearing them get kicked around. They will come out of this thing with their flag high and when they do - they are entitled to thumb their nose at the lands that are gloating over their present troubles.

"I hope," says Gordon Sinclair, in conclusion - "I hope Canada is not one of these."

Lowell Thomas again saying from mid-Pacific, so long until tomorrow.

EXECUTIVES

A New York-based job-finding agency says a recent survey shows that executives who tend to be fat or overweight, receive smaller salaries than those who are lean and trim in their appearance. The survey of fifteen-thousand executives - ^{WHOSE} ~~who~~ salaries range from ten to forty-five thousand dollars annually - shows that the highest salaries by far went to those who were NOT overweight. Says agency Director Robert Half - "We receive thousands of requests from employers, asking for 'thin' men and women - but in twenty-five years we've had only one request for a 'plump' executive - and that came from a company specializing in clothing for overweight men." Half says he never supplies information about a person's weight and he adds - "Too many American companies are literally, living off the fat of the land."