

L.T.-OLDS. TUESDAY, DEC. 26, 1961.
(Alaska)

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Seems odd to be saying good evening, when it's only midday up here in Alaska. As for the cold spell, longest, coldest in memory - even the Eskimo says so - it still hasn't broken. How is it where you are? North of us, in the interior of Alaska, it's minus fifty, and in many places down to minus sixty. As for Anchorage, often called the Capitol of Alaska's "banana belt," even here it was 25 and 30 below this morning; and about that right now. But clear, beautiful weather.

But have you heard about Florida, where the southern part of the state, below Miami is coated with ice. Down to 17 above at Waldo, Florida; 20 at Tallahassee

Florida farmers say, not too serious yet. Some of their truck garden crops ruined, but luckily the freeze not severe enough to ruin the citrus crop - not yet.

ADD WEATHER

What's cold in Florida would be a heat wave here
in Alaska - and in many other states of what Alaskans
call "the So.48". Around zero in the mid-West with lots
of snow all the way from New England - to the Great Lakes.

Winds of hurricane force over the North Atlantic,
putting one vessel the Carthagina out of commission. Her
captain and crew forced to take to the lifeboats. Luckily
picked up by the always-on-the-scene-Coast Guard.

quietly checked and not false alarm still happened. A
simple case of mistaken identity. Many gale do try to
look like Jackie - and may yet. The A.P. retouched the
story and apologized to the 1st lady.

CANARD

Have you heard about that Associated Press apology? No doubt it was inevitable. The wire service giving a false report about the 1st Lady; the story that the President's wife slipped away from the Kennedy family Friday night to dance the Twist in a Ft. Lauderdale night club.

On Saturday the White House called the story - "completely false" and demanded a retraction. The A.P. quickly checked and now tells how it all happened. A simple case of mistaken identity. Many gals do try to look like Jackie - and why not. The A.P. retracted the story and appologizes to the 1st Lady.

KENNEDY

As for the President - he is due for a physical check tomorrow. Called precautionary. The President says he has no real complaints. He's no longer using his cane. His back is much better.

JUGOSLAVIA

The administration, appears to be moving back to a policy of massive aid to Jugoslavia. In September, the program was curtailed by order of the President. Reason - Tito's hostile remarks about us. The National Security Council, giving our relations with Belgrade another close look. Evidently deciding that aid to the Jugoslavs - Tito - is still in our own interest. That aid, now to be stepped up, beginning with a shipment of wheat worth some thirty million dollars.

BOMB

The man responsible for that shocking bomb explosion in Columbia, South America, may have been what is termed "an old fashioned terrorist." Gustavo Barrabas, a worker at the Columbian army base - at Buga. In his spare time, his hobby, making crude bombs to blow up anti-Communists. Like the one he touched off at the Christmas Eve celebration, killing 51 people, injuring a hundred more. He had the bombs. He used one. Guess there's a moral there somewhere. One of the victims the terrorist who threw the bomb. Another moral there.

STAR

Now - the eccentric star. Sounds like the theater - - or the movies. But this is a real star - in the heavens, discovered by scientists at CalTech. Here are some of the scientific peculiarities that have the astronomers wondering:-

This star has the luminosity of a typical magnetic star - but it has no magnetic field. It's 27,000 hotter than our sun, and stars that hot have always been found to rotate. This one seems stationary on its axis.

The only star in which two rare elements have been found, crypton and helium III. It has 10,000 times as much gallium as it should have. Also a hundred times as much phosphorus, and five times as much nitrogen. Then, to right the balance - if that the phrase - this new star is deficient in oxygen and ordinary helium.

The astronomers say that this discovery may revolutionize science. Meanwhile there's a lot of

excited speculation about this not so dizzy star, this stationary star that suddenly wandered in front of that huge telescope in Southern California - at Cal-Tech.

Greatest Arctic dog-sled driver of all time; the man who made the most dangerous ice-sledding trip of the Yukon back to Nome, with the dogsleds seen in Nineteen Twenty-five. At that time things got all mixed up, and Seppala failed to receive proper credit. But now he is getting a great ovation from his Alaskan friends.

In Anchorage they are talking about changing the name of the main street to Seppala Trail. Some people think a suitable tandem team also, will this year's dogsleds from the Seppala troupe.

Seppala has just been telling me what might easily be a Christmas story, but it's a story about life up there near the North Pole, about a chap in Nome, who was called the Two-Step Kid. Nearly everybody had a picture in the home of the golden, blue-eyed boy, dressed in rich, a woolly

SEPPALA

The other night I told now my wife and I had been fortunate enough to get Leonhard Seppala and his wife to fly to Alaska with us; Seppala, now in his eighties, the greatest Arctic dog-team driver of all time; the man who made the most hazardous and spectacular part of the famous dash to Nome, with the diphtheria serum in Nineteen Twenty-five. At that time things got ~~all~~ ^{all} ~~got~~ mixed up, and Seppala failed to receive proper credit. But now he is getting a great ovation from his Alaskan friends.

In Anchorage they are talking about changing the name of the main street to Seppala Trail, for a period of the annual fur rendezvous; also, call this year's dogteam race the Seppala race.

Seppala has just been telling me what isn't exactly a Christmas story, but it's a story about life up here near the North Pole, about a chap in Nome, who was called the Two-Step Kid. Nearly everybody had a nickname in the days of the goldrush. This chap struck it rich, a couple

of hundred thousand dollars worth of gold dust. Whereupon he decided to take dancing lessons, the two-step and when he got through he was broke. But, he went prospecting again, struck it rich, another couple of hundred thousand in nuggets and gold dust. And he hadn't learned his lesson? Wonder who the girl was? Yes, he took more dancing lessons, and again the two-step kid wound up flat broke.

Later he told Mrs. Seppala if he struck it rich again, he'd go right on taking more dancing lessons! But, Lady Luck didn't smile a third time on the Two-Step Kid. And now Dick Noel - the Christmas Kid.

CITY

If you want to see how futuristic the 20th century is becoming - consider the city of Arctograd. A city still in the planning stage - but it's a fantasy to be realized soon. So says Moscow.

Arctograd, as you can guess, will be in the Soviet Arctic. An entire, brand new Arctic city, under a gigantic transparent dome. Wasn't that idea first developed over here in the U.S.A?

Apartment houses, stores, restaurants, office buildings, even a park, and a football field - all protected from the polar weather by plastic. Moreover this future city will sit on a platform three feet above the ground - to keep it off the frozen tundra. Maybe in Siberia, on the Lena, where the thermometer sometimes dives to 70 below!

A metropolis that will manufacture its own weather. Always a temperate climate - way up north of the Arctic Circle in Soviet Arctograd.