

# Gas Rationing plan hit

WASHINGTON — Energy Secretary James R. Schlesinger said today the probability of imposing gasoline rationing is very low although he believes the country should have a standby plan. The administration's standby plan for issuing ration coupons for each vehicle was sharply criticized in a Senate agriculture subcommittee on Tuesday. The plan was criticized for being biased against agriculture and rural areas, and for not providing for the needs of the urban areas. Schlesinger denied this charge, saying farmers will get all the fuel they need for off-highway vehicles and the high concentration of vehicles in rural areas means on-highway requirements also will be met. "It (the plan) is designed to deal

only with circumstances of a dire national emergency," Schlesinger explained. Chairman Patrick J. Leahy, D-Vt., said the plan, scheduled to be submitted for Senate approval soon, should instead be withdrawn and redrafted. "I think we should have a plan on a standby basis," Schlesinger replied. "If you examine the details of this plan you will discover the agriculture sector has been well protected and difference among states will be met by adjustments," Schlesinger said. Under the plan, drivers would be issued coupons for each vehicle they own. They could sell coupons on a "white market" to those who need more. States having unusual condi-

tions could receive extra allotments. Leahy said he found the plan "highly simplistic, lacking in focus or depth and missing top priorities because it is highly biased against rural areas." It does not meet needs of non-farming rural residents who must drive greater distances to their jobs, and fails to consider the difficulty of buying extra coupons in thinly populated rural areas, Leahy said. "I fear the lack of diversity (in rural areas) and the lack of outlets will inflate the price and allow for uncontrolled speculation," Leahy said. Sen. Wendell Ford, R-Ky., testifying as a witness, said there be will less fuel for food production and this "would have a profound impact on the entire nation."

# Abortion rate up despite deaths

WASHINGTON — The number of abortions worldwide is steadily mounting even though complications from illegal operations now represent a leading cause of death among women of childbearing age, a private report says. "Worldwide, about one in four pregnancies ends in abortion," the study by the Population Crisis Committee said. Half of all those abortions are illegal, the study said. The number of abortions is growing despite a decline in some Western European nations, and the trend is expected to continue due to a preference for smaller families, lack of family planning services in many nations and an increase in the

number of women of childbearing age, the report said. It said abortions are increasing even though illegal operations now represent a leading cause of death among women of childbearing age. Because of this, it said, governments should make a "full range of family planning methods widely available." Committee spokeswoman Cynthia Green said the figures, compiled through 1976, were "pretty precise" and were checked out by "as many sources as we could find."

# Two skeletons found

United Press International  
In a pair of coincidental but unrelated cases, mushroom hunters in Indiana and Illinois have found the skeletal remains of the bodies of possible murder victims. Coroner Stanley Koscielski in South Bend, Ind., said the skeletal remains of Marie Shaw, 30, were found by a group of mushroom hunters near the South Bend Country Club three miles west of the city late Saturday. The body was identified Sunday. A woman hunting mushrooms near Perey, Ill., Sunday found the scattered skeletal remains of what officials said probably was a young male. Foul play was suspected in the death. Mushroom hunting is a widespread influence among many residents in the area.

dents of the Upper Midwest this time of year. Koscielski said tests would determine the cause of Shaw's death. She had been missing for 19 months. He said identification of the decomposed body was made through dental records, clothing and jewelry found near the body. Authorities said Shaw was reported missing Sept. 11, 1977, by her husband, Willard Shaw. Shaw said there was evidence his wife had been abducted from their home. Koscielski said he was not able to determine how Shaw died, but he said the case was being treated as a homicide. He said other experts would examine the skeleton to determine if there was evidence of any puncture wound — a gunshot or stabbing.

In the Illinois case, Randolph County coroner Gary McClure said foul play is "very definitely" suspected. The remains of the skeleton — scattered over a 40-foot square area — indicated a massive brain concussion, McClure said. The skull contained a hole. Authorities said a tire tool was found near the skeleton, along with work boots, pants, a belt and what appeared to be a T-shirt. Police said the apparel indicated the victim was "most probably a male." "We have an idea who it might be," McClure said, but he added authorities would not immediately release a name until dental chart records can be checked. State police and crime lab officials were investigating.

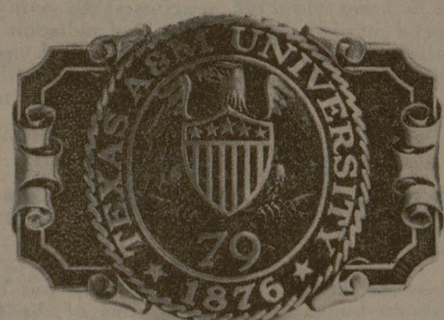
# Oldest hamburger chain closes its oldest stand

United Press International  
INDIANAPOLIS — Thirty-three million hamburgers and 16 million cups of coffee later, the original stand left in the nation's oldest hamburger chain closed its doors Monday. The turreted little White Castle outlet on the north side of downtown Indianapolis, which sold its first hamburger for a nickel on Aug. 6, 1927, is shutting down because the "building is literally worn out." "We are very sad," said Marie Hart, supervisor of the firm's Indianapolis No. 3 stand, which White Castle said was its longest continuously operating outlet. "Everybody is quite emotional at this time," added Hart, who's been at the stand 20 years. "We've had such a loyal clientele. We saw the same faces in here day after day for years and years." "We estimate 33,770,000 ham-

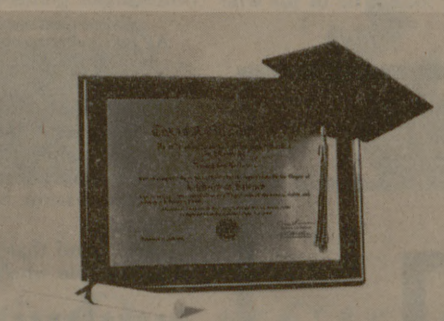
burgers were sold from that one outlet, and actually business has been improving," said John Cole, assistant area manager. He also estimated the 800 employees who worked there in the past 52 years served about 16 million cups of coffee. "Quite a few in our Indianapolis operation started there," Cole said. "The building is literally worn out and there is not enough space to build one of our newer units," said Gail Turley, director of public relations at corporate headquarters in Columbus, Ohio. "And land in that area is too expensive for a 22-cent operation," he said, referring to the current price of the basic hamburger smothered in onions White Castle has been selling for years. The chain, which has opened a bigger, more modern outlet about a mile away to serve the same clientele, isn't interested in repairing

and reopening the stand, but historical interests may buy it as a landmark. The Indiana Historic Landmarks Foundation contacted White Castle last week and made a presentation. "It's been passed on to our owners, but no firm asking price has been set for the property," Turley said. The Indianapolis Historic Preservation Commission in September 1977, recommended No. 3 be nominated for the National Register of Historic Places. It met the requirements — 50 years old, unusual architecture and outstanding significance. The stand still is eligible, but so far it hasn't been listed in the register. No. 3 is one of the few White Castle stands still left with the "castle" architecture ordered by E.W. Ingram, who founded the chain in 1921 in Wichita, Kan. It now operates 149 outlets in nine metropolitan areas in the Midwest and East.

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