

# Washington Report

## US Demands Outstrip Capacity To Produce

We have all heard the reports about shortages of energy sources but unfortunately some people have not fully comprehended the seriousness of the situation. The simple fact is that America's demand for energy has finally outstripped our capacity to produce and import it. This has happened at a time when Europe and Japan have gone into the world's energy markets as large scale buyers in a big way. The situation is not temporary. It will be with us for many years to come.

The solution will have to come from conservation efforts and by maximizing domestic fuel production and developing new energy sources. Arab shipments of oil cannot solve our problems. The crisis was upon us before the Arab cutoff, and has only been made worse as a result of the Mideast War.

The immediate problem will not be solved with the addition of new nuclear generating plants. They take about ten years to bring into full production after the decision is made to build them.

We cannot solve the problem by going out and buying more oil to import, since there is little spare crude oil production in the free world, and foreign competition for it is rapidly increasing. We have just seen how that can leave our foreign policies vulnerable to international extortion.

This is not the time to look for scapegoats to blame, for we are all responsible. The situation is not due to any conspiracy, either by energy producing companies or the environmentalists to cause us to have fuel shortage. There may have been errors of judgement on the part of industry, and slowness on the part of government leading to it. Certainly there has been wanton waste throughout society, because everyone felt there was plenty. But trying to cast blame does little to solve the problem, it only diverts attention from solutions.

During recent days and weeks, we have had a chance to review energy supplies for our area. Natural gas has been cut-

back 16 percent by the Federal Power Commission, but that could be extended to 28 percent after a hearing on January 8. A further reduction would have its greatest effects on employers who might be forced to close their businesses during the coldest months of the winter. Priority is being given to residential and small commercial users.



ALL IN FUN CLUB MEMBERS - seated, enjoying their Thanksgiving Dinner, with Jack and Jill Club members, second row, left to right, Robert Ladd, Lynn Davidson, Gayle Wood, Felicia Chesnut, Nichelle Wiley, Patricia Dixon, John Alexander, Keith Wakefield, and Vila Blackwell. Jack and Jill parents, standing rear, left to right; with helper Janie; and Thelma Ladd, Carol Chesnut, Jerri Wiley, Diane Alexander, Patricia Dixon, Virginia Wood, Juanita Davidson, Evelyn Blackwell, and Virginia Wakefield. PHOTO BY PEELER

## Les Petits Ponts Enjoys First Outing

The Les Petits Ponts of Jack and Jill of America, Inc., composed of 10 members ranging in age from 6 through 8 years held their first SPECIAL SERVICES PROJECT of the year by giving the 23-member All in Fun Club of Christ the King Center a Thanksgiving Dinner on Thursday, November 15.

The dinner lasted from 4:30 until 5:30 and was held in the Center's fellowship hall in the inter-city neighborhood of Belmont Villa Heights.

The Jack and Jill Club members and the All in Fun Club dined to their hearts content on turkey, and dressing, rice and gravy, string beans, cranberry sauce, Hi-C drink, apple pie, cup cakes and hot rolls.

During the course of the festivities, each Jack and Jill member adopted 2 members of the All in Fun Club as their Secret Pals. Each Jack and Jill member will give his or her Secret Pals a Christmas present and invite the Secret

Pals to the Jack and Jill Club's EVERYBODY'S BIRTHDAY PARTY to be held in April.

The members of the club are: Valia Blackwell, Felicia Chesnut, Lynn Davidson, Patricia Dixon, Tanya Greenfield, Robert Ladd, Keith Wakefield, Nichelle Wiley, Gayle Wood, and John Alexander.

Mrs. Carol Chesnut is Chairman of the group and Mrs. Virginia Wakefield is co-chairman.

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4102 THE PLAZA, Next to Little General, Mon.-Sat. 10:00-6:00, Ph. 375-3653

## Mail Your Xmas Cards This Week!

Officer in Charge O.B. Sloan announced today that December 3-8 will be "Christmas Mail Early Week" in Charlotte. The fuel energy crisis is a cause of great concern to the postal Service as it affects the timely movement of Christmas mail. The curtailment in the number of air flights as well as the 50 mile-an-hour speed limit for vehicles makes Mail Early Week more important this year than ever before according to Sloan.

"We are handling more mail this Christmas than in any previous year," Sloan said. "In order to get this mail to its destination by December 25, we need your cooperation in mailing early."

All Charlotte retail units will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon Saturday, December 8.

Mail Church News To: Religious Editor, Charlotte Post, Post Office Box 97 Charlotte, N.C. 28230

**GIVE YOUR FAMILY A XMAS GIFT TO BE REMEMBERED**

**NO DELAY - MOVE IN TODAY ONLY 2 1/2 YEARS OLD**

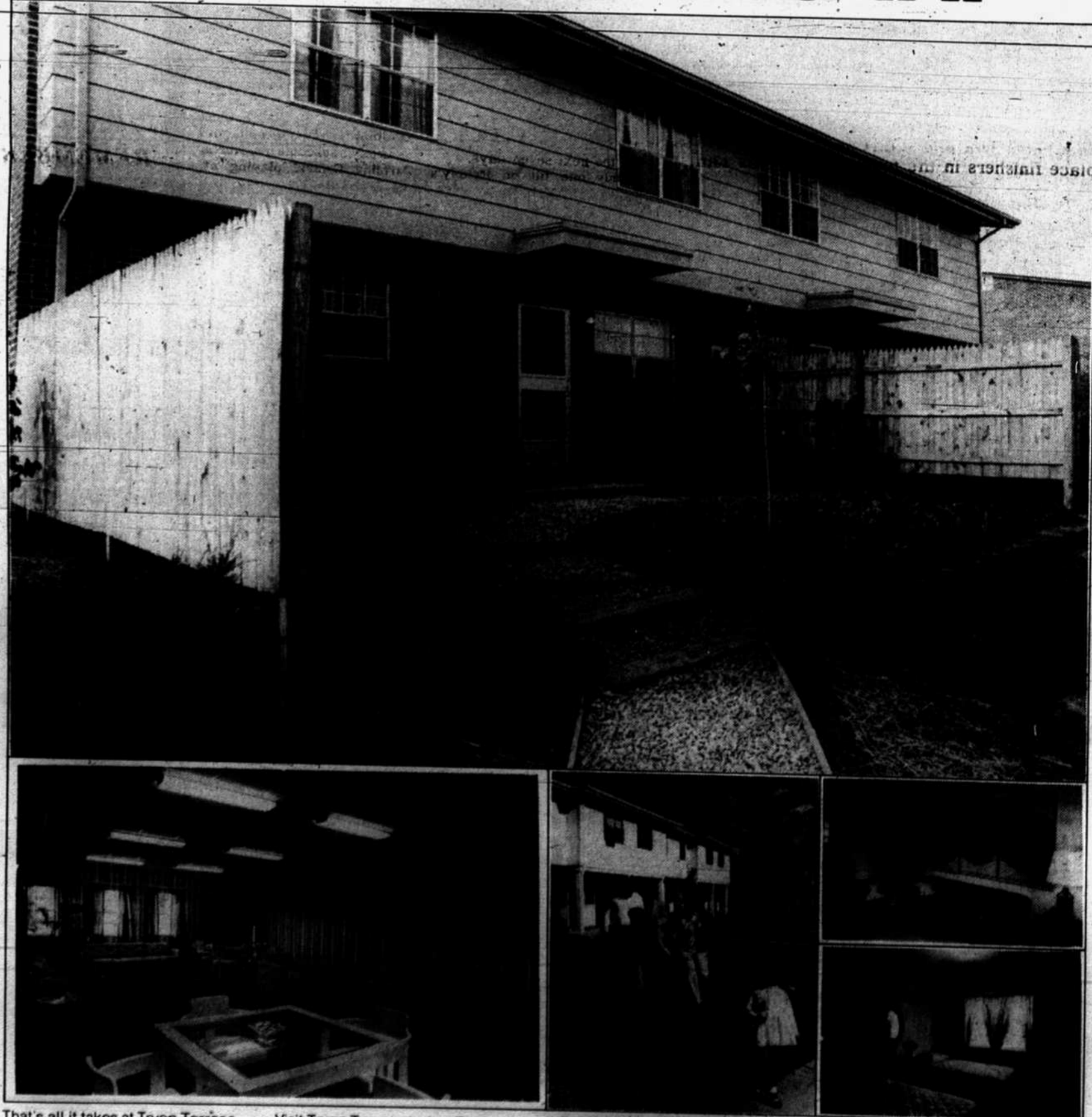
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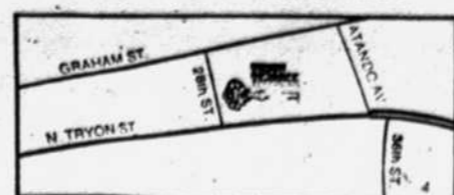


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