

(Start film)

Several postal clerks have spent most of their day sorting about 400 thousand pieces of mail - - - all addressed to (~~Show film~~) Dorothy Ridgway of Hardy.

Tonight, Jaycees from Vinton have been given permission to open the mail and sort it out according to value.

Twenty more bags arrived for Dorothy at Hardy today. The community center at the little Franklin County Community is now being used since the mail has overflowed the post office and the Ridgway four-room house. There's not even room to take a bath or eat.

Dorothy is the little girl who gained world-wide attention just before Christmas when an appeal for Christmas cards for her appeared on a national weather wire. No one knows who put the mystery message on it. It said Dorothy was dying.

Dorothy's not dying but she does have an arrested case of a fatal disease. Meanwhile, the mail and presents continue to pile up.

(Back)

(LIVE ON) (ROLL FILM)

turning to
~~IN~~

LOCAL NEWS, SOME HELPING HANDS WERE PUT TO WORK AT A KING-SIZED JOB IN HARDY'S COMMUNITY CENTER.

(TAKE FILM)

MEMBERS OF THE VINTON JAYCEES VOLUNTEERED THEIR SERVICES EARLIER, AND TONIGHT WERE GIVEN THE GO AHEAD TO OPEN LITTLE DOROTHY RIDGEWAY'S MAIL AND SORT IT OUT ACCORDING TO VALUE.

TWENTY MORE BAGS ARRIVED FOR DOROTHY AT HARDY TODAY. E. W. MOORMAN OF HARDY AND A. R. HAYDEN OF VINTON DONATED COFFEE TO THE GROUP OF WORKERS, WHO WILL BE REPLACED BY ANOTHER GROUP OF VINTON JAYCEES TOMORROW NIGHT. MOORMAN--A MAIL CARRIER IN HARDY FOR 41 YEARS--SAYS HE'S NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE THE CURRENT FLOOD OF MAIL.

DOROTHY GAINED WORLD WIDE ATTENTION AFTER AN APPEAL FOR CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR HER HAD BEEN MYSTERIOUSLY CARRIED ON A NATIONAL WEATHER WIRE. THE GIRL HAS AN ARRESTED CASE OF A FATAL DISEASE.. THE RESPONSE

(Live)