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ELEMENTARY STUDENT COUNCIL SWORN IN — Judge Earle White, Justice of the Peace, recently donned his official robes while at Mabel Hoggard Elementary School to swear in the newly elected student council members. Pictured during the ceremony are, from left to right, Judge White, Russell Bailey, president, Rhonda Jackson, vice president, Kim Hopkins, secretary, Buffy Banks, treasurer and Courtney Perkins, historian.

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tinel.

Parents Warned About Toys

Happiness and delight, of course, await Nevada's wee ones as Christmas Day 1980 quickly approaches. But many parents remain unaware that injury — and death — can lurk under the tree as well.

Last year, some 150,000 people — nearly all of them children — were rushed the U.S. hospital emergency rooms... The victims of dangerous toys.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, which behaves as a federal watchdog over hazardous toys, has banned more than 1,500 items in the last decade.

Each year 5,000 new toys enter the market place.

This yr. over 15,000 toys — some new, some old favorites — are for sale to moms and dads who want only to give a safe and happy Christmas to their little ones.

The Nevada State Department of Commerce, which is overseeing a public awareness drive against unsafe products, is alerting Nevadans to the toy hazards which have cropped up this holiday season.

Commerce Dept. Deputy Director Nancy Sprague warns that the marketplace is virtually alive with toys that explode, burn, puncture and cut. She says toys

have found their way to store shelves which — despite their innocuous appearance — can deal out injury and death.

The danger inherent in some toys is difficult to spot: a cute and cuddly stuffed bee is known to have strangled infants by its elastic suspension cord. Another is an appealing Koala bear which was found to contain wires, needles and razor blades in its stuffing.

Sprague says many merchants are voluntarily complying with requests to remove hazardous playthings from their shelves. Still, many dangerous items remain.

The Deputy Director says parents can function as their own danger — toy policeman by watching for the following:

— Dolls and stuffed toys have parts which could puncture, cut or be swallowed — any toy having parts which become separated from the main toy and could be swallowed. Darts or any obviously dangerous item which is not accompanied by warnings or directions for its use — “baby bouncers” or other articles having support cards or springs which could cause pinching or strangulation — any top containing points, sharp edges or loose parts.

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