

The News-Review

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-dangerous Drop

By Charles V. Stanton

A logging crew near Roseburg knocked off work for its lunch hour last Tuesday. Humidity stood at 45 percent. When the men picked up their tools and started back to the job humidity was 25 percent. That ended work for the day. Whenever humidity hits 30 percent, work in the woods must stop because of fire danger.

This incident shows just how quickly the fire danger can develop. Humidity dropped 20 percentage points in less than one hour.

A forest breathes out moisture. This process is called transpiration. When humidity is high the rate of transpiration is low. As the air becomes drier it acts as a sponge to pick up moisture from the forest.

A growing forest area has a deep ground layer of humus. This humus cover, composed of decaying twigs, leaves, needles and other vegetable matter, normally is moist. But, because of its porosity, it transpires moisture rapidly. Within a comparatively few minutes it changes from a zone of comparative fire safety to one of extreme hazard.

Too few people realize the danger existing in this layer of humus. If a fire starts in the dry ground cover it will spread very rapidly. Or, if normal moisture is present, the fire may smolder for days until a period of low humidity is experienced, whereupon the blaze begins to spread.

"Sleeper Fires" Are Dreaded

These delayed action fires are quite common after electric storms. Lightning will hit an old snag. Blazing fragments will fall into the ground litter, or the bolt may set fire to a partially buried log. Because humidity usually is high during a storm, the fire will smolder. In this stage it is known as a "sleeper." It sends up no smoke, so remains undetected until it breaks loose, possibly fanned by a stiff breeze.

Men charged with forest protection live in dread of these "sleeper" fires which may cause great damage before being brought under control.

But a "sleeper" fire does not necessarily originate from lightning. A cigaret or match, before all fire is extinguished, may be carelessly tossed into forest litter. Perhaps the smoker thinks there is no danger, because the forest floor seems moist.

Extremely hot weather makes us conscious of fire danger. But on cooler days we are apt to be careless. A lighted cigaret or match tossed into the forest cover is just as potent as a bolt of lightning, insofar as fire is concerned.

It may start a fire that will smolder for days. Then may come a sudden drop in humidity, such as occurred Tuesday, and we have a forest fire.

These Are Caution Days

These are days when everyone should use the extreme caution in the woods. Motorists traveling in forest areas should keep all cigaret butts and matches in ash trays. Never should they be thrown out of a car, even though the smoker may think all fire has been extinguished. Persons moving on foot should never travel while smoking. They should stop for their smoke, then carefully grind out cigaret butts or pipe duffel on a rock or solid ground. Campers should be careful to dig through the humus layer and well into mineral soil before building a campfire. The humus layer should be scraped back several feet away from the fire. No campfire should ever be left unattended. To be extinguished, a fire should be thoroughly soaked with water and then "puddled." In "puddling" a fire, after soaking, stir it with a stick until every ember has been drenched with water, making certain that no spark remains.

By far the great majority of forest fires are man-caused. We cannot expect to prevent forest fires set by electric storms or originating from other natural causes. It would be too much to expect that we will ever completely eliminate man-caused fires. It is possible, however, to reduce their numbers if each of us will be just a little more careful.

Insatiable



Reception To MacArthur's Keynote Speech At G.O.P. Meet Not Overwhelming

By JAMES MARLOW

CHICAGO (AP)—Like a man who can be called if needed Gen. Douglas MacArthur flew into the Republican convention Monday night, made the keynote speech, and flew right back to New York.

Conceivably, he could become the Republican nominee for president, if Gen. Eisenhower and Sen. Taft kill their own chances in a deadlock, or he could be picked for vice president if Taft gets the nomination.

There's no chance for him to run as vice president on an Eisenhower ticket. While the two generals have worked together in uniform, and known each other for years, there's no love lost between them. And two military men on one ticket would be one too many, anyway.

But the reception the general got here, no matter how it may have sounded on TV, was far from overwhelming. He received long applause and cheers when he marched down the center aisle in a well-fitting blue civilian suit. And he was interrupted 73 times by applause during his 57 minute speech.

Some Delegates Silent
 But from the press box, next to the speaker's platform and with a good view of the delegates on the floor, it was clear to this reporter that not all the delegates were cheering or applauding him to a man. Many of them sat still, looking up at him.

This was his eighth major speech since the one in which he told Congress 15 months ago, after being fired by the Truman administration, that old soldiers just fade away. Each speech he has made delayed the fading.

His speeches have been increasingly bitter against the administration but Monday night's outdid

all the others. MacArthur condemned the administration at home and abroad. It was a carefully prepared speech and the general paused so perfectly in the right places it's possible he practiced it before delivering it.

MacArthur told his audience he had been a Republican all his life and since a keynote speech is supposed to rally a political party while lambasting the opposition, MacArthur delivered as expected.

He nowhere mentioned the Atlantic Pact, which engaged so much of Eisenhower's time in building up a European Army, but he seemed to cast doubt on its ability to work.

While saying we must keep our agreements—the Atlantic Pact would be one of them—he said failure of "collective security" in Korea "plainly warns us that too much must not be expected from collective security elsewhere."

So, although he was making the keynote speech, the foreign policy plank adopted by the Republicans at this convention may go much further—and will have to go further if it's going to meet Eisenhower's demands—than MacArthur seems to want to go in foreign alliance and help.

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Fulton Lewis Jr. WASHINGTON REPORT

CHICAGO — While Chicago rocks under the impact of the Republican convention, a small group of dismayed politicians are working quietly in a secluded hotel suite on a plan for remodeling the party.

They are led by GOP Senator Styles Bridges of New Hampshire, Senate minority leader. He has a staff of assistants, including several members of Congress, all of whom are certain that Republicans cannot elect a president next November unless the warring factions accept some kind of peace program.

Bridges and his aides have even attempted to extract promises from Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower and Senator Robert A. Taft that the loser in their fight for the GOP nomination would accept a vice-presidential nomination.

Taft was approached through a prominent Republican from New York who is now in Chicago. Eisenhower was approached via his brother, Milton, who is also in this city in conference with the New Hampshire senator.

The replies of both men, if they have been received, are a dark Chicago secret. It is known that Milton Eisenhower was the go-between for the General in order to bypass Senator Henry Cabot Lodge. Bridges knows that Lodge, flushed with confidence and arrogance, will not compromise on anything before the nominating race, and probably with little afterward.

A public relations firm is helping the senator and his staff to prepare the proposal, which will go to convention delegates when and if a go-ahead is obtained from the two main contenders. Other candidates also have been approached.

Not since 1920 have Republicans been as widely split as they are today. Responsible leaders, then as now, acted in the interests of party harmony while recriminations and bitter charges of thievery and double-crosses filled the air.

In 1920, however, instead of attempting to heal the breach by offering the vice-presidency as a sop, the delegates took the matter into their own hands. They refused to budge when Gov. Frank Lowden of Illinois (a d. Maj. Gen. Leonard Wood were deadlocked. Instead, they forced the nomination of a dark horse, and made it plain to both candidates that they were doing so because of disgust over the political bickering.

Nothing could stop the assembled delegates here today from doing the same thing.

Bridges is convinced, however, that within a few ballots one of the top candidates will have persuaded enough delegates to promote the nomination. He will not say whether he thinks this is Taft or Eisenhower. But he is convinced that a move to pacify the loser must be made immediately. It will not be enough for the losing candidate to be generous with promises of support for the winner. Senator Taft has already done this and Eisenhower has indicated that he, too, would make the same statement if defeated.

What is needed, however, is the support of the followers of the losing candidate in an election in November, which all hands concede is far from being won. And unless some sweetness and light, along with decent political prestige, is ladled out, Republicans will still be snapping at one another through the fall elections.



NEW RECRUITER — A. L. DeMott, left, for nearly three years Roseburg Navy recruiter, welcomes Leo H. Boyd who will take his place later this month. DeMott has been transferred to sea duty. (Staff Picture).

In the Day's News

(Continued from Page One)
 The convention itself decided (on an appeal to the floor) that 68 of the 93 contested delegates, most of them Taft men, can not vote on seating contests until their own contests are decided. In effect, that action forbade a CONTESTED delegate to vote for himself or for any other contested delegate until his own status has been decided.
 The action that was taken was OPOSED by the Taft forces. It was FAVORED by the Eisenhower people. The Eisenhower contention was upheld by 54 MORE THAN A MAJORITY of all the delegates.

It amounted to what is termed a TEST vote. Such votes often in congress on minor amendments to important bills. These minor amendments may not in themselves be of great importance, but the way the members divide on them is apt to forecast the way the voting will go on the bill when it reaches the point of final action.
 So far, the Taft forces have held control of the important committees, including the committees that pass on delegate contests, but Monday's vote indicates that in the pinches they can't control the convention itself.
 Therein lies the significance of the vote.

It has been known all along that Senator Taft, who started early, would come into the convention with more pledged delegates than General Eisenhower, who started late. But at no time has Senator Taft's pledged and nailed-down total of delegates approached the 604 necessary to nominate on the first ballot. There has been a twilight zone of delegates who might go either way. Mr. Taft, hoping to appeal to the more or less universal desire to be on the winning side, has adopted an attitude of complete confidence with the idea of pulling these hand-wagon people over to his side.
 The Ike forces, also aware of this fundamental urge to back a winner, have stressed the contention that General Eisenhower will be a far more certain winner next November, hoping that when the last chips go down the desire to name a winner in November will pull enough wobbly delegates over to their side to bring their total of votes up to or past the 604 needed to nominate.
 Monday's test votes indicate that COULD happen. That is why it was significant.

Quiet Election In Mexico Turns To Bloodshed

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Monday's political riots claimed a fourth life as soldiers and police patrolled the streets of Mexico City Tuesday.

All roads leading to this capital city were blocked. Police said the numbers of persons under arrest had reached 400, compared with 300 Monday.

Three were killed in the riots and a fourth rioter, not identified, died Tuesday of his injuries. Estimates of the number of injured varied from 65 to 200. Police declined to report on the dead and injured.

Similar outbreaks were reported in other Mexican cities. All apparently were quelled quickly, however, and there were no indications of any deaths or injuries.

Government sources said Monday night's riots were only the curtain-raiser to a large uprising by supporters of anti-government candidates running far behind in the counting of votes from Sunday's presidential elections.

The disorders ended the political peace which had reigned since the polling began and which had led many Mexicans to congratulate themselves on their country's first modern election without violence.

Boy Nearing 2 To Get Cigars For Birthday

NEWARK, N. J. (AP)—Little Jimmy McLaughlin has exacted a solemn promise from his mommy for his second birthday Aug. 3—a big box of Italian stogies just for himself.

Jimmy—blue eyes, blond hair and always ready to talk a blue streak—was getting a little tired of mooching his father's cigars. He began smoking when he was eight months old.

Federal Power Board Chairman Appointed

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Truman Tuesday gave Thomas C. Buchanan a recess appointment—a good until Congress reconvenes—as chairman of the Federal Power Commission.

Buchanan, a Beaver, Pa. lawyer, has been FPC chairman since 1948, but the Senate did not confirm his reappointment when Truman nominated him earlier this year.

The Senate Commerce Committee refused to act, and at the time Chairman Edwin C. Johnson (D., Colo.) said it meant Buchanan was out of a job. Some members opposed him on grounds he was not qualified for the post.

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Jimmy—blue eyes, blond hair and always ready to talk a blue streak—was getting a little tired of mooching his father's cigars. He began smoking when he was eight months old.

He picked up daddy's cigar one day," said his pretty 23-year-old mother, "and there's been no holding him ever since. He's unbearable all day long unless he has his early-morning cigarette."

She estimates his daily consumption at six cigarettes and one cigar.

Jimmy, who has been carrying on conversations since he was one, says he likes fun and girls in addition to cigars and wants to play baseball for the Giants.

MIG Speed Tops World Record, Magazine Says

NEW YORK (AP)—Russia's Mi-G-15, which is tangling with U.S. F-86 Sabres over Korea, has a top speed in excess of the world's official speed record and a sensational rate of climb of nearly two miles a minute at sea level, according to Aviation Week, McGraw-Hill publication.

The magazine says in an exclusive story based on a newly declassified but long-secret Air Force evaluation of a captured plane that the Mi-G's speed is 584 knots (672 miles an hour) and its rate of climb at sea level 10,400 feet a minute. The official world speed record is 670.981 mph, set at sea level in 1948 in an F-86 by USAF Maj. Richard L. Johnson. Experimental aircraft have gone faster, but their exact speed has not been disclosed.

There are three versions of the Russian-built Mi-G-15 in operation against United Nations forces in Korea: two are day fighter types and the third is equipped with radar for night and all-weather operation, according to the magazine. In configuration the Mi-Gs are the same, but thrust of a later model has been increased through further engine development.

Gross weight of the Mi-G is about 12,500 pounds, as against 16,500 pounds for the F-86A Sabre. Its wingspan is 33 feet, with 42-degree sweepback. Armament includes two 23-mm. and one 37-mm. automatic cannon.

The magazine quotes a top USAF spokesman as saying, "Soviet workmanship reflected in fabrication of Mi-G-15 turbojet engines in parts is high, of excellent quality, and in many instances comparable to American standards and practice."

The Russians have managed to squeeze an extra 1,000 pounds of thrust from their version of the British Rolls-Royce Nene jet engine which powers the Mi-G, for a total of 6,000 pounds, dry, at sea level, the magazine reports. (At 375 mph., one pound of thrust equals one horsepower.)

The Mi-G-15 engine closely approximates the U.S. and British advanced development of the original Nene jet engine, the magazine points out, but the execution of development has been markedly different. This is representative of a separate approach and is obviously the result of independent Soviet work.

Materials used in construction of the Russian engine are similar to those used in later advancements of the original Nene by the British and by Pratt & Whitney Aircraft Division, United Aircraft Corp.

Soviet Initiative Shown
 Aviation Week quotes Air Force officials as saying analysis of the Russian power plant combustion chamber shows that the Soviets combined a substantial amount of initiative with known procedures in duplication and copying. Evaluation engineers admitted that the Soviets have overcome a design problem that until recently had been virtually an insurmountable obstacle for the British and U.S., the magazine says.

The captured Mi-G was built in 1948 at Zabol, I. Kuybyshev. The Soviet manufacturer redesigned the copied engine as model RD-45.

The Mi-G-15 in many respects still outperforms the Sabre, according to the magazine, because the U.S. fighter is ornamented with almost two tons of "gadgets" deemed necessary by the military for pilot safety and convenience in flight.

The Air Force analysis was made by engineers of Pratt & Whitney, East Hartford, Conn.; USAF technical specialists at Wright-Patterson AFB, O.; Cornell Aeronautical Laboratory at Buffalo, N. Y., and several other agencies.

Transmission Lines Work Dispute Aired
 PORTLAND (AP)—A National Labor Relations Board hearing on whether the AFL Brotherhood of Electrical Workers should have jurisdiction over 1,500 employees of Northwest Line Constructors Association, opened here Tuesday.

The workers are those who build transmission lines and substations.

The electrical workers' union locals at Portland, Medford, Seattle and Tacoma claim jurisdiction. Opposing this are the operating engineers, teamsters, carpenters, hod carriers, and building and construction laborers' union.

Robert J. Wiener is the NLRB examiner, who will make his recommendation at the close of the hearing.

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Seraps From the MENDING BASKET by Vidnett Martin P.O. Box 874, Drain, Or.

For miles on the Willamette, highway recently we followed a bright blue trailer in which a horse was having a most unhappy time. It was a nice trailer; the owner probably thought the horse was quite all right; but we wished the owner could have been in our car a while. The pretty horse was flung from side to side of the trailer as it rounded the many curves. The high front of the trailer kept the horse from seeing ahead so it kept thrusting its neck this way and that in what seemed a desperate and vain attempt to SEE where it was going. For many, many miles we followed, and we were not creeping along!

It seemed to me a bit like the way one fell in the old days before there were two windshield wipers; the passenger beside the driver had a horrid feeling of going into a wall because in a storm or fog there was no visibility on that side of the car. Then, too, I have always thought that horses dislike a feeling of insecurity, although I can believe, in time, one might become used to a trailer. But WHY couldn't a horse-trailer have a little window, plastic for safety, so the animal would feel he had visibility?

The wonder of the incident I have described was that the horse didn't get bruised, or even break a leg! It was simply flung from side to side and with curves as frequent and the speed of the car ahead what it was the whole thing was a traffic hazard! But

Auto Crash Kills Boy, Injures His Mother

GRANTS PASS (AP)—An automobile collision killed a year-old boy and injured his mother in Grants Pass Monday.

Their car and a taxicab collided near the business district, hurling the baby, Darrell Topping, to his death against the windshield. The mother, Mrs. Lynden Topping, was hospitalized, the extent of her injuries not determined at once. The cab driver, William Dilling, no, escaped injury.