

Columbus Day Storm Battered Oregon Just A Year Ago Today

PORTLAND (UPI)—On Oct. 12, 1962, a Navy radar picket ship positioned some 300 miles off Northern California flashed a terse weather report to meteorological stations along the West Coast.

The coded message was the first inkling that the region—and particularly Oregon—was to bear the brunt of the most destructive windstorm in the area's history.

The insane wind, known simply as the Columbus Day storm or the Big Blow, killed 24 persons in Oregon and inflicted damage estimated at \$170 million.

The destructive aftermath of the wind, which peaked at 116 miles per hour here and higher elsewhere, will remain for years to come.

In the forests of Western Oregon and Washington, state and federal agencies continue to race against time to salvage an estimated 17 billion board feet of blown down timber before infes-

tations of bark beetle reach epidemic proportions.

Families Mourn

In Portland, families of two persons killed as a direct result of the disaster still mourn their loss, as do two households in the tiny Willamette Valley community of Rickreall — and others elsewhere.

The Red Cross said some 84 homes were destroyed, 5,262 damaged severely and 46,672 damaged slightly in Oregon. Many areas had no power or telephone service for days.

In the fertile Willamette Valley — a natural funnel for the storm — as it rushed northward — 32,000 acres of orchard land laid to waste will not begin to recover its full potential until the saplings and grafts of fruit and nut trees begin producing some 10 years or more from now.

The wind that toppled trees also echoed through the halls of an angry legislature. The state's civil

defense agency was slashed from 18 persons to 3. Portland did away with civil defense entirely.

The toll of irreplaceable landmarks also was high: At Mouth, historic Campbell Hall on the Oregon College of Education campus lost its tower. It has yet to be replaced. East of Salem, a barn used as a rendezvous by pro-slavery legislators in 1860 disintegrated.

Big Fir Goes

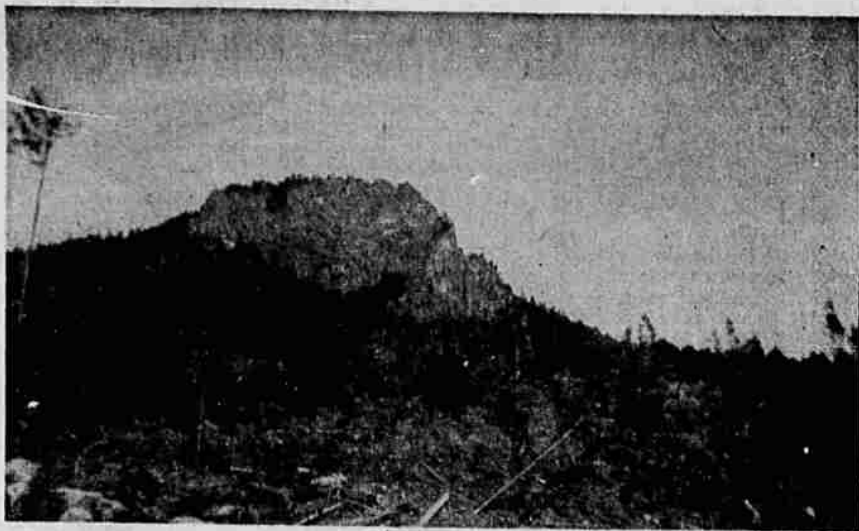
The Clatsop Douglas Fir, which wrested the title of the world's largest from a claimant on Washington's Olympic Peninsula, rode out the storm with its weight of 1,000 years — only to fall victim to a lesser blow a few weeks later. Foresters said the big wind weakened the giant.

Another tree — the 136-year-old apple planted at Fort Vancouver by the Hudson's Bay Company — lost its top, but still survives. Not so the enormous dogwood which had bloomed for more than a century outside a Milwaukie home.

In Salem's Willson Park, Champeo, and other historic spots the storm was the same—destruction of the historic and natural beauty of the Northwest.

Could it happen again? Experts are cautious. The factors which triggered last year's violence — moist warm air colliding with cold currents from the north, then churning out of a low — pressure spin-off from exhausted Typhoon Frieda—are often present off the West Coast. But whether the combination of factors will ever recur is pure conjecture.

But little children still are frightened whenever the wind kicks up. And anxious residents flood police, weather bureau and newspaper offices with calls — "Is it going to be another Big Blow?"



GREAT MASS of stone seen here is Acker Rock looming high over the landscape in the southern section of the Umpqua National Forest. The lookout station was located on one of its highest points in the center of the mass.

New Lookout House Due At Acker Rock

A lookout house, battered, worn and weathered by the storms of more than 30 years, was demolished early this week in preparation for construction of a brand new structure atop Acker Rock in the South Umpqua Ranger District northeast of Tillamook, reports correspondent Mrs. Milton Hammersley.

District Ranger Hillard M. Lillgren explained that the old structure had become unsafe for occupancy due to decay of structural timbers and that it would have had to be replaced or abandoned. However, no appropriated regular Forest Service funds had been available for several years to replace this particular lookout. He said the situation had become acute when funds were finally allocated for the purpose through the Accelerated Public Works program.



PERCHED PRECARIOUSLY on a high finger of rock is Acker Rock Lookout in its handsomer days. The photo was taken from another rock point by former recreation staff officer Ray Hampton. The building this week was pushed off into the valley below to make room for a new building. Materials for the building must be lifted into place by helicopter.

Improvement Work Ends At Singleton County Park

Three months of periodic improvement work has resulted in a general upgrading of Singleton County Park, Douglas County Parks Supervisor Wilbur Wieprecht noted today.

Young tree growth has been thinned, resulting in a better entrance and more extensive view through the park, which is located at the confluence of the North

and South forks of the Umpqua River west of Roseburg.

First Of Kind

A new flush toilet unit has been installed to replace the old pit units, Wieprecht pointed out. The building, a galvanized metal prefabricated unit, is the first of its kind to be installed in the state. It was erected by Miller & Dimick of Roseburg.

A native stone barbecue pit was erected by Elmore (Bunker) Hill, Everett Aker and Ray Carrio, of Roseburg, as a gift to the park.

Another significant area of betterment has been at the boat launching site, Wieprecht noted. A new platform has been constructed about the rails at the head of the boat launching dolly. This has facilitated transfer of boats on and off the dolly. Rails have been extended three feet on into the river bed, making for better low-water launching of boats. Overhauling of the launching device will continue on into the next season. So far, the unit has had a new galvanized cable, tail-wheel bearing, rollers and guides.

Council Considers Street Project At Monday Meeting

A petition from property owners on West Kenwood Street requesting formation of a street paving assessment district will be considered by the Roseburg City Council Monday night.

The petition is reported to represent 62.4 per cent of the affected front footage on the street.

Name Change Eyed

In another matter, a public hearing will be held on proposed street name changes. The proposals are to change the name to "West Oriole Drive" that portion of West Oriole Avenue from West Broccoli Street to West Cardinal Street, and change to "West Oriole Drive" that portion of West Agee Street from West Harvard Boulevard to West Bradford Drive.

The council will consider a Park and Playground Commission recommendation to adopt plans and specifications and call for bids for improvement of the municipal swimming pool.

Also on the agenda is a request for annexation by Frances M. Shepherd. The request involves 3.26 acres of land lying immediately east of NW Yale Court.

Resolution Due

A resolution and cooperation agreement involving the city and Douglas County Housing Authority in connection with the proposed housing for the elderly project will be introduced by Mayor Thomas Garrison. Approval of these documents would initiate local action on an application to the Public Housing Administration for a preliminary loan to cover the costs of surveys and planning in connection with development of low rent housing for elderly persons.

The council is also scheduled to review assessments for the NW Lynwood sanitary sewer extension.

Fischer Quints Well And Happy

ABERDEEN, S.D. (UPI)—The Fischer quintuplets were reported well and happy Friday but there still wasn't any indication when they would go home from the hospital.

A report from St. Luke's hospital said of the quintuplets, "everyone is well and happy in the little homes (isolates) and they are very active."

James, the sole boy quint, continued to be the huskiest. He weighed 5 pounds, 7 ounces Thursday, almost enough to meet the normal hospital requirement for release. Mary Ann, the smallest quint, weighed 3 pounds, 10 ounces. The other girls range from 4 pounds, 7 ounces to 4 pounds, 11 ounces.

The quintuplets were born Sept. 14. A big celebration is planned here Monday.

GRAVEDIGGER DIES

WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE, England (UPI)—Gravedigger Horace Webb, 62, collapsed and died in his churchyard Friday minutes after digging a grave for a cousin who was being buried today.

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24,044 Registered Voters In Douglas

Registration figures for 35 of Oregon's 36 counties totals 747,749, the secretary of state's office said today. Lincoln County has not yet submitted its revised registration list.

In a rundown of county totals, Douglas ranks seventh in number of voters registered. This, however, does not take into consideration the populations of the counties.

Douglas County has a total of 24,044 registered. Of these, the Republicans have 10,470 and the Democrats lead with 13,170. Other registrations include independents 224; Communist 1, Socialist 1, and those claiming no party affiliation 178.

In a comparison between registration for the Oct. 15 vote and past elections, the general election in November 1962 had a total of 29,528. Again the Democrats led with 16,702. The Republicans had 12,275.

NOW YOU KNOW

By United Press International

The first printing press in the United States was installed at Harvard in 1638, according to Collier's Encyclopedia.

Glide Church To Show Religious Film Sunday

The widely praised film, "I Beheld His Glory," will be shown at 7 p.m. Sunday in the Glide Church of the Open Bible.

The film is being presented at the request of pastors in this area, the Glide church reported. It is a 55-minute, color-sound movie produced by Cathedral Film Co.

So highly regarded is the film that it is widely used as a teaching aid. It tells the story of Cornelius, the Centurion, who is converted to the Christian religion after witnessing the Crucifixion and Resurrection.

4 QUESTIONS to our fellow citizens of Douglas County

1. Do you know that under Measure #1, our County will receive \$5,690,037.81 Basic School Support Funds from the state during the current biennium to offset local property taxes?
2. Do you know that a Yes vote means adequate educational opportunities will be available NOW for Oregon's children and youth?
3. Do you know that a Yes vote means continued new business opportunities in Oregon are encouraged?
4. Do you know that a Yes vote will continue adequate needed services which the State now provides: police protection, mental health, mental hospitals, prisons and all the rest? If we are to have these they must be paid for.

VOTE YES on Measure 1
A **YES** vote means 'No' to higher property taxes!

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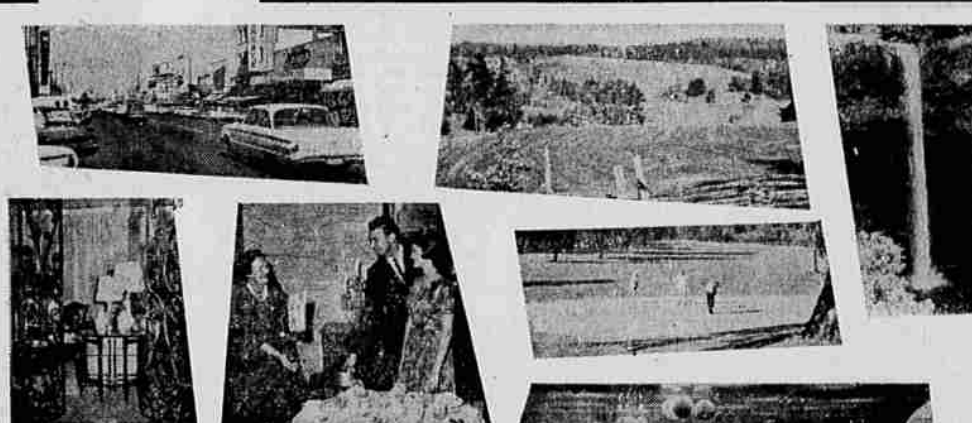
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Mrs. Mary Pease, Chairman Douglas Co. Citizens Committee for a Yes Vote

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