



**MORE WATER!** — Jim Veal yells for more pressure yesterday while fighting the fire in Deal canyon. Veal was one of the volunteers that helped regular state forestry personnel during the blaze. Fifteen men were used to quench the flames. (Observer)

## Deal Canyon Slash Burning Brings Crew

Flames roared through the slash and brush of Deal canyon yesterday when wind caught a fire and pushed it through the underbrush. Fifteen men and three trucks bounced and jolted up the rutted road to the canyon to fight the fire.

The fire was confined to about 2½ acres according to forestry officials, not all of which was burned. Three fingers of flame jutted from the northeast end of the fire to hamper crews.

The fire ran parallel to the road and up the steep slopes of the canyon almost to the top. The underbrush around the fire area was tangled and thick further hindering the efforts of fire fighters.

The fire was first reported, according to E. W. Paterson, forestry inspector, about 1:15. Later, W. E. Curtis, district warden, said the first calls came into his office about 1:45.

Curtis and three men were at the forestry department in La Grande preparing to leave for the fire school at Clark's Creek when the call came into the office. One truck and crew were summoned from the Clark's Creek camp by radio to help fight the fire.

The fire began, according to Curtis, after a burning permit was issued to Lawson Webster, Rte. 1, La Grande, to burn slash in the canyon.

The fire was never out of control and was at all times confined to the permit area. The reason for the fire's spread, according to Curtis, was the failure to take proper precautionary measures.

"It's just thoughtlessness on people's part to try to get away without building a fire trail around the fire," Curtis said.

Although the fire never got out of control Curtis was worried about the wind. Curtis said, "If the wind had got to it, it would have pushed it over the mountain and we would have lost it."

Paterson had much the same to say. "Lucky the wind died down or the fire would have been over the mountain," he stated.

What wind there was helped to push the fire through the green undergrowth and there was enough dry stuff around to let it burn.

All that burned was slash, according to Curtis and the only cost involved was that of putting out the fire.

## Woman Is Injured In Car Accident

A two car accident involving La Grande residents occurred three miles west of the city yesterday on highway 30.

A car driven by John R. Folsom, 1104 11th St. sideswiped the eastbound sedan driven by Charles F. Scott, Orchard Trailer Court. Folsom, according to state police, came around a car and over the crest of a hill behind a slow moving vehicle. He stepped on the brakes and swerved to left, hitting the Scott car.

Mrs. Alberta Scott was taken to the Grande Ronde hospital and treated for minor injuries.

Folsom was cited for violation of the basic rule.



**JUST TO BE SURE**—W. M. Curtis, District Warden for the State Forestry department in northeast Oregon slashes at coals during yesterday's fire in Deal canyon. Curtis was in charge of operations at the fire. (Observer Photo)



**JOB WELL DONE** — Warden Curtis takes one last look around before he signals that the fire is out. Curtis was making plans to attend the fire school at Clark's Creek when the fire in Deal canyon broke out yesterday. (Observer Photo)

## PLENTY FOR THE SHERIFF

SAN DIEGO, Calif. (UPI)—Willie Frank Reuben, 22, an unemployed and apparently homeless laborer, walked into the sheriff's office, handed over five marijuana cigarettes and asked: "Is this enough to put me in jail? It was."

## Vanguard Satellite Is Failure

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (UPI)—A Vanguard satellite might have been gathering weather data from an orbit around the earth today if a single part in its carrier rocket had not failed.

The dark skies over this vast missile launching center opened just in time for the three-stage Vanguard rocket to blast off Monday afternoon.

As in seven previous satellite launching attempts, however, luck did not ride with the Vanguard. It was the tenth fired in a 100-million-dollar project.

After a good performance of the rocket's first stage, a compression regulator in the second stage failed. Informed sources said the upper sections of the rocket carrying the satellite then blew to bits.

If it had orbited, the latest Vanguard moonlet would have made 12 passes around the earth every day and would have beeped back information on how heat in the atmosphere causes the earth's weather.

At first the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) in charge of the Vanguard project, thought all three stages of the rocket fired and put out a statement saying so.

But two and one half hours later, NASA issued another announcement saying the satellite "is presumed not to be in orbit."

Then reliable sources told of the second stage failure, which shattered the hopes of the Vanguardsmen who have seen only two of their ten satellites go into orbit.

## Farm Bureau Sets Meeting For June 25

The final plan of the Evaluation-Expansion committee of the Oregon Farm Bureau will be presented to the Union County Farm Bureau members on Thursday, June 25. Gene Stockhoff, committee member and president of the County Farm Bureau, announced the meeting to take place at the La Grande center hall in Island City.

The Evaluation-Expansion committee has had the opportunity to study outstanding Farm Bureau plans in various states and have derived a plan which, in their opinion, will enable the Farm Bureau to continue to be an aggressive and effective organization representing agriculture in Oregon.

Due to the rapid change in agriculture, government policy and business, the committee feels an expanded program in the Oregon Farm Bureau is essential if farmers are to have a business-like organization ready to cope with complex problems.

In order to meet these problems the expansion program calls for training of more local leadership, broadening information to the membership, more research on marketing and agricultural integration and to take more interest and actively participate in legislative matters at the local, state and national levels.

Mr. Stockhoff says to enable Farm Bureau in Oregon to grow and adequately serve the farmers and ranchers of Oregon we must continue to broaden our program, increase our membership and have adequate, qualified personnel to assist in the administration of these functions.

The meeting is set for 8:00 p.m. with all Farm Bureau members and interested persons in Union County encouraged to attend and participate.

By the membership attending and expressing their views in regard to an expanded program, the county board will be better qualified to instruct the voting delegate. Stockhoff stated. A special meeting has been called for August when the voting delegates will convene and either accept or reject the proposed plan. If the membership rules in favor of the program it will be put in effect for the 1960 membership year.

# Federal Officers Quell Rioting Mental Patients



**FIRE MAP**—Here Charles Nelson, city fireman, makes a map of the fire hydrants in La Grande. The map will be used by the city fire department in conjunction with the fire school to be conducted here next week. (Observer Photo)

## Firemen Making Plans For La Grande School

By NEIL ANDERSEN  
Observer Staff Writer

The firemen's school got on its feet yesterday and took a few steps. An organizational meeting was held at 8 a.m. with regular Fire Chief Ray Snider and Fred Young, city manager, in attendance.

Individuals and committees were appointed to select appropriate courses of study for the school. The men will meet with the city manager later in the week for the final selection of the curriculum. Actual classes "could probably get underway next week," according to the city manager.

Assistant chief Earl Edwards

## Circuit Judge Says Woman Is Still Patient

GRANTS PASS (UPI)—Circuit Court Judge Edward Kelly, in an opinion filed with the Josephine county clerk Monday, said he considers Mrs. Frances Irene McCurdy still under commitment to the Oregon State Hospital in Salem. The opinion, in effect, says she cannot be indicted for the 1948 slayings of her two children.

Judge Kelly said that further proceedings against her, either under the original indictment, "or any purported subsequent indictments" cannot be undertaken without a report from the "proper officer of the Oregon State Hospital."

He said the defendant is unable to understand the proceedings and assist in her own defense.

Mrs. McCurdy was indicted by a grand jury Sept. 16, 1948, for the murder of her son, Paul Bernard, and committed to the mental institution without a trial.

A second indictment, for the slaying of her daughter Pamela Rose, was filed May 27 of this year.

Her lawyer filed a motion to set aside the first indictment. Judge Kelly said that in view of the standing hospital commitment he was construing this request as a motion to quash the indictment and said he would comply with the request on that basis. That motion voids the second indictment. The 1948 indictment still stands, however, if she is released from the institution's commitment.

In the first case, 11 years ago, the court ordered that she was to be returned to the jurisdiction of the court when her mental condition permits her to assist in her own defense.

## FIVE HOSTAGE GUARDS SAVED FROM CONVICTS

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. (UPI)—A 16 hour riot by 106 mentally disturbed patients at the U. S. Prison here was broken today by federal officers using tear gas, a bulldozer and cutting torches. The five hostages were released.

Two of the five guards who had been held since rioting erupted at 11:55 p.m. (edt) Monday night received "severe lacerations." The other three were not believed to be injured.

All five were taken to the center dispensary for treatment and examination.

The attack was four pronged. Federal officers with cutting torches worked from corridors in the 10 north buildings while another group set down a tear gas barrage, followed by the bulldozer, which rammed a large steel door at the northwest corner.

The bulldozer attack was intended to be diversionary, but all broke into the section about the same time.

One assault officer was injured. Several inmates resisted at first, but most seemed disinterested, officers said, and did not participate.

Some of the inmates were reported to have received minor injuries in being subdued.

Authorities at first thought as many as 115 men might be involved, but finally put the number at 106.

The rebelling convicts made two calls for food today, but were turned down both times by Warden Settle.

**Demand for Food**  
In the second call, one of the hostage guards, William Fitch, was placed on the phone and allowed to tell the authorities that the five guards had not been harmed.

At 8:30 a.m. the rioters boisterously demanded that food and coffee for all be sent in immediately. Settle made no reply and sent no food.

At 8:30 they asked that breakfast be sent in for the guards. Again no compliance by Settle.

Just as they had done Monday night, the convicts again in the second call today promised to write out their demands or terms of capitulation. But they were not forthcoming.

The men were cut off from food, electric power and the outside world in the "north 10 wing" of the sprawling mental hospital.

**Prison County Club**  
It is known as the "country club of the federal prison system" because of its comparative "pampering" of convict patients and because of its beautiful grounds which today were dotted by strategically located armed guards.

There were three rings of roadblocks on each of the four roads into the grounds.

On the inside, guards armed with riot and tear gas guns stood 20 feet apart to prevent a possible break.

Settle said the 106 rioters were considered the most dangerous group of the some 1,000 inmates at the center. He described the rebels as "homosexuals and neuro-psychotics."

A guard who witnessed the riot develop said the inmates quickly stripped the five guards to their shorts, with some of them donning the guards' uniforms.

## WEATHER

Generally fair with variable clouds through Wednesday; high Wednesday 78-83; low tonight 45-50.

## TELEVISION ADDRESS TONIGHT

# No Dramatic New Proposals Are Expected From Herter

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Secretary of State Christian A. Herter will appear on NBC and CBS television and all the major radio networks from 9 to 9:15 p.m., e.d.t. His speech will be filmed by ABC television for use at 10:30 p.m., e.d.t.

**Congressional Appearances**  
Herter's 15-minute address to the nation was preceded by appearances behind closed doors before the House Foreign Affairs Committee this morning and the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in the afternoon.

No dramatic new proposals were anticipated in Herter's talk

tonight. The Western ministers already were reported united in the belief they had given as much ground as they should in negotiating with the Soviets on the German question.

Herter was prepared to tell the nation that the West has tried to present the Soviets with reasonable proposals for solving the problems of a German peace treaty and Western rights in Berlin.

His speech will point out that Soviet refusal to accept the Western proposals as a basis for discussion brought negotiations to a halt after six weeks.