



MEASURING STEM FLOW

Dan Bishop, research forester, for the Lodgepole study shows Marv Beeson, a geology student who is working with the Forest Service for the summer, how they plan to catch any moisture that comes down the trunk of the trees. The tubing and jar at the base of the tree catch the water which is measured by the researchers. (Observer)



WHAT WAS THAT MEASUREMENT?

The length and depth of the uncovered Lodgepole pine rots are being measured and charted by Dan Bishop, right, and Marv Beeson. The tree is cut off a few inches from the base and the web of roots uncovered so the foresters can find out how much moisture the roots take from the soil. (Observer Photo)

Wagon Train Enters State

NYSSA Ore. (UPI) — Oregon's centennial wagon train, which left Missouri three months and three days ago, crossed the Snake River Tuesday and entered its home state.

The seven wagons, which got a sendoff from former President Harry Truman in Independence, Mo., have 400 miles to go to complete their trip to Independence, Ore.

A big welcoming party was on hand as the wagons crossed the bridge from Idaho. It included Oregon Secretary of State Howell Appling and Centennial Commission chairman Anthony Brandthaler, who were in Missouri when the train began its journey.

The train, led by wagonmaster Gordon Tex Serpa, crossed Kansas, Nebraska, Wyoming and Idaho. It will arrive in Independence on the night of Aug. 14.

Firemen Answer Call At La Grande Cafe

The La Grande fire department answered a call at the Royal Cafe, 1203 1/2 Adams Ave. yesterday at 11:45.

The cause of the alarm, according to Fire Chief Ray Snider, was defective wiring.



CHECKING — Bishop checks the automatic rain gauge located in an open meadow. The \$250 instrument actually weighs the water that falls into the tank from the funnel shaped top. The gauge can be set for a day or a week. Foresters have it set for a day for a more sensitive reading.

Former Governor McKay Dies Of Heart Ailment At Age 66

County School Board Has Two Alternatives After Voter Rejection

By NEIL ANDERSEN
Observer Staff Writer

The refusal of Union County voters to pass the school reorganizations measure at Monday's special election returns the contested issue to the county school board.

There are two alternatives open to the board after the overwhelming objection of the voters.

First, the same plan can be submitted to the voters at a special election called and conducted in the same manner

and to be held not earlier than one year from the date of the election at which the plan was originally rejected.

Second, the committee can devise a new plan of reorganization, which the committee believes will be more acceptable to the legal school voters of the territory affected, and submit the new plan to the State Board of Education for approval in the same manner as the original plan was submitted. If the State Board approves the plan a special election can then be called.

The election must be called within 30 days of the State Board approval. The election shall be held within 60 days from the date the committee receives the approved plan.

The reorganization turned down by voters in Monday's election would have provided for a centralized purchasing unit located in La Grande, a three man board from each attendance unit to advise the seven man schoolboard on problems and recommendations within the unit and would have eliminated elementary schools that didn't have high schools in the same program.

When the law was passed the counties were given five years to pass satisfactory reorganization plans. Failure to pass such legislation would mean the dissolution of the present committee in July, 1962.

With the polling results, with the exception of Elgin, confirmed, the final vote was 237 to 639 against reorganization. Elgin has an unofficial count of 56 yeases and 158 negative votes.

In the voting of a special administration district that would include only North Powder and Muddy Creek, the voters approved such reorganization 124 to 49. Muddy Creek voted against the issue with 47 negative and 27 affirmative ballots.

La Grande, Island City, Palmer Junction and Ladd Canyon were the only communities approving the issue. La Grande passed the measure 129 to 102, Island City 42 to 29, Palmer Junction 3 to 2 and Ladd Canyon 9 to 3.

The biggest vote against reorganization came from Union where the change was rejected by 247 voters with only six approving. Imbler rejected the issue 121 to 10, Cove 105 to 28, Fruitdale 8 to 5, Telocaset 8 to 3, Alice 11 to 1 and Starkey 3 to 1.

Kids Learn New Way To Get Bottle Of Pop

A complaint about children taking the caps from soft drink bottles still in the machines and drinking it through straws was registered with the La Grande police yesterday.

George Bruce, 1608 Z avenue, a representative of a soft drink firm, said that children were getting into the machine at the Triangle Richfield service and messing up the machine the police reported.



DOUGLAS McKay
Former Governor Dies

Gov. Hatfield Praises McKay

SALEM, Ore. (UPI) — Gov. Mark Hatfield extended Oregon's sympathy to the family of former interior secretary Douglas McKay, who died today at the age of 66.

"Doug McKay's life story is one of remarkable rise from a family-supporting paper boy to a presidential confidant.

"Through it all he maintained iron-clad integrity and was true to his beliefs while never losing the common touch. Severely wounded in World War I he exhibited inspiring courage to make a valiant comeback by reaching the heights in both business and public service. On behalf of the state he served as legislator and as chief executive I extend official sympathy to his family."

Grande Ole Opry Due Here In September

The Grande Old Opry will be in La Grande, Saturday, Sept. 5, according to Mel Elders who is president of the La Grande Jaycees.

The show will begin at the La Grande high school at 7:30 pm. Webb Pierce will be the main attraction along with Jimmy Newman, a Decca recording star, Judy Lynn, "America's champion girl yodeler", will be here along with Pat Kelly and Rex Rinehardt who is a Yucca recording artist.

Smookey Pleacher, a comedian, and Gene O'Neil, and the Judy Lynn band will also appear on the program.

"You'll hear country music and comedy at its best," Cooke said.

This will be the first time this troupe has appeared in La Grande.

Tickets will go on sale August 5. There will be a dance after the show featuring some of the stars and the Judy Lynn band at the armory.

Admission for adults will be \$1.50 and admission for children from six to 12 will be \$1.00.

CABINET JOB HIGHLIGHTS LONG POLITICAL CAREER

SALEM (UPI) — Douglas McKay, 66, who rose from a newspaper boy to become Oregon's second cabinet officer in history, died today.

The former interior secretary died in a local hospital following a recurrence of a heart ailment complicated by kidney trouble.

Death came at 8:25 a.m. His wife, Mabel, was at his bedside.

McKay, a lifelong Republican, was President Eisenhower's surprise choice for interior secretary shortly after the 1952 election. At his death he was chairman of the U.S. section of the International Joint Commission, which has the job of deciding upon joint use of water resources belonging to both the United States and Canada.

McKay, also a former Oregon governor, suffered his only defeat at the polls in 1956 after he resigned from the cabinet to run against one-time Republican Wayne Morse for the U. S. Senate.

Attended OSC

He became interested in politics early in life and was freshman class president at Oregon State College in 1913. Subsequently he became mayor of Salem, a state senator and finally governor. He held the latter position when Eisenhower summoned him to the cabinet. He was the first man from Oregon to be named to the cabinet since George H. Williams, then mayor of Portland, was named attorney general by President Ulysses S. Grant.

McKay met Eisenhower shortly after the latter returned from Europe. He was one of the first governors to call for Eisenhower's nomination at the 1952 Republican convention. A delegate to the same convention was Morse, then an Eisenhower supporter.

Shortly after taking the cabinet post McKay ran into a storm of opposition from advocates of federally-developed hydro electric power. The administration favored a "partnership" plan whereby private power firms and the government would share the cost of dams with the government paying for navigation and flood control.

Hells Canyon Recalled

One of the biggest battles during his term of office was over Hells Canyon on the Snake river between Idaho and Oregon. The Federal Power Commission eventually awarded permits to Idaho Power Company to build three smaller dams in the big canyon instead of a huge single project favored by public power interests.

McKay was a backer of the Colorado river project, supported by senators of both major parties. But conservationists criticized the original plan which called for flooding a natural scenic attraction and the plan later was modified.

At one time McKay headed a public power group in Oregon which worked for a flood control program in the upper Willamette valley.

His nomination to the cabinet

See McKay On Page 5

Forest Service Researchers Study Role Of Lodgepole Pine In Watershed Areas

By Virginia Anderson
Observer Staff Writer

The U. S. Forest Service Research division is studying the characteristics of Lodgepole Pine forests in an effort to learn more about its watershed patterns.

The Lodgepole has a small trunk and is found in closely grouped stands. It has very little commercial value since its diameter is so small, but it plays an important part in the watershed management of areas where it is found.

"Mountain water is the life blood of communities clustered around the watersheds of the Blue and Wallowa mountains," said George Garrison, research center leader. So any grasses or trees which either aid or prevent in drawing the maximum amount of water from an area are important to Forest Service people.

In most of the valleys of Eastern Oregon precipitation is deficient. The annual precipitation in the best mountain snow catchment areas is 45 to 60 inches. Irrigation in Eastern Oregon is then dependent upon mountain

lands and makes possible a healthy diversified agriculture.

According to the 1950 agriculture census, about 88 per cent of Oregon's irrigated lands were located east of the Cascades. Approximately 50 per cent of Oregon's irrigated lands (629,172 acres) are dependent upon runoff water from the Blue and Wallowa mountains. This water yield amounts to more than seven million acre feet of water annually.

The watershed areas and the increased water catchment in these areas is important to forestry personnel.

The Forest Service research program in this field is new. "The present program is directed toward understanding of timber types occupying the major snow catchment areas," Garrison said.

Since lodgepoles grow so close together, a light snow fall is caught in the trees and evaporates. Even this small amount of water lost over a widely forested area could mean the difference between watering lawns every day and water rationing.

As one phase of their experiment the foresters are trying to discover just how much water the lodgepole branches actually collect.

In order to do this they measure the rainfall. A rain gauge is placed in a meadow where overhanging branches can't reach it.

A second gauge is placed in the forested area and the amount of rainfall here is measured. The difference between the meadow figures and those taken beneath the trees should show how much of the moisture the pines are collecting.

In conjunction with the lodgepole experiment, the foresters also study moisture content of the soil throughout the season of growth. The tests are taken on three levels.

Inside the forested area Bishop and his workers measure the amount of water that comes down the trunks of the trees. Bishop said that they usually don't get much except in a heavy storm.

Root patterns are also studied to determine how much moisture

roots take from the soil. Bishop in this phase of the experiment has selected two trees for the pattern study. The trees are sawed off a few inches from the ground and then the roots are carefully uncovered and charted to aid in determining the amount of moisture the roots absorb from the soil.

A theory that the researchers are working on is one of growing the lodgepole in strips so that instead of catching the light snows in the branches and evaporating it would fall to the ground and, if planned correctly, the shade from the nearby trees would keep the snow on the ground longer and decrease the loss from evaporation.

Another theory involves replacing the Lodgepole stands with another more valuable commercial tree that does not store so much snow in its branches. This theory calls for an increased knowledge of the pine to find out where it grows the best and how beneficial a replacement would be.

Terrorists Hurl Bombs At Embassy

GUATEMALA CITY (UPI) — Terrorists hurled bombs at the U.S. Embassy, an archbishop's residence, and an electrical plant Tuesday night causing some damage but no injuries.

There was no immediate explanation for the attack. Guatemala City has been remarkably free of violence in recent months. U.S. Marines guarding the embassy said they did not see or hear anything unusual before the explosion. The blast broke several window panes in the embassy building.

U.S. Ambassador Lester Mallory hurried from his home on the outskirts of the city and Guatemalan President Miguel Ydigoras Fuentes arrived to make a personal investigation.

Fuentes picked up several pieces of the bomb and examined them.

Both he and Mallory said they had no idea who threw the bombs or why. Marine guards said the bomb appeared to have been a tube of gunpowder triggered by a hand grenade fuse.

A second bomb shattered the front doorway of the residence of Msgr. Mariano Roswell Arellano, Roman Catholic archbishop of Guatemala.

The archbishop said he was amazed at the attack and had no idea what caused it or who was responsible.

Authorities said the third bomb exploded at the Mariscal electrical works but did not cause enough damage to interrupt electrical service.

Herter Claims Reds Trying To Trap West

GENEVA (UPI) — Secretary of State Christian A. Herter charged today that Russia is trying to make the West its "unwitting accomplice" in a plot to hold off West Berlin for ransom.

Herter sharply rejected a new "concession" offered by Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko at today's session of the Big Four Foreign Ministers Conference. Gromyko pledged that Russia would take no "one-sided action" during a possible Berlin truce or the negotiations following it.

The U. S. leader pointed out that the Russian offer still had a big string tied to it — insistence that a Berlin truce must have a time limit.

Gromyko's speech indicated no great change in the Soviet position on Berlin. In particular, it gave no indication that Russia is willing to withdraw its "impossible" demand that West Germany and the Communist East should have equal representation in negotiations for German reunification.

So far as could be learned, the Soviet foreign minister did not refer directly to the "one-sided action" most objected to by the West — a separate peace treaty between Russia and Communist East Germany.

Gromyko's statement was a reply to western demands for a clear statement of Russia's conditions for a Berlin truce.

Information Gathered For City Directory

The gathering of information for a new city directory began yesterday in La Grande under the direction of Guy E. Vaughan, a representative of R. L. Polk & Co., Portland.

During the next couple of days representatives of the firm will be making house to house calls to gather information for the book.