

Sardine Creek Fire Roars Over Thousands of Acres

The Oregon Statesman

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IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Sprague

Travel Letter No. 1

Enroute east via G.N.'s "Western Star"—One can make an overnight hop by air from coast to coast. By streamliner train he can make the crossing with three nights enroute. We are taking a slower train—the Great Northern "Western Star", which takes another night to reach Chicago. The purpose was not to "kill time" but to have several hours more between trains in Chicago.

However, I can recommend the slower crossing. It is more relaxing. One isn't thrown about like dice in a tube as sometimes happens with the ultra-fast trains. The appointments in the Pullman are equally good; the Diesel power smooth. There is a little longer time in which to get acquainted with fellow-passengers; and the scenery doesn't fly past so rapidly. Both the Northern Pacific and Union Pacific operate trains on this slower schedule, as well as the Great Northern.

The passenger list on this train is exceedingly light and the majority appear to be railroad employes travelling passes, some from back in Pennsylvania. The train carried five carloads of Korean veterans from Seattle to Shelby where they were switched south for Great Falls and Billings—a quiet lot, indeed. None of the hilarity, waving from windows, chanted "Berlin or Bust!" that marked troop trains en route to camp or debarkation overseas. These men are home under the rotation plan, earning their rest after many months of duty in Korea. Another 20-car section was exclusively of Korean veterans.

Seattle is the port of debarkation for their return and all the railroads serving Seattle are busy dispersing these troops to their destinations. Many, at their own expense travel by air, either on regular line or by chartered planes.

McKay Urges Observance Of Kid's Day

Observance by both adults and children of Saturday as National Kids' day was urged Thursday by Gov. Douglas McKay, as both Salem Kiwanis clubs furthered plans for entertaining programs.

The North Salem group has put out tickets through schools for nearly 1,000 youngsters to attend two special movies Saturday morning and afternoon at the Hollywood theatre.

The downtown club is sponsoring a kids' parade with prizes in pet, costume and bicycle divisions. Entrants are to meet at 9 a.m. at Marion square and start marching at 10 a.m. through the business district to the courthouse square.

The governor's statement said "one of the principal obligations of American adults is to work with and for young people for the future benefit of the country."

He complimented Kiwanis International and National Kids Day foundation on their joint efforts toward helping youth, including the underprivileged, to become useful and honorable citizens.

FLAMES DESTROY PLANE

FAIRBANKS, Alaska, Sept. 20.—(AP)—A B-47 jet bomber mysteriously burst into flames and was destroyed while standing on the runway at Eielson air force base today. An air force spokesman said there were no casualties but declined to discuss the fire further.

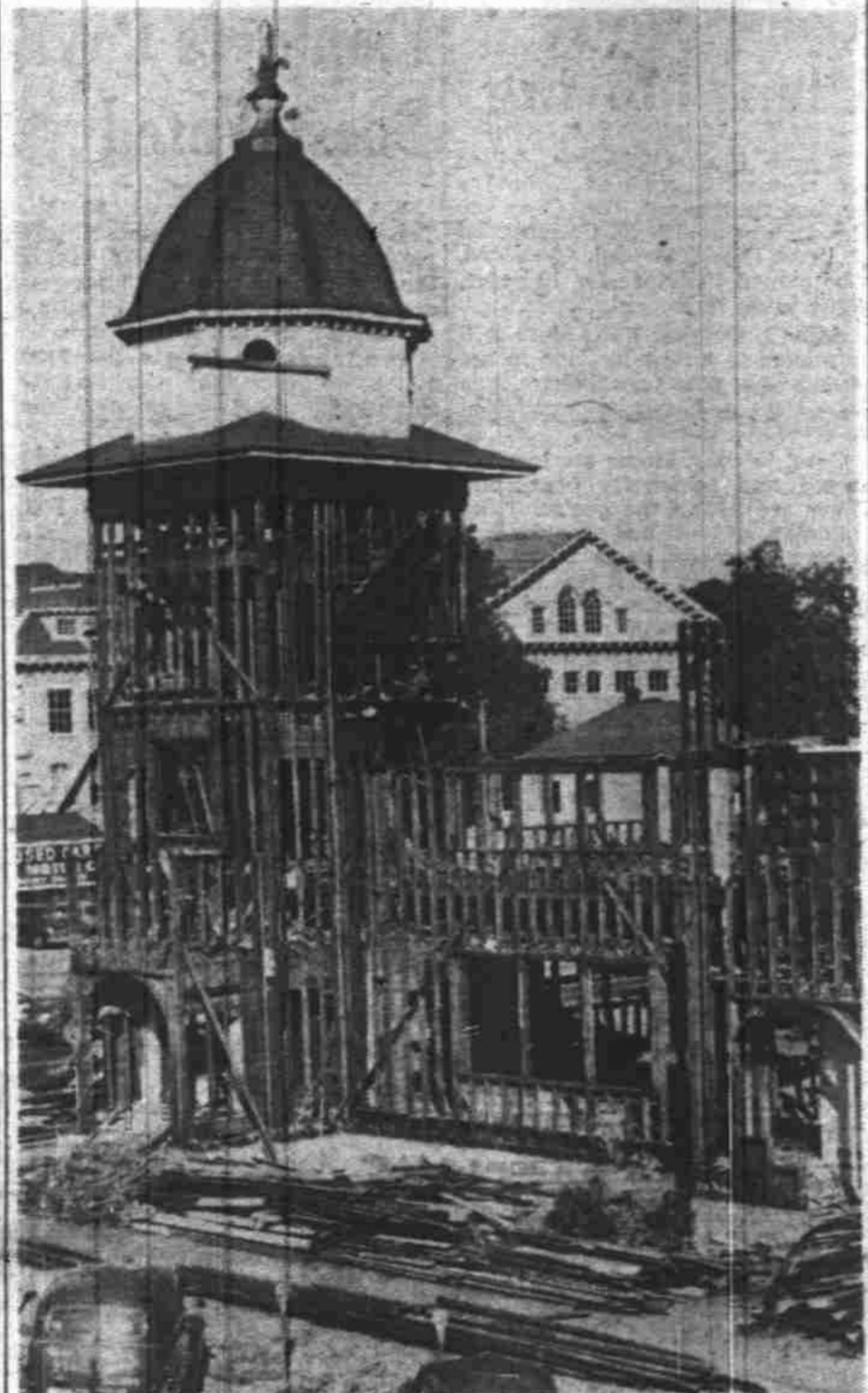
Animal Crackers



It seems there was this traveling salesman...

Allies Unleash Armored Assault; Savage Fighting Flares in Korea

Church Going Down Fast



Only the bell tower of the former First Christian church at High and Center streets still bore any resemblance to the old Salem landmark late Wednesday afternoon. Thursday morning even the tower was gone as razing of the structure continues. The church moved to a new home in June. It is one of the largest wrecking jobs now in progress in Salem. (Statesman photo.)

One Speed Zone Approved; Other Two Bids Denied

One request for establishment of speed limit zones was approved and two others denied Thursday by Marion county speed control board.

Approved was a 35 mile per hour zone on Center street from Park avenue to Lancaster drive. The county engineer was directed by the board to install appropriate signs.

Denied were requests for zones on Newberg drive in the Keizer district and on Ida street near Stayton.

Gross Faces Stiff Penalties

NEW YORK, Sept. 20.—(AP)—The state went all out for stiff punishment today against Boss Bookie Harry Gross, who wrecked Brooklyn's big mass graft trial.

His parole was taken away and he was slapped into jail.

The date for his sentencing on gambling charges in general sessions court was moved forward from Oct. 8 to Sept. 27.

Every pressure that legally can be used was put on general sessions to make it tough for the pudgy gambler when he comes up for sentencing on 66 counts. The maximum penalty—seldom given—is 68 years.

"I've heard that he expects four years and a \$40,000 fine," District Attorney Miles F. McDonald said. "I intend that to be doubled and perhaps tripled."

Gross refused to testify against 18 policemen, accused of taking \$1,000,000 a year in bribes to protect his \$20,000,000 a year gambling ring.

As a result, Brooklyn Judge Samuel S. Leibowitz threw the mass graft case out of court yesterday and freed the 18 cops.

BASEBALL

National League At St. Louis 3, Brooklyn 4 At Cincinnati 3, New York 1 (Only games scheduled)

Hospital Unit Closes; Nurse Lack Blamed

A growing shortage of registered nurses Thursday forced closure of a 13-bed unit of Salem Memorial hospital.

Salem General hospital reported it was operating on the "minimum" but had not had to close any units.

The closed unit is that which ordinarily accommodates communicable diseases in isolation, including the polio center. Care for cases which must go there will require private duty nurses, said Irwin F. Wedel, hospital manager, who assured that the unit would be reopened as soon as the nursing staff is sufficient.

Need 14 Nurses The hospital has attempted to recruit nurses from those living in Salem but not working, from Portland and even from midwest points, according to Mrs. Lee Forster, superintendent of nurses. She said she could use 14 nurses to augment the staff to meet the current load.

Wedel said some non-emergency patients had been turned down Wednesday because of the lack of staff.

Lillian McDonald, superintendent at General hospital, said that institution has not turned down any patients and has no prospect of having to. She counted 50 registered nurses and 43 aides on duty there and said she could use five more nurses. The hospital, rated at 80 beds, had 85 patients Thursday and has run as high as 110.

Some Leaving Memorial now has 27 full-time nurses and eight others working two days per week. Some of these are leaving October 1. Rated at 96 beds, the hospital had 105 patients Wednesday and has been up to 120.

Closing of the one unit will allow four nurses and four aides to augment the staff in other sections.

Wedel recalled that the unit was shut down for about a week in September, 1950, for the same reason. At that time, however, enough work applications were on file to assure reopening.

(Additional details on page 5.)

SINATRA SEEKS DIVORCE

LAS VEGAS, Nev., Sept. 20.—(AP)—Groomer Frank Sinatra filed a divorce suit today in Clark county district court charging his wife, Nancy, with mental cruelty.

Big Helicopters Used to Take Mountain Top

U. S. EIGHTH ARMY HEADQUARTERS, Korea, Friday, Sept. 21.—(AP)—The Allies today unleashed possibly the biggest armored assault of the Korean war and one of the most famous tank outfits in Korea was reported engaged in a savage battle with the communists.

This tank force was said to be engaged on all sides. (This dispatch did not elaborate but presumably this meant the tank force was surrounded.)

Other armored prongs, biting into the old "iron tangle" of the central front, reported easy going.

The dawn attack was designated to test the Red defenses around Pyongyang, apex of the one-time Red bulwark area.

The powerful forces rolled northward without early contact. An umbrella of Allied air power shielded the advance.

The tanks were closely followed by infantrymen.

The Allied assault came shortly after Red reinforcements pouring

ON THE EASTERN FRONT, Korea, Friday, Sept. 21.—(AP)—Hundreds of North Korean communists were reported to be attempting to surrender at noon today to United Nations forces on the eastern front.

Allied troops near "heart-break ridge" north of Yangju were holding their fire while estimated communist battalion walked toward their lines making surrender signals.

into the eastern front yesterday brought to a halt the Allies month-long drive on hill positions.

Allied infantry, still attacking North against stone-wall resistance, failed in 11 separate hill attacks. They barely saved a twelfth hill from a raging enemy counter-attack.

It was the sharpest reversal the Allies have suffered in months of fighting, reports to Eighth army headquarters indicated.

Reinforcements, some officers said, probably were responsible for the Reds' capture of "heart-break ridge," a strategic height on the eastern front. Three heavy attacks earlier wore down the defenders.

At least one fresh North Korean regiment (possible 3,000 men) moved into position to relieve Red formations that had been chewed up by the unrelenting Allied infantry, artillery and air assaults.

Company Moved Countering the enemy manpower with ultra-modern technique, the Allies made combat history Thursday by depositing a full company of U.S. marines on one eastern peak via helicopter.

Twenty-one big Sikorski H-1 helicopters delivered the men and their gear in four hours atop a height that would have taken two days to climb.

The location was not disclosed and the number of men was withheld by censorship. (Normally a company would be about 250 men.)

The first marine climbed down knotted ropes from the machines hovering eight feet above the ground. They cleared a 25-foot-square area for the others to land. Reds on a nearby hill did not fire a shot.

Your Community Chest

Privilege, Duty To Serve Chest

Ed Schroeder President Salem C. C. Again it is our privilege and duty to fill our Community Chest budget, so that our charitable agencies may function properly. We believe it is each individual's responsibility to pay a fair share and that it is the duty of business and professional firms to include in their budgets a substantial amount to cover the agencies listed in our Chest.

Many prominent men have expressed their opinion that the Chest contribution should be carried as an overhead expense in their business operations before profits are figured. Let's fill our 1951-52 Community Chest this year.

Goal \$126,000; Drive Oct. 2-18

Succumbs



Lyle Thomas, state secretary of the Farmers union, who died Thursday night.

Lyle Thomas, Farmers Union Official, Dies

Lyle Thomas, 42, secretary of the Oregon Farmers union and a former state representative, died of a heart attack which seized him Thursday night while addressing a Farmers union meeting in McMinnville.

Thomas died almost immediately following the attack at about 9 p. m.

Members of his family said he had been under a doctor's care for a heart condition in recent months, although he had remained active. He was a resident of Dallas.

Thomas was a native of Salem and for many years was principal of the West Salem elementary school. He also had been Dallas junior high school principal and had taught earlier in Pendleton.

He served several sessions as a member of the Oregon house of representatives.

Surviving are the widow, Ruth; children, David and Mary Jane; parents, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac W. Thomas, Salem; a brother, William R. Thomas of Lebanon; two sisters, Mrs. Evelyn Earley, Salem, and Mrs. Ruth Hindman, Salem.

Greek, Turk Bid Approved

OTTAWA, Sept. 20.—(AP)—The North Atlantic treaty council today approved a membership bid to Greece and Turkey and a program designed to weld the treaty area into a closely-knit political and economic community.

By these two measures, the 12-nation body thus extended its territory to the strategic eastern Mediterranean area and at the same time extended its objectives into a whole new field of non-military matters.

Winding up its business in Ottawa, the council also:

1—Cancelled plans to hold its next meeting in Rome Oct. 29 because of Britain's national elections Oct. 25.

2—Decided to invite Gen. Eisenhower to the next meeting to take part in the discussion of military matters.

3—Called for speed in activating a newly created committee which will make a realistic survey of military requirements and capabilities of member nations.

4—Gave a clear endorsement to Premier Alcide de Gasperi's demands for revision of the Italian peace treaty.

5—Reached an agreement on how the costs of airfields, communications facilities and other installations required by Eisenhower's forces should be divided among the NATO members.

THE WEATHER

	Max.	Min.	Precip.
Salem	57	43	26
Portland	52	38	20
San Francisco	66	50	20
Chicago	52	36	20
New York	57	44	20

FORECAST (from U.S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem): Cloudy this morning, fair this afternoon and tonight. High today 56; low tonight 46 to 50.

SALEM PRECIPITATION Since Start of Weather Year Sept. 1 This year 34 Last year 28 Normal 21

Wind Whips Blaze Towards Santiam Towns; All Logging Suspended in Valley Area

The Sardine creek forest fire unexpectedly blew up late Wednesday afternoon, roaring out of control in front of east winds of 25 miles an hour. By midnight the blaze had covered more than 3,000 acres, burning on the ridge one mile north of Gates.

District Fire Warden Lee Harder of the Clackamas-Marion fire district said the fire was spotting all along the ridge, with some spot fires as close as a half mile to Gates, although the town was not reported in danger.

More seriously threatened was the town of Little Sweden, about four miles east of Gates, where the state forestry department planned to set up a fire camp under Deputy State Forester John Woods, jr. The fire was burning near the rocky cliffs just above the little town.

One fire was reported by the forestry department to have reached the Santiam highway, somewhere near Niagara.

The Red Cross representative at Gates, Delbert Hill, was alerted for possible evacuees. Frank Parcher, chairman of the Marion county Red Cross, said plans were made Thursday night to set up a shelter station at Mill City Friday.

The state forestry department at midnight Thursday suspended all logging operations from the Cascade summit to the non-patrol areas of the Willamette valley lying north of the Drain-feed sport highway.

Spot fires had broken out across the Santiam river in Linn county, but were not reported serious. The U. S. forest service had crews on the line throughout the night watching at the mouth of Kenney creek. A fire has been raging farther back in the creek for the past three days.

Harder expressed a fear that the fiercely burning fire would jump the north side of the ridge threatening the farming settlement of Elkhorn about six miles north of Gates. Residents there were warned, and some had already left their homes.

Equipment Sent In Fire equipment was being rushed to the area from throughout the Willamette valley. Two fire trucks were sent to the scene from Stayton Thursday night, and one fire truck was sent out from Salem to cover the Stayton area. The entire equipment of Mill City was ordered out to police that town, and Gates, both standing in danger of burning embers and falling leaves.

The blaze started at Sardine creek, site of the original fire more than three weeks ago. It blew up on the east side of the ridge west of Sardine creek, a little above the town of Little Sweden. The strong winds carried the blaze several hundred yards over the ridge onto the west side, into logged off area about two miles square, an area of mostly vine maple.

Harder said this was where the fire actually blew up and spread to the surrounding ridges.

No attempt was made to fight the fire during the night. Harder said that the danger was extreme, as the fire was burning too fast and spotting unexpectedly.

The state forestry department rounded up between 300 and 400 loggers and other firefighters from the Clackamas-Marion fire patrol district to be on the line Friday morning. Dwight L. Phipps, state forester, said late Thursday night that the men would go on the line at daybreak, with an immediate objective of stemming the blaze from the settlements along the Santiam river.

The highway between Mill City and Detroit dam was not yet closed, although state police were patrolling during the night to keep sightseers away.

Marion county civil defense was alerted and Coordinator Denver Young, sheriff of Marion county, was at Gates to direct possible evacuation. Salem Fire Chief William Roble was also at the scene, to direct fire protection in Gates and Mill City.

Extreme Danger Evacuees streamed north and south from the town like a wartime scene. Hysterical women cried in the streets. Automobiles, horses, bicycles and pickup trucks formed a procession through the smoke.

BUDGET CUT APPROVED UNITED NATIONS, N. Y. Sept. 20.—(AP)—A reduction of \$2,035,400 in the 1952 budget proposed by U. N. Secretary-General Trygve Lie was recommended today by the U. N. advisory committee on administrative and budgetary questions.

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Shift in Wind Saves Forks from Flames

FORKS, Wash., Sept. 20.—(AP)—A "man-caused" forest fire which swept 18 miles from the westernmost edge of the Olympic national forest to this little logging town in 12 hours today let up in its crackling intensity with a fortunate shift in the wind tonight.

"We have hope now," said perspiring M. R. Hull, head of the Forks Telephone company. "We hope to be able to save the majority of the town."

Hull estimated the fire was only 50 yards away from the phone building. "We'll stay here as long as we can," he declared.

"It looks better," said begrimed Oscar Herd, chief of the volunteer fire department.

A fresh northeast wind had whipped the tree-topping flames to the north and east sides of town.

15 Homes Burned Herd said two sawmills, two big logging truck garages and 15 houses were razed by the fire. A volunteer fire fighting crew of some 200 were making their stand in the flame-lighted darkness tonight.

Forks was like a ghost town. Some 85 per cent of the population of 1,120 residents were evacuated. Expectant mothers were flown out by coast guard seaplanes.

A dozen state patrol cars cruised the ash-choked streets to prevent looting.

State patrol roadblocks were clamped on both the north and south highway entries into town. Roads leading here were jammed with the automobiles of curiosity seekers and anxious relatives.

Highway Resealed The highway between here and Port Angeles, blocked and burned over by fire earlier, was opened tonight for emergency travel only.

The smoke pall from the fire which crowned from treetop to treetop turned day into night here. Desperate citizens had to use flashlights in the town.

The fire may go clear to the ocean, 20 miles distant. At the navy's Quillayute air station, enlisted caretakers said the flames were six miles away. Two enlisted men, their wives and two children are at the naval station a short distance from the ocean.

Power Knocked Out The flames were whipped southwest from the national forest by a stiff northeast wind.

Forks power was knocked out. An auxiliary battery system kept the telephone exchange in emergency operation. Evacuation of the phone building was expected momentarily.

At Port Angeles, some 50 miles east of here, the coast guard air station provided food and quarters for evacuees.

20,000 Acres The forest service had notified the Washington, D. C., headquarters that the fire was "man-caused" and had burned over more than 20,000 acres.

Authorities ordered evacuation of Forks after concluding further defense was hopeless. Flames carried by firebrands riding the wind first consumed homes on the outskirts.

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Large Crowd, Tall Corn at Fair Opening

By Lillie L. Madson Farm Editor, The Statesman

WOODBURN, Sept. 20.—The big pumpkins, the tall corn and the long beans were all on hand tonight to greet one of the biggest crowds in its history as the 10th annual North Marion county fair opened at 7 p. m.

Fifteen minutes after opening only such exhibits as the 10-foot tall sorghum cane, entered by B. F. Shrock, or the equally tall corn by Albert Reinhold could be viewed, with any ease above the fair grounds.

The land products division, which drew most of its entries from Gearyville, Salem, Woodburn, Silverton, Hubbard and Aurora, would be a credit to any fair, and surpassed that at the recent state fair in number of exhibits.

Keizer Club Wins Pirates' Cove, a booth made up of driftwood, rocks and greenery was first place in the garden club division for the Keizer Garden club. Little Garden club of Salem Heights took second with its "Ye Olde Hat Shoppe, a collection of small flower-trimmed hat models, and Woodburn Garden club placed third.

Not to be outdone by their seniors, the Keizer Jolly Five 4-H exhibit won first place in its division.

In the farm organization booths, Fairfield grange placed first with Woodburn grange second and the Woodburn Farmers Union third.

Oddities on Exhibit Oddities were featured in the corn exhibit with the range in size running from the one-inch long Strawberry popcorn ears to the 12-inch long ears of various colored Flint variety. Five-foot long "historic" beans were entered in the "Can You Beat This" division by Frank Mayer, Woodburn.

Three big attractions in three far different fields were the cobwebby fine knitted doily, entered by Mrs. Charles Scherberg of Salem, the peanut plant, bearing a number of ripe peanuts, grown by Etha Becker of Woodburn, and the collection of more than 300 earrings by Bessie Porter of Silverton. (Additional details page 2.)

Korean Truce Talks Close

TOKYO, Friday, Sept. 21.—(AP)—The United Nations command today rushed into final form the conditions under which the allies will consider resumption of the suspended Korean truce talks at Kaesong.

The conditions were not announced, but probably would call for joint allied-communist ground patrols of the five-mile neutral zone around Kaesong and a constant U.N. air patrol by daylight over the area.

The communist high command Thursday proposed that the negotiations be suspended Aug. 23 be "resumed immediately."

A source close to Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway indicated that the war-prime allied commander probably would give his conditional reply within 24 to 48 hours.

Red Police Shots End Berlin Brawl

BERLIN, Sept. 20.—(AP)—East Berlin communist police fired warning shots in the air tonight to disperse a large crowd of anti-communists in West Berlin engaged in a stone-throwing brawl with reds across the East Berlin sector border.

No casualties were reported. At times during the fray there were 2,400 persons milling around the border.

Crossing Safety Program Gains Endorsement by Salem Officials

A committee of city aldermen and officials Thursday approved much of the Salem League of Women Voters' recommendation for railroad