

New Set of Female Names Awaits 1955's Hurricanes

By E. V. W. JONES
 MIAMI, Fla. (AP) — Who will be Miss Hurricane of 1955—Brenda? Stella? Yvonne?
 Regardless of which tropical storm cuts the widest swath, it will have a brand new name and a new chief storm forecaster will be calling the shots as it whirled across the meteorological stage.

Alice, a rare out of season creature and the first hurricane of 1955, came too early, and for that reason she was given the same name as the first of 1954.
 Those still to come will have names selected by a committee of Navy, Air Force and Weather Bureau officials to avoid confusion with storms already on record.

Hurricanes are totally un lady-like creatures, and giving them feminine names created something of a disturbance itself last year after Carol, Edna and Hazel brought death to 279 persons and property damage totaling more than a billion dollars.

All three raked the Northeastern state after whirling up from the tropics.
 This year's Alice was far less formidable. She popped up in January to lash the Caribbean Islands of the Lesser Antilles with 75 m.p.h. winds.

Next Brenda
 The next hurricane will be named Brenda. Her successors will be called Connie, Diane, Edith, Flora, Gladys, Hilda, Iona, Janet, Katie, Linda, Martha, Nelly, Orva, Peggy, Queen, Rosa, Stella, Trudy, Ursula, Verna, Wilma, Xenia, Yvonne and Zella—if the season runs that long. Last year the list stopped with Hazel.

The normal hurricane season runs from June 15 to Nov. 15.
 Gordon Dunn, 49-year-old former head of the Chicago Weather Bureau, took charge of the Storm Warning Service at Miami April 11 as chief forecaster. He succeeded Grady Norton, who died last year when Hurricane Hazel was on the march.

Dunn formerly was associated with Norton in the Storm Warning Service, and also saw hurricane duty in Puerto Rico and India during World War II.
 Upholds Tradition
 A softspoken, unassuming man, Dunn told those in his warning district he wanted to carry on the traditions of Norton, adding to them in the light of developments.

"We intend as a regular pro-

cedure to place areas under a hurricane alert when a storm threatens and is 36 to 48 hours away," said Dunn. "This practice was begun by Grady Norton, and we intend to follow it. An alert is not a warning, but merely tells the public to keep in touch with future advisories."

"Actual hurricane warnings, whenever practical, will be given 12 to 24 hours in advance. There are instances when these storms generate close to a coastline and sweep across within 12 hours. At other times they lag along until caught in a jet stream, then quickly develop a swift forward movement."

12 Hours Warning
 "In such circumstances shorter warning periods may occur, but in general a minimum deadline of 12 hours for warnings can be met."

The center—or eye—of a hurricane is a term that figures prominently in Weather Bureau advisories, although the center is usually a harmless calm.

Forecasters must use the center in plotting a hurricane's movement, but the actual damage is done by winds whirling around the center.

As the center approaches a given area, winds howl at the storm's maximum velocity. Then comes the calm of the eye, followed by maximum winds in the rear segment of the hurricane.

Using the center in fixing storm movement is complicated in other ways, says Dunn. Forces within the hurricane cause the center to make false movements. New centers may form and the old dissipate. These are phenomena on which Dunn hopes to gather additional information this year.

Swept by Air Masses
 In the past it has been considered that hurricanes were steered by winds at their tops. Now it is believed they are swept along with the flow of great air masses in which they are embedded.

For the first time this year, hunter planes will probe hurricanes all the way down to about 300 feet—and, as in the past, up to 25,000 feet.

Dunn hopes that it may be possible some day to steer a hurricane around a given city. This would be done by seeding the storm with dry ice or silver iodide.

Theoretically, it would cause one sector to become concentrated and the entire storm to vary its course for a brief period—perhaps enough

to miss a big city. But the steering current would soon take over again to carry it on its predestined way.

"There is a lot to be done," says the hurricane forecaster. "The death rate has been greatly reduced—from 165 deaths per 10 million dollars of property damage in 1930 to only 3 1/2 deaths per 10 million."

"But deaths remain too high. We've got to learn more about the storm waves—most people call them tidal waves—which blow in with hurricanes. And we've got to educate people to the danger of windblown water. The sad truth is that most storm deaths are drownings."

Game Commission To Study Deer Damage Situation

PORTLAND (AP) — The Oregon Game Commission probably will take up at its July meeting the problem of what to do about damage deer and other animals are doing to young trees in reforested Tillamook Burn areas.

But Bob Mace big game director for the commission said Thursday no solution is in sight. He expects there will be a proposal to increase the allowable kill but said the deer that would be left still could do plenty of damage.

Mace added that hazing and other control methods also probably would be ineffective or too expensive.

Tentative hunting regulations are set in July so the matter probably will be considered by the commission then he said.

Rabbit Breeders to Meet at Hillsboro

HILLSBORO (AP) — The Oregon State Rabbit Breeders Assn.'s annual meeting and show will be held here over the weekend. Judging of more than 300 rabbits is scheduled for Saturday. Steve West of Willamette will be installed as president Sunday.

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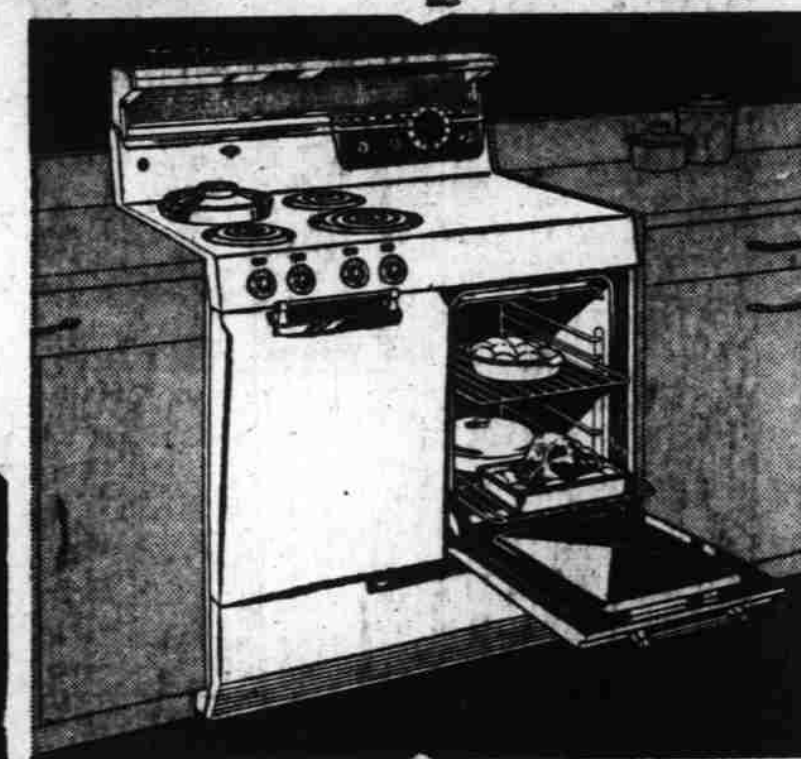
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