

THE BEND BULLETIN

CENTRAL OREGON'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

State Forecast

Oregon — Clear to partly cloudy today and Friday. Little change in temperature. High 80 to 90 both days. Low tonight 45 to 55.

33rd Year

TWO SECTIONS

BEND, DESCHUTES COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, MAY 12, 1949

No. 134

Single Department is Sought To Conserve U. S. Resources; Devastating Waste Charged

Washington, May 12 (AP)—An emergency conference of the national resources committee met today and was asked to persuade congress to establish a single department with over-all responsibility for the nation's resources.

Former Attorney general Francis Biddle who is chairman of the committee said in a statement that the Russians have offered "a not uninteresting challenge" by stating that "capitalism is incapable" of developing and conserving resources.

"A very large portion of that paradise of earth which once was America has gone forever under the fire, the axe, the plow and other free competitive methods of the pioneer," Biddle said.

The national resources committee is a private organization including as members leaders in industry, labor, agriculture, education, and government.

New Agency Sought
Morris L. Cooke, first head of the rural electrification administration, told the conference he hoped it would come up with a suggestion for "setting up an entirely new resources agency."

Washington, May 12 (AP)—Secretary of agriculture Charles F. Brannan told a natural resources conference today that the nation will be permanently short of timber unless the government steps in soon to regulate timber cutting.

Brannan said "we are using our timber much faster than we are growing it."

Cooke called the reclamation bureau-army engineers administration of the Missouri river project as "a new low in profligate waste of public funds" and their planning "inadequate to the point of being childish."

He also criticized the "hit or miss" quality of congressional appropriations for resource projects.

C. Herman Pritchett of the University of Chicago cited the "important indictments" by the Hoover commission of the reclamation-engineers work in the Missouri basin under the Pick-Sloan plan.

Called "Shotgun Wedding"
Pritchett called the plan the "shotgun wedding" of the two agencies which was held, he said, when the campaign for a Missouri valley authority was "showing signs of success."

Ellery Foster of the International Wood Workers of America (CIO) said in a statement that "as long as the lumber lobby's advice is followed, no forest will be safe, and a large proportion of the logging operations will continue to be destructive."

He said that selective cutting, instead of replanting, is the proper way to save America's forests. This requires that forests be divided into small units, he said.

Steel Workers Stage Walkout
Pittsburg, Calif., May 12 (AP)—CIO steelworkers struck the Columbia steel plant today, idling 4,300 employees in what the company charged was a violation of the contract.

Some 200 men in the open health department of the plant, which is a subsidiary of U. S. Steel, walked out to enforce their protest against the company's action in reassigning certain employees to new shifts in the open health department.

O. A. Pringle, company vice-president, said the reassignment of shifts was "entirely in accord with the labor contract."

"The contract expressly provides that any alleged grievance shall be handled according to a grievance procedure without work stoppage," he said.

"This arbitrary action is a clear violation of contract."

The walkout began shortly after noon. It involves steelworkers local 1440. A company spokesman said "it looks like they're all going out."

Joe Lockner, general agent of the local, said the strike was "spontaneous" among the men and that there were no immediate plans for a picket line. He said the walkout was not ordered by local union officials.

Forest Service Investigating Odell Lake Crash

Investigation of the Odell lake crash Monday afternoon that resulted in the death of David Lepescu, San Francisco, Calif., pilot, and the injury of Ralph W. Crawford, Richard P. Botcher and Newell Cory, forest service officials, was nearing completion today, following removal of the plane from the lake. Of the three men injured only one, Crawford, remains in the hospital.

Botcher, who was only slightly injured, did not enter the hospital. Cory was released yesterday, and returned to his home at Crescent, where he is stationed as district ranger. The attending physician said Crawford, Deschutes national forest supervisor, would be in the hospital for several days. However, his condition was reported good.

Wreckage Removed
When the plane wreckage was removed from the deep water at Odell lake, just off Trapper Creek, the body of the pilot was found still strapped to the seat.

Only a small piece of broken metal held the seat in the plane. Had that bit of metal broken, the pilot might have made his way to safety. He was carried to his death when the fuselage turned over, after breaking away from the wings, to which the engines were attached.

The body of the pilot, who had made application to the forest service for amphibian plane moorage at Odell lake, was taken to San Francisco for services.

Although the fuselage of the plane was taken ashore, the wings and the engines, which apparently were torn from the body of the plane by the crash, remain in the lake.

Ford, Strikers Still Negotiate
Detroit, May 12 (AP)—Negotiations continued efforts today to settle the Ford Motor company strike that with other "speed up" disputes in the auto industry has idled 150,000 workers and cut car and truck production by 20,000 units this week.

Peace talks between the striking CIO United Auto Workers' union and Ford officials resumed despite the absence of UAW president Walter P. Reuther, who was in Pittsburgh for a conference with CIO president Philip Murray.

About 100,000 workers are jobless from the strike against Ford's big River Rouge and Lincoln-Mercury plants here. Another 33,000 have been laid off by the Chrysler corporation because of a parts shortage brought on by a supplier company strike.

Other disputes over alleged work speed ups boosted the total idle to 150,000.

Potato Sales Show Decline
Washington, May 12 (AP)—The agriculture department said today that the government's heavy losses on the 1948 potato support program were due in part to an "unprecedented drop" in potato consumption.

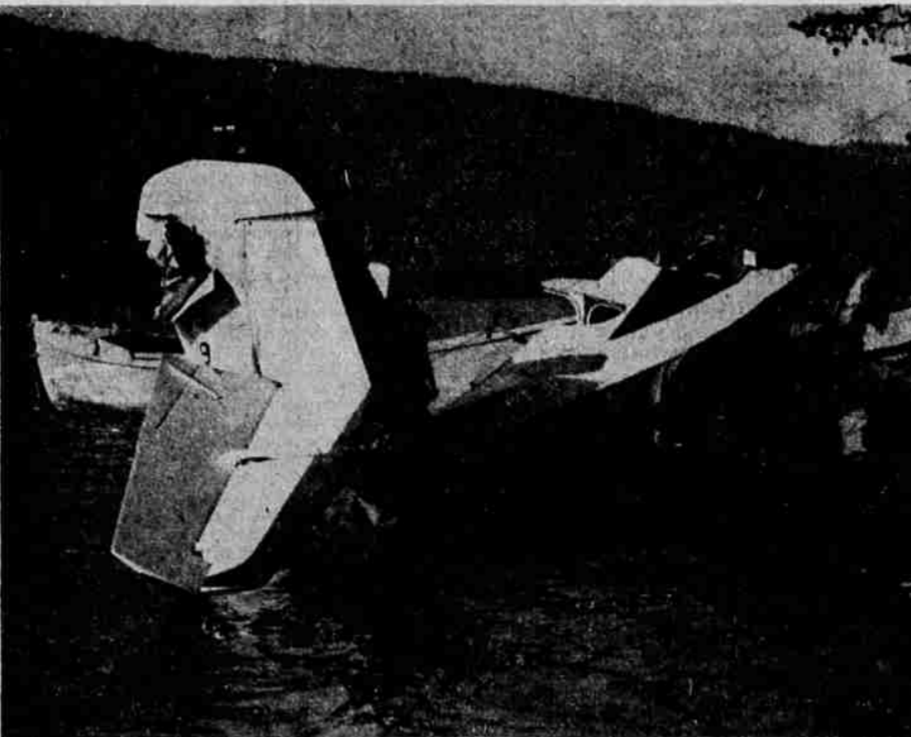
In a review of the potato situation, the department said preliminary estimates indicate that Americans apparently reduced their potato eating last year by 15 pounds per capita, or about 12 percent.

That alone would account for 36,000,000 bushels of the "surplus" 144,000,000 bushels which the government had to buy up in supporting the 446,000,000 bushel crop. The support operation, mandatory under farm law, cost more than \$200,000,000.

"Another surplus is in prospect for 1949, though much smaller than in 1948," the report said, "unless farmers reduce acreage this year below the seven per cent reduction indicated by their March intentions to plant, or unless yields should be surprisingly poor."

SAFETY RECORD GOOD
Portland, May 12 (AP)—Portland continued its perfect string of traffic safety days today, entering its 54th day without a fatality.

Plane Carries Flier to Death in Odell Lake



Pictured here is the wreckage of the plane which Monday afternoon carried David Lepescu, San Francisco pilot, to his death in Odell lake and injured three of his passengers, Ralph W. Crawford and Richard P. Botcher, Bend, and Newell Cory, Crescent, all Deschutes national forest officials. This picture was taken after the submerged plane was hauled ashore. Its wings were sheared off in the crash.

Higher Taxation Still Demanded By Pres. Truman

Washington, May 12 (AP)—President Truman insisted today that \$4,000,000,000 (B) in new taxes will be necessary this year to avoid a federal deficit.

This was the request of Mr. Truman made of congress in January. The \$4,000,000,000 would be in general revenue. In addition, the administration wants \$2,000,000,000 in additional social security taxes.

Chairman Robert L. Doughton of the tax-writing house ways and means committee expressed hope yesterday that government spending could be cut sufficiently to avoid new taxes this year.

Doughton even expressed doubt that a bill calling for new taxes would be considered at this session of congress.

Holds Position
Today at a news conference Mr. Truman stuck firmly to his January position.

The president told reporters he is in complete agreement with Doughton on the necessity for rigid economy in the government.

But under succeeding questioning the president said he does not believe it would be possible to avoid a deficit without new taxes.

Mr. Truman said federal revenue should be sufficient to retire between \$2,000,000,000 and \$5,000,000,000 of the national debt every year.

The president was unable to estimate the deficit probable at the end of this fiscal year June 30. He said he would have to wait until he had more up-to-date figures. Latest budget bureau estimate was \$600,000,000.

The president spoke with feeling in his opposition to deficit financing, saying there should be no deficit in a country with a national income of about \$217,000,000,000.

SEARCH ABANDONED
Portland, May 12 (AP)—Capt. Joseph Smith, commander of the McChord field, Wash., air force base rescue detachment, today said an organized search for a missing B-26 attack bomber that vanished in the northwest three weeks ago had been abandoned.

The plane disappeared on a flight from Hamilton field, Cal., to Portland with three California service men aboard: Col. Archibald Y. Smith, 49, pilot; Col. Walter W. Hodge, 45, Presidio, San Francisco, and M-Sgt. H. E. Sluga, San Jose.

2 ALARMS ANSWERED
A motor in a refrigeration unit at the Marketeria on North First street burned out this morning, filling the grocery store with smoke. Firemen who answered a general alarm at 7:41 a.m. said that damage was confined to the motor.

In answer to a still alarm, the fire department made a run at 9:20 a.m. to McKinley avenue and South Fourth street, where they extinguished a trash fire that was unattended. There was no damage.

WOMAN SUFFOCATED
Portland, May 12 (AP)—Mrs. Myrtle M. Cutshall, 53, Portland, suffocated when a bed caught fire in her home, the fire marshal's office reported today.

Her husband, Charles Cutshall, had been away on a trip. He found the fire when he returned. She was an invalid.

General Clay Warns Berlin Populace Fight Not Yet Won

Berlin, May 12 (AP)—Jubilant Berliners celebrating the lifting of the soviet blockade heard a sober warning by Gen. Lucius D. Clay today that they still had to fight for the freedom they earned with the help of the airlift.

The retiring U. S. military governor made his farewell appearance before the west Berlin city assembly as trains, trucks, and cars flooded into the city for the first time since the Russians imposed the blockade 328 days ago.

In Carnival Mood
The incoming traffic, marking Russia's biggest setback in the cold war, found Berlin in a carnival mood. Flags fluttered in a hot spring sun. Schools were out for a holiday. For the first time in a year Russians smiled at Americans. Britons, French and Germans along the zonal boundaries.

After the first mad rush of traffic between Berlin and west Germany, the occupation powers and the Germans got down to brass tacks. They started pouring supplies, especially fresh vegetables, and equipment into the city to repair the ravages of nearly a year of skipping under the soviet shackles.

The first two food trucks, bringing 28 tons of fresh cucumbers and leeks, arrived at 11:27 and 11:34 a.m. The first freight train of 43 cars loaded with coke arrived at the Lichterfeld station in the American sector at noon.

Driver Rewarded
The driver of the first truck to arrive with fresh vegetables was given 10 bottles of schnapps.

The first inter-zonal buses left Berlin for Helmstadt, the check point at the Anglo-soviet border, at 7 a.m. It was jammed to capacity with no standing room left.

The Berlin airlift roared on, even though it had defeated the main Russian tactic in the cold war. Western officials said the parade of transports between west Germany and Berlin would continue until a stockpile of 200,000 tons of foodstuffs had been built up here.

"The future only can determine the exact date when the airlift will end," Lt. Gen. John K. Cannon, commander of U. S. air forces in Europe, said.

Buried Money Found in Garage
Seattle, May 12 (AP)—Two friends of a once-wealthy real-estate operator who died a recluse in apparent poverty revealed today how they dug up \$27,400 in cash from beneath the dirt floor of his garage.

George R. Compton, who came here from New York 50 years ago and made a fortune in real estate only to lose it in the depression of the early 30's, died April 24. He was 81.

Shortly after his funeral, Attorney Reeve Aylmore discovered \$23,000 in bank deposits in Compton's name had been untouched since 1937. He asked two of Compton's friends to search Compton's one remaining piece of property, his home.

Fred Osborne, Spokane, and Charles D. Cummings, temporary administrator of the estate, found the cache of money in three glass jars buried beneath two feet of dirt in Compton's garage.

Osborne said that he, Cummings and Compton had come west together from New York state half a century ago. They "mucked for gold in Alaska and punched cattle from Montana to Arizona," he said.

Osborne recalled that Compton, whose real estate holdings were appraised during the 20's at more than \$300,000, had once said, "If anybody wants my money, they'll have to dig for it."

Lightning Hits in Deschutes Forests, as Result of Thunder Storm; Heat Wave Continues

New thunderheads were building up in the southeast again today following an electric storm that sent bolts into the Deschutes national forest Tuesday, resulting in the first lightning fire of the season. This was in the Bessie butte area, south of Bend. It was a small blaze, and was quickly controlled.

Protective forces were alerted this morning as the first thunderheads were spotted far to the south, with the temperature rapidly mounting.

Snow Blanket Still Heavy In Cascades
Deep snow holding an abnormally heavy water content still blankets the mid-Oregon Cascades, according to information from the office of W. T. Frost, hydraulic engineer in charge of snow surveys in Oregon for federal and state cooperating agencies.

"Snow surveys at key stations in the Cascades indicate the present snow contains up to 168 per cent of the average water content at the highest elevations," the May 1 report, copies of which have just been received here, state.

The mountain snow cover already has released much water because of the abnormally warm and dry April weather, but this cover still holds water averaging 28 per cent above normal through the state. Only in the Malheur, Owyhee and Great Basin drainages is the water content below normal.

Storage Greater
Total water stored in all important Oregon reservoirs is 12 per cent greater than at this date last year. Of Oregon's more important reservoirs, 91 per cent are half full or better. The Deschutes reservoir and the Ochoco are near or at capacity.

Frost said that revised streamflow forecasts for the state indicate the need for some reductions from the April 1 forecasts throughout the area because of the lack of precipitation in April. In that month, only .06 of an inch was measured at the Bend station.

New record stream flows for the April-September period are still likely to be established in some areas, including the Deschutes, Frost reports.

Engineers Busy
Army engineers worked around the clock trying to complete dike constructions. At several points, where the dikes had been breached during the disastrous 1948 flood, the old barriers had been torn down. The half-completed new dikes represented the major danger, the river forecaster said.

Despite the flood peril at Bonners Ferry, forecasters still saw little chance that last year's widespread Columbia river flood would be repeated.

In the spring of 1948, the Kootenai went on a rampage smashing dikes from the Canadian border down to Bonners Ferry and inundating thousands of valuable wheat acreage.

As the Pacific northwest swelled, continued moderate rises in the area's tributaries to the Columbia were forecast for the next three or four days.

A truck and trailer were dispatched from Seattle Thursday carrying 50,000 empty sand bags to be used in reinforcing the dikes at Bonners Ferry. A company of 160 men, 20 dump trucks, two power shovels, bulldozers, a liaison plane and other equipment were rushed to the threatened area from Fort Lewis, Wash.

Maj. J. S. Grygfield, chief of operations division of the Seattle district, was enroute to direct flood-fighting operations.

Yakima Warned
The nation's hot spot Wednesday was Yakima, Wash., where residents basked in 98 degrees. Oregon's highest temperature was the 97 recorded at The Dalles. Seattle had its hottest day of the year as the mercury climbed to 82.

The weatherman saw no immediate break in the heat wave. "Temperatures will be pretty much the same Thursday and Friday," he said.

A moderate rise continued in the Snake and Columbia rivers and the Wenatchee, Methow and Entiat were approaching the 1948 flood level under the broiling sun.

Drinking Water Muddy
The Green river, Tacoma's main water supply, sent muddy water surging into the Green river reservoir threatening the city's water supply Wednesday.

At Wenatchee, Wash., the tributaries of the Columbia had swollen to within a few feet of the 1948 flood crest. The Columbia itself at that point, however, was still 26 feet below the 40-year high it registered last year and 10 feet below what is considered flood stage. However, the Columbia continued rising at the rate of one foot a day.

The Kootenai river in northern Idaho had reached the 23-foot level Thursday.

Other high temperatures in Washington Wednesday included: Spokane 90, Walla Walla 90, Wenatchee, 93, Omak 42, Ephrata 94; in Oregon—Medford 92, Portland 85, and Pendleton 91.

PROBLEM SOLVED
Seattle, May 12 (AP)—M. C. Cottrell won't be bothered any more with caterpillars in the evergreen tree near his home.

He took a torch and burned them out. The tree burned too.