

THE WEATHER

FAIR TONIGHT and Saturday. Continued warm daytime temperatures. Low tonight, 48; high Saturday, 88.

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Fires Explode Forest Areas In 2 Sections

Sardine Creek and Tillamook Burn Blazing Again

By MARGARET MAGEE

Forest areas in two sections of the state seemed to explode with flames as strong east winds drove the blazes ahead of them Thursday night and Friday morning.

Breaking out anew Friday afternoon was the Sardine creek fire in the Detroit area and flaring up from an old blaze was a fire in Tillamook Burn, which broke over at 6 a.m. Friday and by 7 a.m. had covered approximately 400 acres.

Ashes fell on Albany today at noon and the nearest fire was some 30 airline miles to the northeast.

The Sardine creek fire was believed responsible. Smoke partly obscured the sun at Albany. At Salem, about the same distance northwest of the fire, the sun was a red disc through the smoke.

Tillamook was isolated from the east for a brief time when fire burned out Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Co.'s over-the-mountain line. Circuits were restored by routing to Astoria and to Newport.

Smoke was so thick on the Sardine creek blaze that foresters could give no estimate of the number of acres burned over and cinders and ashes were falling as far away as Lyons, which is eight miles from Mill City and 11 west of Gates.

Bob Veness of Mill City reported Mill City covered with ashes from the fire and said that one could almost read a newspaper from the light of the flames Thursday night. Even in Salem the sun Friday morning was a red ball and black and white ashes were falling.

(Concluded on Page 5, Column 3)

Drive to Expand Alcoa Output

Washington, Sept. 21 (AP)—The drive for expansion of aluminum capacity got a major boost today with approval of tax benefits to help the Aluminum company of America complete a \$115,000,000 project in Texas.

The plant, to be located in Milam county, will produce primary aluminum, the defense production administration said in listing the project among 114 defense expansion jobs certified for federal tax assistance. None are from the Pacific northwest.

The new certifications brought to \$9,592,386,181 the value of plan expansions approved to date. They were certified as exceptions to the general moratorium on new tax certificates which will not be lifted until Oct. 18.

Several types of exceptions are allowed, including plants for direct military weapons, for the expansion of critical materials output, and plants to round out urgent expansion projects already under way.

Fall Arrives Sunday Noon

Popular belief is Friday brings the first day of fall—but the weather bureau records reveal autumn officially comes in at 12:38 p.m. next Sunday, September 23. The time varies for approach of the third season of the year, but astronomically speaking it comes at the autumnal equinox.

For western Oregon, the new season comes in, however, with a red-like sun due to forest fire smoke, threat of more serious fires and continued summer temperatures and dry winds.

The warm, dry wind sweeping over the Salem area Thursday reached a velocity up to 32 miles in peak gusts around 5:30 p.m. The wind averaged around 20 miles per hour velocity.

Forecast for tonight and Saturday calls for more fair weather and continued warm daytime temperatures.

The Willamette river at Salem continues to drop gradually, but as yet has not reached a record low. The Friday morning reading at the gauge here was -3.8 feet.

Lithofold Gave Costly Presents For 'Good Will'

Corporation Head Implies Boyle Hired For RFC Influence

Washington, Sept. 21 (AP)—The head of American Lithofold Corp. testified today he was told his company gave \$90 cameras as "good will gestures" to several government officials. Those he named included Presidential Secretary Matthew J. Connelly and William M. Boyle, Jr.

Robert J. Blauner, president of the St. Louis printing firm, said his information came from Cecil Green, the company's Washington representative.

Blauner told senate investigators Green named Turney Gratz, onetime assistant to Boyle, and Frank Prince, recently ousted RFC loan officials, among others who received gift cameras.

The testimony came at an inquiry by the senate investigations subcommittee into charges that Boyle, now democratic national chairman, used political influence to help American Lithofold get \$565,000 in RFC loans.

Boyle Paid \$500 a Month

Blauner testified earlier that he hired Boyle as his company's Washington counsel at \$500 a month in 1949 because he expected "some things might develop."

He didn't give details, but told the senators that, as it turned out, "nothing of any great moment" developed that required Boyle's services.

(Concluded on Page 5, Column 6)

Big Fires Rage In California

(By the Associated Press)

U. S. Forest Service helicopters today rushed men and supplies to fight two wind-fanned fires raging across rich timberland in California's northwest corner.

The two fires, originally three miles apart, had almost joined after 2-mile-an-hour winds mushroomed them into infernos covering 2,500 acres each.

"They're very definitely out of control," Fire Dispatcher Earl Madray at Eureka said. "We're preparing for the worst but hoping for the best."

Madray said some 500 to 600 men were battling the two fires, located about 25 miles east of Crescent City on the Six Rivers National forest, last night. Another 300 men are expected to join the fight today.

He predicted it would be impossible to control the blazes for two or three days. He said it would simplify the firefighting job if the fires joined.

Originally covering about 375 acres each, at Lem's ridge and Summit valley, each was fanned to 2,500 acres by last night and the weather forecast was for continued wind.

Out-of-state crews summoned to the Six Rivers forest included 25 specialists flown from Missoula, Mont., and some San Quentin prison convicts.

Congress Asked to Probe \$46 Million Harvey Loan

Washington, Sept. 21 (AP)—Rep. Mansfield (D., Mont.) wants congress as well as the justice department to investigate all circumstances of a proposed \$46,000,000 loan to the Harvey Machine company.

The interior department this week withdrew its approval of the loan asked by the California firm to build aluminum plants in the Northwest.

Mansfield, who first joined Rep. Jackson (D., Wash.) in asking a justice department probe, today requested the congressional investigation in a letter to Rep. Hardy (D., Va.), chairman of a special house expenditures subcommittee.

He said he was "very much perturbed," and asked the probe "because of allegations made which I had no knowledge of."

The \$46,000,000 loan had been recommended to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation both by the interior department and the Defense Production Administration, but the interior department later asked that the matter be held up.

Of the total amount requested, \$32,000,000 would be used to build an aluminum reduction plant near Kalispell, Mont. Most of the rest would go for an al-



Outbreak—Photo shows Sardine creek fire at moment it broke through fire lines fanned by strong east wind and swept on towards Gates. Fire truck on road below fire was driven from district by flames a short time after picture was taken. (Photo by Robert Veness.)

Shift in Wind Saves Forks, Wn.

Forks, Wash., Sept. 21 (AP)—This fire-encircled logging town survived a night with the wind shifted.

Dogged fire fighters and a "providential" shift in the wind brought it through last night after authorities had virtually given it up for lost late yesterday. The forest fire veered off after consuming most of one residential corner of the town. Nearly a score of buildings were burned.

Evacuees of the town of 1,120 began returning to their homes in smoky haze this morning. An estimated 85 percent of the populace left before or after an evacuation order in mid-afternoon yesterday.

Fire control officials were optimistic today after the wind subsided overnight.

District U. S. Forest Ranger Sanford Floe said the fast-racing fire yesterday was fanned from one that had lain dormant for a month in the Olympic National forest. He said it originally was started last month from logging engine sparks. Aiding a 25-mile-an-hour wind, it raced southward 18 miles in less than 12 hours yesterday.

Forks is midway between the Olympic National park and the Pacific ocean, about a dozen miles from the seashore. But the 20,000-acre fire did not head westward ahead of an east wind until it had seared off a two or three block strip on the north and east sides of town.

Fifth Fewer New Autos In U. S. Showrooms

Washington, Sept. 21 (AP)—There are one-fifth fewer passenger cars in dealers' showrooms today than there were in June. The number is expected to drop even lower in early 1952.

The national production authority (NPA) told an automobile advisory committee meeting here yesterday that an informal survey showed a 20 per cent decline in new passenger cars in the past three months.

He Fools Most of 'em, But Not Salem Nurse

By DOUGLAS THOMAS

A little old man—69, 88 or maybe even 104—who has slicked the city hicks of Reno and other cities, big and little, throughout the nation—has found a soft touch in Salem.

He is—for Salem—listed as Art Larsen. He claims to be 88. And he spins a yarn about being a metallurgical chemist for the government, telling about working "his trade" in the uranium fields in Colorado.

Art has a different trade, however. And he tried it here September 18. The elderly man had a "heart attack" near the intersection of Edgewater street and Wallace road.

He was rushed to Salem General hospital for treatment—the variety of kind and gentle care that an 88-year-old might expect, just the kind to which he is accustomed.

But Art was recognized as Walter Urwiler, the same man whose trick diaphragm and tall stories captivated Reno hospital.

There, using the name Lieutenant John Boyer, and claiming to be a Civil war veteran, he had a "heart attack." He said his great wish was to be buried with military honors. And, of course, he was coddled with loving care.

He told them he was 104. But the veterans administration identified him as Urwiler from his long record of hospital frauds, and listed his age as 69. (Concluded on Page 5, Column 4)

Tass Newsmen To Cover Capitol

Washington, Sept. 21 (AP)—A committee of Washington newsmen has decided that representatives of Tass, the Russian news agency, may continue to work alongside them in the press galleries of congress.

The standing committee of correspondents voted unanimously last night not to expel the Tass reporters because, it said, it "fervently believes that the principles of a free press cannot be upheld by abridging them."

"The committee holds that man's right to see his neighbor through his own eyes and to form his own opinions on that neighbor's conduct is basic to our liberties," it added.

The standing committee consists of five correspondents elected by some 800 of their colleagues to supervise the press galleries and to pass upon applications for admission.

Declaring that admittance of foreign correspondents in the press galleries "is consistent with the American concept of a free press," the committee urged Tass to cable its 300-word resolution "in full to its home office" and suggested the Soviet press print it in full.

Mikhail Federov, chief of the Washington bureau of Tass, told a reporter he had transmitted the resolution to Moscow. He declined to comment on it. Besides Federov, Tass has three other persons—all Americans—entitled to admission to the congressional press galleries.

The Iranian cabinet has scheduled a meeting for tomorrow to decide what to do with the ultimatum. Mossadegh had tried to relay it to Britain via W. Averell Harriman in Washington. Harriman refused a few days ago to send it on and proposed Iran relax its stand on nationalization of Anglo-Iranian oil company properties.

Big 3 Agree On Separate Mideast Force

NATO Military Command for Greece And Turkey OK'd

Ottawa, Sept. 21 (AP)—The United States, Britain and France have substantially agreed on organization of a separate North Atlantic treaty military command in the Middle East, it was reported today when Greece and Turkey join the Atlantic Alliance.

Diplomatic informants said this was an unexpected result of private Big Three talks held here during breaks in the Atlantic council. The last of these was held yesterday just before the council, as the last big decision of its Ottawa meeting, finally voted unanimously for Greek-Turkish membership.

The conference ended in late afternoon. The next session will be held in Rome in November and General Dwight D. Eisenhower, NATO commander in Europe, is being invited to report personally on the progress and future requirements of his force.

Reach Agreement

Secretary of State Dean Acheson, British Foreign Secretary Herbert Morrison and French Foreign Minister Robert Schuman were reported to have found agreement on major points of the new command problem with surprising speed.

General Omar Bradley, chairman of the American joint chiefs of staff and other Big Three military leaders joined in the discussions.

The plan the three are reported to have agreed on tentatively—subject to expected approval of other NATO members and Greece and Turkey—would put Greece under General Eisenhower's European command.

(Concluded on Page 5, Column 4)

Seeks \$ Billion Tax Increase

Washington, Sept. 21 (AP)—Senator Humphrey (D., Minn.) said today the nation's economy is "strong enough to sustain the burden" of a big new tax load.

The Minnesota democrat was continuing his fight on the senate floor for at least \$9,000,000,000 in new taxes. The senate finance committee, headed by Sen. George D. Ga., has recommended tax increases totalling about \$5,500,000,000.

President Truman and administration supporters contend this is not enough to check inflation and have urged up to \$10,000,000,000 in new taxes.

Humphrey, who yesterday argued seven hours for bigger taxes, drew a sharp but good humored rebuff from Senator Millikin (R., Colo.).

Millikin asserted the nation is facing a deficit of \$20,000,000,000 to \$30,000,000,000 in the fiscal year starting next July, when defense spending is scheduled to hit a peak.

The budget could not be balanced then, he contended, even with a federal sales tax or by taking "every penny of income of those in the high brackets."

East German Youth Plotted Soviet Deaths

Berlin, Sept. 21 (AP)—Red Germany announced for the first time today the existence of a partially successful plot among young Germans of the Russian zone to "assassinate Soviet troops."

Deputy Premier Otto Nuschke told a press conference that more than 600 German youths had been arrested and held for an undetermined time. He added, however, that all now have been released.

"More than 600 youths who attempted to assassinate Soviet troops, and even killed some people in these attempts, were released about half a year ago," Nuschke said in response to a demand that Red Germany release political prisoners.

"They were set free, with an agreement from the supreme Soviet to give them another chance. Further cases of people who may be amnestied now are under consideration."

(Concluded on Page 5, Column 4)

British Election Campaign Opens

London, Sept. 21 (AP)—British party strategists toiled over policy statements today in an attempt to hammer out platforms for the October 25 elections before the week-end.

Prime Minister Clement Attlee makes his first campaign speech tomorrow at a Scottish labor party conference.

At about the same time Winston Churchill and his conservative party aids will hold their first formal campaign session to complete the party's manifesto—the statement of election aims to the people. Most of it has been drafted by R. A. Butler, who was education minister in Churchill's wartime coalition cabinet and now is one of the Tory brain trust.

The labor party manifesto probably will be given finishing touches at a party national executive meeting Monday.

The election campaign was already in vigorous progress with newspaper editorials sounding battlecries.

But the sharpest attack came from labor party Secretary Morgan Phillips, who charged that yesterday's quick upsurge in the stock market proved big business was throwing in vast financial resources to end labor's socialist rule.

When the surrender offer turned out to be a hoax, the welcome got really hot. Allied artillery opened fire and warplanes strafed and bombed the Reds.

At least 50 Reds were killed by artillery. Pilots were reluctant to estimate communist casualties from the air strikes, but they reported 80 to 90 per cent coverage of the area they hit.

The fake offer was delivered by one North Korean soldier who walked into U. N. lines north of Yanggu at 5 a.m. Friday. He said his battalion wanted to surrender.

He was sent back to tell the others they could come over to allied lines unarmed if they followed the main supply route south. They were to leave their weapons behind.

When the Reds reached a point near the allied lines, they turned off the road and started up a trail leading toward a mountain ridge held by U. N. infantry. This was a clear violation of their orders—they had been told to stay on the road all the way.

London, Sept. 21 (AP)—Czechoslovakia has demanded that the United States send back 31 refugees who escaped to freedom in Germany when an engineer raced his express train across the border Sept. 11.

The Prague official radio announced that a sharply-worded demand served on the U. S. embassy in Prague yesterday insisted on extradition of the refugees on charges they kidnapped 77 other passengers on the train and damaged Czechoslovakia railway equipment.

The Prague broadcast charged that persons with such offenses must be returned for trial under a 1925 extradition treaty between Czechoslovakia and the United States.

Allies Smash Iron Triangle In Key Sectors

Heaviest Armored Thrust of Korean War At Pyongyang

U. S. Eighth Army Headquarters, Korea, Saturday, Sept. 22 (AP)—Allied armored columns jabbed into the north corner of the old communist Iron Triangle in central Korea Friday, shot up everything in sight and then withdrew for the night.

It was perhaps the heaviest armored thrust of the Korean war. Infantrymen followed the tanks into action.

Elements of three allied divisions smashed northward within a short distance of Pyongyang, apex of the triangular area used last spring as a massive build-up area by the Chinese and Korean Reds.

One tank-infantry column reached north of Chorwon, the southwestern corner of the triangle, at dawn and met only light resistance from Reds lining the hills.

Second Column Stopped

A second armored column met bitter opposition north of Kumhwa after poking northward only a mile.

"It seemed as though the Reds had anti-tank guns in every nook and corner of the valley," reported one frontline officer.

What appeared the toughest resistance in the day's action was met by the third tank-tipped column northeast of Kumhwa. The column ran into a hail of anti-tank fire near a town and a "knockdown dragout" battle ensued.

(Concluded on Page 5, Column 7)

Reds Penalized For Fake Offer

East-Central Front, Korea, Sept. 21 (AP)—Two hundred Korean Reds offered to surrender to the allies today and a warm welcome was prepared.

When the surrender offer turned out to be a hoax, the welcome got really hot. Allied artillery opened fire and warplanes strafed and bombed the Reds.

At least 50 Reds were killed by artillery. Pilots were reluctant to estimate communist casualties from the air strikes, but they reported 80 to 90 per cent coverage of the area they hit.

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Reply Delayed By Ridgway

Tokyo, Sept. 21 (AP)—Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway withheld his answer today to a communist proposal to resume the Korean truce talks at Kaesong.

But while the move to resume armistice talks hung fire, allied armor roared out loudly across the Korean battlefield.

United Nations tanks and infantry thrust into the former communist iron triangle buildup area on the central front.

It was possibly the largest allied armored foray of the nearly 15 months old war. Red resistance stiffened as the mighty task force drove north toward Pyongyang.

The battle of words over how to get the wheel of peace revolving again was as muted as the United Nations' limited offensive action was loud.

Even Red China's Peiping radio—the communist sounding board that pours out tens of thousands of words each day in anti-United Nations command propaganda—was notably silent. There was only a dribble of hushed-over comments of Kaesong neutrality as divisions where torrents used to flow.



Falling Landmark—Steeple of old First Christian church at Church and High streets yields to wreckers as winch and cable pull it from the tower structure Thursday. The belfry once housed the chimes used to play sacred music daily. The room just below the steeple that collapsed also was known as the Belfry room and was used for children's Sunday school classes.

Weather Details

Maximum yesterday, 87; minimum today, 48. Total 24-hour precipitation: 0.1. For month: .34; normal, .54. Season precipitation: .34; normal, .57. River height: 2.8 feet. (Report by U. S. Weather Bureau.)