

THE WEATHER

CONTINUED GENERALLY fair tonight and Friday except for patches of morning fog. Low tonight, 24; high Friday, 50.

Fire Peril At 5-Year State High

8 Blazes Blacken 3,000 Acres in Forests

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
With Christmas only a month away, Oregon was experiencing its worst forest fire season in five years.

At least eight fires, fanned by east winds, had blackened more than 3,000 acres of timberland Thursday morning. The hazard from low humidities, an unseasonable dry spell and buffeting winds, was so great that Gov. Elmo Smith closed 13 northwestern counties to burning without fire permits.

Lines Held Overnight
Lines held during the night and Thursday morning. Ted Maul of the state forester's office said "things are looking a little better."

But this optimism was only over having held the lines during the night, he said. The Weather Bureau said high winds would be whipping the blazing trees again Thursday afternoon and no rain was in sight.

The worst of the fires had covered more than 2,500 acres in the Salmonberry River area of Clatsop County. The blaze was on land owned by the state and by Long-Bell Lumber Co. Some 300 men were fighting the fire which was burning in extremely rugged terrain.

Trask Fire Spreads
Another bad fire was reported in the Trask River drainage area of the Tillamook Burn.

The Trask fire, at 250 acres, provided sparks that blew out Wednesday evening to start a fresh blaze of 160 acres atop a nearby ridge.

To the southeast in Linn County, three fires were burning but Thursday morning they were reported at less than 30 acres each. Some 200 men—fighting a pair of fires in the Astoria watershed—hoped to have these blazes trailed sometime Thursday.

Clackamas County reported fires in the Sandy-Bull Run area, near Eagle Creek and near Colton. The wind whipped still another fire in slash burning unit in the Willamette National Forest, 30 miles southeast of Eugene. Forty loggers were on the fire line.

At Olympia, Washington State Forester L. T. Webster said that four fires broke out in Clark and Skamania counties Tuesday and Wednesday. All were under control early Thursday.

For a time, winds up to 50 miles an hour fanned the flames, Webster said.

Because of the hazardous fire conditions the Washington Division of Forestry halted all logging operations, hunting and use of outdoor fires in Clark and Skamania counties and a portion of southeastern Cowlitz County south of the Kalama River.

Sub-Freezing Low Recorded For 12th Day

Winter chill tightened its grip on the valley region a bit more Thursday morning, the thermometer tumbling to the season's low to date, 23 degrees. It was the 12th straight day with minimum temperatures below the freezing mark here.

Another low is booked for tonight, but the sunny daytime weather is due to continue through Friday except for patches of early morning fog. Wednesday's maximum went to 33 degrees with Sun-Seth folk enjoying the bright sunshine thoroughly.

Colder temperatures prevailed throughout the state this morning. Baker apparently had the lowest mark among the cities reported, the minimum being 15 there.

New Ballpoint Pens 'Filched' At Post Office

Patrons of the Salem post office are in danger of having to go back to the old steel pens.

The reason? Theft of eight of the new ballpoint pens that were provided by the federal government.

The eight have disappeared during the two-month period that has elapsed since the old type pens were removed from the writing desks in the lobby.

They are attached by light-weight steel chains which do not offer much resistance to a jerk. In some instances chain and all have disappeared. In others just the barrel of the pen has been taken.

Postal regulations provide a fine or imprisonment in a federal prison for those convicted of the theft. In exceptional cases both may apply.

Blast Hearing Draws Crowd to Hear Witnesses



Jury Goes Into Deliberations In 'Lurid' Case

Verdict in St. Clair's Trial Rests Solely On Book Merits
By FRED ZIMMERMAN
Capital Journal Writer

A jury of five women and seven men began their deliberations at 11 o'clock Thursday morning in the trial of the state versus Jack St. Clair, news agency operator, charged with selling an indecent book.

They carried copies of the book with them into the jurors room. Their verdict will rest solely on the merits of the paper bound book entitled "A Dame Called Murder," since no evidence other than a few brief statements by the defendant was introduced.

Testimony Ruled Out
Judge George R. Duncan had previously ruled that Mrs. John Pfeiffer of Silverton, should not be permitted to testify for the state. The judge held that Mrs. Pfeiffer's opinion as to the indecency of the book would invade the rights of the jurors. Mrs. Pfeiffer had been largely instrumental in presenting the case to a grand jury which brought an indictment against St. Clair.

Prior to taking up their deliberations, the jurors heard Judge Duncan tell them that they should consider the book as a "whole and not piecemeal." "Your decision must rest upon something more than speculation," he said.

In closing argument District Attorney Kenneth Brown read excerpts from the book which he said derides law enforcement and pointed out examples of sexual perversion.

Contents Story Told
The defense contended that the book had a story to tell, albeit about the seamy side of life. "Millions of people read this type of book," counsel said. The newspapers, it was pointed out print stories dealing with murder and sexual perversion without being arrested for selling indecent literature.

CAB Officials Take Jet Ride

SEATTLE (AP)—Boeing's 707 jet-transport demonstrator, kept aloft for three hours Wednesday because of a balky landing gear, was readied Thursday to fly four members of the Civil Aeronautics Board to Los Angeles.

The afternoon flight of little more than 1 1/2 hours will give the CAB chairman, James Duffie, and members Joseph P. Adams, Chan Gurney and Hamar D. Denny, a preview of future commercial jet airliner service.

Christmas Lights Go Glimmering in Test Run at Amity

AMITY (Special)—City officials of Amity proudly switched on their Christmas lights for the first time at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday and the town basked under brilliant, scintillating decorations for a few minutes.

Then all was darkness. Cliff Wolf, street superintendent, called the power company at Sheridan and repairmen were dispatched from Newberg.

The crew replaced a 60-ampere fuse and returned to Newberg. The fuse blew out again. The crew returned and switched out every other string of lights.

22 Testify at Explosion Inquiry; Gas Firm Urges Code Tightening

William Berry, 16, 634 N. 20th (center), returns home November 21. A crowd to his seal after completing testimony as one of more than 100 crowded the city hall council 21 witnesses heard Wednesday at a hearing concerning the gas explosion which destroyed the chambers as a nine-man Mayor's committee investigated the blast. (Capital Journal Photo)

Probers Sift Facts Before Deciding Any Action
By STEPHEN A. STONE
Capital Journal Associate Editor

Testimony taken from 22 witnesses Wednesday at a public inquiry into the gas blast that destroyed the Dennis Howarth home, 785 North 20th, the day before Thanksgiving, and injured Mr. and Mrs. Howarth and their small daughter Deanna, will be sifted before conclusions are reached or an attempt made to fix responsibility.

Robert DeArmond, chairman of the committee appointed by Mayor Robert F. White to investigate the disaster, said the committee would meet later to examine the testimony, and that out of it might or might not come a recommendation for city safety legislation.

Heltzel Files Stiff Protest Of Rail Boost

Public Utilities Commissioner Charles H. Heltzel announced Thursday he has filed a strong protest against the railroad's application for a 15 per cent nationwide freight rate increase.

The railroads want a 7 per cent increase immediately without the usual hearings, and the rest of it after hearings.

Heltzel said that C. W. Ferguson, director of rail transportation for Heltzel, will appear in Kansas City, Mo., next Monday to argue against the increase. This hearing will be held by the Interstate Commerce Commission.

STAGGERED CLASSES SET Junior Highs Won't Be Ready Until 1958

By FRED ZIMMERMAN
Capital Journal Writer

Prospects of having two new junior high schools—Waldo and Judson—in operation during the 1957-58 school year, went out the window of the school administration building around midnight Wednesday.

This development followed an announcement by Claude Post, of the contracting firm of Viesko & Post, that it would take at least 14 months to complete the two structures. This would mean that the opening could not take place before February, 1958. Rather than attempt a shift of pupils and teachers at that time decision was reached to postpone opening until September, 1958.

Staggered Shifts Result
This will mean, according to Supt. Charles Schmidt, staggered operations at Leslie and Parrish for the entire 1957-58 term. A staggered operation would mean that some pupils would report for class work early while others would remain later. It is not the same as double shifting.

The directors met with Post and Architect William I. Williams for two and a half hours Wednesday night, in an effort to trim the cost of the two buildings to fit the available funds. Then the board went into a huddle to see where further costs could be trimmed in the matter of equipment and grounds.

Multi-Billion Mass Shelter Plan Studied

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Eisenhower administration is reported considering a mass shelter building program for civil defense which ultimately might cost billions of dollars.

Officials in position to know said Thursday several different proposals are under study which contemplate asking Congress for upwards of 200 million dollars to launch the program next year.

These officials said the proposals are designed to complement the program for evacuation of critical target areas.

It was pointed out that Val Peterson, federal civil defense administrator, said in a speech Oct. 11 that his agency is vitally interested in shelter proposals but there is no single solution.

He said there should be a balance between an evacuation and shelter, reiterating that shelters would not protect from the full force of thermonuclear explosions.

The officials said nobody knows what the total cost of a shelter program designed to protect residents of major cities would be. They recalled that Peterson said it might be anywhere from 15 to 35 billion dollars.

60 MPH Gale Due in Gorge

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
The Weather Bureau predicts there will be no lull in the cold east wind in northwestern Oregon through Friday.

Forecast Thursday gusts of more than 60 miles an hour in the Columbia Gorge.

Winds toppled a 100-foot triangular steel tower in eastern Multnomah county Wednesday night. The tower was being erected one-half mile west of the 26-mile post on the Columbia River Expressway as a navigation aid for the Coast and Geodetic Survey.

Thiel to Fill Holmes' Ore. Senate Seat

ASTORIA (UPI)—Dan Thiel, Astoria oil distributor, was chosen yesterday by the county courts of Clatsop and Columbia counties to fill the State Senate vacancy created by the election of Robert D. Holmes as governor.

Like Holmes, Thiel is a long-time Democrat. He was Holmes' campaign manager in Clatsop county in the gubernatorial race.

A week ago the courts met and found a tie between Thiel, from Clatsop county, and Ken Magruder, of Clatskanie, from Columbia county. Since then the Democratic Central Committees of both counties met and agreed upon Thiel.

Weather Details

Maximum yesterday, 53; minimum today, 23. Total 24-hour precipitation: .85; for month, 1.63; normal, 5.65. Season precipitation, 6.40; normal, 18.24. River height, -2.3 of a foot. (Report by U. S. Weather Bureau.)

Egypt Strafe; British Refuse To Hurry Canal Pullout

Lloyd Stoutly Affirms Suez Stay Stand

LONDON (UP)—Foreign Secretary Selwyn Lloyd refused today to commit Britain to hurried withdrawal from Egypt pending new consultations with France and consideration of "other matters" such as the future of the Suez Canal.

In a crisis report to the House of Commons, Lloyd reiterated Anglo-French determination for a "phased withdrawal" from the occupied areas of Egypt, and added:

"There are other important matters to be considered, such as the speedy clearance of the canal and the negotiation of a final settlement with regard to the future operation of the canal."

"These matters must be discussed with our French allies and I also await certain clarifications with regard to the carrying out of the resolution passed last Saturday by the U. N. Assembly, authorizing the secretary general to proceed with arrangements for the (canal) clearance as a U. N. operation."

Conference With France
French Foreign Minister Christian Pineau will fly here Friday for emergency talks on the "other important matters."

Lloyd's "interim statement" in Parliament was the firmest declaration yet that Britain and France intend to keep at least some of their forces in the Suez until progress is made on clearing obstructions from the Egypt-held section of the canal and on obtaining a final decision on international supervision of the vital waterway.

The foreign secretary told the House of Commons it must wait until Monday for a fuller report on the situation, an indication that major decisions can be expected Tuesday.

Turkish Delegation
The new issue of Soviet infiltration into Syria was also on the agenda for these talks. A top level delegation from Turkey arrived here this morning to discuss the Syrian situation with Lloyd.

Left winger Aneurin Bevan, making his debut as the Labor party's official candidate for foreign secretary should it regain control of the government, immediately attacked Lloyd's "sinister juxtaposition" of the three conditions for Anglo-French withdrawal: Phasing of the pullout with the evacuation of the canal.

He said there should be a balance between an evacuation and shelter, reiterating that shelters would not protect from the full force of thermonuclear explosions.

The officials said nobody knows what the total cost of a shelter program designed to protect residents of major cities would be. They recalled that Peterson said it might be anywhere from 15 to 35 billion dollars.

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ESCAPE CUT OFF Hungary Returns To Stalinist Line

VIENNA (UP)—The Hungarian puppet government returned all the way today to hard line Stalinism.

A government announcement said the cabinet of Premier Janos Kadar had decided not to issue any more passports or exit visas.

At the same time, refugees reported that Russian soldiers were laying minefields again along the Austrian frontier across which 96,000 Hungarians have fled to freedom since Oct. 28.

The new rigid ruling on passports and exit visas represented a return to the inflexible Stalinist line which the East European satellites had hoped was gone forever.

After Stakha's death, the Hungarian government lifted the Iron Curtain for thousands of elderly citizens who had relatives in the West.

The return to the hard line inside Hungary was signalled by the government earlier this week with indications of mass arrests and preparation of show trials for leaders of the rebellion.

A Moscow dispatch today denied news agency reports, not carried by United Press, that the Kadar regime was receiving advice on its new tough line from former Russian Premier Georgi Malenkov. A spokesman in the press department of the Soviet Foreign Ministry in Moscow said the report that Malenkov was in Budapest was "pure fabrication."

Refugees reported the Russian mine-layers most active in the region of Rechnitz, 60 miles southeast of Vienna.

Big Three Meeting
4. Asked about a statement attributed to Sen. Walter F. George (D-Ga) that the retiring chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee expected a meeting between the President, Mollet and British Prime Minister Anthony Eden early next year, Hagerty said, "I haven't got anything on that."

Urges Generosity
After the President's morning in the office, Hagerty had these news announcements:

1. Mr. Eisenhower urged all Americans to contribute generously to a special American Red Cross disaster appeal for \$5 million to aid in emergency relief in Hungary and for Hungarian refugees in Austria.

2. The chief executive called for "organized citizen support" in all states and communities for the accident prevention possibilities of the highway modernization program passed by the last Congress.

3. Hagerty confirmed that Mr. Eisenhower recently sent a personal letter to French Premier Guy Mollet expressing the President's hopes and desires that Franco-American relations would continue in the spirit of friendship and cooperation of the past. Hagerty said the note to Mollet was in response to a message from the Premier congratulating the President on his reelection.

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5. Hagerty said Wednesday that in his opinion the grave Suez Canal crisis had eased materially in the last two weeks. The President's spokesman refused, however, to appraise the recently disclosed shipment of Russian arms into Syria.

Mr. Eisenhower left his luxurious cabin on the edge of the Augusta National Golf Course and went to his temporary office at 8:30 a.m. to receive overnight intelligence reports from his staff secretary, Col. Andrew Goodpastor.

Mideast Boils Near Brink Of War

By DANIEL F. GILMORE
United Press Staff Correspondent

LONDON (UP)—Egypt reported that two "enemy" aircraft strafed Egyptian troops in the Sinai Desert today, and there were increasing signs the uneasy cease fire might explode into a general Middle East war.

Israeli sources accused the Soviet Union of conspiring with Syria to wreck the Baghdad pact and overthrow the government of Iraq. Moscow retorted that Israel was "digging its own grave" by preparing a new conflict in the Middle East.

The threat to the Baghdad pact was so grave that a top level Turkish mission flew to London to seek means of counteracting the rapid buildup of Soviet arms in Syria which Turkey saw as a threat to it and its Baghdad pact partner, Iraq.

Washington was increasingly concerned over shipments of the Soviet arms to Syria.

Act Against England
New Communist inspired riots were reported sweeping Iraq. The official Egyptian press stepped up its offensive against the Baghdad pact with a slashing attack on Pakistan and said that nation was conducting a hostile campaign against Egypt.

In Amman, Jordan, the government announced plans to "start immediately" to break the Anglo-Jordan treaty which for years gave Britain important military bases in that kingdom. Jordanian plans called for ousting all remaining British troops there.

Egyptian Brigadier Amin Hilmy, chief of staff of the Eastern Command, announced the air attacks. He said two planes strafed Egyptian trucks and gun positions in the Sinai Desert 7 miles east of Ismailia, and that two others flew over Ismailia and were driven off by Egyptian anti-aircraft batteries.

He said the air attack was carried out by "enemy" Venoms and Mysteres, British and French built aircraft used by the Israeli Air Force. He said casualties had not been reported.

New Soviet Attack
The Soviet attack on Israel, the second in two days, was printed in the official government newspaper Ivestia. It said Israel was acting as a "pawn and puppet of Anglo-American imperialists" and hinted Israel was preparing to attack Syria and Jordan.

Israeli sources were worried by the belligerent tones of the Moscow statements, following earlier Soviet threats to send "volunteers" to the Middle East. Egypt announced Wednesday night its plea for volunteers still stood.

Norway was heading toward a diplomatic struggle with Egypt over Egypt's refusal to allow trapped Norwegian ships to leave the blocked Suez Canal through a passage cleared in the Port Said area by Anglo-French forces. A Norwegian source said Egypt was clearly violating the international traffic rights on the canal.

Damascus Radio said anti-government riots were sweeping Iraq for the fourth straight day and that 104 Iraqis had been killed in a pro-Communist demonstration in the city of Najaf.

The Syrian broadcast said the demonstrators demanded Premier Nouri El-Said support Egypt in its dispute with Britain, France and Israel. It said the southern Iraqi city of Amara had joined Najaf's strike.

Britain Gets First Oil by Cape Detour

LONDON (AP)—The first Middle East oil to be hauled around the Cape of Good Hope since the closing of the Suez Canal reached Britain Thursday. The tanker was closed arrived at Marseilles last Friday.

The tanker Athina Lusitania unloaded 28,000 tons of crude oil at British petroleum refineries after taking 30 days to make the trip from Kuwait. The trip through the canal usually took from 20 to 23 days.

Meanwhile the gasoline shortage became the biggest topic of conversation in this country which starts rationing on Dec. 17.

Industry is already affected. At least two big automobile manufacturers have cut the work week. There is less money in the pay envelopes of thousands.

Owners of other factories say they may have to shorten the work week, or even close.

Garage owners predicted gasoline will cost three pence (between three and four cents) more a gallon by Christmas. This would be 70 cents or more a gallon for high test.

75 Greyhound Drivers Walk Out in Firing

PORTLAND (UP)—Bus service on Northwest Greyhound lines between Portland and Salt Lake City was disrupted today after drivers walked off their jobs in a dispute over the firing of a driver.

Service on other routes was not affected, Greyhound officials said. Harold Oates, business agent of the Motor Coach Employees Union, local 1055, said other drivers "took it upon themselves" not to work after the company fired a Portland driver. He said the driver had been with the firm 15 years and had never been cautioned, then was fired without warning.

There are approximately 75 drivers on the Portland-Salt Lake City run which goes through The Dalles, Pendleton, La Grande, Baker, Boise, and Twin Falls.

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HARVEY THURLWELL JR.

HEART REPAIR UNSUCCESSFUL Salem Youth Dies In 7-Hour Surgery

Harvey Thurlwell, Jr., 16-year-old Salem youth, who Wednesday underwent a rare heart operation in Seattle, died Wednesday night in surgery, while doctors fought to save his life.

The boy, a spokesman at Virginia Mason Hospital told Associated Press, died at 9:03 p.m., almost seven hours after the difficult surgery was started by Dr. K. Alvin Merendino. The operation never reached the point where full use could be made of a heart-bypass apparatus.

The operation was the second major heart operation for young Thurlwell, who was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey K. Thurlwell, 945 Ratsch Dr. It would have substituted plastic for a part of the heart which had not kept up with the boy's physical growth.

In the first operation, undertaken when Harvey was six years of age, the main artery from his left arm to the heart was rechanneled to boost the oxygen content of his blood, correcting a "blue baby" condition.

To help the boy through surgery, 30 points of rare D-negative blood were sent to Seattle from Salem Wednesday.

This blood was needed to operate a mechanical heart and lung during part of the operation. The operation never reached the stage of full use of the apparatus.

Born in Chicago August 16, 1940, the youth attended school until