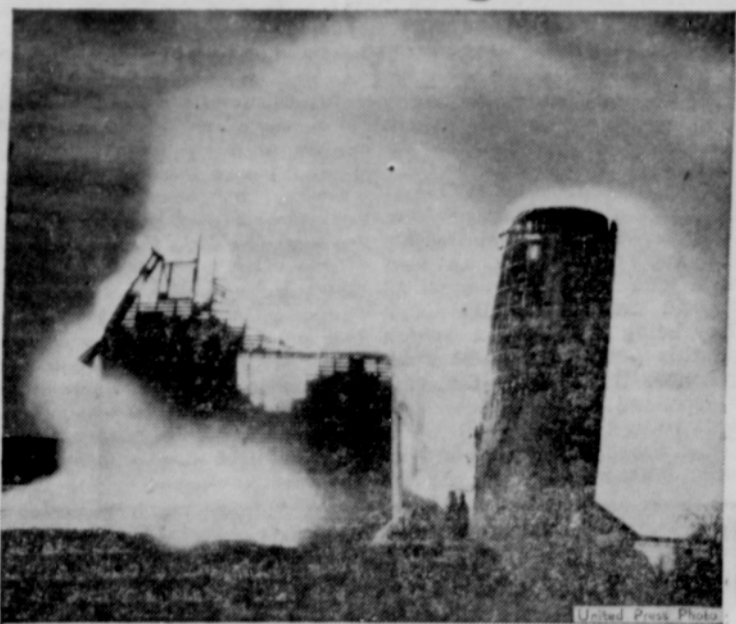


Farm Fire Loss Highest Ever



The highest yearly farm fire loss in U. S. history jumped \$75,000 when this dairy barn and silo burned at Newington, Conn., late last year. Total loss for the year was \$157,000,000, a 13 percent increase from the year before, according to U. S. Department of Agriculture estimates. Farm fires don't have to happen and they can be prevented by common-sense fire prevention measures, says the National Fire Protection Association.

Each year farm fires exact a greater toll of life and property, says the National Fire Protection Association, sponsor of Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 9-15. Fire losses on the farm in 1954 jumped 13 percent over the 1953 figure for a total of \$157,000,000, according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

The majority of last year's farm fires should not have happened, and for farmers who would keep their farms free of fire, the NFPA has this advice:

- 1 — Break the habit of smoking in bed and in danger areas such as barns, sheds, and store-rooms. Smoldering cigarettes and burning matches carelessly thrown aside are to blame for a heavy proportion of U. S. farm fires.
- 2 — Keep furnaces, stoves, space heaters, brooders and other heating equipment clean and in good repair. Dirty or faulty heating equipment is another

major source of farm fires. Have qualified repairmen service heating equipment at least once a year.

3 — Store gasoline, kerosene, and other flammable liquids at least 40 feet from buildings. Underground storage is safest. Tight metal containers are the next best choice. When drawing off small amounts, use only safety cans made for the purpose.

4 — Use fire-resistant building materials, particularly asphalt shingles or other fire-retardant roofing. Most city dwellers are required by building codes to use fire-retardant roofing, but it's up to the farmer to take this precautionary step on his own, the NFPA points out.

5 — Clean up trash, oily rags, accumulated magazines and papers, and dead vegetation in yards and fields, particularly along fence lines. "Don't give a fire a place to start," is the Fire Prevention Week slogan.

Grass Valley

By Mrs. A. F. Balzer

Mrs. Joe Hammond was hostess at a party at her home last Tuesday afternoon honoring her daughters, Rita and Margaret Marie, on their 3rd and 2nd birthday anniversaries, respectively. Guests included their great grandparents Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Wilson of Portland, Mrs. Frank E. Bayer and daughter, Helen, Mrs. Ralph Rust and granddaughter, Marcia Otness and her niece Lila Hubbard from Portland, Mrs. Robert Schilling and children, Neil, Julie and Donna, Mrs. John Reckman and daughter, Alice Ann, Mrs. John Buehler and son Freddie and Robin Olds. The children played out side on the swings and then came in and the girls opened their gifts. Refreshments of decorated birthday cake made like a book with Rita and Margaret on each page, was served with ice cream and punch by the hostess.

Mr. and Mrs. Art Watkins of Wasco, Mrs. Jack Cushman of Moro and Mrs. A. A. Dunlap drove to Prineville Wednesday to visit Mrs. Dunlap's grandson and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Kelly Wilson and the new great grandson, James Bradley, born that day. The baby

weighed 8 lbs and 15 1/2 oz. Other great grandmothers are Mrs. James Dyer of Moro and Mrs. J. M. Wilson of Kent. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Willard Coons of Moro, Mrs. Art Watkins of Wasco and Paul Wilson of Mitchell.

Quite a number of Sherman county people attended the East-West Shrine football game at Pendleton Saturday night. Harold Duncan of Grass Valley and Don Miller of Moro were among the players. Harold received the trophy for the most valuable player. Mrs. Gene Reynolds was hostess at a party at her home Tuesday afternoon honoring her daughter, Debbie, on her 4th birthday anniversary. Those present were her grandmother, Mrs. D. L. Reynolds, Mrs. Frank von Borstel and Mrs. Donald von Borstel and children. Birthday cake, ice cream, favors and punch were served later by the hostess.

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Anderson and their daughter, Mrs. Ruth Gray and daughter of Fergus Falls, Minn., who have been visiting Mr. and Mrs. Duane Anderson and children and Mrs. Christine Fredeen in Portland, were guests Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Alley. Other guests were Mr. and Mrs. William Brinkert and son, Gary, Mr. and Mrs.

Bill Brinkert and Carl Schilling. A picnic dinner was enjoyed on the lawn.

Mr. and Mrs. Gene Reynolds and daughters, Julie and Debbie, went to Portland Sunday to attend the circus with his brother in law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Elliott and family. Sandra Elliott came home with them to spend a week here.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Johnson and family left Wednesday for St. Ignace, Montana to visit his mother, Mrs. Florence Johnson.

Guests of Mr. and Mrs. Tommie Barnett over the weekend were her brother in law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Thornton of Portland.

Carl Schilling with the U. S. Navy arrived last Monday from Maryland to spend his leave with his parents Mr. and Mrs. Art Schilling and other relatives and friends.

Quite a number of Grass Valley people attended the Wasco county fair at Tygh Valley Saturday and Sunday.

Mrs. A. A. Dunlap left Monday for the valley to spend a week visiting relatives and friends.

Don Cox took his nephews, Ronald and Rodney Roberts to Redmond Sunday where they were met by their father, Al Roberts from Corvallis after spending several weeks here with their grand parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Cox.

Frank Olds left Saturday for his home in Milton-Freewater after spending several days visiting Mr. and Mrs. Dell Olds.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Owens and family were in The Dalles last Tuesday evening to visit Mrs. Bertha Matthes and her daughter, Mrs. Case Hamlin and children of

California.

Guests at the John Rust home.

Over the weekend were their son in law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Oran Raven and son from Longview, Washington.

Mr. and Mrs. Hal Gomez and daughter, Suzanne, left Friday for their home in Ely, Nevada after spending several weeks with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Payne.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald von Borstel and family and Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Knott and family enjoyed a picnic dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank von Borstel Sunday.

Miss Lou Bering of Portland arrived last Tuesday and is a guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Donald von Borstel.

Mrs. Kenneth Todd and children, Virginia, Clifford and Carol, were in The Dalles Monday, taking

Clifford down for medical attention.

Mr. and Mrs. James Earl, Mr. and Mrs. Don Earl and family and Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Gooch, drove to Yakima, Wn., Sunday where they met Mrs. James Earl's brother in law and sister, Mr. and Mrs.

F. L. Woods and son, Billy, for a picnic dinner in Sportsman park.

Mrs. Kendrick Dunlap entertained members of her bridge club and guests at her home in Moro Tuesday evening. Cards were in play at two tables with Mrs. Don Smith holding high, Mrs. Frank

Ketter second and Mrs. Herman Peters low. Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Ketter won the grand slam prize. Others present were Mrs. Harry Hooper, Mrs. Joe Bibby, Mrs. Alfred Kock and Mrs. A. F. Balzer. Refreshments were served.

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