

Freakish Weather Puts Shock Into St. Louis Kisses; Florida Shivers

Sunbathers Get Goose Pimples; Crop Damage High

By UNITED PRESS
Prankish weather made kissing shocking in St. Louis and gave Florida sunbathers goose pimples today.

But the strange, static combination of storm, cold, and drought also had its deadly serious side.

Crop losses in frost-bitten Florida mounted to \$25,000,000. A rash of cold weather fires killed seven persons, five of them children, in the Southland. And a major drought threatened the Great Plains.

In St. Louis, where there have been 41 straight days without rain, practically everything and everybody tingled with static electricity.

Couples gave each other shocks when they exchanged kisses and department stores reported another problem—shocking sweaters. The electricity and magnetism made even the baggiest sweaters formfitting, store employees said.

Cold Grips Florida
Florida residents had troubles of a different and more serious sort. Weathermen forecast at least two more days of biting cold, with scattered frost predicted in most farming areas.

Dade county farmers lost 13,000 acres of winter vegetables worth \$10,000,000 and estimated losses on 16,000 acres in Palm Beach and Collier counties rose to \$15,000,000. As a result, prices of tomatoes, corn, squash, beans, and other tender vegetables jumped.

Resort hotel owners also felt the cold's pinch. Any guest who tried to sunbathe was in danger of catching the sniffles and the fact that New England's temperatures were often as warm as Florida's didn't help matters.

Asphyxiation caused by an electric heater was blamed for at least one death in Florida and there was a rash of fatal fires across the chilled Southland.

Rain Slicks Highways
Farther north, ice-slicked highways had been blamed for at least 12 deaths since the start of the week and there was still a deadly mixture of rain, freezing rain, and snow from Maine to northern Alabama and Georgia.

The freakish weather extended across the nation to San Francisco, where a thick, impenetrable ground fog covered the bay area like cotton. Air traffic was disrupted, auto headlights were unable to stab through the white glare, and at least one death was blamed on the fog.

U. S. weather experts said the strange combination of weather was caused by two stagnant storm systems which have been hanging off the Atlantic and Pacific coasts since Sunday. These were coupled with a high pressure system over the plains and Rockies which spread dry, drought-threatening weather.

Election To Fill Douglas Vacancy

Roseburg—(U.P.)—A vacancy in the Douglas County Court will not be filled until the primary elections next May, County Judge Carl Hill said today.

The vacancy was created last Nov. 22 by the resignation of Elmer Metzger, Republican, whose term of office was to expire January, 1957. Metzger's successor, according to Judge Hill, will be the Republican who draws the most votes as a county commissioner candidate in the May primaries.

Quotes From the News

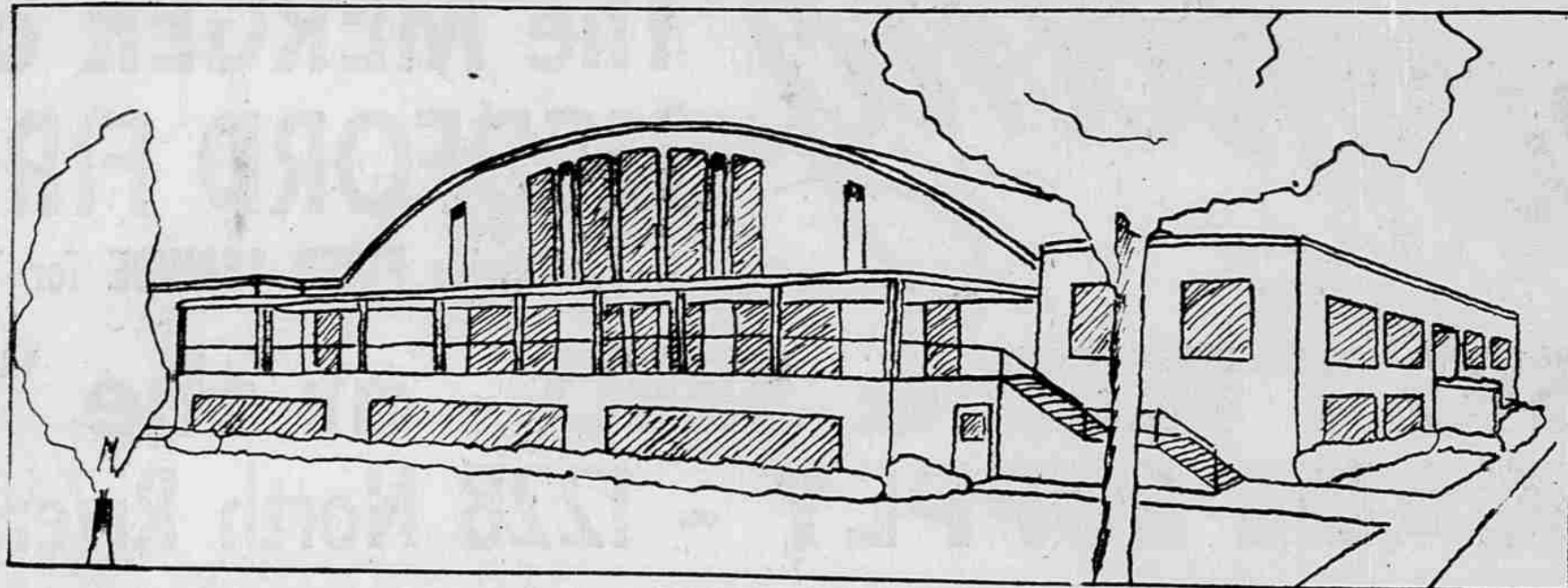
By UNITED PRESS
London—Sir Winston Churchill on Benjamin Franklin's experiments with electricity:
"I do not think they could be done now on the grounds they would be dangerous to human life."

St. Louis Mo.—Marty Marion, manager of the Chicago White Sox, on the city's snapping and popping electricity caused by the record dry spell:
"When the kids are leaving for school in the morning they naturally want to kiss mother and dad goodbye. We found those smacks were pretty startling when we got sparks with them. So now they touch us on the shoulder first. That uncharges them."

Washington—The White House on whether there was a significance to plans to enter President Eisenhower's name in the Illinois presidential primary:
"The President has said that he will make that decision as soon as he feels he can and announce it to the American people. Therefore in the absence of such a decision no citizen should be misled by the absence of comment on the announcement by the governor of Illinois."

Moscow—The Soviet government newspaper Ivestia on the performance of the American folk opera "Porgy and Bess":
"Our American guests showed original art understandable by people of all countries."

Columbus, O.—Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard on the decision of the Ohio Supreme Court to review his conviction for the murder of his wife, Marilyn:
"I had prayed that if the ultimate outcome was to be denied, it would be now rather than later. But now I can't help but be more hopeful."



COLLEGE UNION—From the facelifting and complete renovation of the old Memorial court building on the Southern Oregon college campus in Ashland will emerge the structure shown here as sketched by student artist, Jack Luttrell, from plans by architect R. J. Keeny, A.I.A., of Medford. Renovation is estimated to cost about \$250,000. (See story page 1.)

RUCH-JACKSONVILLE Cub Scout Leaders Needed

By HELGA MITCHELL
Ruch-Jacksonville—"There is a crying need for den mothers," was the recent statement made by Mrs. Wayne Reavis, the sole den mother for Cub Pack 35 of Jacksonville. The Cub Scouts in Mrs. Reavis' den are gradually losing interest because there aren't any other dens in their pack, she said, thus creating a lack of competitive spirit.

For years, Pack 35 has been thriving in all its activities and was keeping many boys happy and occupied. Last summer there started a falling away until now the situation has reached a crisis. The need for Den Mothers is desperate, in view of the many youngsters who are begging to join the Cub Scouts.

Mrs. Reavis has been compelled to refuse admittance to several prospective members, because she is handling just as many boys as is humanly possible. Therefore, an appeal is being made to all the women of Jacksonville who have a few hours to spare for these youngsters, who desire and need the companionship and creative activities of other boys in their age. Those who are interested may contact Mr. Graham by phoning any evening after five, Phone 9-8008. Mrs. Reavis may also be contacted by phoning, 9-8089.

Since the Applegate river spilled over its banks just below Ruch, depositing large amounts of debris in the form of uprooted trees, and logs across Highway 238, it has created quite a bit of activity. The humming of chain saws can be heard; the hustle and bustle of men, women, and children gathering their winter wood can be seen; and the thought comes that there are some practical-minded folks who know how to turn misfortune into an asset and reap its benefits.

Sportsmen of the area are anxiously awaiting the decline and clearing of the Applegate river, forseeing excellent steelhead fishing. There is a two months winter steelhead fishing season open through the months of January and February.

Boyd Gibson, principal of the Ruch school, has announced there will be a play night of basketball and volleyball between the adults of the Applegate and Ruch P.T.A.'s. The men will play basketball and the women volleyball. The purpose of this tentative program is to raise money for the March of Dimes. Donated refreshments will also be for sale to raise additional money for this cause. The play night will be held at the Ruch school on Friday, Jan. 20, at 8 p.m.

Mrs. Fred West reports that due to the storm and high water, the Ruch school had to cancel their Christmas program. After Christmas, they still had all their Christmas candy on hand, which the P.T.A. had prepared. So as not to disappoint the children, they held their Christmas program and party last Friday night, Jan. 6.

The Extension Unit workshop was held at the home of Mrs. Harry Davis recently. The lessons given were on Basket weaving.

Last week, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Nussbaum of Trail and his sister, Mrs. C. A. Day from Lake Creek, visited their mother, Mrs. Margaret Nussbaum, who resides on Highway 238.

Mrs. Clarence Krieger, a former resident of Jacksonville, reports her parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Gregg, returned from a trip to Old Mexico last Saturday. The couple left Medford by car Nov. 3, and traveled over 1,000 miles without having any major mishaps. They also stopped at Tucson, Ariz.

Mr. and Mrs. W. White, who live on the Applegate road between Jacksonville and Ruch, visited their daughter, Mrs. Bertha Porter, and grandchildren in Portland during the holidays. During their stay, their daughter and grandchildren were involved in a landslide, which pushed their station wagon across the street. Their grandson, Clarence Porter, was knocked unconscious in the mishap but fortunately not seriously injured. Unfortunately, Mrs. White contracted the flu while there, thus extending her visit until she was well enough to return home.

Residents of the Applegate area are pleased with the extension and improvement of the telephone service. From all indications it appears that Pacific Telephone and Telegraph company has about completed the work in this vicinity.

68 Persons Visit Chest X-Ray Clinic

A total of 68 persons visited the chest x-ray clinic at Sacred Heart hospital last week, according to members of the x-ray committee of the Jackson county public health association, which operates the clinic in cooperation with the hospital and medical profession.

While pleased with the response to the clinic, the group explained that more than twice the number is necessary if every adult in the county has an x-ray once a year as recommended. Groups of 20 or more who desire special evening hours may make arrangements by telephoning L. O. Boomer, association x-ray chairman, at California Oregon Power company, or the public health association.

The clinic is open at Sacred Heart hospital each Thursday, from 2 to 5 p.m., and replaces the federal mobile unit no longer available.

THIS CHANGING WORLD
North Kingstown, R. I.—(U.P.)—Kingstown Library can use some new volumes. A pre-World War I edition of an encyclopedia used by school children defined uranium as: "A useless metal not found in the United States."

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Sheppard Holds New Hope To Win Prison Freedom

Columbus, O.—(U.P.)—Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard today held new hope to win his freedom following a decision by the Ohio Supreme Court to review his second-degree murder conviction.

The handsome 32-year-old osteopath was convicted of the bludgeoning slaying of his wife, Marilyn, a year ago last December after one of the most sensational murder trials of modern times.

Looking Forward
Although Sheppard admitted to newsmen in an unusual press conference at Ohio penitentiary that he could never again live a "full and normal life," it was obvious he was looking forward to the day when he might rejoin his eight-year-old son, Chip. However, he said he did not

want his son to come and visit him even though it was permitted by prison regulations. "I don't want Chip's picture in the paper," he said, "and I don't want stories about him visiting his father in prison, much as I would love to see him."

Sheppard met with newsmen only a few hours after the Ohio Supreme Court announced its willingness to review the case. The court, after studying the record, will determine whether he gets a new trial or the life prison sentence stands.

Based on "Inner Hope"
Sheppard said he was convinced that "some day" the killer of his wife would confess to the crime. He said this was based on an "inner hope, an inner feeling, not something I

have material knowledge of." His wife, Marilyn was murdered; his father later died, and his mother committed suicide. Chip and Sheppard's two brothers are the only immediate members of his family left.

Sheriff's Deputies Investigate Check

Sheriff's deputies are investigating a report that Mrs. S. C. Kesler, First street, Talent, recently gave a \$16 check to a man who told her was taking church donations.

There was a report of another similar check having been given, but they have no details. The Jackson County Chamber of Commerce reported today it

About 25 Attend Workshop Meeting

About 25 persons attended the first workshop meeting of the Footlighters, local theater group, last night.

The subject of tonight's workshop at the St. Mary's school activities room, will be "pantomime." The workshop starts at 7:30 p.m. and is being conducted by Mrs. Stan Zapell with assistance from Miss Ruth Kilbourne, Frank Buchter, Mrs. Edward C. Kelly and other Footlighter members.

Individual and group demonstrations of wordless acting will be included in tonight's program. Last night theater terms and stage positions were explained as well as audience participation in sample play tryouts.

The workshop, held each Wednesday and Thursday, is open to adults and high school age children who are interested in phases of theater activity, including acting, directing, play writing and technical phases of play production.

Jacksonville, N. C.—(U.P.)—A judge had his day in court Wednesday and it cost him \$25 and costs. A Superior Court jury found Recorder's Court Judge Irby Gill guilty of speeding.

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has received several complaints about personnel of a magazine subscription sales crew operating in Medford, and urged residents to check with the chamber office, telephone 2-6293, before any transaction is made.

The chamber also cautioned residents to be sure they know which church money is going to before making donations.

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