

Recommended

A story on Red Cross rehabilitation work appears on Page 16 of today's Mail Tribune.

MEDFORD

United Press—Full Leased Wire



TRIPINE

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WEATHER

FORECAST—Fog early today; increasing cloudiness with rain this evening. Rain mixed with snow Monday morning with a high today of 45; low tonight 27.

50th Year

24 Pages

MEDFORD, OREGON, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1956

5c

No. 289

President Returns To Capital After Georgia Vacation

Expected to Announce Intentions Next Week

Washington (UP)—President Eisenhower returned Saturday from a rigorous 11-day golfing and hunting holiday in Georgia that may have helped him make up his mind about running for a second term.

After Mr. Eisenhower arrived at the White House, reporters asked Press Secretary James C. Hagerty for an "on the record" statement whether the President had made his second term decision.

Hagerty smiled and said his answer was the same as that in Georgia—"I don't know." He also repeated what he had said previously—"if I did know I would tell you."

Belief that the President will say "yes" to a second term was strengthened by the apparently good health and high spirits in which he ended his vacation. He had planned the holiday deliberately as an arduous physical test of his recovery from his Sept. 24 heart attack.

His physician, Maj. Gen. Howard McC. Snyder, said Mr. Eisenhower was in "very good shape" after three rounds of golf and several day long quail hunting expeditions at Secretary of the Treasury George M. Humphrey's Milestone Plantation near Thomasville, Ga.

He is expected to announce his decision next week, possibly at a news conference tentatively scheduled for Wednesday. Republican leaders here are now all-but-certain that he will consent to seek re-election.

Maul Transferred To Salem Office

Ted Maul, district warden for the state department of forestry, has been promoted and will be assigned to forestry headquarters in Salem next week, it was revealed Friday night.

L. L. Simpson, secretary-manager of the Southern Oregon Conservation and Tree Farm association, reported the change at the Friday evening meeting of the association. It has not yet been formally announced by the state department of forestry.

Maul has been head of the southwest forest district, with headquarters on Table Rock rd., for nearly six years. When he came here he succeeded Frank Hamilton, who also went to Salem in an executive capacity.

Details of his new assignment have not been announced, nor has a Maul's successor been named.

He and his wife and two sons will leave for Salem about the middle of the week.

Roundtable Group to Discuss Fluoridation

Vern Shangle, president of Natural Foods association of Oregon, will discuss on arguments concerning fluoridation of water at the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce roundtable luncheon tomorrow noon at the Jackson hotel.

The second in the series will be held a week from tomorrow, when roundtable officials plan to schedule a speaker to discuss pro arguments on fluoridation.

Roundtable officials pointed out that anyone is invited, whether a chamber member or not. Chamber officials said the chamber has not taken a stand for or against fluoridation.

Sports Bulletins

Accurate, long range shooting and control under the basket gave the Medford High Tornado a 67-54 victory over the Grants Pass Cavemen last night. Bob Tisdell was high for Medford with 20 points.

Crater High school edged Phoenix 55-54 at Central Point last night to win the district basketball 6A2 southern division championship.

Illinois Valley won third place in the tournament by beating Eagle Point 59-53.

while Tom Bernet tallied 28 for the Cavemen.

California 63, Washington 20.

Washington State 69, Stanford 67.

Oregon State 68, Idaho 58.

Tornadoes Strike Mid-West Towns

Belleville, Ill.—(UP)—Tornadoes in the midwest, dust storms in the southwest and violent windstorms in the Ohio valley killed at least 12 persons Saturday.

Hardest hit spot in the nation was Summerfield, Ill., a community of 500 population, where three persons were killed by tornadoes whipping across the Mississippi river from Missouri.

Other stricken towns in Illinois were Belleville, Imbs Station, Centerville, Pinkstaff, Trenton, and Ohio. The Red Cross counted 145 homes destroyed or damaged in the area. The homeless were being housed and fed in a school at Summerfield.

Scores Injured More than a score of persons were injured in the tornadoes and damage ran into millions of dollars.

Two Oklahomans lost their lives in windstorms whipping up blinding dust, two men were drowned when high winds capsize their houseboat near the Missouri-Arkansas state line, and to men were killed during Ohio windstorms.

The midwestern tornadoes unleashed their full fury in Illinois and then rolled into Indiana causing added millions of dollars of damage as they hit Martinsville, Shelbyville, Franklin and Bruceville.

Telephone communications in many Illinois communities were crippled by the storm and an Illinois Bell spokesman said the cables looked like "tangled spaghetti."

The wind picked up a building near Belleville and blew it through heavy telephone cables, knocking out service for more than 2,000 phones. Toll service was cut off or crippled in Collinsville, Breese, Beckmeyer, Germantown, Trenton and Aviston.

At Pinkstaff, Ill., tornadoic winds rolled a family of trailer dwellers for 60 feet without causing injury to any member of the family. The tornadoes were born on winds reaching 80 miles an hour.

Portland (UP)—Some Portland area industries and businesses Saturday faced several days of curtailed service because of a half million dollar fire which damaged the Portland Gas and Coke company's Linton plant Friday night.

The blaze, which knocked out 14 generators at the plant, shut off the heating and cooking gas supply over wide sections of the Portland metropolitan area from Vancouver, Wash., to Salem, Ore. An estimated 60,000 customers were reported affected by the disruption in service.

Hospitals, restaurants, stores, and some other businesses either reduced their services or resorted to other types of fuel.

Home owners affected by the gas shutoff were stockpiling wood and other types of fuel for use in fireplaces and for cooking. Also pressed into use were electric heaters and burners.

The gas company's Linton plant about four miles northwest of Portland is the main supplier of gas to the Portland area. Company officials said it probably would be a week before service is entirely restored to the affected areas, although some service is expected to be restored by Monday.

There has been no definite explanation as to what caused the fire which broke out in the company's generating plant. Firemen were hampered in controlling the blaze by huge clouds of dense black smoke from burning oil spouting from severed lines.

Fifty-five Pacific Gas and Electric company men left San Francisco by chartered plane for Portland Saturday to help repair damage caused by the fire.

Medford Girl Elected FHA Parliamentarian

Corvallis (UP)—The Oregon Future Homemakers of America closed out their 11th annual state convention here yesterday afternoon by naming Colleen Simper, Newport, as new state president. More than 300 high school girls from throughout the state attended the meeting.

Jo McNary, Auroa, was named as vice president and Gay Thompson, Roseburg, and Lola Fisk, Coquille, also were chosen for vice president roles in charge of special projects. Miss Fish will handle the state projects while Miss Thompson will be in charge of public relations.

Other officers named at the meeting were: Joyce Porter, Brownsville, secretary; Kay Corwin, Madras, treasurer; Lois Kelley, Medford, parliamentarian; Sharon Lee Miller, Scappoose, historian; and Cora Ann Swanstrom, Dallas, editor.

David Shaw Visits Medford Thursday

David Shaw, Gold Beach attorney and candidate for the Democratic nomination for representative from the fourth congressional district, spent Thursday in Medford visiting friends.

Shaw, who discussed the coming campaign with local Democrats, is a former instructor at the University of Oregon law school and also former counsel for the national labor relations board.

He plans to return to Medford several times before the May primary, according to Attorney Robert Duncan.

Solons Seek Quick Action Leading to Flood Control Here

Morse, Neuberger Ask Survey Speed Up

Oregon's two senators, Richard L. Neuberger and Wayne L. Morse, Saturday called for a speeding up of efforts to survey the flood damage caused in the Rogue River valley by the late-December and late-February floods.

In a joint letter they called upon the chairmen of the Senate interior and public works committees for assistance in obtaining quick action leading toward flood control.

The letter said: "Twice within the last three months, the Rogue River valley in Oregon has been subjected to serious floods which forced people from their homes and inflicted great suffering and property damage. For several years the department of interior's bureau of reclamation and the Army corps of engineers have started and stopped various plans for flood control and other purposes in the Rogue River valley."

"The bureau of reclamation had a basin plan known as 'Plan A.' According to published newspaper reports, the secretary of the interior has directed the abandonment of 'Plan A.' The corps of engineers, according to the most recent printed report of the North Pacific division engineer (January 1955), has had an authorized survey for the Rogue river and its tributaries which has not been reported. According to that report the contemplated survey was designed primarily to supplement the bureau of reclamation plan."

"The time is long overdue for decisive action upon a plan for flood control in the Rogue River basin which may also include other multi-purpose features. However, there has been no indication from the executive departments as to what action is contemplated, and we are concerned lest the bureau and the corps continue their inaction to the expectation and hope that the other agency will get under way."

"It is for these expert agencies to provide proposals for consideration by the people of the area and the congress. We therefore urge that the interior and public works committees schedule joint hearings at which both the corps and the bureau are called upon to present their plans, if any, for meeting the flood control needs of the basin, and to work out jointly a coordinated plan as speedily as possible."

"The floods in December and during this past week demonstrated that nature will not wait."

Peron To Be Forced Out of Panama Hotel

Washington (UP)—The State department announced Saturday it has taken steps to force former Argentine dictator Juan D. Peron to leave the government-owned Hotel Washington in the Panama Canal zone.

The action came after several congressmen protested against permitting the ousted Argentine president to live in the hostelry.

Crater Lake Staff Submits Statistics Concerning Average Annual Snowfall, Which Totals 622 Inches

Editor's Note: The following letter from Tom Williams, superintendent of Crater Lake National Park is in connection with Eugene Burns' column, "Is That So," which appears in the Mail Tribune. The column concerned snowfall at Tamarack, Calif.

"Dear Sir: "After reading Eugene Burns' column 'Is That So?' in your Feb. 13 issue, the staff of Crater Lake National Park thought you'd be interested in some statistics about snow that falls in their back yards."

"Mr. Burns states that 'on the windward slopes of the High Sierra—the greatest American snowfalls are recorded.' We don't want to argue the case and are not in a position to, but if the figures cited for Tamarack, Calif. are purporting to be the heaviest in the land, then you will be interested, and I am sure Mr. Burns would be too, to know that any time Crater Lake's seasonal snowfall drops as low as Tamarack's average 451 inches, we start worrying about early forest fires and the Rogue Valley ranches and fishermen are concerned about water storage and stream runoff."

"Crater Lake's average annual snowfall is 622 inches, or almost 52 feet, and at no time since weather records have been kept there has the annual snowfall dropped as low as Tamarack's 451 inches."

"Admittedly, Tamarack has us bested for record depth—by their 348 inches in 1906. But then, we don't know how deep the snow got at Crater Lake in 1906. Maybe 1906 was the 'winter of the big snow'—maybe in 1906 we had greater snow depth than our 1952 record of 218 inches or 18 feet, two inches."

"Tamarack's all time record of 884 inches that fell during the winter of 1906-07 has Crater Lake's record beat by 5 inches—our record year was 1932-33 when 879 inches (73 feet, 3 inches) fell."

"We have been unable to determine it, but we think that our community of 17 families (48 people) is subjected to greater snowfall than any occupied community in the United States."

"As a matter of interest, snowfall on Mt. Olympus in Olympic National Park, Wash., probably exceeds any or all United States snowfalls. No records are available, but water run-off records indicate somewhere in the neighborhood of 250 feet of precipitation falls there yearly, and most of it in the form of snow. It is safe to say Mt. Olympus gets more than 100 feet of snow annually—probably nearer 200 feet!"

"Mr. Burns says Yellowstone National Park is snowbound longer than any other place (excluding mountain peaks), having snow on the ground fully half of the year. We aren't bragging about it—in fact, we are ready at times to complain—but our snows usually start in October—and we have to put snow plows on double shift to get roads and campgrounds open by July 4th!"

"Having gone this far with Mr. Burns' article, we may as well jump on another statement. He says that during this month

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Jackson, Josephine Declared Disaster Areas by Governor

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The request, second in less than three months, was made because of damage to public properties including roads caused by local flooding conditions last week. The judge estimated that damage from last week's high water would be as great, if not greater, than that from the December floods.

Water Over Roads Last week's damage was caused largely by local run-off water, as the Rogue river barely reached flood stage. But massive sheets of water covered hundreds of miles of county roads last week, and the damage will be tremendous, county sources indicated, with the worst occurring in Josephine county.

Meanwhile, Gov. Elmo Smith declared both counties disaster areas Friday, and sent a telegram to President Eisenhower asking for \$280,000 in federal funds for flood relief assistance.

The figure was based on reports by state and federal civil defense agency officials who spent Wednesday and Thursday in the area.

Gov. Smith's wire to President Eisenhower said: "As a result of extremely heavy rains on Feb. 20-21 on top of the disaster conditions resulting from the Dec.-Jan. floods and storms in Jackson and Josephine counties in southern Oregon an emergency exists creating a disaster area."

"Conditions have resulted in hardship and suffering so severe to the people of these two counties that federal assistance is required."

"More than 250 homes have suffered from slight to major damage. Damage to irrigation systems exceeds \$200,000, and the damage to roads and bridges exceeds \$80,000. This is to assure you that all available state, county, and local funds are or will be committed for the purpose."

"I suggest that \$280,000 be allocated to the state of Oregon from funds available under authority of public law 875 to assist the state and local effort, and such additional personnel, equipment and material as is deemed necessary."

Washington (UP)—President Eisenhower allocated \$250,000 to the state of Washington today for federal assistance in flood-damaged areas.

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There was a deep powdery surface snow, and the rangers said that the road from park headquarters to the lake rim would be closed today. Highway 62 from Union Creek to the park was closed yesterday. It was not known whether the route would be open today.

Snow depth at the lake was 186 inches yesterday morning, two inches deeper than on the same date in 1952 which was the record snow year at Crater Lake. The depth compared to 78 at the same time last year.

Skiing conditions were poor yesterday because of the deep powder. The ranger's office said that skiing would not be permitted where there are avalanche possibilities and stressed that such conditions "do exist." Garfield slope, most popular ski site in the park, was such a danger spot.

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