

# MORE FIGHTING FLARES ALONG GAZA STRIP

## Adequate Water Assured for Summer Season

Portland—(U.P.)—Every major river basin, valley and upland meadow in Oregon will have plenty of water for a bountiful growing season this year, according to a report of statewide water conditions issued today by the United States Soil Conservation Service and the Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station.

W. T. Frost, who supervises snow surveys for both agencies, said even those Oregon agricultural areas that were hard-pressed for water last year will have ample supplies.

He said an above average snow pack, coupled with the wettest watershed soils observed in many years, assured better than usual late summer stream-flow throughout the state.

Frost reported that the snow cover above 5000 feet is 130 per cent of the 15-year average. Below that level the snow cover is 173 per cent of the average. In western and southwestern Oregon the snow cover has decreased at only the lower elevations while normal to above normal increases have occurred at the median and high elevations the past month.

Frost said snow cover in the major river basins ranges from 170 per cent of average in the Willamette basin to 91 per cent of average in the Owyhee basin. He predicted that April through September flows of streams in 12 major Oregon basins would rank in the top 10 per cent highest flows for that period in their historical record.

They are streams in the Malheur, Burnt, Imnaha, Grande Ronde, John Day, Deschutes, Hood, Willamette, Umpqua, Rogue, Klamath, and Warner Lake basins.

The only worry, Frost said, was that the snowpack melt could be carried off in an orderly manner. Many areas reported they would use the bonus water to build reservoir reserves for next year or would cultivate marginal lands not normally in production.

## Both Sides Agree To Immediate Order For Cease Fire

### Initial Barrage Blamed on Egyptians

Jerusalem, Israeli Sector — (U.P.)—New fighting broke out early today on the Gaza Strip between Israeli and Egyptian troops. But a United Nations spokesman said each side had agreed to an immediate cease fire.

Israel said Egyptian artillery opened up a 8 a.m. (10 p.m. PST) on an Israeli unit in Kissufim, a key Israeli communications center astride the Gaza frontier, and spread an hour later to the Be'eri Sector, six miles north.

An Egyptian spokesman charged in Cairo that Israeli units opened fire first. Observers Move In

Casualties were not announced in today's second round which again brought the threat of all out war to the Middle East.

A U.N. spokesman said both Egypt and Israel agreed to accept U.N. cease fire orders this morning and that all was quiet along the strip. He said 15 truce observers were sent to the front lines and that U.N. headquarters in New York was being kept informed.

The emergency was so grave that Maj. Gen. E. L. M. Burns cancelled a trip to Rome where he had planned to meet U.N. Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold leaves New York today on an urgent peace-seeking mission.

Flagrant Breach Charged

Burns cabled Hammarskjold he would await him at the "Hill of Good Counsel" overlooking the Israeli-Jordan no man's land outside Jerusalem.

A spokesman for the Israeli Foreign Office condemned the new Gaza Strip fighting as a flagrant breach of the armistice and accused Egypt of trying to keep tension in the war-threatened sector at the boiling point.

Israel reported the new fighting only a few hours after the United Nations had brought an end to day-long fighting in the Gaza Strip that Egypt said killed 42 persons and wounded 110 others Thursday.

Third GD Topic Is French Crisis

The present French crisis in North Africa and its relation to the United States will be considered next week in the third topic of the Great Decisions series, "What U.S. Policy for North Africa?"

A condensation of the fact sheet on the topic will appear in Sunday's issue of the Mail Tribune and the problem will be discussed on radio and TV programs and in other groups throughout the week.

Broadcasts relating to the program will be heard on KTYC from 6 to 6:30 p.m. Saturday; KMED, 9 to 9:30 p.m. Sunday; and KWIN in Ashland from 8 to 8:30 p.m. Monday. The weekly television program is Tuesday from 2:30 to 2:45 p.m.

The Great Decisions program brings information on foreign affairs, disseminated through press, radio, television and written material, for use in informal discussion.

The organization committee is headed by Medford Attorney Don Hansen.

Installation Starts On Bartlett, Main

Installation of an eight-inch water main on Bartlett st., from Main st. to Fourth and on Fourth st. to Front st. began today by city crews.

The project is largely for increased fire protection, according to Robert L. Lee, assistant water superintendent. Three new fire hydrants will be included in the improvement.

City Manager Robert Duff said that the city hopes the public and business operators will "be tolerant" of the inconvenience, because the new main will help Medford's fire situation and improve the city's fire rating.

## Smith Outlines Tax Formula

Salem—(U.P.)—A five-point tax formula was outlined here today by Gov. Elmo Smith.

The governor, who predicted his formula would gain the support of the people, was the luncheon speaker at a tax clinic sponsored by Oregon Chamber Executives and Oregon Tax Research.

Explaining that he did not expect any tax to meet all of his suggested fundamentals, Gov. Smith added that a worthwhile tax program must incorporate taxes which in total come closest to satisfying these standards:

1. Any tax program adopted must conform with the concept of equality of taxes held by the people of Oregon. This is particularly true in Oregon where the people can and do participate in the legislative processes.
2. Our tax system must raise enough money to meet demands for service placed upon the state by the people.
3. It must be flexible enough to produce revenues under varying economic conditions.
4. It should be convenient—as convenient as any tax is—for the taxpayer and economical for the government to administer.
5. Our taxes should in no way hinder the growth or development of our state.

"Those who feel that drastic tax reduction is necessary must recognize that this can be done only if we are willing to eliminate services," the governor added.

Biggest Business

"Government services are the biggest business in Oregon," the governor said. "The state oper-

Organization of Bar Group Completed

Organization of the Jackson County Bar association was completed by local lawyers at a noon meeting yesterday.

Previously, attorneys here have belonged to the State and Southern Oregon Bar associations. The new group supplements these, and is for lawyers in Jackson county only. Members feel the organization will enable attorneys to meet their needs in this immediate area more effectively.

Paul Haviland was elected president at the meeting at the Rogue Valley Country club; Bob Duncan was named first vice president; W. G. Kellington second vice president; James Main secretary, and Kent Blackhurst treasurer.

Constitution and by-laws of the association were adopted by the 33 members attending.

Moore Endorsed by Labor Council Here

The Medford Central Labor council Wednesday night endorsed District Judge Rawles Moore as a candidate for reelection in the coming election.

ates among other things a vast highway system, finances a major portion of our educational system, provides a variety of agricultural services, protects the public health and administers a broad program of public welfare. Which of these, and the dozens of other functions of our state government, can we safely discontinue?"

Salem—(U.P.)—State Sen. Leo V. Ohmart of Salem predicted today that the Legislature Interim Committee on Taxation would recommend repeal of the 45 per cent surtax on personal income in Oregon.

He told the Oregon Tax clinic, attended by about 300 interested legislators and tax organizations, that he believed some sort of a sales tax would be recommended as a substitute.

Ohmart made it clear that repeal of the surtax would depend upon finding an adequate alternate source of income for the state. He said he regarded the surtax on incomes as unfair.

Employment Takes Upturn in County; Outlook Said Good

Good weather during the latter part of March caused a considerable upturn in employment in Jackson county, according to John J. Patton, manager of the Medford employment office.

Most of the increase, Patton said, was because regular lumber industry crews, which were laid off during bad winter weather, were recalled. New hiring increased slightly, he added.

Non-agricultural job placements increased 63 per cent over February, while agricultural placements remained the same, Patton said.

Estimated Unemployment

Unemployment as of March 31 was estimated at 1,720 including 300 women. The total is 19 per cent below February, and 9 per cent below the same period in 1955, Patton said. New claims for unemployment compensation dropped sharply because of good weather.

New applications for work last month totaled 397 compared to 234 in February and 363 in March, 1955. New claims filed at the local office numbered 566 last month, 737 in February and 700 in March, 1955.

Patton said the outlook for employment this summer is good. "Agriculture and construction both appear to be headed for a big season," he noted.

The local office is completing the annual program of aptitude testing in Jackson county high schools, Patton said. The senior class this year includes several who will be looking for permanent job opportunities, he said, and employers are invited to contact the local office for assistance in securing graduates.

## Ike To Ask Boost In Appropriations For Defense Items

Guided Missiles, Aircraft Listed

Washington—(U.P.)—President Eisenhower will ask Congress soon to boost defense appropriations for "critical items" such as guided missiles and aircraft, congressional sources said today.

The amount of the anticipated request was not revealed. But some informed sources said they expect it to be "quite large."

The disclosure follows Democratic criticism that the administration has been lagging in the weapons development race with Russia.

Breakdown Asked

At a recent hearing of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Chairman Richard B. Russell (D-Ga.) asked the Air Force to furnish a breakdown on what use it would make of an extra \$1,500,000,000 if Congress should vote it.

The Air Force has not yet replied, the committee said.

Sen. Leverett Saltonstall (R-Mass.) Senate Republican whip and ranking GOP member of the Armed Services group, and Sen. James H. Duff (R-Pa.) another committee member, conferred at the White House Wednesday with President Eisenhower on military matters, including the guided missile program.

Adequacy Questioned

Neither, however would divulge details of the subjects covered.

Democratic members of the House Military Appropriations Subcommittee and some senators have questioned the adequacy of the administration's defense budget.

The subcommittee has been holding closed hearings on President Eisenhower's defense program.

ICC Sets Meeting On Shipping Order

Washington—(U.P.)—The Interstate Commerce Commission has scheduled a meeting Monday to reconsider controversial car service order 910, an informed source said today.

## 'Common Sense' in Board Size Ruling Expected by FHA

Portland—(U.P.)—Federal Housing Administration spokesmen indicated today its officers would use "common sense" in enforcing a new rule which has resulted in many boards now manufactured by the lumber industry not conforming to FHA standards.

A slim 1/32 of an inch was the difference.

The order said that all boards marked three-fourths of an inch under a newly-adopted West Coast Lumber Inspection Bureau's rule failed to meet standards. FHA rules call for 25/32 inch boards in lumber used for sheathing of walls and subflooring.

Charles A. Bowser, assistant commissioner in charge of underwriting for the FHA, said in Washington, D.C., he saw little cause for alarm. He said he expected field inspectors would "use common sense" in enforcing the memorandum.

Ruling Worded Loosely

He added he believed the ruling was worded loosely enough to provide loopholes which regional officers could cut to fit local situations. The notice said that American Lumber Standards must be complied with unless revised "or at least until a majority of the industry agrees on some other standard thickness."

Home builders here conferred with mortgage and FHA officials and an official said afterwards the situation probably would be taken up on the national level.

Legal Right

Leonard Mayfield, city school superintendent, who was unaware of the situation until after the boys had left the school campus for downtown, chuckled somewhat ruefully and admitted the boys have a "legal" right to wear what they want as long as it is within the limitations of decency. But he explained the schools' efforts have been to educate youngsters to the commonly accepted proprieties and customs. He said it is the same as their attempts to discourage girls from wearing slacks and shorts to school.

Four spokesmen for the boys appeared at the Mail Tribune office at mid-morning, protesting the first ruling of the school authorities, but they came back about noon to explain the matter had been settled. They agreed their plan to wear shorts, developed during the week with no word to school authorities, might not have been the way to go about it.

Conform With Standards

And they said they're willing to go along with the bermuda shorts standards suggestion, and to conform other accepted standards of dress otherwise. They said they would be willing to see that this is carried out.

The spokesmen were Kenneth Taplett, son of Mrs. Lane Taplett, 919 Dakota st.; John Bellack, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Bellack, 1475 Crater Lake ave.; David Bosworth, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Bosworth Jr., 2425 East Main st., and Ed Reinking, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Reinking, 1409 Kings highway.

## Bermuda Shorts Result in Minor Dispute at High School Today

About 30 Medford High School boys showed up for school this morning wearing bermuda shorts.

At 9 a.m., after some discussion between spokesmen for the boys and school authorities, they were asked to leave to get into more conventional garb.

Instead, they moved in a group into downtown Medford, enlisting support for their "cause"—that of comfortable dress on a beautiful spring day.

Other Conferences

As the morning wore on, there were other conferences with school authorities, a decision on policy, and an agreement on an accepted standard of springtime dress. The dispute died down and things got back to normal.

In the future, boys can wear bermuda shorts so long as they conform to accepted standards for that type of informal garb, it was agreed between the students and the school authorities. There will be no "extremes," they agreed, either as to the length of the shorts or as to other garments.

During the morning discussions, the slightly-embarrassed school authorities, half-way sympathetic with the boys, pointed out, however, that it is their endeavor to persuade students to avoid the extremes of non-conventional dress, since they are distracting to the educational process. They also explained that they don't want to make any hard-and-fast rules about clothing, but that if the situation had been approached a bit differently, the initial confusion could have been avoided. The boys agreed.

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## County Polio Fund Drive Sets Record

Jackson county residents set an all-time record in contributions to the March of Dimes campaign last January, it was announced today by Aubrey Loper, campaign treasurer.

Loper's report showed total contributions for the fight against polio totaled \$37,849.35. Campaign expenses were \$829, which left a net of \$37,020.35. Each year since the first March of Dimes drive in 1935, Jackson county has exceeded its previous year's collections. The 1956 drive exceeded last year's efforts by \$3,826.43. Jerry Lausmann, Medford, was chairman of the county campaign, which was sponsored by the Medford Lions club.

50 Per Cent Retained

Of the net amount, \$18,510.18 will remain in the county to care for local cases while the other 50 per cent has been sent to the headquarters of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, where it will be used in the Foundation's patient care program, research and education.

Medford set the pace for collections in the 14 county areas with a total of \$21,220.41. Ashland was next with \$6,562.71, which was a MOD record for that city.

Collections in other towns were Central Point \$1,997.26; Eagle Point \$1,224.87; Camp White \$409.88; Phoenix \$1,143.01; Applegate \$435.51; Butte Falls \$458.69; Gold Hill \$627; Jacksonville \$529.51; Rogue River \$2,023.54; Shady Cove-Trail \$443.22; Talent \$467.97 and Prospect \$305.83.

Medford's largest fund-raising effort was the Crater Lions club's television auction which brought in \$5,309.37. Second in line was the Mothers' March which raised \$4,407.72. Total amount raised by the Mothers' March in the county was \$5,805.24.

Man Sentenced to Prison Term Today

Leon A. Hurd, 24, Yakima, Wash., was sentenced in circuit court this morning to four years in the state penitentiary for burglary.

Hurd previously pleaded guilty. He was arrested by sheriff's deputies on March 26.

Red Hot Lava Flow Creeps Down Mt. Etna

Catania, Sicily—(U.P.)—A smoking red hot stream of lava crept 3000 feet down the side of Mount Etna today in the second day of the volcano's eruption.

The lava coursed alongside the hardening mass that gushed from the volcano last month. It appeared headed for the same uninhabited valley where the last eruption petered out.



SPRING IS HERE—The high school boys shown above strolling along Main st. in downtown Medford were among about 30 who showed up in bermuda shorts at school this morning, with no advance warning to school authorities, and who were at first asked to change to more customary garb. After some confusion and misunderstanding, the boys and the school officials got together on a plan which will allow the boys to wear the shorts as long as they go along with commonly-accepted standards of bermuda dress. (Bermuda shorts it was explained, should come within an inch of the knee.) By noon, after the boys' forays into downtown Medford, the matter was settled, pretty much to everyone's satisfaction.

—(Landis-Shangle photo)

## Weather

FORECAST: Variable high cloudiness tonight and Saturday. Low tonight 32. High Saturday 65.

Temp. Highest Yesterday 60. Lowest this Morning 30.

Two Tornadoes in Texas; Heavy Rains Douse South

By UNITED PRESS

Tornadoes returned to the Southwest on the heels of one of the most devastating twister barrages in the nation's history.

A tornado damaged from 150 to 200 homes at Bryan, Tex., yesterday, but there were no deaths or injuries. Police said probably the reason was that it was a rooftop twister which never did "get right down to the ground."

Another tornado funned was sighted above Port Arthur, Tex., but apparently did not touch the ground. Up to four inches of rain doused the state and four persons were killed when their car crashed on a rain-slicked highway.

In Bryan, the twister tore the roofs off homes and demolished two warehouses.

Heavy rains included 2.65 inches at Shreveport, La.; 2.72 at Jackson, Miss.; and 2.24 at Birmingham, Ala., and 2.24 at Jackson, Miss. Wintry weather returned to the West, bringing in one to three inches of snow to the central Rockies.

In the northern Midwest, floods posed the major weather threat.