

Cloud Seeding Experiments Due By Forest Service

By A. ROBERT SMITH
Mail Tribune Correspondent
Washington—The Forest Service will soon start experiments in cloud seeding to see if it can reduce the number of forest fires touched off by lightning.

Each year lightning starts more than 6,000 fires in western forests, according to Forest Service surveys. In the national forests of the Pacific Coast states, lightning accounts for about 42 per cent of all forest fires.

The foresters have determined to attack the problem with the latest scientific equipment. They have acquired a specially built mobile radar unit which is now being hauled to Coconino National Forest in Arizona, where the tests will be conducted.

Radar will be employed to detect approaching electric storms, track their courses and analyze them for later study. Some of the clouds in the storms will be seeded with chemicals and others will not—and radar will assist in comparing the results of the seeding by comparing what happens to each storm cloud.

Cloud seeding will be on an exploratory basis only. Silver iodide will be used, being projected from a ground generator into ascending air currents or from an airplane. The chemical crystals foster formation of ice crystals, which in turn is expected to affect the lightning potential of storm clouds.

Motion picture cameras mounted on fire lookout towers will record the life cycle of lightning storms.

While experiments have been underway for the past three years on lightning-caused fires, this is the first time the Forest Service has used radar in forest fire control. The unit was installed on a truck trailer adapted for this special purpose by the U.S. Weather Bureau.

ROLLER COASTER RIDE

Washington (U.P.)—Mohammed Guntur Sikarno, 12-year-old son of President Sukarno of Indonesia, had a ride on a roller coaster Friday. Patricia and Julie Nixon, daughters of Vice President Richard Nixon, played host to the young Indonesian at nearby Glen Echo Amusement Park.

More than 6,000,000 germs can be carried by the common house fly.

Pickin' Pears

News and Notes From Camp White

By BILL HURN
Saturday, May 12, VA Employees association sponsored its first program of this season's officers at Employees club building with a white elephant party. The program was for both children and adults. Featured acts were the dunking mermaids, Joan McCreedy of special services and Carolyn Vincent of Domiciliary; musical cake-walk and other games with proceeds from entry fees going to the VAEA activity fund.

Bowling trophies were awarded. The team prize went to Charles Gould's team. Bob and Vera Findley copped the individual high averages for the men and the women's groups.

Refreshments of hot dogs, popcorn, coffee and pop were served.

A pot-luck dinner is planned for June.

American Legion auxiliary 15 of Medford entertained Monday afternoon at Recreation hall with games, candy and cigarettes. Dorothy Gifford, president, Gloria Minnet, Ruth Freed, Theresa Bebb and Minnie Bryant were on the committee.

The May Veterans Administration volunteer service meeting was held in the newly renovated bridge room of recreation area building 218 on Monday, May 14.

F. J. Glonning, chief of special services, presided, welcoming and introducing visitors and new staff and committee members. He reviewed the month's activities of accomplishments of VAVS, outlined the agenda to be considered at this meeting and reported the donation credits of contributing organizations.

H. Jaffrey, assistant manager, gave a resume of his trip to Washington, D.C., where he was a speaker at the Walter Reed Medical center there before the sessions of the Interagency Committee on Training and Education of Federal Hospital administrative personnel. He also presented an outline of Camp White domiciliary new developments completed and surveyed needs now under consideration and progress.

Four wards are now fully equipped, and back in use and the progress on the park project of the area between the buildings and the highway extending from the entrance past the ball park was reported. Announcement of a budget increase raising the quota from 820 to 860 members was given.

Tours of inspection of the facility by VA field staff during the recent weeks along the lines of the developments were cited. Of immediate local importance to the VAVS group were projects for linen chair backs for

the 514 dining room chairs. On the dining room chair suggestion, volunteer response made by the ladies present provided for 250 or practically half of the needed number.

Introduction of individual departmental staff officials and new officers was made by Glonning.

Dr. Wallace J. Planka, chief medical officer, reviewed medical procedure of admission, medical planning and rehabilitation services for each domiciliary member.

Chaplain Lawrence Eskay spoke in observance of the 10th anniversary of the National Catholic Community service group and recited its accomplishments.

Herbert Daniels, chief of social services, spoke of the workings of Social Service Emergency fund for members aid.

Loren Dover, registrar, reported on his duties in this newly established post at Camp White.

Chaplain Feller, Miss Grace M. Stuhr, chief nurse, Mrs. Ila R. Evans, librarian, Mrs. Sue Vincent, fiscal division, Mrs. Enid Brown, secretary to Ricker, Clarence Bryan, canteen officer, R. H. Ruffin, chief domiciliary officer, H. J. Heitkamper, personnel officer, and Walter Lee, supply officer, were introduced.

Ruffin spoke of possibility of change of the hour for funeral services from 9 to 9:30 a.m. and it was voted to do so. Mrs. Marian Cech of Gold Star Mothers, reported on the floral fund; Lee outlined the modernization program to be submitted later.

Under consideration of new business, George Perry of VFW, was added to the Park committee. Plans for the Memorial day observance were presented.

Acknowledgment were expressed by Glonning of appreciation for the success of the VAVS anniversary observance week. The souvenir program of National headquarters observance was circulated.

E. K. Ricker, manager, and Mrs. Ricker, and Burton R. Sims, chief engineer, with Mrs. Sims arrived at the meeting after meeting Glenn Stevens, director of engineering service, department of medicine and surgery from Washington on his first visit to Oregon and this facility, who spoke to the group.

Dave Frisch, member in charge of the Jig-Saw puzzle room in building 218 was introduced and invited the guests to visit his department. Those doing so were presented with souvenir landscape scenes of completed puzzles glued to the discarded cartons collected by members.

Red Cross was in charge of recreation at the infirmary Wednesday. Gray ladies Mrs. Lillian Salade, Mrs. Martin Luther and Mrs. Amee Deuel entertained.

Bill Keizer, service officer of Central Point American Legion Post 129, sponsored an open air concert of the Central Point Junior high 120 piece band Wednesday under the direction of Harry Meyers. Presentation of the group was by F. J. Glonning, chief special services, whose staff handled arrangements.

Mrs. Ila R. Evans, librarian, was hostess for a travel talk on Mexico Wednesday at the library by Mel Krows of Medford. Mr. and Mrs. Krows made a seven week, 6,000 mile auto tour along the west coast from Nogales to Mexico City and back via the east route to El Paso. A question and answer period with the 50 members attending supplemented his talk.

Blue Star Mothers of Grants Pass spent Wednesday with their adopted proteges of Ward one, Section A. The morning was spent in sewing, visiting and letter-writing with games, ice cream with cookies in the afternoon. Mrs. Francis Wilson, Mrs. Martha Erlitz, Mrs. Bessie Gentry, Mrs. Ruth Harmon and Mrs. Edna McKenzie comprised the visiting group.

Navy Mothers of America 46 of Medford held a 25 table card party in the theater Wednesday. The ladies brought a full delegation of partners for the card-players consisting of Mesdames Myrtle Coggins, Laura Wicker, Doris Davies, Anna Kuhl, Lola Ludwig, Ann Rogers, Irene Stelle, Josie Hober, Fern Bean, Elsa Walker, Elsie Alexander, Nellie Gibson, Mabel Nickelson, Velma Showers, Ann McCormick, Ida Ireland, Minnie Colver, Edith Orton and as their guests Mr. and Mrs. Linn Elliott.

Dead line for Sunday Classified is at noon Saturday.



Harlan L. P. Wendell

Rotary Club Slates Talk by Du Pont Man

Harlan L. P. Wendell, manager of the Pacific district of the Du Pont public relations department extension division, will address members of the Medford Rotary club Tuesday, May 22.

Wendell, who has spoken to more than 200 service clubs throughout the Pacific coast area, will tell the story of American progress and point out factors which create progress. He will show examples how Americans have "unlocked the door" to production.

Twenty-seven of the officers and 36 directors of the state's trade association for motels, resorts and trailer parks, representing all counties in Oregon, attended the session.

Authorities Study Students' Charges

Orange, Calif. (U.P.)—Chapman college authorities are investigating two Panama exchange students' charges that they were ordered to move from their apartment because they are "colored."

The students, Mavis Peart, 26, and Eunice Mason, 20, both of Panama City, Panama, said Friday the owner of the apartment, Dr. E. V. Lewis, made the order on the ground that he received complaints from other tenants.

The women said Lewis told them other tenants complained they "did not want to live in the same building with Negroes." The girls quoted Lewis as saying "it would be better all around if you left."

It was less than five miles away in another section of Orange county that Olympic diving champion Sammy Lee was refused a home because of his Korean ancestry. Lee, however, moved to nearby Anaheim where residents welcomed the former major and his wife.

Tourist Promotion Plan Is Adopted

Directors of the Oregon Motor Court association from the state adopted a five-year tourist promotion program at a board meeting in Portland last Monday and Tuesday.

The program was proposed by a committee of which Ed Bolt, Gold Hill, is chairman. The committee suggested a meeting of all business interests of the state to examine the value of the tourist dollar and to plan for the development of a comprehensive public relations program for Oregon as a vacation land.

Objectives of the program are to bring more out-of-state travelers and vacationists to Oregon; to encourage out-of-state tourists to spend more vacation time in Oregon; and to inspire Oregonians to spend more vacations, holidays and week ends within the state.

First step in reaching these objectives, the association pointed out, will be to conduct a large scale survey of present tourist promotion efforts. The survey will be conducted on a regional, state, sectional, community and individual basis.

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Robert Sager

American Becomes Japanese Citizen

Tokyo (U.P.)—A 33-year-old former American soldier who fought against the Japanese in World War II disclosed Saturday he has become a naturalized Japanese citizen.

Robert Sager, 33, of Bradley, Mich., said he got his final papers May 7. He is the first American to be granted Japanese citizenship since the end of the war.

Sager fought the Japanese in the Philippines and New Guinea. He came to Japan with the occupation forces in October, 1945, and decided he liked it.

He went to the United States and completed his college education in Portland, Ore., and then returned to Japan in 1952 to stay. He is married to a Japanese girl and they have a young daughter. He teaches English at Waseda university.

Average person in the U. S. uses about 20 pounds of textiles each year.

FALLING TANK

Portland (U.P.)—A huge tank holding thousands of gallons of water Saturday plunged from the roof of the Roberts Bros. department store here before business hours and tore a gaping hole through the center of the building as it went through three stories to the basement. Officials of the firm said damage to the building and merchandise was extensive.

One of five Australians is a resident either of Sydney or Melbourne.



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