

VALLEY STORM HITS PEARS, STARTS FIRES

Strong Wind Gusts Cause Pear Drop In Local Orchards

Lightning Starts Small Forest Blazes

Wind, fire sirens and thunder roared simultaneously through southern Oregon for nearly two hours last night, and Rogue valley fruit growers reported a "serious" loss of pears from wind drop in the area's second consecutive night storm.

Telephone communications were interrupted, power service was cut off in many areas, and fires were caused by lightning strikes both in the forests and elsewhere throughout the valley.

Crop Damaged

C. B. Cordy, county horticulture agent, estimated about 8 to 10 per cent of the pear crop was destroyed as wind gusts reached a peak of 63 miles an hour. Damage was considered heavy all over the area, he said, with areas east of Phoenix and all of the west side getting the brunt of the storm. Least seriously hit were northeast, southeast and Table Rock areas, Cordy said.

Most of the damage occurred in D'Anjou orchards. Comice were also heavily damaged as were Seckles, a small, high quality variety which is not too commonly grown here. Cordy said Boscs were barely damaged and Bartlett's sustained "surprisingly little" damage.

Fires Started

Foresters were attempting today to obtain an accurate count of fires started by lightning strikes. The forest service said approximately 26 fires are now burning and more are being spotted. Several are located in the Applegate area, about five in the Ashland district and eight or nine in the Union Creek area. No count was available on the number of blazes now under control, though none was considered large.

The state forest patrol said last night's storm caused 35 relatively small fires in Jackson county and 12 in Josephine county, with more showing up all the time. A total of 39 blazes occurred in Sunday night's storm, all of which are now controlled. A forest patrol plane was sent up this morning to look for "sleepers." Rain accompanying the storm, aided fire fighters to a considerable extent. Hardest hit were the Lincoln, Soda Mountain, Chimney Rock, Prospect, Applegate and Kirby Peak areas.

50 Alarms

City firemen spent a "memorable evening" with more than 50 alarms sounding within the 36 minutes between 6:05 and 6:41 p.m. Fourteen on-duty men and five volunteers, responded to alarms in 14 separate locations. Two to six trucks were out continuously for one hour and six minutes.

Firemen used an auxiliary power plant was put into operation to provide power for lights and radio transmitter at the city police station. Because of power failure, the transmitter at the fire station was not operating and a radio car was used to dispatch equipment on alarms. All fire station phones remained in operation throughout the storm. Only appreciable fire damage in the storm occurred at a fence in the 900 block of North Riverside ave., firemen reported.

Power Outages

Frank Benesh, district manager of Copco, said a great number of trees and large limbs falling on wires caused a "tremendous number" of power outages all through Jackson county. He said approximately 500 customers were still out of power by noon today. At least 75 local crewmen are now repairing damage and the company has called for assistance from two crews in Yreka, Calif. Two regular transmission construction crews are also working here. The district manager said all but about two major circuits were in operation by 2 a.m. today, though crews are still working on a couple more.

Copco officials have asked that customers whose electricity is not restored by this evening get in touch with the company. Power line damage was regarded as general throughout the county and a considerable amount of trouble occurred between Medford and Grants Pass. A pole near the Savage Rapids dam between Medford and Grants Pass was broken when a tree fell on it.

Phones Out

Pacific Telephone and Telegraph officials said 500 customers were without phone service at one time last night. A total of 200 phones were out this morning, but company officials

GOP Platform Pledges To Seek Tax Reductions

San Francisco—(U.P.)—Republican policy makers today gave President Eisenhower a "peace and prosperity" campaign platform pledging the party to work for tax reductions.

The 1956 platform set a goal of cutting taxes "with particular consideration" for low and

middle income families and small business.

But the platform supported Mr. Eisenhower's program of putting first a balanced budget and gradual reduction of the national debt.

The Democratic convention in Chicago last week promised a

\$5 billion tax reduction by increasing the personal income tax exemption from \$600 to \$800.

The 1,323 delegates at the GOP convention were set to unanimously whoop through their 13,500-word platform, which was fashioned on the

"new party" domestic and foreign policies developed by the Eisenhower administration in the past four years.

It promised peace, prosperity and equal rights for all Americans.

A toned-down civil rights plank pledged the GOP to carry out the Supreme court school in-

tegration decision "in every legal manner by all branches of the federal government."

The GOP platform supported a sound money and free enterprise economic policy "ever building new wealth and new jobs for all the people."

The platform assured maintenance and improvement of strong military forces "so long as our security and the peace of the world require it." It said the nation now has "the strongest striking force in the world—in the air—in the sea—and a magnificent supporting land force."

It pledged aid to small business and continuation of Mr. Eisenhower's "partnership" program for hydroelectric projects.

The platform assured a federal employee security program "to make certain" that all government workers "are of unquestioned loyalty and trustworthiness." But federal employees were promised the program would be carried out "in conformity with constitutional safeguards for the individual."

Postal Rate Pledge
 Support was pledged to Mr. Eisenhower's proposal to increase postal rates. Congress rejected it this year.

Farmers were promised that the GOP would work for full parity prices for agricultural commodities in the markets. Mr. Eisenhower's flexible price support program was supported as the best means "to meet effectively the impact of rapidly changing conditions."

The platform pledged the party to "continuous, vigorous development" of atomic energy for both military and peaceful purposes. It promised to "stimulate private enterprise to go ahead" in the development of atomic power plants.

Promises to Veterans
 On veterans affairs, the platform promises "first priority" medical service for veterans with service connected disabilities, and treatment of those with non-service connected ailments "to the extent that beds are available."

The platform again endorsed immediate statehood for Hawaii. It also called for immediate statehood for Alaska but added that recognition should be given "to the fact that adequate provision for defense requirements must be made."

The only dispute on the platform was ironed out in advance when GOP policy makers agreed Monday on a softened civil rights plank.

Council to Study Committee's Report

The Medford city council will consider a report from the council finance committee on the capital improvement program proposing four charter amendments to city ordinances at 7:30 p.m. tonight in the city hall.

The council will consider adopting ordinances proposing charter amendments and adopting ballot titles for an arterial street proposal, an off-street parking facilities proposal, a storm sewer proposal and a sanitary sewer proposal.

The council will also award bids and create funds for paving Greenway Circle and Greenway dr., Ashland ave. from Ninth st. to 11th st. and the southeast Medford trunk sanitary sewer.

Lehman Not To Seek Senate Reelection

New York—(U.P.)—Sen. Herbert Lehman, longtime Democratic stalwart in New York State and national politics, announced today he would not be a candidate to succeed himself in this fall's senatorial election.

Lehman, four times governor of New York in the depression years, has been a political figure since his election as New York's lieutenant governor in 1928. Lehman threw his support for the senatorial nomination to New York Mayor Robert F. Wagner.



WELCOME TO AMERICA — John Hansen (extreme left) 17-year-old exchange student from Denmark, was given a rousing welcome upon his arrival at the Medford airport Monday by the H. D. Christensen family. John will live with them while attending Medford Senior High school this year. Greeting the new member of their household are, left to right, Christensen, daughter Jill, Mrs. Christensen, daughter Judy and son Dan.

Denmark Exchange Student Arrives Here

John Hansen, 17-year-old exchange student from Copenhagen, Denmark, says he thinks American people are very friendly and he expects to be right at home among them as he attends Medford Senior High school in the coming year.

John arrived in Medford by plane at 4:40 p.m. Monday, and was greeted by a throng of his new American friends. Among them were the family with whom he will reside, Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Christensen, 29 Richmond ave.; their three children, Dan, Judy and Jill; Jimmy Dunlevy, manager of radio station KYJC; and a host of Medford Rotarians, including C. Weldon Kline, president of the organization.

Left Aug. 5
 Arriving at the airport with John was Elizabeth Cellier, an 18-year-old exchange student from Cannes, France. Elizabeth will attend Grants Pass High school. The two left Europe by boat Aug. 5 and arrived in Portland Sunday.

The exchanges agreed their entire trip had been pleasant and neither became seasick or airsick.

John, whose father is a baker in Copenhagen, is Medford's first foreign exchange student. He was brought here through the American Field Service and is being sponsored locally by the Rotary Club.

Long Process
 Kline said the Rotarians applied for an exchange student about a year ago and have been working on the project ever since. The American Field Service carefully screens prospective exchangees as for their scholastic ability, character, personality and similar qualities. Their entire life histories are studied and taken into consideration.

Meanwhile, representatives of the American Field Service investigate the prospective foster homes. Kline explained foster parents must meet rigid qualifications before an exchange student is placed with them. After the student and his foster family are selected, the service encourages them to exchange photographs and correspondence. This, he explained, gives each party a better idea of what to expect from the other and tends to make adjustments easier.

"The American Field Service takes complete responsibility for the students," Kline said. "If things don't work out harmoniously in the homes, the service moves them elsewhere." Approximately 800 foreign youths were placed in American homes this year. Kline advises those wanting exchange students in their homes next year to apply immediately. Individuals as well as organizations may sponsor exchangees, he said.

Rotary Project
 Since John's arrival here is a Rotary project, the organization decided to place him in the home of a Rotarian. The Christensens

Judging Begins At 4-H, FFA Fair

The Jackson county 4-H and Future Farmers of America fair was going ahead on schedule this morning with all home economics exhibits in and livestock exhibits coming into the fairgrounds.

Miss Marjorie Hattan, agent for the county 4-H clubs, said this morning that last night's storm blew some roofing off, knocked flags down, and whiskered some dirt and rain on exhibits. But, she added, 4-H leaders worked all morning and had the home economics building in "good shape."

A total of 231 home-ec exhibits were on display and being judged today. These included 130 food, 156 clothing, and 35 miscellaneous.

Miss Hattan reported that in addition to the home economics displays, woodworking, electricity, and forestry projects were also being exhibited along with several hobby displays.

Schedule for this afternoon included rabbit judging and contest, poultry judging and contest, food and food preservation judging and contest, showmanship contest, poultry and rabbits.

This is tomorrow's lineup of events: 9 a.m., crops and forestry judging contests; 10:30 a.m., livestock judging contest market; 1 p.m., beef fitting; 1:45 p.m., beef showmanship; 7 p.m., beef showmanship champions.

Portland—(U.P.)—Two law enforcement officers from New York have arrived to question Edward Eckwerth, 29, about the disappearance last June of Rosemary Spezzo, 24, Yonkers, N. Y. school teacher.

Weather
 FORECAST: Afternoon and evening thunderstorms, otherwise fair through Wednesday. Low tonight 55, high Wednesday 87.
 Highest yesterday 94
 Lowest this morning 35

Our Skies Tonight
 Sunrise 5:25 a.m.
 Sunset 7:04 p.m.
 Moonrise 8:30 p.m.
 Last Quarter Aug. 28
 MARS, in the southeast at midnight, has a rare eccentric orbit around the Sun that of the Earth. Last September, in Aphelion, it was about 134 million miles from the Sun; today, in Perihelion, it is only 128 million miles from the Sun.

"Now, From San Francisco—A Milder, Cooler, Smoother Performance, Especially Prepared—"



(Continued on Page 11)



TIMBER!—Scenes such as this were common all over Jackson county last night as trees and branches yielded to the force of wind in the area's second consecutive nocturnal storm. Above photo shows an oak tree behind the Prentice apartments, South Oakdale and Dakota ave., which split in half, knocking down power and telephone lines but only slightly damaging car in background. The car is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Kline, who arrived for a visit with Mr. and Mrs. Harry R. Prentice at 6:20 p.m., just 10 minutes before the tree split. This particular tree marked a corner of a 180-acre section before construction began in Medford's southwest residential section. Looking at damage are, left to right, Dave Cardwell, Prentice, Barney Deffley and Mrs. Prentice. Cardwell and Deffley are employees of the city street department.

Irrigation District Vote Wednesday

Landowners in the Talent Irrigation District will vote tomorrow to accept or reject a repayment contract between their district and the federal government.

The contract provides that the district repay \$5,800,000 to the government over a period of up to 60 years. This represents a little more than one-quarter of the total cost of the Talent reclamation project now underway.

The polls will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the TID office in Talent.

Congress has authorized the Talent project and has allocated initial appropriations of \$2,400,000 for this fiscal year. The project includes reclamation, irrigation, power, flood control and recreation provisions and will bring more irrigation water to about 10,000 acres of district land.

West's Suez Plan Wins Clear Majority

London—(U.P.)—The West won a clear majority for an American sponsored plan for international control of the Suez Canal today but India and the Soviet Union rejected it outright.

After 10 of the 22 nations at the Suez conference announced their backing of the Big Three plan, Soviet Foreign Minister Dmitri Shepilov and Indian Ambassador V. K. Krishna Menon lined up against it.

Republicans Lambaste Democrats

San Francisco—(U.P.)—Republicans turned today to their favorite sport, lambasting Democrats.

Delegates to the GOP's 1956 National Convention still must go through the routine of adopting their campaign platform today and re-nominating President Eisenhower and Vice President Richard M. Nixon Wednesday.

But they have made up their minds in advance to do both with little if any fuss. So there was nothing much left to think about except attacking Democrats and reviving up a jubilant reception for "Ike."

Mr. Eisenhower is due here between 5 and 5:30 p.m. (PST). Only he could pump life into the corpse of Harold E. Stassen's drive to dump Nixon and his aides say he won't.

Hydroelectric Plant Construction Begins

Work is under way at the Ideal Cement company hydroelectric plant near the Sams Valley highway in the Gold Hill area for the installation of a series of louvre-type fish screens and widening of the canal. The construction is being done by the Southern Oregon Construction company of Grants Pass.

Estimated to cost more than \$150,000, the new construction will improve the facilities at the plant for faster movement of the fish.

The work, which started last week, will be completed in a maximum of 90 days and is hoped to be finished within 60 days.

The power plant has been shut off, the canal drained and a coffer dam has been built across the canal. The widening of the canal will necessitate the blasting of solid rock before concrete can be poured. The workmen are currently working six feet below the level of the river.

A new automatic conveyor belt will be installed which will carry off the trash that lodges against the fish screens over the turbines. Up to now this trash had to be removed by hand.

During the early days of the coffer dam construction the water in the Gold Hill area became muddy. The water was cleared within two days according to company officials.

The reinforced concrete and steel screens will be built in a V shape. Officials explained that the wide part of the V will face upstream with the fish swimming to the bottom of the V through a 48-inch concrete pipe.

By traveling through the pipe they will bypass the plant on their way to the river. The pipe is to be buried 12 feet below the water level and will start under

Wind Damages Grants Pass Area

Grants Pass—(U.P.)—Violent winds ranging up to 70 miles an hour overnight tore roofs off some homes in the Grants Pass area, heavily damaged fruit crops and knocked out phone service.

Orchards reported losses as high as 50 per cent in the 40-minute blow that averaged 40 miles an hour with gusts to 70 miles. The wind average in this area is a gentle 3.3 miles an hour.

The big blow accompanied thundershowers and lightning which started several forest fires in southern Oregon and northern California.

A total of 268 phones were reported out in Grants Pass and 207 in the community of Rogue River. Uprooted trees briefly blocked the Pacific highway and Redwood highway south of here. And although roofs were torn off several houses, no one was reported hurt.

The power plant has been shut off, the canal drained and a coffer dam has been built across the canal. The widening of the canal will necessitate the blasting of solid rock before concrete can be poured. The workmen are currently working six feet below the level of the river.

A new automatic conveyor belt will be installed which will carry off the trash that lodges against the fish screens over the turbines. Up to now this trash had to be removed by hand.

During the early days of the coffer dam construction the water in the Gold Hill area became muddy. The water was cleared within two days according to company officials.

The reinforced concrete and steel screens will be built in a V shape. Officials explained that the wide part of the V will face upstream with the fish swimming to the bottom of the V through a 48-inch concrete pipe.

By traveling through the pipe they will bypass the plant on their way to the river. The pipe is to be buried 12 feet below the water level and will start under

tion after today's session got under way at 2:30 p.m. (PST). His speech for that occasion was released hours before.

In it he supplied the delegates with the raw meat they have had to do without so far at this convention. He said surely no many would "want to return this nation to the leadership of the past that despoiled our heritage with the indelible stain of corruption and Communism."

Another Matter
 Martin also touched on a matter that is getting more and more attention here. The Republicans think they can put over their "Ike and Dick" ticket in November with not too much trouble. But they have had to live since 1954 with the galling fact that the House and Senate are controlled by Democrats. Martin summoned his party to prodigies of toil to give the President a Republican Congress.