

# Damage Figures Soar To \$8 Million Mark In Rash of Blazes

**BY UNITED PRESS**

Damage estimates mounted toward the \$8 million mark today in a rash of industrial and residential fires.

At least four persons were killed and two others were missing in the blazes since Tuesday.

One of the victims was an 18-month-old boy who was killed in a Cleveland, Ohio, tenement fire late Tuesday. Fifteen persons were injured and three of them were injured when they jumped from windows.

**Paint Plant Burns**

Earlier, three-fourths of Cleveland's fire-fighting force battled a blaze at the Glidden Paint Co. plant. Company officials set damages at \$2.5 million.

Another industrial fire de-

stroyed the four-story, two-block long Pequanoc Rubber Co. plant at Butler, N. J. Three firemen were injured, and damage was estimated at more than \$3 million.

A blaze Tuesday night in the business district at Parsons, W. Va., destroyed three stores and a house and damaged five other buildings. There were no reports of injuries and no immediate estimate of damages. Firemen said the flames may have been touched off by lightning during a thunderstorm.

**Firemen Dodge Bullets**

Firemen had to dodge whizzing bullets in battling a blaze that destroyed a four-story business and apartment block in the center of Meriden, Conn., Tuesday.

The flames touched off live ammunition in a sporting goods store and bullets flew dangerously close to the fire-fighters. Two persons were missing in the blaze which caused damage estimated in the millions of dollars.

In other fires Tuesday, a 68-year-old woman was killed in a home fire at Milwaukee, Wis., and a man and woman were killed when fire swept a building in Montreal, Canada.

# B. P. Schulberg, Once-Famed Film Producer, Dies

Hollywood—(U.P.)—Movieland today mourned the death of B. P. Schulberg, the producer who discovered Shirley Temple and who was once the mightiest movie mogul of them all.

Schulberg, father of the author Budd Schulberg, died of a stroke Tuesday in Miami, Fla. He was 65.

A colorful man, who once earned \$9,500 weekly as chief of production at Paramount Studios, Schulberg's later years were marked by disappointment and failure in the movie industry he helped build.

In October, 1949, he ran an ad in the motion picture trade papers asking for work.

**Didn't Mind Crawling**

The ad was addressed to the Warner Brothers, Darryl Zanuck and other film bigwigs. At the time, he said, "I don't mind crawling on my knees to people who used to be my assistants. I'll take any kind of job."

Discoverer of such stars as Sylvia Sydney, Cary Cooper, Claudette Colbert and Fredric March, Schulberg once hired David O. Selznick as an assistant. He personally produced "Wings," "The Way of All Flesh" and "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde."

After his son, Budd, published the novel "What Makes Sammy Run"—a satire on Hollywood's big shots—Schulberg lost his executive position at Paramount. Thereafter he worked in a few independent pictures.

# Two Cross Atlantic Ocean in Small Plane

Dublin, Ireland—(U.P.)—Veteran California Pilot Max Conrad and wartime Battle of Britain pilot A. C. Morgan landed here early today ending a 13-hour Atlantic crossing in one of the world's smallest twin-engined planes.

They set their two-seater Piper Apache down at Collinstown airport near Dublin shortly after midnight, 13 hours and two minutes after taking off from Gander, Newfoundland.

It was Conrad's 24th Atlantic flight in a small plane. He has made the trip 19 times alone. It was the first flight for Morgan, who flew Spitfires in the Battle of Britain and won the Distinguished Flying Cross while attached to the U.S. Fifth army in Italy in World War II.

# Manslaughter Trial Due in Weed Death

Yreka, California—(U.P.)—Seventy-two-year-old Milton E. Babcock of Bieber, Calif., will be tried in Yreka superior court on a manslaughter charge in connection with the Jan. 7 death of eight-year-old Michael Bortolazzo of Weed.

Police reports said Babcock's pickup struck and killed the boy as he alighted from a school bus in front of his home.

Babcock was accused of driving outside the limits of his restricted driver's license at the time of the accident.

# Sanity Hearing Due Cramer at Klamath

Klamath Falls—(U.P.)—Circuit Judge David R. Vandenberg here has allowed a motion for a sanity hearing for Guy Earl (Bill) Cramer and scheduled the hearing for tomorrow.

The court appointed two Klamath Falls doctors to examine Cramer.

Cramer is charged with first degree murder after he opened fire in a Klamath County welfare hearing Jan. 4. County Welfare Commissioner Fred Peterson was killed in the shooting and two others were critically injured.

# Communists Said Losing Prestige

Washington—(U.P.)—The Senate Internal Security Subcommittee said today the Communist party lost prestige but not power last year.

The subcommittee made the statement in the first section of its annual report, released today. Eleven other sections will follow.

"Soviet activity in the United States has continued without abatement in many forms during the past year," the report said.

It said, "few if any important defections" from the Communist party and "no noticeable impairment of their power," even though the prestige of Communism in the United States and the world slipped badly after Soviet suppression of the Hungarian revolt.

"Strategic labor unions astride the vitals of our national defense remain firmly in the clutches of unregenerate Communists," the subcommittee said without identifying the unions.

# Menon Becomes Issue In India Elections; Defended by Nehru

New Delhi, India—(U.P.)—V. K. Krishna Menon, India's chief United Nations delegate and Premier Jawaharlal Nehru's personal envoy abroad, has become an election issue back home.

Nehru has personally intervened to defend Menon in the 18-day parliamentary elections which began last Sunday.

Although Menon has lived mainly abroad for the past 30 years, a district for him to represent was found in industrial North Bombay. Nehru's ruling Congress party made the issue there a test case—a vote against Nehru himself.

Menon is expected to win his seat despite the criticism of his handling of the Hungarian and Kashmir issues before the United Nations.

Menon came under fire on grounds that, at the time he was

criticizing the Anglo-French invasion of the Suez Canal Zone, he failed to denounce the Soviet intervention in Hungary.

**Accused of 'Utter Mess'**

M. R. Dandavate, secretary of the Socialist party which is opposing the Congress party in the elections, has accused Menon of making an "utter mess" of the Kashmir issue.

D. F. Karaka, a leading journal-

ist, has lambasted Menon in bitter terms and said, "Let Menon wipe out the stains of Hungary" and then ask for votes.

Nehru's brother-in-law, Raja Huthesingh, has demanded that Menon be fired for "pro-Communist leanings." He has said that Menon "is a wrong man in the wrong place," is short-tempered and full of vanity and has "shocked the conscience" of the Indian people.

A. D. Gorwala, a former civil service officer, has argued that Menon has a "widespread reputation as a Soviet partisan, highly detrimental to the interests of India."

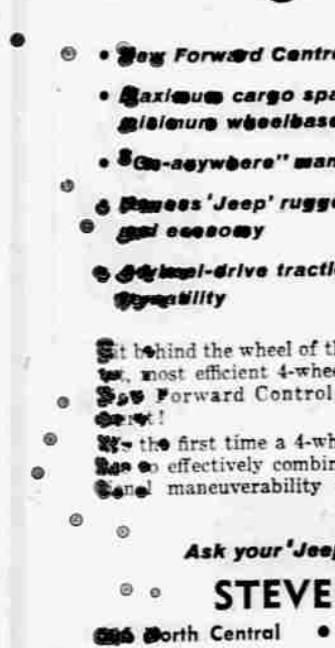
**Brilliant Performance**

Nehru has stood behind Menon, speaking of Menon's "brilliant performance" in the United Nations and endorsing Menon for integrity, honesty and ability.

The Communists officially oppose Menon, but many political observers believe that a number of Reds will actually vote for him. In addition, Menon's foe, Socialist Peter Alvares, is considered a weak candidate.

Menon, 58, collapsed while speaking in the United Nations last week, but resumed speaking a few hours later. His doctor said Menon had a "coronary insufficiency."

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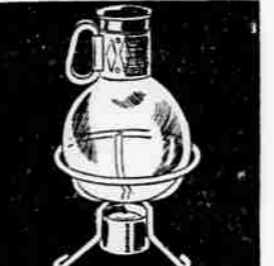
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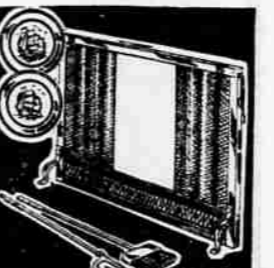
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