

'Different World' Observed on Mountain



FOREST SERVICE LOOKOUT—This observation station on top of 7,411-foot Dutchman peak in the Siskiyou is one of the many lookouts in southern Oregon that have been recently manned in preparation for the coming forest fire season. Lookouts on Dutchman this year are Mr. and Mrs. Hal VonStein.

Stein of Eagle Point, who took over the station last Monday. This particular building is the old-style type, where the fire finding equipment is located in the glass enclosed cupola on top. A comfortable residence house about 50 feet down the hill is where the VonSteins eat and sleep.



FIRE FINDER—This instrument, located in the cupola of the Dutchman peak lookout, is used to "sight in" a fire to find its location. Other lookouts in the area do the same thing, and by a system of triangulation

the fire is pinpointed so there is no guess work about where to dispatch suppression crews. Lookout Hal VonStein demonstrates how the fire is brought in line on the instrument. The sights are made of fine wire.



FIREMAN'S PACK—Above, VonStein shows what a lookout-fireman has to take with him if he is called upon to put out a spot fire miles back in the woods. In the pack sack is a shovel, saw, axe, first aid kit, flashing mirror, packaged food rations, matches and rope. Often during a thunder storm a smoke chaser will have to take off through the woods in the middle of the night to get at a burning snag before the flames have a chance to spread. The method of control is to cut a fire line around the tree and tell it. VanStein has been a smoke chaser with the Forest Service here for 13 years.

Karl Onthank Resigns University Position

Eugene — Karl W. Onthank retires officially Sunday after 41 years continuous service at the University of Oregon. Onthank has been director of graduate placement and associate dean of students since 1948. He started on the staff in 1916 as executive secretary to the president. He graduated from Oregon in 1913 and received his master's degree in 1915. Onthank is expected to continue in part-time work with the graduate placement office.

Grants Pass Man Named To Department Board

Salem — Gov. Robert D. Holmes Saturday announced the appointment of Lester R. Child, Grants Pass, to the State Board of the Department of Geology and Mineral Industries.

WEATHER

By United Press
Northern California: Fair Sunday except scattered afternoon and evening thunderstorms in high mountains and fog on coast.

Sackett Organizes Portsmouth Paper

Washington — The Portsmouth, Va. World, new morning daily newspaper being organized by Sheldon F. Sackett, will make its initial appearance Monday, Aug. 2, the publisher announced here Saturday.

Howard L. Goshorn, former city editor of the now-suspended Portsmouth Times, will be managing editor of the World, according to the announcement.

Sackett said he had paid an initial \$36,000 for the equipment, goodwill and name of the Portsmouth Times. He will be represented in federal court in Portsmouth Monday, July 1, at which time a balance of \$89,100 is to be paid to complete the purchase under bankruptcy proceedings.

Under a plan Sackett said he would present to the court for approval, the Times Corporation would be reorganized under the new World name.

"If the courts accede to this, the 1350 stockholders of the Times will get a return of 50 cents on the dollar from the \$350,000 which they invested," Sackett said. "They will be given non-voting preferred stock and 20 per cent of their investment over a 10-year period."

Sackett publishes an evening daily newspaper in Oregon and has three radio stations, one in each of the Pacific Coast states of California, Oregon and Washington.

Ford Foundation Checks Received by Colleges
Portland — Ford Foundation checks have been received by nine privately-supported Oregon colleges for a total of \$930,000. The funds are earmarked for faculty salary increases.

Benefiting from the Foundation's largest are: University of Portland, \$160,500; Lewis and Clark, \$156,500; Reed College, \$153,500, plus \$103,500 for improvement in status of teachers; Willamette University, \$128,500; Linfield College, \$96,500; Marylhurst College, \$28,000; Cascade College, \$24,500; and Mt. Angel Seminary, \$5,000; and Pacific University, \$74,500.

Eagle Point Couple Stationed at Peak

By BOB VROMAN
Mail Tribune Staff Writer
By now, nearly every lookout station in southern Oregon is manned, and the people on these lonely mountains have begun their summer-long watch to protect our forests from destructive fire.

On top of a mountain a different world exists, where nature instead of man-made things predominates. There is no daily paper, television or nearby neighbors—just a screechy telephone or shortwave radio that is the link between the mountain and the outside world.

Dutchman Peak

An example of a typical lookout is 7,411-foot Dutchman peak, located almost due south of Medford in the Siskiyou and manned this year by Hal and Edna VonStein, of Eagle Point. The couple took over the station last Monday after hauling in loads of food, bedding and other supplies, and are now well settled into the routine of life on the mountain.

VonStein is on fire watch from sun up to sundown, and must never be away from his radio for a minute unless he checks out for a specified time. At 8 a.m. he picks up the weather report from Portland and relays it to other lookouts in the area and through the day he must listen constantly for any emergency messages. Every so often he makes a check call to see if his set is working, and all the while he must keep an eye on every draw and hillside for signs of a fire.

Relaxed Feeling
But in spite of all they have to do, there is an easy-going, relaxed feeling in the way things get done, which is not akin to the hustle and bustle of the world outside.

When there are spare moments VonStein studies the horizon, fixing the names of prominent peaks in his mind so there will be no time lost in locating a fire. A lookout must be able to tell the nature of a fire from the color, direction and quantity of smoke. A tiny patch of haze in a canyon several miles away might only be dust stirred up by a logging truck, and it takes an experienced eye to know the difference.

Pinned Under Tree

All the men on the primary lookouts in this area are lookout-firemen. This means that in addition to watching for fires, they may be sent out to extinguish one at any time of day or night. Fires resulting from lightning storms are usually snags and can be controlled by one man. VonStein tells of the many times he has struck out alone on a mountain trail on a stormy night to put out a burning snag. One time he was pinned for several hours under a tree two-foot thick that fell the wrong direction. He was able to dig himself out with his shovel that luckily was nearby.

At Dutchman peak there are two radios and two telephones. One radio is a powerful short wave receiver and the other is a local SPF set which is used to communicate with ranger stations and lookouts in this area. One of the two telephones is connected with Star Ranger station on the Applegate and the other reaches Oak Knoll Ranger station in Klamath National forest.

The use of two separate code systems keeps a radio operator

on his toes, according to VonStein. One is an international or "10" code and the other is the local or "4" code system. In all there are 34 phrases that must be memorized by number.

Another type of communication was demonstrated by VonStein. He picked up the "mike" on the SPF set and called Rustler peak, which is located north of Butte Falls, some 50 air miles away from Dutchman. He asked for a mirror signal. In a few moments a tiny pinpoint of light began to flicker off the top of the distant mountain, barely discernible because of the distance. The mirror, though no longer depended upon to any great extent, is still used by forest service men for signaling and is carried in every fire pack.

In addition to VonStein's "official" duties, there are many personal things to look after. There is water to be hauled from a spring a mile down the road, snow to be carried to the icebox and fires to be built for cooking and warmth. Nothing is automatic, yet there always seems to be plenty of time to get everything done. In VonStein's case, his wife does the cooking, but many lookouts are not so lucky.

Maintains Building

Keeping the buildings in good repair is also part of a lookout's job. This involves painting, fixing loose boards and tightening guy wires that winter storms have loosened. In addition the many square feet of windows must be washed regularly.

To a lot of people, living on top of a mountain, surrounded by miles of forest, would be a dreary way to spend the summer, but to Hal and Edna VonStein, and many lookouts like them it is a rewarding experience.

Physical, Dental Exams Advised

Salem—Parents should obtain complete physical and dental examinations as soon as possible for all children entering school for the first time this fall, the state board of health announced Saturday.

Early examinations are necessary to allow time for complete immunization schedules and any corrective work which is indicated, according to Dr. Harold M. Erickson, state health officer.

Dr. Erickson explained that Oregon school authorities require records of such medical and dental examinations at a child's first registration. He also reminded parents that many school districts ask parents for copies of birth certificates for all new admissions.

Birth registration cards may be secured by sending one dollar to the state board of health, room 979, Portland state office building. Although the board of health recommends birth registration cards for such purposes, complete photostatic copies of birth certificates may be obtained for two dollars.

Information accompanying requests should include the full name of the child and parents and the date and place of birth.

Portland Man Sentenced To Probation Period

Salt Lake City — Kenneth Lee Winnett, 23, Portland, was sentenced to three years' probation here Friday after pleading guilty to interstate transportation of forged money orders.

Winnett's wife, Shirley, 18, was jointly accused in the complaint and was placed on probation for one year. The sentence was handed down in the Third District Court of Judge Willis W. Ritter.

STAR GAZER

By CLAY R. POLLAN
Your Daily Activity Guide According to the Stars

To develop message for Sunday, read words corresponding to numbers of your Zodiac birth sign.

AGES	TAURUS	GEMINI	CANCER	LEO	VIRGO	LIBRA	SCORPIO	SAGITTARIUS	CAPRICORN	AQUARIUS	PISCES
1. Good	1. Good	1. Good	1. Good	1. Good	1. Good	1. Good	1. Good	1. Good	1. Good	1. Good	1. Good
2. Bad	2. Bad	2. Bad	2. Bad	2. Bad	2. Bad	2. Bad	2. Bad	2. Bad	2. Bad	2. Bad	2. Bad
3. Love	3. Love	3. Love	3. Love	3. Love	3. Love	3. Love	3. Love	3. Love	3. Love	3. Love	3. Love
4. Outraged	4. Outraged	4. Outraged	4. Outraged	4. Outraged	4. Outraged	4. Outraged	4. Outraged	4. Outraged	4. Outraged	4. Outraged	4. Outraged
5. Love	5. Love	5. Love	5. Love	5. Love	5. Love	5. Love	5. Love	5. Love	5. Love	5. Love	5. Love
6. To	6. To	6. To	6. To	6. To	6. To	6. To	6. To	6. To	6. To	6. To	6. To
7. Bad	7. Bad	7. Bad	7. Bad	7. Bad	7. Bad	7. Bad	7. Bad	7. Bad	7. Bad	7. Bad	7. Bad
8. New	8. New	8. New	8. New	8. New	8. New	8. New	8. New	8. New	8. New	8. New	8. New
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12. Love	12. Love	12. Love	12. Love	12. Love	12. Love	12. Love	12. Love	12. Love	12. Love	12. Love	12. Love
13. You	13. You	13. You	13. You	13. You	13. You	13. You	13. You	13. You	13. You	13. You	13. You
14. Cow	14. Cow	14. Cow	14. Cow	14. Cow	14. Cow	14. Cow	14. Cow	14. Cow	14. Cow	14. Cow	14. Cow
15. Old	15. Old	15. Old	15. Old	15. Old	15. Old	15. Old	15. Old	15. Old	15. Old	15. Old	15. Old
16. Love	16. Love	16. Love	16. Love	16. Love	16. Love	16. Love	16. Love	16. Love	16. Love	16. Love	16. Love
17. Rejoice	17. Rejoice	17. Rejoice	17. Rejoice	17. Rejoice	17. Rejoice	17. Rejoice	17. Rejoice	17. Rejoice	17. Rejoice	17. Rejoice	17. Rejoice
18. Interest	18. Interest	18. Interest	18. Interest	18. Interest	18. Interest	18. Interest	18. Interest	18. Interest	18. Interest	18. Interest	18. Interest
19. Enthusiasm	19. Enthusiasm	19. Enthusiasm	19. Enthusiasm	19. Enthusiasm	19. Enthusiasm	19. Enthusiasm	19. Enthusiasm	19. Enthusiasm	19. Enthusiasm	19. Enthusiasm	19. Enthusiasm
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TALKING WITH STAR—A direct telephone line to Star Ranger station on the Applegate is how a lot of messages are carried to and from Dutchman peak. When