



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AGAIN HIT BY FIRE—Firemen stand helplessly by as a wall of flame races up the mountainside to the very edge of their firebreak refuge in Santa Susana Pass, Calif. Unable to continue on the road because of the flames, the firefighters were forced to wait until their firebreak completely burned itself out before they could bring their equipment into the area to join other firefighters forming a continuous fire line. Fire raged out of control for the third day near Chatsworth defying efforts of more than 600 firefighters. An estimated 5000 acres have been consumed so far.

Soil Bank Farmers Will Be Paid \$600 Million; Bumper Crops Due

Washington—The government has contracted to pay about \$600 million this year to soil bank farmers who agree to take surplus crops out of production. Yet government reports indicate this year's production of wheat, cotton, corn, rice and tobacco will be a bumper crop—comparable to the record output of 1955 and 1956.

Taxpayers naturally are asking: "How come? ... what happened to the soil bank program that was supposed to reduce production 20 per cent?"

Bank Said Working

The Agriculture Department says the soil bank is working. "We're breaking even on it," a department official told the United Press. "We are not adding to the surplus which is costly any way you look at it."

"If the government hadn't agreed to pay farmers for taking land out of production of basic crops, early crop reports indicate they would produce far

more this year than last. The surplus would have increased, our price support losses would have increased, our price support losses would have gone up, and we'd have the stuff in bins running up storage charges."

Not Getting Bigger

"But with the soil bank, our surplus is not getting bigger." As to why production this year is likely to be large even with 28 million acres in the soil bank, the official said:

"Moisture conditions changed overnight in the Great Plains. The drought broke. Growing conditions are more favorable now than they have been for some time. The yield is going up. There has been a trending increase in yield for years. Farmers are using improved varieties of seed, better fertilizer, and better insect control methods."

Department officials usually consider wheat the No. 1 surplus problem.

If the 10 million winter wheat

acres and the 2,500,000 spring wheat acres in the soil bank had been planted, the crop would have been increased by about 236 million bushels.

Costs Run High

The extra production would have gone under price support loan and eventually would have been taken over by the government \$2 a bushel, or \$472 million. The Treasury would have to pay about 6 cents a bushel to borrow the money to pay farmers. The Commodity Credit Corp. would have had to pay about 16 cents a bushel to store

the wheat. If the OCC sold the wheat abroad, the subsidy would have been about 72 cents a bushel. Administrative costs and other expenses would bring the total loss on the wheat to about \$1 a bushel. The sale abroad would net about \$236 million. The loss would have been the same.

As it is, under the soil bank, the government has contracted to pay farmers about \$231 million to keep some 13 million acres of wheat land out of production.

So, give or take a few mil-

lion, the department figures the government is about breaking even—without having a wheat surplus to store and overhang the free market.

The example for wheat, according to the department expert, works similarly for cotton, corn, rice, and tobacco. He figures the soil bank is a good deal.

Quotes From the News

By UNITED PRESS

London—Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Valerian Zorin, on a Western proposal to set experts to work on details of an inspection system to enforce the ban on atomic and hydrogen weapons tests:

"To bring experts together is a waste of time."

Washington—Sen. Richard B. Russell (D-Ga.) promising an all-out fight against the civil rights bill:

"Call it a filibuster if you wish. If we did not resist, we would not be worthy to be called men. God gives us strength to demean ourselves as men and as our people expect us to."

Washington—Sen. Paul H. Douglas (D-Ill.) urging approval of Senate Republican Leader William F. Knowland's (Calif.) motion to have the Senate drop all other pending business to take up the civil rights bill:

"What we are trying to do is to make effective in actual life the constitutional rights of all citizens—regardless of race and color—primarily the right to vote."

Chicago—National Safety Council President Ned Dearborn, praising motorists and traffic officers for keeping the July 4th week end highway death toll below the normal for a non-holiday period:

"Drivers and traffic enforcement agencies now have demonstrated on two successive holidays that extra traffic volume and danger can be offset by extra care and effort."

New York—Capt. Leif Hansen, skipper of the liner *Osofjord*, on the unusually heavy spread of icebergs in the North Atlantic:

"I have never seen it like this with so many icebergs. It was the worst I've known in 12 years."

Michigan City, Ind.—Convicted "mad dog" killer Leslie Irvin, on learning his execution scheduled for today had again been postponed:

"It certainly was something to go through and I'm very happy."

Work as Therapy To Rebuild Fallen Man Declared Successful

Sacramento, Calif.—How do you save a skid row bum for himself and society?

Vern Zook, an Air Force veteran from Indiana, has come up with a new approach—put him in a business of his own.

"Work is the best therapy in the world," he says. "But with the work must go spiritual rediscovery. The skid row derelict must return to God."

Profits Buying House

To prove his theory, Zook opened a restaurant run by tramps for tramps. It was so successful he opened a second in one of the city's better neighborhoods and is using profits to buy a house to shelter his crew.

He calls his operation "Christian Service Enterprises" and holds regular Bible classes to help his men build new attitudes toward life.

The difference between Zook's scheme and the conventional rescue mission is that it provides regular employment in an atmosphere of understanding. The more common rescue mission, he says, emphasizes evangelism and provides odd jobs when available. When there are none, their skid row inmates depart with their earnings to buy a bottle.

Zook spent five years running such a mission in Stockton, Calif. Convinced that was the answer, he proposed his new approach to the board of directors, but they thought business and religion don't mix.

"I believe you can't divorce the two," says Zook.

Goes Very Well

His Sacramento experiment has lasted only a year now but things have gone very well. Customers show interest in the workers. Zook and his wife themselves work up to 16 hours a day and take out only \$50 a week for themselves.

His greatest problem is that some of the men just don't show

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Reorganization Pleases Hatfield

Salem — Secretary of State Mark Hatfield said Monday that he was well satisfied with the progress of the Department of State in its reorganization program.

Hatfield said the department has reached a point in record inventory that indicates a 60 per cent reduction in file space. In other reorganization moves Hatfield said that extensive repair of the State Office building will begin shortly upon completion of which needs of the State Tax Commission will be met.

He also said that a long range building repair and rehabilitation program is in the investigatory stage for presentation to the 55th Legislature.

Hatfield added that guide service has been expanded without additional costs and the capitol's role in furthering the tourist industry will be furthered under plans yet to be announced.

ANTHROPOLOGIST DIES

Los Angeles—Dr. Harriet M. Allyn, 74, a leading anthropologist and the first academic dean of Mount Holyoke College, died Sunday night.

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