

Moon as International Bullseye for Future Wars Seen; Who Would Umpire?

By DOC QUIGG
United Press Correspondent
New York — With that 184-pound thing wending a wobbly orbit over our heads like a worrywart moon, the wave of the future seems to be beeping toward us at a faster rate than it did in ante-Sputnik days.

And ideas are spouting fast for the out-of-this-world days ahead.

One of the most intriguing of these came from an American scientist attending the recent International Astronautical Congress in Barcelona.

Why not, he suggested, make the moon an international bullseye?

Tests on Moon
His plan was for the powers of the earth to test their hydrogen bombs on the moon, which presumably couldn't be any more fouled up than it already is — with its face pocked with craters and no life showing on its bald pate.

There is the hint of a suggestion here that war in the future could be reduced to an international shooting match, with the winner being the country that makes the biggest moon-crater. It's a nice thought, but it won't work. Who would be the umpire? Even if we got some Martian to stay on his planet and do the job, it wouldn't work. Too much danger of the loser turning his fire on Mars.

A more feasible plan would be the use of a dead heavenly body for a dumping ground for radio-active atomic waste. The disposal of this deadly poison stuff will pose a real problem in the nuclear-energetic future. The earth and its seas can become polluted through carelessness.

The moon — if, indeed, it is utterly lifeless — would then as a dumping ground become eternally lifeless and as much to be avoided by space travelers as if it exuded an overpowering green

cheese odor. "Off limits to tourists" would be its inter-stellar highway warning, and its only visitors would be the lead-shielded workers on the space garbage-scows from earth.

Travel to Planets
Of course, you can say that the enthusiasts among the rocketry scientists can't be serious when they talk of human space travel between planets, and of course that's what people said about Columbus and Magellan in their time. "Reaching for the moon" may become an obsolete and meaningless saying before the century's end.

Meantime life whirls along lightly, and today a fellow earthling who works in our office skipped in to work whistling a peculiar little melody that constantly repeated a refrain: three monotone beep-like notes followed by a wolf whistle.

To those who stared curiously at him he explained: "that's Sputnik, going by Venus."



PACKARD SPORTS CAR—The Studebaker-Packard corporation recently announced a new line of Packards, a sports model called the Hawk. The car has canted tail fins, impression of a spire wheel mounted on the rear deck, leather-finished interior, tachometer on the dashboard equipment panel and a supercharged 275 horsepower V-8 type engine. The car is being sold locally by De Leigh motors, 134 South Riverside ave.

Light Plane Crash Kills One, Hurts One

Fairfield, Idaho — A light plane crashed while trying to land on a mountain road yesterday, killing one man and seriously injuring another.

Camas County Sheriff Allen Lawson identified the dead man as Keith Walton, about 30, of Sun Valley, Calif. Teddy J. Kerr, 35, Berkeley, Calif., was taken to Magic Valley Memorial hospital at Twin Falls in serious condition.

The plane evidently tried to land on a road near Couch Summit, 10 miles north of here, according to the sheriff. He said Walton, whose body was found pinned in an upright position at the controls, evidently was the pilot.

California Red Caps Granted Rate Increase

San Francisco — Starting next month California railroad passengers will be charged 25 cents for each bag carried by a red cap "tips" is 15 cents.

The State Public Utilities commission decided yesterday to grant the rate increase for intrastate travel. The 25-cent rate already applies on inter-state commerce.

The commission, which has not granted a rate change since 1951, ordered the new fees effective Nov. 4. They will affect the Southern Pacific, Santa Fe and Union Pacific railroads.

Dead Line on Classified Ads: 5:30 p.m. for following day, except 10 a.m. for Monday; for Sunday, noon Saturday.

New Credit Available To Aid Area Farmers

A new line of credit is now available from the Farmers Home administration to aid farmers in improving and building new farm buildings such as dwellings, poultry houses, barns and loafing sheds, according to E. M. Denney, local agency supervisor.

Local farmers can increase the potential earnings of farms by getting the maximum production from them, according to Denney. This is important for farm units of the size in the Rogue valley area, he added.

To be eligible for a loan, a farmer must own the land and be receiving a substantial gross income from it. It must also be a farm and not a rural residence.

FHA does not compete with private lenders but if an applicant is unable to obtain the credit from other sources under rates which fit his income, he is then eligible for the assistance, Denney said.

The loans are repayable up to 33 years at 4 per cent interest and are secured by a mortgage on the farm.

Farmers interested in the program should contact the local office at room nine, Manchel building, Grants Pass, or post office box 311, Grants Pass.

Applications Being Taken for CS Positions

The United States civil service commission has announced that applications are now being received for oceanographer, forester and research psychologist.

Additional information and application blanks may be obtained from Chester W. Silliman in the Medford post office building.

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2,471 Flu Cases Reported in State

Portland — Oregon had more cases of flu last week than in any week since the last week of December in 1943, the State Board of Health said today.

There were 2471 reported cases, compared to 69 in the same week last year. The number of reported cases is believed to be smaller than the actual number of cases.

In the last week of 1943 there were 2811 flu cases reported.

The health board said only 48 cases of Asian flu have been confirmed by laboratory tests, an increase of seven in a week. Three of the cases were at the University of Oregon.

The board said that absentee reports indicated that all types of respiratory illnesses were of epidemic proportions in about half the counties of Oregon.

A spokesman added, however, there was no reason for alarm. "Some of this last week may have been world seriestis," he said.

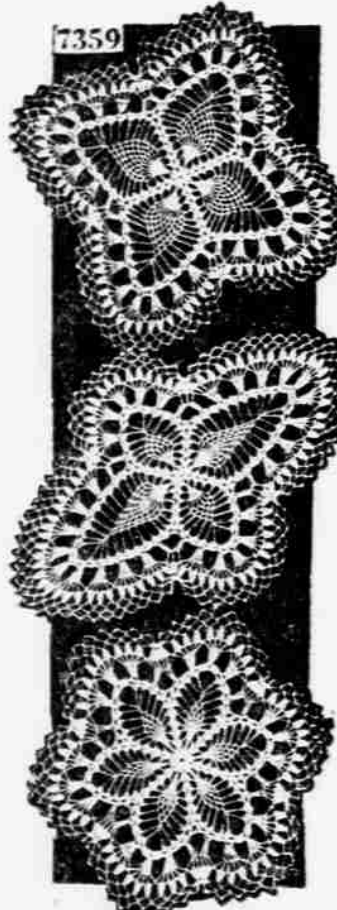
Shiny Object Passes Over San Francisco

San Francisco — A shining object passed over San Francisco Wednesday at 5:10 a.m. p.m. — the exact time that the rocket which launched the Russian satellite "sputnik" was scheduled to make its appearance.

As observed from the United Press bureau, the object moved past the north star and almost directly overhead in a southerly direction.

It was brighter than the north star or any of the stars of the big dipper, and moved out of sight to the south in about four minutes.

Costs So Little

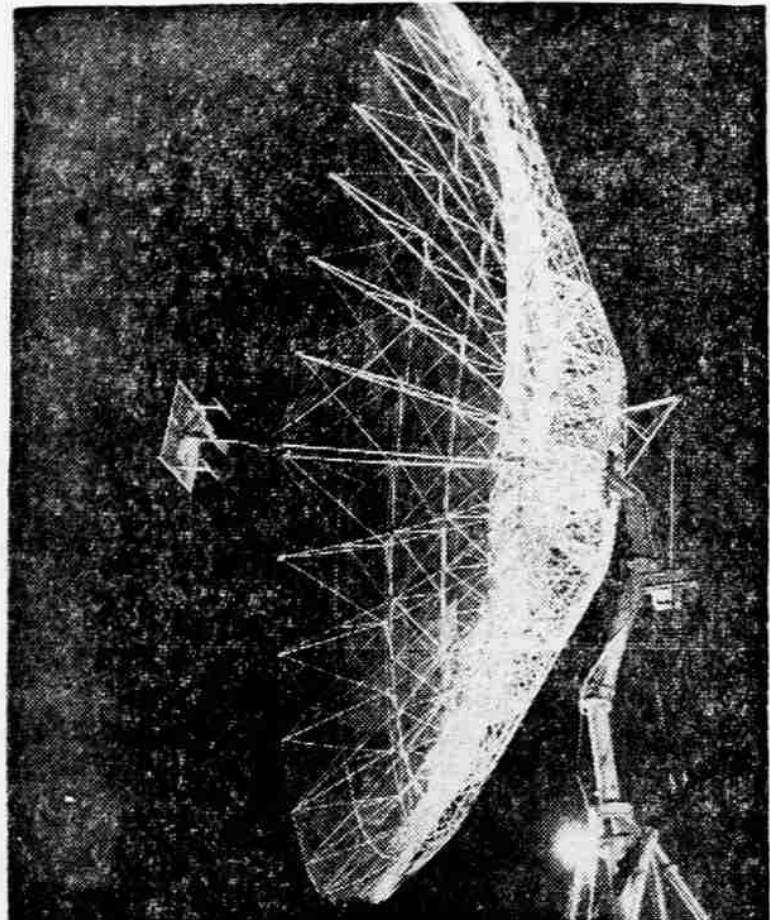


by Alice Brooks

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ZEROING IN—Scientists at Stanford Research Institute are attempting to track the Soviet earth satellite with one of the world's most powerful radar sets. Its 61-foot parabolic antenna, shown here, has a field of only about three degrees, thus making a fairly accurate fix necessary before it can train on the artificial moon to give U. S. scientists their first precise knowledge about the object's speed, altitude and course.

Actress Faces Loss Of Adopted Infant

Hollywood — Actress Marie Wilson promised tearfully today to fight with all her might to keep a three-month-old baby girl she and her husband adopted from an unwed mother three days after birth.

The actress and her husband, TV producer Bob Fallon, were served with a writ Tuesday ordering them to appear in Superior Court Monday to show cause why they should not give up custody of the infant to the baby's attractive, 21-year-old mother.

Miss Wilson explained that she and Fallon had paid for the young woman's medical expenses and gave her \$75 a month in expense money during her pregnancy.

The actress said the child's mother, identified by the county adoption bureau as Linda Leabow, had signed an agreement consenting to the adoption.

Beef Commission Favored at Meeting

Portland — Formation of an Oregon Beef commission to promote sale of the product was favored Tuesday at the first of 17 meetings to be held throughout the state.

Another meeting was scheduled in Tillamook today.

Robert J. Steward, director of the State Department of Agriculture and George Russell of Vale, president of the Oregon Cattlemen's association, were among those speaking here on Tuesday.

Rep. Shirley Field of Portland, who said she also was a beef producer, was the only opponent of a commission at the hearing. She said beef producers needed help and promotion and suggested that as an alternate to a commission all persons in the industry, including transportation, packaging, freezing and slaughter, share cost of such a promotion.

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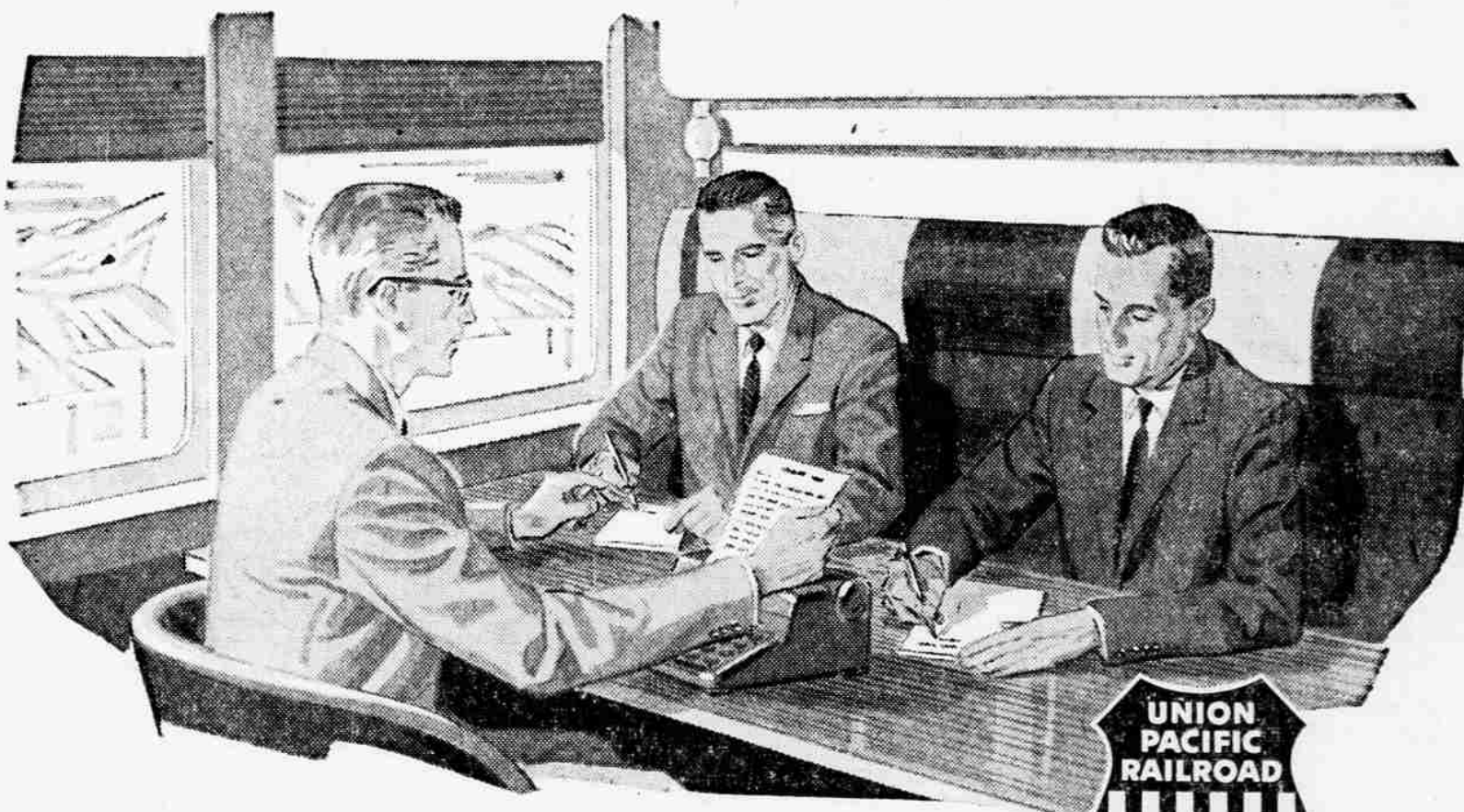
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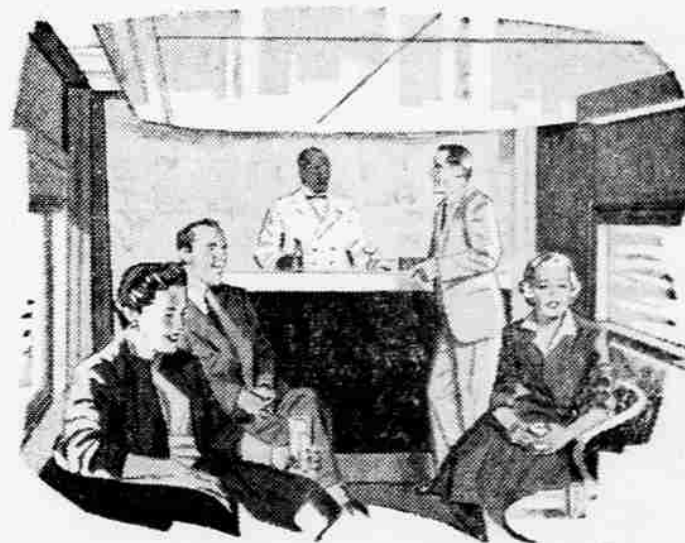
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