

A feature story about starting a Christmas tree farm by Hunter and Best in the Ruch area appears on page 14 of today's Mail Tribune.

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Forest Fire Expected Under Control Tonight

Azusa, Calif. — Some 1,500 firefighters battling a 25,000-acre fire in Angeles national forest Saturday were aided by "vastly improving" weather conditions, leading officials to hope for complete control of the blaze tonight.

For the first time since it broke out 20 miles northwest of Los Angeles Thursday, aerial tankers were able to drop water bombs on the fire Saturday. Helicopters also took to the air for the first time to supervise firefighting operations and carry men into previously inaccessible areas.

Saturday evening, fire officials reported good progress in controlling the blaze had been made since this afternoon. They said about 70 per cent of the line was controlled or 20 to 22

miles of the estimated perimeter of 30 to 33 miles.

Officials credited aerial "bombing" of the fire with a water-borate solution as responsible for much of Saturday's progress toward control.

Earlier, violent winds had sent the flames racing so quickly through brush and timber in the San Gabriel mountains that authorities dared not put firefighters in its path and aircraft were unable to make flights.

One of the worst Santa Ana windstorms in years, with gusts over 75 miles an hour, was sweeping southern California when the flames broke out Thursday after a portable stove was overturned accidentally at a convict road camp. The winds had died down for the most part in the area Saturday.

Saturday, U. S. Forest Service officials, who estimated the blaze caused 25 million dollars damage to the valuable watershed, said if "the weather remains as good as it is and keeps improving as expected, we look for complete control about 6 p.m. Sunday.

However, County Fire Chief Keith Klinger said firefighters still were maintaining a "desperation line" paralleling Foot-hill blvd. around the city of Monrovia in case the winds should come up again and push the flames out of the Fish canyon area.

The fire earlier raced to within three miles of Monrovia, also posing a threat to other foothill communities such as Azusa, Duarte, Sierra Madre, East Pasadena and Arcadia. Residents in some areas closed to the boiling flames were evacuated but returned Friday when winds began diminishing.

Break-Up Nearing For Russian Rocket, Scientists Report

London — Sputnik 1's fellow - traveling rocket streaked closer to the atmosphere of the earth and oblivion Saturday. British scientists said it would disintegrate like a shooting star "in a few days."

Scientists at Jodrell Bank Observatory picked up the carrier rocket with telescopes Saturday night after failing to spot it during the day.

Prof. Alfred C. B. Lovell, director of the observatory, said he tracked the rocket and that "latest indications are that it will come down in the near future—and that means in a few days."

Still Looks Good

But, he said, "it still looks good for several days more."

Its disintegration would leave the two Sputniks still hurtling silently through the heavens at speeds around 18,000 mph. There was no indication when they would start to fall.

Speed and friction have caught up with the fellow-traveling rocket.

Originally, it was trailing the 184-pound Sputnik I after it carried the spherical satellite into space Oct. 4 and became detached from it. It began to speed up. From a distance of 620 miles behind, it passed the Sputnik and then lapped it several times.

As its speed increased, its orbit narrowed. It gradually nosed towards the relatively dense atmosphere of earth which forms a protective blanket, shielding the earth from myriad shooting stars and meteors by means of friction.

U.S. Forest Harvest To Be Stepped Up

Portland — In an effort to alleviate unemployment in the depressed Oregon lumber industry, harvesting of National Forest timber in the Pacific Northwest will be stepped up some 800 million board feet, regional forester J. Herbert Stone said here Saturday.

Buyers will be offered 400 million board feet before next July 1st and the other half will be on the market before the end of August, 1958.

Stone said the stepped-up sales program was made possible by recent release of some \$75,000 in additional funds to the forest service in the Pacific Northwest, and will bring timber sales up to the annual allowable cut for the first time.

Radicals Request Peace In Algeria

Strasbourg, France — The French Radical party convention Saturday handed a rebuff to Premier Felix Gaillard and boost to former premier Pierre Mendes-France by approving a motion calling for quick peace in Algeria.

Mendes-France supported the proposal to call in Tunisia and Morocco to act as mediators in the Algerian dispute. Gaillard opposed it. But despite a last-minute influx of 200 Gaillard supporters to the Radical party convention in Strasbourg, the 38-year-old Premier failed to rally a majority of the more than 2,000 delegates to his side.

There were a total of 1,120 votes. An unofficial tally gave the Mendes-France motion 648 votes. A motion supporting Gaillard's position received 472 votes.

Young Beck Found Guilty Of Charges Of Grand Larceny

Supreme Court Appeal Planned By Attorney

Seattle — Dave Beck Jr., son of the teamsters president, Saturday night was judged guilty of pocketing the money from the sale of two teamsters-owned Cadillacs. The verdict was returned by a jury of nine men and three women.

Charles S. Burdell, chief attorney for Beck Jr., said immediately after the verdict was read that he would appeal to the state supreme court. Grand larceny convictions carry a maximum of 15 years.

The jury deliberated 6 hours, 10 minutes after receiving the case at 12:15 p.m. The jury "knocked" at 8:56 p.m. and notified the court bailiff that it had reached a verdict. Thirty-five minutes later, the verdict was read.

The case went to the jurors after Deputy Prosecutor Laurence Regal, in rebuttal, pointed to Dave Beck Sr., International Teamster president who is here in the audience and said: "he's here to defend his son who's committed a crime."

Earlier, defense attorney Charles Burdell had said Beck Jr. was being tried "because he loves his father."

Deputy prosecutor Laurence Regal gave rebuttal after Burdell finished.

Smith contended that the state had proved "beyond a shadow of a doubt" that young Beck had sold two Cadillacs belonging to the Teamsters union and had "placed the proceeds in his pocket." The total amount involved was \$4,850.

Smith also repeated the state's contention that Beck Sr. and Teamster bookkeeper Fred Verschueren Jr. "concocted a story to explain away the existence of \$6,600, purportedly the proceeds of the sale of three Cadillacs, which is in a vault at Teamster headquarters here."

The money supposedly represents the proceeds of the two cars Beck Jr. sold and another Cadillac which Beck Sr. is accused of selling and keeping the money for himself. The elder Beck faces grand larceny charges Dec. 2.

Robbery Attempted On Medford Girls

City police announced Saturday about 11 p.m. that Alfred Fodgal Jr. 18, of route 1, box 398, Medford admitted in an oral statement that he had attempted an armed holdup of two 15-year-old Medford girls on Friday evening.

Two 15-year-old Medford girls reported to city police Friday night a young man attempted to rob them on Front st. between 10th and 11th sts.

Another attempted robbery was reported to sheriff's deputies later Friday night by a woman who said the attempt was made on Sunset dr. near the intersection of Orchard Home dr.

Police said descriptions given by the two girls and the woman were similar.

Police said the girls told them they were walking toward downtown Medford from the high school, when a young man stopped their ranch wagon beside them, jumped out and told them not to look around. The girls said the man pressed something against the back of their necks. They described it as being like a large automatic type gun, police said.

The girls were told to put their hands in back of them, police reported, but they were not tied. When a car started approaching them, the man asked the girls if they had any money. One of them said no and the other said she had a small amount.

Police said the man told the girls to turn and run without taking any money.

Chief's Resignation Asked After Beating

Klamath Falls — A Klamath county grand jury investigating an incident here involving the alleged beating of a man by city police officers recommended to the city council Friday night that Klamath Falls Police Chief Orville Hamilton be removed from office.

In a statement of findings document, the grand jury charged that "undue force" had been used by police on persons taken into custody, and accused Hamilton of knowing of the situation but taking no action.

Moon Discussed After Meteor Firing

Hanscom Air Force Base, Mass. — Scientists Saturday confidently discussed a rocket firing to the moon as a result of the U.S. penetration of interplanetary space with artificial meteors.

In Pasadena, Calif., Dr. Fritz Zwicky, California Institute of Technology astrophysicist, said America should bombard the moon and other nearby planets with two-pound pellets.

Maurice Dubin of the geophysical research directorate of the Air Force Cambridge Research Center, said Friday's announcement of the breakthrough into interplanetary space "undoubtedly" prepared the way for a rocket to the moon.

Dr. John S. Rinehart, assistant director of the Smithsonian astronomical observatory at Cambridge, said artificial meteors could be hooked onto rockets to furnish information needed to help pave the way for flights to the moon "and beyond."

Friday's announcement made here said the latest space experiment believed to be man's first penetration into interplanetary space, began Oct. 16 at Holloman Air Force base in Alamogordo, N.M.

Pellets Hit Space

Shaped charges of tiny, ball-bearing-sized aluminum pellets were blasted into outer space and at least two of the tiny meteors escaped the earth's gravity and possibly were drawn into the orbit of the sun, scientists said.

The Soviet Sputniks are still within the earth's pull of gravity but the new "space pills," with speeds of 40,000 miles per hour, apparently have broken through that barrier.

Zwicky, who suggested the pellet experiment, said that firing a two-pound slug at the moon would be invaluable for research. He said it could be tracked until it hit the moon, causing a tremendous dust cloud that would be visible through telescopes.

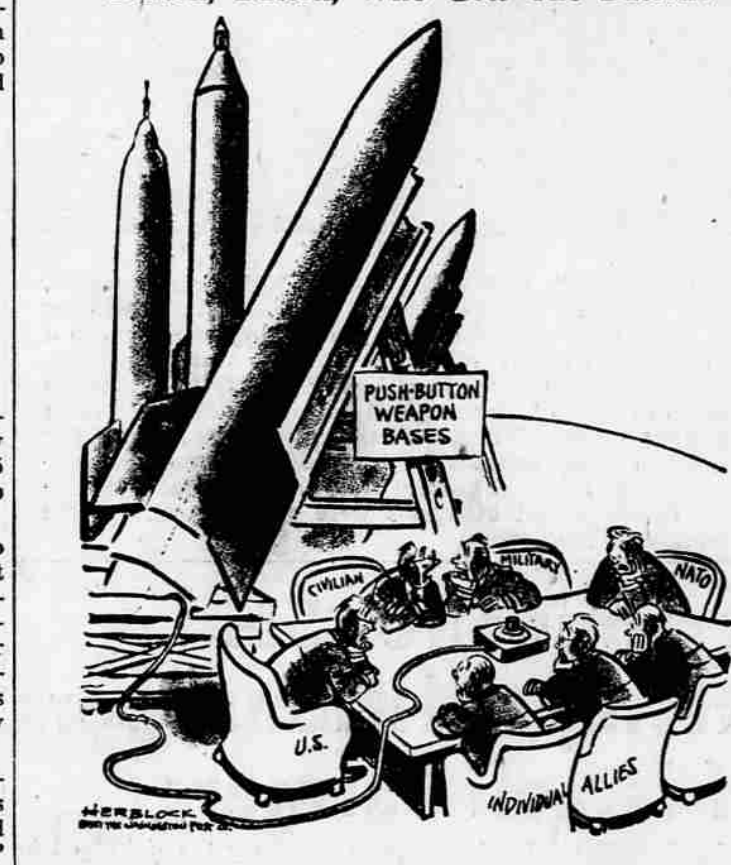
To Learn About Moon

"By using spectroscopes, we could learn much about the moon — composition, whether it had sand or stone or what on its surface," he said.

Rinehart, who helped design the shaped charges that were fired by a 1,100 pound Aerobee rocket, said the meteorites would

No War Prospects Eyed By Defense Planners

"Button, Button, Who Gets The Button?"



Defense Investigation Planned By Senators

Washington — The Senate investigation of the Eisenhower administration's defense policies, opening Monday, will produce new demands for appointment of a single boss of rocket-missile production, two senators, indicated Saturday.

The senators, both members of the preparedness subcommittee which will conduct the investigation, voiced doubts that the President has gone far enough to streamline governmental machinery for the race to overtake Russia.

Sen. Styles Bridges (R-N.H.) told reporters he believes there should be a real missile boss, whether the man is called a director, coordinator or czar.

He said the committee wants a picture of the authority given William Holaday, defense department missile director, and Dr. James R. Killian, scientific advisor to President Eisenhower.

Sen. John C. Stennis (D-Miss.) vice chairman of the subcommittee said he wants to know the extent to which the President "has authorized someone to really coordinate the entire missile program and given him authority to act."

A third subcommittee member, Sen. Ralph E. Flanders (R-Vt.) said earlier this week that he was disappointed that more authority has not been given to Killian.

Under the chairmanship of Senate Democratic leader Lyndon B. Johnson, the subcommittee will hold three days of hearing next week — some in public session and some closed — and return for a second round of hearings Dec. 13.

San Diego — San Diego county's estimated population now is 900,000 persons, making it the second largest county in California, the State Department of Finance reported Saturday.

Post Mortem Backs Prior Diagnosis That Pill Overdose Caused Spicer Death

Post mortem examinations confirmed District Attorney Thomas Reeder's conclusion that James Vear Spicer died in the county jail two weeks ago as the result of an overdose of sedatives, he stated Saturday.

The death-cause investigation of the 44-year-old Medford man included interviews with all eight prisoners confined in the felony cell with Spicer, with jail personnel, the autopsy itself, examination of specimens at the state crime laboratory, and an interpretive letter from the pathologist who performed the autopsy, Reeder stated.

He said he is closing the case, and that his investigation disclosed no evidence of criminal negligence sufficient to cause it to be brought before the grand jury.

Nor was there any evidence of suicidal intent in Spicer's taking the sedative pills, Reeder stated. Why he took them, an estimated 30 or more pills, will never be known, the district attorney said.

Violation of Rules

The fact that Spicer was permitted to keep the pills while in jail is a violation of jail regulations, Reeder said, and he criticized jail personnel for allowing it. But he added that the pills had been prescribed for the

Mass Production Believed Lacking In Russian ICBM

Intelligence View Said Short Range

Washington — The Eisenhower administration is planning next year's defense program on the belief that Russia has not yet begun mass production of intercontinental ballistic missiles and is not ready to launch a war now, it was learned Saturday.

This estimate is the basis of the administration's pleas that the nation not panic in the face of Russia's recent missile and satellite progress and congress not vote unrealistic increases in military spending.

The intelligence estimate is a short-range one dealing with Russia's immediate military capabilities.

Several other studies on what the Soviets may achieve in the future and what this country must do to pull ahead also are receiving priority attention, the White House sources said.

The White House said Saturday President Eisenhower is giving "active consideration" to a new highly-classified study of the arms race and related foreign policy matters.

Mrs. Anne Wheaton, associate White House press secretary, refused to comment on the contents of the report. But a reliable source said it stresses the possibility that long-range Soviet missiles may be able to offset the U.S. strategic air command's airplanes in another few years. It calls for prompt action to build defenses against missile bombardment.

Meanwhile, there were these other developments in the defense picture:

—Sens. John Stennis (D-Miss.), vice chairman of the subcommittee, and Sen. Styles Bridges (R-N.H.), its top Republican member, expressed fears that President Eisenhower has dissipated authority among his various defense and scientific advisers, and called for a single missile-satellite boss.

—Air Force officers said artificial meteors shot into space Oct. 16 may unravel some of the mysteries confronting future space ship builders. The meteors, actually aluminum pellets, attained speeds of 40,000 miles per hour. Some may have been drawn into the sun.

—Eisenhower said that satellite and missile progress has caused people to lose sight of the peaceful potentials of atomic energy. He made the comment to Rep. Sterling Cole (R-N.Y.), new director of the international atomic energy agency.

—Sen. Wayne Morse (D-Ore.) said in a speech at Boston that the administration has had information on Soviet missile and satellite tests "for at least two years." Morse said the military threat posed by the launching of the Soviet satellite is "new only in the sense that the American people now know about it."

No Warnings Now For Rule Violators

Capt. Paul Parson, commander of the local state police district, said Saturday that, effective immediately, his officers will stop issuing warnings for violations of the basic rule.

Instead, he said, they will seek appropriate action through the courts. Captain Parson added that they are under instructions to use warnings more sparingly in all traffic offenses than at present, and to seek court penalties more frequently.

The orders were issued by State Police Superintendent H. G. (Fod) Maison at the instruction of Gov. Robert A. Holmes during a safety commission meeting Friday, and were motivated by the bad automobile accident and fatality record throughout the state during the fall months.

In addition, the governor is writing to judges throughout the state to urge them to be more severe in the penalties meted out for traffic offenses.

The number of traffic accidents and fatalities in the state in October and so far in November are of near-record proportions, it was pointed out at the Friday meeting.

WEATHER

FORECAST: Fair today, increasing clouds tonight, mostly cloudy Monday, high today 53, low tonight 32, high Monday 55.

Highest Yesterday 57
Lowest this Morning 32

Our Skies Tonight

Sunrise 7:13 a.m.
Sunset 4:43 p.m.
Moonset 7:54 p.m.

PROMINENT STARS
Square of Pegasus, high in the south at moonset, will be in the west at midnight.

VISIBLE PLANETS
Venus, south of the Moon.
Jupiter, rises 4:35 a.m.
Mars, rises 5:32 a.m.