

President Batista, Party Leave Cuba

53rd Year



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SANTA MONICA FIRE UNCONTROLLED

Thornton Rules Hatfield Must Resign His Post

Salem—UPI—Attorney General Robert Y. Thornton said late Wednesday that Secretary of State Mark Hatfield must resign his present office before becoming governor.

The decision, in effect, gives to Gov. Robert D. Holmes the authority to appoint a secretary of state to succeed Hatfield.

The governor said earlier his choice for the office was David O'Hara, former head of the State Elections division.

Holmes then asked Thornton for a legal opinion as to his right to appoint O'Hara.

Hatfield said that he would have no comment until he had consulted with Lamar Tooez, Portland, his private legal advisor.

Hatfield claimed earlier that he had the right to appoint his own successor after he became governor.

Opinion Quoted
Thornton's opinion stated: "Under the clear cut language of article 5, Oregon constitution, prohibiting anyone from assuming the office of governor who holds another state office, the incumbent secretary of state and governor-elect must legally relinquish his present office in order to become governor."

Thornton said Hatfield must first submit his resignation. Then a successor could be appointed and Hatfield would turn over to him all the books, moneys and records of his department.

Thornton used as a precedent the case of Hayden versus Hill in which a Lane county legislator was required to resign his post before taking another state job.

The attorney general pointed out that under an Oregon law which has been on the statute books since Oregon was admitted to the union, a secretary of state who chooses to be relieved of his duties before completing his term of office is required to resign to the governor.

The governor (Holmes) then

appoints the new secretary of state under terms of the constitution, according to Thornton.

The attorney general also held that until the constitutional requirements are met, Hatfield remains as secretary of state and Holmes as governor.

"All officers, except members of the legislative assembly shall hold their offices until their successors are elected and qualified," Thornton said.

The decision may be appealed to the courts by Hatfield.

Light Death Toll Posted in First Hours of Weekend

United Press International
American motorists made it a happy New Year by posting a relatively light traffic death toll during the first hours of the long holiday week end despite widespread snow and freezing rain.

Many would-be celebrants decided against whooping it up on New Year's Eve and stayed home rather than brave slippery highways.

A snow blanket one to seven inches deep covered much of the nation's interior from Texas northeastward across the lower Great Lakes into southern Michigan. Freezing rain made highways treacherous south of the snow line to the Ohio Valley.

The National Safety Council had estimated a 102-hour holiday toll of 390 dead in traffic, 40 more deaths than normal for a similar non-holiday period in January.

Hope for Bonus
The council hoped the shock of the high Christmas holiday highway toll would prompt a New Year's bonus of lives saved. On the basis of early reports, it appeared the council's optimism was justified.

A United Press International count at 8 a. m. (PST) showed at least 54 traffic deaths since the holiday began at 6 p. m. New Year's Eve. Nine persons were killed in fires, six of them in Rochester, N.Y., and two died in miscellaneous accidents for an overall total of 65.

Pennsylvania led the states in traffic fatalities with six. Wisconsin and Michigan had five each, and Illinois and Minnesota four each.

Unoccupied House Damaged by Fire
An unoccupied house at 444 North Fir st. was almost totally destroyed by fire last night, city firemen reported.

Origin of the blaze had not been determined this morning and firemen had not learned who owned the residence.

Fire fighting equipment was sent to the scene about 11:20 p. m. after a fireman at the main station, Front and Third sts., had noted a glow in the sky. The whole house was involved in flames when firemen arrived.

Small damage occurred to an adjacent storage shed of Medford Lumber company.

Tickets Go On Sale For Centennial Fair

Portland—UPI—Tickets went on sale today for Oregon's Centennial exposition and international trade fair. They were being sold under the slogan, "Be a 59er."

The Centennial Commission said it has 250,000 books of six adult tickets to sell for \$5 a book and 50,000 junior ticket books to sell for \$2.50 each.



MR. 1958—One year old today, Joseph Patrick Fazio, son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Fazio, 2241 Roberts rd., Medford, was the first baby born in Jackson county last year. Joseph has come a long way in a year's time and is a typical toddler, bright-eyed and full of mischief. He doffs his crown today to Anthony Shannon Fazio, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Fahey, box 833, Ashland, who was born at 12:45 o'clock this morning at Ashland General hospital, to become Jackson county's first citizen this year. Medford's first baby this year arrived at 7:15 o'clock at Sacred Heart hospital. The baby is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Lee Long, 1217 West Ninth st., Medford. Another boy was born at 9:03 o'clock today to Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Harper, 118 West McAndrews rd., Medford, at Rogue Valley hospital to be the third 1959 baby.

Sweepstakes Prize Goes to City Of Glendale in Rose Parade

Pasadena, Calif. —UPI—The City of Portland, Ore., today won second place for its float in the Tournament of Roses parade for class A-2 cities, between 150,000 and 500,000 population. St. Paul, Minn., was first and San Antonio, Tex., was third.

Pasadena, Calif. —UPI—The City of Glendale, Calif., won the sweepstakes prize as the most beautiful entry in the 70th annual Tournament of Roses Parade today as a shirt-sleeved crowd of a million and a half persons watched the spectacle get under way.

Judges at the parade's staging center selected the beautiful floral float "Adventures in Fantasy"—composed of 10,000 Vanda orchids, 6,000 roses and countless blossoms of narcissus and chrysanthemums—as the grand winner.

The crowd had started arriving at the six-mile long parade route during the night with the temperature dropping to 52 degrees. The weatherman predicted a high today of 80. The sky was cloudless, and a bright sun burst over the San Gabriel mountains and splashed down on the flowery pageant.

Grand prize was won by the Quaker Oats company, for its "Arabian Nights" entry depicting scenes from the Middle East. It was composed of roses, orchids and carnations.

St. George and Dragon
Cal Poly college of Pomona, Calif., won the theme prize for "St. George and the Dragon." The legendary adventure depicted the dragon roaring out of his giant lair while a child was meeting the beast with a lance. The floral dragon's head swung from side to side, emitting clouds of smoke.

"Adventures in Sportsmanship" entered by the Chevrolet Division of General Motors won the President's Trophy in its debut in the parade.

Cowboy star Roy Rogers and Dale Evans took part in the float greeting 1958 national soapbox champion James Milep, Muncie, Ind.

A new president may be elected by the council Friday night, Mayor Snider said. The retiring council president is Paul Meyers, Ward IV, who did not run for reelection last month.

A finance committee chairman and three members for the council's legislative committee are also to be named.

Mayor Snider said a new "people-to-people" committee movement is designed to promote exchange of letters, visits, gifts and cultural exhibits and programs between American cities and "sister" cities of comparable size in foreign countries.

80 Homes Burned; Other Mansions Said Threatened

Winds Whip Blaze Over 11,000 Acres

Los Angeles —UPI—Two wind-lashed brush fires raged out of control today in the Santa Monica mountains.

An estimated 80 homes had been destroyed in Topanga and Benedict canyons and many expensive mansions belonging to such celebrities as Doris Duke, Marion Davies, Barry Sullivan, Peter Lorrie and Cameron Mitchell were for a time threatened.

The fires were the third and fourth to ravage southern California within a month.

Many residents refused to join the thousands of homeowners ordered by the fire department to evacuate. They showered their properties with water hoses in a fight against towering flames that flashed as much as 150 feet into the sky.

Keith Klinger, county fire chief, said the Topanga blaze was definitely started by an arsonist. Cause of the Benedict Canyon blaze was undetermined.

Topanga Canyon, about 20 miles west of downtown Los Angeles, was hardest hit and fire was burning out of control on a 25-mile perimeter. An estimated 11,000 acres already were blackened in the area along with 79 of the 80 structures reported destroyed.

Firemen Are Injured
Some 1,500 firemen battled the two blazes while a squadron of planes "bombed" hot spots with a water-borate solution in a desperate effort to halt the fire's relentless march.

At least eight firemen were hospitalized with injuries. Scores of others were treated for smoke inhalation.

Firemen said the Benedict Canyon blaze near Beverly Hills was being contained but was still dangerously out of control in the adjacent canyon of Beverly Glen. About 600 acres was reported blackened in the two densely populated canyons.

Winds up to 50 miles an hour sent the blaze zipping across the brush-studded hillsides and canyon which all week long had been sucked dry by strong desert winds.

Other area schools were used as shelters for the evacuees and homeless. Fire officials said it appeared that most families forced to flee were staying with friends or relatives in other sections of the city.

The Bel Air hotel, an exclusive hostelry where many celebrities stay, was threatened for a while Wednesday night when flames came within a half a mile in the Benedict Canyon area.

Also threatened was the famous mansion of Mary Pickford, Pickfair, along with the mansions of Fred Astaire, David O. Selznick, Tony Curtis, Cary Grant, Kirk Douglas, Ray Noble, Elizabeth Taylor and others.

Appointments Planned by Mayor

Mayor John W. Snider said yesterday he plans to announce the appointment or re-appointment of 12 Medford citizens to municipal positions at the city council meeting Friday night.

The list includes four posts on the planning commission, three on the citizens' budget committee, two on the water commission, one on the library board, one on the civil service commission and one on the municipal court bench.

Mayor Snider said he has not made definite plans regarding membership on the Medford state athletic commission and the board of plumbing examiners. These are appointed for one-year terms.

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WEATHER
FORECAST: Considerable cloudiness through Friday except for partial clearing in afternoon. Patches of fog and occasional drizzle tonight and Friday morning. Low tonight 32. High Friday 45.

Highest Yesterday 45
Lowest this Morning 39
Prec. to 10 a.m. Today, Trace

Our Skies Tonight
Sunset today 4:18 p.m.
Sunrise tomorrow 7:41 a.m.
Moonrise tomorrow 12:19 a.m.
Last Quarter tomorrow 2:50 a.m.

Our Earth, on its nearly circular journey through space, today reaches the point on its orbit nearest to the Sun. It is in Perihelion and Perihelion distance this year is 91,344,000 miles.

"The Rebel Claims Are Greatly Exaggerated, And That Shooting You Hear Is Just Static"



Military Junta Takes Over; Peace Negotiations Seen

Judge Urrutia May Be New President

Havana—UPI—Wild mobs surged through the streets of Havana today, smashing windows, looting and pillaging.

Hundreds of revolutionaries smashed the Hotel Sevilla casino 10 feet away from the United Press International office.

The rebel militia fired shots into the air to try to break up the mobs. The casino was virtually destroyed.

Hundreds of demonstrators then swarmed through the nearby Hotel Plaza and smashed that casino.

Vandalism was rampant. The last vestige of law and order was rapidly disappearing.

Havana—UPI—President Fulgencio Batista fled the country today, leaving behind a nation in chaos and under rebel threat of more violence to come.

The rebels threatened a general strike unless Judge Manuel C. Urrutia is named provisional president at once.

A military junta took over in Batista's stead and both junta and rebel sources indicated peace negotiations would start immediately.

Newsman at Camp Columbia heard rumors, without any confirmation, that both sides had issued cease-fire orders.

Scarcely had the news of Batista's downfall spread through Havana streets before mobs attacked the Fifth Police station in the heart of Havana and freed an undetermined number of political prisoners.

At Havana Prison, a fortress-like structure overlooking the city, other political prisoners rioted while hundreds of relatives milled about outside the walls.

Accused of Brutalities
The Fifth Police station had been under command of Lt. Col. Estaban Ventura, one of the top leaders who fled with Batista. It was at the Fifth station that political prisoners underwent initial interrogation. Rebel sources charged Ventura with many brutalities.

Ciudad Trujillo reports said Batista had reached there with a party of 40 persons.

Rebel sources said rebel leader Fidel Castro and Judge Urrutia would arrive in Havana at 10 a. m. (p.s.t.).

The rebel sources said that a "civil mediation committee" has been formed to try to work out a formula for ending the civil strife.

A representative of former President Prio Socarras also was expected in Havana today.

The Batista government fell apart with dramatic swiftness before dawn. Shortly after 2 a. m., p.s.t., it was disclosed that Batista and practically all high civil and military authorities had fled Cuba in three military airplanes.

Expected in Florida
Batista headed for Ciudad Trujillo in the Dominican Republic. Others, including members of his family, flew to Jacksonville, Fla., arriving there this morning. The ultimate destination of the Batista family was believed Daytona Beach, Fla., where Batista long has had a summer home.

Gen. Eulogio Cantillo took over leadership of the military junta which announced that Senior Supreme Court Justice Carlos M. Piedra would be the stop-gap president.

Cantillo said that Batista had called his Army officers in to Camp Columbia, Army general headquarters, before taking off this morning and announced he was resigning because he did not want further bloodshed.

Even as Batista fled, bitter battles raged through the three easternmost provinces of Cuba—Las Villas, Camaguey and Oriente. A major battle was reported underway at Santa Clara, capital of Las Villas at Cuba's waist, with heavy casualties on both sides.

Named to serve with Cantillo on the military junta were Piedra and Maj. Gen. Jose E. Pedraza. Later it was reported that Pedraza had been found unacceptable to the army and that he also had left the country.

Quilcene, Wash. —UPI—Three children died Wednesday night when a fire of undetermined origin destroyed their home here.

22 Persons Killed In County in 1958

Twenty-two persons were killed in Jackson county during 1958 in traffic accidents, four less than the number that died in highway accidents in 1957.

During the first eight months of 1958 only eight persons had died in traffic accidents compared to 21 for the same period in 1957. Fourteen persons have died on the county's highways since Sept. 18, 1958.

Twelve of the persons killed were men, eight were women and two were two-year-old children. Four accidents this year claimed eight lives compared to only three double fatalities in the county last year.

Among those killed in the double fatalities were John Edwin Smith, 30, of Portland, and John Stanley Wilford, 50, of route 3, box 234, Medford, in a four-vehicle pile-up on Highway 14, near Phoenix. Minnie Claude Seamon, 20, of 781 1/2 Beatty st., Medford, and William H. Dunn, 28, of Empire, were killed March 22 on Highway 62 near Antelope bridge, and Nov. 8, Frederick Albert Kleinsmith Jr., 35, of Detroit, Ore., and Flonnie Marie Costa, 38, of 1689 Jackson rd., Ashland, were killed on Highway 99 at the foot of Billings hill just north of Ashland.

The fourth accident to claim two lives was the following week end, when Mrs. Hannah Dawson, 81, of Seattle, Wash., and her daughter, Mrs. Hannah Jane Olson, 52, of Langley, were killed on Highway 99 near Phoenix.

The two children to lose their lives in accidents were Cora Lee Ottosen, Eagle Point, in a collision Sept. 17 on Highway 62 at the junction of Highway 234 and Wilfred Leo Moore Jr., Butte Falls, who was killed Sept. 28 on Butte Falls rd.

Two Pedestrians
The last two fatalities within the county were pedestrians. Dec. 17 George Theodore Cook, 84, of 153 Granite st., Ashland, was struck on Highway 99 south of Phoenix during a foggy night, and Charles Johnson, 82, of Ashland hotel, was killed Dec. 24 on East Main st. in Ashland.

Other fatalities during the year in traffic incidents were Mrs. Marna Jean Talbot, 27, of route 1, box 130, Gold Hill, who was killed in an accident March 12, and Mrs. Dorothy Aleene Williams, 29, of Prospect, who died following an accident April 22 on Highway 62 south of Prospect.

Mrs. Sophie McClung, 78, of Smith River, Calif., was the state's only traffic fatality during the long July 4 week end. She was killed in an accident on Highway 66 near Lincoln.

George Potter, 79, of route 1, box 1, Gold Hill, was killed July 26 near Gold Hill and Mrs. Bessie Marjorie Smith, 37, of Klamath Falls, died in Ashland Sept. 20 following an accident on Highway 66 near Tub Springs.

Motorcycle Accident
Ernest Lee Beer, 24, of 330 North Central ave., died Oct. 11 after his motorcycle failed to make a curve on Highway 238, and Eugene Richard Taylor, 23, of 199 Mead st., Ashland, was killed in an accident on Highway 99, Oct. 13.

Mrs. Helen Adele Rose, 42, of Fort Jones, Calif., was killed Nov. 11 in Medford, was the only traffic fatality within the county this year.

Also killed in accidents were Frank Collier Leaming, 51, of 459 Grand st., Central Point, on Highway 62 at Eagle Point, on Nov. 29 and Richard Carroll Smithson, 22, of Portland, died Dec. 5 after his automobile left Highway 62 near the Cascade Gorge bridge.

First Fatality in State Is Reported
Portland —UPI—A woman was killed in a traffic accident here shortly before 8:30 a. m. today, the first reported 1959 fatality in Oregon.

The coroner's office identified the victim as Barbara Eaton, 27, Portland.

George Gibson, 39, suffered a fractured leg in the accident, police said.

American Officials Believe Mikoyan May Bear Olive Branch on U.S. Visit

Washington —UPI—American officials said today they would not be too surprised if Soviet Deputy Premier Anastas I. Mikoyan is bearing an olive branch when he arrives in Washington next week.

It may be a well-concealed peace offering but the impression in official circles here is that the 63-year-old confidante of Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev probably is coming to feel out U.S. authorities on the possibility of a deal on Berlin and other German problems.

Mikoyan was expected to see President Eisenhower and Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, although the Russian Embassy and the State Department said no definite appointments have been made as yet.

Information from behind the Iron Curtain suggests Khrushchev may be seeking some formula to get out of the box in which he placed himself by his Nov. 27 ultimatum to the U.S., Britain and France to get out of West Berlin by June 1.

The Western Allies have rejected his demand and have made it clear they will fight if necessary to stay in Berlin. However, they have offered to negotiate with Russia on the Berlin question if it is tied in with the broader problems of German reunification and European security.

Mikoyan may be entrusted with finding out whether the American position is negotiable, officials said. They pointed out that the wily Armenian, who has survived 42 years of Communist politics, would be a natural choice for such a role.

Washington officials noted with interest that the Soviet government has not yet told the Russian people about Mikoyan's planned visit to the United States.

The assumption is that they may be waiting to do so until they can connect it with some news development which will obscure the fact that the Russians asked for the visit.

This would tend to play down the fact that the Kremlin sought permission for Mikoyan's U.S. trip after Communist failures to dent the Allied front at Quemoy and in the Middle East, and after Khrushchev had gotten into an untenable position on the Berlin crisis.

Mikoyan was expected to arrive Sunday or Monday, Soviet sources reported.

March of Dimes Chairman Named

The Medford 20-30 club will conduct the March of Dimes campaign in Medford this year, Jerry Gastineau, county chairman of the National Foundation, announced Wednesday. The drive runs from Jan. 2 through 31.

Bert Rostel and Bart Gardner have been appointed as co-chairmen of the city fund-raising drive.

In addition to carrying out its full program on polio, the National Foundation will include research, professional education and patient aid in birth defects and rheumatoid arthritis.

Rostel said the Medford chapter of the National Secretaries association will stuff and address mailing cards, due to be distributed within the next few days.

Local Man Lodged In Jail After Crash

Robert Daniel Shults, 23, of 601 West McAndrews rd., was lodged in city jail on two charges early today following an accident reported to Medford police.

Shults was cited for failure to leave information at the scene of an accident and charged with "drunk in public-involved in an accident."

According to police investigators, Shults' vehicle veered from Summit ave. about 3:55 a. m., hitting a fence, crossing a flower bed and ending up against a black walnut tree—all in the yard of Frances Mary Anderson, 604 Clark st.

Shults, who suffered a slight mouth injury, was later apprehended at his residence.