

# 'Tornado Alley' Warned To Expect Severe Months Ahead

Kansas City, Mo. (UPI)—The study of radar have brought the device to a new degree of efficiency, Hal Foster told newsmen gathered for their annual "briefing on disaster."

Foster, chief of the radar analysis development unit of the Severe Storm Warning Center here, reported that 21 weather bureau stations and nine cooperative units now comprise a vast radar network which provides data on an hour-to-hour basis.

And new and improved equipment is on the way, although it will not be available for the current tornado season. The first of the new devices, known as WSR 57, is scheduled for installation at Miami, Fla., in May. Initially it will be used basically as a training unit for meteorologists who will be brought in, in classes of 20 to 30 from weather bureaus scattered in storm areas all over the nation.

Each year, indifference, negligence and contempt born of supposed familiarity with the killer winds are accessories before the fact in many deaths.

When the trouble hits, the most specific warnings, and the best distributed in history, are promised. But weather men in this official capital of Tornado Alley, site of the Federal government's Severe Storm Warning Center, doubt they will be fully heeded.

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Often Ignored

Warnings are issued, distributed and sometimes heard, but often are ignored.

Scientific advances in the

meantime, the bureau will use a wartime Navy hand-me-down, only slightly modified for weather use.

The WSR 57, Foster explained, is the first radar set in history designed and built exclusively for weather study.

In the past year, he added, scientific knowledge of tornadoes in terms of radar echoes has improved so much that for the first time specific warnings will be issued, in some instances, on the basis of radar echoes alone. In past years warnings had gone out only when a twister was actually sighted.

"When a hook shows up on the radar screen," Foster said, "out goes a warning. We can't take the responsibility for any other cause."

The warning, relayed by leased teletype wire and telephone to police, other officials, radio stations and news agencies, will be heralded by sounding of the Conelrad signal by all radio stations in the affected area. The signal, in turn, will activate alarms in schools, public offices and in some industrial plants.

Tornadoes strike late at night are the big worry. Radar has solved, at least in part, the problem of the storm cloud that is not seen until it strikes. But alarms broadcast by radio cannot be heard by sleeping families, and, although alarm systems activated by Conelrad are on the market, the public doesn't seem to be buying.

Alarm Device

Also on the market is an alarm device activated by the storm itself. It sounds when thunderstorm activity within a 40-mile radius reaches a certain intensity.

The public isn't buying this gadget either, although its makers hope eventually it can be improved to the point where it will be activated only by twisters and not by the thunderstorms which may or may not spawn tornadoes.

However, there is some doubt about what the average family would do even if it were equipped with a perfectly functioning, 100 per cent accurate tornado warning system.

Plenty of folks in Tornado Alley have been known to insist on going about their business without a hitch even when they've practically been promised there'd be a twister. Some even managed to survive.



**TRUMAN BIRTHPLACE NOW A SHRINE**—Former President Harry S. Truman is pictured during ceremony dedicating his Lamar, Mo., birthplace (background) as a public shrine. The house was given to the State of Missouri by the United Auto Workers Union. Truman was born in the house on May 8, 1884.

# The Family Council

Editor's note: The Family Council consists of a judge, a psychiatrist, three clergymen, a newspaper editor, a women's editor and two writers. Each article is a summary of an actual report. The Family Council does not give advice; it merely reports on problems that have been dealt with by responsible agencies and counsellers.

**Alfred A.**—I have been an all-round cad.

**Carol A.**—I am willing to fight to save our marriage.

**The Council:** Love and effort will go a long way, but even these have their limitations.

In marriage, one partner's willingness to do "more than my share" may be a hindrance rather than a help to success. If anything calls for smooth teamwork this enterprise does. Carol must recognize that a stronger pull on her side will probably upset

**Alfred A.**—How far does a man's responsibility toward his wife go if he never really chose her in the first place? My wife, Carol, can't deny that she ran after me—I should say she and my mother. My mother picked her and kept egging Carol on. I kept telling them both I wasn't in love, but they said never mind—everything would work out for the best anyway. Carol even said that she'd release me if things didn't work out.

We have been married a year and "things didn't work out." I am deeply in love with another girl. I have been unfaithful. In fact, I must admit I have been an all-round cad as far as Carol is concerned. Yet she wants to give our marriage "another chance." This makes me lose all respect for her.

**Carol A.**—I see now that it was very wrong to chase Al the way I did. If a man doesn't care for you it is a mistake to try to fight it. But I was very much in love and Al's mother convinced me that I was doing the right thing. We seemed so very right for each other. Our interests are the same. Our background is very similar. We have the same goals.

Our first year of marriage has been a nightmare in some ways. Yet I learned a lot. I have been at fault in many ways. Marriage isn't a smoothly paved road. You have to fight to make a success of it. I'm willing to do more than my share.

People think I'm either a

**Bridges Refuses Commie Question**

Washington (UPI)—Union leader Harry Bridges refused to tell the House Un-American Activities committee Tuesday whether he ever had been a Communist party member.

Lincoln, Neb.—The Nebraska Pardon Board has refused to commute the death sentence of mass slayer Charles Starkweather, 20, and set his new execution date for May 22.

Nevada, with its wealth of colorful deserts, is nevertheless the Spanish name for snow-clad.

the cart—not make it go. Alfred wants to know how far his responsibilities go. A better question might be where do they begin. He has not yet assumed any responsibility for himself. His romance with "the other woman" is little more than the wriggle of an animal in a trap.

The moment Alfred recognizes that he was as responsible for creating this trap as his mother and Carol, he will begin to grow up. He was a free agent, but he chose the path of least resistance. He hated to give up his little boy privilege of not being really responsible for his own life. He is boasting when he calls himself "a cad." That's a grown-up word.

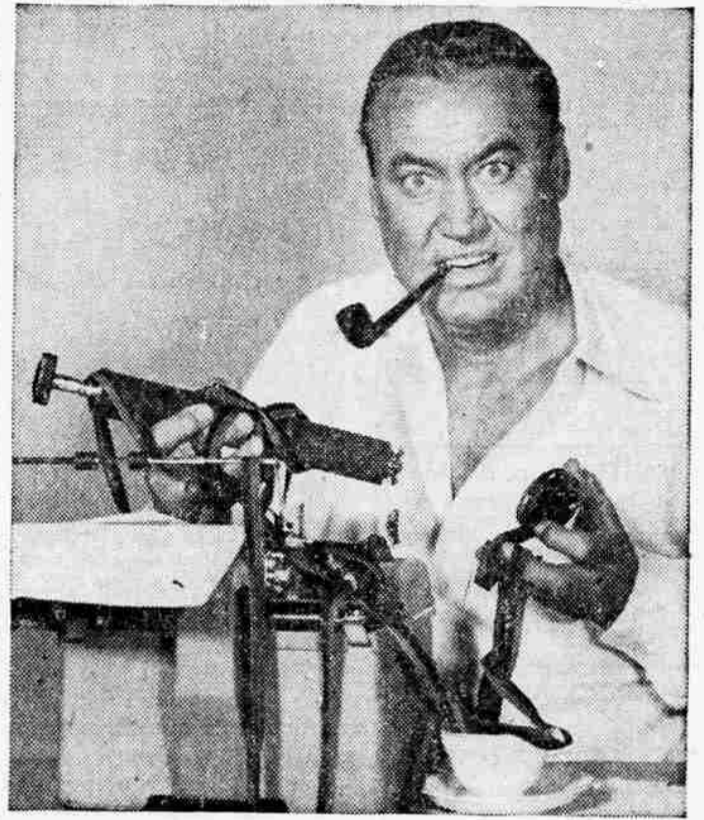
This little boy is not react-

ing to Carol by giving her a hard time. We think it is very likely that if she dropped her hold on him he would go running after her—unless the other woman pinned him down first.

We can't see much happiness ahead for Carol if she insists upon bearing the full load for this marriage, and we don't see any happiness for

Alfred if he doesn't pull himself out of his Peter Pan dream. He should recognize that his present "affair" is little more than that. (Copyright 1959,

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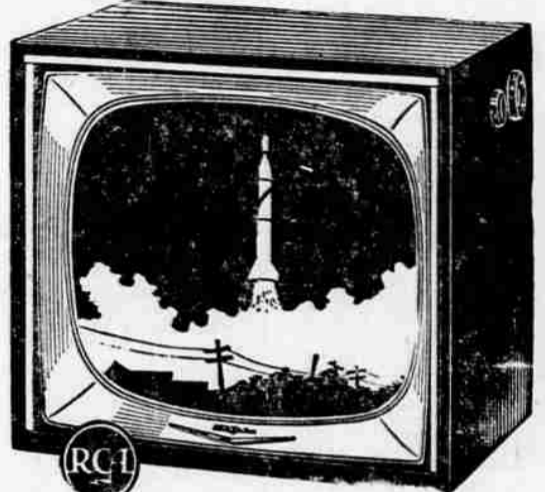
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