

# \$750,000 Damage in Three Big Oregon Fires

Portland Plant, School, Bowling Alley Destroyed

Flames Light Up Sky in Portland

By United Press International  
 A spectacular five-alarm fire gutted the Western Door and Plywood Corporation building in northwest Portland Wednesday night, climaxing a damaging day which saw three big Oregon blazes cause an estimated \$750,000 damage.

Earlier fires Wednesday destroyed a bowling alley at Baker in eastern Oregon and an elementary school at Empire on the southern Oregon coast.

Some 28 pieces of equipment were called out to fight the Portland fire which for a time menaced an entire industrial block. Firemen battled the flames for two hours. It broke out about 7:30 p.m.

Damage Estimates Given  
 Fire Marshal Dale Gilman estimated damage to the four-story plywood corporation at \$250,000.

Damage to the Baker Bowl at Baker from a Wednesday morning blaze was estimated at \$200,000. Loss was estimated at \$300,000 to the Michigan avenue elementary school at Empire which burned in mid-day. The 408 students escaped safely.

The Portland fire lit up the night sky and gutted the concrete and frame structure of the plywood firm. The blaze also damaged the Portland Ice Company.

Meeting Breaks Up  
 A sidelight to the Portland fire was the breaking up by a fire for the first time in 40 years a meeting of the Portland Fire Fighters association. More than 50 firemen left the meeting in a hurry when the fifth alarm was turned in.

Cause of the blaze wasn't immediately determined. Owners said they planned to rebuild the Baker bowling alley. Most of the loss was covered by insurance.

The fire at the big Empire elementary school was believed to have started in a boy's rest room. The students evacuated the building safely in 55 seconds. The gymnasium was saved. Principal George Tait suffered minor cuts. The loss was covered by insurance.

Ruling Expected In Weapons Case

District Judge E. Roy Bashaw is expected to rule this afternoon in the case of Albert Milton Brown, 69, Eagle Point, who is charged with assault with a deadly weapon.

Preliminary hearing in the case was held this morning in district court. Witnesses testifying for the state were Carl Milton Holst, 56, Camp White domiciliary, who was injured in a shooting incident Saturday afternoon, and a sheriff's deputy.

Brown gave a statement, not under oath, in his own behalf. Attorney for the defendant is Alan Holmes. District Attorney Thomas J. Reeder presented the state's case.

Brown was arrested Saturday following an argument which was reported to have occurred at his home.

35 Appointments Made for Blood

Thirty-five appointments have been made to donate blood when the Red Cross Bloodmobile visits Medford Tuesday, Feb. 23, the local Red Cross chapter said today.

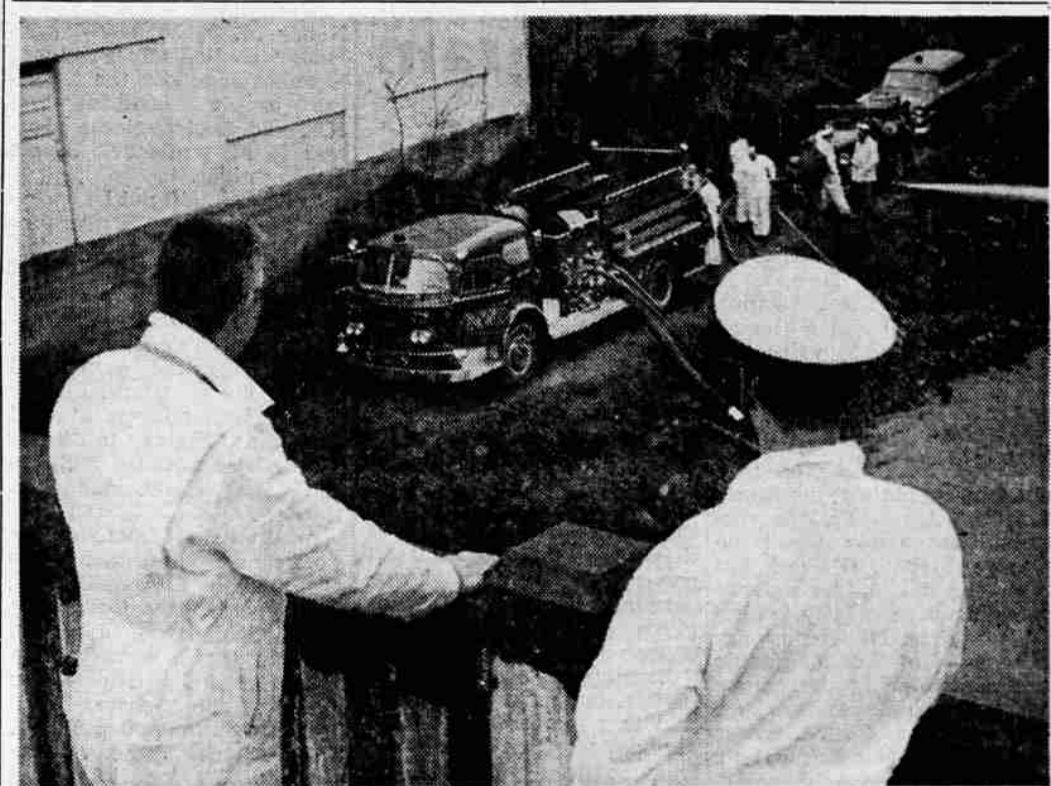
A total of 350 donors are needed to assure collection of the 290-pint quota, officials reminded residents. The Bloodmobile will be at the local Red Cross chapter house, 60 Hawthorne ave., Medford, between 1 and 6 p.m.

Appointments may be made by telephoning the blood program office at the Red Cross building, Spring 3-3813.

Chessman Lawyers File For Stay of Execution

San Francisco -UPI- A. L. Wirin, attorney for Caryl Chessman, announced that he would file today an application in the California Supreme Court asking for a stay of execution for Chessman.

The convict - author faced what appeared to be the final 24 hours of his 11 1/2 year fight for life. He is scheduled to



TEST PUMPER - Medford Fire Chief Gordon Barker, right, and Ralph VanTuy, field engineer for American LaFrance corporation, watch from the East Main st. bridge as the new Medford fire department pumper was put through performance tests this morning. Barker and Fireman Ed Evans went to the American LaFrance

factory in Elmira, N.Y., to pick up the new truck last week. The four-hour test was conducted by Dick Wagner of the Oregon Insurance Rating bureau. The pumper, rated at 1,000 gallons per minute, was purchased with Medford Rural Fire Protection district funds and will be used both in the city and in rural districts, Barker said.



HOWELL APPLING JR. First With Candidacy

Howell Appling To Seek Election

Eugene -UPI- Howell Appling Jr., appointed Republican secretary of state last year by Gov. Mark Hatfield, announced Wednesday night he will seek election to the post.

Appling is the first person in either party to announce his candidacy for secretary of state.

He said his decision to run was motivated by the conviction that citizens who believe in a sound government and the fundamental principles of democracy can no longer afford to be complacent spectators.

Appling, 40, managed his own logging and farm equipment business in Portland before his appointment Jan. 12, 1959.

Drunk Driving Arrests In January Total 753

Salem -UPI- A total of 753 Oregon motorists were sentenced in January for driving while intoxicated and paid \$16,280 in fines, according to state police records.

State police made 1,251 arrests for violation of the basic rule.

Hillcrest Escapee Captured in City

City police arrested a 17-year-old Medford girl this morning who is alleged to be an escapee from the Hillcrest School for Girls in Salem.

Police said the girl is one of seven who reportedly escaped from the school during heavy fog last Tuesday. Four of the girls were apprehended near Salem shortly after the escape, they said.

The Medford girl was arrested at her home by police at 8:25 a.m. today and confined to the county jail on a charge of escape.

Treasurer's Office Gets Liquor Payment

The county treasurer's office this week received a check for \$7,514.14 from the secretary of state for payment of quarterly alcohol beverage tax.

According to Treasurer Karl Janouch, the money is added to the county relief fund. This payment is approximately \$500 more than for the like period last year.

## Controversy Said Hurting Over-All Plan

Editor's note: This is the fourth of five dispatches on the nation's defenses by the military affairs writer of United Press International.

By CHARLES CODDRY  
 Washington -UPI- The missile controversy has distracted attention from President Eisenhower's over-all defense plan as spelled out in his fiscal 1961 budget.

It is a hold-the-line plan that gives unqualified satis-

faction to very few and worries very many. Military chiefs support it only with major reservations, and some field commanders challenge some of its basic premises.

The true measure of U.S. military strength is whether it can back up American diplomacy, serve as a believable deterrent to aggression in the eyes of the Russians and win a war if it should come.

Eisenhower says unequivocally that the military plan does just that. He is standing pat, asserting he considered all the issues now being raised publicly before he put his budget together. He is depending on his great prestige as a former five-star general to win national support for his view.

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CHARLES O. PORTER Seeks Third Term

Porter Announces Two Candidacies

Washington -UPI- Rep. Charles O. Porter (D) today announced his candidacy for a third term as congressman from Oregon's fourth district.

In addition to filing for the Democratic nomination to succeed himself, Porter said he also is filing for state delegate to the Democratic national convention.

Porter, who first was elected to Congress in 1956 and was reelected in 1958, said in a statement that "I am grateful to the voters for twice electing me to Congress."

He was defeated in his first try for Congress in 1954 by Republican incumbent Harris Ellsworth. He defeated Ellsworth in 1956.

Disc Jockey Admits Accepting Payola

Washington -UPI- Found: A former disc jockey who admits he took payola.

House investigators made public closed-door testimony in which Norman Prescott admitted he accepted \$9,955 for playing songs of four record companies over WBZ and WBZ-TV, Boston.

Prescott's testimony was released Wednesday while the House subcommittee met in closed-door session to question Harry Carter, president, treasurer and majority stockholder in Music Suppliers, Inc., Boston, which Prescott said paid him \$5,515.

Two Appear in Circuit Court Here

Appearing before Circuit Judge James M. Main Wednesday were Robert Carr Mix, Phoenix, charged with assault while being armed with a dangerous weapon, and Roland Elmore Dodson, San Rafael, Calif., charged with receiving stolen property.

Mix, who was charged with pointing a .22 caliber rifle at Dean H. DeBerry, sheriff's deputy, Nov. 13, entered a plea of innocent to the charge. The court appointed Sam Harbison as attorney for Dodson.

Hearing Scheduled On Trucking Charge

A hearing will be conducted in Salem Friday afternoon on charges that a Medford motor carrier hauled glue on three occasions when his permit restricted him to transport of lumber products.

PUC Transportation Director James E. Singleton filed the complaint against C. J. Hamilton. Singleton claimed Hamilton transported glue from Forest Grove to Medford without authority and asked a penalty totaling \$300.

## Natives Impress Medford Youth on Circle of Globe

By YVONNE FRANKLIN  
 Mail Tribune Washington Bureau

Washington-Pete Kershaw, a 21-year-old college student from Medford, has just traveled around the world in five months, but he was no ugly American to the natives.

"They're friendly. They like Americans and things American - especially in Japan. In a youth hostel, they even asked me for the labels off my clothes," he said.

Young Kershaw is the son of Gordon Kershaw of Medford. His father is now in the nursery business, growing dwarf fruit trees. Pete has been a student at Lewis and Clark, Portland, for the past two years, and he intends to enroll at Oregon State, Corvallis, in March. His major is business and economics.

Skimmed Over Europe

Kershaw spent most of his time hitchhiking through the Far East; he skimmed over Europe during the winter months and came home early because it was so cold. He first went to Hawaii, then to Japan, Hong Kong, Viet Nam, Thailand, Malaya and India. He did take the train at times, but a good part of his time was spent investigating how the people lived.

He hitchhiked from Bangkok to Singapore and traveled a good distance by horse-drawn cart.

"Of course we couldn't communicate except by smiles - the universal language. I depended on the native villages for food and shelter," Kershaw said.

He was in India during President Eisenhower's visit and he innocently shared in the reflected glory.

"When the President was making his speech before one million people, for some reason the Indians thought I must be part of the official party, and they made way for me and ushered me up front," he said.

Impressed By Response  
 Kershaw was very much impressed by the crowd's emotional response to the President. His speech seemed to have an electrical effect on the people, he said.

"So many were sitting there in rags, dirty and dispirited. But as the President's words were translated to them, their faces began to glow. You could just sense the feeling of hope that was being given them," Kershaw continued.

The starving people of India affected Kershaw too. He said it was almost more than he could bear to see so many little scrawny children begging, one hand pointing to their hungry mouths, the other patting their stomachs.

Avoided Beggars  
 In defense of his peace of mind, he began deliberately getting to the railroad station just before the train left, to avoid seeing the swarms of beggars who would descend on the travelers.

Kershaw also said that the birth control controversy, which made such headlines here, received scant attention in the English-language papers which he read in New Delhi and Singapore.

He pointed out that India has almost no industry as contrasted with prosperous Japan, and this she needs above all if her population is to be fed.

Kershaw started off with \$1500 which he had earned by working last summer in his father's orchard. He also sold his car to finance the trip. He will be broke but happy when he arrives in Medford around Feb. 20.

He loved Japan and spent over two weeks there.

"The first thing I saw when I got off the train in Tokyo was a Mobilgas station," he said, noting that Japan's metropolises of nine million people is very westernized.

"The Japanese are extremely polite and friendly - except at the movies and in subways. Then they become running, jumping fiends. At the movies they don't wait for the depart-

ing crowd to get out of the theatre - they elbow them out of the way; jump over seats. Then after everyone is seated they revert to the polite bowing and smiling at their neighbors," he said.

Young People Eager

Kershaw spent most of his time outside Tokyo in northern Japan, and during that time he didn't see one Caucasian. He stayed mostly in youth hostels where the young people were most eager to know all about America. They examined his clothing eagerly, in admiration.

He was in Hong Kong for two and one-half weeks, and he got quite close to the Red Chinese border. The mainland is only one and one-half miles across the bay, and Hong Kong is teeming with refugees.

"So many of the refugees are starving. They have no nationality. The British let them live in Hong Kong, but won't give them citizenship so they can emigrate elsewhere," he said.

"It is tragic. Whole families set up shop on a street. Perhaps one member will carve something to sell. At night the whole family folds up shop and sleeps out on the street," he continued.

Kershaw also went to Macao, the Portuguese island to which many refugees escaped. Communists have also infiltrated heavily there. They have Red Chinese schools and libraries.

The Canton river flows through Macao; on one side is freedom, on the other the mainland of China. The river is perhaps 800 yards wide. A village is directly across the river, Kershaw said.

"You can see the Red Chinese building a dam, and all the people able to work are removed from the village to the work camp. They can never rejoin their children or old people left behind in the village."

"It is only three miles from the village to the damsite, but they are not allowed to go back and forth. Red Chinese gunboats go up and down river constantly, searching for people who try to get away," Kershaw said.

Everywhere Kershaw went, he found the ubiquitous coke. American movies had preceded him too. "Everybody wants to go to America," he said.

Property Purchase On Council Agenda

The Medford city council will consider the purchase of several pieces of property necessary for the extension of 10th st. at its meeting at 7:30 o'clock tonight in the city hall.

The city will have to acquire the properties and others before it can go ahead with the proposed extension of 10th st. west from Portland ave. to Riverside ave., which will include a new bridge over Bear creek.

Also on tonight's agenda will be the consideration of a request from the Southern Pacific company to install two additional switch tracks at McAndrews rd. to serve Timber Products company.

Portland -UPI- The University of Portland has opened a drive to raise \$655,000 for construction of Delaunay Memorial Center.

"Marvelous! Now Who Can We Trust To Be In Charge Of It?"



**WEATHER**  
 FORECAST: Partly cloudy this evening, becoming low overcast or foggy in valley early Friday. Fair Friday. Colder tonight with low 35-38. High Friday 50.

|                       |     |       |
|-----------------------|-----|-------|
| Highest Yesterday     | 51  | Temp. |
| Lowest this Morning   | 35  |       |
| Pre. to 10 a.m. Today | .07 |       |

**Our Skies Tonight**

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| Sunset today   | 5:46 p.m.  |
| Sunrise tomorrow   | 7:04 a.m.  |
| Moonrise tomorrow  | 12:32 a.m. |
| Last Quarter   | Feb. 19    |
| PROMINENT STARS  |            |
| Sirius, due south  | 9:02 p.m.  |
| Procyon, high in south   | 9:56 p.m.  |
| Regulus, high in south   | 12:24 a.m. |
| (Procyon is between Sirius and Regulus and a little nearer Sirius) |            |