

Flames Destroy Apartment House At Portland

By United Press International
Fire destroyed an apartment house near Portland Wednesday night, climaxing a busy 24-hour period which saw four damaging blazes in western Oregon.

The blaze wrecked the 12-unit Greenwood Manor apartment house at southeast 122nd near the Clackamas-Multnomah county line. Six families escaped safely.

Belongings Lost
Firemen had to battle the blaze during a stiff east wind. All the personal belongings of the occupants were lost and damage was roughly estimated at \$75,000.

Earlier, fire wrecked the four-story Hoffman hotel in Eugene with loss estimated at \$250,000. A fire also caused some \$200,000 damage to the Totem Pole Marina and boats in north Portland.

At Astoria an early morning fire Wednesday gutted the entire second floor of the Astoria girls' school. No one was injured in the blaze.

Woman Again Widowed by Train

Fresno, Calif. —UPI— Back in 1922, Mrs. L. A. Snyder was the wife of Joseph C. Waugh, a fireman on the Santa Fe passenger train "The Missionary." On Dec. 2 of that year, the train hit an open switch two miles west of Bakersfield and Waugh was fatally scalded by steam.

The widow married another railroad man, engineer L. A. Snyder.

Monday night Snyder was cremated at the controls of Santa Fe's "San Francisco Chief" when the streamliner collided with a truck tanker loaded with fuel oil.

The accident happened four miles west of Bakersfield.

STILL LONELY

Huntington Park —UPI— City councilmen took timely action when they got a letter from a man asking whether there were laws against starting a lonely hearts club here. Finding no such ordinances, the councilmen held an emergency session and passed some. Then they answered the man's letter.



ENGINE DAMAGED — This is the engine exploded, derailing and setting fire to the Santa Fe passenger train that struck an oil truck on a grade crossing near Bakersfield, Calif., Tuesday night. The truck

Western Democrats Draft 1960 Platform in Field of Resources

By A. ROBERT SMITH
Mail Tribune Washington Correspondent

Washington (Special) — Western Democratic party officials have drafted the foundation of the party's 1960 platform in the field of resource development, with endorsement of a regional power agency for the Pacific Northwest.

These natural resources planks were the outcome of the recent party conference at Albuquerque, N.M., at which Oregon's Democratic National committee man, C. Girard Davidson, played the key role as head of the resources committee.

Davidson, who served as assistant secretary of interior a decade ago during the Truman administration, is understood to be a contender for the interior cabinet post in the presidential election this fall.

Under the heading "energy," the suggested platform called for the customary programs of multiple-purpose river development to assure maximum control and utilization of western river basins

for cheap power, flood control, irrigation and water supply. It added this point:

Regional Agency
"Establish in the Pacific Northwest a regional agency to enable full, comprehensive development of the Columbia river and to provide the region's utilities with low-cost wholesale power."

This apparently was an allusion to the general concept embodied in a bill introduced last year by Sen. Richard L. Neuberger (D-Ore.) to create a power agency for the Northwest with authority to issue revenue bonds to finance new construction of dams and transmission facilities.

No mention was made in the platform proposal of the touchy preference clause issue, which has indirectly served to stymie Neuberger's bill. A clause in Neuberger's measure, designed to guarantee Oregon an equitable share of cheap Columbia river federal power interminably, has left Washington state's senators cool to the whole idea for the moment. So no legislative action is now in sight.

In a more generalized statement on regional power development, the platform proposals stated:

"Foster development of efficient regional giant power systems from all sources, hydro, thermal, and nuclear,

with utility responsibility to supply low-cost electricity at wholesale to all retail electric systems — public, private and cooperative."

The statement also supported "federal construction of atomic power plants."

Among the other points and proposals were these:

1. Establishment of a federal water pollution control agency, and an extension of federal jurisdiction to all navigable streams. This directly opposes the philosophy of the Eisenhower administration, as reflected last week in a veto of an expanded water pollution control program. The administration wants the states to deal with this problem.

2. Establishment of a National Institute of Atmospheric Research to find out more about the giant river of weather that surrounds the earth.

3. More research to protect and increase sports and commercial fisheries.

4. Establish program of conservation camps for young people to work in national parks and forests. The Senate has passed a bill to do this, against the policy of the administration. The House has not acted as yet.

5. Increase recreational areas for a growing population by developing recreational grounds at all projects built by the Bureau of Reclamation and Corps of Engineers; and to develop adequate camping and play areas with access to oceans, gulfs, rivers, streams, lakes and reservoirs, with facilities for boating, fishing, swimming, camping and picnicking.

6. Improve forest fire protection and speed reforestation of burned-over forest areas, which it said now amounts to 4 1/2 million acres of unproductive land. It also called for "adequate financing of intensive forest management to make government forest a model" and "protection for the small timber operations," but mentioned no specific proposals.

7. Require all military reservations to be administered under state fish and game regulations.

8. "Immediate termination of the arbitrary discrimination and unreasonable restrictions by the U.S. government against the domestic production, ownership and sale of metals."

GOP Criticized
This statement fell under the category "minerals," which criticized the GOP for a decline in western mining industry. But the plank did not state how the Democrats would deal with current tariff, gold price or federal metal buying practices which are blamed by many for depressing the mining industry.

Under "federal lands," the statement chastized the Administration for "its record of giveaways" and for what Davidson termed "calculated apathy" in not spending more money in access roads, soil and water programs and range seeding. The Democrats favor, it added:

"Wise investment in access roads, forest crop improvement, mapping, public use facilities, and other developments which greatly increase both federal and local revenues and public benefits."

Salem Sewage Survey Presented
Salem —UPI— A Corvallis engineering firm today presented to Salem city officials a survey for a multi-million dollar sewage system.

The survey was prepared by the firm of Cornell, Howland, Hayes & Merryfield at the city's request. Exact financial estimates are to be revealed later.

The proposed system covers a 65-mile area in and around Salem.

Wall Street Chatter

New York —UPI— Science stocks still challenge the imagination of both active traders and institutions as they outperform many of the top industrial issues included in the averages, notes Lucien O. Hooper of W. E. Hutton & Co.

But the imagination, he points out, is of a type based more on nebulous and abstract ideas of "inevitable" growth rather than on absolute mathematics.

"Certainly it has a high element of 'vogue' in it; and it is only fair to say that the vogue already has had a long life, as such things go," Hooper opines.

He believes the interest in the so-called science stocks at this point "must be based to a considerable extent on speculative psychology rather than fundamentals. Right now, the psychology is vigorous," he notes.

Bache & Co. says North American Car appears to have built a "strong and interesting" technical formation during the past six months. "Although not a particularly active issue, he would suggest it for those trading accounts willing to assume the speculative risk."

Standard & Poor's Corp. says Seaboard Finance, which provides a yield of 4.7 per cent at current levels, has appeal for good income return, good defensive qualities and ultimate appreciation.

Humphrey Sees Oregon Primary As Inconclusive

Washington —UPI— Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.) said today he expected the Democratic presidential primary in Oregon to be "rather inconclusive" because of the number of potential candidates that have been listed.

Asked about the outlook, he said he was taking a step at a time in his campaign and was now concentrating on the April 5 Wisconsin primary in which he is matched with Sen. John F. Kennedy (D-Mass.).

Silent on Contests
Of the Oregon primary where candidates can be listed without their consent, Humphrey said:

"I think this number of candidates would make the result rather inconclusive."

Asked if he welcomed a contest with Sens. Lyndon B. Johnson (D-Texas) and Stuart Symington (D-Mo.) two unannounced candidates who are staying out of other presidential primaries, Humphrey said he would let them speak for themselves.

Van Rie, Wife Go Into Seclusion

Boston —UPI— A handsome Dutchman who admitted shipboard intimacies with a vivacious young divorcee has stepped from the shadow of death into the arms of his forgiving wife.

Willem and Nella Van Rie were in seclusion at a hotel today, alone for the first time since January, 1959 when as radio officer aboard the SS Utrecht he left his native Holland.

A statement from Radio Holland officials that a job would be waiting for him and his wife's forgiveness have apparently assured Van Rie's future.

La Grande —UPI— John L. Eldridge, 36, La Grande, has been sentenced to seven years in the state penitentiary on a charge of contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

FOOD SOURCE
St. Paul — Pure cellulose, such as cotton, for example, can be utilized as a food for cattle, experiments have demonstrated.

Tillamook —UPI— Jack Hornback, Tillamook school superintendent, has resigned effective June 30. He said he planned to complete work on a doctor's degree.

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