

# Ranch Buildings Burned in 1,100-Acre Fire

## President Fields Questions During Press Conference

### Ike Replies To Democratic Critics

Washington — (UPI) — President Eisenhower said emphatically today Congress cannot take the view that politicking is more important than the national interest.

The President also told his news conference that it was a little bit silly for Democratic critics to accuse him of unloading new programs on Congress when he merely had restated recommendations he made during the pre-convention session of Congress.

He made another reply to Democratic critics — specifically Sen. John F. Kennedy, the Democratic presidential nominee — when he said there was nothing in the economic picture now to indicate that a recession or depression is in the offing.

Eisenhower fielded a number of questions about the current pre-campaign session of Congress when he met with 205 newsmen for his first news conference in five weeks.

**Defends Legislative Program**  
Eisenhower said he stood for a number of things which were reflected in the 22-point legislative program he sent to Congress Monday and he was not deserting those positions now.

In other news conference comments, the President said: — He had not frozen \$621 million in defense funds as charged by Senate Democratic Leader Lyndon B. Johnson. Congress cut some items in his defense budget, he said, and increased others and the result requires a lot of study so that the question of impounding appropriated money was not before him in those terms.

— This country's patience may be running out in refraining from nuclear tests in the face of discouraging disarmament negotiations with Russia. But he said the United States would not under any circumstances conduct tests in the atmosphere which might cause worldwide worries over health.

**Calls It Propaganda**  
— Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev's proposal for the heads of state of all United Nations members to attend the General Assembly meeting next month was obviously propaganda. He has given no thought to a meeting with Khrushchev if the Soviet leader should come to the U.N. but might suggest one if he thought it would be useful.

**Secretary of Agriculture**  
— Ezra T. Benson, the administration's political target in the farm belt, has embraced programs that the President believes to be correct and it would be a betrayal of his own views if he regretted keeping Benson in the cabinet.

— During the presidential campaign, he will do whatever he can do for the Nixon-Lodge ticket whose election he thinks would be for the good of the country. But his activity would not necessarily mean making a set of partisan speeches. He thinks Vice President Richard M. Nixon and Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge can take care of themselves very well.

## Senate To Ratify Antarctic Treaty

Washington — (UPI) — The Senate voted today to ratify the 12-nation Antarctic treaty which is designed to preserve the area for peaceful purposes.

**Salem — (UPI) —** A plaque honoring Cornelia Marvin Pierce, Oregon's first state librarian, has been presented to the state library.



**'GIANT BLOW TORCH'**—The oil tanks on the Albert and Frank Straus dairy farm appear to be a "giant blow torch" as they burn in Tuesday's fire on the north side of Lower Table Rock. The 1,100-acre fire destroyed a considerable amount of supplies and equipment on the farm before being brought under control about 9 p.m. Cause of the blaze has been attributed to a spark from a state highway department tractor working along the highway. Other equipment and buildings were lost in the fire by nearby ranchers along Highway 234.



**HOLOCAUST** — As flames swept uncontrolled through two farm buildings on Strang-Deuel farm, firemen concentrated their efforts on saving other buildings on the property. Two horses huddled together for mutual comfort as flames roared and cracked in the high wind.

## Homes, Livestock Threatened in Lower Table Rock

### Blaze Attributed To Spark From Machine

A wind-fanned blaze which swept over farm fields, destroyed a number of ranch buildings, burned grass and brush, and threatened homes and livestock on the north side of Lower Table Rock, was being mopped up today by state department of forestry and Central Point rural fire department crews.

The fire, which the forestry department said covered some 1,100 acres, broke out along Highway 234 in mid-afternoon yesterday. It was brought under control about 9 o'clock last night.

State forest patrolmen attributed the blaze, which poured a streamer of smoke over the Medford area, to a spark from a state highway department tractor. They said the equipment was crushing rock in a ditch along the highway.

Burned on the Albert and Frank Straus ranch were a large machine shed, a hay and bedding barn for cattle, and several smaller structures. Also destroyed were a hay barn on the Charles Hutchinson place and a storage shed full of hay, and a former hog house on the C. Virgil Strang-Deuel ranch. The Strauses had hay stored in the Hutchinson barn.

**Equipment Burned**  
Flames swept over some 450 acres owned by the Straus families. Burned in the practically new machine shed were a truck, a car, two tractors, a hay baler and other tools and equipment. The Straus combine was lost in a stubblefield on the Strang-Deuel property. Other losses to the Strauses included a tool shed, a chicken house and a saddle shed and a 25 or 30-acre field of alfalfa being saved for seed. A storage barn and milking parlor were saved.

Homes threatened included six in the vicinity where the fire broke out.

**Crews at Scene**  
The state forestry department had 32 men on the fire last night and the rural district 18. An estimated 200 persons helped out at the scene. Three tractors, six pumps and the half-track tanker-pumper were dispatched by the forest patrol to the fire. Central Point rural fire department had five trucks at the fire which went up to the rock on the north side of Table Rock and over the top and down into the "U" bit.

Southwest district of the state forestry department had 38 men mopping up this morning. Six Central Point rural firemen were at the scene. Four men of the Leo Hoag logging crew were felling snags.

The fire was "definitely under control and in very good shape," the southwest district office reported this morning.

The big "smoke" seen west of Central Point this morning was from stubble-field burning by Otto and Arnold Bohnert.

## Ted Kennedy Slated As Portland Speaker

Portland — (UPI) — Ted Kennedy, brother of Democratic presidential candidate John F. Kennedy, is scheduled to speak Sunday at the opening of the Citizens for Kennedy-Johnson headquarters here.

Hy Raskin, campaign manager for the senator, also is scheduled to be on hand.

## Alaskans Favor Retaining Juneau As State Capital

Anchorage, Alaska — (UPI) — With about two-thirds of the votes counted in the Alaska primary election, residents of the 49th state appeared to have voted in favor of retaining the state capital in the colorful gold mining town of Juneau.

With approximately two-thirds of the estimated vote counted, United Press International tabulations showed 14,898 votes against the capital move initiative and 10,620 votes for the measure.

The initiative would have moved the capital from Juneau where it has been located for the past 54 years, 570 miles northwest in the vicinity of Anchorage.

**Democrats Win**  
Democrats swept across the primary ballot with an overwhelming majority.

Incumbent Sen. E. L. Bartlett, unopposed for the Democratic nomination, garnered 14,578 votes out of a total of 20,340 cast.

The Republican who will oppose Bartlett in the November general election will be Dr. Lee McKinley, a dentist from Anchorage who defeated Fairbanks labor leader Lawrence Brayton.

**Nuns Attend First Sisters' Conference**

Portland — (UPI) — Some 225 nuns from 10 states and British Columbia were expected today for the first annual Sisters' Conference on Spiritualities at the University of Portland campus. The conference ends Saturday.

## Officials Discuss Enforcement Of Dog Control Law

Medford city officials and county court members agreed this morning, following a discussion, to proceed cautiously in enforcement of the dog control law.

City Attorney Joel B. Reeder interpreted the law as primarily protecting livestock from dogs. Dogs with muzzles can run at large, according to the law, which does not protect yards and gardens, it was pointed out. The law exempts dogs used for herding livestock. Dogs "under the control" of their masters, do not have to be leashed, Reeder pointed out.

**Candidates File For Ashland Posts**

Ashland — Ashland Mayor Richard L. Neill said today his campaign for re-election would be based on "my past record" and "continued progress" for the city.

Neill yesterday filed a petition for re-election to another four-year term in a move that came as a surprise to many Ashland residents.

His decision to run, he said, came after "many people" had expressed "disappointment" that he was not going to seek re-election and had urged him to run again.

Two other candidates, W. R. Brown and Norman Lindahl, have filed for the mayor's post. Aug. 29 is filing deadline.

Three city council seats, those of Glenn Revel, Emmett Whitham, and George Ward, also will be up for grabs in the November balloting. Neill said he planned to turn in a petition for Ward later today.

Recorder Dargel also said today that Frank Barnhouse has filed a petition to seek re-election as city park commissioner.

## Motion To Set Aside Indictments Denied by Court

A motion to set aside indictment against O. H. Bengtson, Medford lawyer, in the Medford Escrow case, was denied by Circuit Judge James M. Main this morning.

The motion was based on an alleged error in the listing of witnesses who appeared before the Jackson county grand jury. Richard Carney, Portland, with Robert A. Boyer, Medford, represented Bengtson.

This morning Judge Main granted Bengtson until Aug. 17 to file a demurrer and memorandum, and Gerald Scannell, deputy district attorney, until Aug. 24 to file his answer and a memorandum. Arguments on the demurrer will be heard on Aug. 29 at 10 a.m., Judge Main said.

Asked if he had any objections, Scannell said he would like "to speed up the case as much as possible, otherwise it will drag into September, October and November."

"Boyer and Holmes are representing the defendant and it's possible Holmes could be elected district attorney which would put him in the position of both prosecuting and defending the case," Scannell said. (Alan B. Holmes, Republican, is running against Scannell, a Democrat, in November's general election for district attorney).

**Smiling, Judge Main** replied, "I don't think counsel need be concerned over that problem." (Holmes has disassociated himself from the case).

A grand jury returned an indictment against Bengtson charging he took \$3,701.14 illegally from the company funds on or about Oct. 21, 1951, and in another indictment charged he took \$1,700 on or about Feb. 2, 1960.

The same grand jury also returned an indictment that Rachel Peterson Carter, Jacksonville, took \$224.81 on or about May 14, 1958, from company funds. Mrs. Carter has requested time in which to obtain out of town counsel.

The state has evidence to show in the \$3,701 case that the money was used to pay in part a malpractice claim and in the \$1,700 case that the money was used to pay premiums for a personal life insurance policy belonging to Bengtson, Scannell said this morning following the arguments in circuit court.

## High Court Affirms Bodi Conviction

Salem — (UPI) — The Oregon Supreme Court today affirmed the Benton county conviction of Wayne Bodi on a manslaughter charge.

Bodi had been convicted of killing a 4½ month old girl by beating the baby on the face and head.

## School Addition Plans Discussed By School Board

Proposed plans for the senior high school classroom and boys' physical education addition, teacher resignations and elections and the awarding of bids for school supplies were among the items discussed Tuesday evening at the Medford school board meeting.

Following a discussion by the board with the architect on the classroom and physical education addition, the board instructed the superintendent and architect to study and revise the plans so they will be within the money available for the project.

Resignations were accepted by the board from Ednae Adams, Edna Stewart and Norma Grossman. New teachers hired were Corinne Kane, intermediate; Gordon Bradshaw, high school English, and Alice Saunders, elementary orchestra.

Contracts were awarded for supplies to the following companies: Simplex, Portland, time clock and bell at Griffin Creek school, \$927; Mobile Oil company, Medford, oil and lubricants, \$587.06; Don McCurdy and company, Medford, installation of gasoline storage tank and pump system, \$2,712; J. K. Gill, bleachers at McLoughlin Junior High school, \$4,665; Valley Shade company, sun shades for Hedrick Junior High school, \$1,554.

Other contracts awarded were for paper, Blake, Moffat and Towne; light bulbs, Westinghouse, and musical instruments, Purucker Music house and Emerald Music company.

Also reviewed at the meeting was the paying of expenses of staff members to approved meetings. The board approved this item on the same basis as the state.

## Two Men Jailed For Monmouth Holdup

Dallas — (UPI) — Two men charged with the holdup of a Monmouth service station late Tuesday were in custody at Polk county jail here today following their capture at a state police roadblock at Junction City.

Held on armed robbery charges were Leland Everette Little, 31, and Richard Edward Swafford, 20, both of Marysville, Calif.

New York — (UPI) — Lockheed Aircraft Corp., manufacturer of the Electra airliner, lost \$55.4 million in the first six months of this year, Chairman Robert Gross has reported.

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# MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

20 Pages MEDFORD, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10, 1960 No. 122

**WEATHER**  
FORECAST: Fair tonight and Thursday, low tonight 52. High Thursday 75.  
Temp. 100  
Highest Yesterday 100  
Lowest this Morning 57

**Our Skies Tonight**  
Sunset today 7:20 p.m.  
Sunrise tomorrow 5:14 a.m.  
Moonrise tonight 9:24 p.m.  
Last Quarter Aug. 13  
The planet Mars rises 12:15 a.m. It is now moving near Alderbaran in the constellation Taurus, and is a bit brighter than that star.

## Russia Expels Two American Attaches

Moscow — (UPI) — The U.S. air attaché to the Soviet Union has been ordered out of the country for conducting intelligence activities "incompatible with his diplomatic status," the official Tass news agency said today.

The agency said Air Attache E. M. Kerton and his assistant, I. T. MacDonald, were detained recently after allegedly photographing military objectives at Kurgan in the trans-Ural Mountain region.

## Congolese Premier Slightly Injured During Rioting

Leopoldville, The Congo — (UPI) — Congolese Premier Patrice Lumumba was slightly injured tonight while trying to help quell riots which broke out between his followers and rival federalist groups of Africans.

The rioting started when Lumumba's Congo followers tried to enter the headquarters of the federalist Abako party leaders in the Dendale district of the capital.

## Burglars Get \$406 After Opening Safe

About \$406 was stolen sometime during the night when a 500-pound safe was forced open at Skinner's Buick and Cadillac sales, 143 South Riverside ave., city police report.

Fred Boenig, a company workman, told Medford police today that the thieves had evidently entered the building through a rear window after breaking the glass. Police reports indicate that the burglars "peeled" the door from the safe.

Left by the safe were several tools, and two empty soft drink bottles. Two vending machines were pried open and the coins removed.

Police said today that the job is similar to a safe-cracking in Eugene during the week end. The police believe that two persons were involved.

Although money, automobile titles, and other documents were taken in a burglary at the company last year, only money was taken this time. Police say there is "no connection" with last year's crime.

## Thornton To Attend London Conference

Salem — (UPI) — Attorney General Robert Y. Thornton will fly to London this week to take part in a United Nations congress on the prevention of crime and treatment of offenders which is now in session.

Washington — (UPI) — The Agriculture Department estimates the 1960 corn crop at 4,111,954,000 bushels.

## Testimony Ends on Copco's Rate Request

Testimony ended yesterday in the second hearing on the proposed California Oregon Power company rate increase. The state public utilities commission staff spent the day presenting their analysis of the testimony which Copco officials presented at the previous hearing.

The testimony from both hearings will now be studied by the Oregon PUC commissioner and a judgment will be made. PUC examiners could give no estimate when this decision will be reached.

Copco's strongest objection was to a PUC staff suggestion that lines between Oregon and California be metered. This was designed to give a better check on power usage in the two states should there

be future rate change hearings. Cost of the meters would be about \$250,000 and would produce results which would not be much more accurate than present estimates. H. P. Bosworth Jr., vice president and assistant to the general manager, testified.

Local residents were also given a chance to speak and ask questions. Four were present to do so and a petition protesting the rate increase was presented on behalf of K. M. Byers, Rogue River, who was unable to be present.

The 83 signers of the petition were from Rogue River, Grants Pass and Cave Junction. Copco's television advertising and bonus offers for appliance purchasers were

among the chief areas of criticism by residents present. Most vocal of these protests came from Frank Koch, Central Point and Mrs. Howard F. Todd, Eagle Point.

But these expenditures are considered proper advertising expenditures by the PUC staff, according to Al Wickert of the PUC staff.

These bonus offers tend to encourage the use of electric power and thereby bring more profit to the company rather than tax the existing rate payers, he said.

Mrs. Todd also protested the equal rates in California and Oregon. Although it costs more to deliver power to California, the company feels that an equal "postage stamp" rate be charged.

Company officials have explained this rate to be similar to postage rates. The same four cents is paid for a stamp whether the letter is to go across town or across the nation.

Mrs. Todd said that she felt that it was unjustly discriminatory for Oregon power users to subsidize California customers. To prevent this, she asked that an interim rate be established until metering equipment can give data to establish unequal rates.

Also heard was Alva A. Walker, Gold Hill, a representative of the Gold Hill Grange. Walker said that the company was taking the path of least resistance by increasing residential rates and suggested that an increase in commercial rates would be more appropriate.

