

Three Big Forest Fires Move Away From Three Small California Towns



FIRE THREATENS MILL — Timber smolders close to Hughs Bros. Mill near Foresthill, Calif. over the week end where a rampaging Sierra forest fire threatened the community and was stopped when it burned to the edge of town. The blaze pictured here is the largest of two in the Sierra. (UPI Telephoto)

Nearly 50,000 Acres Charred in National Forests

Residents Alerted; Wind Shift Feared

Foresthill, Calif. — Three forest fires moved away from three frightened small towns today as they continued to eat through nearly 50,000 acres in two national forests.

Forest officials heaved a sigh of relief as winds, which blew gusts up to 60 miles an hour Sunday dropped to 8-18 miles an hour today and fanned the blazes away from Foresthill, Donner Lake and North San Juan.

But they called in thousands more fire fighters in an attempt to contain the flames during predicted 30 mile an hour winds later today.

U.S. Forest Service officials said two of the fires were burning steadily away from Foresthill and Donner Lake, communities with a total population of 2,300, but residents remained on the alert to flee and fire crews watched for a possible shift in winds.

Traffic Blocked
Flames Sunday swept through four hamlets, blocked out the gambling center of Reno, and halted transcontinental traffic on Highway 40 for more than four hours Sunday night.

Skies over Western Nevada today were veiled by smoke and the weather bureau predicted temperatures would be about 10 degrees lower than normal because of the lack of sunshine.

One large fire burned to the outskirts of this town of 2,000 persons Sunday before volunteers turned the flames with tanks and bulldozers. However, it destroyed 16,000 acres and the communities of Michigan Bluff, Bath and Baker Ranch, forcing 170 persons to flee their homes.

Despite the victory at Foresthill, evacuation plans remained in effect. Many residents left the danger area, and officials warned those who remained that the signal for complete evacuation should be a prolonged blast on the town's fire siren.

The only usable road for flight, a two-laned route to Auburn, Calif., was already blocked off to all except emergency and official traffic.

Powerlines Cut
A second blaze roared through the historic Donner Ridge area north of Lake Tahoe about 65 miles north of the Foresthill blaze. It destroyed 16,000 acres, cut four main powerlines which supply Reno, and threatened the communities of Truckee and Donner Lake on U.S. highway 40.

The third fire destroyed nearly 1,500 acres in Nevada county and was burning out of control approximately 40 miles west of the Donner blaze.

47 Killed in Nation During Week End Accidents

United Press International
A rash of multiple fatality accidents over the week end left at least 47 persons dead across the country today, including seven in the worst accident in Vermont's recent history.

Seven also died in three accidents in Pennsylvania, six in two Illinois crashes, five in a single Missouri accident and four in separate Florida and Tennessee wrecks. Three each died in New Jersey, Ohio, Washington and Wisconsin wrecks and two in a California accident.

Porter Asks Action On Housing Bill

Washington — (UPI) — Rep. Charles O. Porter (D-Ore.) said today he has urged Speaker Sam Rayburn to bypass the House Rules Committee if it fails to act on the catch-all housing bill.

He accused the rules committee of blocking legislation which is of "prime importance" to timber-producing Oregon. So far, the committee has scheduled no meeting this session.

Porter said the housing bill could be called up for debate under a rarely-used procedure which permits legislation to be reported directly to the floor without rules committee action.

The Oregon Democrat said many men are out of work because lumber mills are shut down or on short weeks in Oregon. He said, with the exception of 1954, this is the worst year for homebuilders in history.

Drowning Victim Washed Ashore

Astoria — (UPI) — The body of a 22-year-old Aloha man washed ashore at Chinook, Wash., Sunday night and his companion and a rented boat were reported still missing.

The body, wearing a life jacket, was identified as that of Robert John Meyer. Missing was Andrew H. Mathison, owner of the Ranch Inn Motel in Portland.

State police said that Meyer and Mathison left Portland Sunday morning for Astoria where they rented a 14-foot boat. Police said the boat may have capsized in the surf.

Voters Favor More Education Funds

Portland — (UPI) — A public opinion survey conducted in Oregon by an independent polling agency for the Legislative Commission of the National Education Association has shown that six out of ten Oregon citizens feel the federal contribution to public education should be increased from the present amount.

The survey was taken in cooperation with the Oregon Education Association. The polling agency said that only three per cent felt the federal contribution was "too much."

Clubs, Tear Gas Used to Quell Hot Rodders' Riot

San Diego — (UPI) — An unruly mob estimated at between 2,000 to 3,000 hot rodders blocked off a 10-block city area to race and then battled police for more than an hour before they were subdued by clubs and tear gas.

About 65 policemen had to be called in to battle the racing enthusiasts, aged between 15 and 28. Many girls were among them. Police early Sunday arrested 80 adults and 36 juveniles they had herded into police wagons during the free swinging melee.

They were all booked on charges of rioting, refusal to disperse and conspiracy to commit a crime. No girls were arrested.

Rocks, Bottles Thrown
Two police officers required hospital treatment for minor injuries while several others suffered bumps and bruises from rocks and bottles hurled during the riot.

Benson Says He's Made 'Scapegoat'

Washington — (UPI) — Agriculture Secretary Ezra T. Benson says he has been made a "scapegoat" for the nation's farm troubles because the Democratic Congress failed to enact his programs.

Benson, appearing Sunday on a television program (CBS — Face the Nation), did not single out by name those he accused. But he said Republican presidential candidate Richard M. Nixon was not among them.

Benson also said he believed that Nixon's farm program would be "built on the foundation which the Eisenhower administration has laid." He added, however, that it would "no doubt differ in details."

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Stocks Mixed in 1st Hour Trading

New York — (UPI) — Stocks were generally mixed today in moderate first hour trading.

Electronics again led most of the upside action with Texas Instruments up 1½, Consolidated Electrodynamics and Minneapolis — Honeywell about 1½ and Magnavox and

Brain Surgery Is Improved With New Technique

Boston, (Science Service) — A small, extra hole in the head may mean the difference between survival and death for patients about to be operated on for tumors or blood clots in the brain.

Dr. Richard Ford, assistant professor of legal medicine at Harvard Medical School, and Dr. Edward L. Spatz, professor of neurosurgery at Boston University School of Medicine, report that increased pressure inside the skull, caused by space-consuming tumor or clots, pushes the brain out of shape.

In some cases, they believe, the aqueduct of Sylvius — a canal that connects two of the brain's ventricles or natural hollow spaces — becomes obstructed. Cerebrospinal fluid becomes trapped in one of the ventricles and takes up more space and causes even more pressure.

Brain Usually Swells
Usually, when an incision is made for tumor removal, the brain immediately swells out through the opening. This puts the brain's blood vessels under local pressure and the protruding brain area suffers from lack of oxygen.

In addition, it is difficult for the surgeon to get enough working room to remove the tumor or clot. He has to push the swollen brain out of the way and this may cause some damage.

The doctors believe that relieving the pressure by drilling and extra hole in the skull before the operation starts "may be most profitable."

Technique Explained
The technique is to cut a slit about one and one-half inches long in the top of the head, back of the hairline. A tiny hole is drilled through the skull and a thin rubber tube is passed down through the brain, into the ventricle on the side opposite the tumor or clot.

To keep the trapped fluid from squirting out, the doctors clamp down on the tube and let it drain out slowly. In some cases they have removed about one-fourth cup of fluid.

Almost immediately, the brain volume is reduced and the usual incision can be made to remove the tumor. To relieve post-operative swelling, the tube or catheter is stitched to the scalp and left in place for about three days, the doctors report in the New England Journal of Medicine.

House Removes Debate Obstacle

Washington — (UPI) — The House shouted approval today of a bill to wipe out a legal obstacle to the proposed Nixon-Kennedy television debates in the presidential campaign.

The measure, already approved by the Senate, was passed without an audible dissent.

It now goes to the White House where it is considered certain to be signed by President Eisenhower.

The legislation will make it possible for the major networks to offer free debating time to Vice President Richard M. Nixon and his Democratic opponent for the presidency, Sen. John F. Kennedy.

It would suspend for the 1960 presidential and vice presidential races the so-called "equal time" law. That statute requires a broadcaster to afford equal opportunity to use his station to all candidates for the same office.

Nuclear Talks in Formal Recess

Geneva — (UPI) — The United States, Britain and Russia today formally recessed the nuclear test ban talks for five weeks. The United States charged Russia with holding up progress of the 21-month-old talks.

U.S. deputy delegate David Popper made the charge during the 70-minute session today. He said the U.S. delegation considered certain Soviet demands were unreasonable and hampered the progress of the talks.

British Foreign Office adviser Hugh Morgan termed the recess, which will last until Sept. 27, a "creative pause."

Soviet delegate Semyon K. Tsarapkin said he was optimistic that the vacation would bring some advance in the marathon negotiations.

KILLED IN FIRE
Milwaukie — (UPI) — Harry M. Minard 77, died early Sunday in a fire that swept through his one-story house north of here. The house was destroyed. Cause of the fire was not known.

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