

Estimating how many board feet of lumber can be cut from a given tract of timber is not guesswork. Read how bureau of land management engineers sharpen their technique of appraising timber in the picture story of BLM activities on page 3A of today's Mail Tribune.

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Rusk in Thailand For SEATO Talks On Laotian Crisis

Urgent Conference To Start Tomorrow

Bangkok, Thailand, Sunday — U.S. Secretary of State Dean Rusk arrived here aboard a special jet plane today for an urgent meeting of SEATO foreign ministers on the Laotian crisis beginning tomorrow.

Rusk declined to comment on the situation in Laos. He said he had been out of touch with events during his long flight from Washington, via Honolulu and Manila.

But he expressed confidence that the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO) would fulfill its obligation to restore peace to this area.

Solidarity Wanted

He indicated that he would do whatever is necessary to achieve SEATO's objective of restoring peace in Laos and called for complete solidarity on the part of the eight member nations in the defense alliance.

The United States, he said, supported the British proposals submitted to Russia for settlement of the Laotian war. However, he would not make any prediction as to the possible Soviet reaction to these proposals.

He said he expected the Soviet Union's answer to be made public shortly.

As Rusk's Boeing 707 jet landed at 9:52 a.m. (8:25 p.m. EST Saturday) at the airport here, several U.S. Air Force Globemaster and Hercules transport planes could be seen in the air. They are shuttling in supplies for relief to Laos.

Judge Overrules Bengtson Protests

Circuit Judge Edward C. Kelly last week overruled the protests filed in December concerning eight indictments pending against O. H. Bengtson, Medford lawyer, charging him with embezzlement.

Bengtson pleaded innocent to the eight charges and bail was raised by Judge Kelly on the separate charges from \$1,000 to \$1,500 each.

Bengtson, who was found guilty of two other charges of embezzlement from the Medford company by juries in October and January, was sentenced to three years in the Oregon Correctional Institute on the first charge and for a period not to exceed two years in the Oregon state penitentiary on the second charge.

Appeals on both charges are pending before the Oregon supreme court.

He is currently free on a total of \$24,500 bail. Bail on the first charge was set at \$2,500; on the second, \$10,000; and \$1,500 each on the eight other charges.

Bengtson, who was earlier this year suspended from law practice by the Oregon supreme court, told the court last week he is without funds to pay an attorney. Judge Kelly appointed Medford Attorney James McGowan to represent him. Richard Carney, Portland lawyer, and Robert Boyer, Medford lawyer, have represented Bengtson in court action so far. A third attorney, Leo Levenson, Portland, is currently preparing briefs for the two appeals before the supreme court.

Court appointed prosecuting attorney in the case is Paul Haviland.

Judge Kelly said that trial date on at least one of the eight remaining indictments will be set by the court on the first Monday of the month when the court docket is prepared up for the month.

Contract To Design Building Awarded

The architectural firm of Wilmsen, Kenney, Endicott, and Unthank of Eugene has been awarded the contract to design the proposed Medford federal building, Congressman Edwin R. Durno notified the Mail Tribune Friday.

Associated with the firm for the contract is Robert Kenney, Medford architect.

The proposed building, to house the Medford post office and local offices of other government agencies, is estimated to cost \$2,365,000.

The contract for the building design was stated to be \$73,850.

'I've Said All Along I Was Against Cold War'



Eagle Point Mayor, Others Write Letter To Medco Officials

Eagle Point — The Eagle Point mayor, the city council and members of the planning commission have signed a letter to officers and directors of Medco Corporation expressing their views about the possible conversion of the Medco railroad to a log-truck road.

In the letter, the city officials refer to a letter the Jackson County Home Owners Protective Association presented to Medco officials last week in which the association members expressed opposition to the proposed off-highway truck road.

Medco officials said last week that no decision has yet been made on whether the company will convert the railroad from Vilas rd. to Butte Falls to a log truck highway. They cited several factors which would have a bearing on such a decision, which would be made by the board of directors.

Eagle Point city officials said: "The logical expansion of the City of Eagle Point is toward the west, on the opposite side of the Medco right-of-way from most of the present homes. While the two-day Medco train did not present much of a problem, a busy, heavy-duty, truck road through a small town like Eagle Point would definitely bar future expansion of the town."

The officials reviewed the city's progress in trying to improve the community as a place to live, and wrote that

Yturri Says Appling Could Be Candidate

Salem — Sen. Anthony Yturri, (R-Ore.), says Secretary of State Howell Appling Jr. would be the next best contender for the U. S. Senate against Sen. Wayne Morse if Gov. Mark Hatfield refuses to run.

In an interview over state radio station KOAC, Yturri said "it is a possibility" he himself might be the GOP candidate against Morse in 1962.

The Senate minority leader said, however, his primary concern was to see his party pick the man who can "rack up the most votes" to beat Morse.

Belgian Voters Go To Polls Today

Brussels — UPI — Belgian voters will decide today whether 62-year-old Socialist Paul-Henri Spaak's dream of a political comeback comes true or whether Premier Gaston Eyskens' embattled government stays in power.

About six million registered voters of Belgium's nine million citizens were expected to vote in a parliamentary general election.

Final results are not expected until near dawn tomorrow. The Eyskens cabinet will meet at 10 a.m. tomorrow to decide whether to resign or carry on on the basis of the election results.

Salem — UPI — State GOP Chairman Robert G. Davis of Grants Pass announced a "definite decision" Friday that state GOP headquarters will remain in Salem.

JFK To Meet With MacMillan

U.S., Russia Each Score Space Feat

Cape Canaveral — UPI — The United States, aiming for a spot 120,000 miles deep in space, hurled a satellite into a precarious "yo-yo" orbit around the earth Saturday to chart safe paths for space travel.

Designated "Explorer X," the baby satellite's chief job will be to find out more about space-borne magnetic fields and electric currents.

The satellite, made up of 78 pounds of complex mag-

netometers and sensors, rode a 92-foot Thor-Delta rocket into the sky to start a scientific journey expected to take 4½ days roundtrip.

The satellite reached the halfway point on its journey into space last night with all instruments "working well," according to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration in Washington. It reached the 60,000-mile mark at 6:30 p.m. (e.s.t.), NASA said, and its speed was 4,800 miles an hour.

The satellite was "sending strong signals," and early estimates indicated it was traveling very near to its programmed course, NASA said.

The shot was dimmed by Russia's feat in orbiting and safely returning to earth a 10,352-pound spaceship carrying a dog and other "biological objects" yesterday. American scientists taking part in the shot here declined comment immediately on the Soviet launching.

Kennedy To Seek \$2 Billion Budget Hike for Defense

Washington, March 25 — UPI — President Kennedy plans to ask Congress for an additional \$2 billion for defense during the fiscal year starting July 1, it was learned Saturday.

Details of the request were submitted to Republican and Democratic congressional military leaders at a secret Pentagon briefing this afternoon.

The increased appropriations, if approved, would not necessarily mean a \$2 billion increase in defense spending during the next fiscal year. There normally is a considerable time lag beneath congressional appropriations and Pentagon spending.

The additional funds would be added to the record peace time high defense department budget of \$42.9 billion requested by former President Eisenhower last January.

Kennedy had planned to submit his revised budget to Congress Monday. But the White House without explanation ordered a 24-hour delay, giving rise to speculation that the briefing of the 10 congressional leaders may have prompted 11th hour revisions.

One participant at the briefing, however, said none of the lawmakers present commented on the budget. He said he was certain there was no connection between the meeting and the postponement.

Defense Secretary Robert J. McNamara motored to the capitol this morning to discuss the revisions with Speaker Sam Rayburn. The two men conferred privately in Rayburn's office.

McNamara then returned to the Pentagon and met with the group of senior members of Senate and House Armed Services committees and Defense Appropriations subcommittees.

NY Police Official Found Dead in Bay

Gilgo Beach, N. Y. — UPI — A fisherman Saturday recovered from the waters of Gilgo bay the body of John Beckmann, 63, Nassau county police commissioner who disappeared under mysterious circumstances last Jan. 6.

The area of the discovery was about 10 miles from Meadowbrook causeway on the Atlantic coast of Long Island where Beckmann's official auto was left abandoned, his service revolver and wallet inside.

Positive identification was made by Detective Lieutenant Thomas De Beches, of Nassau county. An autopsy was ordered to determine the cause of death.

HP Lake Facilities Expanded

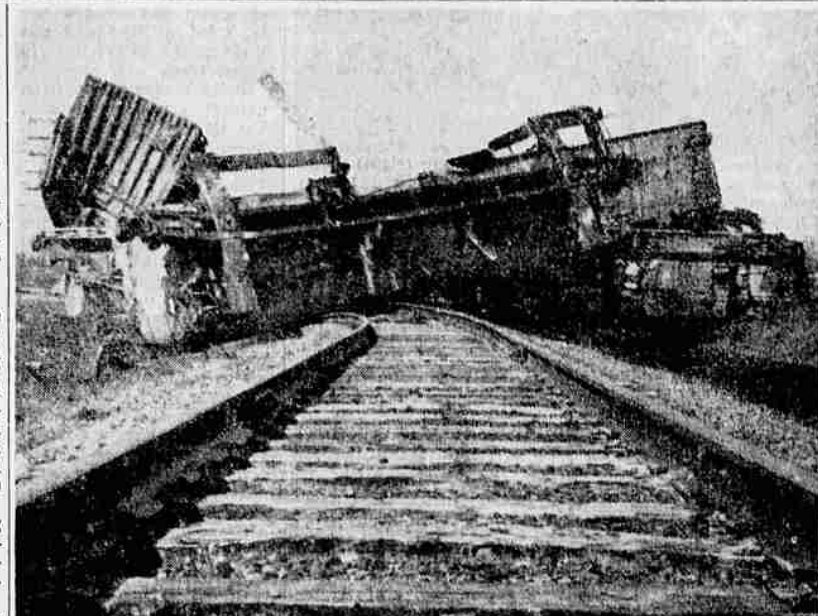
Bob Johnston, of Johnston Stores, Medford, concessionaire at Howard Prairie lake, said Friday he has expanded store with stock staple groceries, fishing tackle and refreshments. Johnston advised campers to bring most of their grocery needs as his stock will be for emergency needs only. The store will carry ample stocks of tackle and bait, soft drinks and candy, he added.

The concessionaire has hired extra personnel to assist in traffic control to keep the area properly policed and clean during the crowded fishing season opening. Personnel will be on the grounds 24 hours. First aid service also will be available.

A new service will allow a sportsman to leave his boat under a watchman's protection for \$1.25 a week. The same service will be extended to house-trailers for \$1.50, Johnston said.

Ample fire-wood has been cut by welfare work crews. Outdoor fireplaces and picnic tables, shower and restroom facilities were installed last season by order of the county court.

(See story on page 3A)



BLOCKS TRACKS—An upended tank car blocks the Rock Island to Memphis-Little Rock main line following derailment of 25 cars of a 56-car freight train Saturday. Two cars carrying explosive materials ran off the track, but did not overturn.

—(UPI Telephone)

Salem Man On Missing Military Plane in Laos

Washington — UPI — A plane assigned to the U. S. military in Laos with eight Americans aboard has been mysteriously missing since Thursday, the state department announced Saturday.

The spokesman was unable to say whether the C47 might have been the victim of hostile action by Soviet-supported rebels in the tension-ridden area.

"Nothing has been heard" from the plane since it departed from the Laotian administrative capital of Vientiane Thursday morning, according to department press officer Ben Thirkield.

Thirkield reported that neither U. S. Ambassador to Laos Winthrop Brown nor the air attaché at the embassy in Vientiane was aboard the plane, ultimate destination of which was Saigon in neighboring South Vietnam.

Announcement that the plane's "final destination" was Saigon, indicated it might have planned stops enroute. However, Thirkield said he had been given no more information than was contained in the bare announcement that it was missing.

Asked whether there was an official "gag" on this, he replied that he did not know.

Nor was he able to say whether the disappearance of the plane was connected with the civil war in Laos between forces of the central government and Soviet-backed rebels.

One of the men aboard the plane was Air Force Staff Sgt. Frederick Thomas Garside, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. Garside of Salem, Ore., according to the state department.

Texas Auto Crash Claims Six Lives

Odessa, Tex. — UPI — A mother and two of her small children and three young women were killed and a baby critically injured Saturday when two cars crashed together violently near Odessa in West Texas.

The three young women killed were Mrs. R. T. Ross, 17; Mrs. Johnnie Miles, 29; and Mrs. J. O. Self, 20, all of Odessa, and two of her children, Cecile Ann Derrick, 7, and Ernest James Derrick, 1.

The other three victims were Mrs. Eunice Derrick, 34, of Odessa, and two of her children, Cecile Ann Derrick, 7, and Ernest James Derrick, 1.

The crash occurred on Highway 170, near the intersection of Highway 170 and Highway 170, near the intersection of Highway 170 and Highway 170.

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Gresham Girl Dead In Murder-Suicide

Gresham — UPI — A 17-year-old Gresham high school girl and a 50-year-old man were found shot to death in a remote area north of here Friday night.

Multnomah county sheriff's deputies said it was apparently a "murder-suicide."

The victims were identified as Jean Murrell and Joseph Gerald Baranet, also Gresham.

The girl's body was found slumped against the steering wheel of a late model sports car.

Baranet's body was found beside the car.

The car, which belonged to Baranet, was parked in the middle of a wooden bridge.

Police said the girl had been shot several times. Baranet had been shot once. A .32 caliber revolver was found beneath Baranet's body.

The man was described as a long time friend of the girl's family.

The bodies were discovered by two men who heard shots and investigated.

Miss Murrell was described as one of the brightest students at her school. She had

recently won a national merit scholarship and was editor of the school's paper. She was considered a talented musician and had left home Friday evening to give a music recital in nearby Parkrose.

Police said that Baranet and Mrs. Baranet were divorced and Mrs. Baranet lives in Seattle with an 11 year old son.

A photograph of the dead girl was found in Baranet's apartment.

Baranet and Mrs. Murrell had been former business associates in a music store in Portland.

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Rebel Forces Advance in Laos

Vientiane — UPI — Communist-led rebel troops were reported Saturday to have captured central Laotian town of Kham Kuet from government forces in a drive that threatened to split this jungle kingdom in two.

There was no formal confirmation that the town, a provincial capital some 145 miles east of Vientiane, had fallen. But official Laotian sources said the town probably was lost and U.S. military observers said the royal garrison had withdrawn from Kham Kuet three days ago.

Confirmation of the fall of Kham Kuet would tend to lend support to Vientiane government charges that new battalions of Communist troops from North Viet Nam had invaded central Laos.

The Vientiane government officially charged Friday that nine new battalions of Communist North Vietnamese forces had invaded Laos and that six of the Red units were stationed in the strategic plain of Jars.

The other three battalions, according to an official communiqué, marched across the border from North Viet Nam and were advancing on Kham Kuet, the capital of Khammouane province.

(In a radio Hanoi broadcast yesterday, Communist North Viet Nam officially denied that its troops had intervened in Laos. It denounced the reports as "fabrications" and "slanders . . . designed to deceive public opinion.")

U.S. military observers said a local Laotian constabulary unit still was holding hills around the Kham Kuet, but that the loyal forces there lacked arms — particularly mortars or artillery — to use from the heights.

The victims were identified by the Siskiyou county coroner's office as Rudolph Ronald Chemika, 22, and Tony Lee Stacey, 20, both of Vancouver, Wash., and Frank Bates, age and address unknown; and Herbert Benjamin Hedrick, 35, Richland, Wash.

The boy, who was extricated from the Hedrick car's crumpled front seat, was believed to be his son.

The three students were described as wearing athletic department sweat shirts, possibly from Clark college in Vancouver, when their small foreign car collided head-on with the Hedrick car, also a foreign make vehicle.

The boys were north-bound and the Hedrick car south-bound when they crashed.

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