

FLOODS HIT MIDWEST'S 'TORNADO ALLEY'

Shepard Given Hero's Welcome in Washington

Frenzied Acclaim Of Multitude Greet Astronaut

Kennedy Presents Medal to Spaceman

Washington—UPI—America's first astronaut, astronaut Alan B. Shepard Jr., 37, reaped a hero's reward today—a kiss, a medal, and the frenzied acclaim of an adoring multitude. He collected the kiss from his lovely wife, Louise, who was reunited with him this morning after weeks of enforced separation. He received the medal from President Kennedy in the rose garden of the White House. He harvested the cheers of

A story on Cmdr. Shepard's press conference appears on page 2.

his countrymen during a slow ride from the White House down Pennsylvania and Constitution aves.—the traditional route of America heroes—from the White House to the Capitol.

Receives Highest Award

Hundreds were at the White House to see Kennedy present him with the Distinguished Service Medal of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, NASA's highest award.

The Navy commander was being acclaimed for making America's first space flight, a 15-minute rocket trip 115 miles up and 302 miles down the Atlantic missile range from Cape Canaveral, Fla., Friday.

Said Shepard: "I thought last Friday was a thrilling day, but this surpasses it." He and his wife, with Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson sitting between them, perched on the back seat of an open convertible and waved at the cheering crowds.

Look Applause Modestly

The cheers never waned until they arrived at the Capitol for a jubilant reception by Congress.

Shepard, a lithe figure of a man took the applause modestly. From the first to last he insisted that Friday's feat was the work not of one man, but of the hundreds and thousands of men and women in the Mercury man-in-space program.

(Continued on page 2)

Medical Insurance Increase Predicted

Portland—UPI—Sen. Wayne Morse (D-Ore.) predicted today an increased amount of medical insurance for workers in this country through the 1960s.

He told the Group Health Institute meeting here: "United States workers will have in the 1960s fully comprehensive voluntary insurance and a commensurate growth of consumer sponsored medicine, privately financed; or we will have consumer sponsored medicine government financed."

Morse said nearly all labor unions now have written into contracts programs providing health benefits for members and their families.

Special Movie Award



Accidents Claim Eight Oregonians During Week End

Traffic Accounts For Five Deaths

By United Press International
Five traffic accidents and three other mishaps killed at least eight Oregon residents during the week end. Four of the five traffic fatalities occurred in Portland while the fifth traffic victim was killed near Napa, Calif. Dead are Peter J. Fischer, 41; his 31-year-old wife, Irene, Mrs. Christina Dorney, 75, and Robert Lee McIntyre, 23, all of Portland; John Allan Hintz, 31, Ontario; Peter Norbert Kirk, 35, Woodburn; Henry Nahss, 38, Central Point, and Loren Thomas Phelps, 15, a Spokane boy, who is attending St. Francis seminary at Springdale.

Two-Car Accident
The Fischers were killed early Sunday morning in a two-car accident in Portland. Mrs. Dorney was killed Saturday afternoon in a three-car smashup while another two-car Portland accident took the life of McIntyre. Hintz was killed early Saturday when his car struck a concrete culvert about four miles west of Napa, Calif. Hintz was assigned to the Pacific Reserve Fleet at Mare Island Navy Shipyard.

Killed in Explosion
Kirk was injured fatally in a dynamite explosion at his farm about seven miles west of Woodburn. He was blowing stumps when the accident occurred.

Nahss died early Saturday when a large crane he was operating near a logging pond tipped over near Central Point.

The Phelps boy was presumed drowned in the Sandy river after falling over a 70-foot cliff Saturday. He was with a group of boys searching for a discus lost over the cliff from a playing field last week.

Gold Hill Police Check School Entry

Gold Hill—The second school break-in in three days was reported to Gold Hill Police Chief Earl Cox today.

Patrick Elementary school was entered late Sunday night or early this morning, Cox said. Nothing was reported missing. Burglars entered through a window in the teacher's room and a clothes closet had been forced open. The burglary was discovered by Charles Foote, school custodian, when he entered the school this morning.

It followed a similar incident at Hanby school Friday night. Burglars forced open a window and attempted to break open a vending machine, Cox said. Hanby officials indicated nothing had been taken.

Pay Hike Approved For District Judges

Salem—UPI—District judges today won a \$1,500 a year salary increase from the Senate. The measure went to the governor.

District judges now get \$9,000 a year. The \$10,500 figure was a compromise. The House wanted \$10,000 and the Senate \$11,000.

The Senate also approved \$655,841 for salary increases for district attorneys and their deputies. Sen. Melvin Goode (R-Albany) said it will figure out to be about a 10 per cent hike for DAs, with the scale somewhat less for deputies.

COMPACT DISCUSSED

Boise, Idaho—UPI—There is talk of forming a six-state Columbia River compact if Oregon continues to balk at the proposed agreement, an Idaho member of the compact commission said today.

Court Approves Joining Of Area To Fire District

The Jackson county court this morning approved the move to annex four contiguous areas to the Rogue River rural fire district, following a public hearing in the county court room.

County Judge Earl Miller said he would ask District Attorney Alan B. Holmes if an election is necessary. No one appeared in opposition to the proposed annexation.

Glenn W. Hutchinson, chairman of the rural fire district board of directors, said if an election is necessary the board would prefer it June 12. This would allow sufficient time for the required legal advertisement.

Regional Edition

MEDFORD

MEDFORD, OREGON, MONDAY, MAY 8, 1961

56th Year Price 10 Cents

No. 40

Hatfield Wants More Action by Legislature

Program Given Approval So Far Pleases Governor

Bills Wanted To Govern Traffic

Salem—UPI—Gov. Mark Hatfield said today he is pleased with the amount of his program that the legislature has enacted so far but he is disappointed with the lack of such legislation as increased traffic safety and government reorganization.

The 1961 session generally seems to characterize itself as:

"We're going to have to have more time on it," whatever the topic is, he said.

He said he was glad to see such parts of his message as economic development, basic school support aid, modified medicare and others advance.

Hatfield said he hasn't lost hope on his mental health and community mental health clinics proposal which has passed the House but is still in the Senate. "Surprising things happen in closing days of the session sometimes," he said.

Traffic Goals Given

The governor said he feels strongly about enactment of these three traffic laws: (1) maximum speed limit, (2) probable cause, and (3) implied consent.

All, some in modified form, are in the works. He said he wants the bill for homestead tax relief for the elderly.

He criticized the bill which provides some \$7 million in bonds for four bridges, and said there is a "chance" he may not approve it if it gets to his desk. The bill authorizes bridges at Dayton, Ontario, Oswego and Albany.

Hatfield said these projects should be left up to the Highway Commission.

Other Points Made

Hatfield also said he doesn't like the idea of not being able to appoint members to the proposed commission on constitutional revision. He said the governor should be allowed to appoint some members along with the legislature.

Said an additional 10 cents a bottle wouldn't cut down Oregon's liquor sale advantage over the state of Washington.

Said he has never seen so much "discourtesy" between legislative leaders as in the 1961 session. He said there have been bitter statements in past sessions, but they seem to be stronger this session.

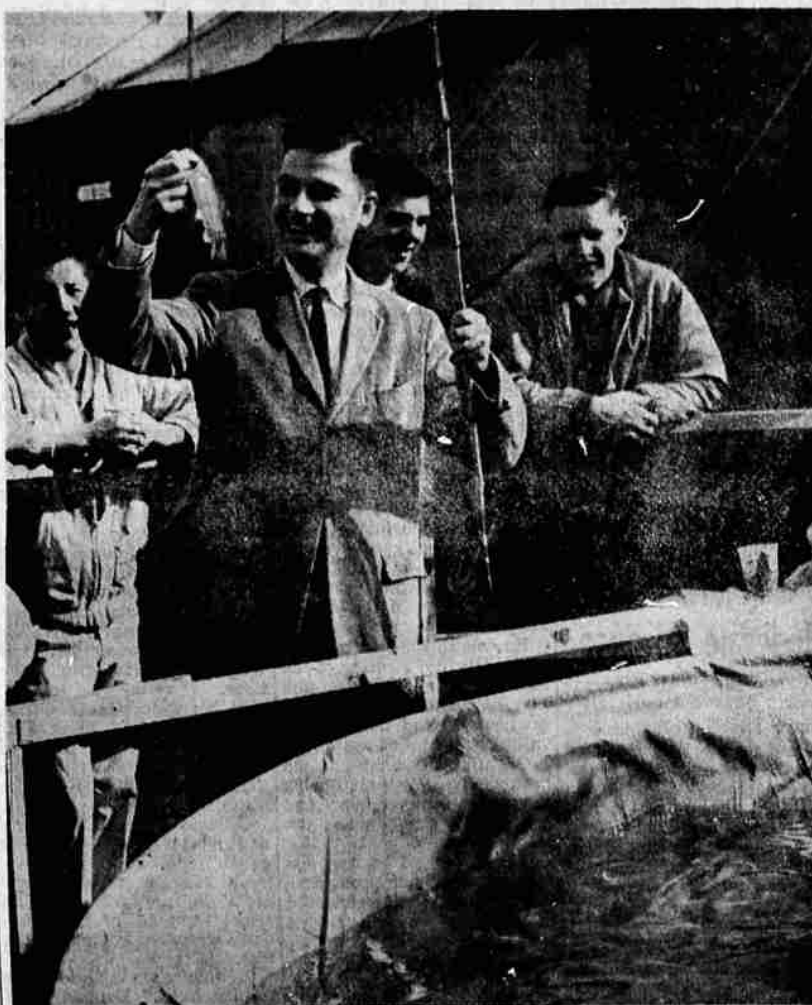
MEETING SCHEDULED

Portland—UPI—A two-day meeting of the Columbia Basin Interagency Committee was scheduled for May 17-18 here and in Eugene.

WEATHER

FORECAST: Rain tonight. Partial clearing with scattered showers Tuesday. Low tonight 45. High Tuesday 45.

Our Skies Tonight
Sunset today 7:15 p.m.
Sunrise tomorrow 4:57 a.m.
Moonrise tomorrow 2:27 a.m.
New Moon May 14
PROMINENT STARS
Deneb, low in northeast 10:39 p.m.
VISIBLE PLANETS
Mars, in the west 9:37 p.m.
Jupiter and Saturn, in the southeast 2:19 a.m.
Venus, low in east 4:20 a.m.



SUCCESSFUL FISHERMAN—Gov. Mark O. Hatfield was one of the successful fishermen last week end at the Crater Lions Sportsman Home and Garden show. The governor visited the event Saturday afternoon. He was among the more than 15,000 persons who visited the fair this year. Dick

Hawkins, general chairman, said that attendance was about "average," with rain keeping some people away on Friday and Saturday. The "big" day was Sunday as about 15,000 persons attended the fair. (Knackstedt photo)

Budget Group Sets Final Session; Board To Meet

The Jackson county board of equalization was to meet today, and again tomorrow afternoon after the county budget committee winds up its business in the morning.

Tuesday morning the final budget study session is scheduled. County Commissioner Chester Wendt and Budget Committee Chairman Arnold Bohnert, Central Point, will have to devote their time to the board of equalization, possibly for the rest of the week.

The ratio of assessed valuation, on which property taxes are based, to the true cash value of the property, or what the property would bring on the market, is 25 per cent this year.

Bohnert said that as far as he knows there are only three complaints on assessed valuation to come before the board. He said he doesn't expect appeals on any large valuations. The ideal cement plant at Gold Hill was tentatively scheduled for a hearing, but the state tax commission reappraised the property.

Any appeals not satisfied by the local board may be taken to the state tax commission and from there to the Jackson county circuit court and the state supreme court.

Bohnert estimated that about 50 per cent of the appeals made in recent years have resulted in revisions of appraised values. Very few have been appealed to the state tax commission, he said.

Mrs. Elva Jennings, chief deputy in the assessor's office and acting assessor since the death of Ray Schumacher, will act as ex-officio member of the board this year.

Deputies Investigate Burglary at School

Jackson county sheriff's deputies are investigating the burglary of the West Side school on Old Stage rd. which occurred some time during the week end.

Deputies reported a number of padlocks were forced and entry was made through a door. This morning deputies did not know if anything is missing.

Local Water Supply Outlook Is Fair

The 1961 water supply outlook for southern Oregon is now termed "fair," according to W. T. Frost, Portland, snow survey supervisor for the U.S. department of agriculture in Oregon.

Most streamflow forecasts dropped 2 to 13 per cent due to poor April runoff. Fish lake and Fourmile lake were said to have received extremely poor April inflow. Irrigation districts served by these sources will likely have short supplies, Frost added.

The average of all snow measurements taken about May 1 indicates about the same snow cover as last year at this time, although only 87 per cent of the 1943-57 average. Most of this snow lies above the 5,000-foot elevation with little if any below this elevation.

Frost pointed out that soil moisture is very good as a result of good spring precipitation. April precipitation was slightly above normal in Medford.

Talent District

Talent Irrigation district now has a total of 61,500 acre feet of stored water in Hyatt Prairie, Emigrant and Howard Prairie reservoirs compared with 31,500 acre feet at this time last year.

Medford and Rogue River Irrigation districts are not so fortunate and have only 4,456 acre feet in Fish lake and, although current data was not available for Fourmile lake, it had only 4.10 acre feet on April 1. Inflow for the remainder of the year is expected to be low for these reservoirs. The districts will have "short" water supplies unless they can obtain water from the Talent system, according to the agriculture spokesmen.

Little Butte Creek

Streamflow during April was reportedly below normal. The Rogue river at Raygold had 75 per cent normal flow for the month, according to preliminary data furnished by the U.S. Geological surveys, Portland. Streamflow forecasts dropped 2 to 13 per cent except for an adjustment upward on the inflow to Hyatt Prairie, which raised 12 per cent. The forecasts of the Rogue at Raygold is now 74 per cent of average, with the

minimum flow expected by Sept. 20, unless above average summer rainfall occurs.

North and southern forks of Little Butte creek are forecast to flow about 62 and 57 per cent of average for the irrigation season. Inflow to Fourmile and Hyatt lakes is expected to be 5,000 acre feet and 3,700 acre feet, respectively. The Applegate river is forecast at 85 per cent of average (and the Illinois river at 75 per cent of average).

Statewide, Oregon's 1961 water supply outlook changed slightly during April.

Cabin Fire Being Checked by Deputies

A small cabin located at 2813 Biddle rd. was destroyed by fire late Saturday night, Medford firemen report.

Firemen were notified at 11:45 p.m. that the cabin owned by Kenneth Carley, 3694 Biddle rd., was on fire. A lock on the cabin door had been broken, firemen said. The sheriff's department is investigating. The cabin was not being occupied at the time of the fire.



FIRST CALL—The first official call on the new all-number telephone calling system in Ashland was completed by Mayor R. L. Neil to Elmo Stevenson, president of Southern Oregon college, at his home. The change-over was accomplished precisely at 11 p.m. Saturday. (See story on page 3A). (Whitland Locke photo)

Death, Damage Spread Across Seven States

Heavy Rains Part Of Tornado System

By United Press International
Tempest-fed flood waters swept into towns in the Midwest today. One community was emptied of inhabitants and boats and helicopters rescued refugees in others.

The floods were powered by week end rains measured up to 8½ inches in southern Illinois and Kentucky. The rains were part of a tornadic storm system which spread death and destruction across seven states.

Oklahoma Counts 16

At least 34 deaths were blamed on the storms. Oklahoma counted 16 dead in tornadoes which hit the towns of Howe and Reichert along the Southwest's "tornado alley." There were 10 dead in Arkansas, 4 in Missouri, 3 in Indiana, and 1 in Illinois.

The tornadoes continued. The latest struck the town of Pismo, Tex., 15 miles north-east of Dallas. Damage was estimated at \$50,000, but no deaths or injuries were reported.

Red Cross Estimates

The American Red Cross in St. Louis estimated at least 1,000 families—roughly 4,000 persons—were affected by the tornadoes and rains which whipped parts of Arkansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Illinois and Kansas.

The Red Cross said 113 persons had been injured, 68 were hospitalized and 5 were missing. Damage was estimated in the millions of dollars.

The threat of more tornadoes, accompanied by severe thunderstorms and damaging hail, hung over parts of Oklahoma, Kansas, Arkansas, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana and Kentucky.

Lowlands Flooded

Although today's floods struck hardest in Illinois and Kentucky, more floods spread across roads and lowlands in parts of Oklahoma, Missouri and Indiana.

Flood waters surging from Kentucky's North Licking river forced all the residents of the little town of Milford to flee. Partial evacuations were under way at Falmouth, Cynthia and Taylorville, Ky.

Helicopters and Coast Guard boats helped ferry the homeless to safety.

Industries and schools were closed wholesale in southern Illinois and more rain was pouring down.

Taken Off Rooftops

Up to five feet of water flowed through the streets of Centralia, one of Illinois' worst-afflicted cities. Boats took marooned house owners from rooftops, but the water level of the Lake Centralia was so high that warnings were broadcast that boats were being washed away.

Other flood-stricken towns in Illinois included Marion, Cahokia, Caseyville, Mount Vernon, Collinsville, Edwardsville, Belleville and Mount Carmel.

Kennedy Says Cuba Story Not Ended

Washington—UPI—President Kennedy said today that despite recent reverses for the forces of freedom the story of Cuba "is not yet finally ended."

The President made the remark before an estimated 5,000 persons at the National Association of Broadcasters. He did not elaborate on his hopeful prognosis of an eventual upset of Communist control in Cuba.