

Medford Weather Statistics for 1962 Show Sharp Contrasts, Records Broken

The Rogue valley experienced a wide variety of weather conditions during 1962, according to the annual summary issued by the Medford station of the U. S. Weather bureau.

This was a period sharp contrasts with wide departure from the normals in many respects. However, the departures in some instances were counterbalanced, so are obscured in the annual means.

The year can safely be characterized as cool, which for the most part made the valley more pleasant in respect to comfort during the summer months, but resulted in adverse effects on plant life, particularly, warm weather crops.

The year began with the second coldest January on record, exceeded only by January of 1930. Zero and near zero temperatures, recorded from the 21st to 24th, were the coldest temperatures in the valley since 1950, and were exceeded only on two other occasions in the past history of official record, once by three degrees below zero in January of 1930, and again by six below and ten below in December 1919. Temperatures were below normal every month of the year except in April, September and November.

The first half of July was

cold and minimum temperature records for July were broken by 38 and 39 degrees on the second and third of the month.

In contrast, during the latter part of the month, a new record was established with ten consecutive days with 100 degrees or more.

August also got into the act with a record low for the month, a 39 degrees on the 27th. The warmest temperature ever recorded on a December date occurred on the 14th with a balmy 72 degrees.

The annual average temperature was 52.2 degrees, a drop of 1.2 degrees from the normal. Highest temperature during the year was 103 degrees on July 27, lowest was zero on Jan. 21.

Highest daily average was 80 degrees July 26; lowest daily average was 12 degrees on Jan. 21.

There were nine days with the maximum temperature 32 degrees or colder (the normal is two days), 46 days with maximums of 90 degrees or above (the normal is 48 days).

93 days with minimums 32 degrees or colder (normal is 80 days), and one day with minimum zero or colder (normal is less than one day).

Degree days for the year totaled 5,025, the normal is 4,713. Last Spring minimum of 32 degrees or colder occurred on May 16, first Fall minimum of 32 degree or colder came on Oct. 5, giving a frost-free period of 142 days, considerably below the normal of about 170 days.

From the precipitation standpoint the first half of the year was very dry, with only slightly more than half the normal amount of rainfall received through the month of July. The last five months of the year were exceedingly wet. Rainfall totaled 6.27 inches during October, more than three times the October normal.

During the downpour of Dec. 1 and 2, the greatest amount of rainfall on record for a 24-hour period, 3.69 inches, was recorded. This storm brought flash flooding to the valley, resulting in considerable damage to property

and temporarily closed roads and bridges.

Snow storms occurred in January and March. The storm of Jan. 17 to 20 brought nine inches of snow to the valley. Cold temperatures following the storm kept a measurable amount of snow on the ground for 11 consecutive days, a rather unusual condition in the Rogue valley.

In March a total of 4.7 inches of snow fell from two separate storms, but melting was rapid and measurable amounts were on the ground for only a few hours.

Total precipitation for the year was 23.13 inches, 3.35 inches above the normal of 19.78 inches. There were 97 days with measurable precipitation (normal is 101 days), 40 days with .1 inches or more, 12 days with .5 inches or more, and 5 days with one inch or more.

Total snowfall for the year was 13.5 inches, compared to a normal of 7.7 inches, occurring on seven days with snowfall .1 inch or more (the normal is three days). Greatest depth of snow on the ground was seven inches on Jan. 19.

The Oct. 12 windstorm, although responsible for some damage in the local area, was less severe in the Rogue valley than over most of the other sections of Oregon and the western parts of the Pacific Northwest. This was due in part to the protection afforded by the surrounding mountains, and partly because of the later increase in intensity of the storm as it moved in a northerly direction away from the valley.

The fastest observed one-minute wind for the year was 40 miles per hour from the south-southwest and occurred during the Oct. 12 storm. Gusts were observed to 58 miles per hour. Stronger winds have occurred in this area. One instance is during a storm of March 14, 1952, when sustained winds were observed to 55 miles per hour with gusts reaching 64 miles per hour.

Low Barometric Pressure

A barometric pressure of 28.99 inches (corrected to sea level), the lowest ever recorded at this station was observed during the Oct. 12 storm.

Amount of cloudiness during the year was nearly normal. There were 117 clear days (normal is 118 days), 84 partly cloudy days (normal is 81 days), and 164 cloudy days (normal is 166 days). The average sky cover during daylight hours was 63 per cent compared to a normal of 58 per cent. There were 72 days with heavy fog (normal is 45 days), three days with hail (no normal has been established), and five days with thunderstorms (the normal is nine days).

The period of record at the Medford station of the Weather bureau at the airport dates back to November, 1929. Earlier records are available from downtown locations, first established in March, 1911. Normals for the monthly and annual temperature and precipitation means are climatological standard normals based on the period 1931 to 1960.

SECTION B PAGES 1 to 8 MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE MEDFORD, OREGON, MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 1963

Dr. Sam Sheppard Offered Medical Job If Given Release

Columbus, Ohio - (UPI) - Convicted wife killer Sam Sheppard's attorney has asked the State Pardon and Parole commission to grant the osteopath clemency to go to India to operate a clinic there.

Attorney F. Lee Bailey of Boston said an anonymous person has agreed to build the clinic in India if Sheppard is released to run it.

Sheppard's application for clemency, to be reviewed by the board Jan. 29, is based on Sheppard's good behavior while in prison and the agreement that he would go to India to operate the clinic.

The amended application for clemency said, in part: "Efforts to attract a qualified physician to go to India and operate this clinic have not been successful because of the unfavorable conditions and fighting that exists there."

Joseph Doneghy, member of the commission, said that he was not sure a reciprocal agreement for parole supervision exists between India and the United States.

"If a man's sentence is commuted then he is eligible for parole and the law requires at least one year of parole supervision," Doneghy said. One alternative to granting Sheppard's clemency request would be to commute his sentence to time served, which requires no parole supervision, Doneghy said. The other alternative to granting clemency would be to reduce the sentence, in Sheppard's case



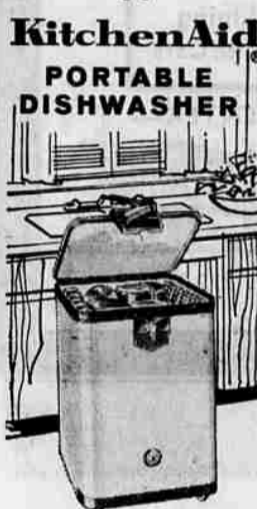
DR. SAM SHEPPARD
Clemency Requested

to first degree manslaughter, and that would require parole supervision, he said.

Sheppard is serving a life sentence for the 1954 slaying of his pregnant wife, Marilyn. He becomes eligible for parole in 1965. The former osteopath is serving his sentence at the Marion Correctional institution where he works in the prison hospital.

A recent attempt by Sheppard's lawyers to get permission to use lie detector tests and hypnosis in an attempt to clear the former Bay Village, Ohio, resident was turned down by the Ohio Supreme court.

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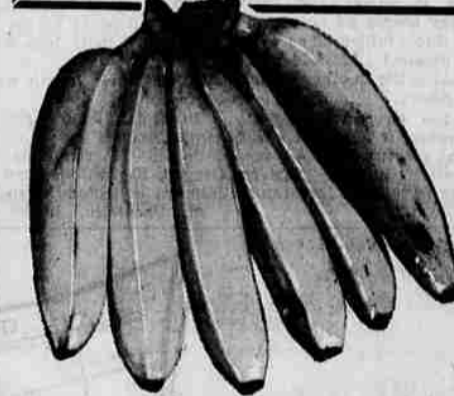
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