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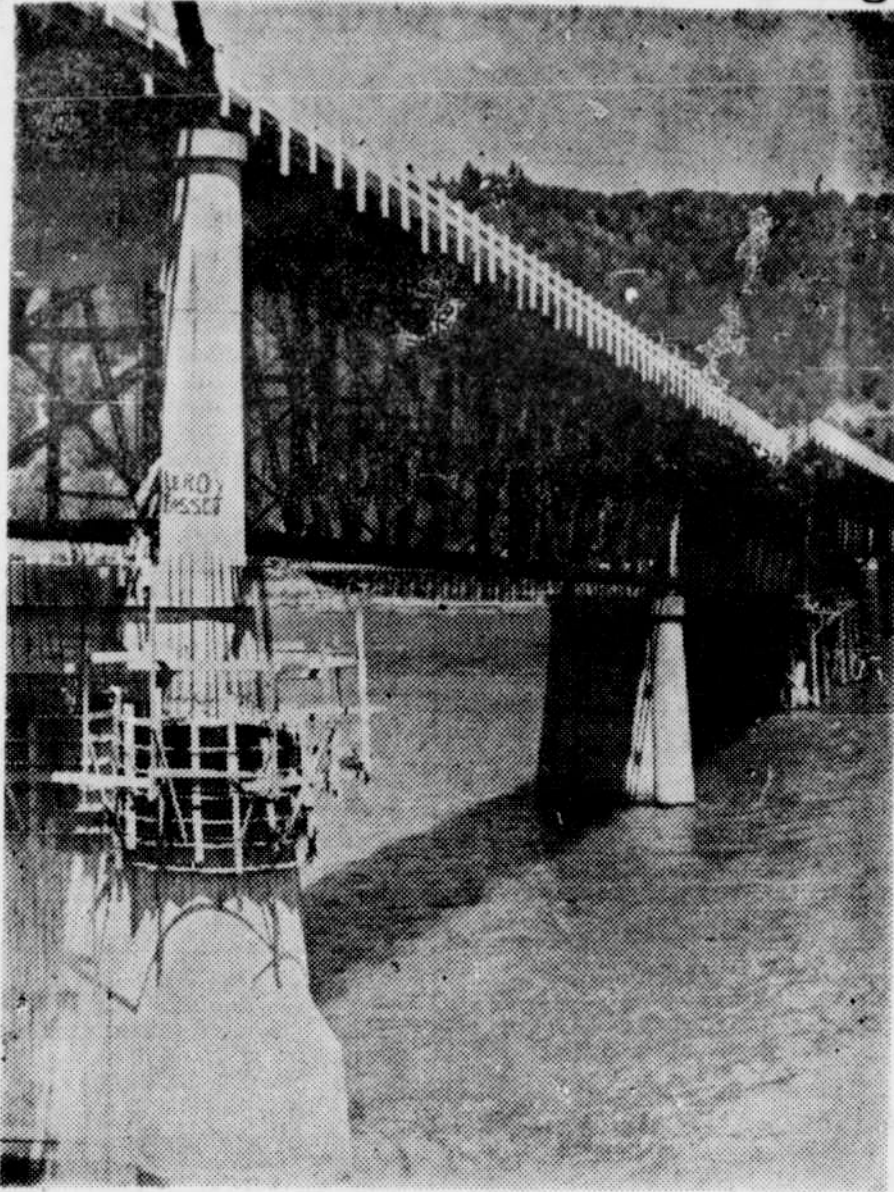
The recent period of extremely dangerous fire weather is bad, coming so early in the summer, according to U. S. forest service statements just issued, and should not be followed by a false sense of security if the weather should take a temporary turn for the better.

"Normally we can expect an additional six or eight weeks of fire season," said M. L. Merritt, assistant regional forester, Portland. "We hope for a turn for the better in weather conditions, to enable fire fighters to get the best of the fires they are now fighting. However, such a favorable turn usually may be expected to be followed by additional bad fire weather in August and September. If smoldering fires are abandoned, or public vigilance relaxes as weather gets better, the chances are that we would have even worse fires later in the season than those we are now fighting. This has been the history of past serious fire seasons."

Forest service cumulative fire report for the season, just compiled, shows that up to July 20 there have been 777 fires started on national forests of Oregon and Washington, as compared to 364 last year. Of these, 529 were caused by lightning, and 248 were man-caused. Principal man causes were smokers, 194; campers, 68; debris burners, 23; and incendiary, 15.

Of the total of 777 started, 594 were put out under one quarter of an acre each; 152 were held under 10 acres each; and only 31 exceeded 10 acres each. According to Merritt, this shows an excellent record for

Face-Lifting for Hood River Bridge



View of improvements under way on Hood River-White Salmon bridge to make it ready for big ship navigation above Bonneville. The pier in the foreground is one of two being strengthened to support a lift span, while a new approach from the Washington shore is shown in the distance. Photo taken from the steamer Charles L. Wheeler Jr.

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the protection forces. A few of the 31 "class C" fires reached large size, because of such factors as weather, humidity, difficult terrain and inaccessibility. A total of 10,847 acres have been burned, most of this acreage being accounted for by the three large fires in the Siskiyou national forest, in extremely difficult, inaccessible country.

Viento

(By Mrs. V. M. Cederson)

The Relief Corps of Hood River had a picnic at Viento State Park, a lovely lunch being served at noon. Later in the afternoon ice cream was served. Fifty-eight ladies were present. A reading was given by Mrs. Garabrant. Mrs. Phoebe Foss was present, she being the oldest member of the order, but she endured the hot day as well, if not better than, some of the younger ones. All left late in the evening and reported a very pleasant day.

Grandma Jones fell from her porch last week and has been confined to her bed since, badly bruised, but we are glad to report that she is now better.

Irene Cederson spent last week in Portland with her grandmother and family.

Mr. and Mrs. William Lozier are the proud parents of a big boy, born to them the 11th of July. He has been named William M.

Mrs. J. O. Jones has come home from a Portland hospital and we are glad to have her home and know she is feeling much better.

The Knights of Pythias lodge of Hood River had their picnic at Happy Dell Park last Sunday. The Knights of Pythias had their band, and played all afternoon, which was enjoyed very much by all.

A. Caruso of Happy Dell Park was in Portland last Tuesday on business.

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