

58 PERISH IN CHICAGO BLAZE

Herald and News

PRICE FIVE CENTS

KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 1948

(Telephone 8111)

Number 10828

WEATHER NEWS

June 5
Max. (June 4) 74 Min. — 43
Precipitation last 24 hours — .00
Stream year to date — 15.63
Normal — 11.37 Last year — 13.84
Forecast: Partly cloudy.

May Be President



Foreign Minister George Bidault, leader of the victorious moderate popular republican party which smashed the communist bid for power in France with substantial gains in June 2 elections. He may be next president of France at head of coalition government, including communist and socialist members. —NEA telephoto

Early Morning Flames Sweep LaSalle Hotel

CHICAGO, June 5 (AP)—At least 58 persons were killed—many suffocated in their beds without being awakened—today in an early morning fire that swept through the 22-story La Salle hotel in the heart of Chicago's loop district.

Fire department sources estimated about 200 persons were injured.

The first alarm was turned in at 12:35 a. m., when most of the 1100 guests had retired for the night. Within 10 minutes the first three floors were engulfed in flames and both of the main street exits from the 37-year-old hostelry were impassable.

Five extra alarms were sounded and more than 300 firemen battled the blaze, bringing it under control about 3:30 a. m.

Most of those who were burned had been housed on the third, fourth and sixth floors. About the sixth floor, smoke and panic claimed their victims. At least 10 persons died as they leaped from their rooms and fell to the street or in a courtyard.

Of the 58 bodies which overflowed the county morgue—27 were listed as unidentified. On many of the bodies there were only a few fragments of burned clothing, which crumbled when touched. Most were clad only in negligees or robes.

Fire Marshal Michael Corrigan, calling the fire the worst in his 35 years of experience and "one of the hardest to explain," said firemen had heard three explosions, spaced about a minute and a half apart, preceding discovery of the fire.

John Flanagan, chief house detective at the La Salle, said the fire started in the No. 5 elevator shaft. He quoted Detective Edward McNamara as saying that the operator of the No. 5 elevator rushed into the lobby and said there was fire in his pit.

Several persons with fire extinguishers went to the reported location of the fire, and the fire department was summoned, arriving in five or six minutes.

Chaos Spread

"But it was simply appalling the way the fire spread," McNamara said. "In a twinkling the whole lobby was a mass of flames. From then on, everything was chaos."

Firemen and volunteers rushed into the hotel, to control the blaze, and assist the guests from the building. Smoke and heat rushed to the upper floors through the elevator shafts, permeating all the halls and filling the rooms. On the fourth floor, seven bodies were found in a crawling position. The victims had been headed toward a fire escape, and had been overcome on the way.

The figures of many persons appeared in windows, as if they were planning to leap. Even as flame and smoke menaced those in the windows, firemen cautioned:

"Sit tight—we'll get you out."

Rescue ladders were quickly raised and more than 50 persons were rescued. Military police and shore patrol members banded together with police, firemen and other volunteers to stretch nets in the streets to catch those who chose to leap. One woman was carried down a fire escape by a fireman and rushed to Passavant hospital. Almost on arrival, she gave birth to a baby.

BOTH PARTIES PICK WARREN

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

THERE is no place like the smoking room of a Pullman to get the lowdown on what people are thinking. In the cozy atmosphere of this hang-out for men, we all seem to loosen up while we're waiting for the hour to come to turn in.

There must be something to this business of taking your hair down. It relaxes men as well as women.

TWO young fellows, in their early 30s, are chewing over the subject of strikes—a potent conversation-maker in these days. One of them seems to be a railroad man on his day off. At least, he isn't in his working clothes.

"I'll admit the trains have to be kept running," he says, "but if we can't strike, and everybody knows it, how are we ever going to get anywhere? Without the strike, we'd all still be working for a couple of bucks a day."

(WHICH, of course, more or less goes to the root of things. Still, in a country like this, the trains have to be kept running. We have a lot to do yet before we can dust off our hands and say to ourselves that we've done our job of industrial relations and done it fairly well.)

"YOU hear a lot," he goes on, "a little bitterly, 'to the effect that railroad men are well paid as it is. Well, our pay in dollars isn't so bad, in comparison with what our dads earned, but what's a dollar in these days? At best, it's only about 40 cents. We have to work 16 hours a day to get our bills paid."

AS the conversation develops, it becomes apparent that he is clear in his own mind as to who is at fault in all this mess. He says with a note of frustration in his voice:

At this point, the other young fellow breaks in. "Yeah," he concedes, "but did you see the other day where they'd bought a lotta bonds at three-quarters of one per cent interest? They aren't getting rich, at that."

This stops his companion for a moment, but he mutters: "Hell, they've got enough dough. They can stand it."

IT comes out in the course of the chat that the Jew-complainer isn't necessarily an anti-Semite. In his mind, "Jew" is just a generic term for money power. "It's these fat guys with the dough bags that are running us," he maintains grimly.

At least, it's an old, old diagnosis. The haves and the have-nots have been suspicious of each other for more centuries than we can count on our fingers and our toes combined.

AFTER all, that is what is mainly wrong with us at this particular moment. We're all SUSPICIOUS OF EVERYBODY. There is so little tolerance. And so much ill will.

That is one of the terrible things about incipient inflation, with its phenomenon of constantly rising prices that keep us upset and scared. We may be willing to admit that we're all right this week, but with the specter of rising prices haunting us constantly we're nervous about NEXT week.

We'll have to get inflation stopped, somehow, before we can think straight enough to get the mess (which always follows big wars) straightened out.

COMING over the bay on the ferry, a minor grief is encountered. This writer's companion at the coffee counter on the boat lives up the valley and is coming to the city to get his glasses checked. He had to take the train at 4:13 a. m. and he won't get home until around midnight. A day and half the night shot just for a job that takes an hour or so.

"Trains every three or four hours all night," he comments, "but none during the daytime."

"Still," he adds, tolerantly, "you can't expect the railroad company to upset its whole terminal-to-terminal schedule just so I can go to the city and get my eyes checked and get home in a hurry."

IF you'll note carefully, it will come to you that the bulk of the intolerance and the suspicion and the doubt of the motives of others that ride us these days like the Old Man of the Sea occur IN THE CITIES.

In the country towns, people

(Continued on Page 3, Column 8)

Richardson Wins Over Belcastro

Voters of nearby Siskiyou and Modoc counties defeated two veteran officeholders in yesterday's elections—Sheriff John Sharp of Modoc, and District Attorney Charles Johnson of Siskiyou. But Siskiyou voters retained a third veteran candidate, Sheriff Ben Richardson, who turned back the challenge of Pete Belcastro, Weed, for Siskiyou sheriff.

On the basis of recent returns, Glyne M. Johnson of Adin has defeated Sheriff Sharp of Modoc county by a three to one margin. Johnson, a veteran of both wars, waged a warm campaign against Sharp, who has held the office for more than 20 years. Johnson came in in a walk.

Fred Burton Jr., is to be the new district attorney of Siskiyou county. It appeared this afternoon. He was leading District Attorney Johnson, 3524 to 2424, on the basis of returns from 52 out of 80 precincts, and it was unlikely Johnson could overcome that wide margin.

Sheriff Ben Richardson this afternoon had 3796 votes against 2336 for Pete Belcastro, in returns from 52 Siskiyou county precincts. Belcastro is a filling station and restaurant operator of Weed, and also a wrestler of note who has appeared on the mat here many times.

Noble Elected Coroner

Lloyd B. Noble, Mt. Shasta, has been named coroner and public administrator of Siskiyou county. The latest count shows Noble with 3512 votes, against 2280 for his opponent, Muriel Upton, Weed.

Senator Randolph Collier was (Continued on Page 2, Column 2)

KF Policemen Ask Pay Hike

A request by the 17 patrolmen of the city police department for a \$30 a month wage increase is now in the hands of the city budget committee.

The petition, signed by Frank Blackmer and presented to the city council last Monday night, asked for a boost to a \$225-a-month basic wage for patrolmen. The present base pay is \$195.

Blackmer is president of the Police Beneficial association, and acts as desk man on a day shift.

The request was taken up by the council at a special meeting yesterday and will be further considered at a regular meeting of the budget committee tomorrow. In order to get the raises for this year, the committee must okay the petition and budget the money by July 1.

This proposed salary hike does not pertain to sergeants or the assistant chief, but their salaries will probably be automatically raised if the proposal is approved. The salary of the chief of police is set by the council.

Sen. Revercomb Charges Army Wants 'Pick Of Land' By Peacetime Conscription

WASHINGTON, June 5 (AP)—Senator Revercomb (R-W.Va.) declared in the senate today that the army favors "peacetime conscription" because it wants "the pick of the land."

He urged the senate to adopt instead of a pending teen-age draft bill his substitute to suspend all inductions into the armed forces until congress orders them resumed.

Arguing that volunteers will fill the ranks under an increased pay scale for which the senate already had voted, Revercomb said:

"The army believes in impressed military service—peacetime conscription, say what they will about their desire for volunteers. They want the pick of the land. They don't want to consult the individual American citizen as to whether he wants to serve."

The senate yesterday voted to resume the drafting of 18 and

Russia Now Ranks Stalin With Great Heroes Of History

By EDDY GILMORE

NEW YORK, June 5 (AP)—Generalissimo Joseph Stalin is a highly respected, almost hallowed, figure in Russia today and regarded by the greatest people as probably the greatest Russian of all time—greater than Peter the Great, Ivan the Terrible and perhaps even Lenin.

At 66, Stalin is still a vigorous man and still in charge of this nation that occupies one-sixth of the earth's surface.

Elected in February this year to four more years as Russia's leader, Stalin seems likely to fill out his term and if his health is as good as it is today be elected again.

They give him full marks for Russia's ability to withstand the wehrmacht, for the elimination of anti-Soviet elements before the war which resulted in the USSR having no fifth column, and for wise planning and thinking for them and their future all the time.

The Russians have great faith in Stalin's new five-year plans and are quite certain that by

Attlee Blasts Russ Attitude

LONDON, June 5 (AP)—Prime Minister Attlee charged in the house of commons today that Russia had disregarded the spirit in which the allies entered into the Potsdam agreement.

He spoke in a foreign affairs debate shortly after Winston Churchill, wartime prime minister and now opposition leader, declared that "the seeds of a new world war are being sown" in the Soviet-dominated areas of eastern Europe.

Attlee said Russia had insisted in imparting to the Potsdam agreement a rigid and literal interpretation denying all flexibility to meet the changing situation.

"We have to look upon the Russian people, to some extent, as if they had been born in a dark forest; they do not seem to understand the sunlight, the wind and the air of the free democracies," he said.

Attlee said continued misunderstanding between Russia and the western powers "is really the iron curtain—it is a curtain between minds."

Referring to an earlier statement by Churchill that Russia regarded the Anglo-American agreement as sinister in motive, Attlee observed:

"I entirely agree that friendship with neighbors is not 'ganging up' but I also have this to say: We don't want in any way to get exclusive friendship with the western powers. We are out to get an all-inclusive friendship."

Indian Youths May Miss Jail

In federal court this morning Judge James Alger Fee postponed passing sentence on two Indian boys, Bruce Elton Tupper and Marx Loyce Brown, both charged with forgery, while probation officials see if three-year enlistments in a branch of the armed services can be arranged for the pair.

Tupper is 18 and Brown 17. Both are from Beatty where they were arrested for allegedly forging endorsements to government checks.

Represented by J. C. O'Neill, they pleaded guilty during a court hearing in Portland and probation was a promised if O'Neill could find them a place of probation off the Klamath Indian reservation.

He told the court this morning that he had been unable to find a place for the boys off the reservation, but that both were willing to go into the service if allowed by the court.

A federal probation officer told the court that he favored that solution and Judge Fee remanded the boys to the custody of the U. S. marshal until accepted or rejected by the army. He specified a three-year enlistment.

Basin Area Vets To Meet Tonight

A meeting has been called for tonight at 7:30 at the Winema hotel, for representatives of all veterans organizations in the basin area. Walter Thoma, chairman of the Klamath Falls inter-veterans organization has issued the call in the interests of forming a basin-wide organization to deal more effectively with problems that pertain to all veterans of the armed forces.

A dinner will start the meeting and at the business session following, plans will be outlined for drafting a constitution and by-laws and various officers will be elected to handle the affairs of the group.

With the increasing legislation and various governmental edicts, concerning veterans rights it is felt that an organized group such as this would be more effective in procuring localized benefits.

California Ballots Rip All Records

SAN FRANCISCO, June 5 (AP)—Governor Earl Warren shattered California political tradition today by capturing both republican and democratic primary elections for renomination as governor.

Warren won his own republican party designation by a landslide vote, and was assured election without major opposition next November when Attorney General Robert W. Kenny conceded his defeat in the democratic primaries.

In his unprecedented sweep of both party primaries, permitted under California's cross-filing system, Warren did what no other Californian has ever done and at the same time became only the second California governor to be reelected to a second term.

The Warren sweep also marked a sharp setback at the polls for the CIO political action committee, which had joined forces with Kenny's democratic "package" slate. All but one of the three other CIO-PAC-democratic group running for major offices went down to defeat with Kenny.

Knowland Renominated

United States Senator William F. Knowland was assured republican nomination for the senate, and Roger son of the late humorist and Beverly Hills publisher, appeared safely in as the democratic nominee.

Not since Hiram Johnson became the first California governor to win a second term has any candidate repeated until Warren's victory in yesterday's balloting. Dual party nomination—tantamount to election—has been accorded congressional candidates before, but never to a governor before Warren.

What effect this precedent-breaking election would have on 1948 republican presidential developments became at once the subject of political speculation.

Police Search For Kidnapers

PENDLETON, June 5 (AP)—State and city police today asked peace officers in Eastern Washington to join a search for two young men who, Police Chief Charles Lemons said, kidnaped Walter Edger, Pendleton taxi driver, stole his taxi and dumped him five miles from Walla Walla last night after robbing him of \$15.

Officers had only a meager description of one of the men to aid the search. They have notified federal bureau of investigation officers in Portland of the case.

State Police Sergeant N. W. Smith reported Edger told him and Lemons that one of the missing men hired his cab and asked to be driven to the edge of town. There, Edger related, he held a pistol to the driver's ribs until he was joined by a second man.

Truman Picks Austin For UN

WASHINGTON, June 5 (AP)—President Truman today selected Senator Warren R. Austin, Vermont republican, to be America's representative on the United Nations security council.

The appointment will not become effective until next January. The White House explained that a constitutional limitation prevents Austin from succeeding now to the position just resigned by Edward R. Stettinius Jr.

Until Austin can take over, at the end of the senate term to which he was elected, Herschel Johnson will represent the United States in United Nations affairs. Johnson has been serving as deputy American representative.

Austin will, however, resign his senate seat at once and be named special representative of the president, with the rank of ambassador, to serve as an adviser to Johnson.

In announcing this arrangement, Presidential Secretary Charles G. Ross told reporters it was "further evidence of the president's belief in bipartisan policies where the foreign relations of the United States are concerned."

Austin, 68, is a member of the senate foreign relations committee and often has supported foreign policies of democratic chief executives. He has been in the senate since 1931.

Accident Aftermath



Pictured above is the automobile which careened off the embankment along highway 97 at Wocus Tuesday when its driver, Mrs. Vivian Jamison, lost control after passing a freight truck. Mrs. Jamison and other occupants of the car, Mrs. Winnie Lee Jamison, Estella Kirk, and Kenneth Moore, received minor injuries. All have been released from the hospitals.

Romania Fails To Satisfy US

WASHINGTON, June 5 (AP)—The state department reported today the Romanian government had sent an unsatisfactory reply to the American demand that Romania fix a date for early free elections.

Michael J. McDermott, department spokesman, told a news conference that the reply had been received only today and "at first blush it is unsatisfactory because it presents a distorted picture and is inaccurate."

Contents of the reply were not immediately disclosed. The American note was delivered at Bucharest on May 27 by Minister Burton Y. Berry.

The U. S. note expressed dissatisfaction with political conditions in Romania and called for fixing an election date, an end to censorship, protection for opposition political parties and other measures to advance political freedom.

Clendene Leads In Tulene Race

TULELAKE, Calif., June 5—William Clendene, Tulene watermaster, has apparently been elected justice of the peace here over E. L. Booth, incumbent. The latest count showed: Clendene, 201; Booth, 152.

Other Tulene votes, in Siskiyou county balloting:

Sheriff—Richardson 184, Belcastro 172.

District Attorney — Johnson 172, Burton 170.

In the Tulene district voting in Modoc county, Lowden won over Phillips for constable, 71 to 47. In that district's voting on Modoc sheriff, the vote was: Sharp 58, Johnson 106. On supervisor: Crawford 136, Fulkner 33.

Engle Winner On 2 Tickets

Congressman Clair Engle, democrat, won both the democrat and republican nomination for congress, tantamount to reelection, in the primary voting in California's second district yesterday.

Engle's district includes Siskiyou and Modoc counties. The 21 California congressmen seeking renomination were assured places on the November ballot, and Engle was among five who won spots on both party tickets.

Italian Vote Ousts King For Republic

ROME, June 5 (AP)—Pietro Nenni, socialist vice premier, announced today that the republic had been voted by the Italian people and that King Umberto would leave Italy Saturday.

A government source has announced four hours earlier the defeat of the monarchy in the weekend plebiscite.

Queen Maria Jose, wife of King Umberto II, and her four children arrived at the Capodichino airport in the Naples suburb tonight by plane from Rome. She was accompanied by three ladies in waiting. All went to the villa Maria Pia at Posillipo, where King Vittorio Emanuele III spent his last days in Italy before abdicating May 9.

Trucks loaded with 20 pieces of luggage from the plane went to the villa. Umberto was not with his wife.

Two Million Plurality

With some votes still to be counted, Nenni said the republic had polled 12,000,000 votes against 10,000,000 for continuance of the monarchy.

He said Umberto would leave immediately after the supreme court of cassation made the formal announcement Saturday. Nenni added that the king probably would go to Egypt, where his royal parents are in exile.

At the same time Minister of Interior Giuseppe Romita, in explaining the vote, said all regions in northern Italy had voted for a republic.

Centennial Rodeo Talked

A suggestion that Klamath's centennial celebration and rodeo be combined into a "Centennial Days" celebration was offered at today's chamber of commerce directors' meeting, and passed on to the rodeo committee and centennial association.

Malcolm Epley, a member of the chamber board, made the suggestion, pointing out that both groups would require underwriting by the business community, that the two events are in need of immediate community interest, and that a combined effort with unanimous community support might prove more successful than separate efforts. Epley said he thought the idea at least worthy of consideration, and the board voted to make the suggestion for consideration at a meeting of the centennial association tonight.

Marshall Cornett, member of the committee, studying the plans for a rodeo, said that the group plans definitely to stage a rodeo, and believed it could be combined with historical features that would give it a centennial celebration flavor.

It was agreed that the centennial pageant might have to be scaled down somewhat from present plans, but that an evening performance or two, along with appropriate features of the day-time shows, might be substituted for the pageant program later in the year.

Baseball Scores

AMERICAN			
	R	H	E
Detroit	2	8	1
Philadelphia	0	4	1

NATIONAL			
	R	H	E
New York	5	12	0
Chicago	6	13	0
Fischer, Budnick (6), Trinkle (6) and Cooper; Schmitz, Bit-horn (3), Chipman (4), Kush (7) and McCullough.			