

GAS IN TULE WATER EXPLODES

In The Day's News

Herald and News

PRICE FIVE CENTS KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1946 (Telephone 8111) ** Number 10812

WEATHER	
Max (Dec. 16)	36 Min. 21
Precipitation last 24 hours	.00
Normal year to date	3.48
Last year	4.57 Normal 3.51
Forecast: Fair today, tonight and Wednesday; slightly higher daytime temperatures.	

By FRANK JENKINS
BARUCH today called formally upon the United Nations atomic energy commission to approve the U. S. plan for international control of atomic weapons of war. In a brief speech to the commission, he says the question has been debated long enough and the time for action is here.

OUR position in this most critical of all situations facing the world is that OUR plan for control of atomic warfare must be adopted or we won't play.
Offhand, that sounds stubborn. When you reason it out, it isn't. We have the atom bomb. Nobody else has. When we offer to give it up in return for effective international control, we naturally expect to have the say as to whether the proposed form of control is effective.

LET'S put it this way: YOU HAVE THE ONLY GUN, you will be the one that is particular about giving up guns.

BESIDES, since we know more about atomic warfare than anybody else, we're in a better position than anybody else to know what methods of control will be effective.
If the controls that are adopted AREN'T EFFECTIVE, they will be WORSE than useless.

SIDNEY F. WOODBURY, talking over the presidency of the Portland chamber of commerce, says in his inaugural address last night that "we're in a very bad mess, and we all know it."

"We are a nation sick in spirit and in purpose. No one cares particularly if he works or not, though each is determined to get a higher rate of pay and just as determined not to produce fairly."

AS a solution, he advocates the principle of the Golden Rule, but notes that "the rub is to get anyone to follow it."
The great obstacle to adoption of the principle of the Golden Rule as the solution of the problem of getting along with each other is that "practical" men have always regarded it as idealistic nonsense that sounds good in a speech but wouldn't work.
If honestly applied, it WOULD work.

If all of us adopted and lived up to the principle of the Golden Rule in all of our dealings with each other, it would pay not only in greater satisfactions but in dollars and cents.

ALL sound, honest business men know that a contract that is fair to both (or all) parties is quite certain to be more profitable to ALL concerned than a contract that gives the bulk of the benefits to ONE party.
In the case of a one-sided contract, the party that is gyped is pretty sure to kick up a costly disturbance somewhere along the line.

AS Chamber of Commerce President Woodbury says (in somewhat milder words) each of us in these days is determined to get his NOW, and to hell with the other fellow.
Try to run a football team on that principle, and see how many games you win.
You won't win many.

FOR the first time in our existence, our system is in sharp competition with another system—Russian communism. Whatever may be their reasons, there seems to be no doubt anywhere that ALL the Russians are WORKING TOGETHER toward

Cold Weather May Halt Floods

Charge Filed In McComb Shooting

Donald L. Yancey, 35, has been formally charged with assault with intent to kill in the slaying which wounded Mary McComb, 50-year-old Klamath county librarian, who remains in an extremely critical condition at Klamath Valley hospital.
Yancey, who in a statement to the district attorney told of firing the shot which struck Miss McComb in the neck Saturday night, was arraigned in justice court yesterday afternoon.
He took time to consider, asking for a preliminary hearing and requested a lawyer. Yancey was returned to the county jail in lieu of \$5000 cash bail, and today was making an effort to retain Dayton E. Van Vactor to defend him.
There is little likelihood, District Attorney Clarence Humble said today, that the shooting will be officially brought to the attention of the grand jury, now meeting, because of the critical condition of Miss McComb.

Condition Critical
The librarian, well-known and respected in Klamath Falls and the county, is unable to have any visitors at the hospital, but officials said that the hospital was being flooded with anxious calls concerning her.
At a late hour today Miss McComb's physician, Dr. George H. Adler, advised that her condition remains extremely grave. Her left side is paralyzed and she is unable to respond in any manner, Dr. Adler said the situation.

Bilbo Mum While Lawyers Row Over Campaign Cost

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (AP)—An attorney for Senator Bilbo (D-Miss.) expressed the opinion today that "hundreds of thousands of dollars" can be spent in Mississippi political campaigns despite a state corrupt practices act.
The attorney, Forest Jackson, was questioned about the state law by Senator Ferguson (R-Mich.) at the Bilbo war contracts inquiry.
After asking about the alleged payment of \$11,000 to former Rep. Ross Collins' campaign manager after Collins lost his bid for a senatorial nomination in 1942, Ferguson queried:
"How did you get around the Mississippi corrupt practices act? You did not report this as a campaign expenditure."
Jackson replied that only the main committee of a candidate was required to report its expenditures. "Informal" groups were exempt, he said.
"What good is the state law then?" asked Ferguson.
"I don't think it's any good," Jackson replied.
Before today's session started Senator Bilbo told reporters he

Explaining The Homestead Drawing For Radio Listeners



Dean Abbott, right, No. 1 on the alphabetical list of participants in tomorrow's Tulelake homestead drawing, is shown with District Engineer Ray Best of the USRS (center) being interviewed at the KFLW studios on a coastwide ABC broadcast in advance of the drawing. Bob McCarl, left, is the KFLW announcer. Don Lee Mutual and KFJI will broadcast the opening ceremonies at 10:30 a. m. Wednesday, and thereafter KFLW and KFJI will alternate in broadcasting the drawing locally.

Mistake Stymies Housing Situation

PORTLAND, Dec. 17 (AP)—Judge Frank Longergan is presiding judge of the Multnomah courts but he isn't running an auto court.
That's what he wrote a North Carolina resident whose letter to "the Multnomah courts" asking for accommodations was delivered to him.

Big Jar Rigged Like Churn Holds Numbers At Drawing

National attention was directed today to a big glass jar, rigged up so that it will revolve churning fashion on an axle, which for the moment reposes empty on a table in the U. S. reclamation bureau offices here.
This is the receptacle, sometimes erroneously called a goldfish bowl, which will hold the capsule-encased numbers of participating World War II veterans in the Tulelake homestead drawing to open at 10:30 a. m. tomorrow at the Klamath armory.
It is actually a pickle-jar, and was found amid discarded articles at the WRA center at Tulelake. The reclamation bureau shop crew here fashioned the turning device for the jar, which will stir up the capsules

between each individual drawing for homesteads tomorrow. The jar is encased in a steel collar, and is turned by a crank.
As each capsule is removed from the jar, the capsule will be smashed by a hammer. The number will then be examined. It will be checked against the official list of participants, and name of the veteran with the corresponding number will be announced.
It is expected to take about four hours to complete the drawing of 172 names. Eighty-six homesteads are to be allotted, but twice that number of names will be drawn to assure alternates in case any of the first 86 are disqualified.
After the 172 are drawn the remaining capsules will be removed and kept in a vault against the possibility that they might be needed again for further drawing in case not enough qualified applicants are found in the 172 drawn.
All plans for the drawing were apparently finished today.

High School To Present Oratorio

Klamath Union high school's Christmas gift to the city of Klamath Falls will be presented tonight, Tuesday, and tomorrow night in the KUHHS auditorium, when various departments combine to give "The Divine Mystery," a Christmas oratorio, at 8 o'clock sharp. There is no charge and the public is cordially invited, according to Andrew Loney Jr., director of music education in the city schools.
Students from the music, art, manual arts and drama departments have worked diligently on the production which will be far and away one of the most extravagant and beautiful attempted by the high school. Guest soloist is Carl Hagel and student soloist is Doris Weaver.

Grand Jury May Report Today

All indications at the courthouse point to the conclusion that the Klamath county grand jury, now in its eighth day of work, will bring in its report late this afternoon.
Circuit Judge David R. Vandenberg was in the room with the jury for about two hours this morning, and at noon the jurors recessed until 1:30 p. m. At that time Al Brandt, court reporter, was asked to be on hand to type out the jury's report.

River Crest Expected To Hit Today

By The Associated Press
Debris-filled floodwaters of the Willamette river rolled over low-lying wharves at Portland today and still were rising toward the expected crest of 22 feet due about noon.
Three feet above flood stage of 18 feet this morning, the river had yet to cause serious damage in the Portland area, but tug boats were riding herd on drifting logs, keeping them from bridge piers.
Vancouver, Wash., was to get a crest five feet above flood stage in the Columbia river when the Willamette's peak pours into the river, according to Elmer Fisher, weather bureau meteorologist.

Willamette Falls
The Willamette continued its fall in the upper valley as cessation of rain and a cold snap halted the feeding of tributaries which swept over lowland fields and piled into the main stream. The Eugene area, first to feel the force of the flood, was getting back to a semblance of normalcy but from there downriver to below Newberg, damage was estimated in the hundreds of thousands of dollars. Eroded soil, washed out or weakened bridges, silted homes and stores and lost poultry and livestock were the flood's toll. Most of the serious damage was in the Eugene area. Although hopyards in the Corvallis-Salem area were flooded, damage to them was believed minor.
The Santiam river at Lebanon cut 10 feet from its bank and edged perilously close to an old channel. A break-through would have inundated much of the business district.

Anti-Trust Case Dropped

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (AP)—The justice department announced today that its anti-trust division has recommended dismissal of the six-year-old anti-trust suit against the American Petroleum Institute, and more than 200 oil companies.
A department press official told reporters that Attorney General Clark "is holding up dismissal of the case pending a settlement of legal problems. His decision may be expected in about two weeks."
The official did not divulge the division's reason for recommending dismissal.
Filed in 1940, the suit charged the institute, 22 major oil companies and more than 200 subsidiary companies with conspiracy to restrain trade, monopolize the industry, manipulate prices and maintain other practices to the detriment of consumers.
The case was not prosecuted during the war. The justice department revived it last spring.

Sharp Blast Sends Youth To Hospital

Methane gas mingled with water in the Tulelake water mains, caused a sharp explosion early Monday afternoon and sent 19-year-old Paul Elbert Sanders to Klamath Valley hospital with burns about the face and hands.
Sanders, an employee of the Lepley Motors company, said he had entered the men's lavatory and had placed a metal bucket under a faucet to draw some water. He said that he did not remember whether he had a cigarette burning at the time or had struck a match to light the cigarette, but when no water came from the tap he flushed the bowl to release the pressure and as he did there was an explosion.

Force of the blast, apparently caused by the presence of methane gas in the lines, blew two doors off the lavatory and sprung the walls of the wood and pumice structure. A part of one door was thrown 40 feet by the force and Sanders' clothing and hair were ablaze as he rushed from the building. Fire extinguishers were played on him to put out the fire and the Tulelake ambulance rushed the youth to Klamath Valley hospital.
Deibert Maxwell Lepley, operator of Lepley Motors, said today that it was possible that young Sanders did not have a burning cigarette or match at the time but that the friction of the metal bucket striking the water pipe caused the spark which set off the explosion.

Members of the city council, alarmed at the condition, called a meeting early last night and advised that to prevent a recurrence, several openings would be made in the mains near the water distributive plant. It was explained that instead of pumping water into the storage tank, water was now being pumped directly into the main because the \$15,000 aeration and softening plant is under construction and workmen were getting ready to do some installation work. Gas has now been forming in the main instead of in the tanks, it was observed at the meeting.
By making openings in the mains, city councilmen observed that it would cut between 80 and 90 per cent of the gas now in the water.

High Pressure
Tulelake residents told the council that it was not uncommon to have a dish forced from the hand when taps were turned on, so high is the pressure as the result of the gas. It was also brought out that Tulelake home owners had long ago learned not to approach the taps with lighted cigarettes.
This is the third time in Tulelake, it is understood, that such an explosion has occurred, but none of the explosions has been accompanied by fire. One woman is understood to have entered her bathroom and when she lit a match, a resulting explosion blew the top off the water tank on the toilet. This is the first injury, one Tulelake resident told The Herald and News today, to result from the presence of methane gas in the water.
Residents said that you could strike a match and throw it in water and a flame would result. Methane gas is a gaseous hydrocarbon, light, odorless and inflammable, occurring naturally as a product of decomposition or organic matter in marshes and mines. It is sometimes called marsh gas.

Abandoned Dog Waits For Owner

Molly, a small black and white shepherd dog, is still waiting. Her story is told by Mrs. Lloyd Dunlap of the Old Fort road. On Saturday a young man who said he was from Dorris asked Mrs. Dunlap to take the dog because he could no longer keep her. Mrs. Dunlap told him she already had a dog and had no place for another, suggesting that he try some of her neighbors.
The man started down the road, telling Molly to wait for him where she was, on a pile of logs and rubble. The man didn't come back, and Molly is still waiting. She has refused food given her by Mrs. Dunlap. Mrs. Dunlap asks anyone willing to give the little dog a home to call her, telephone 4237.

Accident Leaves Car On Steps

PORTLAND, Dec. 17 (AP)—Bert Short stepped unharmed from his automobile last night after it had failed to make a turn, knocked a guard rail 35 feet sailed over the crest of a Willamette boulevard-embankment clearing a 50-foot stairway, and came to rest on its top.
He was cited for reckless driving and damaging city property.

6 SHOPPING DAYS LEFT

BUY CHRISTMAS SEALS

Shoppers Flood Klamath Falls Stores As Buying Hits Peak



Last Saturday was out-of-town shopping day in Klamath Falls and shops were filled with families who came to town to wind up their holiday buying. (1) A plump Teddy Bear intrigues pretty little Marjorie Jones, 2½-year-old daughter of W. J. Jones, 2761 Ward, who spent quite a bit of time in this toy department with Marjorie. (2) Still smiling after a grueling day behind the counter, Carol Dunn wraps a package at a counter still piled high with Christmas ribbons. (3) Waiting outside for mother, Richard Helms, 12-year-old Mills student, watches baby brother Larry Beavers. They are children of Mr. and Mrs. Radford Beavers of the Mountain View housing project and Saturday was a big occasion for Larry who shares his carriage with packages. (4) Santa Claus looks lot happier than two of his little confidantes, Larry, 3½, and Sandy, 2, children of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Bradshaw of Modoc Point, who were in town for the day. Saint Nick, under his beard, is Frank Hurd.