

FIRE GUTS MERRILL BUILDINGS

Herald and News

WEATHER
Max. (Jan. 20) 53 Min. 31
Precipitation last 24 hours .06
Season year to date 6.91
Last year 5.88 Normal 5.81
Forecast: Fair.

PRICE FIVE CENTS KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 1948 Telephone 8111 No. 1243

4024 Vets Seek 44 Homesteads

Coppock Bay Finals Set For March

At deadline at 2 p. m. yesterday, 4024 war veterans had filed applications for the 44 homesteads offered in the Coppock bay opening on the Klamath reclamation project.

It was by far the largest number of applications in any homestead opening on the Klamath project, and nearly twice as many as filed for 86 homesteads late in 1946 in the first post-World War II opening.

Several applications have arrived by mail at the reclamation office since the deadline, and one would-be applicant arrived in person about 10 minutes late. He left in a considerable "huff" when his application was refused for the simultaneous filing, reclamation officials said. They stated it was necessary to observe strictly the established deadline named in the regulations set up by the secretary of the interior.

Board At Work

In the 1946 opening, about one-third of the applicants who originally applied were eliminated in the processing of applications. If the same proportion holds, it appears that between 2600 and 2700 veterans will participate in the final Coppock bay drawing. The homestead examining board is already hard at work processing the applications, each of the three members of the board reading each application carefully.

Applicants who are turned down in the processing procedure will have 10 days to appeal to the regional reclamation director after their receipt of notice of rejection. Most turn-downs are expected on the basis of farm experience.

Drawing In March

March 15 is set as the approximate date for the final drawing, which will be carried out along the line of the previous drawing. Every effort will be made to finish the allotments so the new farmers can get on their land in time for the 1948 farming season.

There will be no second drawing for individual farm choices this time. The farm units have been numbered, and the applicant who draws No. 1 in the drawing will get No. 1 farm, and so on. This will speed the post-drawing process.

Interest In Coppock Bay Drawing Described by Reclamation Officials as "Terrific"

Applications poured in from all parts of the country. A total of 15,701 blanks were sent out in reply to inquiries, but over 10,000 of those who made inquiry failed to file completed applications.

Reclamation employees held a guessing contest on the number of applications which would be returned in the simultaneous filing period. Joyce Briscoe won the contest with a guess of 4000.

FILES

SALEM, Jan. 21 (AP)— Ormond E. Bean, Portland, Oregon public utilities commissioner from 1939 to 1943, filed his candidacy today for the republican nomination for state treasurer. He is the first candidate to file for the office.



TWO MERRILL BUILDINGS BURNED OUT—Two buildings in the center of the Merrill business section were virtually destroyed by a fire of unexplained origin early this morning, a fire which was kept from spreading by walls of brick structures on either side of the burned spots. Most of the damage was done in the Merrill Billiards, which was gutted, but the Reeves hardware and electrical service also received severe fire, water and smoke damage. Two trucks of the Merrill volunteer fire department and one truck from Malin fought the blaze for two hours before it was put out. The fire was believed to have started in the pool hall and was discovered when Darrell King, one of the owners, came to open for business at 7:15 a. m.

Tito Claims Yugoslavia Has Atom Bomb

TRIESTE, Free Territory, Jan. 21 (AP)— Premier Marshal Tito was quoted by La Voce Libera today as telling Yugoslav communist leaders that "we shall use our own atomic bomb" in any future conflict for "the final annihilation of reaction."

(A version published by the pro-DeGaulle French weekly "Dissidence 40" quoted Tito as saying: "War against the Anglo-Americans is inevitable. It is perhaps even a question of weeks.")

La Voce Libera, a pro-Italian newspaper, said Tito had delivered the speech to his party executive in Zagreb last Nov. 18. It said he had reported Russian arsenals are turning out 30,000 vehicles a month and "our jet-propelled fighters and our artillery will eliminate from the enemy aviation any desire to come and see us."

The French paper said it had had the text of the speech for a month, but delayed publication, until it learned the speech was authentic and had been published in "Dissidence 40," pro-DeGaulle French newspaper.

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at their disposal 150 divisions ready to march on 48 hours notice and capable of wiping out all obstacles obstructing their advance up to Paris.

Tito was quoted as saying a few

Timber Sales Set Record

PORTLAND, Jan. 21 (AP)— Record average and total prices were reported today for 1947 sale of timber from U. S. forest service tracts in Washington and Oregon.

The North Pacific regional forester reported that the average price of \$6.56 per 1000 feet and the total \$13,349,400 for 1,558,841,000 feet of timber were new yearly highs.

The timber cut in the region also set new marks.

Competitive bidding for the dwindling Washington supply boosted bids there to \$8.76 per 1000 average and brought \$5,988,404 for 683,326,000 feet. Oregon led in volume with 875,515,000 feet of timber bringing \$7,360,996, an average of \$8.41 per 1000 feet.

Sales from the Willamette national forest topped all other 19 regional forests and the total of 302,217,000 feet for \$2,493,857 was also above sales for the most other entire regions in the nation.

The Columbia national forest in Washington was second in volume and the Umpqua in Oregon was third.

The 1947 cut was 1,670,027,000 worth \$9,848,442. Oregon's share was 941,799,000 feet for \$5,604,589 compared with Washington's 728,228,000 feet valued at \$3,243,853.

KPCA Retires More Stock

Another \$20,000 in government-held stock will be retired by the Klamath Production Credit Association when it holds its annual stockholders' meeting at the Oregon Vocational school dining room Saturday noon, according to Lee McMullen, secretary-treasurer.

Last year, \$25,000 was retired. This year's action will leave the association only \$5000 away from complete farmer-stockman ownership.

A four per cent dividend will be paid Saturday.

Already, more than 300 cards have been returned indicating a record attendance at the dinner. J. W. Bradley, secretary of the Production Credit Corporation, Spokane, will be the main speaker.

KPCA operates in Klamath, Lake, Siskiyou and Modoc counties.

Grand Jury In Third Day

The county grand jury is in the third day of its deliberations today and has made no indication of a report before probably late Thursday afternoon.

A four-day session was predicted when the grand jury began work Monday.

District Attorney Clarence A. Humble has been kept busy rounding up witnesses for the jury and a steady stream of them have been moving in and out of the grand jury room just off circuit court chambers.



Nine Young People Injured In Two-Car Highway Smash

Nine young people were injured, four seriously, the result of a two-car accident two miles south of Worden on highway 97 as they returned to Klamath Falls from a Sacred Heart Academy-Dorris high school basketball game last night. The accident occurred at 10:30 p. m.

In Hillsdale hospital are Elizabeth Andersch, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andy Andersch, 700 Doty, and Grace Howell, 16, 727 N. 9th, daughter of Mrs. Vera Howell of Tulelake.

In Klamath Valley hospital are two of the boys, Patrick Slowey, 18, 301 West Main, and Charles Wood, 17, 2339 Home. Pat is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Slowey, and Charles is the son of Mrs. Ann Wood, all of this city.

Treated at Klamath Valley and dismissed last night were Rita Harrington, 17-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Harrington of 1778 Euna, and Merie Schie, 20, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward M. Schie, 124 N. 3rd.

Injured but not seriously, were three youths, Clarence Virgil Rayson, about 20; John Paul Foster, 20, 2926 Altamont drive, and George Norman Steele, 925 Washington.

State police said the accident occurred when a coupe and a pickup attempted to pass the Clay Howard car which was in the left lane and passing the lead car. Howard, a county employe, resides at 2614 Turnage.

Howard's car was occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Howard and two academy youths. They were ahead of the Ray Howard machine carrying five

Youth Goes To Boys Town

BEND, Ore., Jan. 21 (AP)— Little 11-year-old Cecil Snyder, who sang in his penthouse cell atop the Deschutes county courthouse and roared skated down the corridors while held on a charge of murdering his father, was headed for Boys Town, Neb., and a new life today.

Arrested following the December 12 death of his father, Joseph V. Snyder, the boy small for his years, was formally charged with murder. Sheriff C. L. McCauley said he told a story of abuse at the hands of his father, with whom he lived alone in a farm house five miles east of here, and admitted putting poison in two cheese sandwiches.

Circuit Judge R. S. Hamilton yesterday paroled Cecil to the juvenile court where Judge R. S. Hamilton conducted a hearing based on his being a dependent child. Howard S. Page, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, representing Father Flanagan's Boys' Town, asked that the boy be released to him to live at the famed Nebraska town. The petition was granted, with the court holding the boy under parole until he is 21.

Fire Fatal For Woman

Mrs. Mack Andrews, 60-year-old Corvallis housewife, died last night in the Corvallis General hospital of burns suffered when flames destroyed two trailer houses at a camp south of the city, sending four persons to the hospital early yesterday afternoon.

Also injured in the explosion were Mrs. Andrews' husband and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Sabo of Klamath Falls, both students at Oregon State college. Firemen said the explosion came while young Sabo was repairing a butane gas tank. Fumes apparently were ignited by sparks, and flames quickly destroyed the adjoining trailers.

Sabo, 24-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Sabo of 73 Pine street, pioneer Klamath residents, and his wife, Mary Jane, were said to be out of danger today. Sabo's mother left here early yesterday on word of the accident and is with another son, Stephen Jr., also a student at Oregon State. Paul Sabo is an army veteran, and he and his wife left Klamath Falls January 5 to enter OSC. They were married last August.

\$5 Billion GOP Tax Cut Heads For Certain Veto

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21 (AP)— Approved "as is" by the house republican leadership, the \$5,600,000,000 tax slashing bill moved today toward swift house passage and a virtually certain veto.

Democrats mobilizing to battle the measure claimed enough votes to block its final enactment, however, unless the senate trims the size of the tax cut when the legislation reaches that body.

Speaker Martin (R-Mass.) set the house vote for next week, probably Friday.

The house republican steering committee, in approving the measure late yesterday, refused flatly to make any concessions that might attract democratic support. A two-thirds majority is needed in both houses to overturn a presidential objection.

Democratic Leader Rayburn of Texas told reporters "the bill as it will never become law, and I think the republicans know it."

But Rep. Knutson (R-Minn.), author of the measure, shot back that Rayburn is "indulging in wishful thinking" and added: "The bill will become law."

The GOP leaders ignored President Truman's substitute proposal calling for a \$40 "cost of living" tax cut for everyone and a compensating \$3,200,000,000 excess profits levy on corporations.

The ways and means committee was called into closed door session (10 a. m. EST) to consider the

Acheson Hits Aid Plan Cut

ATLANTIC CITY, Jan. 21 (AP)— Former Undersecretary of State Dean Acheson said today a drastic cut in administration money estimates for European recovery would "merely prolong the illness, the cost and the danger."

If congress reduces the \$6,800,000,000 figure for the first 15 months of the Marshall plan to \$4,000,000,000 or \$5,000,000,000, he declared, "it ceases to be a recovery program."

Instead it would be a dole handed out to keep Europe alive and relief "is costly because it may be endless," Acheson said in a speech prepared for a convention of the National-American Wholesale Grocers' association.

Billiards, Hardware Store Hit

MERRILL, Jan. 21—A fire of undetermined origin this morning gutted two buildings in the center of the Merrill business district and put out of operation the Merrill Billiards, owned by Darrell King and Van Holden, and the Reeves Hardware and Electrical service, owned by Verle Reeves.

Damage to the buildings and the businesses is estimated at up to \$50,000, partially covered by insurance.

The fire apparently started in the pool hall and was not noticed until about 7:15 a. m. when Darrell King came down to open the establishment. King said he pushed open the door and smoke puffed out in his face.

Turned In Alarm

He turned in the alarm and two trucks manned by Merrill volunteer firemen came up to battle the blaze. Later a third truck was brought in from Malin.

The fire was already going strong in the pool hall and was spreading into the wall and roof of the hardware store. It was brought under control about 9:15, but not until after the pool hall was almost totally destroyed and considerable fire and water damage had been done to the hardware store and stock.

The roof of the pool hall burned out and caved in, and the upper roof over the hardware store was destroyed and the ceiling of that building sagged dangerously. The blaze got inside the double roof and was hard to hit with the streams of water being pumped in by the trucks.

No Injuries

No one was hurt in the fire or in the two-hour fight.

King said that he had no idea how the fire started. The Merrill Billiards had been closed up at 1 a. m. and no one was inside. Speculation was that it might have started from a stove.

That building was a one-story frame structure, long and narrow, and contained the bar, pool tables and other fixtures, plus an estimated \$4000 stock. Holden said that he would put their loss at about \$18,000 in stock and fixtures replacement cost, but that he and King had only \$2500 insurance. He said that until six months ago they had \$4500 insurance on the fix-

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Rates Bureau Meet Tonight

The Klamath Basin rates bureau may have a new name after tonight. The annual meeting of the organization will be held at 7:30 in the chamber of commerce building, and one of the items of business to be acted upon is a proposal for a new constitution.

The new constitution, in the first article, directs that the name of the organization will be changed to "Southern Oregon Traffic Association."

Also to be held tonight is an election of officers and a progress report. Officers and directors chosen will take office immediately.

Parole Studied For Boy Slayer

BEND, Jan. 21 (AP)—Circuit Judge R. S. Hamilton today had under study a motion to parole Cecil Snyder, 11, facing trial in the death of his father, to a juvenile court.

The boy was arrested December 18 a few days after his father died from eating a cheese sandwich. Police said the boy told of placing poison in the sandwich because of his father's cruel treatment.

Attorneys for the boy have waived grand jury hearing and asked the court to place the case in the juvenile court.

Homestead Apps Pour In At Deadline



Shirley Jeffcoat (left) and Daisy Mae Boss, reclamation bureau clerks, are shown with a batch of the final applications for Coppock bay homesteads which arrived in large numbers just before the 2 p. m. simultaneous filing deadline yesterday. A total of 4024 applications were received in the 90-day filing period.