

# Women Break Into Business

CHILMARK, Marthas Vineyard, Mass. (AP)—Young wives in hip boots and oilskins have upped the 378-year-old masculine monopoly on scallop dragging in this tiny island village.

The womenfolk are making nearly \$20 a day helping catch the greatest run of scallops in the history of the community.

More than 41,500 a day is being split among less than 80 persons holding "citizens permits" to catch the succulent island scallops.

Thanks to a feminine rebellion against the local "male only" restriction on scallop permits, the women won the right this year to share in the annual fall bonanza.

At a special town meeting they mustered 34 votes to 30 to request the selection to let down the bars against the distaff side.

Until nearby Gay Head permitted women to go scalloping in 1949, the villagers never made any specific rules against women. It was just unthinkable to them that the so-called "gentler sex" would forsake their traditional place in the home for the rough and cold work of scallop dragging on salty Manemsha pond.

The issue arose this year because several young wives with husbands in the service or working at jobs on the mainland saw no reason why they shouldn't share in the rich harvest.

By throwing open the scallop fishery to women the town almost doubled its catch because the law, by local option, is set at four bushels per day for each legal resident.

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# TIMBER FOR 100,000 HOMES UP IN SMOKE

WASHINGTON (AP)—About one billion board feet of federal forest service timber, enough to build nearly 100,000 houses, went up in smoke this year.

The forest service estimates today that 9938 fires burned over 32,123 acres of timber and livestock range and destroyed at least \$26,000,000 worth of resources on federal land alone.

M. M. Nelson, assistant chief of the forest service fire control division, told a reporter that 1951 was "one of the worst years in the past few decades, from a loss standpoint."

Millions of dollars could be added to the loss total as a result of fires on state and private land, for which estimates are unavailable.

## Hundreds Gather To Honor Duffy

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Seven hundred people attended a testimonial dinner for retiring San Quentin warden Clinton T. Duffy last night. But the most moving tribute was this letter read to the group:

"When I was young, I got in trouble and I carried hate inside myself. Warden Duffy rehabilitated me . . .

"He opened the door of life to me. If there is any one tonight weeping unashamedly with tears in his eyes, it will be I."

(Signed) "Just one of your boys."  
Duffy has accepted appointment to the California adult authority.

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Droughts in the Far West and Southwest made it easy for flames to whip through valuable timber stands, and kept about 10,000 fire fighters busy battling blazes.

The number of fires this year—9938 is not unusually large. There were 9219 last year and an average of 9906 in the preceding four years. This year's burned acreage, however, is considerably larger than the 319,043 last year and 219,121, averaged in 1946-50.

The \$26,000,000 billion-board-foot loss is much greater than during any other recent year. The loss in 1950 was \$6,500,000 and 116,000,000 board feet. The average in 1946-50 was \$4,000,000 and 108,000,000 feet.

The Gila forest in New Mexico had several costly fires. One raged over 40,000 acres in June and July.

Valuable hemlock and spruce stands were leveled by a 30,000-acre fire on Washington's Olympic peninsula.

Another costly fire in the North-

west burned 18,000 acres along the Nantuxum river, near Detroit, Ore. Fires plagued Southern California, which had its seventh successive year of dry weather—the worst in more than a century.

## Novelist To Wed Navy Commander

PRINCETON, N.J. (AP)—The great granddaughter of novelist Charles Dickens will be married here today to a U.S. navy commander.

Mrs. Monica Dickens, 35, and Commander Roy Stratton, 50 are to be married by the Rev. Whitman Beckley, Catholic chaplain of Princeton University.

The bride-to-be, herself a writer of novels and magazine articles, arrived in New York yesterday on the liner Mauretania.

She told reporters she met Commander Stratton, currently on duty in Washington with the navy's bureau of supplies and accounts, when both were passengers last June on a plane from Glasgow to London.

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