# Ike Reports On Hydrogen Bomb Test

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Eisenhower told his news conference Wednesday that something must have happened at the recent hydrogen explosion in the Pacific which surprised and astonished scientists.

A reporter told Eisenhower at his news conference that anti-American newspapers in Japan and elsewhere were making much of the incident in which Japanese fishermen 75 miles away from the Pacific blast March 1 were reported to have been possible victims of contamination.

Something must have happened, the President commented, that surprised and astonished the scientists.

Eisenhower said Adm. Lewis Strauss, chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, has not yet returned to report to him on his investigation of the explosion.

But the President said that from what he has been able to learn thus far the reports of possible injuries to persons who were relatively close to the blast are more serious than the actual results of the explosion of them justified.

The implication was that the President thought the early reports of injury to the fishermen had been exaggerated and that the Japanese had not been as badly hurt as was first reported.

Dispatches from the Pacific said 23 Japanese fishermen had been burned seriously in a shower of nuclear ashes from the blast. They said they were far from the official hazard zone.

Sen. Pastore (D-RI), who witnessed the H-blast, reported, however, that the original account "exaggerated the incident and made the injuries to the fishermen appear to be far more serious than they are."

Pastore said the fishermen showed up with skin burns but that he was told the burns "are not critical and will have no lasting effects."

The Navy reported Tuesday night, in addition, a 4,200-ton tanker had received "a slight and not a dangerous contamination of radioactive fallout."

Rep. Holifield (D-Calif), who observed the H-blast said the explosion was "so far beyond what was predicted that you might say it was out of control."

The power of the blast has been estimated as between 600 and 700 times greater than that of the Hiroshima atomic bomb explosion which killed 60,000 persons.

# Living Cost Shows Small Decrease

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government reported Wednesday that slight price drops in a wide variety of items, including food, brought a modest decline in the nation's living costs in mid-February.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics said its index declined two-tenths of one per cent between mid-January and mid-February to 115 per cent of the 1947-49 average. This compares with the 115.4 peak last October.

Ewan Clague, commissioner of labor statistics, told reporters consumer prices appeared to be on a decline but he expressed the opinion the movement would be slight and gradual.

"The general business situation is undoubtedly affecting prices," Clague said. "this is the first month I've seen such a variety of small declines on so many items."

The living costs meant no wage increase for a million railroad workers whose pay is adjusted quarterly to changes in the index. Wednesday's index figure of 115 is the same as the figure for last November, the last railroad contract adjustment date.

Actually living costs continue to be stable. They have fluctuated within the narrow range of one half of 1 per cent for more than 6 months.

From mid-January to mid-February food prices declined .4 per cent, with coffee prices up 5 per cent but with lower prices for fresh vegetables, meats, poultry, milk and eggs. Lower consumer costs were reported too for transportation, apparel and reading and recreation.

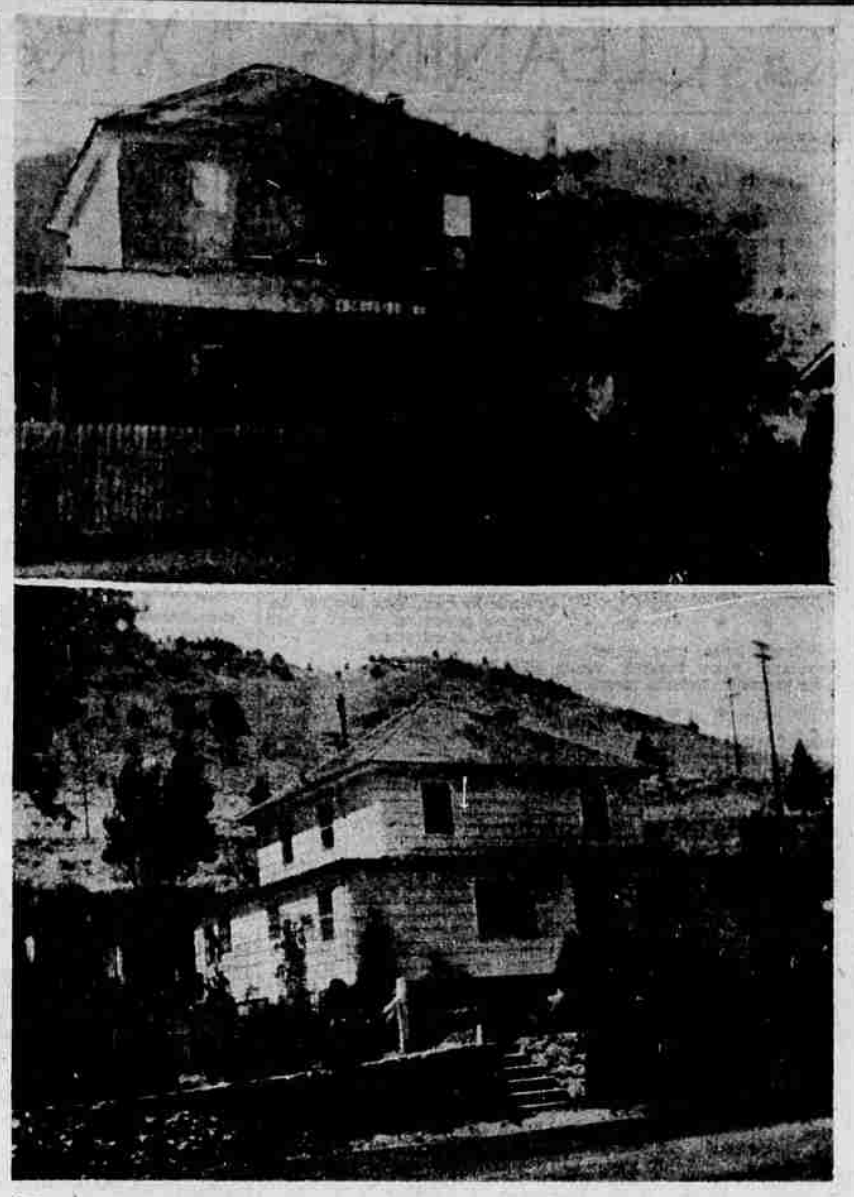
Rents increased .1 per cent—the lowest monthly increase since 1947, indicating they are leveling off. Medical care costs rose .3 per cent.

A decline of .8 per cent in transportation costs in February reflected substantially lower used car prices and somewhat lower new car prices, partially offset by higher bus and streetcar fares and slightly higher auto repairs.

Average wages, like prices, are just a little under record levels. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported average hourly factory earnings in February were $1.79, just below the $1.80 record. Weekly factory worker earnings averaged $70.71 in February, or 46 cents less than a year earlier because workers are averaging fewer work hours.

### SLUGGERS

CINCINNATI (AP) — National League sluggers had potent bats in 1953. They set a major league record of 1,197 home runs for one season. And for the first time in major league history four players in one league hit 40 or more homers. The four were Ed Mathews of Milwaukee (47), Duke Snider of Brooklyn (42), Roy Campanella of Brooklyn (41) and Ted Kluszewski of Cincinnati (40).



**OLD AND NEW** are shown in this picture of the old Escondido Inn at Olene as it looked in 1911 and the remodeled home as it looks today. A stage stop and well known spot in the early days, Escondido is now the home of Dr. A. O. Roenicke, who took over the property in 1951. —Photos from Roenicke

# Tree God's Greatest Gift To Man; Many Types, Uses

By Mrs. W. P. Myers
Lakeshore Gardens Nursery

A tree is God's greatest material gift to man. It shelters him from storm and gives him shade from the burning sun. It provides material to house him and food for him to eat. Can anything be of greater use to man? A tree is beautiful in leaf and flower, yet artistic when bare of foliage; even the misshaped trees along a rocky coast are intrinsically artistic and beautiful when viewed against the green ocean and the blue sky.

Some trees are short lived, while others are of the ages. Rings counted on native junipers show that they have been living in the Deschutes Desert for more than a thousand years. The giant Sequoia or "Big Tree" is the oldest and most massive of all living things. It was growing in the Sierras in California when Christ walked upon the earth. Scientists claim that the maidenhair was the first shade tree in existence. Fossilized remains of foliage found in beds of pre-historic vegetation is identical with that of the present day maidenhair tree sold by nurserymen.

**FOLLOW PATTERN**

Trees, like people, are known by their characteristics and their contribution to society. Some are of great value and use, while others may become a nuisance.

The two general classes of trees are evergreens and deciduous; both of which are found growing side by side in our American forests. Evergreens are those which hold their foliage throughout the year, shedding only a few leaves at a time and constantly replaced with new growth, so that they are never bare of leaves. Deciduous trees are those which lose their leaves in the fall and grow an entirely new set of leaves each spring. Evergreens may be either conifers or broadleaved. By conifers we mean cone-bearing trees and are usually referred to as narrow - leaved evergreens. Pine, fir, spruce, hemlock, cedar, juniper and cypress belong to this division; broad-leaved evergreens include live oak, laurel, madrone, American holly, myrtle and many tropical trees.

Deciduous trees are usually broad leaved, but a few conifers are deciduous. The southern cypress, western larch and tamarack are cone - bearing trees which shed their leaves in autumn. Deciduous forest and domestic trees embrace many species and numerous varieties. In the forests we have the sturdy oak, the stately elm, the birch and alder by the brook, also many varieties of wild fruit and flowering trees. All of our flowering and fruit trees were wild once; but, through propigation and hybridization they have been improved and many new varieties created.

The nurseryman is the tree distributor to the general public and is mainly interested in growing shade, ornamental and fruit trees to sell to home builders. Trees which grow rapidly in one climate may not thrive in other areas; therefore, in choosing a tree to plant, be sure it is adapted to this area.

Climate is influenced by location, elevation, temperature, moisture and sunlight; this, together with soil and drainage conditions, determines the survival and growth of plants.

There is much demand for fast growing shade trees, and if they are needed, select for this area Chinese elm, American elm, silver, Norway or big-leaf maple, black walnut, green ash, locust and weeping willow. Other large varieties which are shower growing in this area are oak, sycamore, sweet gun, horse chestnut, sweet chestnut and weeping birch. What we call small growing shade trees, include scarlet maple, Schwidler maple, alder, birch, Russian olive, Russian mulberry, quaking asp, Mt. ash and the many species and varieties of flowering trees. Of these flowering shade trees, I would place Paul's scarlet hawthorne first, for beauty and usefulness. It is unsurpassed as a parking strip or street tree. It is graceful, well rounded, does not grow into overhead wires and needs no trimming. It is good looking the year around and gorgeous in June when covered with scarlet, rose-like flowers, which are followed by small, apple-like red fruit. We urge the planting of hawthornes to make Klamath Falls the "Beautiful Hawthorne City."

**FLOWERING TREES**

Japanese flowering cherries are lovely in weeping or upright form. They come in double and semi-double, white to dark pink flowers. The best of the lot is Kwansan and, when covered with large, double, rose-pink flowers in spring, it is a glorious sight. Chinese flowering crabs are available in great variety. Rich & Sons Nursery at Hillsboro handle 50 different varieties. The trend toward smaller trees for specimen and garden use has placed flowering crabs in great demand. They have beautiful flowers, single and double, in colors from white to purple-red, varied, interesting foliage and bear highly ornamental fruit in great quantities. Their range in color and form is so extensive that one can surely find a flowering crab for any spot.

Flowering plums, owing to their colorful foliage, are in a class by themselves. The most popular as small shade trees are blerlania and pissardi. Beleriania has double, dark pink flowers in spring and bronzy-colored leaves all summer, of which the new growth is scarlet-red. Pissardi has a more graceful form, redder leaves and is literally covered with small sweet scented pink flowers very early in the spring before the leaves appear. Cistena plum is rather dwarf and has the most brilliant foliage of them all and single, pink flowers in spring. It may be grown as a small tree or a shrub, and is suitable for specimen or border planting. Prunus trilobia or the rose tree of China is a true dwarf. It is of symmetrical form, has dark green serrated leaves and is first to bloom in the spring. It is the most charming of all early blooming shrubs or trees. Double, pink blossoms cover every twig before the leaves show, making the tree look like wreaths of pink roses. It should be planted as a specimen.

**SMALL TREES**

Golden chain, Idaho pink locust and flowering peach are also attractive small shade trees, suitable to plant in this climate. Pacific dogwood and redbud do not survive our cold winters and hot, dry summers, but the Eastern white dogwood and pink flowering dogwood do fairly well here.

Some of the deciduous ornamental trees are cut-leaf weeping birch, perhaps the most ornamental of all shade trees and a favorite in this area; Japanese weeping cherry, in both single and double flowring varieties; rose acacia, a top-grafted pink moss locust, of umbrella form, having racemes of pink flowers in the spring and scattered blooms all summer, and is the only well known flowering tree grown here which continues to bloom all summer: and camperdown elm, catalpa bunga and umbrella locust, all non - flowering ornamentals which make splendid specimens for yard, driveway entrance or parking strip.

Florabunda crab is in no sense a shade tree, for it is rather low growing. Its branches, drooping gracefully toward the ground, are covered in spring with delicate pink flowers held on long stems, which give them the appearance of bells hanging on the slender twigs. The flowers are followed by small yellow fruit in abundance. It makes an adorable specimen tree, planted in the garden or front lawn, and should be regarded as a choice ornamental.

**COLOR IN TREES**

Crimson king maple and copper beach, because of their colorful foliage and slow growing habit, are classed with the ornamental shade trees.

Fruit trees make up a large part of the tree nursery business. New and better varieties are constantly being offered so that the fruit tree field has great possibilities. Apples, peaches, pears, plums, prunes and apricots thrive in this area, and seldom is there a failure of fruit, except perhaps peaches, and peaches are apt to miss occasionally anywhere. No farm should be without an orchard, and even a city lot may accommodate a few fruit trees, which will give shade as well as fruit. You can have a whole orchard on one apple tree. A 4 or 5-way tree has summer, fall and winter apples, all grafted on the same tree.

**WATCH TYPE**

When buying a tree, select that type which best fits the spot where it is to grow, and, if in doubt, consult your nurseryman, who, if he knows his trees and is familiar with growing conditions in this climate, will give you good advice. Fall, winter and spring, while trees are dormant, is the proper time to plant.

Planting a deciduous tree is a major operation to most of us. A good tree deserves a careful planting. Dig the hole larger than the root spread. If the water level is high or drainage poor, place a layer of small rocks or gravel in the bottom and cover with top soil, then place the tree in the opening, spread out the roots and fill in with good top soil, washing it down with the hose so as to settle the soil close around the small rootlets. No manure or fertilizer should come in contact with the roots or stem of the tree, but well-rotted manure or bone meal may be spread on the ground around the tree after it is planted. Pete moss or compost, mixed with the top soil, to fill in around the tree is helpful. If the tree is large or top-heavy, stake it so it will not sway back and forth in the wind.

The program of reforestation of burned-over and cut-off lands has been in progress for some years. Last year Weyerhaeuser Timber Company alone planted around four million forest trees in Oregon.

It takes a lot of trees to keep ahead of the natural and commercial destruction of trees each year. Great neglect of planting trees and shrubs during the war years, because of shortage of labor and scarcity of trees available, has resulted in an effort to remedy this sorry plight. It was for this purpose that the American Association of Nurserymen adopted the slogan "Plant America." Plant trees in groves and in rows. Plant public buildings and parks, as well as the American home, to make your city, your state and America more beautiful!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