

FRENCH FORTS REPEL ATTACKS

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Charley Stanton of the Roseburg News-Review and John Watts, executive secretary of Oregon's new development commission, got together over in Roseburg the other day and held a nostalgic session on the good old days.

John led off by telling Charley about an expedition he made a while back with his family in search of a bit of wilderness where they could get away from it all—and maybe get some fish. They drove to the end of the road, left their car, shouldered packs and hiked five miles to an ISOLATED lake.

They found the lake ringed by anglers and its surface dotted with boats whose outboard motors churned the waters, shattered the primeval silences with raucous coughs and barks that reverberated from the mountain peaks and tainted the air with the fumes of burned gasoline.

Where the boats came from John didn't say, but the outboards had been lugged over the trail by hardy moderns willing to load themselves down with a gasoline engine but uninterested in building a raft and propelling it out into the lake with crude paddles powered by human muscle.

P.S. He got no fish.

That started Charley off. He related that a Sunday or so ago he had been lugged over the trail by hardy moderns willing to load themselves down with a gasoline engine but uninterested in building a raft and propelling it out into the lake with crude paddles powered by human muscle.

P.S. He got no fish.

That reminded him sadly of a day back in the golden past when he fell in over his head one sunny, lovely morning, soaking the cigarettes in his shirt pocket. He went until five o'clock in the evening before he found another fisherman from whom he could buy a smoke.

I can match that one. Back in those golden days I was following a high and lonely trail along our matchless Cascade skyline. My transport was saddle and pack horse. It was one of those crystalline mornings. The air sparkled. The clear water chuckled over the boulders where the streams crossed the trail. The pine squirrels chattered and dashed up and down the trunks of the trees. The camp robbers jeered from the branches.

All was joy and peace until a minute or so after it occurred to me that I could use a smoke. That was before the days of tallor-mades out in the hills. So I got out a package of Bull Durham and rolled me one. Then I reached for a match. There was no match in my shirt pocket. I searched all my other pockets. No matches. I dug into my saddlebags. No matches.

Reaching for the smoke in the first place had been a mere casual reflex. But by then I WANTED one—badly. So I stopped and unpacked and rummaged through the siffoques bags. NO MATCHES. I reckon I'd left them in camp when I packed up.

It was five long hours before I met another rider on the trail from whom I borrowed some matches. Boy, that smoke tasted good—as I'll bet Charley's did the day he got wet all over.

At this point, I'd like to depart from the pattern laid down by Charley and John Watts in their confab the other day.

Last August I went out again along the Skyline trail. With a companion. With saddle horses and a pack horse. Up in the wilderness area around the base of Mount Pitt. Where cars, including jeeps, are verboten, and the trails are reserved for back-packers and horse packers. So help me, we rode

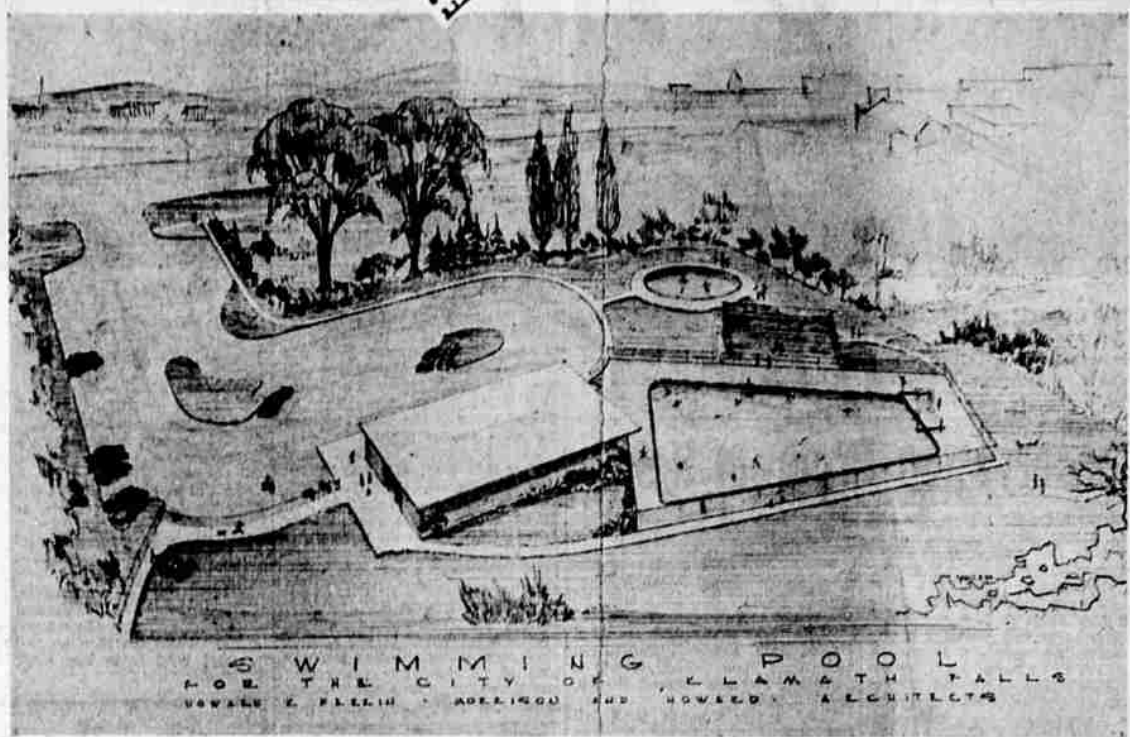
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AN ARCHITECTS DRAWING completed about two years ago shows the above Municipal Swimming Pool. Then it was a dream; now it is reality, with the exception of the wading pool and landscaping, and is ready for public inspection until 9 p.m. tonight. The pool opens for swimming tomorrow, at 8:30 a.m. This view shows the tank to the left with the filter plant directly to the rear, a proposed wading pool to the right of the filter plant (not constructed), and the bathhouse to the right of the tank. Total cost of the pool and site develop-

ment was \$106,000; the property, \$11,000; the well, \$4,400; the bathhouse, \$52,000. Total contract for the pool amounted to \$173,500. Paddock Engineering Co. of San Francisco won the contract for the pool and site development; Duncan Construction Co., Klamath Falls, the bathhouse; Wilson Well Drilling Co., Merrill, the well-digging job. Howard Perrin was architect for the pool; Morrison and Howard for the bathhouse.

Cordon Land Bill Approved

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Guy Cordon's bill to put 472,000 acres of disputed Oregon timber land under Forest Service administration won approval of the Senate Thursday.

The bill now goes to the House.

The Senate passed the measure on a voice vote after rejecting S. 18, a move by Sen. Morse (Ind., Ore.) to put the lands under the Department of Interior's Bureau of Land Management.

The BLM, which now manages some two million acres of timberland in Oregon, claimed jurisdiction of the 472,000 acres. Morse said it would be "more sensible and efficient" to have the entire acreage under one agency.

Cordon (R-Ore.) said the 472,000 acres, which are part of the Oregon and California railroad land grant reclaimed by Congress in 1916, now are under Forest Service administration, and should remain there. He said the Forest Service also administers two other areas of O & C lands.

The bill approved by the Senate provides that timber sale receipts on the 472,000 acres will be divided under the O & C formula: 75 per cent to 18 Western Oregon counties and 25 per cent to the government. This differs from normal Forest Service administration in which 75 per cent goes to the government, 25 per cent to the counties.

The bill also directs the Interior and Agriculture departments to exchange lands within two years to form a cohesive administrative block, and thus increase management efficiency.

Kootenai Floods Big Farm Area Near Bonners Ferry

BONNERS FERRY, Idaho (AP) — Another 5,000 acres of farm land was flooded early Friday as the Kootenai River broke through two more dikes, but it appeared this town of 1,800 might escape a soaking.

The river had swelled to the 35-foot level at 5 a.m. when water smashed past the two dirt barriers near Bonners Ferry. The record "flood stage" here is 31 feet.

Strong winds, a new menace, kicked up waves on the surging river early Friday and threatened two more diking districts.

Some 8,000 of the 40,000 acres

Teacher Ends Long Career

A reception will be given in honor of Mrs. Kathryn Dick at the East Side Orange Hall, at New Pine Creek, on Friday, May 28, between the hours of 7 and 9 o'clock. All friends and former pupils are urged to attend.

The Kelley Creek School Board has chosen this medium as a fitting recognition to one who is retiring from the teaching profession with an outstanding record of service and achievement. Mrs. Dick has been teaching for 43 years, 39 of which have been at Kelley Creek grade school.

By this long and faithful performance and allegiance to the advancement of grade school education, Mrs. Dick has the record of having taught in one school the longest of any teacher in the state of Oregon.

of rich land in the Kootenai valley were under water as the battle against the Kootenai, bulging with runoff from record mountain snowpacks, neared the end of its first week.

The river dropped to 25 feet after the breakthroughs but was still rising upstream and was expected to crest at 36 feet late Friday or Saturday morning if the dikes hold.

The town is surrounded by 37-foot dikes and Army Engineers said it appeared they would hold. Frantic work on the levees went on all night.

Another 350 soldiers from Ft. Lewis, Wash., arrived in trucks at 5 a.m., set up camp and went into action a short time later with sandbags to build up the dikes.

The Army Engineers have had 100 men and 50 pieces of heavy equipment in the battle most of the week.

There are about 20 diking districts in the valley and seven have now gone out. Two more were in serious trouble Friday, and were getting major attention from military and volunteer workers.

The river was rising upstream again but cooler weather cut the rate of increase. The Kootenai stood at 17.3 feet at Libby, Mont. Friday, up a foot as compared with a 1.6 foot rise Thursday.

It takes less than a day for that water to reach here. The Weather Bureau forecast a crest of 17.5 at Libby Lake Friday and said it should start dropping after that. Near the Canadian border at Rexford, Mont., the Kootenai was up only 9 of a foot compared with a 1.5-foot rise Thursday.

The Kootenai flood is an annual thing here and the people in town, most of whom have moved out of lowland areas, have kept morale high.

That's not the case in some rural areas. Mr. and Mrs. D. B. Whitbeck, whose farm four miles west of town was flooded in 1948 and 1950, herded their cattle to higher ground at two in the morning and moved out of their house.

"I think this will be the last time," Mrs. Whitbeck said. "If the river goes this time, we're leaving. We will sell the place to someone else and let them fight it out."

Gov. Len Jordan, who has proclaimed a state of emergency here, ordered a provisional National Guard unit of 30 men to join in the flood fight.

Grain Freight Rates Reduced

SALEM, Ore. (AP) — A 10-cent per 100 pounds cut in grain freight rates from the Northwest to the Minneapolis milling area was announced Thursday.

The first word on the reduction came from Charles H. Helzel, Oregon public utilities commissioner. It was confirmed by a Great Northern Railway rate official in Seattle, who said the agreement had been reached Thursday.

The Great Northern spokesman said the reduction was agreed to by all the transcontinental lines serving the Northwest.

He said the cut is from 86½ cents a 100 pounds to 76½. Grain growers had petitioned for a cut of 12 cents to 74½.

"This is a great boon to the grain growers of the Northwest," Helzel said, "because they have been shut out of eastern markets by blanket percentage freight rate increases."

Academy Holds Honor Banquet

Graduates of 25 years ago and this year were honored at the annual Alumni-Senior Banquet held Thursday evening at the parish hall, at which the valedictory, salutatory and class speeches were given.

Featured speaker of the evening was Walter Hannon, formerly of Klamath Falls, now of Eugene, who was the only graduate in the second formal graduating class in 1922.

Valedictory address was given by John Ely; salutatory by Cecile Vandenberg; Alfred Reginato, class president, read the class history; Joannette Brandesjky, the class will; Kathleen Gallagher, the class prophecy.

Toasts from the student body and the other classes were given by the following: from the student body, Louis Brown; eighth grade, Tom Chin; freshman class, Colleen Linehan; sophomore, John Vandenberg; junior, JoAnne Schmitt; Bernard Cavanaugh was toastmaster for the evening.

At the head table were the two

Indochina Peace Plan Reported

By EDDY GILMORE

GENEVA (AP) — Russia was reported to have proposed a new five-point plan for an Indochina armistice late Friday. Informed quarters said Britain and France accepted the plan as a basis for discussion.

The Soviet plan was said by a reliable diplomatic informant to have been submitted to the nine-party conference on Indochina by Foreign Minister V. M. Molotov near the end of a four-hour secret session.

British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden and French Foreign Minister Georges Bidault immediately said they were willing to proceed with discussions at the next meeting on the basis of the Molotov plan.

The next session will be Monday afternoon, after Eden and Bidault have conferred with their governments. They are going to Paris Saturday and Eden plans to go on to London Sunday.

One diplomat who was present at the session said "important progress" had been made.

Bidault went to the nine-party session prepared to sidetrack for the moment the questions of Laos and Cambodia and concentrate on Viet Nam, where Communist-led forces are threatening the Red River delta.

Before Thursday's recess, the conference came to a dead stop over French demands for an immediate withdrawal of Red troops from Laos and Cambodia. France insists the problem of these two kingdoms be treated separately from the proposed cease-fire in Viet Nam.

Weather

FORECAST—Klamath Falls and vicinity, High Saturday 67; low Friday night 32.

High yesterday — 64
Low last night — 35
Precip 24 hours — 0
Since Oct. 1 — 11.96
Same period last year — 11.18
Normal for period — 10.98

Correction

The interstate Deer Herd meeting date will be Friday May 28, instead of May 21 as was reported in Thursday's Herald and News.

Purpose of the meeting will be to discuss plans and the results of the committee's work in the past year.

Time of next Friday's meeting is 10 o'clock standard time in the Veteran's Memorial building.

KLAMATH BASIN POTATO SHIPMENTS	
Shipped Today	Same Day Last Year
15 cars	5 cars
Total for Season	
11,442 cars	11,448 cars
1953-54	1952-53

9 O'clock Special



Vietminh Launch New Assaults

HANOI, Indochina (AP) — Three little defense posts in the south-eastern sector of the vital Red River delta battled fiercely Friday to hold off encircling Vietminh forces as the defenders of Dien Bien Phu tried to do.

French Union aircraft parachuted ammunition, guns, and food to Vietnamese defenders with French noncommissioned officers in the posts of Yen Phu, Anxa, and Coquan.

They have been under constant heavy mortar attack and machine-gun fire for nearly a fortnight. Twice Anxa has thrown back big Vietminh infantry assaults. The defenders are outnumbered about six to one.

French fighters and bombers are heavily hitting the besieging Communist-led rebels. B29s have dropped scores of 1,000-pound delayed action bombs timed to explode to kill rebels when they launch infantry assaults nightly.

Thus far the Vietminh have failed in all attempts to smash into and capture either of the posts.

The mud and wood constructed forts — with blockhouses and machine-gun pillboxes but no heavy artillery — are in the heart of rice fields with limestone hills nearby. From these hills the Vietminh can pump over hundreds of mortar shells to pave the way for infantry charges.

Yen Phu is six miles south of Phu Ly, which is on a direct highway to Hanoi 30 miles to the north. Anxa is 12 miles northwest of Thap Binh, which is 50 miles southeast of Hanoi. Coquan is nine miles northwest of Thap Binh.

Earlier, the French command said 159 wounded have been brought out of Dien Bien Phu and that it hoped to fly out 100 more Friday.

Helicopters and Beaver aircraft were making the slow but steady shuttle from Dien Bien Phu to the royal Laotian capital of Luang Prabang, where the wounded are relayed to Hanoi by Dakota transport.

The evacuation was slowed down last night by violent monsoon rains which made flying impossible for several hours. As a result only 50 were flown out yesterday instead of the scheduled 120.

A high command spokesman said there still was no word about Dien Bien Phu's lone French air force nurse—Miss Genevieve Gaiard Terrauze. He said all that was known of rebel plans to release the blue-eyed, 28-year-old nurse was the announcement to that effect by a Vietminh spokesman in Geneva Wednesday.

Newly arrived casualties from Dien Bien Phu said Miss De Gaiard was "with our wounded working day and night."

One Foreign Legionnaire told newsmen at Lamassan hospital that she was being helped by five French male nurses. He said they were aiding a corps of some 20 captive doctors.

Her friends in Hanoi believe the nurse will stay on until the last of the wounded is evacuated. The Vietminh have indicated they will permit release of 753 altogether.

It was not yet known whether the rebels intend to repair Dien Bien Phu's shell-pocked airstrip to permit big Dakota transports to land and thus speed up the evacuation.

The French said they would go on with the slow, piecemeal shuttle in hopes some improvement might be worked out at the Geneva conference.

The French continued to drop food and medical supplies to the 2,000 wounded in the captured northwest Indochina fortress.

French planes continued to hammer rebel concentrations and convoys only 50 miles from the delta. The air strikes were concentrated on rebel units around Moc Chau on provincial Route 41 along the Black River.



PONDEROUS PACHYDERMS are shown on their way from the Southern Pacific railroad yards to the circus grounds where they will perform under the banner of Clyde Beatty. The elephants caused a minor traffic jam as they went through the Main Street underpass. The circus will stage three performances starting Friday night. There will be a downtown parade and matinee Saturday.



ACROSS THE YEARS graduates came for the annual Sacred Heart Alumni-Senior Banquet held Thursday evening in the parish hall. (From left) Walter Hannon, Eugene, was featured speaker of the evening; Alfred Reginato is president of the graduating class; Keith Ruconich is president of the Alumni Association, which sponsors the banquet.

KF Base Funds Approved

The house armed services committee today formally approved and sent to the house for action a four million dollar project for the proposed Klamath Falls air base.

The item, a part of the overall defense budget, would provide for a jet interceptor squadron to be stationed here, and would bring several hundred Air Force personnel here on a semi-permanent basis.

Considerable work is slated for the airport, including lengthening of runways, construction of quarters and other items.