

# Herald and News

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## BILLBOARD

**By BILL JENKINS**

Wednesday's fire that blackened a goodly portion of the Hot Springs hill at least gave a demonstration of the hair trigger action of the local fire companies.

Within minutes after the blaze broke out there were at least five rigs on the spot, all manned by

bill manning a county pumper and look off along the other road. In the meantime OTI's crew plus a couple of trucks hove into view and the city sent in two big rigs.

With all that manpower it was only a matter of minutes until the thing was successfully corralled. On top of the pumper rigs there were a good number of fellows on the fringes with shoulder sprays, shovels and the rest of the hand-to-hand equipment needed to hold down a fire.

A good many years ago we used to live up on the hill and remember that it burned off every year. If the grass survived until the Fourth of July it was a cinch to go up in smoke over that holiday. But there weren't nearly as many homes in the area then, nor had the buildings stretched up the hill so far. The danger of fire along that grass blanketed slope is much greater now than it was 10 or 15 years ago.

It is to be hoped that this little fire, if covered less than a hundred acres of grass, will serve as a warning to those who are in the habit of driving up on top of the hills for a look-see at the country. Keep your cigarettes and matches in the car. Don't be flipping 'em out. That grass will catch in a second. And it wouldn't hurt to remember that it could trap you, too. Even a grass fire can play hot with the paint on your fancy automobile. And with your skin.

When the fire on the hill was out it didn't mean that the excitement was over for Wardell and his KPFA boys. A report had come in to their headquarters saying that a bread truck heading for Ken and the Greensprings was on fire and apparently the driver didn't know it.

"We sure didn't want that guy spewing out sparks and hot metal all over the place, heading over the mountains as dry as they are," said George.

So they whipped out of their garage with a truck and mezzanine dispatched a truck from the Penny Springs guard station in towards town to meet the truck.

But no truck. Whatever became of him was still a mystery as this column was written. Maybe he blew up and disappeared in the pumper. Or perhaps he drove his smoldering truck into a puddle to cool off.

At any rate, no harm done. We guess.



competent crews who were ready and willing to go. Without this prompt action the fire could have burned over the hill and crept down into cultivated lands lying along the Old Fort Road and that area. It could, also, have gotten into good grade and timber land to the east of the hill.

The first man we saw on the job was George Wardell, the hill to see what was going on was Roy Rowe, Klamath's fire chief. He was roaring around in a red pickup, setting backfires and generally making himself useful.

And if you think that grass wasn't dry you should have watched Smokey Rowe and those backfires. All he had to do was trot along the line he picked, dropping paper matches as he went. The second the match hit the tinder dry grass it roared up into flame and took off. Even a cigarette ash dropped in that dry cheat grass and fox tail will catch, and with the wind veering around you don't know where it may stop. If it does.

Next man up the hill was George Wardell, straw boss of KPFA, in a pickup along with another crew member I didn't recognize, and right behind came the KPFA pumper. They took off up the road, and about that time Buster Gordon, fire chief out of Suburban Fire Department, came charging up the

## Letter From Washington

**By CONGRESSMAN HARRIS ELLSWORTH**

The adjournment date of this session of Congress is still very much in doubt as this is written. Prior to the prolonged debate in the Senate the bill known as the Atomic Energy bill, it was generally conceded that adjournment by July 31st was not only possible but likely. Now a fair guess would be August 7th.

A few years ago Congress passed what is called the Legislative Reorganization Act. It specifies that Congress shall adjourn on or before July 31st. There was an element of absurdity in that provision that each two-year term of Congress is separate and independent. The present Congress, for example, cannot make a law that would bind a future Congress. There is nothing except psychological value about the July 31st date. All that will be necessary to continue Congress into the future after July 31 will be the passage of a resolution. This has been done several times since the so-called Reorganization Act, which sets the adjournment date, was passed.

In my opinion one of the most important bills—if not the most important measure to be considered by Congress during my time as a member, is the pending bill regarding the peace-time or industrial use of atomic energy. It contains the set of rules under which this great new source of energy may be developed and used in our free economy—with private capital. It is within the realm of possibility that in the long future atomic energy may have more effect upon our economy and upon our individual lives than has electrical energy. This bill has had the most careful preparation by a joint committee of the House and Senate. I think it is the first important piece of legislation to have such sponsorship. Now it should have equally careful consideration on the floor of both Houses of Congress.

Unfortunately, practically all of the argument and debate about this bill so far has been an out-and-out section which has nothing at all to do with the purpose of the legislation. The row has developed over how the additional power

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## They'll Do It Every Time



## ALONG NATURE'S TRAIL

by KEN McLEOD

Man is a most unusual gregarious creature the intensity of effort with which he cultivates the growth of population well illustrates this point. The motivating point of all this can be summed up in the one word, "business." More people, more business, and for the moment—fortunately for the American people with ample resources—it has spelled greater prosperity. In this mad rush for material blessings and cultivated mediocrity, those things we call "culture" have lagged far behind because in the material media of the day, (dollars to you), the things that go toward building contentment and dignity of the human soul have been sacrificed in the rush for commercialism.

"How much is it worth?" In dollars—that is—the standard of measurement of human effort. Thus the arts have suffered to the production line technique—and—"How much does it pay?" There are many who believe "a little" population is a good thing, just as are those who believe "a little" inflation is a boon to commerce. Unfortunately there is no outside our ideal paradise is reality. Eventually we must open the garden gate and step into the outside world—we have any misconceptions of what is outside? I think not—we breathe a sigh of satisfaction that our generation need not have to pass through the garden gate. We can all see what population has done to the world of Asia.

Population produces many conflicts and especially so over the use of land and water. One of the curious turns in the picture is the way farmers so avidly struggle to develop more farms and thus increase competition in a field already saturated with production from pains of over production in many products. Perhaps it is idealism which surmounts the forces of reason? It is to be noted, however, it is a subject our economists list strictly alone—a garden gate beyond which they care not to venture.

The incessant political pressure for great works of developing new lands stems probably more from small groups seeking individual advantages over the main body of agriculture, rather than from the deliberate pressure of population. Here again we find California offering an interesting example especially in the subject of cotton. Cotton forms an interesting case history of agricultural lands in California way ahead of the demands of population. Cotton has created serious problems in the subject of allocation of water and the logical development irrigation works. It was cotton that largely robbed the underground reservoirs of precious water long before ways and means have been developed to replenish these vital storage units. A friend of mine in the Bureau of Reclamation in California introduced me to this subject of cotton some time ago and he was ex-

ceedingly bitter upon the subject—rightly so, perhaps, it all depends upon your point of view.

Cotton has probably been the most controversial agricultural crop in America we are all familiar with its historical aspects, however, we may not be familiar with the technological advancement that has been made in its cultivation. A lot of us have been left by our school books on the bank of the Swannee River back in the days of Eli Whitney and have not been brought up to date. Progress in mechanization in the field of cotton production has become one of those Cinderella stories of industry. Last year, about three fourths of the California crop was harvested by machine. A single-row machine does the work of about 25 laborers picking by hand. But mechanical picking has not been the only development for machines handle the whole cycle from planting to the final stand and even fire enters the picture to take a hand in weeding instead of the hoe.

The story of political pressure can stem from the following picture. California is third in rank in the nation in cotton production and this comes from but six per cent of the farms as compared with 69 per cent of the farms in a typical Cotton Belt state like Alabama. In Alabama, an average of 6.1 bales (500 lbs. each) was produced on 19.6 acres of the average farm for a gross return of \$1,000. The average California cotton farmer produced 218 bales on 156 acres for a gross return of \$35,000. The California farmer had a yield per acre advantage of almost 2.5 to 1. However, it was due to mechanization that the California effort was greatly advanced. It must be remembered that cotton has a great demand for water to produce its lush profits and—politics.

## Weather Varies Over Nation

**By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Temperatures cooled in some parts of the nation Thursday but remained hot in many regions.

In the area of a Louisiana tropical storm temperatures were 7 to 8 degrees cooler. In North Dakota highs were as much as 15 degrees below those of the day before.

The weather was as much as 6 to 12 degrees warmer in southern Nebraska and northwestern Kansas, however. Russell, Kan. had 105 and Grand Island, Neb. 100. The temperature rose to 98 in Washington, D. C. for the third straight day of readings of over 90. Two men died of heat exhaustion. Los Angeles had a high of 92, the hottest July 29 on record. More of the same was predicted for Friday.

**POLIO**  
HOLLYWOOD — Radio actor Freeman F. Gosden, who is Amos of Amos and Andy, flew to Midland, Tex., last night to be with his son, Freeman F. Jr., 25, a polio patient.

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## HAL BOYLE

**RAPID CITY, S. D.** — Did you know the camel was a pioneer settler of the American West, but left here nearly a million years ago?

That was long before either the Indian or the cowboy arrived. And today nobody can tell for sure why one branch of the camel family migrated to South America and became a llama, while another branch went to Africa and ended up carrying Arabs and posing for cigarettes.

"Why did he leave here?" asks Dr. James D. Bump. "The camel competed successfully here for 30 million years. So did the horse. But they both left the country. Why? Nobody knows."

These are the kind of problems that bother detectives in old bones such as Dr. Bump. He is director of the museum of geology at the South Dakota School of Mines and one of the nation's best known paleontologists.

To Dr. Bump the hills and eroded tablelands of the West are a great history book of America, holding more mystery than any thriller by Elley Queen.

He spent his boyhood in the famous South Dakota badlands and became fascinated early with the fossil life imprisoned there in all layers that tell the tale of the past, chapter by chapter. As a child he used to wander about, filling gallon cans with fossil teeth and slowly learning to identify them.

"I can't think of another place where we can find so many types of past life," he said. Among some 200 fossil animal forms dug up there are the saber-toothed tiger, the three-toed horse, and the ancestors of the modern camel, hog and rhinoceros.

Scientists come from all parts of the world to sift the rich fossil treasures of the badlands. One summer there were 18 different scientific groups delving in the area at the same time.

Seeing the evidence of so many forms of life that have vanished tends to make paleontologists pretty philosophical about the fate of mankind. Most of them are reconciled to the possibility man isn't here to stay forever—any more than the dinosaur was.

Dr. Bump feels pretty sure, for example, that if man doesn't fight a way to bump off the insects they will finally bump him off. "Shellfish ruled the world for the best part of 200 million years," he said. "Then came the age of the fishes."

"From the fishes came the reptiles. One branch was the dinosaurs — they had the right hormones or something — and lasted for 200 million years."

"Then mammals, some smaller than mice, began evolving, and the age of the mammals has run for 100 million years. But modern man himself is quite recent — only about 50,000 to 80,000 years old."

"In every way except brain-power, man is physically inferior

## The Doctor Says

**BY EDWIN P. JORDAN, M.D.**

Swimming for pleasure (or to get cooled off) is indulged in by millions. It is a good and healthful sport.

If there is no physical reason to avoid it, such as a bad heart, if the water is not too cold, and if a few sensible precautions are taken, it is about as good a summer sport as we have.

It is never wise to swim alone. Even a strong and experienced swimmer can develop muscular cramps, become tangled in sunken obstacles or otherwise get into trouble. Some drownings come from this kind of carelessness because no one is around to help or call for aid.

Drownings also come from swimming in unsupervised areas whether they are ponds, rivers, lakes or the ocean. In many of these the water is deeper or colder than expected and they often have submerged rocks, step-offs, or other hazards.

Tides may be stronger than swimmers. Diving in such places is particularly dangerous. Far too many reckless youngsters have broken their necks by diving, perhaps on a pier, into some place which they thought was deep but turned out to be shallow. Allergy to cold is probably responsible for some drownings too.

It is somewhat alarming how many people, particularly youngsters, seem to ignore the old rule concerning the danger of swimming in a current. When a person eats, considerable amount of body blood gathers around the stomach to aid in digestion and is therefore not available to the muscles used in swimming or to keep the body warm.

Of course, a lot of people get away with this hazardous practice but cramps are much more likely to immediately after eating, and if they occur in deep water drowning is by no means unlikely.

It should be a hard and fast rule not to go swimming for at least an hour after eating and longer if the meal has been a heavy one.

The experienced swimmer who has done guard duty told me that an important cause of drowning is alarm or excitement on the part of the swimmer who gets into a little trouble.

The fear exhausts the swimmer and he is less likely to use his head in getting out of the difficulty. This is a good point. It never helps to get panicky when in trouble.

It is a rare summer Sunday or holiday which passes without one or more unfortunate deaths from drowning. And the worst of it is that these deaths are so unnecessary; just a little more care and they could have been prevented.

## Farmer Faces Cow Removal Problem

**NEW WINDSOR, Md.** — White's stuck in the silo.

Stanley Simons, good-natured owner of the 7-year-old Holstein said she wandered off after he milked here last evening. Somehow she squirmed her way in the empty 2 1/2 by 2-foot silo door.

Simons is afraid he'll bruise her if he pulls her out and she'll bruise him if he pushes. And if she stays in too long and swells up, no telling when she'll get out.

If he has to, Simons said, he could go in the silo and milk White but "she's moody and awfully touchy in her old age." He hopes she'll squirm out when she gets hungry or thirsty.

"I think she went in there to protest the price of milk," said Simons.

to many mammals."

"Well, insects far outnumber any other forms of life on earth," pound for pound, insects today probably match the weight of all the mammals in the world."

"The problem is whether man can keep from going downhill long enough to make enough chemicals to curb them. But, of course, we can't say for sure the next age will belong to the insects."

"After all some people call this the age of man—but some call it the age of the atom."

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## JAMES MARLOW

WASHINGTON (AP)—The position Sen. McCarthy found himself in today—waiting while his fellow senators argued whether to censure him—was typical of the role forced on him in 1954. It's a new one for him.

Ever since 1950, when he first made headlines with his charges of Communism in government, he has moved fast, kept punching. He rolled with the counter-punches, slugged harder in return. Nothing kept him quiet.

For most of this year he has been forced into a role sometimes passive, sometimes defensive. It has been that way with him ever since the Eisenhower administration early this year struck back at him.

In the past he called his shots, getting attention when he wanted it with a statement or an attack. This year the shots have been called on him. Most of the attention given him in 1954 has not been of his choosing.

McCarthy, a man of energy who thrived on action, has been slowed down. Whether or not anyone in the administration foresaw the result of the decision to hit back at him, the result was to crimp his style.

Sen. Flanders' effort may fail. The 73-year-old Vermont Republican wants the Senate to censure McCarthy. If it fails, McCarthy may take that as a vote of approval and come bounding back like his old self.

Although it was his own Republican party which had taken over, McCarthy began sticking needles into the Eisenhower administration early in 1953. He kept on sticking them in.

The decision to tell him "whoa" was made when the Army charged McCarthy and his Senate investigations subcommittee staff had sought special treatment for Pvt. G. David Schine and had threatened retaliation if they didn't get it. Schine was formerly on the staff.

When McCarthy counter-charged that top Army officials had been using Schine as a "hostage" to make McCarthy pull up on his search for Communists in the Army, the fat was in the fire. The Senate itself had to step in to investigate, and the subcommittee took on the job—with McCarthy temporarily sidelined as chairman.

Right there McCarthy was slowed down. McCarthy, glued to the hearings, was like a boxer with his hands tied behind his back.

His field had been narrowed. In long weeks of the hearings he had to concentrate on one subject: Trying to make himself and his staff look good and the Army bad.

He fought hard, he was humble, and before the hearings ended the Army and the administration may have wished the whole thing had

## Detector Test Frees Suspect

**BALTIMORE (AP)** — George W. Eller, 49, of Parkville, Md., was cleared yesterday of any guilt in the death of his wife after taking the first official lie-detector test given in Baltimore County.

His wife, 37-year-old Mrs. Myrtle Eller, was killed early Wednesday morning. Eller told police he was home on the northeast edge of Baltimore.

## FLOODS

**ADEN (AP)** — Thirteen persons died in floods which swept the Duan Valley of the Hadramut, in southern Arabia, an official announcement said Friday.

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