

IGNITING FIRES RAKE BASIN

The Herald and News

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Four Fishermen Feared Drowned

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

As this is written, America's emotions are stirred by the case of Eugene Landy, the 21-year-old honor graduate of the U.S. merchant marine academy who was denied a naval reserve commission because his widowed mother was once a communist.

On the face of what we know — which is very little — it doesn't seem fair to say that the sins of the parent should be visited upon the child.

At any rate, Landy hasn't lacked influential friends.

Senator Herbert Lehman, a noted (and I think, a sincere) liberal, is demanding a full report on his case from the navy. Senator H. Alexander Smith of New Jersey — not a professional liberal, but a fair and able senator — took up the case at once and has notified Landy that the navy will reconsider his application for a commission.

Senator Smith's statement is confirmed by Navy Secretary J. Thomas, who has announced that he will review the case fully and impartially.

In situations of this sort, it's so hard to judge when we know so little of all the circumstances. I think it will be better to withhold judgment until we know more of the facts.



THE TRADITIONAL beef barbecue was staged by the Elks Lodge Sunday at Malin's park when the club held its annual outing for better than 2,000 Elks and their families. The cameraman was on hand just as the men on the kitchen detail swung up another beef from the pit.

Woman's Story Touches Off Texas Search For Pancho Villa's Fortune

ROMA, Tex. (UP)—Two World War II veterans searched for gold in this sleepy village on the banks of the Rio Grande today on the story of a 76-year-old California woman who said the Mexican bandit Pancho Villa buried treasure here more than 40 years ago.

Veterans Joe Pilon and Herman Garza hauled out a war surplus mine detector and started going through the brush near an old lime kiln on the story of Mrs. Dolores Vasquez of Brawley, Calif.

Mrs. Vasquez, who is in a hospital at El Cerrito, Calif., said she was a nurse with Villa's forces and a confidante of the bandit. She said Villa had buried gold worth \$1,500,000 near Roma, Corpus Christi, San Antonio, Rob-

town and a place she called Cienega, Tex.

Most people, however, appeared to be taking Mrs. Vasquez's story with a grain of salt. Police at Corpus Christi, San Antonio and Hobbs said nobody had started a gold rush to the places Mrs. Vasquez designated in those towns.

Mrs. Vasquez said that one cache of the coins is buried "in the oldest cemetery in Corpus Christi." She said a cache was buried in San Antonio "beside a high wall" that runs around the first church outside the city limits of San Antonio leading to Mexico. The gold at Robstown was buried near a spillway, that at Roma in a "lime kiln" and some of the loot at Cienega, Tex., has been as hard to find as Villa's gold as it is not listed on the map. But Ralph Luna, a Nueces County deputy sheriff, said Cienega was an old-time Mexican name for the Huach Mountains in South Texas.

So far, the two veterans at Roma haven't had any luck in the gold hunt, but they were expected to be joined today by other persons in this border town of 1500.

Former Mayor Joe Guerra said the gold rumor was a No. 1 topic of conversation but that no digging was planned unless the mine detector turns up something.

Roaring Fires Rake Ontario

TORONTO (AP)—An army of more than 4,000 men, including volunteers from all walks of life, is fighting the worst forest fires in the history of Ontario.

Already millions of dollars in timber have burned. Despite the efforts of the fire fighters, only heavy rains can end the destruction.

The fires first sighted April 1, are in their fifth month. Upward of 125 separate blazes have laid waste more than 200,000 acres. Daily from 10 to 15 fires are reported raging out of control.

Within a month after the first smoke warning, the Forest Service had 2,000 of its regular force and 2,000 others into the firelines. But hot weather and no rains proved an implacable enemy. The flames burrowed a foot below ground, making the earth scorching hot. Entire streams dried up. Lightning fired new blazes.

Of the 2,000 men who supplement the regular fighting force half are volunteers. The others were summoned to duty under emergency powers of the Ontario Department of Lands and Forests. Among them are miners, clerks, loggers, salesmen and tavern habitués.

For 68 cents an hour plus meals they took up hose, shovels and axes to battle the flames, sometimes on a round-the-clock basis.

The strain is intense. Last year one nerve-shattered fire fighter plunged screaming into the heart of a blaze to his death.

All five in tents. No work breaks are observed, but crew foremen govern hours and shifts. Five or six meals a day are served from mobile canteens.

Heat Wave In Nation Breaks

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cool air and thundershowers which broke the summer's longest and most intense heat wave over the weekend reached the Deep South today, and in parts of the North there was a touch of autumn.

The cooling mass of air which lowered temperatures as much as 14 to 20 degrees in the Central plains overspread the East and even the northern parts of Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi.

It was a bliverty 42 degrees at Grand Marais, Mich., early today, a drop of 20 degrees from a day earlier; and a more comfortable 54 at Wausau, Wis., 60 at Detroit and 66 at Des Moines.

Ahead of the cool air mass, however, were such early morning temperatures as 78 at New Orleans, 80 at Birmingham, Ala., and 83 at Fort Worth.

It was warning up again, however, on the plains and the weather continued hot in the interior sections of the Far West.

Scattered thundershowers moved ahead of the cool air, dumping occasionally heavy falls such as 2.32 inches at Newark, N.J., and 1.07 at Guyton, Okla.

Duck Season Talks Held In High Secrecy

WASHINGTON (AP)—Government officials Monday began two days of closed meetings with representatives of the four flyway countries preliminary to drafting the 1955-56 migratory waterfowl hunting regulations.

Officials of conservation organizations also sat in.

Director John L. Farley of the Fish and Wildlife Service said that what takes place at the meeting is not to be disclosed as there will be no final decisions until his agency's staff drafts proposed regulations later this week.

Farley added that it is hoped the regulations can be made public next Monday.

All Or Nothing, These British

LONDON (UP)—British censors, who allow models to appear in the nude if they don't move, apparently don't go for half-way measures as far as unclothed girls are concerned.

Dancer Denise Vanis said she sent the Lord Chamberlain's office pictures of her poses and was told they would be just fine if she removed her shoes.

The shoes were all she was wearing.

Junk Due In Bay Area Port Today

SAN FRANCISCO (UP)—The junk "Free China" was due in the Golden Gate today after a 6000 mile journey from Keelung, Formosa.

The 70-foot-long junk is manned by Calvin Mehlert, 26, of Fresno, Calif., who is American vice-consul in Formosa, and a crew of five young Chinese sailors, refugees from Communist China.

At last report, the 70-ton junk was 30 miles southwest of Point Arena on the Northern California coast. Her crew hoped that favorable winds would bring her to anchor in San Francisco sometime today.

The junk left Formosa almost four months ago.

Heat Wave In Nation Breaks

French Premier Faure tells the French national assembly in Paris that France's living standard will DOUBLE in the next ten years if economic progress is maintained at the present rate.

How come the present satisfactory rate of economic progress?

Well, the French seem to have quit quarreling and GONE TO WORK.

Judge Fee Hears Transport Case

U. S. Circuit Judge James Alger Fee, presiding in federal district court here, made it plain to two Interstate Commerce Commission lawyers here Monday that his court does not operate on the theory that the government is always right.

During the opening moments of a hearing on an ICC application for a permanent injunction against a group of truck operators, Judge Fee interrupted the proceedings.

"It seems that you haven't your case very well prepared," he told ICC Counsel William Harrison of San Francisco. "This court is not going to allow you to deal in generalities. The court doesn't operate on the theory that the government is always right."

The judge then recalled what he termed the "OPA days" when

Judge Fee Hears Transport Case

he said government lawyers went into court without properly preparing their cases and tried to deal in generalities.

The case before the court involves Alexander L. Vinco, owner of the O.K. Transfer Company of Klamath Falls, Pioneer Truck Rentals Company and the Drivers Service, Inc., both of Klamath Falls and Medford.

The government charges that the defendants by subterfuge are circumventing ICC regulations and are operating as a common carrier without an ICC permit.

In an opening statement, Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert Carney told the court that the defendants are engaged in unlawful operations.

Attorney Richard Maxwell, Klamath Falls, who, with Attorney

Judge Fee Hears Transport Case

J. M. Hickson, Portland, is representing the defendants, said that his clients are operating a you-know-what service for shippers. He added that the defendants maintain a service for leasing trucks and providing drivers for firms that desire to ship their own products. He said these operations in no way violate ICC regulations.

The first witness called by the government was G. B. Youngblood, office manager for Gerlinger Carriers, Inc. of Dallas, Oregon. He described the services of the defendants which were provided for his firm.

Attorneys in the case said they expect the hearing will be concluded late Monday afternoon. Judge Fee is scheduled to open a federal court term Tuesday in Medford.

Tulana Repair Shop Loss Biggest To Date; Forest Fires Checked

Lake County Forest Fire Controlled

LAKEVIEW — The largest forest fire of the season in the Fremont National Forest is under control today after burning over 200 acres, according to John McDonald, Fremont Forest supervisor.

He stated the fire was contained and started in a slash area where the White Pine Lumber Company was logging this spring. It is located between Yukon and Green Valleys in the Drews Valley district.

Frank Roberts, at the Dog Mountain lookout, spotted the fire at 12:22 Sunday noon. Fire fighters were on the area within 20 minutes, McDonald said.

Charles Waldron, district ranger of the Drews Valley district, is serving as fire boss with 100 men. The number includes 53 men from the White Pine Lumber Company which has also provided two caterpillars. Another cat is on the scene from the Jess Roberts ranch in the area.

To date, this fire has cost \$1,500 in wages lost, McDonald said, and he estimates the cost of manpower to run in the neighborhood of \$4,000. No estimate can be made at this time on timber losses.

Five smaller fires were caused by lightning Sunday night, McDonald said, but they are under control this morning. Three were in the Bly area and two near Paisley.

McDonald urges prospectors and others who use forest land to be extremely careful as the forest becomes drier. Unless care is exercised, it may become necessary to enforce closure of forest lands, he added.

In the case of man-caused fires, persons responsible are liable for costs and damages and will be prosecuted to the limit, McDonald warned.

Fire Razes Shop At Tulana Farms With Huge Loss

Over \$130,000 worth of equipment was estimated to have been lost last night when a lightning-caused fire destroyed a repair shed belonging to Tulana Farms at Worden.

Fire trucks from the Stewart-Lenoix and County Fire Departments rushed to the scene, but were too late to halt the spectacular blaze.

Numerous explosions ripped the building as the fire spread to gas tanks on the equipment and oil drums in the shop.

Ted Hansen, office manager for Tulana Farms, said that no one noticed the fire until it was well started. Mrs. Dorothy Watts, Tulana cook, saw the flames at about 9:30 p.m.

The fireman arrived in time to prevent conflagration from spreading to the mess hall, barracks, storage garage and other sheds nearby.

Walter Schreiver, assistant fire chief at the Suburban department, said that there was almost one continuous explosion when they arrived.

"It was almost gone when we got there," he said of the shop, "and all we could do was to keep it from spreading."

Hansen said that it must have been caused by lightning because the building was of tile and concrete construction, and almost fireproof. The roof was all-metal and the only wood was the beams.

A complete inventory of the equipment lost was taken this morning. It included four pickup trucks, a sedan automobile, a flatbed truck, a combine, a D-8 Caterpillar tractor, and other farm equipment.

Hansen revealed that it was all destroyed beyond further use.

Another fire had struck Tulana Farms Friday night when a hay barn was destroyed by flames on the Dunn ranch. Cause of the fire was unknown, although it is imagined that it may have been from spontaneous combustion.

No estimate was available on the loss suffered.

Lightning Blazes In Basin Fought

A severe electric storm throughout Klamath County last night kept fire-fighters busy keeping numerous blazes under control.

The Klamath Forest Protective Association reported 11 lightning-caused fires within its jurisdiction, and the fire dispatcher at the Klamath Indian Reservation revealed that four had been started in that area.

All the fires were reported under control this morning. Little timber was burned.

George Wardell of KPFA said that the heaviest concentration of fires was north of the north fork of the Sprague River on the Richardson Ranch.

Six blazes were reported here and no word was available this morning on their status. Fire-fighters were sent to the scene.

Four more fires were started by the electric storm in the Swan Lake area, and these are all well under control.

They were on Moyina Hill, near Holcomb Springs, on the Whitteline reservation, and on the rim of Swan Lake. The latter was caused when lightning struck a green Juniper high up on the rim. All were spot fires and not serious.

Another small fire was reported on Green Mountain, but KPFA said this was small and under control.

Meanwhile, Bill Crawford, fire dispatcher at Klamath Agency, said that the reservation patrol plane was out this morning checking for any other spot fires that may have been started last night.

The four fires which were reported were all put under control before they had a chance to spread. They were all located on the southeast side of the reservation, and could be reached by road.

One was in the 5-mile district by the East boundary. Four men and a pumper truck were dispatched to snuff the flames.

The other three were spotted in the Yainax Butte area on the southeast corner of the reservation. Fire guards from Beatty handled these blazes.

Crawford said that all the fires were started on smags, and were put out on them before they spread to any timber.

The patrol plane steered the fire-fighting crews to the blazes. Crawford said that a considerable number of lightning strikes were reported last night and early this morning, but the no other fires have been spotted so far.

Weather

FORECAST — Klamath Falls and vicinity: Fair through Tuesday. Low Monday night 58, high Tuesday 50.

High yesterday — 89

Low last night — 49

Precipitation last 24 hours — 1

Since Oct. 1 — 6.88

Same period last year — 14.56

Normal for period — 12.41

SNAP

NEW DELHI (AP)—Direct diplomatic ties between India and Portugal, at odds over Indian claims to the Portuguese settlements in India, were snapped Monday with the closing of the Lisbon government's legation here.

Californians Battle Fires

SAN FRANCISCO (UP)—Forest rangers pleaded with the public to be careful of fires today, warning that low humidities, high temperatures and a large number of campers, hikers and hunters in the woods made for "extremely high fire hazards."

The warning was voiced by Clarence Hender, regional U. S. forester, who asked hunters and others to smoke only in cleared areas and to make sure campfires are out before breaking camp.

Even as he spoke, more than 150 men were busy battling a stubborn brush fire that burned over 1200 acres of rugged hill country 20 miles northeast of Paso Robles. It was the biggest on state land this year.

By last night, the blaze was 75 per cent controlled.

Another potentially dangerous fire broke out on the Stanislaus River in the High Sierra, 33 miles east of Sonora. Forest service crews throughout the area were alerted to stand by.

Three other small blazes on state land in Mendocino County were controlled yesterday.

A grass fire charred five acres of hillside grass at Fort Baker in Marin County yesterday. The fire apparently started when a fisherman tossed a cigarette from his boat onto an Army dump on the southeastern shore. It spread from there up the hill toward the Sausalito Road.

Core Drill Test Shows Good Ore

LAKEVIEW — The Lucky Lass uranium mine made some experimental core drilling last week, going down 40 feet with the evidence of uranium still showing.

Core samples were too soft to provide good test cores for examination and thorough testing, according to the mine owners.

Robert Adams Jr., one of the partners in the mine, stated that a license from the Atomic Energy Commission for the shipping of radioactive materials had been received Wednesday.

A total of 206 uranium claims had been filed at the close of business at the courthouse, Saturday, according to Zane Gray, Lake County clerk.

Hurricane Roaring Across Ocean, May Miss Mainland

MIAMI (UP)—The first hurricane of the season roared to within striking distance of the southern U.S. mainland today packing winds as deadly as the most lethal storms of 1954.

The U.S. Weather Bureau said the Atlantic hurricane, named "Connie," was "severe" with winds up to 135 miles per hour and gales howling 250 miles northward from its center.

An advisory midnight located the center at 24.7 north, 11 west, 230 miles north of Turks Island or about 600 miles east-southeast of Miami. It was moving northwestward at 18 miles per hour.

Observers said this course would carry it past the Bahamas, possibly brushing the islands with its gales. They expected it then would wheel more westerly on a course aimed at the Georgia or South Carolina coast.

The Navy and Marine Corps Sunday began shifting aircraft from east coast installations to inland bases. The Weather Bureau alerted coastal residents as far north as Cape Hatteras, N. C.

Reconnaissance aircraft flying in relays kept a 24-hour watch on the vast disturbance covering a circular area of hundreds of square miles around a calm "eye" in the center.

G. J. F. Carney, an aviator of Lakeview, said he flew into all the big 1954 hurricanes and Connie is "bad as any storm that developed last year, including Hazel and Carol."

Carney, who helped plot the hurricane's course aboard a Navy plane from Jacksonville, Fla., said Connie was well-defined, presenting "a perfect doughnut" on his radar screen. He said its "eye" had tightened from a 50-mile diameter to one of about 33 miles.

Lt. Cmdr. E. J. MacKey of Albany, N. Y., captain of the plane, said the heaviest was a solid sheet of storm from the edge of the eye to its outer reaches.

The four-day old hurricane, first discovered at sea far east of the Leeward and Virgin Islands in the West Indies, traveled steadily west-northwestward until it wheeled toward the northwest early Sunday.



THESE TWO Californians were job hunting when the early morning photographer stopped them today. They are Henry Koch, left, and Ronald Catron, both of Anaheim, and are carpenters looking for construction work. Their present address is general delivery, Klamath Falls. The two will be interviewed tonight at 10:15 on KFLW.