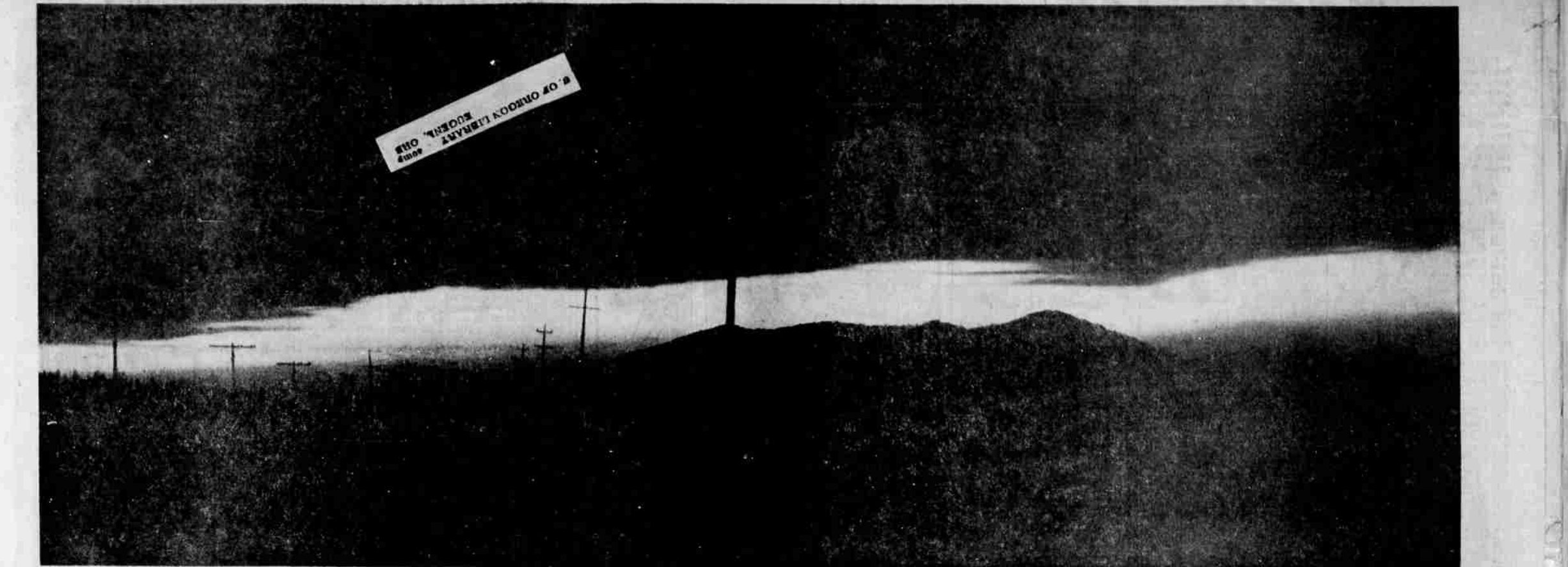


Klamath Basin's Worst Forest Fires In Years Blacken Skies As Shown In This Photo Taken Near Bly Wednesday



In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS
Political note in the news:
"It seems certain the farm question will be a big issue in the 1956 Presidential election campaign . . . Democrats have renewed and heightened their attacks on a variety of Republican programs — including those about farms . . . Adlai Stevenson says his attacks on domestic issues will include charges of what the GOP has NOT done for farming. He says the current farm distress is dangerous to the whole U.S. economy and asserts the GOP administration is as fertile of moralistic slogans for farmers as it is barren of political ideas for a solution of the surplus problem."
"He accuses the GOP of taking a free, if hazardous, ride on (farm) prosperity built up by the Democratic party."
And so on.

I'd like to make it clear at this point that I haven't much use for political farmers in EITHER party. The political farmer farms the farmers for votes instead of farming the land for crops. We aren't going to get much lasting good out of that kind of cattle — no matter what political brand they carry on their hips.
But it might be just as well to take a look at Stevenson's accusation that the GOP is "taking a free . . . ride on (farm) prosperity built up by the Democratic party."

It is UNDENIABLY TRUE that in the past four generations farmers have enjoyed more prosperity under Democratic administrations than under Republican administrations.
But —
It is historically true that farm "prosperity" rises spectacularly during wars. There are perfectly sound reasons why that should be true. War, in the very nature of it, increases total consumption of food and at the same time tends to decrease world production of food. The law of supply and demand results in higher prices for farm products in war time.

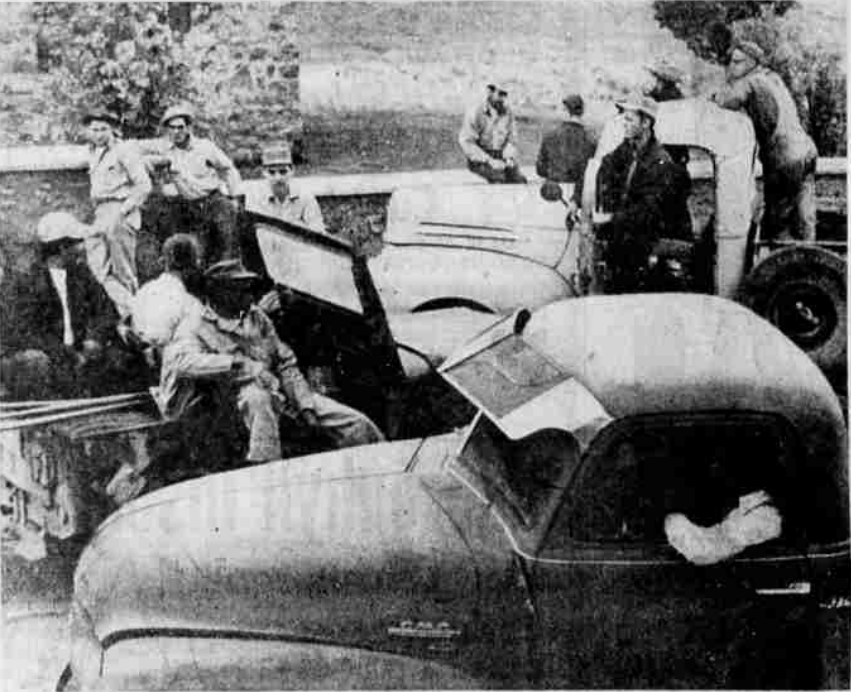
And —
If so happens that all of our recent wars — beginning with World War I — have occurred under Democratic administrations.

I do not mean to accuse the Democrats of being the WAR party or to praise the Republicans for the party of guaranteed peace. That would be cheap petting as is Mr. Stevenson's talk about the farm prosperity BUILT UP by the Democratic party. World War I was inevitable. It would have come on — and we would have got into it — just the same under a Republican administration as under a Democratic one.

I'm sure the same is true of World War II. We would have got into it, no matter what party was running our government when Hitler went on his rampage. "The TRUTH must always be faced, and the truth is that a Republican administration could no more have stood aloof from the cataclysmic conflict of World War II than did the Democratic administration."

The Korean war arose out of a series of mistakes of judgment, but I am certainly not prepared to say that there would have been no war in Korea if a Republican administration had been in power.
But it IS true that the farm prosperity to which Mr. Stevenson refers has been due primarily to war and I think his left-handed claim that the Democratic party is solely responsible for it is a bit of cheap demagoguery that ill becomes a man of his superior intellectual attainments.
I suppose that is what professional politicians, if long enough persisted in, leads to.

DIVORCE SUIT
RENO (AP) — Baseball great Ty Cobb, 68, was sued for divorce yesterday for the second time this year by his wife Frances, 45.
She charged extreme mental cruelty, the same as she did Jan. 6. The first suit was dismissed Jan. 17 after a reconciliation.



FIREFIGHTERS GATHERING at the Fremont National Forest office in Bly are pictured above. Predicted high winds late Thursday led to a call for additional men to combat the flames which have devastated thousands of acres of timber in that region. Two major fires at Round Butte and Dry Prairie are under control. A third fire at Summer Lake is still uncontrolled after sweeping 3,500 acres.

Big California Fires Contained

Late reports from Yreka Thursday indicated that hundreds of soldiers and civilians battling flames in the Klamath National Forest were rapidly bringing the major blazes under control.

The Herald and News correspondent at Yreka said that community of 3,500 persons is no longer threatened.
Harry Cribbin, public information officer for Klamath National Forest, said 2,578 firefighters are in the area. There have been no major casualties.

SAN FRANCISCO (UP) — The California Division of Forestry Fire Control announced today that the scattered fires that have blackened more than 170 square miles of forest areas in California during the week were virtually all under control.

"Most of them are now 90 per cent under control and we expect complete control by tonight," said Fred Herbert, a fire dispatcher. "The only danger is from wind. We believe we can hold most of them."



9 O'clock Special
PAULINE WESLEY, 236 Nevada Street, obligingly paused for the Herald and News' early morning photographer this morning. Pauline is a freshman at Klamath Union High School.

the fires in check if we don't get a big blow."

There was one exception. A 600-acre fire 10 miles north of Etna in Siskiyou County blew up last night and fanned over 8500 acres and still remained out of control today.

The fire in the Klamath National Forest is many miles from the fire that threatened to destroy Yreka yesterday.

BLAZES CONTROLLED
The firefighters had brought nearly all the major blazes under control, mainly by brute endurance and the help, in some areas, of bulldozers that plowed out fire breakers. Remarkably, only about 11 men have been injured in the combat that has been waged against nature day and night since last Friday.

But new fires broke out and old fires were fanned into new activity. Constant vigilance had to be maintained in the tinder-dry timber that was explosive as gunpowder.

INJURED
Ten of those injured were spared by heat on their arms, faces and necks while fighting a big burn near Santa Barbara, 100 miles north of Los Angeles, yesterday. Nine of them were Mexican nationals pressed into forest duty and the 10th man was a Forest Service foreman. None was burned critically, although nine remained in the hospital today.

The men were licked by flames when a fire line got out of control in Glenn Annie Canyon late yesterday afternoon, and billowed across nearly 80,000 acres of brush lands. Trains and highway traffic through the area, which had been brought to a halt, was resumed today, although precautions were taken against another outbreak that might close Highway 161, California's important coast road.

BRUSH FIRE
A 17,000-acre timber and brush fire in the Sierra east of Fresno was surrounded with safety lines, except for a half-mile gap in the Converse Basin area. Sequoia National Forest Supervisor Eldon Ball said helicopters were flying in men and equipment in an effort to plug the last hole in the fire line near Sampson Creek. The men, he said, were forced to rely mainly on hand operations because of the rugged terrain. The fire probably will be completed later today.

"If all goes well," forest officials said, men may be dispatched to other forest fires in the state, including the scene of a new blaze that threatened a number of small communities.

Scene of the latest threat was an area of 15 miles southeast of Yreka which was threatened itself by a major blaze yesterday. Forestry officials said the new fire was burning near Greenville, a town of about 200 persons.

At least 200 persons were evacuated in Santa Barbara County as a brush fire blackened an estimated 70 square miles of valuable watershed just six miles from downtown Santa Barbara.

Bly, Seven Mile Blazes Controlled By Fighters

Herald and News

KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1955
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LA Heat Wave Eases Today

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Los Angeles heat wave forecast got out of its 100-degree rut today. A downtown maximum of 94 is expected.

If that forecast holds, it will be the first under-100 weather since Aug. 30.

Yesterday's 100 maximum made it eight straight days with tops at that level or higher, surpassing the previous record for sustained heat of seven 100-or-higher days in September 1938.

The current siege has caused heavy losses in human life, poultry and some crops in the county.

Now the Weather Bureau says a gradual cooling trend has set in but there is no definite break in sight that would drop the temperature below 90.

Poultry growers estimated they have lost a million chickens, and about 750,000 rabbits perished, all because growers are not prepared for such hot weather. Egg prices jumped 3 cents yesterday, wholesale and retail.

Weather

FORECAST—Klamath Falls and vicinity: Fair except for variable high cloudiness and considerable smoke Thursday night; predicted sunny Friday, high Friday 84; low Thursday night 45.
High yesterday — 84
Low last night — 42
Precip. last 24 hours — 0
Since Oct. 1 — 7.00
Same period last year — 13.27
Normal for period — 12.75

California Plane Crash Claims Three

BURBANK, Calif. (UP)—A DC-3 Currey Air Transport passenger plane, believed carrying 30 persons, crashed shortly after take-off at Lockheed Air Terminal today when it encountered engine trouble and tried to return to the field.

Killed and 24 injured, police reported.

The plane was identified by the control tower as a non-scheduled airliner which took off for Oakland at 8:40 a.m. Airport control authorities said the plane's pilot radioed him seven minutes after takeoff that the plane was having "a little trouble and am turning back."

LANDING ATTEMPTED
The two-engine plane attempted its landing but fell short of the runway by about 200 yards. It crashed into two Air Force C-54s and then smashed into a maintenance hangar operated by the Lockheed Aircraft Service Co.

One of the victims was an employee of the service company. He tentatively was identified as Willie Malone. One other victim was identified as the plane's co-pilot, Keith Dutton.

The plane burst into flames. Its nose broke off and the fuselage was torn open. Both engines were shattered off the plane. Several fires were scattered about the wreckage before being controlled by field firemen.

SERIOUSLY HURT
Most of the injured were taken to St. Joseph's Hospital in Burbank. Some were reported in serious condition.

The control tower said they received only the one report from the plane that it was in trouble.

"That's the last we heard from him until we saw the plane and then watched him go into the plane and hangar area," a tower employee said.

Crash investigator M. H. Martin said he believed there were about 30 persons on the plane, including eight to 10 servicemen. The injured servicemen were taken to the Air Force Base Hospital in Long Beach.

HITS PLANE
Martin was working on the wing of a military plane when the crashed airliner smashed into it.

The pilot of the DC-3, who was not identified, suffered serious injuries in the crash. Two other men working in front of the hangar were injured. One was identified as R. H. Brown and the other only as Mr. Bern, an inspector.

The plane, while cutting for its emergency landing, hit some telephone wires, witnesses reported. It then catapulted into the first C-54, killing Malone, and pushed that plane into another C-54. The transport skidded across the yard in front of the lockers and wound up with its battered front end just inside a hangar.

Round Butte Fires Takes Man's Life

Death rode roaring flames which had swept 3,500 acres of high grade timber at Round Butte, 12 miles east of Bly Thursday and claimed the life of one woodsman, while three others escaped the roaring inferno.

Dead is Wesley Weston, 40-year-old Bly logger and father of four children. It was the second fatality in flames-swept Oregon forests this week.

The first fire death occurred Sunday when Elwood Jackson, 38-year-old John Day logger, was trapped near Seneca by a 3,000-acre Malheur National Forest fire.

PETISHED
Weston perished late Wednesday when he and three companions, operating tractors were trapped on a fire line. A few minutes before a wall of flame bore down upon them at express train speed, it was believed the Round Butte fire, which had already consumed 1,000 acres, was under control.

Suddenly-generated high winds whipped the flames to new fury and sent them roaring over 2,000 additional acres of timber.

CATS ABANDONED
Weston and his companions abandoned their tractors and fled. Three of the men reached safety. Weston failed to come out of the woods.

Early Thursday morning a search party found Weston's charred body a short distance from the abandoned tractors.

Sheidt Murray Britton and Deputy Coroner Bill Mills left for the scene of the tragedy shortly after 8 a.m. At press time, no report had been received from them in either Bly or Klamath Falls.

SUMMER LAKE FIRE
In the meantime, Jack Groom, assistant supervisor of Fremont National Forest, reported from Bly that all fires in that area have been brought under control except a blaze which has swept 3,500 acres at Summer Lake Rim between Paisley and Silver Lake.

Under control are the Dry Prairie fire, nine miles south of Bly which wiped out 1,000 acres of timber and the Round Butte fire. Barring a renewal of high winds, Groom said it is believed these two fires can be kept under control.

WINDS FORECAST
Later it was reported that high winds have been forecast for the Bly area. Additional firefighters have been sent there.

The Gardiner Peak fire burning in the Seven Mile area was reported under control today by Bob Cooper, district ranger. "We are confident that we can hold it until mid afternoon and if there are no high winds we'll have it whipped."

The fire, which broke out on Monday, is one of four in the area. Three more blazes, the largest about 12 acres, have been reported in the Dry Creek area north of Seven Mile and near the Crater Lake National Park boundary. Two of the three are under control and the third, a small fire, is not expected to cause undue trouble.

TOUGH TERRAIN
The Gardiner Peak fire is burning in tough terrain about three and a half miles above the end of the Seven Mile Road. Cals, two of them working the fire, were walked in from road's end, and supplies are being packed over the rough ground. Fire camp has



FIREFIGHTERS MUST EAT and they were doing a good job of it at the Seven Mile Creek fire camp of the Gardiner Peak blaze this morning. Pictured here is Walt Bickerton, camp cook, who serves up the usual hearty meal of bacon, eggs, toast and coffee that will stand by itself.

(Continued on page 4)