

Wind-Driven Fires Slash Across 2,300 Acres



FIRE ERUPTED AGAIN Wednesday near Hildebrand, 30 miles east of Klamath Falls, and burned an additional 1,000 acres of pine reproduction and brush. It jumped a wide fireline with the aid of high winds. Driven by hot, dry winds,

flames lashed high and uncontrollably until they struck a sheer rock rim in foothills on the southern border of the Klamath Indian Reservation. The fire swept through a favorite hunting area of many Klamath Basin sportsmen, and

deer by the dozen scampered in terror before the flames. Photographer Otto Ellis of the Herald and News was on the scene. At left, he caught an indication of the fire's fury — a grove of pines exploding. In the center picture, fresh

crews dove into heavy smoke along a new firebreak to cool hot spots and to control "slopovers." The photo at right gives an indication of the size, density and inflammability of brush that chokes the area.

Fires 'Explode' In Three Locations

Herter Sees Summit Meeting If Accord Reached At Geneva

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Mr. K. speaking today to a throng of delegates at a meeting of miners unions in the Polish town of Sosnowiec, says: "I give you our solemn pledge that never, never, NEVER shall we launch ANY war against ANY country ANYWHERE at ANY time."

Hmmmmmm.
Wouldn't it be WONDERFUL if we could believe him?

So MANY amazing things are happening.

Already it is possible to have breakfast in New York and lunch in San Francisco.

We're getting ready to leap off into outer space and maybe discover a limitless number of new worlds.

Hard-headed actuaries are looking forward to the time when people will live to be 100 and are taking steps to adapt insurance policies to this anticipated longer span of life.

Limitless power from the atom seems to be just around the corner.

A thought:

Why don't the researchers and the scientists turn their attention seriously to the development of an infallible TRUTH SERUM — one that would work EVERY TIME?

If there is one thing this world needs above everything else, it is TRUTH.

An infallible truth serum would do away with propaganda—which is one of the curses of the world. As communications become more and more perfect—so that every time a pin drops anywhere on earth we hear about it in a few minutes—propaganda becomes more dangerous.

An infallible truth serum would make possible the administration of exact justice—because we would KNOW then who did it. An infallible truth serum would revolutionize politics by disarming the demagogues.

Its possibilities for good would be illimitable.

River Hearing Reset For Fall

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—A hearing on two applications to develop power on the McCloud River and its tributaries was postponed Wednesday until September but an exact date was not set. The California state Water Rights Board opened the hearing in April on the applications of Pacific Gas & Electric Co. and California - Oregon Power Co. to develop the Northern California river.

REAPPOINTED

SALEM (AP)—Edwin J. Stastny, Maine, was reappointed by Gov. Mark Hatfield today to the state Potato Commission for a five-year term.

GENEVA (AP)—U.S. Secretary of State Christian A. Herter told Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko today that if arrangements can be made here to bar future crises over Berlin and safeguard its freedom, the United States is ready to proceed promptly to a summit conference.

But failure to agree on a Berlin plan pending unification of East and West Germany, Herter warned in the Big Four foreign ministers conference, could lead to a new crisis that might carry a greater danger of war than any in the past.

Furthermore, he said, it is impossible to relax tensions, as the Soviet Union claims to wish, and to build sound relations between the United States and the Soviet Union if Soviet threats against Berlin are periodically to throw East-West relations into an uproar.

Herter appealed to Gromyko not to insist on a Berlin truce limited to a short time—which is now the main Soviet proposal before

the conference. The real need, he said, is to work out arrangements for Berlin that would continue until unification of Germany solved the Berlin problem permanently.

Earlier in the day, informed sources said the Soviet Union had eased up on its demands that East and West Germany sit in on secret Big Four talks. The Soviet maneuver had threatened serious delays in the talks.

Informants said the Soviets indicated a readiness to take part in social functions from which the Germans would be barred.

Much of the real negotiations in the early phases of the conference took place at secret sessions. Public sessions, at which the Germans sat as advisers, produced little more than speechmaking.

Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko threw the conference into confusion Monday after it returned from a recess by announcing opposition to secret sessions unless East and West Germany took part.

The outlines of the compromise emerged after a dinner conference Wednesday night at which Jakob Malik, Soviet ambassador to London, was guest of Sir Patrick Reilly, British ambassador to Moscow.

The conference still remained stalled, however, over a solution for the Berlin crisis—the basic issue that drew the four powers to Geneva.

The West stood fast against any Soviet truce formula for Berlin granting new power and prestige to the East German Communist government.

Four Injured In Car Crash

WEED—Four persons were taken to Mount Shasta Community Hospital this morning following a two-car collision on Dead Rock curve, about eight or nine miles north of Weed, according to California Highway Patrol.

The accident occurred at 8:37 a.m., and no details were available at presstime.

A man and wife were in each car, one of which carried an Oregon license. The four persons had California addresses, however, officers said.

Hospitalized were Mr. and Mrs. Arthur W. Swanson of Oakland and Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Barradis of San Leandro. Extent of their injuries was being determined at the hospital.

Weather

Northern California — Fair through Friday except coastal fog. Few afternoon or evening thunderstorms in high Sierra-Nevadas. Little change in temperature. Northwesterly coastal winds 10-20 miles an hour except gentle variable from near Santa Cruz to Cape Mendocino.

Klamath Falls and vicinity — Sunny and warm through Friday. High 90-95 degrees. Low tonight 58-63.

High yesterday 92
Low last night 50
Precip. last 24 hours 0
Since Oct. 1 5.82
Same period last year 19.28

FOREST FIRE DANGER TODAY



Negotiators Marking Time

PITTSBURGH (AP)—Top officers of the United Steelworkers of America set off today for a tour of mill towns to fill in rank-and-file members on the two-day-old steel strike.

There was no indication of an early break in the walkout of 500,000 steelworkers. As union and management marked time, the walkout spawned growing unemployment in other areas of the nation's economy.

President David J. McDonald of the USW planned to tour Bethlehem, Pa.; Trenton, N.J.; Philadelphia and other steel areas during the weekend.

Vice President Howard R. Hague was scheduled to visit Chicago and Calumet, Ill., and Gary, Ind. Secretary-Treasurer I. W. Abel concentrated on the Pittsburgh area.

R. Conrad Cooper, industry's chief negotiator, planned a short rest before a meeting in New York with Joseph Finnegan, director of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service.

Industry's top negotiators will meet with Finnegan Monday morning with the union scheduled to meet with him in the afternoon.

Patches of unemployment have sprung up and will grow daily in such allied industries as rail, coal, truck, inland water shipping, iron ore mining and processing.

Roughly 20,000 or more workers in these industries have been idled.

150 Men Battle Blazes

SALEM (AP)—Asst. State Forester Jim Walker left this morning for Klamath County to help direct crews battling the blaze there that has covered some 2,000 acres.

The Oregon State Forestry Dept. also said it had sent a 20-man crew from the arboretum at Corvallis to the fire and an additional four-man overhead crew from eastern Oregon to help direct the battle against the blaze that last night jumped its lines.

Thought to be under control, the fire that started Tuesday was fanned into action when the winds came up. Forestry Dept. officials said this morning. Planes have been spraying a borate solution at the head of the fire to cool it so fire fighters can close in enough to build fire lines.

By NORM CARDOZA

Fires in two areas east of Klamath Falls, driven by gusty, shifting winds, have slashed across about 2,300 acres of brush and jackpine since Tuesday. One fire destroyed a home.

But chiefs of the Klamath Indian Agency and the Klamath Forest Protective Association say the burning areas are girded with firebreaks, men and equipment. Unless high winds rise, the lines should hold.

The largest, in heavy brush, juniper and pine reproduction near Hildebrand, about 30 miles east of Klamath Falls, was controlled Wednesday noon after burning just over 1,000 acres. Suddenly, at about 1 p.m., a spanking wind carried sparks over a firebreak and a road.

FIRE EXPLODES

"It simply exploded in three areas," said Ted Tellin, dispatcher at the KFPA agency. By 7 p.m. flames had rambled east nearly two miles near the southern border of the Klamath Reservation.

The fire raced with spectacular fury across land owned by Perry Langer, a rancher. An unoccupied home owned by Langer was burned to the ground. A pump and other equipment also were destroyed, and he lost some good timber. Langer and other ranchers whose land the fire touched, had no stock grazing in the area.

The fire, knifing 200 or 300 feet high at times, was visible and audible for miles as it streaked to the top of a steep hill due north of Hildebrand. A rimrock, borate drops, sparse fuel and a wind shift to the south stopped it there.

GOUGE FIRELINE

Bulldozers and men from the Air Force, the Klamath Agency, the KFPA, the State Forestry, the Oregon, California and Eastern Railroad, the county fire department and numerous logging and lumber companies succeeded in gouging a fireline along the fire's flanks. They began working at the rimrock where boulders, some as large as the tractors, hindered work. About 115 men manned the

TRAVEL COMPLICATED

MOUNT SHASTA—Glacial water coming off Mt. Shasta because of continued hot weather is causing concern here. McBride Springs overflowed last Sunday night. Road crews were called out at 2 a.m. Monday to remove rocks and other debris from the forest service road that connects U.S. Highway 99 with Everett Memorial Highway. Interference from flood waters is complicating summer travel up Mt. Shasta.

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Railroad Trestle Set Ablaze; GN Crews Salvage Drawbridge

By TOM STIMMEL

The Great Northern Railway trestle across Lake Ewauna burst suddenly into fire this morning, spitting orange - bright flames above the water's edge and billowing great clouds of black smoke into the sky.

The fire completely wrecked that portion of the trestle between a drawbridge in the trestle's center and the south shore of the lake.

Neither the cause nor the loss of the fire could be determined immediately. But the fire cut off the railway's link to its Whiteline Yards on the south shore that serves Weyerhaeuser Timber Company and other industries.

For almost an hour firemen could do little more than join a small crowd of spectators who watched the remarkable blaze. Creosote - coated timbers burned the crisp fury of a thousand campfires and deepened the color of incredibly black smoke.

STIFF WIND

A stiff wind from the northwest whipped the fire on and sent smoke southward in a sharp 45-degree angle with the sky.

But men were able to reach the fire from both ends with portable pumping equipment and within an hour the fire was under control from both ends, although it continued to burn furiously over the water.

Cal Butler of Lakeview was called to drop 500 pounds of borate

over the sizzling center that could be reached only from the air.

Great Northern crews moved three water tank cars onto the trestle from the north side and with this water were able to save the drawbridge and the remaining section of trestle.

Late a Weyerhaeuser portable gasoline pump was installed on the south end and water was shot into the flames.

The alarm was sounded almost exactly at 8 a.m. by several persons, among them two transients who said they had just crossed the trestle.

John Kristensen, who gave his address as Maupin, Oregon, said he and a buddy, Paul Meyers, had just walked across the trestle

when Meyers turned back and saw the fire.

"We didn't see smoke, we saw flames," Kristensen said.

He said the flames were under the wooden shed at the foot of the drawbridge, near the center of the trestle. The shed houses drawbridge lift machinery.

CALL SOMEBODY

"I said we'd better call somebody," Kristensen reported, "and I went up to a phone."

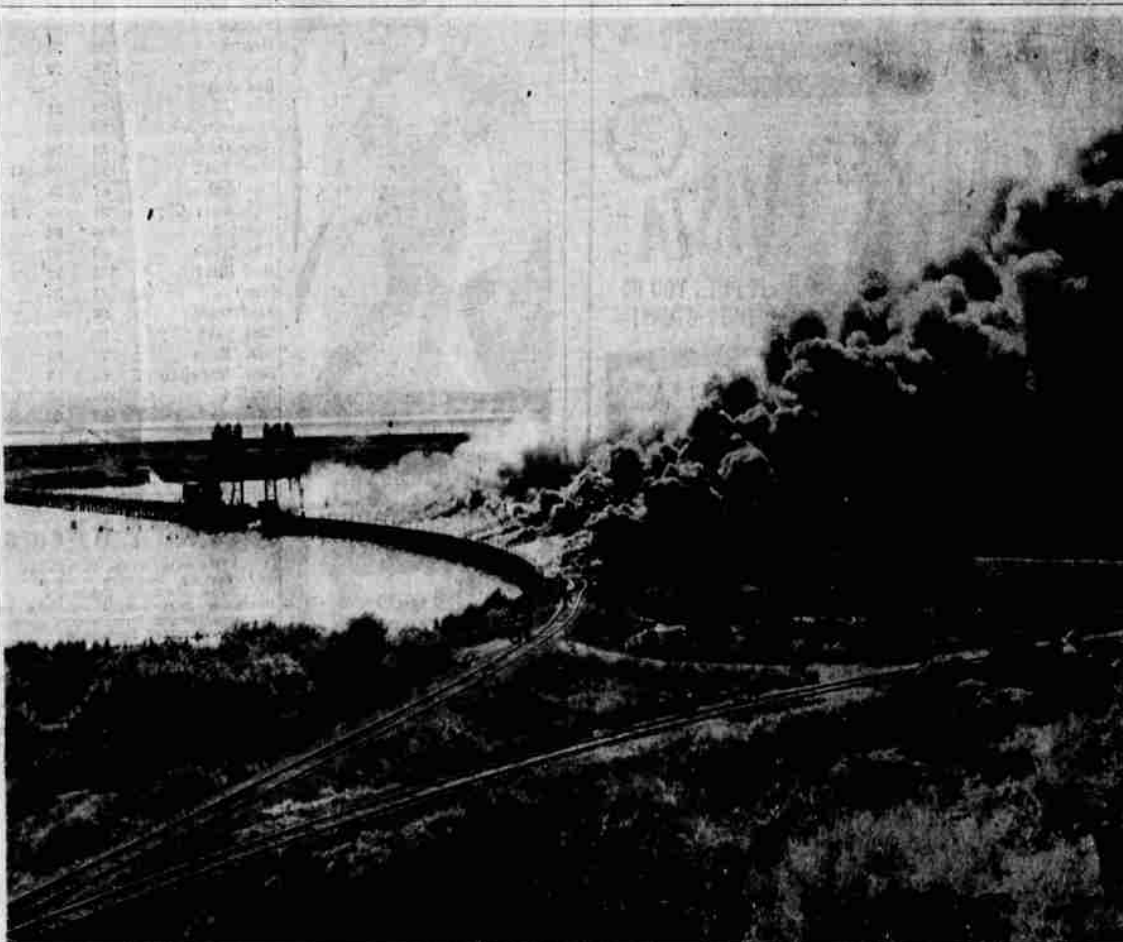
Henry C. Sanders, a Great Northern employee, said he was in the office on South Sixth Street when he got a call.

"I walked out back, and I could see black smoke. It was really rolling out," Sanders said. "It was just 8 o'clock."

Firemen from the city, the county, Stewart-Lenox and Kingsley Field answered a call, but they could do little until the portable pump arrived. In the meantime GN had moved its tank cars perilously close to the searing blaze on the north side.

By 9 a.m. creosote had largely been burned out and the pall of smoke changed in color from deep black to grayish white. Steam rose from either end where firemen got water on the trestle.

Great Northern moved a 16-man crew to the south side to sever track connections to prevent further heat damage to the tracks. The crew had just come off the Hildebrand forest fire and had had no rest, Sanders said.



FIRST WITNESSES to this fire on the Great Northern Railway bridge trestle across Lake Ewauna Thursday morning said the fire started at a wooden shed beneath the drawbridge at left center above. North winds shot the fire toward the south shore and kept the pall of black smoke

at a low angle. At this end of the fire, fed by creosoted timbers, may be seen rails that curved under intense heat. The fire was under control by 9 a.m., an hour after it started.

— Photo by Floyd Wynne