

# Quakes Rock Yellowstone Sector

## In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS  
As this is written, the wires are humming with BIG news. Earthquakes. Flash floods. Heat waves SOMEWHERE ELSE. The kind of news that makes headlines.

It makes for avid reading. But— How is a commentator going to comment on that kind of news? Earthquakes just happen. Flash floods just happen. Heat waves just happen. There isn't much we can do about it. We can't even shake our heads wisely and say THERE OUGHTA BE A LAW. We could pass laws, of course. FORBIDDING earthquakes. We could pass laws forbidding flash floods. We could pass laws forbidding heat waves.

But it would do no good. It is so obvious that it would do no good that no one even proposes it. Perhaps it is just as well. There are already so many laws on the books that we can't find time enough, or officials enough, to enforce them all. There are times when it appears to a moderate cynic that we can't even REMEMBER them all.

If we can't, remember them, how can we enforce them? A case in point: In our sister city of Roseburg, a truck loaded with explosives blew up with shattering force. A dozen lives were claimed. A considerable part of the city's business district was destroyed. Almost the first thought that occurred to us was that there should have been a law to PREVENT such things. Or a rule. Or a regulation.

As it turned out, it appears that there was a rule—an interstate commerce commission rule requiring trucks carrying dangerous explosives to be manned by two persons, one of whom must remain constantly with the explosives-laden vehicle. In this particular case, that rule if it had been strictly observed would in all probability have prevented the catastrophe. The truck was parked in front of a building that caught fire. It is presumed that the fire caused the contents of the truck to explode. It must be assumed that if one attendant had remained with the truck in accordance with the rule that has been cited, he would have driven the truck away in time to avoid the explosion.

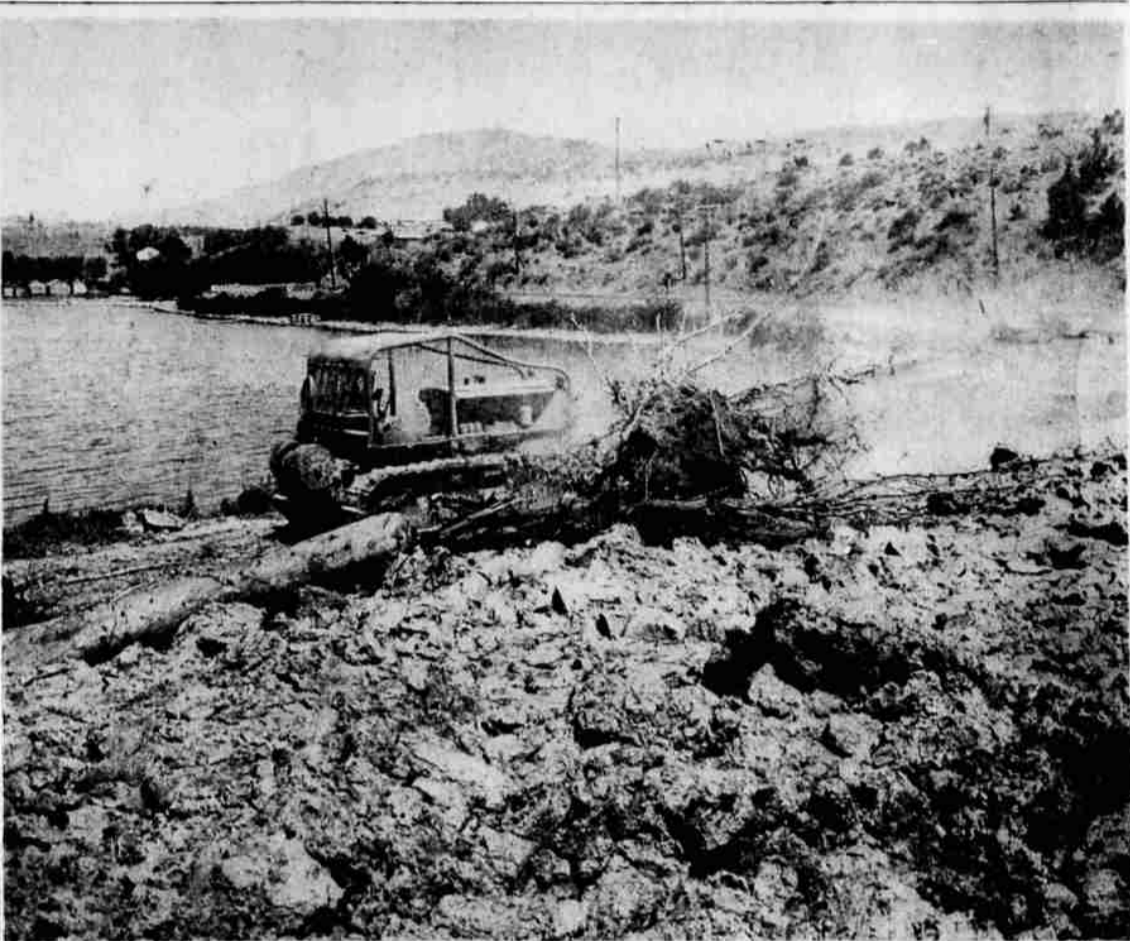
A thought: Might it not be better if we reduced the number of laws and rules and regulations to the point where those remaining on the books could be ENFORCED? It seems to me we would be better off in the long run if we did just that.

## Strike Facts To Be Bared

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Eisenhower and Secretary of Labor James P. Mitchell decided today to make public basic facts behind the steel strike in hopes of speeding negotiations and a settlement.

The information gathered by Mitchell as Eisenhower's personal fact-finder, will be made public for Thursday newspapers. Mitchell said they will cover wages, prices, productivity, profits and a few related matters. The secretary told a news conference the information covers a major part but not all of the facts he has been assembling from industrial and government sources. Mitchell said the report will be a factual one with no recommendations for action. He said he made no action proposals this morning in a 45-minute conference with Eisenhower. He told questioners the projected release of facts "is not intended as intervention. We hope as a result of these background statistics that the parties will bargain a little harder and reach a settlement."

Asked whether he interprets this as increased pressure on industry and labor, Mitchell said he wouldn't interpret it at all. He said he hopes the facts will clarify some of the issues and inform the public on them. The session with Mitchell was the major business item on a list of engagements which brought Eisenhower back to the White House for a one-day break in his work-rest holiday at his Gettysburg, Pa., farm home.



A BULLDOZER goes about the job of straightening up the shoreline along Upper Klamath Lake. The dirt was dredged up from the lake bottom by Tulena Farms' giant dredge several weeks ago. The dried out dirt is now being spread over the tule-covered area to broaden the shoreline opposite the entrance to Moore Park.

# Herald and News

Price Five Cents—14 Pages KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON, TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 1959 Telephone TU 4-8111 No. 6476

## Flash Flood Rips Needles

NEEDLES, Calif. (UPI)—Four railroad section hands were missing today and hundreds of motorists marooned by a desert cloudburst that flushed out highways and bridges east and west of this Colorado River community. Six members of a Santa Fe Railway road crew dispatched to check a rail washout 15 miles north of here Monday night were swept away by waves 10 to 15 feet high that overturned their truck.

Two of the men, identified by a railway dispatcher as track foreman George Ashmore and Geronimo Rodriguez, later were found and taken to Needles Municipal Hospital. Extent of their injuries was not released but a hospital spokesman said they were getting along "just fine."

Santa Fe said the missing men were Charles Sanchez, Francis K. Yazzie, Ben Elthe, and Fred Aine. The dispatcher said the missing men possibly were drowned in the swirling floodwaters that flashed down desert canyons. Search crews began looking for the men at dawn.

East and westbound trains of the Santa Fe system were rerouted around the stricken area because of bridge washouts and weakened structures. An inch of rain fell in the area during the cloudburst.

Police said Highways 66 and 95 on both sides of the Colorado River were blocked and would remain closed for up to 12 hours while detours around the damaged bridges were made. The cloudburst struck an area surrounding Highway 66 between Kingman, Ariz., and Essex, Calif. Highway 95 connects Needles with Las Vegas.

Officer A. C. Jones said the rain started in the hills above the highways late Monday evening and by midnight was accompanied by lightning and thunder as the runoff water headed for the Colorado River. Jones said the flash-flooding in this area is normal for August but not to such a great extent.

Many motorists and truckers parked their vehicles along the highways awaiting reopening of roads. Others made their way to Kingman or Needles or took side roads to Las Vegas.

"The water is all gone and all there is left in some sections is sand and rock," Jones said. Some small businesses were flooded during the early stages of the storm but soon after midnight

the water-filled streets began draining off and clean-up operations began.

## Green River Ordinance Stiffened By KF Council

A remodeled Green River Ordinance which gives the city council more control over door-to-door selling or fund raising was given first and second readings at the regular Monday night council meeting in city hall.

A defect in the old ordinance developed when the council refused to sanction a mental health fund drive in the area because it had no local backing. It was determined then by the city attorney, Henry Perkins, that the council did not have authority to require non-profit, charitable or religious organizations to have permits for door-to-door canvassing.

The new measure not only corrects this defect but stiffens the regulations to cover the current activities of several companies operating on a basis of a free gift and then a call-back.

Section governing gift distribution reads: "The practice of going in or upon private residence property by individuals or parties, not have been requested or invited to do so by the occupant or occupants of said private residence for the purpose of distributing advertisement or gifts, for the purpose of promoting sales of any article, wares or merchandise, is declared to be a nuisance, and is hereby prohibited."

The section dealing with non-profit, religious, fraternal and civic groups provides, "such groups wishing to canvass for funds, or sell from door to door, to raise funds, to be used solely for the purpose for which the organization or club is created, and from which no individual third party receives a profit shall apply to the council for a permit."

A discussion developed on the criteria to be adopted to guide the council in such permits in the future. Mayor Lawrence Slater suggested a committee of five or six could be selected to process the requests and make recommendations to the council.

It was also suggested that a list of all such requests for the past year be prepared, and the committee to be named could

## World News In Brief

By United Press International  
TICKETS—Los Angeles—Los Angeles manages to keep 1960 Democratic national convention by forming new host committee; bows to Butler.

AFL-CIO — Unity House, Pa.—AFL-CIO prepares to make last ditch effort to persuade Congress to soften labor legislation.

## Gasoline Tank Explodes Injuring 44

KANSAS CITY, Kan. (UPI)—At least 44 firemen were injured, several critically, today when they were engulfed by flaming gasoline from an exploding storage tank at a service and bulk station.

Knocked over by a tidal wave of flame, five of the victims staggered to their feet, their clothing ablaze, and ran from the flames. Spectators, police and other firemen tackled them and rolled them on the ground to extinguish the flames.

One fireman, apparently crazed for a moment, shouted at spectators to "come on and help me get these crisp guys out of there."

In addition to the 44 taken to hospitals, police said several others were treated at the scene. A Roman Catholic priest said he administered the church's final rites to five victims, two of whom he believed "were dead or dying," but police officials said no fatalities had been reported.

All available firemen from both Kansas City, Kan., and Kansas City, Mo., were battling the flaming gasoline for nearly two hours when the first of a series of explosions occurred. Earlier, at least 18 firemen were stricken with heat prostration while battling the fire.

## Scorpion With Ill Temper Meets Match In Three Boys

An ill-tempered scorpion met his match in three boys who found him and preserved him for posterity on Lizard Peak Friday. The poisonous insect will join a collection of native beasts and bugs collected by Terry Klawitter, 11, an aspiring biologist.

John Rochon, 9, and Steve Hamelin, 8, were helping Klawitter tip rocks in search of lizards for Klawitter's collection. They came, instead, face-to-face with the adult scorpion, measuring an inch and a half in length. In a daring maneuver with a stick, they hauled the little stinger into captivity. They didn't know what sort of bug they had, but Rochon was pretty sure it was a scorpion.

They took the bug to Mitch's Market not far away, and the proprietor identified it as, sure enough, a scorpion. Then the boys took their prize to Klawitter's house, where Rochon called police and the Herald and News.

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Two of the dead were in the Cliff Lake area, killed when a quake sent a cliff hurtling down on them. Another was believed to be in the Wade Lake area. The Sheriff at Virginia City, Mont., did not know where the other bodies were seen. He had no identification of the victims.

Another sharp tremor accompanied by a series of lighter jolts, was felt in Yellowstone National Park about 8:30 a.m. (MST) today.

Park officials said no further damage was done by the new quakes and said no forced evacuation of tourists in the park was planned.

The chief of the Montana Highway Patrol, Alex B. Stephenson, was quoted by State Civil Defense Director Hugh Potter as saying

The local office of the AAA advises all tourists in this area that no travel is permitted in Yellowstone National Park. At this time Hebgen Dam is holding and it is not believed that it will collapse, but tremors are still occurring.

A mountain has slipped over the road and into the river seven miles south of Hebgen relieving the flood tension. All entrance stations are open, but in West Yellowstone the slide has closed the road between Mammoth and Old Faithful. There has been some damage to Old Faithful Inn.

Sub District Ranger Lee Robinson said the area around Old Faithful was roped off shortly after the first quake. Robinson said a small chimney tumbled off Old Faithful Lodge and the sprinkling system in the lodge was put out of order.

Because of this, Rangers evacuated the east end and the lobby of the lodge. But there were no injuries and damage to the building was slight. Robinson said all roads in the park were open early today except those in West Yellowstone and the road from Madison Junction to Norris Junction, a distance of about 15 miles.

Hebgen Reservoir was "tipped askew" by the quake with the north shore dropping from 6 to 15 feet and the south shore rising as much. They said a giant fissure has opened up the length of Hebgen Lake on the north side all the way to West Yellowstone. A campground in Madison Canyon was completely buried by the slide, the sheriff and pilot reported, and bits of wreckage which appeared to be part of tennis and trailers were littered about in the debris.

Sheriff Skerritt theorized that the damage to Hebgen Lake probably was caused by an earthquake near midnight. The quakes shook Yellowstone National Park, filled with summer tourists. Dean Stone, managing editor of the Maryville-Alcoa (Tenn.) Times, was among the tourists routed by the quake. He said the hotel and Mammoth Hot Springs rumbled for several minutes and that at least one auto was trapped inside the park by a rockslide.

Dr. W. A. Meltzer, managing a hospital in Ashton, east Idaho town, said he treated half a dozen minor injury cases from West Yellowstone. Three or four of the people, he said, were pretty badly shaken up.

## Montana Dam Damaged; Slide Maroons Hundreds

HELENA, Mont. (AP)—Earthquakes hit the Northwest from British Columbia to Wyoming Monday night and early today, leaving a mounting death toll over southwestern Montana. The shocks were so severe a big Montana dam was damaged and a mountainside toppled into a river. Sixteen deaths were reported.

Six deaths were reported to Sheriff Lloyd Brook at Virginia City, by a helicopter pilot who flew over the scene. The Idaho State Police in a radio broadcast said there had been eight deaths. A radio station executive who got into the area said he learned that two people had been buried by a landslide in the Madison River

Editor's Note—Demar Taylor, a flying rancher from Dillon, Mont., was pressed into service by authorities to bring back an aerial report on the effects of the earthquake on the Hebgen Dam area today. He also telephoned The Associated Press with his information.

By DEMAR TAYLOR  
DILLON, Mont. (AP)—It's terrific. You'd never realize what's happened over there. The canyon below Hebgen Dam has given away and the whole mountainside has slid into the canyon. It has covered the highway to a terrific depth for possibly one mile. It has dried the river up below and is starting another lake above it.

Campers all up and down the river above the slide to the Hebgen Dam are gathered in groups on high ground waving white flags to airplanes as they fly over.

They have written SOS all up and down the undamaged parts of the highway. The dam itself is quite badly shattered but is not giving away yet with any terrific amount of water flow. There is muddy water running through the dam indicating it has several leaks in it and could give way anytime, jeopardizing the people trapped below.

From the actions of some of the people waving white flags, I'm just afraid there are some injuries there. A lot of slides were where people camp.

The report of the people covered by the slide came from Richard D. Smiley, president and general manager of radio station KXXX at Bozeman, Mont., who got into the stricken area as far as the big slide. He said he was told that three boys escaped the same slide.

The helicopter pilot told Sheriff Brooks he had counted the six bodies during a flight over the scene. Two of the dead were in the Cliff Lake area, killed when a quake sent a cliff hurtling down on them. Another was believed to be in the Wade Lake area. The Sheriff at Virginia City, Mont., did not know where the other bodies were seen. He had no identification of the victims.

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between 100 and 150 people apparently were marooned between the dam and the slide.

Sheriff Donald J. Skerritt and Pilot Al Newby, after an early morning flight over the area, said "a mountain slid into the river." They estimated the slide is 200 to 300 feet high.

They reported the 35-mile long YELLOWSTONE PARK, Wyo. (UPI)—Old Faithful Geyser, one of the major attractions of Yellowstone National Park, was blocked off as a safety measure today by Wyoming rangers in the wake of a series of powerful earthquakes in the park area.

## Muggy Heat Hits Nation; Relief Dim

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS  
Summer's dog days, the season of high temperatures, excessive humidity and short tempers, had a lot of people barking and growling today—about the weather.

Midsummer's stiffest one-two punch took a lot of zip out of millions as the long spell of muggy weather held a sticky grip across the country. The oppressive heat has held fast for a week and longer in many areas. Temperatures daily have soared into the 90s and 100s and above 100 in some sun-baked regions. Little or no relief comes at night, with high humidity showing the discomfort index to the point of "miserable."

Showers and rainstorms have afforded temporary relief. The wet weather has been a daily fixture on the nation's weather map, mostly in the form of showers during the afternoon and evening. Some violent thunderstorms and heavy rains also have occurred during the heat wave.

Monday's weather was typical. Thunderstorms broke out in all of the Southern states from Dagg, Calif. and Las Vegas, Nev., eastward to Georgia and Florida during the afternoon. The heaviest activity was in the warm humid airflow from Texas to southern Michigan eastward into the Appalachians and extended into the Atlantic coastal areas by night time.

Little change in the heat, humidity and showers was indicated for the southern plains and most areas east of the Mississippi River. It was a scorching day in most of the East Monday with readings in the 90s along the Atlantic seaboard as far north as Maine. The mercury bubbled up to 96 degrees at Washington, one degree above the record for the date set in 1938. Most of New England sweltered in 90-plus readings for the fifth day. It was a collar-wilting 95 at Boston.

WEST YELLOWSTONE, Mont. (UPI)—Reported death toll from the Montana earthquakes: 1—Purley Bennett, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, killed in mountain slide seven miles down Madison River from Hebgen dam. 2—Carol Bennett, 17, daughter. 3—Susan Bennett, 5, daughter. 4—Tom Bennett, 11, son. 5 and 6—Two unidentified persons in Bennett tent. 7 and 8—Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Stryker, San Diego, Calif. 9 through 16—unidentified dead in Reynolds Pass on South Fork of Madison River in eastern Idaho. Six bodies recovered.



A SCORPION'S EYE VIEW of three lizard hunters was snapped by Don Kettler Friday. The scorpion, his potent tail hanging at half mast after an exhausting bout with the boys, went to his great reward minutes later. From left, the boys are John Rochon, 717 Lincoln Street; Terry Klawitter, 617 North Ninth Street, and Steve Hamelin, 604 North Ninth.