

BASIN BRIEFS

MRS. CHESTER MAIN, Tule lake district director of Garden Clubs, has scheduled a district executive board meeting Saturday, Jan. 7, at 10:30 a.m. in the Holiday Bowl.

MRS. DORIS SMITH and family would like to thank everyone in Bly and Klamath Falls for being so helpful and considerate during their recent misfortune.

Summer Lake
MR. AND MRS. HUBERT WAGERS and family have returned from Fresno where they visited his father.

MR. AND MRS. VERN MAW and family spent the New Year's weekend in Portland with his par-

4 Children, Mother Die In Flames

RICHMOND, Calif. (UPI)—A mother and four children were killed early today when an unexplained explosion set off a fire which swept through the home of a Richmond restaurateur.

The blaze critically burned a male visitor in the home.

Five other persons escaped as firemen battled the flames.

The victims were Mrs. Marie Malone, 42, and her three children, La Donna, 13, Danny, 6, and Darrell, 4, and a visiting child, Debra Linder, 4, of Nice in Lake County, Calif.

Thomas C. Mansfield, 36, Pleasant Hill, Calif., was taken to Brookside Hospital in San Pablo in critical condition.

Mrs. Malone's husband, Relford, 40, his son, Terry, 9, Debra's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Linder, and Douglas Linder, 4, escaped.

Two firemen were seriously injured in the fire. Fire Capt. George Bryner was in serious condition with a back injury and burns suffered when he fell out of a window while carrying the bodies of two dead children.

Fire Capt. Arthur Anderson was in serious condition from smoke inhalation.

"Suddenly there was a terrific explosion and then a flash fire all around," Malone said. He was reported in a state of severe shock.

Malone told firemen that his family and visitors were listening to records in the living room when the blast occurred. He said he grabbed Terry and Douglas and fled.

Firemen helped the Linders from the home. Mrs. Malone and the other children were trapped in a bedroom.

DEDICATED TO AUTHOR
LONDON (UPI)—Dress designer Charles Creed says in the preface of his forthcoming book "Maid to Measure": "This book is dedicated to my friend Elspeth Brant who wrote it for me."

Legislative Document Cites School Problems

SALEM (AP)—School finance, the size of school districts and what kind of teachers Oregon has are key areas touched on in the legislative interim education committee report.

The two-volume report with a third volume that summarized 24 committee-sponsored legislative measures is at the printers and is expected to be ready about Jan. 17.

The committee recommended a revised method of state school aid and continuation of the school district reorganization law.

There is great variation in the quality of schools as they function and "the single factor that most influences the quality of education offered by a district is the size of the district," it said.

"In virtually all measurable aspects of the school operation... the 'too small' districts are handicapped."

It added this does not mean all large systems are good and all small ones poor. It said the too small district works against odds that include higher costs.

The report said the two most critical issues facing education in Oregon are the quality of school personnel and the outmoded structure of school organization. It said within the limits of school size "the quality of the staff is the most significant determinant of education."

The most influential variable of all is the community's standard of education — a variable beyond the reach of legislation and state finance.

It said both elementary and high school quality isolated directly to the size of the administrative unit.

"While the elementary school

ents.
MR. AND MRS. GEORGE DINUS and son of Weiser were recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Smith.

MR. AND MRS. BOYD MOSIER of Pocatello spent a few days with the Darwin Mosiers.

MR. AND MRS. GUY HAND and son of Klamath Falls were weekend guests of the Delmar Hand family.

Paisley
MR. AND MRS. PAUL AIKINS and children have returned from Klamath Falls where they spent the holidays with the Bob Strickland family.

MARY MORGAN of Toledo was a guest of Mrs. Irene Withers during the holidays.

MR. AND MRS. LLOYD SHOWERS and son visited relatives in Salem last week.

ROBERT BUCKLEY spent the holidays in San Francisco.

COLLEGE STUDENTS who spent the Christmas vacation at home with their families were Ora Banister, Glenda Branch, Glenda Swim, Tom Britain, Dan and Mary O'Leary.

N. California Braces Against More 'Weather'

By United Press International
Northern California braced today for another round of near record cold and possibly some rain.

While most of the nation's cold spots enjoyed comparatively warm January temperatures, Northern California residents suffered through their worst cold snap in a decade.

The eight day long cold siege combined with San Francisco fog to form 3 1/2 inches of ice on some power lines Thursday, disrupting major electrical circuits in the Bay area.

A power company spokesman called it "the worst case of frosting since 1928."

In a side effect of the cold siege the city's huge bay bridge shrank 2 1/2 feet.

Rain fell early today along the Pacific Coast from the Canadian border through Oregon, with the heaviest amounts 2 inches at Newport and Brookings, Ore. The showers were expected to shift to the south later today into Northern California.

Pre-dawn showers also dampened southern Texas and northern Florida, while light snow fell in central Pennsylvania, western New York and upper Michigan.

Light snow mixed with rain was expected today in the northern Rockies, snow flurries were forecast for Maine and rain for the southeastern two-thirds of Texas.

The warming trend was expected to continue through the Midwest and northern Atlantic coastal states, while little temperature change was predicted elsewhere.

Board Refuses Rehearing On Round Butte Dam Issue

ASTORIA, Ore. (AP)—The Oregon Water Resources Board unanimously agreed here Wednesday not to reconsider its decision to grant a permit to Portland General Electric Co. for construction of Round Butte Dam on the Deschutes River.

The request for a rehearing came from the Citizens Conservation Committee on the basis of agreement reached between the United States and Canada on power development cooperation.

The committee, one of several groups opposing Round Butte dam, said this agreement made the dam unnecessary.

The board's legal committee

OSC Scientists To Visit Russia

CORVALLIS (AP)—Two Oregon State College scientists have been awarded grants to travel to Russia next summer to attend the International Biochemical Congress. Dr. Vernon H. Cheldelin and Dr. Tsou E. King will go to Moscow under the sponsorship of the National Science Foundation. OSC officials said.

The congress is usually attended by some 5,000 biochemists from around the world. Both Cheldelin and King will appear on the program.

The two scientists are in charge of several Science Research Institute projects, and hold research grants totaling \$25,000.

Tougher Laws

SALEM (AP)—The state Forestry Board said today it will ask the legislature for tougher laws regulating burning of debris.

The request is aimed especially at garbage dump operations, which the board said caused several fires in recent years.

Educators Visit

SALEM (AP)—Seven educators from Burma, Greece, Italy, Mexico, Venezuela and Pakistan are in Oregon to learn about the state's school system.

They are spending this week at the state Department of Education. Next week, each will be assigned to spend four weeks in a local school.

BEST FORGOTTEN

LUDINGTON, Mich. (AP)—The Ludington City Commission has turned down a request from the Civil War Centennial Observance Committee to appoint a group for city participation. The commission said the Civil War "ought not to be fought over again."

said earlier "there was nothing to be gained" by re-opening hearings.

It now goes to the Oregon Hydroelectric Commission for final approval. The Federal Power Commission has granted a permit. Don Lane, board secretary, said the license will be conditional on flow restrictions to protect fish and the company's commitment to build a new park to replace Palisades State Park, which will be inundated by the reservoir.

Borden Beck, Jr., one of the attorneys for the citizen's group, said in Portland today, "The remedies available to protect the public interest have not yet been exhausted."

The main arguments advanced by the citizen's committee have been the protection of the wilderness and recreational qualities of the Deschutes, protection of fish, and the lack of need for the dam. The 440-foot high earth-fill dam will be located eight miles north-east of Madras on the Deschutes River. The dam will cost \$73 million and will have a capacity of 246,000 kilowatts.

State To Join In Observance Of Centennial

SALEM (AP)—Gov. Mark O. Hatfield yesterday said Oregon will join in a national Civil War Centennial observance that President Eisenhower will proclaim Sunday.

"Oregon made a great contribution to the Union in wealth and leadership," Hatfield said. "Our Oregon senator, Edward Baker, was killed at Ball's Bluff."

"Many soldiers and families from the divided sections journeyed to Oregon and the Far West after the war. Their families and descendants have enriched our state and region for three generations."

Hatfield said the Oregon Civil War Centennial Commission is drawing up a program aimed at providing a better understanding of the war.

Letters, diaries, photographs, maps, firearms, uniforms and other materials pertaining to Oregon and the war period should be sent to the Oregon Historical Society at Portland, he said.

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