# Forest Fire Season Longest On Record

San Bernardino National Forest has had one of the longest fire hazard seasons on record in 1953, and more fires have occurred this year than ever before, Supervisor Ben David said today.

The first fire of the season broke out on Washington's birthday and the latest one was extinguished yesterday.

The fire yesterday was in Lytle Creek canyon near the Applewhite camp grounds, and covered about 70 acres of brush. State and federal foresters fearing bad trouble under the windy conditions then prevailing, hit it hard with 60 men, 14 tankers and five bulldozers. It is believed that children playing with matches were responsible for the outbreak.

Because of the combination of low humidity and strong winds the fire hazard today is still extreme, the chief ranger says.

On the crest of Strawberry Peak fire lookout tower is still manned night and day. Rangers continue to patrol the area, warning people against dangerous burning of trash and other such practices.

This year there have been 147 fires within the forest, eight more than the all time high of 139 in 1948. Of this number, 40 were caused by Mahoney strikes, particularly in the high mountains east of Redlands. Of the 107 man-caused fires, the most numerous were cigarettes, automobiles causing fire, and cabins and other buildings catching fire.

While the number of fires was large, successful suppression operations held most of them to small areas. The average burned this year was 6.012, slightly less than average.

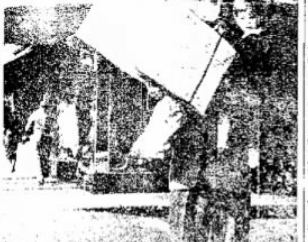
The biggest fire of the year was the Arrowhead fire, which was started by small children who were playing with fire crackers. 30 acres were burned, with damage to property that confronted the state $120,000 and the long-time damage to the watershed looms as a big future cost of dealing with erosion and flood control as a result of the fire, will run into several million dollars.

In spite of the large number of fires, the growth rate remains about been in proportion to the growth in the population of this area, Mr. Dave notes. He believes that the public is generally aware of the cooperation in fire prevention practices. He also attributes the decrease in fire suspected to fire cooperation on the part of the California division of forestry and the city fire departments.

Although the continuance of fire hazard into Christmas week is not usual, it is not here. Forecasts records show that there was an 80 acre fire in Christmas week in 1948.

A continuing threat to the forest area is the prolonged drought. Mr. Dave says. A study of the fire hazard more that 20 to 30 per cent of the vegetation is dead. This means that when fires burn better and faster when they break out and are harder to control.

San Bernardino National Forest comprises the San Bernardino mountains, from Cajon Pass to Whitewater Pass; the portion of the San Gabriel mountains that drain into Cajon pass and onto the Cucamonga desert; the San Jacinto mountains, and the Santa Rosa (south of Indio).



FINAL SHOPPING — Between Christmas and that jumbo package, Hamilton S. Sheppard has his hands full as he passes on Stark street before the candid camera man. "But I'm ready for Christmas," he exclaims. Mr. Sheppard is service-principal at Yucaipa Elementary school and resides at 184 West avenue E.

# Era Of Outright Russian Opposition May Be Ending

By HENRY SHAPIRO

TAORMINA, Sicily (UP)— The Soviet reply to the Eisenhower-Churchill-Laniel proposals is in many respects the minimum that could have been expected from a governmental that has shown signs of readiness to clean up some of the messes in international affairs it inherited from the Stalin administration.

The Malenkov-Molotov regime has not advanced some of the rigidities of extreme Stalinism both in domestic and foreign affairs, and still possesses a considerable flexibility in its relations with the rest of the world.

Indeed, there is some ground for hope that the period of outright rejection of Western views, made classical by the Gromyko-Malik-Vishinsky voices in the United Nations may not last forever.

**Must Have Peace**

Stalin's collective heirs have staked their future on the long range program of internal improvements—such as the tremendous grain reserves—that they must have peace. The success of the program depends on continued peace.

A better international climate, with eventual reduction of armaments would help the Soviets immeasurably to carry out its promise of adequate supplies of food, fabrics and products to the people. Failure to deliver the goods would prove disastrous.

One of Stalin's successor pairwise mistakes was the rejection of the Marshall plan. There is evidence that Stalin's advisers were originally in favor of the plan. They participated in the first Marshall plan conference in Paris in 1947.

**Reversed Position**

Vyacheslav Molotov arrived in Paris with three airplanes carrying some 30 advisers and experts and apparently ready to do battle. After Molotov indicated his favorable interest in the American plan, he suddenly received new instructions from Stalin, after which he reversed his position and walked out of the conference with a sharp blast against the Western powers. The cold war was on.

Premier Georgi Malenkov's less explosive and more level headed government apparently wishes to avoid Stalin's mistakes and can remain thoroughly isolated in the face of American determination to proceed with a revolutionary plan of pooling atomic power for peaceful purposes.

The Russians, like the rest of the world, have little to lose and very much to gain by agreeing to a step which may usher in a new era of constructive diplomacy. It is significant that the Soviet press and radio carried full quotations from Mr. Eisenhower's speech pledging to undertake negotiations in good faith.

## Butler Expects Senate Group To Okay Hawaii Bill

WASHINGTON (UP)—Chairman Hugh Butler said today he believes the Senate Interior Committee next month will approve a bill to admit Hawaii to the union.

The Nebraska Republican would not say what he felt his chances of passage. A number of Democrats have said they will fight the measure.

## SYNTHETIC TIRES

WASHINGTON (U. — The 22 cent increase in the percentage of synthetic rubber in the military tire has saved the taxpayers $10,000,000 and decreased the Army requirements for natural rubber which might be unavailable in wartime. The synthetic rubber cost, as the two-and-a-half-ton all-shaky-ak truck tire has increased to 43 per cent as compared with less than 25 per cent for synthetics, Mr. Brown commercial tires.

# Soldiers Deliver Mail As French Carriers Strike

PARIS (UP)—Soldiers took over the job of mail delivery today as Communist led postal workers quit their jobs in a dispute over Christmas bonuses.

The walkout was ordered last night by the postal unions of the Red led General Confederation of Labor and are independent groups. It was to remain effective until 8 p.m. Thursday, although small workers belonging to the Federation of Christian Unions refused to join.

The CGT and the Independent Postal Federation announced that 95 per cent of the telegraphic services in the United States Telegraphic Center joined the strike. This development chiefly affected the relay of cables from abroad to the private cable companies which dispatch them. Cable transmission itself was not affected.

The strike first hit avenue and deliveries and services at four major Paris railroad stations, and in Marseilles, Nancy and Grenoble. Troops were ready to guard them afterwards at Paris stations to help keep the heavy flood of Christmas mail moving normally.

The bonus dispute in a direct result of the agreement which ended the nationwide postal strike last August. In ending that walkout, the government promised each worker a year end bonus. Thereafter, only 12,000 francs ($34) have been budgeted for each man, whereas the strikers are demanding 20,000 francs ($57) per person.

# $70-Million In Russ Gold Bullion Shipped To Britain

LONDON (UP)— Soviet Russia has shipped approximately 70 million dollars worth of gold bullion to London in the past 30 days in the first pound sterling deal between the central banks of Moscow and London in 17 years, authoritative sources said today.

The gold bars, bearing the hammer and sickle Communist stamp, arrived here by plane, informants said.

It was the largest consignment of Soviet gold to reach the West in many years.

The Russians sent about 17 million dollars worth of gold to Britain three weeks ago, but it went to a firm of bullion dealers. The transaction today was considered as an indication that there was a shortage of pounds sterling in Russia for the exchange of British Commonwealth goods.

The experts said also that there is something approaching a world wide shortage of sterling.

Authoritative sources said that this week's gold deal was the result of a direct agreement between the Narodni Bank of Moscow and the Bank of England here.

## To Finish Expressway By First Of Next Year

RIVERSIDE (UP)—State highway engineers said today continuation of U. S. Highway 395 probably will be completed across Riverside county in expressway standards by the first of next year.

The last link, from March Air Force Base to Perris, is completed except for resurfacing of the old two lanes, the engineers said.

## KENTUCKY TRAPPING

FRANKFORT, Ky. — The fur business may not be as good as it was back in the days of Daniel Boone, but trappers still are making a good thing in Kentucky. The state's trappers were paid $317,510 for hides last year. Payments included $105,063 for 13,262 mink furs and $134,299 for 110,871 muskrat hides.

# *Kaiser Bulletin Says No Smog Damage In Redlands*

"Does smog cause extensive damage to vegetation in the Redlands area?"

C. Van Leuven has a double interest in that question.

1. He has owned an 11 acre orange grove near Redlands for the past 20 years. In common with many other growers he has found that his oranges are of smaller size than they used to be.

2. He is employed at Kaiser Steel—a plant that some local residents claim is smogging up this valley.

So Mr. Van Leuven posed his question for discussion at the program called Employees' Smog Questions Answered. This appears in The Ingot, Kaiser publication for its employees.

Here's The Ingot's answer:

# Sellas Asks For Reinstatement

Percy Sellas, central figure in a long drawn out dismissal hearing before the San Bernardino County Civil Service Commission, yesterday applied for reinstatement as a deputy sheriff.

Appearing before Sheriff Eugene L. Mussler shortly before noon, Sellas fulfilled the necessary requirements as ordered by the Civil Service Commission in its decision following the hearing which started in October and ended the latter part of November.

He asked for and received a leave of absence without pay from the time of his dismissal in May up to Dec. 28 at which time he will return to duty as a deputy sheriff collection division of the sheriff's office.

Sellas was the central figure in the bitter dismissal battle between himself and Sheriff Mueller with Sellas represented by Attorney John Lewis King.

Charges of conduct unbecoming an officer were voiced by five portions of the charges were reduced in severity by the commission, which is headed by Donald S. C. Anderson of Redlands.

The charges against Sellas were made following the trial of Robert Hilbe in last January and February. Hilbe was convicted of killing Jon Esther at their Upland home not now a part of the prison farm for voluntary manslaughter at the California Institution for Men at Chino.

## 16 Receive Pardons, Commuted Sentences

SACRAMENTO (UP)—Gov. Goodwin J. Knight today presented Christmas gifts to 16 men in the form of pardons and commutation of the sentence of one man to time served.

The sentence of Isidore Fleiman, 42, a Nazi war prisoner convicted of kidnaping for the purpose of robbery, first degree robbery and attempted robbery, was commuted to time served. Fleiman, a Polish citizen, originally, committed the crime in Alameda county but presently resides in Bronx, N. Y.

## Hedy Lamar Marries Texas Millionaire

NEW YORK (UP)—Motion picture actress Hedy Lamarr and Texas millionaire W. Howard Lee were married in the Queens County courthouse yesterday by a woman judge and left immediately for Idlewild Airport to take a plane for California.

Miss Lamarr wore a simple black dress, a string of pearls and a white hat for her fifth wedding.

# Pioneer Town To Be Placed On Auction Block

Someone's going to start the new year with a real bona fide wild west town on their hands—that is, if anyone bids in the neighborhood of $80,000 when Pioneertown is placed on the auction block Dec. 30.

The sale will be held at 10 a.m. at the north door of the San Bernardino County Courthouse.

The old West tourist attraction, showplace and movie location will be sold to the highest bidder by the Security Title Insurance Co. The company holds a deed of trust with the 29,000 acre site as security.

The sale was originally scheduled for Thursday morning, but was put off when a complaint for declaratory relief was filed by Attys. Daniel J. Cowett and Charles E. Ward in behalf of Pioneer Studio Locations, Inc.

The complaint was filed against the title company, Pioneertown, Inc., and Pioneertown directors Marcelle Jones and William Murphy.

It asked the defendants be restrained from selling the property until the rights and obligations of all parties concerned can be adjudged and determined.

The problem arises from a 25-year lease on the property taken out by Philip N. Krasne, president of International Pictures, Inc., makers of the Circa Kid film series.

Krasne was to produce films on the widespread acreage under the name of Pioneer Studio Locations, Inc.

On June 30 Jones and Murphy gave notice of default of compliance with terms of a trust deed which had put the town up at security on a $80,000 loan made in 1946 by Jones and Murphy. The interest is now in the neighborhood of $20,000, according to Security Title officials.

Krasne asked for a restraining order on the sale until his rights could be clarified. According to the complaint, his lease on the site was to run 25 years from last Aug. 30. There is due to recall for $900 yearly payments, $25 daily for scenes shot in Pioneertown proper and $10 per cent of the Pioneer Studio Locations' gross proceeds.

The promissory note on Pioneertown was turned out to person listed on Jackson Diggs, Charles Hilton and Leland C. Hilton, the complaint stated.

# *Kaiser Bulletin Says No Smog Damage In Redlands*

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2. He is employed at Kaiser Steel—a plant that some local residents claim is smogging up this valley.

So Mr. Van Leuven posed his question for discussion at the program called Employees' Smog Questions Answered. This appears in The Ingot, Kaiser publication for its employees.

Here's The Ingot's answer:

"No. There is no evidence of extensive damage to agricultural crops in the Redlands area attributable to smog. However, Citrus Experiment Station personnel have found certain weeds, such as wild mint (you smell it), wild oats and lamb's quarter with the characteristic expression of smog damage, as has been found in the Los Angeles area. This would indicate that some of the plant damaging ingredient of the Los Angeles smog do find their way out into this area.

"After the prolonged smog period of 1952, considerable damage was found in the area around the Patton Hospital. Extensive damage was found on lemon leaves, avocado, onion sets and alfalfa," stated Dr. Kendrick.

Here is what he will to define smog damage. It is the silvering, bronzing and spotting that occurs on many sensitive plants. It is attributed to certain chemicals known as ozonized olefins—which are believed to be formed when ozone reacts with the vapor of unsaturated hydrocarbons derived from gasoline and other petroleum products.

Field, horticultural, ornamental and vegetable crops in the south coastal basin from the Mexican border to Ventura and inland as far as Banning—are being injured by smog, the report says. Economic losses are experienced in crops in which the foliage is marketed as a vegetable or especially for human consumption (such as lettuce) or as fresh or dried fruit for human use (such as figs).

The fruits of lemon, orange and grapefruit — though resistant — were damaged during the period of peak pollution period in the Los Angeles area during the fall of 1952.

This last information was taken from an article entitled, "Air Pollution Injury to Crops" by Drs. John T. Middleton, J. B. Kendrick, and W. W. Brandt of the University of California, Citrus Experiment Station, Riverside, Calif.

# Citrus Market

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 23 (UP)—Representative prices by size and grade at orange auction markets today:

126s 150s 176s 200s 220s 252s
9.81 8.60 6.85 5.73 5.07 4.56

No sales made.

Trend: Higher.

NEW YORK (UP)—Citrus:

California navals: 2 cars, mar-kets generally firm; average price 37.56. Lemons: 2 cars, market higher; average price half boxes 60.35.

# Warehouse Full Of Empty Egg Crates Burns

A Fontana warehouse, filled with empty egg crates was burned in Fontana about noon yesterday with a loss estimated at $25,000.

Cause of the fire was blamed through the old Olson Bros. warehouse on Orange way was not known. 1st Fire Chief Guy Kendall and firm Manager Melvin Loros were investigating possibility that the fire originated either through short circuiting of a power line during Monday night's wind, or by smoking or building of a small incendiary fire by vagrants.

Loros said that some 10,000 wooden and from 30,000 to 50,000 fiber egg cases had been stored in the structure, headquarters for the egg distributing firm. Within the past three weeks, four semi-truck loads of materials had been stored in the building, previously belonging to the firm's new warehouse, recently completed, at 1033 W. Randall avenue.

# Youths Rob Cab Drivers

Taxicab drivers seem to be the target of holdup men just now. A few nights ago one was slugged in San Bernardino for receipts. Last night three youths robbed a Fontana taxicab driver of about $6 in currency in San Bernardino. Alfred E. Haswell, San Bernardino, who was robbed a week ago, was again the victim Monday night when about $15 was taken from him by two short, dark men, believed to be twins by officers who investigated.

**RUBBER ROADS**

SINGAPORE — Singapore and other cities in the Malayan federation will have rubber roads. The first stretch will be laid out of a mixture of rubber powder and asphalt will be used.


CHRISTMAS EVE AT 11:00
*Candlelight Service featuring*
"The Childhood of Jesus," a cantata by J. Christophe Bach. Choir and chamber orchestra.
CHRISTMAS MORNING AT 7:30
*Traditional Sunrise Service. Music by children's choirs.*
First Congregational Church
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WELCOME



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News — Color Cartoon



Redlands Daily Facts
4 REDLANDS, CALIFORNIA
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 23, 1953



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"TAKE THE HIGH GROUND"
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"CRAZY LEGS"



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Roast Prime Rib of Beef, au Jus ..... 2.00
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Roast Young Tom Turkey, Dressing, Giblet Gravy, Cranberry Sauce ..... 2.00
Baked Virginia Ham, Pineapple Glace, Candied Yams ..... 1.75
Roast Leg of Lamb, Dressing, Mint Jelly ..... 1.85
Southern Fried Chicken, Corn Fritters ..... 1.85
Fried Jumbo Oysters, Special Sauce ..... 1.85
Individual Chicken Pie en Casserole ..... 1.50
Snowflake Potatoes — Peas or Lima Beans
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Homemade Pie — Perfection Salad — Ice Cream
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