

Huge Woods Fire Still Rages Uncontrolled

Dozers And Planes Pressed Into Fight

By MURROUGH H. O'BRIEN Staff Reporter

A giant forest fire—the largest in its history since the 1947 disaster—continued to blaze out of control Friday night near Whiteville in Washington County.

Several hundred men aided by bulldozers manned lines on the ground as four planes bombarded the flames with water.

WILKINS REPORTED 19 other fires in Maine woods Friday. In addition to the 19 reported Thursday.

The Whiteville fire, which began in a peat bog Wednesday, has blackened about 10,000 acres—more than 15 square miles.

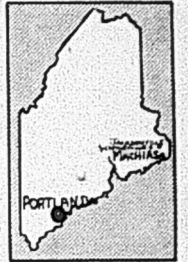
It was moving northwesterly as a four-mile front, having jumped the Machias River and Route 152 during the day. Bulldozers tried in vain to encircle its perimeter with a firebreak.

Maine Forest Commissioner Austin H. Wilkins said two of the fire fighting planes were amphibious types borrowed from the Quebec Forest Service.

They were flying over the front and dropping 1,000 gallons of water on each pass.

WILKINS ALSO SAID the state Saturday would receive 15 portable power pumps and 20,000 feet of hose from New York, Massachusetts and Connecticut under the Northeastern Forest Fire Compact.

He said strategy decisions on controlling the fire were being worked out Friday night at a



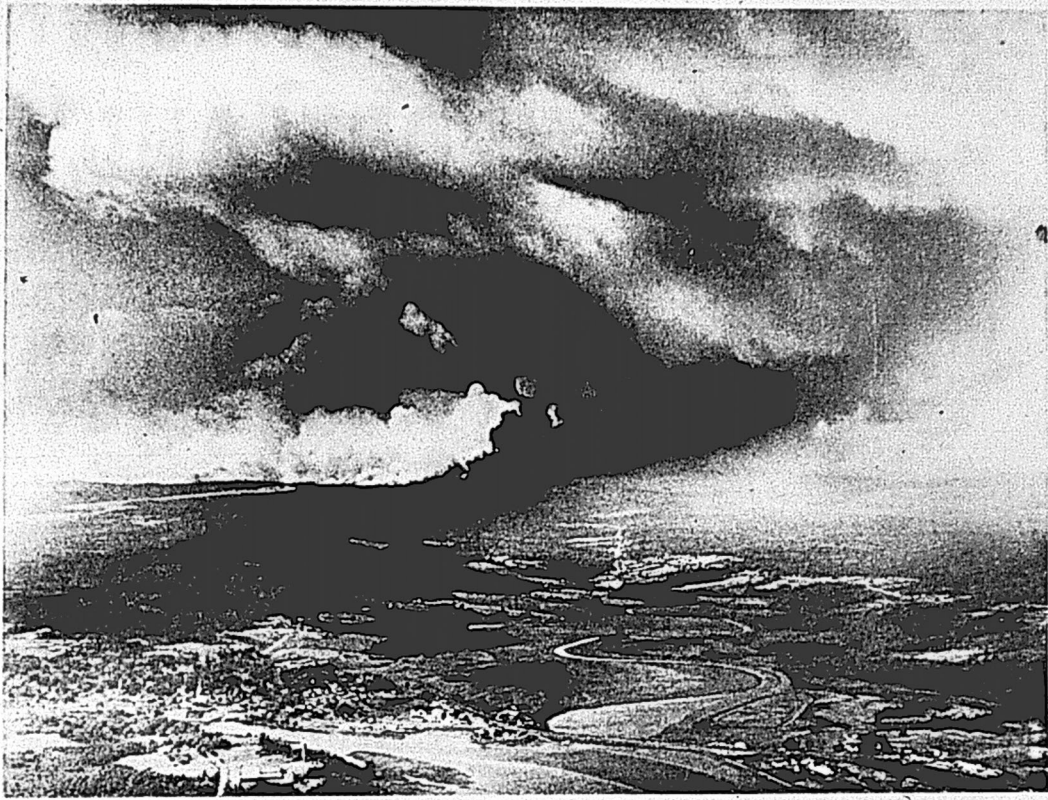
meeting of Forest Service, wardens and officials of the Bl. Reuz Paper Co., which owns much of the land in the area.

Wilkins said a fire was burning out of control in Township 2, Range 12, south of Chescook Lake in Piscataquis County after it destroyed 40 acres of woods.

Two acres of stacked lumber and a stock shed at the Wilton Lumber Co., Wilton, were destroyed in a fire of undetermined origin. The blaze for a time threatened to engulf a Boston & Maine Railroad diesel engine parked on a siding.

A DOZEN OR MORE separate woods fires flared along a three-mile front at Becton, but

(Continued on Page 10; 3rd Col.)



Gannett Publishing Co. Air Photo By Donald E. Johnson

Whitneyville Fire Casts Pall Over Machias

President Signs Historic Negro Voting Rights Bill

WASHINGTON (AP)— Amid the trappings of history, President Johnson signed his Negro voting rights bill Friday and said the struggle for racial equality must turn to "a different battlefield" to overcome legacies of oppression.

Johnson promised swift and certain enforcement to put the ballot, "an important instrument of freedom, into the hands of millions."

He went to the Capitol to address the Cabinet, Congress, civil rights leaders and the nation from the statue, vaulted rostrum, and to sign the bill beneath the ornate chandelier of the elegant President's room.

It was there, 104 years ago to the day, that President Abraham Lincoln signed into law a bill freeing slaves who had been

pressed into Civil War service for the Confederacy.

A statue of a brooding Lincoln was at Johnson's shoulder as he faced television cameras and radio microphones with a message for the nation's Negroes:

"You must register. You must vote. And you must learn, so your choice advances your interest and the interest of the nation."

Johnson's bill is aimed at seven Southern states. It will strike down their literacy tests and similar devices and authorize the federal registration of voters if that is found necessary to open the polling booth to Negroes.

It automatically rules out voter qualification tests— including a literacy test— which require a voter to be able to read and write— in Alabama, Louisiana, Georgia,



Armand A. Dufresne Jr.

Mississippi, South Carolina, Virginia and part of North Carolina.

Those are the areas which used tests for voters in last November's election, and saw less than half their adult populations cast ballots.

Alaska and scattered counties elsewhere also are included.

It authorizes federal registration of voters, if the government finds that is necessary to guarantee Negro franchise rights.

And it sends Atty. Gen. Nicholas Katzenbach into federal court to sue for enforcement. (Continued on Page 11; 2nd Col.)

Bomber Crashes, 12 Killed In Viet

SAIGON, South Viet Nam (AP)— A bomb-laden U.S. B-57 Canberra jet, shot up in a raid against the Viet Cong, crashed and spread war's havoc Friday on a main street of Nha Trang.

A U.S. spokesman said at least 12 Vietnamese civilians were killed.

Elsewhere, other planes, combat troops and U.S. destroyers carried on a campaign officially reported to have inflicted on the Viet Cong in July their heaviest casualties for any one-month period of the war.

A U.S. military spokesman said the Communist guerrillas "may well have lost a division of troops." That could mean 10,000 men.

New Clues Prove Fruitless In Search For Mott Boys

By GENE L. LETOURNEAU Wildlife Reporter

MILLINOCKET—New footprints and a tree catkins failed Friday to throw any light on the disappearance a week ago of Robbie, 17, and Timothy, 3, sons of Mr. and Mrs. George R. Mott, of Rochester, N. Y.

The prints were found near Leder Falls on the south branch of Wasataquoik Stream, about six miles northeast from the

campground where the boys were last seen.

Two parties were scoured the area by helicopter, but the trail proved another dead end.

THE CARVING on the tree was noted by Warden Supervisor Curtis Cooper, of Stockholm, who was searching the sandy stream area with Warden Charles Merrill, a member of the Fish and Game Dept. rescue unit.

There had been many teams of searchers over the same trail since the search began Cooper, noticed the words "Robbie" on one of twin white birches. This was two-tenths of a mile from the campground and on the only trail over which (Continued on Page 10; 1st Col.)

Dufresne And Lessard Nominated For Judges



Alton A. Lessard

AUGUSTA (AP)— Armand A. Dufresne Jr., 56, of Lewiston, be the only Democrat on the superior bench.

He was nominated to succeed Justice Francis W. Sullivan, a Republican from Cape Elizabeth, who retired last month.

The Republican governor said he probably would call a special meeting of the all-Democratic Executive Council later this month as the new Superior Court justices could be assigned in duty in September.

Dufresne and Lessard are Democrats, Spencer is a Republican. (Continued on Page 10; 2nd Col.)

Stogap Bus Solution Hope Pinned On C. Of C. Talks

House Speaker Dana W. Clough, D-Portland, hopes a top-level Chamber of Commerce session Tuesday will achieve a temporary solution to the Greater Portland area's bus dilemma.

If the Legislature convenes for a special session in January, such a solution could help Portland Coach Co. buses running until the legislature could reach a permanent solution.

He said Friday in a letter to Robert L. Travis, Chamber transportation committee chairman.

CHILDREN TOLD Robert L. Travis a legislative conference would keep him from attending the chamber meeting.

He said A. D'Alfonso, Portland, to represent him.

Children added: "Undoubtedly there will be a special session of the Legislature in January and it is my hope that, if legislative action is necessary, that a temporary solution could be reached to forestall any termination of our local bus service until January."

Hope for continued service by Portland Coach Co. could well rest for some time on the chamber session.

Portland Corporation Commissioner B. L. Shur has asked for a delay of a Public Utilities Commission hearing, scheduled for Thursday, until Sept. 2—two days before bus service is to end in Portland. South Portland, Cape Elizabeth and Westbrook.

PUC Chairman Frederick N. Allen said Friday he would decide on whether to grant the delay Monday.

Shur said Greater Portland officials want the delay for "mature deliberations instead of hasty action" on the bus situation.

THIS MIGHT REFER to the chamber session, and the possibility of some merger of continuing service until the Legislature could deal with the situation.

Invited to the chamber meeting, besides Clough, are:

officials of the four communities, the PUC and Portland Coach. Gov. John H. Reed, legislative leaders, representatives of the federal Housing and Home Finance Agency and an administrator of the Urban Mass Transit Act.

The \$73 million transit act might be used to solve the problem. Sen. Edmund S. Muskie has suggested. It provides for the purchase of up to 66 per cent of net operating costs for acquisition, planning and development of transit lines by public bodies.

Others passing the examination were:

Richard M. Brickell and Harry A. Tabenkin, both of Bangor; Reginald E. Burleigh, of Caribou; Nicholas P. Cardwell, of Skowhegan; Samuel G. Cohen, of Waldoboro; J. Peter Thompson, of Houlton; Frederick G. Ward, of Addison; Frank L. Weyel Jr., of Caslin; Thatcher M. Adams Jr., of Prentiss; Fletcher, Robert L. "Jard" Jr. and Peter P. Webster, all of Portland; James M. Cohen, of Lewiston; Bernard N. Duttler, of Sanford; Richard W. Elliott, and Thomas H. McNaboe, both of Cape Elizabeth; Bruce E. Leder and David C. Norman, both of Yarmouth; Richard A. Lord and Patrick N. McTeague, both of Brunswick; Charles E. Morehead, of Augusta; Royce C. F. J., of Washington, D.C.; Justin G. Sharaf, of Raymond; and William A. Wilson, of Medford.

News, Features On The Inside

The Weather
Fair, warm, humid today; scattered showers Sunday. Full report Page 5.

YOU NEEDN'T be a helpless invalid to qualify for Social Security disability benefit. Page 5.

LEJ RECEIVES message from Ghana president urging halt to North Viet air raids. Page 7.

VIET CONG FORMALLY asks active assistance from Hanoi, U.S. suspects a manpower shortage due to success of its attacks. Page 17.

THE CHINESE NATIONALIST NAVY claims that it sank three Red Chinese ships and lost two in a dawn fight off Quemoy. Back Page.

HIROSHIMA CALMLY observes the 20th anniversary of the first A-bomb drop as a typhoon washes out ban-the-bomb demonstrators. Page 8.

Churches	3	Financial	16	Jumble	15	Television	9
Classified	6	Graham	3	Jumble	15	Theaters	8
Crossword	4	Horoscope	15	Letters	12	Town, City	4
Comics	15	Heloise	3	Letourneau	17	News	6
Deaths	2	Heloise	3	Letters	12		
Editorials	12	Horoscope	15	Sports	13	14	

THE LATE SHOW!
Charles Boyer
Ann Blyth
in the sensational mystery
"A WOMAN'S VENGEANCE"
11:15 P.M.
CHANNEL 13

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