

Portland Sunday Telegram

67

Sunday Press Herald

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THIRTY CENTS



Sails Full, Hopes High

The 49-foot yawl Sayonara sets sail from the Portland Yacht Club, Falmouth Foredeck, Saturday in the 31st annual Monhegan Island Race.

and clear skies Saturday made for ideal sailing weather for the 70 competing vessels. The 120-mile race, which is expected to end Sunday afternoon, is divided into six classes this year.

Raging Forest Fire Rigger And Nastier

By MURROUGH H. O'BRIEN Staff Reporter

The Whitneyville forest fire broke through human battle lines Saturday and grew bigger and nastier than ever, frustrating efforts of 300 fighters to contain it.

Forestry Commissioner Austin J. Wilkins said late Saturday, "We've got a very serious situation." He estimated the perimeter of the fire at 15 to 20 miles.

Wind shifts during the day turned the mammoth fire's head toward the communities of Whitneyville, East Machias and Northfield.

Many families were evacuated in the face of this threat. Later westerly winds pushed the fire into timberland away from populated areas.

Wilkins reported flames had

More Fire Photos — Pg. 3A

crossed the fire's (two flanks at several points.

"OUR FLANKS are somewhat fluid now because of these breakovers," he said.

One of the breakovers kindled a secondary blaze to the south of the main fire. By late afternoon it had jumped the Machias River, aided by 25 m.p.h. gusts.

Wilkins warned Maine residents of an impending fire danger all over the state. "The woods are in an explosive condition," he said. "A match or a spark could set them off very easily."

"We are drier now than we were in 1947," the forestry commissioner said.

The fire — the state's worst since 1947 — has consumed over 11,000 acres of brush and timber since it began in a peat bog Wednesday.

Wilkins also reported 18 other fires Saturday, all small and under control.

The first threat to lives and property in the Whitneyville blaze came when winds drove flames toward the hamlet of Northfield — population 33. Some inhabitants were evacuated.

Later another wind shift jeoparded nearby village population 250, and East Machias, population 1,198. The fire later turned away, but not before more homeowners fled their properties.

In Whitneyville, families had Continued On Page 3A; Col. 3

Fire Flight 'Like Passing Gates Of Hell'

EDITOR'S NOTE — Staff Reporter Murrough H. O'Brien wrote the following report after cruising over the Washington County forest fire area Saturday in a Gannett Publishing Co. plane.

Flying over the Whitneyville fire is something between Hell and watching a wide-screen movie.

On one hand, the story is all too real — full of flame and smoke. On the other, you are an observer far away, viewing a scene spectacular, but almost unreal.

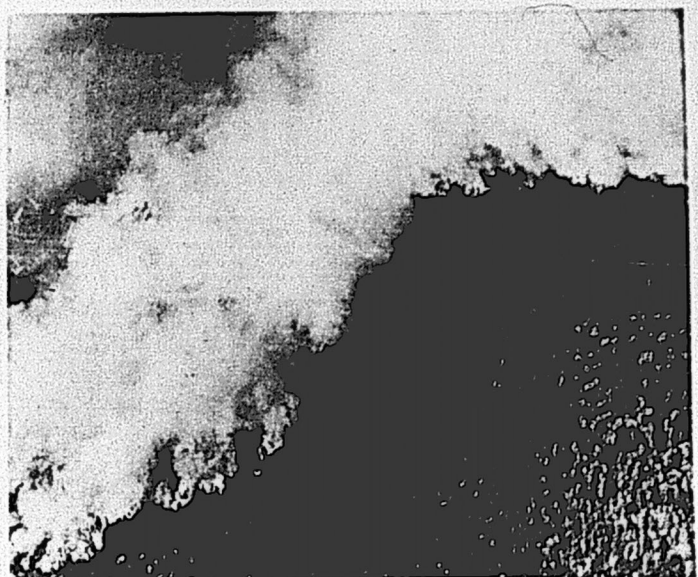
You look down from 2,000 feet and see smoke billowing up from a wide fire front below. Patches of brush and pine here and there belie fluorescent orange flames. A PBY flies over to drop its load of water.

You know there are people in nearby homes trying to evacuate themselves and their belongings — if they already haven't done so. But you can't see them either.

From about 25 miles away the only thing you can make out in the area is what looks like a low-flying cloud on the hazy horizon.

But you soon approach the fire area and know what you saw isn't a cloud. You can see the land below and the smoke rolling up from it.

To the south of the billowing Continued On Page 16A; Col. 6



Woods Holocaust Jumps River

Sunday Telegram Chief Photographer Gardner Roberts flew over the raging forest fire in Washington County Saturday to snap this dramatic pic-

ture of the flames shortly after they had jumped the Machias River near Whitneyville.

Ghana's Appeal Rejected

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Johnson has rejected Kwame Nkrumah's appeal for a halt in the bombing of North Viet Nam, but promised vigorous support for any peace prospect that might arise from the Ghana president's proposed trip to Hanoi.

Presidential Press Secretary Bill D. Moyers reported that Saturday in reply to a special message from the African leader, who is considering a peace-seeking trip to the North Vietnamese capital.

Moyers said, "If President Nkrumah visits Hanoi and arrives at an arrangement which would open the way to peace, he, President Johnson, would of course be prepared to add his full weight to initiatives arising out of the visit."

Moyers announced also that Continued On Page 11A; Col. 6

Military Chief Urges Fight For Decision

WASHINGTON (AP) — Gen. Earle G. Wheeler, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said Saturday night that "we must strive for a decision, now, in Viet Nam."

The top-ranking officer of the American military forces said also that defeat in Viet Nam would compel the United States to establish a line elsewhere in Southeast Asia and to defend it. And he spoke ominously of Red China, "the great power in Asia."

Wheeler, who recently re-Continued On Page 11A; Col. 7

Pre-Season Grid Action Kicks Off Today! NFL PRO FOOTBALL BALTIMORE COLTS INTRA-SQUAD GAME 2:00 P.M. CHANNEL 13

35,000 Sign Petition

Drys Whet The Knife

By WALDO F. PRAY Staff Reporter

Sometime in January or February Maine voters are going to pick the victor in the biggest battle waged between the wets and drys in this state since the repeal of Prohibition.

The race will be set for the battle about Aug. 20 when the Christian Civic League files petitions with the Secretary of State containing nearly 45,000 signatures asking for a referendum on Maine's new Sunday liquor sales law.

Gov. John H. Reed, by executive proclamation, will pick the actual day for the ballot battle.

Both Optimistic

Both sides are optimistic of victory at this point. Benjamin C. Bubar Jr., executive secretary of the Maine Christian Civic League, is convincing when he says, "We sincerely feel that we can win the referendum."

The wets are equally convincing when they point to the consistent pattern of increasing victory margins in local option elections on various liquor questions. The wets cited that pattern repeatedly in their drive to get the Sunday sales law enacted.

Gov. Reed obviously was convinced of the soundness of that argument when he signed the bill with the statement, "It is the will of the majority of the people of this state for this act to become law."

The wets have powerful allies, including the liquor Continued On Page 11A; Col. 6

Check Inside For More Top News

THE WEATHER: Hot and humid. Full report on Pg. 2A.

U.S.-WORLD NEWS: LBJ to hold conference on water shortage . . . Greek King expected to announce crisis solution soon . . . Special Forces still holding out against Cong after 64-day siege . . . Hems up two inches in Paris showings. 1A.

IN MAINE: Cape Elizabeth couple home from Iron Curtain countries tour report happy welcome all round. 8A . . . Phillips youngsters start a Keep Maine Scenic club. 8A . . . Maine manufacturing on rise. 7A . . . Medical school should be at UMP, says solon. 9A.

SPECIAL FEATURES: "Quacks" get \$1 billion a year from U.S. public. 10C . . . Lewiston: Music with a Capital B. 5C . . . Odd Man Out in Nudeland. 3C . . . Bugle and drum corps feature. 3C.

Table with 4 columns: Arts, Books, Business, Classified. Lists various events and prices.

Two Ships In Collision Off Rockland

ROCKLAND—An empty oil tanker and a freighter collided Saturday night off Two Bush Light at the entrance to Penobscot Bay, about 12 miles from here, the Coast Guard said.

No injuries were reported. The ships were identified as the Louisiana Brimstone, a tanker outbound from the Bay, and the Canterbury Leader, a freighter inbound with a load of coal.

The Coast Guard said the forward section of the tanker was badly damaged and a five-foot hole was ripped in the port side of the freighter below the water line.

Authorities said it appeared for a time that the 450-foot Canterbury Leader was in danger of sinking, but Coast Continued On Page 16A; Col. 8

But Some Are Happy Rain In Maine Plainly On Wane

By MARION ROBERTO Staff Reporter

Every dark cloud has a silver lining somewhere, and no one knows it better than the proprietors of business places catering to vacationers.

True, the rain in Maine is plainly on the wane, but the sun is not a sad one to those whose incomes depend on summer visitors or to the visitors themselves.

Maine's severest drought in years is clearly a bonanza to the tourist business.

THE STATE this season has enjoyed unparalleled vacation weather — a matchless abundance of sunny, warm days that has made everybody even

remotely connected with the tourist business happy.

All of Maine except the Caribou area reports dry, pleasant days with blue skies and lots of sunshine. And Caribou has had only enough rain to keep the resort golf courses from browning.

SIX RESORT PROPRIETORS contacted at random report excellent business this season and an ample supply of advance reservations for the next year.

And enthusiastic acceptance of Maine's weather by out-of-state visitors may prompt some of the finest unsolicited publicity the state could hope for

the word-of-mouth kind. Continued On Page 16A; Col. 3

400 Now In Hunt For Boys

By GENE L. LETOURNEAU of the Telegram Staff

MILLINOCKET — The danger of fire outbreak loomed Saturday as another hazard in the disheartening search for two boys missing in sprawling Baxter State Park for eight days.

A limited ban on smoking was imposed in the park by Warden Supervisor Dave Priest at the request of Forest Commissioner Austin Wilkins.

The tremendous woods blaze in Washington County and several other fires in the Maine woods reflected the hazardous conditions.

The hunt for Robbie Mote, 17, and his brother, Timmy, 3, reached a new peak Saturday as upwards of 400 searchers were assigned to areas extending as far as Staceyville, eight miles east of here.

A NEW lead Saturday that two boys answering the description of Robbie and Timmy were seen Wednesday on the Sherman Lumber Road prompted the alerting of 10 searchers to that area. Charles Hilton and Richard Green, both of Skowhegan, said they saw the boys. No clue, however, was unearthed in the area.

The ban against smoking, except near brooks or water during rest periods, was issued. Priest said, not only to prevent a fire, but to forestall an extremely serious evacuation problem should a forest blaze break out in the search area.

A bottleneck developed on the Continued On Page 16A; Col. 1

You're Invited, Friends Calling Clearing Housers! That Big Day's Coming Up

The Portland Press Herald's Clearing House Picnic, which last year attracted 2,000 newspaper readers is off to another booming start.

More than 3,000 Clearing Housers and their friends already have obtained tickets for this year's event, scheduled for Thomas Point Beach, Brunswick, next Sunday.

THE PICNIC, Northern New England's largest, will be conducted again this year. And from that hour until well after twilight it will be the scene of scores of informal family reunions and get acquainted sessions.

Gates of the Thomas Point picnic grounds and beach will open at 9 a. m. And from that hour until well after twilight it will be the scene of scores of informal family reunions and get acquainted sessions.

Those not wishing to take their own lunches may set them at picnicking on the grounds.

There'll be a Hobby Lobby for readers to display a wide variety of collections, which include all types of handcraft, duck decoys, table decorations, paintings, area rugs, needlepoint, hooked rugs and quilting.

And there'll be plenty of entertainment, provided by the Clearing Housers themselves.

FRANCES A. HAPGOOD, Clearing House editor, will be master of ceremonies. She reports that Roy J. Sullivan, North Conway, N. H., folk singer, will be back again with his guitar and a repertoire of new and old songs.

Sullivan has appeared at Eastern Shore Inn, the New Brunswick Inn, Alamo Lodge, The Gables, Wildcat Tavern and the Oren Yoke Inn. He was a featured performer with the Royal Hawaiians in Portland's Eastland Motor Hotel last fall. A naval aviator, Sullivan was graduated from the U. S. Naval School of Music in Washington, D. C. He was a trumpeter in the Pacific Fleet Band which entertained service groups throughout the Pacific Area.

The Thomas Point picnic grounds covers 30 acres. There are parking facilities for more than 2,000 cars and tree-shaded picnic tables which can seat more than 5,000 persons.

All you have to do to obtain tickets is this: Send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Clearing House Picnic, Box 1460, Portland, Maine. Be sure to state the number of tickets you require.

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