

## WARNS AGAINST PASTURE FIRES

Benefits May Be Wiped Out By Danger to Forests, U. S. Aid Says.

Questionable advantages from burning over pasture lands in the early spring may be overshadowed by danger of forest fires, R. H. Grabow, Hoosier National Forest Supervisor, said today.

The fires are set in an attempt to destroy insect eggs and weeds and with the idea that any "burning over" will improve pasture.

Mr. Grabow says fires are often ineffectual and at the same time may lead to destructive forest fires if unattended.

Longtime study of grass fires by Purdue University has shown that pasture that has been burned over shows more tough sedges, wire grass, brush and coarse annual weeds that have been able to withstand the heat.

Although firing a pasture may destroy some insect eggs and weed seeds, better time for firing is the fall, Mr. Grabow says. A much more practical and effective alternative, he says, is to clip weeds before the seeds ripen, or to manage the soil so that a heavy sod is formed.

Forest fire crews and lookouts are being posted throughout southern Indiana for the detection and suppression of fires. Their efforts will be unavailing unless they have the co-operation of tourists, sportsmen and farmers, Mr. Grabow warned.

## Oh, for a Bell at 86



Construction Advances at School 86 . . . Center of ringing question.

## There Was One Handy-Now It's 'Gong With Politician

If an old bell were available, a modern idea would be put into operation at one of the City's new school buildings, now under construction.

Soon after the School Board agreed to build a new School 86 at Boulevard Place and 49th St., complete with cupola, the school P.-T. A. decided it must have a bell.

The bell would announce when the traffic patrol boys had taken their stations and, thus, when it was safe for the children to go to

school. Mothers explained that school was so attractive these days, they couldn't put their children out to play in their own yards before school and expect them to stay there.

They went to a school instead of dallying in the yard and often arrived before the patrol boys and thus before they could safely cross the streets to the school.

The School Board agreed to the bell idea, with two reservations. The bell must be of a size that could safely be installed in the cupola, and it must be of suitable tone and range. In fact, the Board decided that before it could be approved, the bell would have to be brought to a board meeting and "pinged" for tone before the critical ears of the members.

So far so good. All the P.-T. A. now had to do was get a bell. It was discovered by the investigating committee, Mrs. H. T. Perry, 207 Blue Ridge Road, and Mrs. George H. Denny, 4617 Sunset Ave., that new bells cost a great deal more money than was available.

They turned their attention to bells that might be of no use to their owners and which therefore might be acquired at no cost. Almost right away they thought of the Fire Department.

They were told at the Fire Department by Chief Fred C. Kennedy that the Department once had bells on No. 6, 8 and 12 Engine Houses. One of the bells was too heavy, one of the suitable bells had been given to a church years ago, and the other should be available.

The one that remained would be suitable, Chief Kennedy thought, and he had a conference with A. B. Good, schools business manager, about it.

It was arranged for him to look up the bell and, at some suitable time, bring it to a board meeting and ping it for approval.

But the bell is gone. Chief Kennedy said he had an idea some politician had it and that it will show up during the campaign as a noise-maker in a political parade.

Chief Kennedy is so sure it will turn up that way that he is personally going to cast a weather ear for it when the political pot begins boiling.

It may be that the members of the P.-T. A. will do a little non-partisan scouting, too. It seems to be the only way the school will get a bell.

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## SCANDINAVIANS DISCUSS UNITY

Only Denmark, Vulnerable By Position, Stays Out Of Conference.

(Last of a Series)

By HAROLD A. PETERS  
United Press Staff Correspondent  
COPENHAGEN, Denmark, March 21—Neutrality and unity.

Those are the watchwords today in a fearful Scandinavia that was only partly relieved when immediate danger of a new north European war front was ended by peace in Finland.

Norway, Sweden and Denmark look forward to the coming months as apprehensively as mutilated Finland, not at all certain their long struggle to maintain a neutral position will be successful at the climax of European conflict. But one result of the Red Army invasion of Finland has been to bring more sharply into focus the long-debated question of a united northern front.

### 3 Agree to Conference

Sweden, Norway and Finland have agreed to a conference to negotiate a defensive alliance designed to keep their territories intact or to face future dangers together. Denmark, a mere peninsula jutting off Germany, is too vulnerable to enter such an alliance.

In addition to neutrality worries, Sweden, Norway and Denmark view with alarm the cumulative effects of the European war on their trade and shipping, which is essential to their existence. They look for severe hardships in a long struggle. Finland is concerned with reconstruction and the chance to rebuild her shattered life free from the further menace of war.

Like most other countries of Europe, Scandinavia feels the pinch of the war. Living costs have risen, there is some rationing, and taxes have gone up.

### Wages Have Gone Up

Life for the average man is reasonably normal so far, however. There has yet been no appreciable food shortage. The cost of living has gone up between 5 and 15 percent, but wages have been increased as provided by law, affording some compensation.

Rationing has been applied so far chiefly to imported goods such as coffee, tea, coal and benzine. Denmark, which is a sugar producer, rations it to help Norway and Sweden, and also has fixed the price of flour to prevent profiteering.

The unusually severe winter caused the rationing of coal, especially in Denmark, which has lost nine coal steamers at sea since the start of the war and cannot use hydroelectric power, as Sweden and Norway do.

The chief concern of Scandinavia is over shipping losses, which exceed that of belligerent Great Britain by nearly 100,000 tons in the first six months of the war. Scandinavia fears she may easily become a greater loser than all the belligerents combined as the sea war goes on.

Nevertheless, trade with both belligerents continued at about the same level as before the war, although the total cost of imports rose because of higher prices and freight rates and the increased stocks needed for defense. Currencies remained stable against the dollar, although the gold and foreign exchange reserve has been depleted.

Along with its neutrality policy, Sweden has made extensive preparations for passive resistance in case of need. She inaugurated a wide system of air raid precautions, building hundreds of bomb proof shelters in congested areas, as well as strengthening the coastal and northern defenses.

Scandinavia's efforts to maintain neutrality were undermined early in the war by the Oct. 18 meeting of the three kings in Stockholm, but became more difficult as the war progressed. The Scandinavians abstained from voting at the Geneva discussion of the Finnish-Russian problem on Dec. 14, although their sentiment was strong for Finland.

### Abstained From Vote

Despite ceaseless pressure on the Government for intervention, Sweden, to forestall an excuse for German pressure on her exposed Southern Coast, continued to hold to the non-intervention policy. Nevertheless, Swedish volunteers for Finland increased. Some estimates placed the total at 18,000 to 20,000 and there was talk of organizing a Swedish division, complete with Swedish pilots.

Norway's uneasiness also increased because of Russian violations of her border in the far north and the bugbear of Russia's desire for Atlantic ports.

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## 'Kiss and Kill' Slayer Guilty

PHILADELPHIA, March 21 (U.P.)—Dominick Cassetti, 47, a clothes presser, stabbed in his cell today for his dead wife while she was expecting their fourth child.

Cassetti admitted before a three-judge court yesterday that he poisoned his wife, Jennie, while under the influence of a "witch" connected with Philadelphia's notorious murder-for-insurance syndicate.

"I was crying for my wife right hearing yesterday," Cassetti explained at his hearing.

"It is too late to cry now," replied Judge Theodore Rosen. "You kissed her and poisoned her."

Mr. Cassetti gave birth to her fourth child in August, 1937, while convalescing from one of seven attacks of arsenical poisoning. She died the following June.

Mrs. Providencia Miticich, the alleged "witch," has pleaded guilty to a general murder charge and is awaiting sentence.

## PARACHUTE TROOPS WILL BATTLE FIRES

WASHINGTON, March 21 (U.P.)

The Federal Government wants the people warned well in advance that no Martian invasion of earth is expected this summer.

If you see what appears to be a man from Mars come floating earthward don't be alarmed, says the Forest Service, it probably will be just a "smoke jumper" arriving to fight a forest fire.

The resemblance of a "smoke jumper" to what a man from Mars is popularly supposed to look like is said to be striking. The Forest Service described his appearance as resembling "a combination of deep sea diver and grotesque figure from the unknown."

The "smoke jumper's" outfit was developed during successful tests in which the fire fighters from plane to earth in a parachute.

The service is ready to expand that type of fire fighting in roadless sections of national forests.

## Cole Brothers' 'Show Goes On'

ROCHESTER, Ind., March 21

(U.P.)—Zack Terrell, co-owner of the Cole Brothers circus, whose winter quarters was destroyed by fire Feb. 29 with loss of more than 100 animals and many pieces of equipment, said today that full replacements had been made.

Mr. Terrell returned from a trip to the Ringling winter quarters at Sarasota, Fla., and said that John Ringling North, owner of the Ringling circus, had agreed to supply the needed animals and equipment.

The animals are en route to other Ringling winter quarters at Peru and acts of the Cole Bros. show are training in buildings there.

A heated large enough to house the acts could not be found here.

The animals are en route to

## FOREST FARMING NOW BIG INDUSTRY

WASHINGTON, March 21 (U.P.)

—Forest-farming has become a 50-million-dollar-a-year industry in the South and is growing rapidly, according to a Government survey.

The sale of pine for lumber and pulp has provided Southern farmers with an added income. Thousands of acres of pine are being cut over each year to meet the increased demand of mills.

The U. S. Forest Service estimated that 100 million dollars in new capital has been invested in pulp mills in the South during the past four years. That investment included 15 new pulp mills. About 60 such mills are in operation.

The Forest Service warned, however, that pine as a source of income may be exhausted in a few years if trees are not planted on cut-over land. Both the lumber and the mills would lose by failure to replant, the service said.

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