

Brush Fires Ravage

OREGON DAILY JOURNAL

Published In The Interests Of The Oregon Country And Its People

Portland, Ore., Tuesday, March 17, 1964

L.A. Homes

Fizzles

Johnson Proposes Job Corps

WASHINGTON (UPI)—President Johnson, calling for "total victory" in the war against poverty, asked Congress Monday to approve a five-point, \$962.5 million program to help open the doors of opportunity for the nation's

special message the executive proposed creation of a new Federal Office of Economic Opportunity, and a Job Corps Director, Shriver, to

Congress would who

Tuesday

Wind Spurs Blaze; Hundreds Routed

LOS ANGELES (UPI)—and going like hell," said one fire dispatcher. The U.S. Weather Bureau said winds in the area Monday were the strongest ever in Los Angeles and vicinity. Gusts up to 90 miles an hour were reported in Newhall, about 40 miles northwest of here.

Extreme low humidity was also a major problem. In the Newhall area, the humidity was less than half of 1 percent. Rainfall has been below normal, adding to the problems faced by firemen.

The county fire department, attempting to coordinate information from the Whiting Hills and Chevy Chase Canyon fires north of here, said it confirmed four \$50,000 - \$75,000 homes had burned. "There probably are more," a fire information officer said.

ANOTHER semiofficial report listed two houses burned, one in the \$150,000 class, near the Chevy Chase Country Club. One new section of suburban Burbank was evacuated in early afternoon when an extension of the Whiting Hills fire threatened it. Persons in the Chevy Chase and Verdugo Hills area of Glendale, adjoining this city loaded belongings into their cars and fled, but some came back to douse roofs of houses with hoses.

"It looks as if the whole mountain is on fire," said one resident.

The two main burns by early afternoon destroyed more than 3,000 acres, with no hope for control because of increasingly high winds which made it difficult and sometimes impossible to use borate bombers. At least two of the more than 500 men on the fire lines were injured in the first few hours of the fire fight.

A SMALL fire department helicopter crashed in an abandoned school yard but the pilot escaped injury. The accident was blamed on the wind conditions.

The fires, burning southwesterly, covered a wide area of Hollywood and West Los Angeles to the ocean with brown pall of smoke and soot that obscured the sun.

The wind blew some of the smoke away from downtown Los Angeles.

Both major fires which started north of Glendale apparently were caused by sparks from wires downed by the wind.

ONE FIRE in Chevy Chase canyon in the San Rafael Hills extended on a one-mile front in a heavily populated area that bordered on Glendale City College. The students of the college assisted in fighting the fire, although the flames apparently posed no threat to the school.

This blaze moved toward the Eagle Rock section of the city of Los Angeles which has extended fire fighting assistance.

The northeasterly winds channeled flames on each side of Gladys Mountain Avenue toward Canada and Verdugo Drives.

The so-called Whiting Woods area in Verdugo Mountains was the second major front. It was concentrated in a less populated area, but moving along a broader front of approximately 3 miles through Elmwood Canyon.

"BOTH FIRES are still wild

BPA Plan To Defer Hike OKd

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Interior Secretary Stewart L. Udall announced Monday he has conditionally approved a Bonneville Power Administration recommendation for a one-year postponement of a proposed rate increase.

In Portland, Ore., home of the agency, BPA Administrator Charles Luce said he is mailing to all customers a proposed contract amendment which will serve as the basis for a one-year delay in any BPA increase.

UDALL SAID the rate increase would be postponed for one year if all BPA customers sign the contract amendment.

At least three things could change the need for a rate boost, Udall said. The most important would be the proposed power intertie between the Pacific Northwest and the Pacific Southwest. Another would be the proposed treaty with Canada to develop the upper Columbia River.

The contract amendment would permit BPA to maintain its present rates for an extra year, he said, until a rate increase would be filed with the Federal Power Commission in December, 1965.

BPA HAD announced plans to file with the FPC in April a new rate schedule raising its rates an average 8 1/2 per cent effective this December.

The delay comes about because of the potential new customers from the Pacific Northwest - Pacific Southwest and the North Columbia development market.

Tualatin Bill Started

WASHINGTON (AP)—A bill to authorize the Tualatin reclamation project in Washington County, Ore., was introduced in the House Monday by Rep. Walter Norblad, R-Ore.

Norblad said the \$19 million project would provide flood control benefits, municipal and industrial water supply as well as irrigate 17,000 acres.

"While the White House has not as yet approved the project and sent it to the Congress, I feel it wise to get the legisla-