

About two-thirds of the farms in Alaska have home freezers—and some surely must belong to Eskimos. Only half of the farms in Hawaii have freezers, however.

False blackleg is a new disease of calves. Call the veterinarian if you note its symptoms: Swelling under the skin, lameness, loss of appetite, rapid breathing and depression.

FOREST FIRES

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March, which we think of as the windy month," Wicker said—has served to dry out woods and fields to a dangerous condition.

Largest fire of the past few days in Moore was one which swept into Little River township from Fort Bragg, burning over about 200 acres in the Lobelia section and keeping the firefighters busy from about noon to 10:30 p.m. A cabin belonging to Hoyt Caddell was destroyed and numerous dwellings were threatened, but, thanks to the help of the Vass volunteer fire department and the Cameron department with its county-owned truck, the fire was kept away from them.

"The people of the community were just fine, too," the ranger said. "They worked with us side by side in large numbers and I don't know what we would have done without them." The Bragg firefighters couldn't help, he added, "as they had enough fires of their own."

A suspicious circumstance has been four fires in a row, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sun-

day, all on land belonging to John L. "Dink" Frye near Robbins. "It looks as though these were set on purpose, with malice, and we are investigating," Wicker stated. Prompt action kept the fires from spreading far and they burned over altogether some 25 acres.

While the Lobelia fire was going on the Forest Service crews were summoned to several others, including one on the Laverne Barber place on Carthage Star Route, where about four acres were burned over. Other fires of the weekend included one Saturday morning on the Lacy Patterson place behind Paint Hill Farm, between Southern Pines and Aberdeen; Easter Sunday, one on

the edge of Pinebluff, and Easter Monday, another at Pinebluff which, Wicker said, "was one of the toughest we had to deal with. It started near the lake and we kept it confined to the swamp, jumping on it every time it popped out of the edges. The trouble was we couldn't get any equipment into the swamp to fight it at the source. We worked on that fire all afternoon and until late at night." It burned over a total of some 75 acres.

While no buildings, except for the Caddell cabin on Little River, have been destroyed so far, and few even threatened, the fires have destroyed thousands of dollars of good timber both in the pine country and the hardwood

areas of upper Moore.

"Most of the fires seem to start along the edges of paths and country roads, where people pass by, and are due to someone's thoughtlessness and carelessness," Ranger Wicker said. "The big outbreak of them this week may be because of the holidays and spring weather, which has brought out the schoolkids, campers and fishermen. A lot of people don't seem to realize just how dry things are and what a danger state our woods are in."

"We are urging everyone to be extra careful with cigarettes and matches—and keeping our fingers crossed for rain."

Filter Unit Helps Vass Water Crisis

A filter unit from Fort Bragg, processing water from Little River, has temporarily relieved the acute water shortage that forced drastic restrictions on water use in Vass for several days, starting Saturday.

The town, with water troubles for years, has voted for a bond issue to construct a plant that would treat water from Little River, but, said Mayor Hugh McLean this week, it may be a year before the plant is in operation.

Students were dismissed from Vass-Lakeview School at noon Tuesday, because of lack of water.

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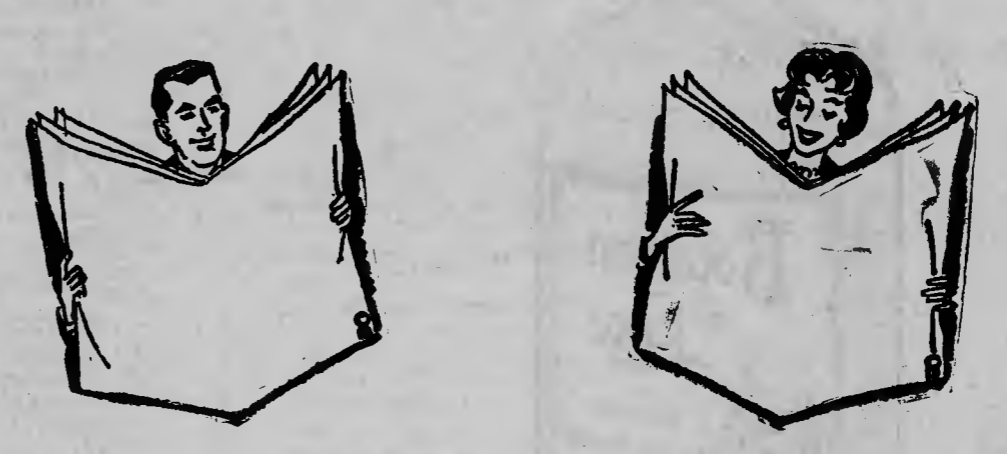
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