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THE WAYNESVILLE MOUN AINEER

Snite Goes to Lourdes Shrine



Frederick Snite, Jr., and his parents

Off for Lourdes, France, the shrine which is noted for many miraculous cures, Frederick B. Snite, Jr., the "iron lung" youth, is shown with his parents in New York. This is the first time Snite's mother has been photographed, although the always travels with him.

Device For Calculating Forest Fire Hazards Invented By Tar Heel Expert

and credit could not be rightly placed

to the educational program.

While rulers and statesmen are the fire hazard for that particular concentrating on more effective ways region during the good record period of destroying human being and prop- had been very low, or non-existent, erty to win wars, the Appalachian Forest Experiment Station at Ashe-ville, and other units of the United States Forest Service, have been experimenting with new means of fighting forest fires that do millions of dollars of damage annually.

Only recently one of the most sen-sational steps in this direction has been made by Dr. George M. Jemison, assistant forester of the experiment station, with the introduction of the "fire danger meter." The little pasteboard gadget that could be easily mistaken for the sliding card that aids in keeping bridge scores is being hailed in forestry circles as the answer to a prayer of many years for a device to standardize fire hazard prediction so that a more intelligent approach may be had to preventive measures.

Several Factors Forest experts have long agreed on the important contributing factors in calculating fire hazards and have used intricate systems for measuring these. But until development of Dr. Jemison's fire danger meter, there was no satisfactory method of coordinating these factors and alloting to each a standardized weight in predicting the degree of forest fire danger for a given day. Given the identical observations on which to base their forecasting, a half dozen seasoned forest rangers might come out with half a dozen different predictions because each had considered the same factors of different importance in reaching his decision.

To eliminate this personal element

Brief News Items FROM **State And Nation**

QUINTS TAKE SHOW WHEN PRESENTED TO ROYALTY

The Dione quints literally took the show when they were presented to the King and Queen this past week. months, a group of 22 prominent bas Hours had been spent in coaching the ness and professional and religing famous five little girls, who will be 5 years old Sunday, on how to ap- by 8,802 voters, were succesful proach the English rulers. They did getting an election called in Buncomb as they had been told, and for good county on July 25 for a vote on the measure hugged and kissed the Queen establishment of ABC liouur store which was not scheduled. Queen Elizabeth, equal to the occasion, gave each BILL PPASSED TO INCREASE a kiss. They spent 19 miuntes with

mate of fire hazards for various regions of a state would enable Gen- \$773,420,241 naval appropriation hill eral Assemblies and Congress to more This is the largest peace-time bill intelligently estimate the needs and be passed. Funds were set aside f_0 proportion for prevention fundscutting down on areas that need less ships, including two 45,000 dread, protection and devoting more effort naughts and 500 combat planes. towards fire prevention in more hazardous regions. Then, it follows that data can be built up over a period of years to indicate more accurately

which seasons of the year the forests should be closed to the public, or extreme caution taken, and to determ- would have to plank down somewhere ine whether more stringent legislation is needed for special belts. Num- reason of the visit of the King and erous other avenues of usefulness Queen of England in this country in have been opened to foresters by the device, and forestry experts agree that Dr. Jemison has made an im-

Another Use portant contribution to fire preven-Too, an accurate day-by-day esti- tion and fire-fighting.

THURSDAY, MAY 25, 1939

the King and Queen. The Quints had their first train ride down to Tronte, which was also their first trip away from their home. After the presentation of the five

little girls, their father, entered suit against Dr. Dafoe, claiming that the famous doctor had slandered him by the part he played in a entertainment given recently. The amount of the suit was not disclosed,

BUNCOMBE TO VOTE ON ABC LIGUOR STORES ON JULY 25

Climaxing a quiet, but, persistent campaign over a period of several leaders, armed with petitions, signed

STRENGTH OF NAVY

The senate did away with the en pected debate, and passed a record the initial construction of 23 new

BELIEVE ROYALTIE'S VISIT

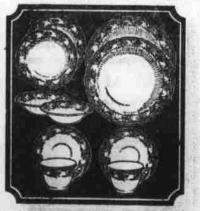
WILL COST U. S. ABOUT \$15.000 Officials in the state department sharpened theirs pencils, and figured that the United States government near \$15,000 to pay the bills made by the next few weeks.

The pen may still be mightier than the sword, but the problem seems to be putting Hitler in a pen.



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n integrating the fire danger factors Dr. Jemison devised his danger meter. By means of its hardboard "slide rule" agreement is assured when several men observing the same conditions endeavor to rate fire separately. The meter integrates measurements of the several variables into five classes-Class No. 1 representing no danger and Class No. 5 the most extreme sort of danger.

Forest experts generally agree that the degree of fire danger is dependent upon the following factors: fuel moisture content, average wind velocity, season of the year, condition of the lesser vegetation, and the number of days since the latest rain of more than one-half inch. When all of the data connected with these factors have been collected, the "slide rule" of Dr. Jemison's fire danger meter can be quickly and easily adjusted to take all of them into conideration, and to show at a glance the degree of fire danger for the day more accurately than years of research and experience. The meter hows, in addition, the probable degree of danger for the following day -an even more important accomplishment.

Widely Used

Although completed only a few months ago, the fire danger meter is already being used in fifteen national parks, eight different states, two national forests and one Indian reservation in the Appalachian region. Tests are underway to determine the usefulness of the meter in the constal belt of the Southeast also.

The meter is most important, of course, for standardizing predictions, enabling forest rangers to prepare for fire by shifting fire-fighting crews to areas that the forecasts show are at greatest hazard at that particular time. But there are also other valuable uses to which the gadget is put. For instance, forest officials can now gauge the value of educational programs in fire prevention among different groups. Should a sharp reduction in the number and intensity of fires follow a concentrated program on the subject, the natural assumption might be that the effort had been highly fruitful-and, indeed, it might be. But, with the aid of the fire meter, it might be determined that

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