



Water Shortage In East Oregon Now Predicted

PORTLAND — Most eastern and central parts of Oregon will have critically short water supplies this year and streams in all of the state will be below normal, the Weather Bureau and Soil Conservation Service forecast Wednesday.

Snowfall and valley precipitation has been far below average, the report said.

The water content of mountain snow cover averages 81 per cent of that of the past 10 years and is only a little more than half of that of this time last year. The snow above 5,000 feet, the report says, has three-fourths as much water as usual while that below 5,000 feet has 92 per cent of average water.

The amount of snow in the Cascade Mountains and in the Sprague, Goose Lake, Chewaucan and Warner Lake basins is 80 to 90 per cent of average. In other parts of the state the snow cover varies from 54 to 78 per cent of average.

At no point in the state did January precipitation come up to normal, and most places it was no more than half. The least precipitation in December and January was in the Upper Deschutes area at 34 per cent. The heaviest precipitation in those two months was 76 per cent in southeastern and 71 per cent in south-central Oregon.

In 21 important Oregon reservoirs the water stored is 40 per cent less than it was last year at this time and 85 per cent of the 10-year average. Six of these reservoirs are at 50 per cent of average. They are Owyhee, Warm Springs, Unity, McKay, Fern Ridge and Emigrant Gap reservoirs.

Streamflow is expected to be below normal throughout Oregon except in the Applegate and Illinois rivers of southwestern Oregon where the flows are expected to be slightly above normal. Streams whose outlook is for only half of normal flows are in the Crooked, Silvies, Owyhee, Malheur, Burnt, Powder and Imnaha basins.

Elsewhere the stream flows will range from 70 to 95 per cent, the report says.

TIRE CHAINS NEEDED

SALEM — Tire chains are required because of packed snow at Santiam Pass and Sunset Summit, the Oregon Highway Commission said Wednesday.

The commission added that chains should be carried at Government Camp, Timberline, Warm Springs Junction, Ochoco Summit and Austin.

Oregon Voter Editor Gives Reminiscence Of Events At Legislature 50 Years Ago

(Editors note: We asked C. C. Chapman, editor of the Oregon Voter who has covered the Oregon Legislature for 50 years, to reminisce a bit and tell about the changes he has seen. "Chapman," who was 79 years old Wednesday, is taking over the Salem column for this week.)

By C. C. CHAPMAN
Written for The Associated Press

SALEM — There is quite a contrast between the 1955 Legislature and sessions of 50 years ago. Before the 1905 session, which was the first one I covered in Oregon, and for a few years afterward, supporters and opponents of legislation passed out money to legislators rather openly. Some of these so-called fees were small; in other cases, larger sums changed hands.

In my first Oregon session, some Portland business men raised some money in behalf of an entirely proper measure. I was present when one of the businessmen's committee was given \$100 to influence a senator. He brought back \$35 change.

Another senator usually sold out both ways. When those for and against finally caught on, they paid him by check. After the senator voted, the losing side would step to a telephone and cancel payment on the check they had given.

Publisher Held For Contempt

NEW YORK — Albert E. Kahn, one of the publishers of a book by Harvey Matusow, former Communist who said he gave perjured testimony at the trial of 13 convicted Communist leaders, was adjudged in contempt of court Wednesday.

Federal Judge John W. Clancy sentenced Kahn to six months imprisonment for refusing to produce before a federal grand jury certain books and records concerning the Matusow book.

Kahn, 42, of Croton-on-Hudson, N.Y., is a member of the Manhattan publishing firm of Cameron & Kahn, Inc. He and his partner, Angus Cameron, were subpoenaed to appear before the grand jury Tuesday and Wednesday.

Despite orders from Judge Clancy, Kahn Wednesday refused to comply with a grand jury request that he produce correspondence between the corporation and Matusow, contracts between the firm and Matusow, and other records concerning the book.

Both of these senators served several terms. They later became prominent in affairs of state.

A. L. Mills was speaker in 1905. He won the Republican nomination because the gas company franchise was about to expire, and its renewal was opposed by a Portland editor who had been getting free gas. After the bitter battle, the bankers won in their fight for the franchise, and the editor had to pay his gas bills after that.

With the coming of the direct primary, nominations by political machines became discredited and usually were beaten. These popular victories deprived the Legislature of many of its leading members.

The newer members knew less about how to carry on, and the bribery practice largely disappeared.

In the years from 1910 to 1920 bribery was almost wiped out.

Movie magnates came to the 1925 Legislature with money to buy votes against a bill introduced by a preacher who wanted to curb movies. The big movie men displayed their currency. The preacher's bill was beaten on its merits, but a few thousand dollars changed hands in the process and helped grease the way.

In recent sessions there have been two or three legislators who were suspected of being open to

bribery. One former member was suspected, with some success, but without the slightest outcome on legislation.

Recent sessions have had membership of very high quality on the whole, especially from many districts outside of Multnomah County. Occasionally a few good men have been elected from Multnomah.

The present session includes many who are highly competent, being men of substance and established reputation.

There is a higher percentage of inexperienced legislators. But on the whole, all are well-disposed. Legislation is being considered on

its merits. Perhaps the least competent member of any session was a Multnomah member. He had been a candidate for a federal job, but the government told him he had to file an application. The old chap thought this meant he had to file for an office, so he turned up on the last filing day and ran for the Legislature.

But his party committee couldn't locate him to levy a party assessment. I finally identified him as a swamper in a Fourth Street resort in Portland.

But he was nominated and elected.

He came to Salem and took a

room at a hotel, having been given a new suit of clothes by party politicians in Portland. I was staying at the same hotel.

My hotel bill was rendered every two weeks. When the first bill came, I was astonished at its size, and asked to see the charge slips. I found that many of them had been signed with a big round hand with my name.

I recognized the handwriting as that of the new member, so I suggested that he sign another name.

The old chap meant well, but he just got confused as to who had paid him a small fee, and often he voted the wrong way.

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