

WEATHER

Mostly fair through Tuesday except patches fog or low clouds in valleys; high 32-42 except 25-30 fog areas; low tonight 12-24.

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LA GRANDE OBSERVER

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SWEETS FOR THE SWEET

Theron Ham, member of Club No. 24, Junior Old Timers, passes out candy to lucky little girl aboard the Streamliner when the La Grande group played the role of Santa Claus during the Christmas holiday weekend and distributed gifts to every passenger and train crew member.

TRAIN GROUP PLAYS SANTA

La Grande's Junior Old Timers played Santa Claus over the weekend to a trainload of amazed passengers aboard the Union Pacific Streamliner, handing out 180 sacks to those aboard, including the crew members.

Assisted by St. Nick, the Old Timers passed completely through the Streamliner, their work made a little lighter by the traditional Christmas carols by the volunteer girl members of the local high school Girls Chorus.

Some 50 girls appeared with the Junior Old Timers over the weekend to a trainload of amazed passengers aboard the Union Pacific Streamliner, handing out 180 sacks to those aboard, including the crew members.

Trains No. 11 and No. 12 also were on the receiving end when the group met those two passenger trains on Christmas day and distributed treats to all aboard.

Headed by Junior Old Timers' President A. W. Halliday and his wife, those assisting were Betty Johnson, president of the auxiliary, and her husband; Jim Gerry, John Franks, Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Marsin, Mrs. L. L. Knight, Les G. McMahan, Theron Ham, Henry Bates, Robert McClay and E. F. Thompson (Santa Claus).

Savage Winter Punch Adds Misery To Holiday Travel

Train Derailed By Landslides

SEATTLE, Wash. (UPI) — A train load of 180 holiday travelers, riding in a train escaped death or serious injury late Sunday as two huge landslides crashed down on the Great Northern Railway's Empire Builder on the outskirts of town here. Nine cars were derailed.

The two slides, which struck 20 minutes apart, knocked the four-unit diesel engine and a combination mail and baggage car into the waters of Puget Sound. At least six crewmembers and four passengers were injured but most of the injuries were considered minor.

Great Northern officials said the first slide halted and partially derailed the 13-car Chicago-bound streamliner. The second compounded the damage.

A combination mail and crew dormitory car was buried to the windows on one side by the slides but it did not follow the mail-baggage car into the chill waters.

DRIFTING SNOW STRANDS MOTORISTS IN MID-WEST

By United Press International

The nation's midlands took a one-two punch from winter today that stranded holiday motorists along snow-clogged highways and planted a four-engine airliner on a sod runway.

There was more weather to come. Blizzard conditions are forecast for eastern Nebraska and South Dakota, western Iowa and southwestern Minnesota. A storm dumped eight inches of snow in Nebraska and Missouri and left a trail of winter misery that dipped into the Texas Panhandle.

A United Air Lines plane with 39 passengers aboard made an unscheduled landing at Council Bluffs, Iowa, at midnight, when the pilot lost momentary contact with the neighboring Omaha, Neb., airport.

The mishaps brought Oregon's 1959 total to 477, just 5 short of the all-time record of 482 set in 1946. The weekend toll also made 1959 the second worst traffic death year on record in Oregon. The previous second high was 468 in 1957. Last year's toll was 449.

Victims of the accident near Waldport were Mrs. Lavone Hyde, 28; a son, Randy, 5, and Mrs. Jean Townsend, 35. The husband, Lloyd Hyde, was injured critically.

Others hurt but not critically, were Mrs. Townsend's son, Thomas, 14; Kathy, another child of the Hydes, and Lloyd Hyde's brother, John, 29, Powers.

State police said the car occupied by the Hyde brothers was going south and apparently went out of control, veering into the northbound lane. The car skidded 162 feet before striking the one driven by Mrs. Hyde, police said.

Ronald A. Bell, 27, North Bend, died Sunday in a one-car accident on Highway 38 about three miles west of Elkton when the car left the road and overturned.

Bobby Jones, 16, Pendleton, was killed Sunday near Pilot Rock when the car in which he was a passenger rolled over after failing to negotiate a curve. Stanley Horsman, 20, and his brother, Gary, 18, received minor injuries.

Emery Dennis, 15, Eugene, died Saturday when the car in which he was riding left Highway 36 and plunged into the Siuslaw river. Four other persons made it safely to shore.

Dean Austin, 21, Portland, a Marine home on Christmas leave, was killed early Saturday when struck by a car just north of Portland while he was inspecting a flat tire.

John Williams, 24, Oswego, was killed Saturday morning in a two-car accident north of Oswego. The first victim of the long weekend was James Mores, 53, Nyssa, killed Christmas eve when struck by a car while crossing a street.

ADENAUER RECOVERING BONN, Germany (UPI) — West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer is recovering quickly from a bad head cold which put him in bed last Thursday and probably will be back at work Tuesday, his doctors reported.

AGREEMENT REACHED BAGHDAD (UPI) — The Soviet Union has agreed to set up 10 technical centers in Iraq to train students in the fields of metallurgy, oil and textiles it was announced Sunday.

Police Check Theft Of Television Set LA GRANDE (UPI) — The La Grande police today are investigating the theft of a portable television set from Bill Bebout, 1908 1/2 Adams Ave. Bebout told police the set was taken sometime between 6 p.m. Thursday and 10:30 Sunday night. The set was valued at \$220.

Wallace Ivan Miller, 2017 Washington, Ave., was cited for a red light violation at Depot Street and Adams Avenue at 6:50 Saturday night. Miller's bail was set at \$10 and a hearing scheduled for Wednesday at 3 p.m.

ALBANY, N. Y. (UPI) — New York Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller was under strong pressure today to accept the number two spot on the GOP ticket in 1960 while Democrats viewed his withdrawal from the presidential race with hopeful optimism.

Rockefeller became the overwhelming favorite for the Republican vice presidential nomination with his announcement Saturday that he was bowing out of the presidential race.

Republican quarters viewed the move as an open door to the White House for Vice President Richard M. Nixon.

Democrats claimed Rockefeller's withdrawal boosted their chances for capturing the presidency in 1960. They said Nixon would be an easier candidate to beat than Rockefeller.

Pressure From Party A nationwide survey by United Press International indicated Rockefeller would be under ever increasing pressure from within the Republican party to accept the number two spot on the GOP ticket.

Republican strategists believe a Nixon-Rockefeller ticket would be almost unbeatable.

However, Rockefeller has repeatedly stated that he would not accept a bid to run for the vice presidency. He stated as recently as last Saturday that he would not "at any time entertain any thought of accepting" the vice presidential nomination.

Rockefeller's apparently adamant stand on the issue could disrupt hopes for a Nixon-Rockefeller ticket. Rockefeller has a reputation for meaning what he says.

Oregon Tallies 9 Deaths

By United Press International A car driven by a Waldport man was involved in a collision with one driven by his wife Saturday. Three persons, including the wife, died in the worst accident of Oregon's Christmas holiday weekend.

At least nine persons were killed in traffic from 6 p.m. Thursday to midnight Sunday, although none of the deaths occurred on Christmas day itself.

The mishaps brought Oregon's 1959 total to 477, just 5 short of the all-time record of 482 set in 1946. The weekend toll also made 1959 the second worst traffic death year on record in Oregon.

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Ike Agrees To May Meeting At Summit

AUGUSTA, Ga. (UPI) — President Eisenhower agreed today to join in a proposal for a summit conference at Paris in mid-May.

He also summoned 10 high government officials to a conference here Tuesday to discuss the government's nuclear program in 1960 along with other foreign and defense policy matters. This meeting presumably will deal with the current ban on testing nuclear weapons, which expires this week.

In the first working day of his year-end holiday visit here, the President conferred with Secretary of State Christian A. Herter by telephone about dates for the proposed summit meeting.

The United States, Great Britain and France originally suggested a meeting at Paris to start April 27. Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev agreed to a meeting but suggested April 21 or May 4 instead, dates which conflicted with plans of the western nations.

White House News Secretary James C. Hagerty said Eisenhower had advised Herter that a meeting in Paris in mid-May was satisfactory if Britain and France also agreed.

Hagerty said the proposed date probably would be May 16. He denied reports that agreement on that date already had been reached but said "there is no obstacle to that date as far as we're concerned."

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Small Dairy Herd Testing Changes Affect This Area

Eastern Oregon counties will be affected by a change in the annual testing of small dairy herds, the State Department of Agriculture has informed The Observer.

Due to a cut in funds, the department has ruled that only state or federal vets will be used in the annual testing of herds not reached by the milk ring test.

Testing of dairying operations ranging from one to five cows and all resting of infected herds must be done by state or federal veterinarians.

Eastern Oregon counties are most affected because they are not designated as primary dairy counties. Previously the minimum dairy herd was tested by the private veterinarians.

If an emergency exists and it is impossible for a state or federal veterinarian to do the work, owners may apply to the department in Salem for permission to have another veterinarian do the testing.

Dr. L. E. Bodenweiser, state veterinarian, also said that anyone wishing to have one cow tested on an annual basis, or at the time of sale or trade, must secure the services of any pay for a private veterinarian.

Complete testing of small dairy herds in Union County was completed some three years ago and the next testing program is not due until the summer of 1960.

Previous testing was handled by La Grande Animal Clinic.



Earl Thompson, dressed as Santa Claus, waves holiday greetings to all during holiday weekend festivities embarked upon by the Junior Old Timers of La Grande. Old St. Nick was loaded down with a bag of goodies which he distributed among passengers and crew members of the Streamliner here at the UP depot. His work was made easier with assistance from a large contingent of Club No. 24 members and their wives and some 50 members of the Girls Chorus from La Grande High School.

Lonesome Little Girl Happy With Gift From Railroaders

ENTERPRISE (Special) — A group of Union Pacific Railroad men this week made the Christmas of little Gail Aschenbrenner, Rt. 1, a bit happier.

Gail, only five years old and on the lonesome side since she lives in the country about half-way between Enterprise and Joseph, breaks up her monotony by waving at the railway men whenever the train passes her house.

Her spirit of friendship for the railroad men did not pass unnoticed. Just before Christmas, the train stopped and a group of UP men hopped off and presented the "girl with the smiling face" a beautiful bride doll.

The card attached to the doll read: "To the little girl in the window for being so faithful — from the Railroad boys."

Gail's Christmas was complete again this year, same as on two previous Christmas days when the railroad men presented her gifts.

The girl's wonderful Christmas spirit shouldn't go unnoticed. "The crew on the train who always took the whistle at Gail are a fine group of men," Mrs. A. C. Aschenbrenner said.

AMERICAN ASKS POW TRIAL; TWO OTHER YANKS ALSO HELD

JAKARTA, Indonesia (UPI) — The defense attorney for American soldier of fortune Allen Lawrence Pope, 29, demanded today the government try him as a legitimate prisoner of war—a move that would eliminate the death penalty if the government agrees.

Pope, of Homestead, Fla., went on trial today before an air force military court on charges of flying bombing missions for the Indonesian rebels against government forces during Indonesia's rebellion in 1958. Conviction on that charge carries the death penalty.

Pope's attorney, Sukarjo, appointed by the court, won a five day adjournment of the case today with a series of legal maneuvers that included the demand the government apply the rules of the Geneva Convention on prisoners of war.

If the Geneva Convention rules were applied to Pope he would not be subject to the death penalty and could be imprisoned only so long as hostilities exist or until there was a legitimate exchange of prisoners by the two sides.

The opening session in a heavily guarded courtroom lasted only an hour until the prosecution asked the trial be adjourned until Jan. 2. The trial itself promised to be a lengthy affair because of the number of witnesses to be heard.

TOKYO (UPI) — Free lance flier Allen Lawrence Pope is not the only American facing trial in Indonesia.

Two Californians — Frank C. Starr, 41, and Wesley Broce, 22, of Long Beach—have been in jail in Djakarta since last May on charges of illegally entering the country.

Like the Pope case, which involves a charge of flying bombing missions for the Indonesian rebels, the case of the two Californians is politically embarrassing for the U.S. State Department.

The two claimed they were on an official peace-making mission seeking to bring a rapprochement between the Indonesian government and the rebels when they were captured in the Borneo jungles last May without proper papers.

"Peace With Honor" Both signed statements to the effect they were negotiating a "peace with honor" for the rebels. Starr claimed he had a contract to sell arms to the rebels and admitted a number of other activities which could bring a death penalty if proved.

However, the chances of any charges being pressed on these activities were lessened considerably when the case was turned

over to civilian authorities by the military some time ago.

Their case was called this fall at the Djakarta District Court. But it was suddenly postponed after the judge and most of the participants—except the defendants—had gathered in the courtroom.

The reason given for the postponement was that the prosecutor was ill and was not able to appear. This was more than three months ago.

Active But Confined Starr has been active although confined. He has managed to smuggle hundreds of letters from Djakarta's Tipinjan prison where he and Broce are being held.

A large number of the letters have been to the American Embassy and to U.S. Ambassador Howard P. Jones. Starr has used extremely bitter language in assailing the Embassy's failure to get him released. He has threatened on several occasions to have the Ambassador fired once he is released.

Starr claims close associates in a number of high places in the United States and Indonesia.

Some of the accusations Starr has leveled against Indonesian Defense Minister and Army Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Abdul Haris Nasution have caused consternation among Embassy officials.

Weekend Quakes Wreck Town, Kill 10 In Peru

LIMA, Peru (UPI) — Two weekend earthquakes wrecked the provincial town of Pomabamba, leveling most of its houses and killing at least 10 residents, it was reported today.

The air force sent planes to drop food and medicine to survivors of the double quake.