

EASTERN OREGON IN ICY FETTERS STIRS

Isolation by Wire and Rail Slowly Conquered—Baker Puts Up Flood Guard.

HOOD FALL IS 52 INCHES

Clatskanie and The Dalles Still Are Isolated—Loggers Lend Crews and Engines to Help Work of Clearing Tracks.

CONDITIONS IN STORM-SWEPT PACIFIC NORTHWEST IN NUTSHELL.

Baker, Or.—Desperate preparations are made to guard against floods.

The Dalles, Or.—City is isolated and only travel is by sleigh.

La Grande, Or.—Heavy snows cave in roofs.

Bend, Or.—Wire service is restored and train schedule is partially resumed.

Hood River, Or.—Snowfall of 52 inches is recorded.

Clatskanie, Or.—City is enveloped by blizzard.

Lewiston, Idaho.—Ice jams, 30 feet high, may damage shipping.

Seattle, Wash.—Transcontinental trains badly stalled; rotaries at work in Cascades.

Pendleton, Or.—Floods are feared, and stockmen worry over feed situation.

BAKER, Or., Feb. 2.—(Special.)—Twenty-four hours of continuous snow, which is still falling, has nearly isolated Eastern Oregon from the outside world. Transportation has been held up for 48 hours and wire and telephone communication, when available, is uncertain.

While trains are beginning to move, the forecast of more snow and the possibility of a rising temperature are arousing fears that floods will add to the complications in railroad service.

In Baker travel in automobiles is almost impossible, the snow being level with the tops of the fences. City employees are working desperately to guard against possible floods. At North Powder a foot of snow is reported, while at many places the fall reached 30 inches. In Baker it has been 14 inches, with more than an inch of moisture.

Sumpter Valley Line Blocked.

A stub, made up in La Grande, came through at 4:30 to make connections with eastbound trains at Huntington. Not a train has run on the Sumpter Valley Railroad since 10 o'clock Tuesday. Along the line a 14-inch fall of snow is reported, and it is given out from headquarters that the time at which passenger or freight traffic over the line will be resumed is problematical.

Snow lies so deep along the 50 miles of the line that only a clearing off of the entire track is possible. The snow is so deep that it is almost impossible to make travel possible again, and with the snow continuing to fall, it is admitted that the task is almost impossible.

Crews Kept Hard at Work.

In spite of this, however, crews are at work taking off as much snow as possible in preparation for a cessation of the storm. Now 20 passengers on the incoming Sumpter Valley train, which was marooned in Sumpter, will be taken care of for 24 hours entirely on canned goods, was described in Baker today by railroad men.

When the train was stopped by snow, five miles beyond Sumpter, a bobbed was sent out from Sumpter loaded with provisions, but, due to an oversight, only canned vegetables, canned fruit and canned meat were included.

The passengers were brought into Sumpter last night by bobbed, now the only method of travel. The passengers are still marooned in Sumpter, with no possible chance of making their way to Baker or back to Prairie City.

Every engine along the line is tied up, with the exception of a switcher in the yards, and this locomotive was detailed for a time last night.

To help in the work of breaking a way through the snow barrier, the Baker White Pine, the W. H. Echee and the Oregon Lumber companies have placed their four logging engines at the disposal of the railroad, together with their logging-train crews, aggregating 20 men.

Lumber mills in Baker have been shut down, only the W. H. Echee planer continuing to put out lumber. The halt was caused by the lack of saws and the small likelihood of making any immediate shipments. The Echee Lumber Company had several cars on the siding when the snow blockade began.

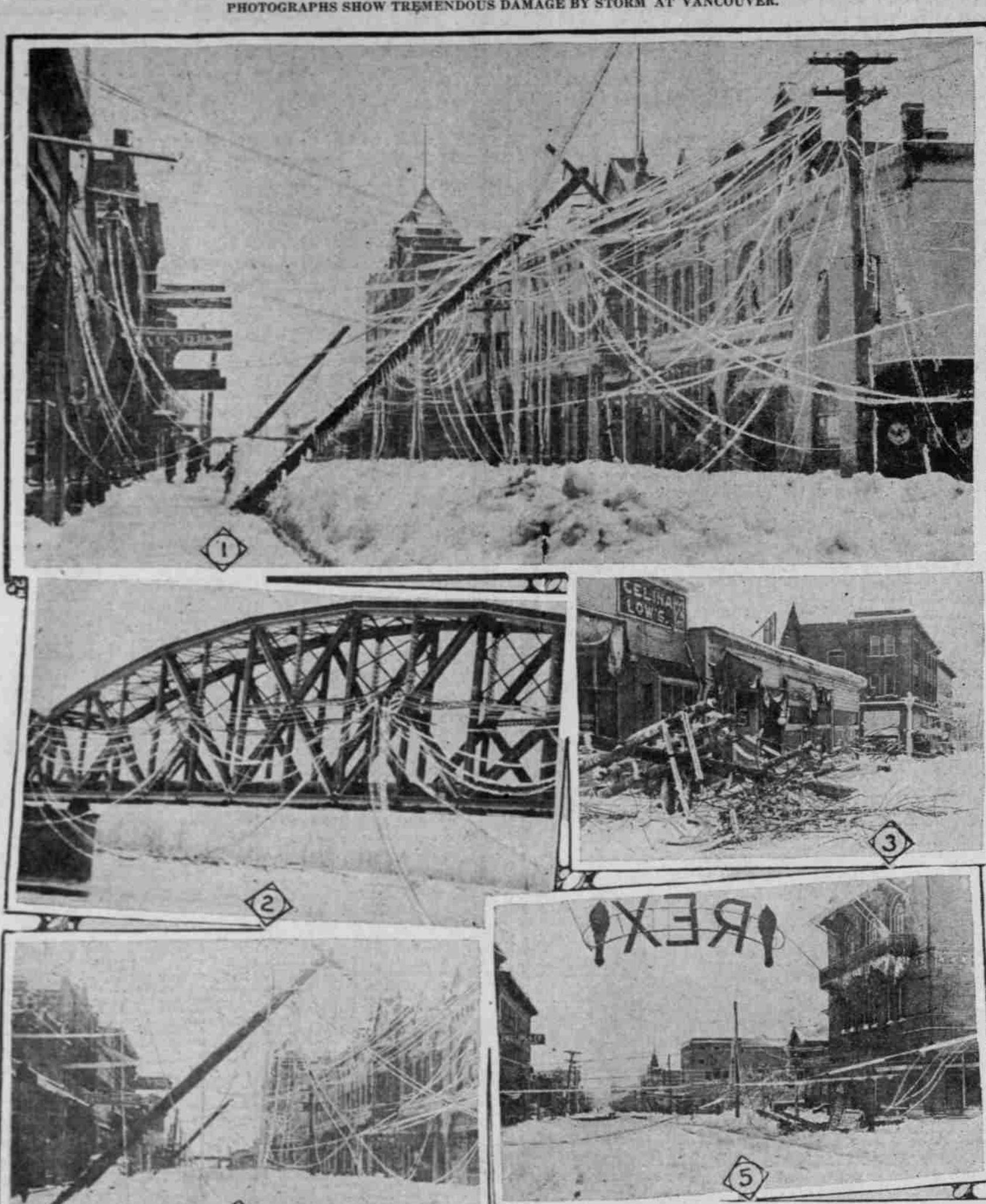
Logging Camps Are Closed.

Logging camps are closed down, deep snow making work impossible. Even after the railroad blockade is broken, it is feared that the sawmills, except those having logs docked in preparation for such an emergency, will be unable to turn out lumber for some time.

Skills are becoming common footgear in the mountain districts. One man with a bundle made his way down Main street in this manner this morning.

The telephone wires failed to carry farther than Walla Walla, but Portland could be reached through there. A telegraph wire was open to Salt Lake, but none to Portland until 2:30 o'clock today. Salt Lake and Los Angeles could be reached by a roundabout circuit of 2500 miles, which, under ordinary circumstances, is only 350 miles. The wire service to Salt Lake was only intermittent, however.

The coal supply is dwindling almost to nothing and shipments are held up. A trainload of coal is snowbound with four other freight cars. Game birds were driven to the city to obtain food, and cattlemen are in a quandary over feeding their cattle.



—Photos by Gordon Stuart.

(1) Mass of Wires on Main Street. (2) Telegraph Wires Hanging Between Portland and Seattle, on North Bank Bridge. (3) Main Street Above Tenth, Showing Fallen Poles. (4) Wreckage at Fourth and Main Streets. (5) Tenth and Main, Looking South.

CITY WATER FAILS

Vancouver Folk Melt Icicles to Supply Needs.

INDUSTRY IS PARALYZED

Town Isolated From Rest of World and Gas Company Is Only Public Utility Operating—Prune Orchards Are Badly Damaged.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Feb. 2.—(Special.)—The most destructive, disastrous and dangerous storm ever experienced by this city has left Vancouver isolated from the world, without water, without light, without car or ferry service and with every industry paralyzed.

The water for the city is usually furnished by an electrically operated pump, but when the electric lines went down a water famine was imminent. Some persons filled bathtubs and buckets with water to tide them over, but others are compelled to boil down bottles for water.

Reports coming in tell of heavy livestock losses among the Indians and also among a number of small farmers. The principal stockmen are prepared to withstand a few weeks more of the storm, but are worrying lest the train blockade keep them from getting more feed.

Several roofs have fallen in Pendleton. The roof of the City Livery barn collapsed with a crash this morning. Shovelers are on top of every business block and a big force is working on the streets under direction of the City Council.

Snow on the level is now three feet deep, but piled up in the streets in great masses. The snow blockade in the Blue Mountains was partly broken this morning, and two trains came through this afternoon from the east. New slides are feared.

THE DALLES STILL IS ISOLATED

Snow Slides Block Track and Four Trains Are Stalled.

THE DALLES, Or., Feb. 2.—(Special.)—This city is still isolated and the only way a person can get in or out is by sleigh and not very far at that. O. W. R. & N. trains are stalled all the way along the line with no immediate alleviation of the blockade in sight. Due to serious snowslides near Stevenson, the North Bank Railroad is blocked so there is no chance for O. W. R. & N. to route trains on the other side of the Columbia.

Long-distance telephone wires between this city and Portland still are down. The Dalles was practically cut off from all communication with the outside world yesterday, most of the telegraph wires being out of commission. It was being thought of handling railroad orders and press reports.

After a continuous fall of more than 30 hours the snow storm subsided in

CLATSKANIE SCHOOLS CLOSED

Town Enveloped in Blizzard and Communication Cut Off.

CLATSKANIE, Or., Feb. 2.—(Special.)—Owing to the bad condition of the weather and sickness, both the Clatskanie grade school and high school have been closed until February 7. About 125 pupils were absent during the first part of the week, and with the coming of more snow it was thought advisable to close.

Following a day's rain the heaviest snow fall of the year fell yesterday, developing into a blizzard last night. Clatskanie was without communication either by railway or wire.

ROOFS AT LA GRANDE CAVE IN

Town Suffocated by Snow and Trains Are Tied Up.

LA GRANDE, Or., Feb. 2.—(Special.)—La Grande is suffocated with snow, so is the country and Walla Walla. Two stub trains are struggling to cross the Blue Mountains from the west, but their progress is slow and doubtful.

The hope is that the overland traffic will be moving by midnight, which would make just 24 hours of standstill. The company has announced that no

SNOW AND FLOODS FORECAST

Trains Still Are Stalled, but Plows Make Some Headway.

SEATTLE, Wash., Feb. 2.—The storm that was central of the mouth of the Columbia has passed inland to South-Central Oregon and Northern Nevada. The conflict between this storm and the cold wind from British Columbia was the cause of the enormous snowfall of the past week. The barometer is falling again here, while the barometer is high in British Columbia and the Canadian Northwest.

A new low-pressure storm is developing off the Washington coast, and this new storm will move eastward and clash with the cold wind that is blowing from Kamloops. The result probably will be more snow, but not a repetition of the recent fall. In the absence of a high-pressure area to the north, the warm, rain-laden winds from the ocean will sweep over Western Washington and up the mountain sides, causing destructive floods.

Heavy snow began to fall in the mountains at 4 o'clock this afternoon after a 24-hour cessation, and the railroads are not so hopeful tonight of getting their lines open tomorrow. A heavy gale accompanied the snow, piling it in the cuts.

52-INCH SNOW STOPS TRADE

New Storm Begins at Hood River and Coal Famine Feared.

HOOD RIVER, Or., Feb. 2.—(Special.)—While the snow storm seemed broken this morning, the sun shining for a while, slight furries driven by a strong east wind began again late today after an 18-hour lull. The snow this morning stood 52 inches on the level. Business is at a standstill. Clerks have spent the day shoveling snow from overhanging roofs.

Local O. W. R. & N. officials think it doubtful if a train is brought through from the west tomorrow. A rotary plow was sent through from The Dalles as far as Shell Rock this morning.

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SALEM, TOO, IS IN ICY GRIP

Heavy Snow Covers Ice Left on Ground by Sleet.

SALEM, Or., Feb. 2.—(Special.)—The storm which has isolated Portland and cities north of Salem for the last week clutched this city last night and today a heavy snow fell on top of the ice which sheathed the city immediately with the arrival of last night's sleet storm.

Telegraph and telephone wires leading out of the city to the north have been cut of commission for the past 36 hours, service of the Oregon Electric and Southern Pacific railways is badly delayed. Nearly all trains on the former line have been annulled and the few which were operated, it was said, were pulled into Portland from Garden Home by locomotives.

GRAY'S HARBOR FEARS FLOOD

Heavy Rain Falling on Top of All-Mountain Record Snow.

HOQUIAM, Wash., Feb. 2.—(Special.)—The Grays Harbor district is facing the most serious flood conditions it has experienced in more than 20 years, due to the almost unprecedented fall of snow during last week and the fact that the cold snap has been broken suddenly, and the snow is melting rapidly under a heavy and steady down-pour.

Not since 1892 has this district had as heavy a fall of snow. The depth Monday evening, when the rain started, ranged from 12 inches to three feet. At Montesano the snow lay about 13 inches deep on the level. At Humptulps the snow was more than three feet deep.

WARM RAIN FALLS AND TEMPERATURE IS REPORTED AT 50.

SALEM, Or., Feb. 2.—(Special.)—With the temperature at 50 degrees, a warm rain fell here through the day. All the snow has disappeared from this section of the valley and the Willamette river is rising.

Trains on the Oregon Electric experienced considerable delay between Salem and Portland. Salem's electric lighting system, which is supplied from the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company's plant at Oregon City, was temporarily out of commission

SILVER THAW RAISES HAVOC

KELSO, Wash., Feb. 2.—(Special.)—The wind and rain storm and silver thaw of yesterday and last night raised havoc with electric and telephone service in this district. Early last evening the electric wires from the south were down, and about 10 o'clock the service from the north was interrupted, leaving Kelso and vicinity in darkness. Telephone and telegraphic communication from Kelso has been seriously disturbed. Almost all the country schools in this county are closed. The Kelso schools closed this morning until the first of next week.

CURRY STOCK LOSSES ARE HEAVY

GOLD BEACH, Or., Feb. 2.—(Special.)—Stockraisers in Curry County are suffering severe losses on account of the unprecedented fall of snow. The ranges were short of grass last fall on account of the dry summer, and the stock was therefore in poor condition at the beginning of the winter. Few ranchers have any left, and the starvation of range animals is threatening.

The Foelklier, a submarine which was invented and put into commission at Chicago soon after the great fire of 1871, and which sank, with its owner, to the bottom of the Chicago River, has recently been found. The craft was clear-shaped, 49 feet long and five feet wide.

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