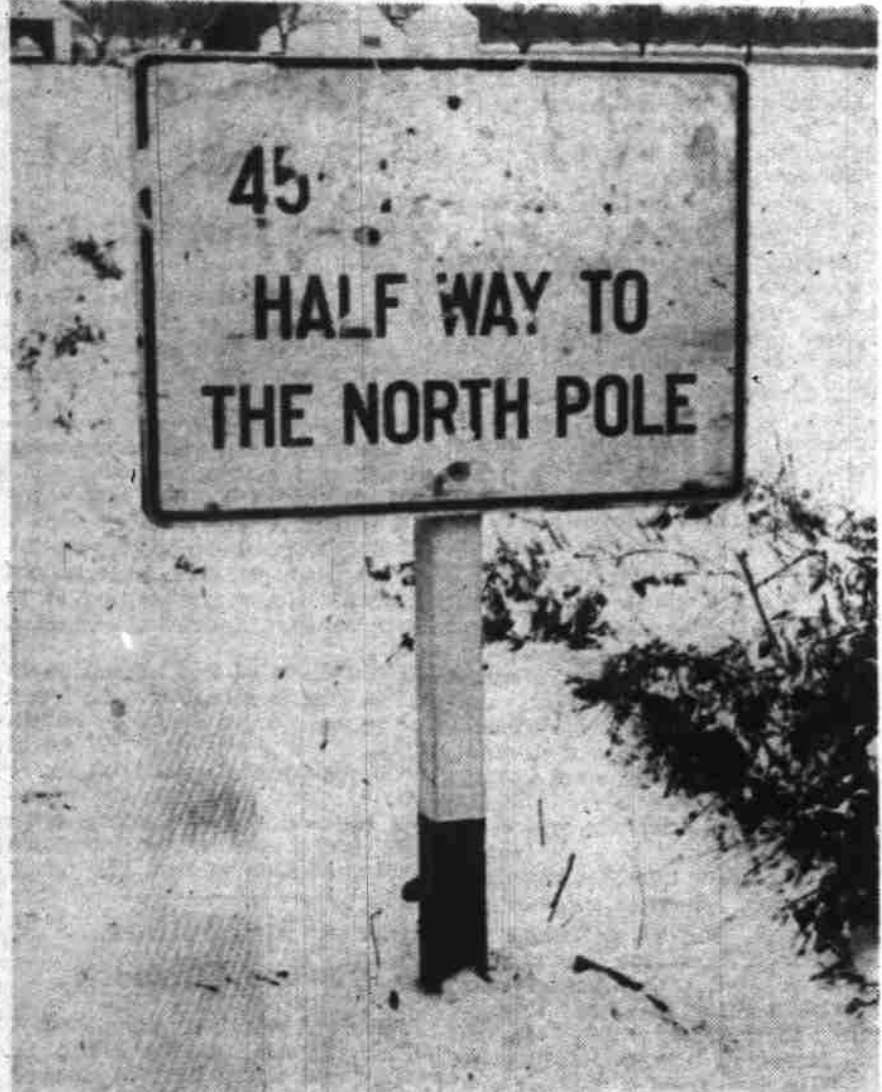


New Storm to Bring More Snow to Northwest Area

It Was Closer Than That



The snow-plastered sign located about two miles north of Salem on the Portland highway says "45th Parallel—Half Way To The North Pole." Snow covered surroundings indicate that one doesn't have to go to the north pole for cold weather and snow. And some Oregonians are probably feeling that they are too near the north pole right now. (Statesman photo).

Health Department Offered Office Space

Salem General hospital has offered to construct and rent to Marion county a county health department building, County Judge Grant Murphy revealed Wednesday.

William Gehlbach told the county court the hospital would include the health center in its plans to construct a new hospital next summer. The \$510,000 unit, first of a \$3,000,000 project will be located about 500 feet north of the present hospital building.

Murphy said the county "is receptive" to the idea, but indicated that no final consideration will be given until it is known how much rent the county will have to pay for the center.

"If the expense of this proposal is not too high to the county," said Murphy, "I believe the plan has its merits. It would benefit the center to be adjacent to a hospital. Utilities, upkeep and heat would be provided from a central plant."

The county now has tentative plans to purchase a lot near the hospital and to build its own center at an estimated expense of over \$50,000. The department is now housed in the Masonic building in downtown Salem.

Outside the communist sphere, India, Burma and Pakistan have given the diplomatic nod to Mao Tse Tung's Peiping regime. Burma and India acted in December. Pakistan announced recognition today.

Britain's decision, the informant said, actually was made weeks ago. The timing of recognition was reported to have been settled before British Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin left London Dec. 27 for the conference of commonwealth foreign ministers opening Jan. 9 at Colombo, Ceylon.

A major aim of Britain's labor government is to protect investments of about \$1,000,000,000 in business, schools and churches in China and maintain trade relations with the Chinese.

The decision marks one of the few major breaks in the cooperation of London and Washington since the end of World War II. While Americans considered possible aid for Chiang Kai-Shek's nationalist forces on Formosa, British officials said they believed sustained American support would prove meaningless after Britain recognizes Mao.

The ICC said the curtailment order will go into effect at 11:59 p.m. local time Sunday and continue until midnight March 8, unless changed. It applies to all coal-burning rail lines having less than 25 days supply of coal for passenger service.

The traffic cutback is expected to affect immediately from 36 to 40 railroads, mainly in the east and south.

The president, as usual, has laid before congress a heavy work schedule. Considering that this is election year, with many members eager to get home early to campaign for reelection, it is virtually certain that many of his requests will not be acted on.

(Continued on editorial page, 4)

Animal Crackers

By WARREN GOODRICH



"Wanna do the Johnson rag?"

More snow was forecast for most of the Pacific northwest today. But Salem weatherman said warmer temperatures might turn the flurries to rain when they reach this area late this afternoon and tonight.

Thermometers edged above freezing for several hours here Wednesday but never got higher than 34 degrees. Today's predicted high is 38; tonight's low, 32.

It was 29 at the local weather station early this morning and attendants doubted that it would drop below 25 degrees before daybreak.

Record Power Demand
Around the northwest the four-day cold wave had already endangered bridges, delayed trains, closed some schools, and made driving dangerous on virtually all highways.

The snow and cold caused a record demand for power. The western half of the northwest power pool used an all-time peak of 3,637,000 kilowatts late Tuesday.

All snow plows in Portland were in operation Wednesday for the first time this winter. The city's higher elevations got nearly six inches of snow.

Bridge Threatened
Ice floes began threatening a partially built railroad bridge on the Yakima river near Richland, Wash., just a day after ice chunks had ripped a 900-foot army ponton span from its moorings a few miles away.

Tug crews worked to free the ponton bridge from a Union Pacific railroad span across the Columbia river. Ice is jammed behind it. The bridge had broken loose from the Snake river mooring Tuesday, drifted into the Columbia and lodged against the rail span.

Trains pulled into Portland Wednesday as much as seven hours late. In Salem they were reported "mostly on schedule."

A new cold wave was gripping eastern Oregon this morning. Baker reported 15 below zero at midnight. It was 6 below at Ontario and 2 below in the Pendleton area which was still digging out from 13 inches of snow Tuesday night.

The state highway commission listed nearly all roads as treacherous. Chains were recommended on most of them.

Britain Seen Next to Give Nod to Reds

LONDON, Jan. 4 (AP)—Britain plans to recognize Communist China Friday or Saturday and has notified the United States, an informed source said today.

Outside the communist sphere, India, Burma and Pakistan have given the diplomatic nod to Mao Tse Tung's Peiping regime. Burma and India acted in December. Pakistan announced recognition today.

Britain's decision, the informant said, actually was made weeks ago. The timing of recognition was reported to have been settled before British Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin left London Dec. 27 for the conference of commonwealth foreign ministers opening Jan. 9 at Colombo, Ceylon.

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Truman Asks 'Moderate' Tax Boost; Message Greeted by Cheers, Cat Calls

Winter's Worst Cold Wave Hits Midcontinent

By The Associated Press
Winter's worst cold wave bore down on millions of more midcontinent dwellers Wednesday on the heels of drenching rains that sent rivers out of their banks and raised the threat of serious floods.

California and the southwest also were hard hit in the weather's latest cold rampage, but heat records melted away in the east.

Flood swollen streams and rivers left their banks in southern and central Illinois, Indiana, Arkansas and western Kentucky. Scores of communities were threatened. Hundreds of residents left their flooded homes and livestock was evacuated from lowlands.

Paul A. Miller, weather bureau chief at Indianapolis, predicted major floods over the full length of the Wabash and White rivers. Forecasters said a cold wave moving in on Indiana would ease the flood peril somewhat but not remove it.

Freezing sleet turned much of the midwest into a sea of ice. This was the weather picture across the nation:

Far West—The California citrus crop suffered probably its greatest damage of the season when freezing weather blanketed virtually the entire state. Hardest hit were lemons and oranges in spots of Los Angeles and San Bernardino counties. Considerable loss of truck crops in the Coachella and Imperial valleys was feared.

Southwest—A severe freeze, with temperatures of 14 to 23 degrees, damaged the citrus crop in the Salt River valley of Arizona.

Northern plains—Temperatures of 30 to 35 below zero were general in North Dakota and Montana and the cold wave was spreading southward and eastward.

Rocky Mountains—Snowplows bit through drifts in Colorado's high mountain passes where the mercury ranged to 21 degrees below zero. The frigid air mass clung like an icy pall.

Midwest—A cold wave began moving in from the northwest, routing springlike temperatures. Cold wave warnings were issued for parts of Indiana and Illinois.

East—The mercury soared to 65 degrees in New York City at 4 p.m. setting the fifth "heat" record in 13 days. The previous high for Jan. 4 was 59 set in 1906.

Philadelphia had a record 67, topping the old 1874 record by one degree. The temperature hit a record Jan. 4 high of 70 in Baltimore at 2 p.m. Norfolk, Va., and Atlanta, Ga., recorded 75s, highest for the date on record.

The highway commission had already submitted its application to the engineer corps for the two-lane Marion street bridge for approval. Following the law, the army scheduled the public hearing Wednesday.

G. H. Mervin and Willard Taylor, both of Salem, representing tugboat operators on the Willamette river, expressed satisfaction with the bridge plans at the hearing.

Paxson explained the three-span, steel girder type bridge would have concrete approaches. Space between the two central piers in the main river channel will be 240 feet.

The highway department hopes to let bids on the piers this summer and then go ahead with construction of the span. Cost of the bridge is set at about \$1,200,000. It is hoped to have it completed by the end of 1951.

The new bridge is part of the department's long range plan for Salem traffic relief. It will carry west-bound traffic only while east-bound traffic will use the Center street span.

There they remained, without food, for two days while two fellow escapees were being captured and law enforcement officers scoured Salem and vicinity for them.

"After a couple of days we got hungry," Burr told his captors. "It was dark when we left this building and broke open a garage to get a car and head south."

He indicated the car used in their getaway was the one stolen from a hospital garage Sunday night, December 4. A hospital employee, W. J. Wellard, reported the theft the following day. The four inmates had escaped the preceding Friday night.

Burr was lodged in the Marion county jail Wednesday night, pending an appearance today in district court here to answer charges of stealing an automobile.

(Additional details on page 2)

INDUSTRY SETS RECORDS
DETROIT, Jan. 4 (AP)—General Motors Corp., the auto industry's largest producer, turned out an all-time record of 2,771,194 passenger cars and trucks in 1949.

President Delivers 'State of Union' Message



WASHINGTON, Jan. 4—President Truman (right standing) delivers his "State of the Union" message before a joint session of congress in the house chamber today, asking a "moderate amount" of new taxes and calling again for the domestic program he dubs the "Fair Deal." Presiding are Vice President Alben Barkley and Speaker of the House Sam Rayburn (D-Tex.) (1 to r top left). Clerks are in front. (AP Wirephoto to The Statesman).

Speech Termed Curtain Raiser For 1950 Vote

By Douglas B. Cornell
WASHINGTON, Jan. 4 (AP)—President Truman asked a cheering-booming congress for a "moderate" tax boost today in a message sparkling with confidence in the future of a prosperous America and a peaceful world.

Republicans jeered and booed the chief executive to his face, particularly at one point in his State of the Union message in which he promised to hold federal expenditures to a minimum.

Except for southerners who blasted at Mr. Truman's renewed call for civil rights legislation, democratic lawmakers generally praised the message, a new appeal for what Mr. Truman calls his "Fair Deal" program.

The president asked for more social security, civil rights legislation, medical insurance, the Brannan Farm plan, repeal of the Taft-Hartley labor law, more pay for the unemployed.

And beyond this program, he predicted that by the year 2000 A. D. the nation's production will total a trillion dollars a year—nearly four times what it is now.

The Republicans, many of whom called the whole message "socialism," made their noisiest demonstration at Mr. Truman's references to taxes and government economy.

They jeered his mention of "the ill-considered tax reduction" passed by the republic-controlled 80th congress.

Truman Undisturbed
Good-natured boos and catcalls drowned out the president altogether on his next sentence about federal spending. Seemingly undisturbed, Mr. Truman laughed and started over:

"I am proposing that federal expenditures be held to the lowest levels consistent with our international requirements and the essential needs of economic growth and the well-being of our people."

Politicians generally regarded Mr. Truman's speech as the curtain raiser for the 1950 political campaign.

Officially, the president was making an annual report to congress on the state of the union. He delivered it in person at a joint senate-house session in the newly modernized house chamber. "Recesses" followed.

To improve the financial outlook, he said, some changes are needed in the tax system to bring in "a moderate amount of additional revenue."

He said the changes should "reduce present inequities" and stimulate business. He promised more definite recommendations soon.

He sends congress an economic report Friday and his budget for next fiscal year on Monday.

Missing from the message was some of the doubt about the economic future that crept in a year ago, when he considered it necessary to ask for standby inflation controls and authority to build steel mills if private business didn't expand them. (Congress did not grant either request.)

Now, Mr. Truman said, things are going well both at home and overseas.

Mr. Truman asked today for another year of rent control. And he came out strongly once more for curbs on monopoly.

While he was at it, Mr. Truman once more asked congress to approve:

More public power projects, including some for New England.

The St. Lawrence seaway.

A Columbia valley development for the northwest patterned after the TVA.

A national science foundation.

Federal aid to let the states "maintain adequate schools."

A broader law for entry of Europe's displaced persons into the United States.

No Opposition Voiced to Bridge Site

Coos Judge to Try High School Case

Plans for Span Meet Approval

Tardy Motorists To Face Fines For License Lack

Ward Escape Story Told by Robert Burr

Manhunt Ends With Capture Of 3 Fugitives

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Ward Escape Story Told by Robert Burr

Two men who were object of a statewide search after escaping the criminal insane ward of the state hospital a month ago spent the first two days of their freedom right at the state hospital.

This was disclosed Wednesday by Robert Melvin Burr, escapee captured without resistance by the FBI in San Diego, Calif., last week and returned here yesterday by Denver Young, Marion county sheriff, and Capt. R. G. Howard of the state police. Marion Watson, the other escaped inmate, is still at large.

Burr said he and Watson concealed themselves in the second story of a storage building at the hospital grounds on Center street within minutes of their daring break for freedom.

There they remained, without food, for two days while two fellow escapees were being captured and law enforcement officers scoured Salem and vicinity for them.

"After a couple of days we got hungry," Burr told his captors. "It was dark when we left this building and broke open a garage to get a car and head south."

He indicated the car used in their getaway was the one stolen from a hospital garage Sunday night, December 4. A hospital employee, W. J. Wellard, reported the theft the following day. The four inmates had escaped the preceding Friday night.

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Secret Society Suit on Docket

Salem's secret high school fraternity case is scheduled to be tried in circuit court here late this month, after Circuit Judge Dal M. King of Coquille agreed Wednesday to hear the case.

Several other judges had refused. The case was to have been heard December 28, but it had to be postponed because of the difficulty in finding a judge.

Some judges said they couldn't hear it because they were prejudiced. Other judges said they were too busy.

Nineteen high school students were expelled last fall because school officials charged they belonged to a secret fraternity. Secret societies in public schools are banned by state law.

Eighteen of the boys appealed to the circuit court, and they were allowed to remain in school pending the court hearing.

The case is attracting statewide interest because of similar incidents in other cities, including Portland.

Judge King was assigned to hear the case by Chief Justice Hall S. Lusk of the state supreme court.

THE WEATHER

City	Max.	Min.	Precep.
Salem	34	29	41
Portland	32	29	54
San Francisco	43	30	trace
Chicago	24	11	.19
New York	66	52	.50

Willamette river 2.3 feet.
FORECAST (from U.S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem): Mostly cloudy; today and tonight with rain or snow late this afternoon and continued through tonight. High today near 38. Slightly warmer tonight with low near 32.

SALEM PRECIPITATION	This Year	Last Year	Normal
	15.18	21.83	18.82

Stan McGuire Succumbs To Injuries of Accident

CORVALLIS, Jan. 4 (AP)—Stan McGuire, Oregon State college's brilliant football flankman and captain-elect of the 1950 team, died in a hospital early today of injuries suffered in a Tuesday night toboggan-automobile collision.

McGuire's death brought to two the fatalities in the tragic crash, Bill Corvallis, also an OSC student and pitcher in the Brooklyn Dodger farm system, died shortly after the accident.

Both McGuire and Corvallis received skull fractures in the crash. Two other OSC students aboard the toboggan, Bud Coons of Salem and Lloyd Anderson of Oakland, Calif., escaped with slight bruises.

Snow Covered Highway Blamed for Upset of Truck, Trailer

Spawled upside down in a snowy ditch alongside the Pacific highway, this giant Silver Eagle truck transport is pictured three miles north of Brooks at the scene of the wreck during Tuesday night's blitzard.

Many other vehicles landed in highway ditches as a result of the storm. Driver of the rig shown above was uninjured. (Statesman photo).

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