

Mercury Drops as Cold Weather Returns to NW Snow Meets High Water at Riverfront



A rare sight for Oregon is snow and high water mixed, as pictured above at an auto park along Edgewater street. Water from the Willamette surrounds the utility house; snow caps its roof and whitens nearby trees. (Statesman photo).

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Stryker

Senator Wayne L. Morse comes to Salem today and will give the town the full Morse treatment. No horse show spill this time, however. There will be a full schedule of what a senator does when he is running for reelection, with the major effort a speech at the Rotary club at noon. If the senator has his usual success those who "came to scold" will "remain to pray."

Morse's announced opponent is Fred Robinson, Medford clothier, who is in town Monday. He is running because he thinks Morse is too much of a new dealer for republicans. Dick Neuberger chides Morse with being too much of a republican for liberal democrats, which leaves Morse falling between two stools. But that's where he says he drives—in the middle of the road, though there is a suspicion he takes his middle on the left side.

The reported hard core of the Morse opposition is a group of doctors in Portland. They really get violent when socialized medicine is mentioned or any inch forward from the old AMA doctrine suggested. Morse is opposed to socialized medicine, but these hard-shells think he isn't opposed enough. So they have made it known they will lay the money on the line for some likely prospect against Morse.

Well, the doctors better save their money. They can't beat Morse, and the report of their conspicuous activity will injure their own cause. Doctors have the right like any group of citizens to oppose or promote any candidate; but if they think they can swing the election of a senator here they are mistaken. As a matter of fact a good many doctors less purblind than the Portland hierarchy will support Morse.

I hear the Portland doctors boast that they swung the Oregon primary in favor of Gov. Dewey in 1948. I think they claim too much. If they did, look at the consequences! There are so many valid arguments against socialized medicine and so many ways to advance them one wonders why the doctors out of sheer panic, have to resort to what I regard as ill-advised tactics to defeat it. But then one should remember that the doctors are doctors and not politicians—or are they?

Animal Crackers

By WARREN GOODRICH



"Well, I'll see you later—I've got to go in and help dust."

More Snow Forecast; Cold Checks Threat of Flood

A cold wave returned to the Pacific northwest Tuesday and rivers shifted from river readings to thermometer readings as ice crested and receded.

A piercing north wind shrunk the mercury all over the northwest. It was 22 degrees at Salem at 12:30 a. m. and a low of 15 to 17 before morning was predicted for this area with readings slated to remain sub-freezing all day.

The Willamette river was back to 20 feet here at midnight after cresting at 20.7 feet Tuesday morning.

Forecasts elsewhere were for temperatures from 5 to 15 degrees below zero east of the Cascades and from 5 to 15 above west of the mountains in Washington early today.

Below Zero Forecast
Eastern Oregon thermometers were slated to record from 10 below zero to 10 above.

Travel conditions remained generally fair, with some county roads badly iced but main highways relatively clear. Both Columbia river gorge highways were still blocked by snow and earth slides east of Portland and Vancouver, Wash.

Train travel was off schedule. Slides hampered rail movement, setting schedules off as much as three hours.

Near Richland, Wash., about 10 families were reported forced to leave their homes when the ice-filled Yakima river spilled its banks. The stream has an ice pack stretching for six miles above Richland.

Power Pool Survives
Late Tuesday night, Bonneville Power administration reported the western power pool had squeaked through the night without being forced to curtail electricity at aluminum plants.

Tuesday's snow flurries totaled a bit more than an inch at Salem, the weather bureau said, but only a trace remained on the ground at midnight. More snow was predicted today with a high reading of 30 degrees and a low of 22 tonight.

Slightly higher readings up to 35 degrees with snow turning to rain were predicted for western Oregon and Washington Thursday.

Relief Party Takes Food to Isolated Douglas Family

ROSEBURG, Jan. 24 (AP)—A snowshoe relief party was on its way today into the isolated Elk valley in southwestern Douglas county with food for the Floyd Hatfield family.

Twenty volunteers began the rugged hike to the family after airplanes were unable to drop supplies because of clouds.

The plight of the family was learned yesterday when a man, identified only as Mr. Allen, hiked out. He said he had been staying with the Hatfields, and that they were running low on food. It took him two days to make the trek. He spent one night on Cutchman mountain in snow five feet deep.

Snowfall at Corvallis Sets Season Record

CORVALLIS, Jan. 24 (AP)—This winter's snowfall became a record here today. A four-inch overnight snowfall brought the total for the month to 31 1/2 inches.

The previous high for an entire winter season was 29 inches, in 1937. The previous record for one month was 23 inches—in January, 1909.

UNEMPLOYMENT AT HIGH

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24 (AP)—A new all-time high in the number of persons on unemployment insurance rolls was reported today by the government.

320,000-DP Bill Approved by Senate

Steel Price Rise Blamed to Labor

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24 (AP)—President Benjamin Fairless of U. S. Steel testified today that rising costs of labor, pensions and other items were responsible for driving up the price of steel.

If costs come down, he said, U. S. Steel will certainly consider lowering its price.

Countering the widely-held theory that steel prices serve as a barometer for prices in other industries, Fairless contended that the recent boost in steel prices should have "no harmful effect whatsoever" on prices in other fields.

"A decrease in automobile prices -- which were announced after our price increase -- is a case in point," he said.

Fairless Testifies
Fairless appeared as the first witness in a four-day series of public hearings called by the senate-house economic committee to investigate steel prices and their effects on the national economy.

Chairman O'Mahoney (D-Wyo) of the joint committee said all major steel companies followed the lead of U. S. Steel after Fairless' "big steel" hiked its prices an average of \$4 a ton last December.

The committee has produced figures showing that the total net income of 50 steel companies soared from \$264,525,016 in 1946 to \$542,085,610 in 1948.

No Fair Return
But Fairless told the committee today that U. S. Steel has not made "a fair return either on its sales or investment at any time during the last 20 years."

Among U. S. Steel's increased costs, he listed:

1. New insurance and pension programs for steel workers, \$67,500,000.
2. Increased federal social security tax, \$3,400,000.

"These costs alone are \$3.88 per ton and more than enough to offset the \$3.82 per ton which we hope to obtain from our price increases," he said.

List Expenses
He said U. S. Steel earned 5.2 per cent on sales and 6.5 per cent on investment in 1948 when it was operating at 94 per cent of capacity.

"On those earnings, you cannot go very far in absorbing still greater cost increases," he said.

Enders M. Voorhees, chairman of U. S. Steel's finance committee, said U. S. Steel actually paid out \$113,000,000 more than it took in last year. Total expenses, including money spent for replacement and modernization of plants, ran to \$8,084,000,000, Voorhees testified.

Morse Slates Five Stops in Salem Visit

U. S. Sen. Wayne Morse has at least five "calls" on schedule today for his whirlwind visit to Salem.

He is expected to file his candidacy for renomination at the statehouse before appearing before the Williams committee at 10:30 a. m. Following this he will meet with a Young Republican delegation, then with a group of Marion county doctors, before addressing the Salem Rotary club in the Marion hotel noon luncheon.

The senator is expected to confer after lunch with local campaign supporters before returning to Portland.

In his two speaking appearances Morse is expected to discuss current legislation.

USE TO QUIT OPERATIONS

NEW YORK, Jan. 24 (AP)—The U. S. O. announced tonight it will cease operations because it can't raise enough money, perhaps \$10 million, to finance the national and international situations.

Blizzard Lashes Dakotas; Many Heat Marks Beaten

By The Associated Press
A lashing blizzard—one of the worst in years—whipped over North Dakota Tuesday, stopping traffic, grounding planes, and stacking up high snow drifts.

Of North Dakota's more than 7,000 miles of roads, only six miles—a stretch between Bismarck and Mandan—remained passable, the state highway department reported.

In many other parts of the country, city after city reported record-breaking warm January weather.

After pummeling North Dakota, the storm center moved on into Iowa and headed northeast over Lake Superior toward eastern Canada, parts of New England and New York state.

Wet snow in eastern Colorado relieved—temporarily at least—drought conditions there. More than a foot of snow clung to the high passes and wind drifted snow over roads almost as fast as crews cleared them.

Southern winds gently puffed northward from the Gulf and dandelions popped into bloom in St. Louis where the temperatures reached 72, just one degree short of the record for the date, set in 1943.

Texas basked in temperatures in the 80s, but cold air—which Texans call a norther—was predicted.

Local heat records for the date were set or equaled in Chicago and Peoria, Ill., each with 63; Oklahoma City and Pittsburg, Kas., with 61; Jefferson City, Mo., and Birmingham, Ala., with 78; Montgomery, Ala., with 80; New Orleans, with 79; Augusta, Ga., with 80; Baltimore, Md., with 73; Philadelphia, with 63, and Richmond, Va., with 75.3.

The mercury plunged fast at Kansas City, Mo., late Tuesday afternoon. From a record high of 75 for the date it dropped 25 degrees, between 3 and 4 p. m.

Extends Dates For Entry

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24 (AP)—A bill to permit 320,000 displaced persons to enter this country by June 30, 1951, was approved by the senate judiciary committee tonight. The total includes the approximately 124,000 who already have entered.

The present law authorizes the entry into the United States of only 205,000 persons in the two-year period ending June 30, 1950. The committee, by a vote of 10 to 3, approved a bill which would make other changes in the present displaced persons law which President Truman has urged.

Three-Year Shift
For one thing, it would shift the date by which displaced persons must have entered European DP camps to be eligible for entry into this country.

The date in the present law is December, 1945. The bill which the committee approved would change that to Jan. 1, 1949.

The committee's action was announced by Chairman McCarran (D-Nev.), who termed the measure "generally satisfactory." He said the action was taken by amending a measure already approved by the House in 10 or 12 places.

McCarran Protests
The agreement was reached in the eye of the date the senate had ordered the committee to report out a DP bill. The order was issued late in the last session. The House bill had been approved by the committee over the protests of McCarran, who was in Europe at the time. After a heated floor fight, the senate sent the measure back to committee with instructions to bring out a bill by Jan. 25. The new bill is expected to be introduced tomorrow.

A bill sponsored by Rep. Celler (D-NY) and passed by the House last year would have permitted 339,000 displaced persons to enter the country by June 30, 1951.

While the senate committee cut the total number, it adopted the eligibility date of Jan. 1, 1949 contained in the Celler bill.

Dairymen Take Stand on Three Issues

EUGENE, Jan. 24 (AP)—The Oregon Dairymen's association took a stand on three controversial issues here today.

1—Statewide labeling of the butter content in all grade A milk. Delegates commented that some distributors have been pocketing profits on low-butterfat milk.

2—New support price structure on wheat so that dairymen can use wheat for cattle feed.

3—A premium of at least 3 cents per pound of butterfat for first-grade milk and cream.

The board of directors was increased from 11 to 12. Four new members were named: Vernon de Long, La Grande; Floyd Bates, Salem; R. M. Lyon, Junction City; George Kruse, Mt. Angel.

Lamar Tooze May Oppose Sen. Morse

PORTLAND, Jan. 24 (AP)—Lamar Tooze, republican attorney here, may oppose Sen. Wayne Morse on the primary election ballot.

Tooze said so many persons had urged him to run that he might change his previously announced decision not to oppose the senator.

LEE ESTATE IN MILLIONS

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 24 (AP)—The estate of Tommy Lee, heir to an automobile and radio fortune who plunged to his death from a Wilshire boulevard tower January 13, today was valued at \$9,410,429.12.

Dallas Apartment Damaged by Fire

DALLAS, Jan. 24 — Fire today caused \$3,000 damage in an apartment here.

Sam Burk, owner of the property, estimated damage to the building at \$2,000. The tenant, Mrs. Maude Crawford, listed her personal property loss at \$1,000.

The fire was believed caused by a defective pipe, which fell through the flue into Mrs. Crawford's fireplace, igniting an accumulation of papers.

THE WEATHER

	Max.	Min.	Precip.
Salem	37	24	.04
Portland	31	25	.02
San Francisco	49	38	.00
Chicago	43	33	.15
New York	45	41	.00

Willamette river 20 feet
FORECAST (from U. S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem): Partly cloudy with a few snow flurries today becoming cloudy with intermittent snow tonight. High today near 30; low tonight near 22.
SALEM PRECIPITATION
This year Last year Normal
24.1 22.5 21.3

Minimum Wage Law Now in Effect

Passes

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25 (Wednesday) (AP)—The new 75-cent minimum wage law went into effect today with the blessing of President Truman.

The president hailed the changes in the 12-year old wage-hour law as being "dictated by social justice" and a step that will bring "great and lasting benefits."

"Our progress in this field," Mr. Truman's statement said, "points the way for our future action. We shall not relax in our efforts to provide a better life for all our people."

Truman Hails 'Progress in Social Justice'

87 1/2 Per Cent Boost
The 75-cent hourly minimum wage is an 87 1/2 per cent boost from the old law's 40-cent minimum. It applies, as do all the law's provisions, to workmen employed in interstate commerce or in production of goods for commerce.

This and other changes represent a general overhauling of the new deal law which established a floor under wages, a 40-hour ceiling on the regular work week, and restrictions on employment of child labor.

Two CIO union leaders, Jacob Potofsky of the clothing workers and Emil Rieve of the textile workers, also hailed the new wage-hour law. But they coupled it with a call for an early effort to boost the minimum again, this time to a flat dollar an hour. Both also called for broadened coverage of the law.

Tobin Asked to Check
Perhaps with these new union demands in mind, Mr. Truman said he has asked Secretary of Labor Tobin to "keep me informed on the operation of the new law."

The changes exempt some between 200,000 and 1,000,000 workers previously covered. This is done through changes in legal language which the court eventually will have to interpret. The law will continue to cover about 22,000,000 workers.

Russians Turn Back Berliners At Checkpoint

HELMSTEDT, Germany, Jan. 24 (AP)—The Russians began turning back Berlin-bound passenger cars carrying bundles and marketable merchandise at this checkpoint on the Autobahn tonight.

At the same time they continued their slow-motion checking of east-bound truck traffic through the second day.

West-bound truck traffic from Berlin was going through without a hitch. So was passenger and freight train traffic.

But trucks coming from Berlin were fewer, partly because there are fewer getting through from the west. Most of those making the return trip were empties.

Also the two-mile-long queue on the west side of the barrier was not growing so rapidly. There was evidence many shippers were waiting to see what happened.

"There still was no official explanation for the slow-down blockade. Allied officials in Berlin believed it was a reprisal for seizure last week of the Soviet-supervised railway administration building in the American sector—a seizure by West Berlin police that was rescinded four days later by the U. S. Berlin commandant, Maj. Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor.

Bateson on Tour To Plan Census

Cornelius Bateson of Pratum, Salem district supervisor for the 1950 federal census, is this week visiting several communities in the district to lay plans for the coming census work.

He planned to be out of Salem the remainder of the week, visiting towns in the five-county district including Marion, Polk, Lincoln, Benton and Clackamas counties.

WIDNALL WINS NOMINATION

HACKENSACK, N. J., Jan. 24 (AP)—William B. Widnall, a state legislator who bucked the GOP organization, today won the republican nomination for the congressional seat vacated by imprisoned J. Parnell Thomas.



SILVERTON—George Warren Hubbs, 65, prominent Silvertown and Marion county leader, who died Tuesday from a heart ailment. (Story on page 11.)

Portland Store Shattered By Explosion

PORTLAND, Jan. 24 (AP)—An explosion blasted a grocery store to pieces today, but somehow spared three persons in the middle of it.

It blew a passing truck off the street, and shattered neighborhood windows. It knocked a man out of bed two blocks away. It was felt a mile distant.

Yet Mrs. Clara Emery, her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Mann, who were living in the rear of the one-story frame building, escaped with only superficial cuts.

The immediate force of the explosion apparently was upward. Mann said he saw the davenport and roof fly up. The davenport went higher. It came down atop the splintered roof. Leaking gas was blamed. It went off with such force that only small pieces of the building fell on the family.

The store was a \$15,000 loss.

Flat Tire Forces Plane to Make 700-Mile Detour

SEATTLE, Jan. 24 (AP)—A north-bound airliner flew 700 miles south from Alaska today because of a flat tire.

The tire blew out as a Mt. McKinley Airways plane was taking off from Annette island, near Ketchikan, with seven passengers. It was headed for Anchorage.

Instead, Pilot R. P. Baker of Seattle returned south for a landing with crash and fire crews standing by at Boeing field here. He made a straight and safe landing despite the tire pull.

Fire Out of Control In Canadian Town

THORNHILL, Ontario, (Wednesday), Jan. 25 (AP)—Fire which apparently started in the Thornhill hotel early today was raging out of control in this village of 800 residents 10 miles north of Toronto.

Emergency calls were sent out to neighboring municipalities. Three fire trucks rushed from Toronto while other equipment came from Aurora, north of here.

Telephone lines were cut in the blaze but one operator said it appeared "the whole village is on fire."

First reports listed no casualties.

New Plant Construction Will Begin Immediately

Construction of a new Salem aluminum products factory will begin immediately, it was announced Tuesday by James L. Payne, Salem architect for Western Aluminum Corp.

Contract for initial construction work was awarded yesterday to Viecko and Post, Salem contracting firm, by Carl V. Amussen, president of the new manufacturing corporation and head of the Norpac, Inc., distributing firm for aluminum building supplies.

The plant will manufacture aluminum roofing, siding, insulation and other building materials made from aluminum sheeting produced in the Pacific northwest.