

# Flooding Danube Forces 50,000 To Leave Homes

VIENNA, Austria (AP)—Central Europe's worst floods in 50 years swept behind the Iron Curtain Saturday, pouring into the Czechoslovak capital of Prague. In Austria and Germany up to 50,000 persons were believed homeless.

The Communist radio at Prague said parts of the Troja and Liben Islands in the Vltava Moldau River in the middle of Prague were under water.

## 'Happiest Day'

### Blind Couple Speak Vows Of Marriage

CORRY, Pa. (AP)—Gladys Camfield and Howard Collins, tears of happiness brimming in their sightless eyes, were married Saturday in a simple church ceremony watched by scores of happy friends and neighbors.

The wedding of the bride and groom who never saw each other and never will climaxed a "pen pal" club correspondence arranged through the Christian Record, a religious publication, until they began exchanging letters in Braille about a year ago, both never "really thought" they would ever get married.

Gladys, 43, walked confidently down the aisle of the Evangelical United Brethren Church on the arm of her brother to join Howard, 45, the "handsomest man" she knows, in the marriage vows at the flower-bedecked altar.

The trim brunette bride, blinded by disease at the age of 14, called it the "happiest day of my life," even happier than the day she received her seeing-eye dog, Sandra. The dog, only "member of the family" to miss the ceremony, waited for her mistress at the bride's home here.

Collins, who earns a little money caning chairs and, like his bride, receives a \$50 monthly pension, was born blind. But he said he was sure Gladys, who wore an informal street length "beautiful" blue-gray dress, was the nicest looking girl in the church.

The smiling couple rushed to a photographer's studio after the ceremony and then back to the church for a reception attended by more than 150 persons. The entire affair was planned by members of the bride's Sunday school who had persuaded her to change her original plans "not to have an elaborate church wedding."

A brother gave the bride away, and Gertrude Collins, a sister of the bridegroom, was maid of honor. The best man was a charter member of Miss Canfield's Sunday School class.

The couple, who met for the first time last January and announced their wedding plans in May, will not have a formal honeymoon. They plan to make their home with Collins' mother.

## Farm Props Top '54 Issue

BOLTON LANDING, N. Y. (AP)—Gov. Dan Thornton (R-Colo.) predicted Saturday that farm price supports will be the top domestic issue of the 1954 political campaign.

The Colorado governor added that "if the farmers are told the facts" they will accept a drop from rigid high government guarantees as recommended by President Eisenhower.

Thornton discussed the political outlook with reporters on the eve of the 46th annual governor's conference of which he is chairman. He is winding up his second term as governor and has announced he will not run again, nor seek the Colorado senate seat up this year.

President Eisenhower is scheduled to address the governor's state dinner Monday night in an off-the-cuff speech which has been labeled "important."



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Raging waters of the wreck-age-filled Danube meanwhile poured into the Austrian steel city of Linz as a great inland sea built up in the heart of Germany's and Austria's richest farmland.

## VILLAGES DESERTED

Hundreds of German and Austrian villages are under water. Many of them are deserted. Fourteen persons are known dead. Many are missing. Thousands, including hundreds of American troops, are engaged in rescue work.

Radio Prague said the mounting waters of the Danube also were threatening villages near Bratislava and along the Czech-Hungarian border. Czech army, police, border guards and fire brigades were busy evacuating them, the broadcast said.

A great expanse of water extends 300 miles over the banks of the Danube from Regensburg in Germany, to Vienna, the Austrian capital.

The normally peaceful "blue" Danube is a churning brown torrent, carrying debris from flooded farms, battered bridges, power stations and homes. The bodies of hundreds of cattle also bobbed in the stream.

## SPILLING BANKS

On either bank of Central Europe's artery, famed tributaries like the Inn, the Isar, the Eons and the Traun have spilled their banks, crashed through dams and caused incalculable damage.

The Danube and the Inn have reached the expected high point of their rise in Germany, but there is danger that new rain and melting snows may cause them to rise again.

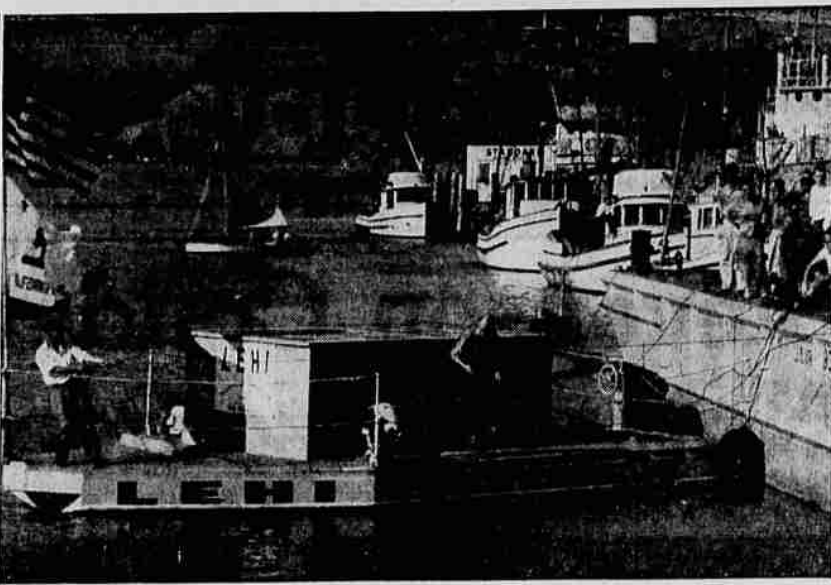
While large areas of the medieval German city of Passau were under water, the crest of the flood moved Saturday morning down the Danube to Linz.

By midday, 1,000 houses were flooded, more than a quarter of them with water almost up to their roofs. Some 15,000 persons—a tenth of the city's population—were evacuated from their homes by firemen and U. S. soldiers.

## Match Fire Burns Fatal to Girl, 10

WALLA WALLA (AP)—Dorothy Ann Hays, 10, Milton-Freewater, Ore., died in a hospital here Saturday from burns suffered Monday.

The child, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy C. Hays, apparently was playing with matches when her clothes caught fire after she had wandered away from home.



HONOLULU BOUND—The Lehi, a yellow-painted raft aboard which five men hope to drift from San Francisco to Hawaii as a preliminary to a more ambitious voyage from Persia to Panama, is shown after it was launched at Sausalito, Calif. The strange craft, 32-feet long and 16-feet wide, is carrying a square-rigged sail but no provisions or water as crewmen hope to live on sealife and rainwater during the 2,200-mile trip, which started Saturday.

## It Was 'Discussion Week' in D. C.

# Foreign Policy Top Topic

WASHINGTON (AP)—Last week was "discussion week" on Capitol Hill. The job of legislating was shoved momentarily into the background by congressional efforts to influence the nation's foreign policy.

Talk of foreign affairs ranged from one end of Pennsylvania Avenue to the other, and doubtless had its effect in other major capitals of the world.

At issue were these questions: What should the United States do if an effort is made later this year to seat Communist China in the United Nations? And, beyond that, what should it do if such an effort succeeded?

However, the week's major legislative action was a slap at key administration recommendation. The Senate Agriculture Committee rejected Eisenhower's plan for a major change in the operation of farm price supports.

FOREIGN POLICY — Senate Republican Leader Knowland of California touched off the foreign policy debate a week ago, urging that Congress declare the United States would step out of the U.N. if and when Red China steps in.

Although Knowland's statement drew a good measure of bipartisan support, Eisenhower and Secretary of State Dulles both advised a "wait and see" policy which would not commit the United States in advance to any definite action. At the same time, they reaffirmed American opposition to the seating of Red China and promised to do all they could to prevent it.

Senators and congressmen of both parties promptly joined in debate. Supporters of the Knowland plan generally took the view that America—and Congress—must take concrete action now to dissuade allies from supporting Communist China's U.N. bid. Opponents contended such action

would tie the hands of the nation's diplomats and could lead to the destruction of the U.N.

On Thursday, two days after conferring with Eisenhower and Dulles, Knowland softened his proposal. He offered an amendment to the pending foreign aid authorization bill that would:

- State congressional opposition to admitting the Peiping regime to the U.N.

- Request the President, if Red China is seated, to outline for Congress the effects of such an event on U.S. foreign policy and submit "any recommendations" he might have.

The proposed amendment is awaiting action by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, which voted tentatively to cut the House-approved foreign aid measure by \$238,208,000. With such a cut, the bill would put a ceiling of \$3,100,000,000 on foreign aid spending during the fiscal year which began July 1. Eisenhower asked for a 3½-billion-dollar program.

Eisenhower told his news conference that so far as his overall legislative program is concerned "the prospects are rosy." He was

particularly pleased about House passage of a farm bill embodying the administration plan for a switch from present high, rigid price supports to a flexible support system, even though the House didn't go as far as he had asked.

Two days later, the Senate Agriculture Committee approved, 13-2, a measure calling for another year of rigid supports. The bill also varies sharply from other presidential proposals. Administration supporters are hopeful the Senate will alter it.

In other fields:

- The House Post Office Committee approved legislation calling for a 5 per cent pay raise for about a half million postal workers. The action opened the way for a possible pay boost for a million other classified government employees and a general increase in postal rates.

- The House passed a bill to extend unemployment insurance benefits to an additional four million workers — most of them federal employees or persons employed by small firms.

# Morse Batters 'Partnerships'

## GOP Power Plan Comes Under Fire

WASHINGTON (AP)—Sen. Morse (Ind-Ore) charged Saturday the Eisenhower administration is embarked on "a sell out to the private utility combine of America."

Declaring these are "days of surrender to the private utility monopoly," Morse said:

"November isn't so far away—it's creeping up on this administration."

Morse attacked the administration's public power policy during debate on a bill to construct a dam on the Columbia River at Priest Rapids, Wash.

The Senate put over action on the measure until Monday after Morse launched into a lengthy discussion of the bill, already passed by the House.

The proposal would depart from the multiple purpose power and reclamation principle now in the law by providing a new approach to public power—the administration's so-called "partnership" concept in development of water resources.

The Priest Rapids Dam would be built by state public utility districts under a policy of joint construction of dam projects by local or state groups and the federal government.

Morse called the bill "a stick of legislative dynamite placed under the whole public power program," and "the beginning of the end" of multiple purpose projects under federal control.

The Oregon senator called it a "bellweather bill" to allow "non-federal agencies to get their head in the tent" of the existing federal power program.

He said if the federal government set a precedent of giving power development to local utility districts, the private utilities would come in next for the right to develop water resources.

And he declared regional power development affecting the entire Northwest and the nation, should not be "thrown into state politics." "I think we ought to stand with the proven program," he said, and oppose "piecemeal" development.

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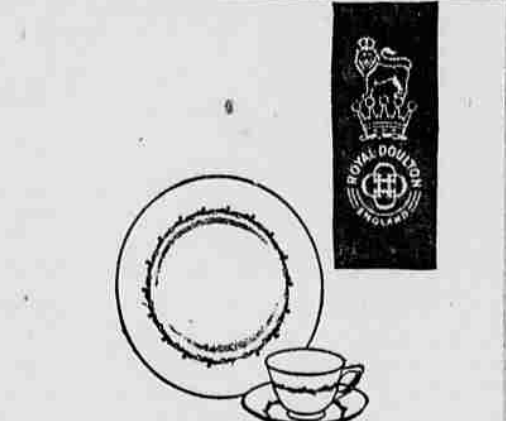
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