

Winter Exits Boisterously In Midlands

Area Hit by Snow,
Tornadoes, Wind

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

Spring came cold and soggy to the nation's midlands Monday after winter's boisterous exit Sunday amid tornadoes, torrestial rains, widespread snowfall and flood.

Sunday, officially the last day of winter, brought 3 to 5 inches of snow in Colorado, Western Nebraska and Western Kansas, with near blizzard conditions around Loveland, Colo.; a series of tornadoes along the Missouri-Arkansas border; a windstorm so violent it blew down a circus tent at Uvalde, Tex., and a 4-inch rain that flooded Piedmont, Mo.

SPRING FREEZE

Monday, the first day of spring, saw temperatures drop below freezing as far south as Texas as snow sprinkled the southwest and central great plains and upper Mississippi Valley. It drizzled in Chicago. The drizzle froze at Oklahoma City.

The rain belt stretched from central Oklahoma northeastward through the central Mississippi Valley and eastward through the southern and central Great Lakes region, northern Ohio Valley and into the central Appalachians. Thunderstorms were bunched from northern Louisiana to central Kentucky.

Precipitation generally ranged from an inch to an inch and a half, but Tupelo, Miss., got 2.49 inches in 6 hours. Snowfall to the west of the rain area varied from a trace to 2 inches.

FAMILY MISSING

The tornadoes leveled several farm buildings but did not strike heavily populated areas. Only 1 person was reported injured, although a family of 4 was reported missing.

The 400 persons watching the circus at Uvalde escaped without serious injury when the big top collapsed. Many of the spectators were children.

Dog Gets Bird

MILLER, S. D. — A novel autopsy proved a St. Lawrence farmer, Herman Lacey, innocent of a hunting violation.

The autopsy was performed on a pheasant that a game warden claimed Lacey had shot illegally. Lacey claimed the pheasant had been killed by his dog.

An autopsy confirmed the bird had not been shot.

Circus Tent Collapses on Crowd of 400

UVALDE, Tex. — Mothers screamed, frightened children cried but no one was seriously hurt Sunday when a windstorm collapsed a circus tent on 400 persons.

Soggy and heavy from lashing rains which accompanied the storm, the big Hagen Bros. Circus tent fell just before the lion and tiger act began — and just after other circus animals paraded around the arena.

WELL TIMED

Had the thunderstorm-spawned wind struck a moment earlier or later, the animals might have been freed among the spectators.

"I might have been scared if I had had time," said J. W. Stewart, Uvalde grocer who brought his 2 sons and a neighbor's 2 girls to the Jaycee-sponsored show on Uvalde's northern outskirts.

The children, among several hundred youngsters in the tent, were Jimmie, 12, and Ronnie Stewart, 4, and Deborah, 5, and Gail, 4, daughters of Robert Hicks.

"I told Jimmie to get Ronnie," Stewart said. "Then I picked up Deborah and Gail, 1 under each arm. Just after we got down

from the bleachers, they collapsed. Something hit me. Jimmie told me afterward it was a tent pole. I'm sore all over."

BOY SCOUT TRAINING

Jimmie credited his Boy Scout training for an act which may have saved Deborah's life.

"The Boy Scout manual says you should always keep your head when there's a bad fire or some-

thing," the slight, brown-haired boy said. "Well, when that tent started coming down I saw 1 of the big poles was falling. It was going to hit Deborah. I pulled her out of the way fast."

Spectators who crawled under bleachers and other paraphernalia holding the canvas off the floor were met by a blast of wind outside.

Police Officer George O'Neal

Smithsonian Problem Gets Cold Shoulder

NEWPORT, R. I. — The Smithsonian Institute has a problem and the Newport's city council doesn't care.

A former councilman told the body that the Smithsonian has trouble cataloging Newport's famed Old Stone Mill because the ancient structure doesn't have an official name. And he proposed it be called Newport Tower.

The councilmen shrugged and went on to other business.

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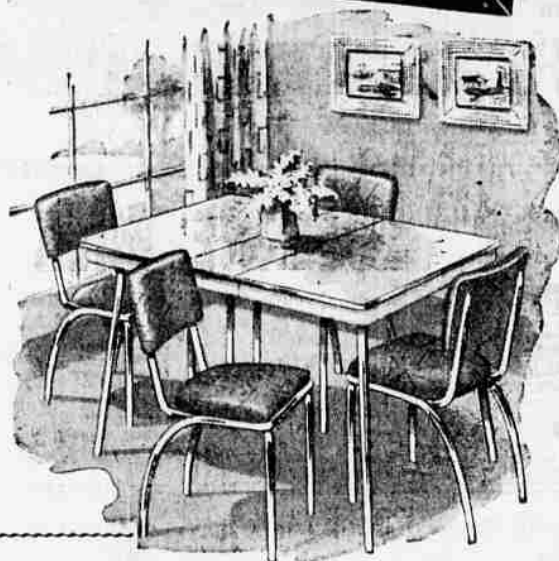
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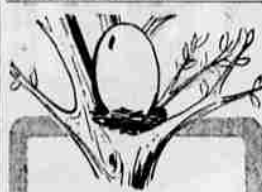
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