

The East Oregonian has the largest paid circulation of any paper in Oregon, east of Portland and over twice the circulation in Pendleton of any other newspaper.

Forecast for Eastern Oregon by the United States Weather Observer at Portland.

Tonight and Friday light snow; no decided change in temperature.



Many Roofs in City Collapse Under the Weight of Snow

6 FEET OF SNOW COVERS COUNTRY AT BIRCH CREEK

Government Station at Granite Meadows Reports Conditions—Snow Storm Still is Continuing.

MEACHAM HAS 5 FOOT DEPTH

Forest Rangers Are in Winter Quarters in Towns Nearest their Stations—Visit to West Birch Creek to Take Measurements Results in Finding Heaviest Fall.

There was six feet of snow last evening at the government station in Granite Meadows at the head of west Birch creek, according to a phone message received by Superintendent Cryder of the Umatilla forest from the ranger who visited the station to make his weather observation. The snow was still falling and it is estimated by Supt. Cryder that the snow is now seven feet deep at the station.

The snow at this station is the deepest known anywhere in this region and is deeper than higher up in the mountains. At Meacham the snow was five feet deep this forenoon. There have been reports of deeper snow than mentioned above. However, the reports seem unreliable.

The various forest rangers of the Umatilla forest are now in winter quarters in the towns nearest to their stations. The rangers are not required to stay in their range cabins in the winter time and merely have to visit the stations once a month to make observations for use in cooperation with the weather bureau. It was to make such an observation the ranger visited the station at the head of west Birch creek.

Boat Service on Columbia Tied Up Because of Ice

SNOW AT UMATILLA REPORTED THIS MORNING TO BE IN INCHES DEEP.

Because of ice in the Columbia river there is no boat service at present and none in immediate prospect, according to a phone statement to the East Oregonian today from H. N. Draper, agent for the steamer company at Umatilla.

The boat service has been entirely cancelled on account of the frozen river and with floating ice now a menace to navigation it will be impossible to make use of river boats to handle mail or other traffic while the rail lines are out of commission. The river below The Dalles is in no shape for boat service and there are places on the upper river where the ice is so jammed navigation would be impossible.

The snow at Umatilla was 18 inches deep at 8 o'clock this morning.

Northern Pacific and North Bank Roads Blocked

PASCO-PENDLETON BRANCH CONTINUES SERVICE UNDER DIFFICULTIES.

Not only is the O.-W. R. & N. service blocked but the North Bank road and the main line of the Northern Pacific are in the same category. The service on the Pasco-Pendleton branch is being carried on despite the difficulties but there are no through trains into Pasco from Portland, via the S. P. & R., or from Seattle over the Northern Pacific.

The North Bank trains are doubling back from Fall Bridge, at Selkirk Falls while the N. P. trains double back from Ellenburg. The North Bank road is open from Fall Bridge to Spokane but there is no connection with Portland by either of the Washington roads. Hence it is impossible to bring mail to eastern Oregon via those routes.

At Ellenburg the Northern Pacific has taken a large force of coal miners and is using them in shoveling snow in the cascades.

The street trees of Paris number 25,000, 26,000 being planes, 16,000 chestnuts and 14,000 elms.

400 HEAD OF SHEEP ARE LOST AT CONDON IN SEVERE STORM

One Condon sheepman, Robert McIntosh, has lost 400 head of sheep from the storm, according to a special phone report to the East Oregonian from the Condon Globe this forenoon. Thus far McIntosh is the heaviest loser but many stockmen are

losing small lots of cattle and sheep. In many cases there is insufficient food for the stock while other stockmen and sheepmen have enough feed to do them for a month longer. At 11 o'clock this morning the snow was 27 inches deep on the level

at Condon. No buildings have fallen under the snow but there is much inconvenience due to the blockade of train service on the Condon branch. The train to Arlington was unable to get out of the Condon yard yesterday morning because of the heavy snow.

DYNAMITE WILL BE USED TO BREAK SNOW-SLIDES IN CASE RIVER IS CHOKED AT THORN HOLLOW; SNOW 4 FEET DEEP

For the protection of the city water system in the event that sliding snow from the mountain sides chokes the river at Thorn Hollow, Supt. F. B. Hayes this morning sent up a large quantity of dynamite. He returned last evening from an inspection of the intake of the system, having spent a day and night there.

No damage has been done to the conduit but he fears that, when rains or chinooks come that the softened snow will slide in great masses into the river, blocking it and flooding the whole country there. In such an event the head of the pipeline and the gatehouse would be endangered and it is to guard against this danger, that he sent the explosives up. As soon as the river shows indications of blocking up, the dynamite will be set off in the snow masses.

FLUME ON WALLA WALLA RIVER BADLY DAMAGED; 60 FEET GOES OUT; STORM IS STILL RAGING; 38 INCHES IN GARDEN CITY

Eighty feet of flume on the Walla Walla river used for the development of power for the Pacific Power & Light Co., went out yesterday, according to a special report to the East Oregonian from Walla Walla today. The break put the power plant out of running but there has been no interruption of service for the reason that with the street car service abandoned in Walla Walla the auxiliary steam plant has been able to handle the business.

The Indians are not alone the sufferers, he states, quite a number of white settlers having lost stock as well. Few Indians or whites in that vicinity, he states, made any great provisions for a hard winter and the heavy snows have found them without food or chances to get any.

SNOW HERE REACHES 3 FOOT MARK

Snow has reached the three-foot mark in Pendleton and, with snow still falling and the weather man promises a continuance of the same weather during the next 24 hours, there is little hope of immediate relief. The snowfall from 4:30 yesterday afternoon until noon today was four and a half inches and there has been perhaps a half inch since noon. From 4:30 Monday until 4:30 Wednesday the fall was 21 1-8 inches and there was a nine inch thickness on the ground when the present storm began. The snow keeps settling a little so that measurements about the city vary somewhat.

The storm during the past 24 hours has not been continuous. The snow has ceased falling for an hour or more at a time only to begin again with increased energy.

Summary of Storm Damage

- Robert McIntosh, Condon, loses 400 head of sheep in storm.
- Indian ponies on range "dying like flies."
- 80 head cattle from St. Andrews mission driven to agency.
- Deepest snow, authentic measurement, seven feet at Granite Meadows ranger station.
- O.-W. train service still badly demoralized.
- Snow in city reaches three foot level.
- Snow five feet deep on level at Meacham.
- Shed and barn roofs caving in under weight of snow.
- Many Grant county cattle will perish, Camas prairie safe.
- City water system endangered; officials pressure against river blockade.
- Electric Co. loses 60 feet of flume on Walla Walla river.
- Ice in Columbia bars use of boats during rail blockade.
- Traffic blocked on Northern Pacific and North Bank lines out of Portland and Seattle.
- No mail from Portland since Tuesday morning.
- Street committee given full power to act as sees fit.
- Half of schools in county closed.
- Merchants emptying basements in anticipation of flood.

CATTLE OWNED BY INDIANS AT THORN HOLLOW DYING RAPIDLY

QUITE A NUMBER OF WHITE SETTLERS ALSO SUFFERING HEAVY LOSSES.

Indian cayuses and cattle are dying from hunger and exposure like flies up about Thorn Hollow, according to Supt. F. B. Hayes of the water department who made a trip yesterday to the head of the city pipeline. He states that everybody with whom he talked reported the stock dying off rapidly, particularly along Squaw creek.

The Indians are not alone the sufferers, he states, quite a number of white settlers having lost stock as well. Few Indians or whites in that vicinity, he states, made any great provisions for a hard winter and the heavy snows have found them without food or chances to get any.

At noon today Major Swartzlander said there was no hope for the cayuses running on the range because there is no way of getting feed to them and they will all die. St. Andrews Cattle. Yesterday afternoon 80 head of cattle from the St. Andrews mission herd were driven from the mission to the Umatilla agency and they are now being fed on government hay at the agency. The cattle are here for the mission at 1 o'clock and arrived at the agency at 3 last evening. The cattle were much exhausted from the trip but all got through alive. One cow was unable to get through and had to be left on the trail. The animal was brought to the agency this morning, still alive. There are still 100 head of cattle at the St. Andrews mission and there is some alfalfa hay with which to feed them.

Rotary Bucks Big Snow Banks in the Meacham Section

PLOW WORKING BETWEEN MEACHAM AND HILGARD 80 AS TO CLEAR TRACKS.

(Special Correspondence.) MEACHAM, Ore., Feb. 2.—At 11 o'clock this Thursday morning, the snow was five feet deep on the level at Meacham. In places where the snow has drifted it is still deeper. There is no trouble here and no suffering. No trains had arrived from either direction at the above hour. A train was marked to arrive here at 7:20 but it did not arrive. At 11 o'clock the rotary was working between Meacham and Hilgard. There is a snowslide a quarter of a mile long down the mountains west of Meacham.

HEAVY CATTLE LOSSES FEARED IN THE JOHN DAY COUNTRY

SECTION AROUND LONG CREEK THREATENED—HAY CROP HAS BEEN SHORT.

There is danger of heavy cattle losses in the John Day valley and particularly around Long Creek, according to various reports received here. The danger is due to the fact the hay crop was short in the John Day country and on top of this the stock started the winter in bad shape because of the lack of fall grass.

One of the Kesney brothers of Long Creek was here yesterday and told a friend he had received alarming reports from his cattle ranch. Reports reaching the forest superintendent, Mr. Cryder, also show some danger of stock losses in the John Day valley.

On the other hand the news from Camas prairie is all to the effect the stockmen there are very well supplied with feed. The Camas hay crop was good and the only drawback on the situation is that it was necessary to commence feeding earlier than usual last fall. Jessie and Oscar Hilbert, sons of Frank Hilbert of Ukiah, are here and report that the stockmen are generally in good shape in their section. The young men left Ukiah day before yesterday and it took them from 9 o'clock in the morning until 10 o'clock at night to reach Pilot Rock.

E. E. Welch, Ukiah livery stable proprietor, who is here also corroborates the report that there is generally sufficient feed to care for the stock in the southern part of the county.

Roof of City Livery Barn on Thompson Street Falls in Early This Morning Under Weight of Snow—Other Roofs Collapse—Crew of Men at Work Cleaning off Roof of Grand Stand at Round-Up Park to Save it From Falling in.

Under their growing burden of snow, many roofs, particularly of barns and sheds, have begun to give way and during the past 24 hours several have collapsed. About 2:30 this morning the roof of the City Livery Barn on Thompson street fell with a crash, practically the entire roof falling. This is the largest structure which has suffered so far.

A report on the street this morning was to the effect that the roof of the Alta House had collapsed, but this report proved to be unfounded. A part of the roof of the William Welch feedyard on the west end of the city is reported to have fallen, one of the colobeds at the Oregon Lumber Yard caved in and a part of the roof of the Pendleton Iron Works is reported to have suffered yesterday. The barn at the ranch of Charles Tulloch is reported to have given way day before yesterday under the snow. J. V. Tallman yesterday lost the roof of one of his barns.

Railroad Traffic Practically at Standstill Because of Snow

Traffic on the railroads is still almost entirely suspended as a result of the snow and there is little hope of a resumption of schedules in the near future. The main line of the O.-W. R. & N. west of The Dalles is still blocked and there has been no trains from Portland since Tuesday morning.

The task of keeping the line open is a big one. Many small slides and several large ones have buried the tracks and there is always danger of new ones. Should the snow soften this danger will be increased. The stub trains from The Dalles, which arrived here yesterday morning, were sent on east but at Thorn Hollow they were turned back to Pendleton, as the road was still blocked. No train arrived from The Dalles this morning. Meager reports from west of The Dalles indicate a bad tie-up from slides along the Columbia.

Dance and Prohi Ordinances are Passed by City Council; Dance Ordinance is Modified

The modified dance-regulating ordinance, the prohibition ordinance and an ordinance requiring the muzzling of all dogs were passed unanimously by the city council last evening. Few changes were made in the prohibition ordinance introduced last evening. The council in its caucus changed a few provisions to make them coincide more exactly with the state law and the ordinance as adopted agrees almost exactly with the state law. Only in a few places has the state law been changed a little to make it more adaptable to city purposes.

Portland, Ore., Feb. 3.—Communication and transportation is paralyzed throughout the northwest. Early this morning Portland was without communication with the outside world. Wireless arrivals broke under the weight of ice. Railroads have abandoned their schedules. Electric East Portland is without electric lights or telephones. The thaw which started yesterday turned to snow last night, which caused falling this morning. The ground is covered with ten inches.

Ordinance to be Introduced Next Week to Compel Local Buildings to Build Escapes

A city ordinance to compel the building of fire-escapes on hotels, school buildings and other public places where people en masse will be introduced at the next council meeting, according to a statement made last evening by Chairman Hill of the fire committee. There is a state law now requiring such escapes but the city authorities cannot act under it.

One death has been reported as a result of the storm. Herbert Will dropped dead from exhaustion while battling against driving sleet in attempting to reach home last night. Hundreds of people were unable to return to their homes last night and remained downtown, crowding hotels, restaurants and theaters. Other hundreds were marooned in their homes this morning without the possibility of getting groceries or milk. Snow and sleet reached two feet in depth in some suburbs. Structural service has been abandoned.

APPAM DOCKS; PASSENGERS ALLOWED TO LEAVE VESSEL

NEWPORT NEWS, Feb. 3.—The APPAM docked this morning and unloaded its passengers except the crew and 12 British military prisoners. Trains were ready to take the passengers to New York and Norfolk.