

Critical Rivers Of Northwest Continue Rise

Kootenai Leveling Off—Columbia Under Forecast Height

(By the Associated Press)
Water in several of the Northwest's "critical" rivers continued to rise today, but at a slower pace than yesterday.

At Bonners Ferry, Idaho, the Kootenai river which had been rising at the rate of three and one-half feet a day, began leveling off in the early morning hours. Its upward push between 8 and 9 a.m. was only one half inch to 27.5 feet. Flood stage is 31 feet.

At Portland, river forecaster Elmer Fisher said the Snake and middle Columbia rivers were a shade under forecast levels today. He predicts they will continue to rise moderately through Monday.

Snow Pack Diminishes

Spokane Weatherman Robert McKomb attributed part of the decrease to the spreading out of the water as it reached higher levels and part to a diminishing snow pack in the mountains.

The weather of the next three days may determine whether or not the Kootenai waters will invade some 30,000 acres of rich farmland near Bonners Ferry, he said. Cooler weather would help decrease the flow. Some rain is forecast for the next few days, but probably not enough to affect river levels, he said.

Dike repair crews working around the clock at Bonners Ferry expected 160 army engineers and heavy equipment from Seattle before noon today to help them.

Valley Floor Threatened

Col. L. H. Hewitt, district engineer, arrived last night and made an inspection of the dikes. Farms on the valley floor were not seriously threatened. The flood of 1948 ripped huge holes in the dikes and workers are struggling to strengthen patches and bring the levees to a safe height.

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Bids for Clearing Detroit Project

Col. O. E. Walsh, Portland district engineer, announces that his office will invite bids about May 18 for the clearing of three areas in the Detroit project, totaling 580 acres above the damsite on the North Santiam.

The location is about 15 miles east of Mill City, starting 1300 feet southeast of the axis of the dam and extending upriver about 2 1/2 miles.

Estimated quantities for Part A are one job of clearing 185 acres, and cutting and stockpiling 150,000 board feet of merchantable timber; for Part B, one job of clearing 175 acres and cutting and stockpiling 150,000 feet of merchantable timber; and for Part C, one job of clearing 220 acres and cutting and stockpiling 250,000 feet of merchantable timber.

The prospective bid opening date is June 21 at 2 p. m., and completion time for the work will be 300 days. The work will be awarded separately by parts or as a whole to one bidder, whichever is most acceptable to the government.

On May 27 at 2 p. m. bids will be opened for clearing, logging and stockpiling an initial 175 acres of merchantable timber within the Detroit dam reservoir area. This job is divided into two parts, 43 and 140 acres, and contains 250,000 and 930,000 board feet of merchantable timber.

Salem Hangar Gets Approval

Representative Walter Norblad shortly after noon Friday notified the Capital Journal that the house armed services committee had today given its approval to the navy's leasing of the hangar at McNary field for use for the Salem Naval Air facility.

The navy department last month put its final stamp of approval on the leasing of that area from the city of Salem and then forwarded the lease to the house committee.

The hangar, located on the east side of McNary field, already has been taken over by the navy and work on renovating the structure started. Part of the interior has been painted and some equipment brought here from the Seattle Naval Air Station.

Officer in command of the Salem Naval Air Facility is Lt. Cmdr. Wallace Hug, who has with him a group of station keepers, many of whom are local men, returned to active duty with the navy.

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Fraser River to Top Flood Stage By Saturday

Vancouver, May 13 (CP)—Fraser valley, scene of disastrous floods a year ago, today prepared to protect its new system of dikes as the Fraser river came close to flood stage.

It is expected to reach flood stage—18 feet—by tomorrow, and dike patrols will start then on a 24-hour basis.

A warm sun beat down on the valley today and temperatures were high as the mountain runoff continued to swell the turbulent Fraser.

Millions of dollars have been spent to rebuild and strengthen the dike system since last year's floods and Fraser valley diking board officials said there should be no "undue alarm."

The water must rise far beyond the 18-foot "flood stage minimum" before real danger will be felt.

Dikes Generally Stronger

"I'm not going to be pessimistic or optimistic," said Bruce Dixon, diking commissioner. "The dikes are generally stronger, but a chain is only as strong as its weakest link. There may be weak spots in the system we don't know of."

At Mission, 40 miles up the valley from Vancouver, the river gauge today read 15.95 feet. At this time last year it was 10.83, but 10 days later the river was in full flood.

Little change in the weather situation is expected during the week-end with temperatures reaching the 80s in interior districts.

Flash floods have been reported from the Similkameen valley, 140 miles east of here, and some roads and farmlands have been flooded. The Similkameen and Tulameen rivers have shown a steady rise.

Kootenay Lake Rising

At Nelson, B.C., 500 miles east of Vancouver, the Kootenay lake is rising eight days earlier than last year, and in the Prince Rupert area, 500 miles to the north, the Skeena river threatens to flood.

At Pentlicon, 180 miles east of here, the Okanagan river flowed over its banks at weak spots caused by last year's flood.

Mission Creek is in flood at Kelowna, in the Okanagan valley, but the situation is not serious.

"There is no reason to be alarmed," said Mayor W. B. Hughes-Games of Kelowna.

McKay Appoints Potato Board

Governor Douglas McKay today appointed the state potato commission, which was created by the recent legislature.

The commission will promote the sale of Oregon potatoes. Members of the commission appointed are:

Floyd Stoneman, who lives in Malheur county, but whose address is route 3, Weiser, Ida.; S. E. Hartley, Nyssa; N. L. Weigand, Powell Butte; John Brooks, Madras; Scott Warren, Klamath Falls; Wilford J. Dixon, Merrill; Clyde Warren, Baker; M. B. McKay, Troutdale; and Robert Miller, Boardman.

Besides these members, are two others whom the legislature made permanent members. They are the state director of agriculture and the dean of the Oregon State college school of agriculture.

Davidson Raps Opponents Of CVA as Exploiters

Washington, May 13 (AP)—Assistant Secretary of the Interior G. Girard Davidson said today a proposed Columbia valley administration is being opposed by "people who have sought to exploit the resources of the public domain for selfish interest."

Davidson, in a speech prepared for a natural resources conference, identified the opponents of the CVA legislation now before congress.

Terms of 2 Tax Commissioners Expire June 4

By JAMES D. OLSON

Terms of two members of the state tax commission—Earl L. Fisher and Wallace S. Wharton—expire on June 4 and it is expected that the board of control will hold a session next week to make a decision on what is to be done with the vacancies.

None of the members of the board were willing to discuss the subject Friday but it is known that Governor McKay favors the retention of Commissioner Wharton and would be inclined to carry Commissioner Fisher in his present job as head of the income tax department for a number of months before naming a replacement.

However, reliable sources indicate that the other two members of the board, Secretary of State Earl T. Newby and State Treasurer Walter Pearson are not willing to go along with the governor's program.

Pearson for Morgan

Some months ago, during the legislative session, Treasurer Pearson announced that he would favor the appointment of Rep. Howard Morgan of Portland to one of the jobs on the tax commission. It was also known that Newby was ready to vote for the appointment of Rep. Robert Gile of Roseburg.

However neither of these men are eligible for appointments to the commission as under a provision of the state constitution no legislator can be appointed to a position for which a salary increase had been voted. The last legislature increased the salaries of the tax commissioners.

Roberts Favored

A campaign in behalf of Carlisle B. Roberts, assistant attorney general to replace Commissioner Fisher is in progress. Roberts has handled all tax cases for the attorney general office.

Wharton, who is the sole democrat on the tax commission was appointed by the late Governor Earl Snell while he was still serving as an officer in the navy.

During his tenure, Wharton, who is in charge of the assessment division, has set up a procedure for county assessors to follow in making assessments on real property. In addition he has carried on a series of training sessions for assessors in various parts of the state.

It is because of this work that Governor McKay favors his re-appointment, but reports are prevalent that the other two members of the board will offer a new man for the position.

Allen A. Jones, 43 Killed in Crash

Lebanon, May 13 (AP)—Allen A. Jones, 43, Portland lumberman, was killed early today in a highway accident as he drove along near Sweet Home.

He was here on business connected with the Western Veneer plywood plants at Lebanon and Sweet Home. He was secretary-treasurer of the firm.

Linn County Coroner Glenn Huston said Jones apparently went to sleep at the wheel. His car left the highway and ran along the edge for 360 feet before striking a guard railing. Two planks pierced the car, Jones was thrown free, but the car rolled on top of him, crushing him fatally.

Atomic Funds Aid Commies

Washington, May 13 (AP)—Senator Hickenlooper (R-Iowa) threatened today to seek a change in the law if the atomic energy commission doesn't deny student aid funds to communists and fellow travelers.

Hickenlooper told a reporter he sees "no excuse" for the commission's contributing about \$3,800 yearly toward science studies by Hans Freistadt, admitted communist doing graduate work in physics at the University of North Carolina.

Freistadt, described by Rep. Cole (R-N.Y.) in the house yesterday as a friend of John Gates, communist under indictment in New York, said in an interview he became a communist after he was naturalized as a citizen several years ago.

He was awarded an atomic energy commission (AEC) fellowship for study in the field of relativity, not involving work of a secret nature.

"Nothing was said in the application for scholarship about political affiliation," Freistadt recalled. He also said: "I consider myself a loyal citizen of the United States. I see no conflict between my loyalty to this country and my membership in the communist party."

Canby Strawberries Ready

Portland, May 13 (AP)—The season's first Willamette valley strawberries were on the market here today. They came from the Canby Berry gardens and sold wholesale at \$4 a crate.



Lebanon—Crown of majesty is conferred on Queen Alice Rose by Joe Cox, student body president at the high school's annual May Day festivities last Friday, May 6, on the high school campus. Attending princesses, left to right are: Mary Fenner, Norma Strange, Mary Ann Turner, Helen Jo Gilbert, Sally Davis and Jean Carlson. Their escorts, Bob Osterman, Dick Houghton, Wallace Campbell, Raymond Downing, Don Baker and Don McGourty, will appear again at the coronation of the strawberry fair queen on the morning of June 3. Neil Penland, crownbearer, and Carol Page, flower girl, survey the crowning with interest. Miner studio.

Fire Guts Two Homes, One Valley Landmark

Two serious fires occurred Friday morning south of the city. Flames gutted the old Liberty store building, landmark lately used as a residence, on Liberty road across the highway from the United Growers cannery.

Shortly before this fire another destroyed the roof and attic of an old-fashioned two-story residence at 375 Fairview avenue, the blaze breaking out just after 9:30 o'clock.

Occupying the house on Liberty road was the Wm. Meyers family. It is owned by Ed Peterson. Living in the Fairview avenue home is the Phil Thompson family, and Nick Casper, 630 North Summer street, is the owner.

Considerable damage resulted at the Thompson home from water as the downstairs had just been papered and painters were completing their interior work.

Firemen were forced to lay a hose line for three blocks to the nearest hydrant, which is close to the American Legion club on South Commercial.

Alarm was given by Keith Brallier, employed at the 99E Hi-Way service station just south of the Fairview intersection. He was going between the grease rack and the station when he saw flames shooting through the roof.

At the time of the alarm Mrs. Alice Van Blair, sister of Mrs. Thompson, was using a vacuum cleaner and was not aware of the fire until after the alarm had been turned in.

There was no fire in the house and cause of the blaze is not known but because of the point of origin either spontaneous combustion, because of the extreme warmth of the last two days, or defective electric wiring is the conjecture.

Practically all contents of the Meyers home were destroyed. How the fire started is not known. An adjoining part of the building on the north side and fronting directly on the road was little damaged.

The building is historic. It is believed to be nearly 75 years old. Besides being the former location of the Liberty store it was at one time occupied by a restaurant.

It was partially insured. (Picture on Page 5)

Southern Operators To Confer with Lewis

Washington, May 13 (AP)—John L. Lewis and the southern coal mine operators agreed today to begin negotiations on a new union mining contract at Bluefield, W. Va., May 25.

Joseph E. Moody, president of the Southern Coal Producers association, announced the agreement after conferences with Lewis, head of the United Mine Workers.

The southern group represents about one third of the national bituminous coal output. The present coal mining contract expires June 30.

THE WEATHER

(Released by United States Weather Bureau)
Forecast for Salem and Vicinity: Partly cloudy tonight and Saturday. Little change in temperature. Lowest temperature expected tonight, 51 degrees; highest Saturday, 65. Conditions will continue favorable for farm work. Maximum yesterday 58. Minimum today 42. Mean temperature yesterday 73 which was 17 above normal. Total 24-hour precipitation to 11:30 a.m. today 0. Total precipitation for the month 1.53 inches which is .59 of an inch above normal. Willamette river height at Salem, Friday morning, 5.8 feet.

Pick Matthews Navy Secretary

Washington, May 13 (AP)—Francis Patrick Matthews, Omaha lawyer, was named secretary of the navy today.

The White House announced that Matthews, 62, widely known Catholic layman, has been picked to succeed John L. Sullivan.

Sullivan quit recently with a blast at Secretary of Defense Johnson for halting work on the navy's super aircraft carrier.

President Truman also announced he is promoting Dan A. Kimball to undersecretary of the navy. Kimball is now assistant secretary. He is a Californian.

Kimball succeeds former Undersecretary W. John Kenney whose resignation was announced last week.

Presidential Press Secretary Charles G. Ross said Matthews' nomination probably would go to the senate during the day.

Presidential Press Secretary Charles G. Ross made the announcements for the president. Later, formal nominations were sent to the senate.

Mr. Truman also nominated Vice Adm. John L. McCrea to be director of the staff of the personnel policy board of the defense establishment.

Matthews is a democrat and was a member of the president's committee on civil rights in 1946. He is a graduate of Creighton university and a native of Albion, Neb.

Reds Denounce Trial of Negroes

Trenton, N. J., May 13 (AP)—The conviction of six Negroes, now under death sentences, was attacked today as a "vicious frameup" by the left-wing Civil Rights Congress.

On the eve of an appeal of the case before New Jersey's highest court, the congress issued a statement branding the conviction "an attempted lynching—northern style."

The state supreme court is to head argument on the appeal Monday.

Hurling charges of racial persecution at Mercer county police officials, the congress termed the trial a "northern Scottsboro case."

The group, listed as subversive by the U. S. department of justice, has distributed leaflets containing these accusations in a wide campaign to "free the Trenton six."

Controversy over the case started last summer when the six men were sentenced to die in the electric chair for the bludgeoning slaying of William Horner, 72-year-old Trenton shopkeeper.

"Conviction of the six Negroes by an all-white jury was based solely on so-called 'confessions' which were extorted from the men and later repudiated by all of them," the congress charged.

Shanghai City Ruled by Guns And Terrorism

Residents More Fearful of Trigger Happy Defenders Than Reds

Hong Kong, May 13 (AP)—Shanghai today is a city ruled by guns.

Its nearly 6,000,000 residents are more fearful of their trigger-happy nationalist defenders than of the Chinese communists prodding at its outskirts.

Harsh and bloody measures taken by the Shanghai garrison are converting from contempt to anger the feeling residents have for the men assigned to defend that greatest Asiatic city.

Military Edict Law

Military edict, enforced by arms, is now the law for Shanghai. Legal looting by soldiers—who never were distinguished for their respect for other people's property—now goes under the alias of "requisitioning."

Through a tightening censorship the garrison decides what Shanghai and the world will know about the war and about conditions in that city.

The garrison is following unwaveringly the military patterns of Peiping, Tientsin, Suchow and Nanking, all of which have fallen to the Reds.

With "volunteer" laborers, the army is gouging out trenches, erecting pillboxes, uprooting villages and burning down houses on the outskirts of the city.

(Concluded on Page 5, Column 8)

UN Approves Colony Plans

Lake Success, May 13 (AP)—The political committee of the United Nations assembly approved today the joint British-Italian plan for partitioning Italy's prewar African empire.

The approved plan assigns parts of the territories to Britain, France, Italy and Ethiopia either under the UN trusteeship system or in outright annexation.

The vote in the 59-nation committee was 34 to 16. Seven abstained.

The proposal now goes to the full assembly in plenary session at Flushing Meadow park for final action.

The only part of the plan deleted was a proposal to give the western province of Eritrea to the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan. This was defeated by 19 votes against it and 16 in favor. Twenty-one abstained.

No provision was made for western Eritrea immediately.

The delegates had heard Russia's Andrei A. Gromyko in a previous session accuse the United States and Britain of making a "deal" to keep control of strategic parts of Mussolini's African empire.

Referendum on Old Age Aid

A preliminary referendum petition calling for the repeal of the recently enacted old age pension law was filed with David O'Hara, election commissioner, by Joe E. Duane Friday.

The petition calls for placement of the law on the ballot at the general election November 1950 for approval or rejection. The bill was signed by Governor McKay last Monday.

Three signatures contained on the preliminary petitions are Carson U. Karbaugh, 638 Highland avenue, Salem; Opal L. Horok, 1912 S.E. 40th avenue, Portland; and Henry A. Menasco, 1737 S.E. Umatilla avenue, also of Portland.

Duane, who led the fight for the old age bill passed by the voters at the last November election said that he expected to obtain the necessary 16,000 signatures within two or three weeks.

Clay Declares Berlin Blockade Lifting Success

Refutes Soviet Charges And Says Good Faith On Both Sides

Berlin, May 13 (AP)—Gen. Lucius D. Clay pronounced the lifting of the German blockades a success today, thus refuting Soviet charges that the western powers failed to live up to their part of the agreement.

The retiring U.S. military governor said in a final press conference that he was satisfied "there was good faith on both sides" in putting into effect the four power agreement removing the Soviet blockade of Berlin and related restrictions.

Both Russia and the western powers have kept their promises to lift regulations aimed at blockading each other, Clay said. He spoke after the Soviets through their official organ here, had accused the western big three of failing to erase completely their counter-blockade of the Soviet zone.

Always Technicalities

"There are always technicalities to be resolved," Clay said, "but nothing of a serious nature has arisen."

Among the technicalities he mentioned was the shaking down of the present application of an agreement for shipment of iron, coal and steel from western Germany to the Soviet zone. The agreement expired during the blockade.

Clay refused to say whether he believed a united Germany would emerge from the big four meeting in Paris, or whether the foreign ministers would come to any agreement there.

Clay emphasized that there would be no early withdrawal of U.S. troops from Germany, even though the Russians might propose a complete evacuation of occupation troops at the Paris meeting.

Russian Complaint

The Russians accused western powers today of violating the four-power agreement on lifting the Berlin blockade by failing to raise completely their counter-blockade of the Soviet zone.

"The agreement cannot be fulfilled on the part of the Soviets alone," the official Russian organ Taegliche Rundschau said in making public the first rift between the east and the west over the four-power agreement.

American officials denied the Soviet charges. But they acknowledged that they had not given in to Soviet demands for minimum iron, steel and coal shipments provided for in an agreement which expired during the blockade.

Allies Approve West Germany

Frankfurt, Germany, May 13 (AP)—The western allies approved with reservations last night the new west German federal republic's draft constitution.

Thus they gave themselves a high trump card for use in the May 23 Paris peace talks with Russia seeking a solution to the entire German problem.

They are shooting for an ultimate agreement uniting the Soviet zone of Germany with the republic, and hope the constitution, which guarantees a free government of the people, will be the basis for settlement.

The Americans, British and French also ordered an "occupation statute" or interim peace treaty for the western occupation zones' 45,000,000 Germans, to come into force the day the west German government takes office. Its terms had been announced earlier this year.

Gen. Lucius D. Clay, for the United States; Gen. Sir Brian Robertson, for Britain; and Lt. Gen. Pierre Koenig, for France, signed the constitution. Their action cut away the last obstacle to formation of the first German civil government since the war.

The draft constitution now goes to the 11 state parliaments in western Germany for ratification which may be completed before the end of May.

Oregon Women Arriving For Convention of BPW

Delegates and visitors were arriving this afternoon for the 28th annual convention of the Oregon Federation of Business and Professional Women's clubs to be conducted in Salem for the next three days.

Between 400 and 450 delegates and visitors are expected to attend from the 47 clubs in the state group.

Judge Sarah T. Hughes, Dallas, Texas, first vice president for the national federation, was arriving by plane at mid-afternoon to attend the meeting as representative from the national federation.

The pre-convention state board session opened at noon today at the Senator hotel. Mrs. Arthur Weddle, Salem, is the state president presiding at all meetings. Business sessions start Saturday afternoon.

TODAY!
On Pages 14 and 15
An array of homes in Salem that may be purchased on convenient terms or for cash.
The pictures will give you a comprehensive idea of the general appearance of the homes and better help you to make your selection of the property best suited to your needs.
"For guaranteed values" see the
Capital Journal
Salem's leading newspaper