

MOSTLY CLOUDY with occasional showers tonight, Friday. Little change in temperature. Lowest tonight, 32; highest Friday, 40.

Maximum yesterday, 36; minimum today, 28. Total 24-hour precipitation: .50; for month: 16.42; normal, 4.5. Season precipitation, 23.41; normal, 31.75. River height, 15.6 feet, falling. (Report by U.S. Weather Bureau.)

Capital Journal



HOME EDITION

62nd Year, No. 22

Entered as second class matter at Salem, Oregon

Salem, Oregon, Thursday, January 26, 1950

(24 Pages)

Price 5c

Snow Turns to Slush But Cold Wave Forecast

More Chilly Showers And Freezing Rain Tonight and Friday

More chilly showers — with possibility of some freezing rain — and continued low temperatures loom as the weather prospect in Salem tonight and Friday.

The local weather bureau's forecast is for cloudiness with occasional showers tonight and tomorrow, and a minimum of 32 degrees tonight, freezing point. A noontime forecast from the Portland weather bureau, however, warned western Oregon may have more snow through tomorrow with a chance some of the precipitation may be freezing rain, at least around the Portland area.

Snow Turns to Rain

In Salem for Thursday, however, the situation had "eased" from the biting cold earlier in the week. The morning minimum was up to 33 degrees here and snow and rain fell during the night and early morning to turn an earlier snowfall into slush.

Wind, snow and rain brought on a varying storm for the Salem area Wednesday night. The wind reached 40 miles an hour velocity in minute averages and was even higher in some gusts. At times it was accompanied by a flurry of "dry" snowflakes, but temperatures eased and rain came.

Half-Inch Precipitation

Precipitation in the 24-hour period ending at 10:30 a.m. Thursday was exactly one-half inch, bringing the month's total to date to 10.42 inches.

To the north, Portland was struggling with continued cold and snow last night, although the morning temperatures were higher. Portland's temperature dropped to 22 degrees during the night, but was up to 34 before dawn. Winds and heavy rains caused numerous power failures in Portland during the night.

Heavy Snows Over Northwest

Heavy snow fell over most of western Washington overnight as still-freezing temperatures climbed upward in most parts of the Pacific northwest.

Sub-zero cold continued in the northern sector of eastern Washington, but the mercury did not get to the extreme lows of the previous night.

The coldest report came from Omak. It was 9 below zero there and 8 below at Wenatchee.

Many schools closed in Washington cities and rural areas because of transportation troubles in the new snow.

Moderating weather brought slush conditions in some western Oregon areas.

The forecast was for snow flurries or rain and snow in western Washington, rain or snow in western Oregon and intermittent snow east of the Cascades.

Chains Needed In Mountains

Motorists need chains on all mountain roads in Oregon, as well as in several sections of eastern Oregon, the state highway commission said today.

Roads still closed today were:

The Columbia river highway by snowslides between Hood River and Cascade Locks, the Oregon coast highway by a slide 13 miles south of Port Orford, and the Siuslaw highway by a cave-in near Florence.

The Corvallis-Eastside highway was reopened today after being closed by high water.

The road report:

Government Camp—Snowing hard, packed snow, plowing, chains required. 11 inches new snow. 124 inches roadside snow. Columbia River highway—Closed by slide at Shell Rock. Sunset and Wilson River highways—Packed snow, 10 inches new snow.

Salem—Slush. Corvallis—Slush. Eugene—Showers. Santiam Pass—High wind, packed snow, plowing, chains required. 8 inches new snow.

Detroit Dam 1949 Progress On Schedule

Access Roads, River Diversion, and Excavation as Expected

By JAMES D. OLSON
Progress on development of the Detroit dam project in 1949 came up to expectations, according to Lt. Col. J. W. Miles, resident engineer on the job.

Construction on the main dam is ten percent over all, he said. Accomplishments to date include construction of access roads, completion of river diversion and excavation of about one-third of the dam foundation.

Expected to be accomplished during the present year includes completion of the foundation excavation, erection of a construction plant, including high line cableways, quarry, aggregate processing, concrete mixing plants and cement handling facilities. Pouring of mass concrete in the dam structure is expected to commence in June.

Salmon Hatchery

The salmon hatchery under construction at Marion Forks is about 60 percent complete and will be ready for use early this spring.

Contracts for clearing 800 acres within the reservoir area were awarded during the summer. These contracts and future similar contracts, in addition to reservoir clearing, provide for salvage of merchantable timber cut in the area. Four hundred acres of the 800 under contract are completely cleared and the remainder will be finished in May 1950. All reservoir clearing must be accomplished by the fall of 1951, Col. Miles said.

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Weather on Climatic Binge

(By the Associated Press)
The nation's weather was on a climatic binge today.

Most of nature's elements appeared on the loose, fashioning a crazy-quilt of contrasts across the country.

The late January weather picture:

There was bitter cold and mountainous snow over the northern plains.

Cotton was blooming in Orangeburg county, S. C., five months ahead of schedule. At East Point, Ga., an Atlanta suburb, a quince tree was abloom.

In Virginia, trees were budding and flowers were blooming as January heat records toppled in many communities. The mercury climbed to 78 at Richmond and 78.3 at Norfolk yesterday, all-time top marks for the date.

Rain pelted wide areas. Freezing rain splashed many sections and travel skidded to a crawl.

Fog blanketed the area of New York City and New Jersey. Air travel and shipping was at a virtual standstill. The big liner Queen Mary was halted at Ambrose light, unable to reach inner New York harbor because of fog. Three big airports, La Guardia, Idlewild and Newark were blanketed by the fog and the ceiling was 100 feet and visibility 1/16th of a mile.

Explosion Is Thunder

Portland, Jan. 26 (AP)—Police got a number of telephone calls today from people who thought they heard an explosion at 2:35 a. m.

The weather bureau said it was a loud clap of thunder.

Salem's Total Fire Loss In 1949 Over \$105,845

Salem's total adjusted fire loss in 1949 was \$105,845.67, with figures not quite complete, says the annual report of Fire Chief W. P. Roble, made to City Manager J. L. Franzen, Thursday.

This loss was in buildings, \$66,021.89, and in contents \$39,823.78.

The sound or actual value of buildings and contents involved in fires was \$2,258,274.34, and the insurance carried on them was \$1,776,505.

An interesting item in the report is 128 building fires occurred in which the fire department was not called, with losses totaling \$7,720.28. These became known through insurance adjustments. There may have been more unreported fires.

The total number of alarms during the year was 569. Outside the city limits 46 alarms were answered. Eight false alarms were recorded and 31 unnecessary alarms.

The total number of building fires was 356, grass and brush fires 71, all other outdoor fires except auto 51, and automobile fires were 52. The auto loss was \$1,440.50.

The use and occupancy of buildings involved in fires was: residential, including hotels and private garages, 282; non-residential, 23; mercantile and business, 28; manufacturing, 13; storage, 2; miscellaneous, 8.



Myers' Profits 10 Percent Gross

Washington, Jan. 26 (AP)—A New York banker testified today that Guy C. Myers, New York investment broker, will get 10 percent of any gross profit a bankers group may make from its proposed purchase of 500,000 shares of the common stock of the Pacific Power and Light company.

American Power and Light company, owner of the stock, is seeking security and exchange commission permission to sell the stock to a group of New York bankers for \$18,500,000. The stock purchase would give the bankers control of Pacific.

B. J. Van Ingen, president of the B. J. Van Ingen & Co., manager of the proposed deal, testified at an SEC hearing today that a revised contract with Myers gives him 10 percent of the gross profits of the group. He said if no profits are realized Myers will get nothing. He added that if the stock is re-sold Myers gets no commission from those sales.

Van Ingen estimated that perhaps the New York group could re-sell the entire facilities of Pacific and its stock for \$80,000,000 to \$85,000,000. George L. Rogers, Jr., SEC counsel, estimated this would give a gross profit to the bankers of about \$3,800,000 from which Myers would get his 10 percent.

Rogers said the contract made by Van Ingen called for Myers to receive 10 percent on gross profits up to \$3,600,000, 19 percent on the next \$3,900,000 of gross profits and 10 percent for any amount above that.

Van Ingen said he had been advised that the \$80,000,000 to \$85,000,000 was all he could get for the property located in a public power area of the Pacific Northwest. He said he was advised it would bring more if it were a non-public power area.

Clamp on Oil Imports Asked

Washington, Jan. 26 (AP)—President Truman today received a congressional request to clamp a quota limitation on imports of foreign oil.

Sponsors of the plan said the move is needed to prevent "serious consequences" for independent American producers.

Rep. Wright Patman (D-Tex) presented to Mr. Truman a report drafted after hearings by an oil subcommittee of the house small business committee headed by Patman.

It urged that Mr. Truman immediately invoke the "escape clause" in reciprocal trade agreements. It declared those agreements permit foreign oil to "invade" the home market.

Patman told reporters on leaving the White House that imports should be cut to an approximate balance with American exports. The latter now approximate 340,000 barrels daily, he said.

By contrast, the report showed that in the last half of 1949 imports from Arabia, Latin-America and elsewhere average 700,000 barrels daily.

Camera-Shy Prisoners—The trio above, accused of burglaries and forgeries in a series of Walling and mid-Willamette valley crimes, is shown above waiting to appear before Judge Joseph B. Felton in district court.

The Capital Journal cameraman tried all the tricks of his trade to snap a photo showing the faces of the three—Harold B. Lancelle, David R. Cook, and his wife, Jean. A false flash, shuffling feet and other techniques failed to cause Lancelle to look up or the Cooks to break their huddle. The trio has served time in Wisconsin penal institutions.

One of Burglary Trio Waives Examination

By DOUGLAS THOMAS

The mid-west trio, admittedly implicated in a series of burglaries conducted in a three-county area, split forces Thursday in district court where they were arraigned.

David R. Cook, speaking for himself and his wife, asked Judge Joseph B. Felton for a continuance to enable them to secure an attorney. Cook is faced with two separate burglary charges as well as a forgery charge while his wife, Jean L. Cook, is accused of one burglary and a forgery.

Harold B. Lancelle, the third member of the trio, spoke up in a cold clear voice:

"I want to waive preliminary examination and the grand jury," he said, obviously knowing that his action would hasten his appearance before circuit court for final action.

The group, all said by police to be former inmates of Wisconsin penal institutions, made their appearance in court in the morning. At the same time, new warrants for their arrests arrived from Washington county. Those warrants accused the two men of burglary.

The two men showed little emotion in court, but Cook was obviously concerned about his wife. She was arrested Wednesday noon and signed a statement admitting the crimes of which she was accused.

After that ordeal, and before she was taken to the county jail for the night, she was permitted to spend a few moments with her husband in an interrogation room at police headquarters. They conversed in whispers, but Mrs. Cook was frequently shaken by quiet but racking sobs.

They are the parents of three children—all boys—aged, five, four, and the youngest six months.

Her confession pointed to her concern for the children by stating that she and her husband had "both worked hard trying to make up to our children for the time we were away from them."

The Cooks arrived in Salem in 1948, and presumably lived a circumspect life until the arrival of Lancelle from Wisconsin early this month.

All three lived at 635 South Liberty street.

'Cougar' Screams Lead to Man's Body

Salem City, Ore., Jan. 26 (AP)—Reports of neighbors that they had heard cougars screaming led to discovery of the body of John Peter Claus, 84, in a clump of brush along Canyon creek south of here, state police said today.

Police said Claus' body was found Tuesday night in the brush a short distance from his cabin where he had lived alone for 16 years. They said he died of exposure.

Neighbors told officers they had not seen the elderly man all day Tuesday and had noted his cabin was locked from the outside. They said that later they heard cougars screaming in the area near where Claus' body was found.

Wallace Says No Connection With Uranium

Testifies Did Not Even Know Russia Asked Shipment

Washington, Jan. 26 (AP)—Henry A. Wallace said today he had "absolutely nothing to do with" wartime uranium shipments to Russia.

Wallace, wartime vice president, testified before the house un-American activities committee. He asked to be heard after radio commentator Fulton Lewis, Jr., said in a broadcast last month that Wallace helped the Russians get supplies of atomic materials. Uranium is used in making the A-bomb.

In a statement, Wallace told the committee he did not even know the Russians were asking licenses for the shipments. He added:

"I did know that lend-lease recommended, after consulting with the Manhattan district, that they be issued, and the agency which I headed, the bureau of economic warfare, had no discretionary authority with respect to them."

Two Basic Questions

The Manhattan district was the army's name for the wartime atomic bomb project. The board of economic warfare (BEW), which Wallace headed, had control over exports and imports of war-vital materials.

The house committee has received testimony that several shipments of uranium compounds were sent from the United States to Russia during the war.

Wallace said the testimony before the committee had raised two basic questions concerning him:

(Concluded on Page 5, Column 8)

Red Blockade Seen in Move

New York, Jan. 26 (AP)—John J. McCloy, American high commissioner for Germany, is reported today to believe that the increasing Russian restrictions on Berlin traffic mark the beginning of a creeping blockade.

A source familiar with McCloy's view said the high commissioner believes the new restrictions are a form of continuous arm-twisting designed to try to keep the western sector from becoming too prosperous.

It was said that McCloy did not believe the Russians would reimpose the Berlin blockade in the same form as last year but that they would try some new tactics along the same line.

McCloy has been in the U. S. for consultation with the American government.

McCloy was understood to feel that the concept of a unified western Europe had the firm support of Chancellor Adenauer and most of the people in the western zones.

He was reported also to feel that the great body of German opinion would support some transfer of sovereignty in order to make the idea of western Europe work.

Storm Warnings Continued

Seattle, Jan. 26 (AP)—Storm warnings were continued this forenoon along the Washington coast and south to Cape Blanco, Ore. The weather bureau forecast was for winds from 30 to 40 miles an hour.

Explosion on Planet Mars To Be Watched

World Director Walter Haas of the Association of Lunar and Planetary Observers, said the work is being concentrated in western Germany, where the planet can be observed better.

Haas, University of New Mexico mathematics instructor, said he had received a report on the explosion from a Japanese member of the association.

The reported explosion pushed a greyish cloud 60 miles in the air and the explosion diameter was measured at approximately 900 miles, the scientist said.

He described height and color of the cloud as "remarkable."

Trial Opens of Coplon Spy Case

New York, Jan. 26 (AP)—The government opened its case against Judith Coplon and Valentin A. Gubitchev today.

Raymond P. Whearty, special assistant to the U. S. attorney general, told a federal court jury he would prove that the former government girl and the Russian engineer plotted to steal U. S. defense secrets for the Soviet Union.

Lawyers for the defendants were to make their opening remarks after Whearty finished. They held a brief conference before today's trial session opened in an effort to iron out differences over how the defense should be conducted.

Whearty spoke quietly and undramatically. Most of the time he addressed the jurors, six men and six women, but occasionally he spoke directly to the petite, 28-year-old Miss Coplon and the stubby, 33-year-old Gubitchev.

A courtroom argument brought into the open yesterday the differences between Miss Coplon's counsel, Archibald Palmer, and Gubitchev's counsel, Abraham L. Pomerantz.

The lawyers were about as far apart as the two defendants have been lately. Miss Coplon, a little brunette, says she loved Gubitchev until she learned he was married. In court, they have avoided each other.

Mac Works on 70th Birthday

Tokyo, Jan. 26 (AP)—General MacArthur, the man who has ruled Japan since the rising sun set more than four years ago, was 70 years old today.

Physically well and mentally tough, the supreme allied occupation commander talked a little about his increasingly difficult job—but not for publication.

It is also known he does not think war is imminent. He is known to regard modern war as so nearly all-destructive that any future conflict might prostrate the participants.

But today you would hardly have known he had anything on his mind but a birthday.

There was little ceremony or fanfare.

The general, tall and thin and working as every other day, briskly stepped from behind his huge uncluttered desk to greet a long line of well-wishers.

CAB To Hold One Hearing On UAL Removal in City

One session of the civil aeronautics board hearing on the proposal to discontinue United Air Lines service to Salem and substitute that of West Coast Airlines, a feeder line, will be held in Salem.

That was the word telegraphed to the Capital Journal Thursday morning by Rep. Walter Norblad.

Norblad further stated that the civil aeronautics board had informed him that "several phases of the West Coast case would require attendance of several members of the CAB staff at the hearing" but budget limitations would not permit all members to go to Salem.

Because of this, the CAB stated, it would be impossible to hold the entire hearing in Salem, but to accommodate the interested communities agreed to hold one session here.

The session in Salem will be on January 30.

Truman Says Working Hard On Coal Strike

No Action Expected Before Next Week as Emergency Grows

Washington, Jan. 26 (AP)—A White House visitor reported today that President Truman said he is "working as hard as he can" on the soft coal strike and "hopes for results."

The visitor was Senator Kilgore (D-W Va). He told reporters he had advised Mr. Truman that his own state, at least, is suffering an emergency.

"I don't know whether there is a national emergency or not," Kilgore said, "but as far as West Virginia is concerned it is definitely an emergency."

The senator said he had made no recommendations as to use of the "national emergency" provisions of the Taft-Hartley act or other proposals for bringing peace to the coal fields, but merely had described conditions.

Action Next Week

"The president said he is working as hard as he can and hopes for results."

Earlier, White House sources indicated no action could be expected before next week in the spreading coal walkout.

A direct signal from John L. Lewis appeared to be the only thing that would head off (1) further spread of the coal stoppage and (2) intervention by Mr. Truman.

More and more soft coal miners dropped their tools this week, and Director James Boyd of the bureau of mines told the senate labor committee yesterday that unless coal production increases at once, "the national economy, health and welfare of the nation is now or soon will be imperilled."

(Concluded on Page 5, Column 5)

106,000 Idle Chrysler Strike

Detroit, Jan. 26 (AP)—The CIO United Auto Workers faced up to a possibly long strike today for the kind of pension plan they want from Chrysler.

Some union sources said the strike, which started at 10 a.m. (EST) yesterday, might last at least a month. It immediately idled 106,000 workers.

State and federal labor mediators, however, expressed hope that bargaining talks could be resumed this week.

Both company and union representatives said they were willing to return any time the mediators arranged a meeting.

At a dead stop was the daily production of 7,000 automobiles by Chrysler, one of the industry's three top producers. Chrysler's major rivals are Ford and General Motors.

Basically, the company-union fight was over the form and administration of \$100 monthly pensions.

After negotiations covering half a year's time, Chrysler offered the pensions. But the union objected to the conditions.

The walkout affected 85,000 Chrysler production workers, most of them in Michigan. The company makes Chrysler, De Soto, Plymouth and Dodge cars.

The Briggs Manufacturing Co., Chrysler's biggest supplier, announced it was laying off 21,000 employees. The firm makes auto bodies.

Ching Lauds Labor Peace in Northwest

Seattle, Jan. 26 (AP)—One of the nation's best records of industrial peace is found in the Pacific northwest. Cyrus Ching, director of the federal mediation and conciliation service, said here last night.

The four northwest states—Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana—had but 37 strikes last year, he said.

Ching also came out strongly for preservation of labor's most effective weapon—the strike—which he described as "like a pistol in a policeman's holster—effective as long as it's there and seldom has to be used."

Chief Hits Pole
Oregon City, Jan. 26 (AP)—The Aurora chief of police, Tom Miller, crashed into a power pole here today as he was chasing a speeding car.