

MOSTLY CLOUDY TONIGHT, Wednesday, with occasional showers. Little change in temperature. Low tonight, 35; high, Wednesday, 45.

Maximum yesterday, 49; minimum today, 36. Total 24-hour precipitation, .45; for month, 1.62; normal, 1.57. Season precipitation, 28.31; normal, 29.99. River height, 8.2 feet. (Report by U.S. Weather Bureau.)

Capital Journal



Flood Threat Over Valley but No Alarm Felt

Snowpack Over Past Five Weeks Has Most Water in Years

By MARIAN LOWRY FISCHER
Threat of a serious flood hangs over the Willamette valley regions, but there is little cause for alarm during the next day or two, states the weather bureau. A continued gradual run-off of snow will see the situation.

The potential is there, however, due to the record snowpack piled up during the past five weeks, and should torrential rains and abnormal temperatures occur, the valley will face a severe winter flood, a survey of conditions reveals.

The Santiam at Jefferson is due to reach flood stage of 13 feet Wednesday. Flood stage there is a common occurrence during any extended rain or quick run-off of snow waters, however.

River Now 8.2 Feet

At Salem Tuesday morning the Willamette river was nearly 4 feet higher than for the Monday reading, measuring 8.2 feet here this morning. The Willamette hit above flood stage of 20 feet here January 24 during the three-day respite from the snow and ice, measuring 20.7 feet at that time.

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\$11,171,981 in Building Costs

Construction and improvement of state institutions during the past year cost \$11,171,981.88, according to a report given by the board of control Tuesday by Roy Mills, secretary.

Of this sum, \$7,568,001.18 came from the state building fund, authorized by a vote of the people, and the remainder was paid out from legislative appropriations.

The largest expenditure of \$4,428,223.19 was for buildings at the state hospital in Salem. Other expenditures included \$1,448,152.73 at the Eastern Oregon state hospital; \$1,692,887.29 at the penitentiary; \$300,000 at the state school for the blind; \$1,078,387.29 at Fairview home; \$700,022.51 at the Woodburn school for boys; \$804,528 at Hillcrest school for girls; \$321,726.73 at the state school of the deaf and \$348,053.39 at the Eastern Oregon Tuberculosis hospital.

The state building fund now has a balance of \$131,000.

House Debates Aid to Formosa

Washington, Feb. 7 (AP)—House debate opens today on a bill to give short-term economic aid to Korea and Formosa. Democratic leaders predicted early approval.

The bill is a polished-up version of the Korean economic assistance measure which went down to a surprise one-vote defeat two weeks ago.

With both China and Korean aid due to expire February 15, framers of the new bill made no attempt to write into it a policy of continuing assistance in Asia. Instead they put a June 30 deadline on U.S. dollar spending in these communist-threatened areas.

Oregon Highways Normal
All Oregon highways are in good condition, but motorists were advised to carry chains in the mountains, the state highway commission said today.

\$350,000 for Detroit Road Appropriated

New 6 Mile Route Mehama to Mill City OK'd by Highway Board

Grading of a six-mile stretch of new road west from Mill City at a cost of \$350,000 was approved by the state highway commission in Portland late Monday as the first step in the construction of a new route between Mehama and Mill City.

When the project is completed nine miles of highway on the Marion county side of North Santiam river will have been completed at an estimated cost of \$900,000.

The highway has had the support of civic groups in Salem, Marion county, and residents of the Santiam canyon and of several central Oregon communities.

The state has owned the right of way for many years and the route was surveyed by WPA crews during the depression.

From Unallotted Sums

Present route up the North Santiam crosses from Marion to the Linn county side between Mehama and Mill City. Curves and difficult maintenance conditions have been protested for years.

Digging into unprogrammed funds of around \$1,000,000, the highway commission allotted \$65,000 for the grading of 3.5 miles of the Scio-Thomas creek section of the Albany-Lyons secondary highway and also approved Scio's request for a flashing beacon at Main and Water streets on the Albany Lyons highway.

Referred to the state engineer was the surfacing of 8.43 miles of the Thomas creek-Lyons section of the Albany-Lyons secondary highway on a bid of \$118,645 by E. C. Swaggart, Eugene. Bituminous macadam will be used. The engineer was given power to award the contract.

Proposal for another secretary of state building at Albany was discussed with the commission deciding to sell the highest bidder half of a vacated street known as Lafayette street joining the highway overpass in Albany. The property was desired with access to the highway for such a building, it was reported by the legal department of the commission. The commission ordered the property sold without highway access.

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94,000 Jobless Now in Oregon

There are 94,000 jobless persons in Oregon, largest number on record.

The state unemployment compensation commission said that is 10,000 more than a year ago, and is 1,000 more than the previous peak reached in the middle of last February.

Eugene, Medford, Astoria and Hillsboro had the biggest unemployed increases from a year ago. Roseburg, Corvallis, Tillamook, Pendleton, Klamath Falls and Bend also had large increases.

Portland reported 26,000 out of work.

The commission said that better weather would put a big percentage back on the job. More than half of the jobless workers are in the lumber and logging industry, which has been closed down by the weather.

\$3 Million High School Held Needed For Salem

A \$3 million high school in South Salem with elementary school classrooms in needed areas of the city formed the outline of a city-wide school improvement program offered Monday night.

This program was presented to 25 representative citizens of the community by school authorities seeking to find an acceptable solution to the growing need for school facilities in Salem.

The trial cost of such a program has been estimated at \$3,730,000 and would cover the school, needs for probably the next year and one-half.



China Hits at Russia in UN

Lake Success, Feb. 7 (AP)—Nationalist China struck back at Russia's diplomatic boycott today with a new demand that the United Nations find Russia guilty of playing a big part in the Chinese civil war.

Nationalist Chief Delegate T. F. Tsiang made his demand in the year-round little assembly. Meanwhile, Russia walked out of another major council in protest against Chinese nationalist diplomats keeping their seats in the U.N.

The new walkout was in the 48-nation economic and social council at the opening of its winter session. This was the 12th U.N. body affected by the general Soviet strike-boycott. The delegates of Czechoslovakia and Poland strode out with the Russians.

The Soviet bloc delegates left the room after the council refused to approve a Russian demand that the Chinese nationalist delegation be kicked out and replaced by representatives of Mao Tze-Tung's Peiping red regime.

The vote was 3 to 10, with 5 abstaining. Only the three Soviet bloc countries voted to oust the nationalists. Britain, France, India, Pakistan and Denmark abstained.

Cohen Bombing Linked to Mafia

Los Angeles, Feb. 7 (AP)—A police inspector today linked the latest Mickey Cohen bombing to the Mafia.

"We believe the bombing is the result of an internal struggle between Cohen's mob and the Mafia," said Inspector Jack Donohue. "They're falling out and now they're fighting for power."

The Mafia is a Sicilian secret order, reputedly with international, underworld ramifications.

Four were picked up overnight: Joe Sica, 38, his brother, Alfred, 25; Salvatore Piscopo, 54, and James R. Innanone, 41.

The Sicacs and Piscopo were booked on suspicion of assault with intent to commit murder, but Innanone was released after brief questioning. The Sicacs were indicted January 19 by a federal grand jury on charges that they headed a million-dollar narcotics ring operating throughout California. They have been out on bond.

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Emergency Board Provides Funds for Lot Purchase

Members of board from left to right: Senator Howard Belton, Canby; Speaker of the House Frank Van Dyke, Medford; President of the Senate William Walsh, Coos Bay, chairman of the board; Senator Dean Walker, Independence and Rep. W. W. Chadwick, Salem.

Money Made Available On Coates Purchase

The state of Oregon is prepared to purchase the Summer street property, originally planned as a site for an apartment house by Robert Coates of Portland, following unanimous approval of \$14,250 request by the state board of control.

As quickly as Coates obtains FHA approval on a substitute lot in the 1300 block on Chemsoketa street, the board of control is ready to pay Coates \$14,100 for the Summer street property. The remainder of the approved appropriation will be used to defray costs of title insurance fees.

Moreover, the emergency board requested members of the board of control to provide suitable legislation to prevent an appropriation to cover the cost of acquiring four blocks in the proposed capitol extension, as recommended by the state capitol planning commission.

Although most members of the board felt that the property could be acquired piecemeal, as quickly as owners desired to sell, Speaker Van Dyke favored purchase of the entire four blocks.

"There is only one sure way in which to guarantee that we will not be faced with a situation similar to one resolved today and that is for the state to purchase the property," he said. "Councils change and one legislative body cannot commit the next."

On suggestion of Sen. William Walsh, chairman, a resolution of appreciation for the cooperation shown by Coates was introduced by Senator Howard Belton and approved. The board of control was asked to convey the message of appreciation to the Portland builder.

Russians Slow Berlin Traffic

Berlin, Feb. 7 (AP)—The Russians slowed down interzonal truck traffic slightly again today and at the same time accused the west of trying to "warm up the cold war in Berlin."

Week-end traffic had zipped unhindered through the Helmstedt checkpoint, 100 miles west of here. But today about eight trucks an hour were clearing in each direction on the east-west superhighway as Soviet guards tightened inspections. By mid-morning the queue waiting to get into Berlin comprised about 40 trucks.

American officials say the reasonable clearance rate for Berlin-bound winter truck cargoes is about 19 an hour.

The official Soviet army newspaper Taegliche Rundschau said in a front-page editorial that "western reactionary forces are constantly making new attempts to warm up the cold war in Berlin again."

Blame British Red Tape for Atomic Leaks

Hoover Unable to Get Full Details of Fuchs Confession

Washington, Feb. 7 (AP)—Lawmakers today blamed ponderous British legal procedure for hampering FBI pursuit of further atomic leaks in the Klaus Fuchs case.

They expressed fear that the delay may enable some suspects to skip this country.

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover was reported to have told senators that thus far he has been unable to get from the British full details of any confession that may have been made by Fuchs.

Fuchs, 38-year-old German born scientist accused of passing along top atomic—and some hydrogen bomb—information to the Russians, is believed to have had accomplices in this country.

British hold records. But lawmakers said they were told that until the British justice department releases its records, the FBI may have to wait for leads—with the result that some suspects might get out of this country unmolested.

British justice authorities are understood to be keeping Fuchs completely uncommunicative—even from Scotland Yard.

Hoover goes to Capitol Hill today for the third time (1:30 p.m. EST) to talk behind closed doors with senators—this time with the senate appropriations subcommittee to which he first divulged some of the FBI's activities in the case last week.

Mo's Captain Loses Command

Norfolk, Va., Feb. 7 (AP)—Captain William D. Brown, a defendant in a naval court of inquiry probing the recent grounding of the battleship Missouri, was relieved today of his command of this nation's single active battleship.

Atlantic fleet headquarters announced "for the time being and at least until legal proceedings are completed," Captain H. P. Smith, the former commanding officer of the Missouri, will assume command.

Fleet headquarters explained "it is fair and proper that the commanding officer, navigator and other officers defending themselves in the present court of inquiry should not have the additional burden of the responsibility of the ship during the present legal proceedings which are required by naval regulations and procedure."

Brown is one of three of the Missouri's officers named as defendants in the court of inquiry.



Col. J. W. Miles, above, resident engineer at Detroit who is transferred to Okinawa, and C. C. Davis who succeeds him.

Miles Moved, Davis Succeeds

Lieutenant Colonel John W. Miles, resident engineer of the corps of engineers' Detroit dam on the North Santiam river, has received orders transferring him to Okinawa for duty with the 20th Air Force there, according to Colonel Donald S. Burns, Portland district engineer.

Colonel Miles was assigned as resident engineer at Detroit in March, 1949, by Colonel O. E. Walsh, then Portland district engineer. Previous to that Colonel Miles served as special assistant to Colonel Walsh in charge of all flood control design and construction programs in the Portland district except those in the Willamette river basin.

Colonel Burns said Colonel Miles would be replaced by Clarence C. Davis, former civilian engineer with the operations division of the Portland district. Davis is returning to Portland from Boston where he has been on active duty as a lieutenant colonel in the corps of engineers reserve.

Davis was recalled to active duty in October, 1946, reported at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, and was assigned as executive officer of the Albuquerque, New Mexico, district, and later as operations and executive officer of the Okinawa district.

More recently he has been engaged in the New England military district.

As a civilian he was engaged in construction planning of Detroit and Lookout Point dams. During the war he served as a lieutenant colonel with the corps of engineers.

Fact Finders Start Work on Coal Dispute

Lewis and Operators Called On for Explanation of Stalemate

Washington, Feb. 7 (AP)—President Truman's high speed fact-finding board today called on John L. Lewis and the soft coal operators for an explanation of their long dispute.

The board set up by Mr. Truman under the Taft-Hartley law yesterday and given less than one week to report, summoned several "anonymous" witnesses for this afternoon and invited Lewis and the operators to begin their testimony tomorrow morning.

Chairman David L. Cole of the three-man board told a news conference he did not anticipate any need to subpoena Lewis and the United Mineworkers as was necessary in March, 1948, during a pension strike.

Merely to Find Facts. Cole and his colleagues said the board "is not trying to settle the dispute," which threatens to choke off the nation's coal supply almost completely. "They are trying to find out the facts as directed by the president," Cole told reporters.

The unidentified witnesses to be consulted this afternoon were known to include Dr. James Boyd, director of the bureau of mines, and conciliation Director Cyrus S. Ching, who sought vainly last fall to bring the operators and Lewis together.

Cole said the board hopes to complete its hearings by Thursday afternoon so it can meet the Monday deadline fixed by President Truman for a report.

Speed Necessary. Speed is necessary because the soft coal mines already are closed down tight and the president must have the board's report in hand before he directs Attorney General McGrath to seek an 80-day court injunction under the Taft-Hartley emergency machinery which the president reluctantly set in motion yesterday.

372,800 Out In Coal Strike

Pittsburgh, Feb. 7 (AP)—Coal production plummeted today in the wake of the soft coal miners' nation-wide strike. All signs point to rising unemployment in coal-using industries.

About 372,800 bitter diggers are on strike in 14 states. They insist they won't be "blacklisted" into heading the Taft-Hartley act. The strikers can produce about 2,220,000 tons of coal a day.

Nearly 20,000 workers in steel mills and on railroads were laid off in past months because of the three-day work week ordered July 1 by President John L. Lewis of the United Mine Workers.

Now railroads say more thousands of furloughs are in the cards.

Duquesne Light company, a big Pittsburgh utility, said it has only enough coal to insure electrical power to 2,000 plants for another week.

Over the nation, less than two weeks' coal reserves remain stored above ground. The coal industry said the supply is poorly distributed.

Through the coal fields, the miners are out for a showdown in their struggle for a new contract and the five day week.

"The Taft-Hartley law cannot dig coal," declared Althronia Brown, a committeeman of the Maxwell local near Uniontown, Pa. "We won't be blackjacked into the mines."



Hoover Takes Stand—FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover (left) and Associate Director Clyde Tolson seated at the witness table for opening hearing before the joint congressional atomic energy committee in Washington, in connection with the recent arrest in England of Dr. Klaus Fuchs. Dr. Fuchs is accused of giving top atomic secrets to Russia. (AF Wirephoto)