

THE WEATHER

CLOUDY WITH occasional rain tonight. Scattered showers Thursday. Little change in temperature. Low tonight, 44; high Thursday, 52.

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26.2-Ft. Flood In Willamette Now Receding

Crest Reached Last Night, Slow Drop Underway

Cresting at Salem at 26.2 feet, 6.2 feet above flood stage, the muddy old Willamette was slowly receding in this area of the valley Wednesday morning.

Peak of the flood came at the Salem gauge about 9 p.m. and the mark 26.2 held until about midnight before the waters started going down. The river reading here was 25.6 Wednesday morning and the receding waters will go down gradually. The torrential rains through Tuesday augmented the already swollen streams of the valley to keep river levels in a flat crest for some time.

All points along the main Willamette to the south reported waters falling Wednesday morning. Portland was due for its crest of 20 feet, two feet above flood stage, late today. Oregon City was getting its crest of 16.9 this morning. Flood stage there is 12 feet.

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Demands Probe Of Surcharges

A legislative investigation of the 20 per cent surcharge on electric bills will be sought by Sen. Warren Gill, Lebanon republican.

Gill said he would introduce a resolution calling for a three-member committee to investigate immediately "the whole story of why the surcharge is in effect."

There would be one senator and two representatives on the committee.

The 20 per cent surcharge was added to the electric bills by Portland General Electric, Pacific Power and Light and Mountain States Power companies to reimburse them for the added cost of steam generation during the recent water shortage.

Public Utilities Commissioner Charles H. Heltzel said the surcharge would remain in effect only until the companies had been repaid their added steam generating costs.

Dams Slacked Flood Crests

Portland (AP)—Army Engineers here computed what effect the valley dams had on the flood. At Eugene, where the crest was 13.9 feet, it would have been 15.8 without Cottage Grove and Dorena Dam. And had Lookout Point been completed the level could have been held to 9.5.

At Corvallis the 26.35 stage would have been 27.8 had it not been for Cottage Grove, Dorena and Fern Ridge Dams.

At Albany it was 28 and would have been 29.4 without those three dams. Salem's 26.15 would have been 29.3. Aiding at Salem was Detroit Dam, too.

Soviets Blast Israel's Premier

Moscow (AP)—A leading Soviet publication Wednesday blasted Israel's Premier David Ben-Gurion, foreign minister Meshe Sharett and late President Chaim Weizmann as tools of American-British imperialism.

A long editorial in the foreign affairs weekly News Times also charged the Zionists with supporting a policy to establish "bloody, Fascist regimes permeated by a spirit of racial bigotry, including anti-Semitism."

It was the most severe attack on Zionism yet to appear in the Soviet press.

News Times also accused the Israeli nation of waging "a cruel war of destruction against the local Arab population in Palestine." It said that armed Zionist detachments seized land from the Arabs, expelled them into the desert and evicted them from factories.

Weather Details

Maximum yesterday, 51; minimum today, 46. Total 24-hour precipitation, .07. For month: 11.55; normal, 3.26. Storms per observation, 23.41; normal, 31.52. River height, 25.6 feet, falling. (Report by U.S. Weather Bureau.)



Official New—This was the scene on Capitol Hill as Gen. Eisenhower took oath of office as 34th President of the United States administered by Chief Justice Fred Vinson. At left is Mr. Truman, right, Vice President Nixon. (UP Telephoto)

Rebellious Cons Defy Governor

Bellefonte, Pa. (AP)—Shouting defiance, some 325 rebellious convicts again spurned surrender ultimatums Wednesday in their barricaded cellblock at the Rockview State Penitentiary and refused to release six guards held as hostages until their "gripes" are honored.

It was the third day of their surprise insurrection. Tuesday night 400 of Rockview's prisoners capitulated to a demand for Gov. John S. Fine who warned that additional jail sentences would be given to every man who continues to defy authority.

The newest rejection of the state's efforts to bring peace to the prison came in a yelling exchange between Deputy Attorney General Edward Friedman, standing on the ground outside cellblock "A" and the convict leader who peered out barred windows 30 feet above.

Saw Russians Down U.S. B-29

Tokyo (AP)—Japanese fishermen released from Soviet captivity said today they saw Russian fighter planes and ground guns shoot down a U. S. B-29 Superfort last Oct. 7 off Northern Japan.

One fisherman said he saw two Russian fighter planes chase the B-29, heard gunfire and then: "Black smoke started to stream from the American plane and it crashed into the sea at a tremendous speed."

The fishermen gave their accounts to Japanese reporters at Nemuro on the Northern island of Hokkaido. Three fishing craft with 23 crewmen were released after six months of hard labor on the Russian-held island of Yuri near Hokkaido. They had been seized for allegedly poaching on Russian waters.

"The accounts they gave varied in some detail but most said they saw two Soviet fighters chase a B-29 while they were fishing under Soviet orders."

Hop Growers Meet At Portland Jan. 29

Portland (AP)—One of the chief topics at the 1953 convention of the U. S. Hop Growers Association here Jan. 29-31 is expected to be the effect of operating without a marketing agreement.

Growers voted recently to abandon the agreement under which salable quotas were assigned.

Co-chairmen of the convention are Gordon Hadley and Eugene D. MacCarthy.

Emergency Agencies Control Flood Here

Numerous families, especially in the Keizer area, were still living in homes surrounded by water today, but the situation was well under control and no one was suffering.

This was the report by Frank Parcher, Marion county Red Cross chapter manager, and Wallace Wharton, director of the Marion county Civil Defense, the two emergency agencies that have been on 24-hour alert since the Willamette valley flood started, with their efforts coordinated.

With the crest of the flood having passed at Salem it is now mainly a matter of "drying out," Wharton said.

However, both organizations are set to carry immediate relief in event of a need of food or clothing or of sickness in any of the marooned families.

Seek Revision of Hydro-Electric Law

By JAMES D. OLSON

A new hydroelectric commission of Oregon composed of five members in place of three members as provided in the present law, is the aim of a bill being drawn for central Oregon legislators. The bill is expected to be introduced in the house later this week.

Advanced Pay Asked by Solons

Speaker of the House Rude Wilhelm, Jr., announced Wednesday that he had requested Attorney General Robert Y. Thornton for an opinion on whether the legislature has authority to pass a law to pay the members \$1200 salary in one year.

The voters approved the \$1200 salary for a full term of two years. The 1951 legislature passed a law providing for payment of \$600 in a lump sum the first year—when the session is held—and \$150 quarterly during the second year.

Some members now want the whole salary in the year the legislature meets when their expenses are greater.

Final Message Sent by Truman

Washington (AP)—Former President Truman's final message to congress called for continuing the water and land development projects of the nation under a revised policy and modernized administrative techniques.

And one of his final acts was the transmission to congress of a report completing the authorization of a 54 million dollar Sacramento Valley canal unit of the California Central Valley reclamation project.

The President's thoughts on water resource development were sent to congress late Monday night without flourish and were published in Wednesday's congressional record.

With his message he submitted a voluminous report of the President's Water Resources Policy Commission, appointed in 1950 to study the practices of federal water development.

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(Continued on Page 5, Column 7)

Red Death Zone About Berlin

Berlin (AP)—Four hundred East German farmers fled Tuesday night to West Berlin and told refugee officials Wednesday the communist plan for a "death zone" around the city is nearing reality.

Most of the farmers said they had been warned that they would be forcibly vacated to the deep interior of the Russian zone and their lands confiscated.

The group was largely made up of men who have been tilling land near the outskirts of West Berlin on farms which have been in their families for generations.

The so-called death zone preparations started several months ago, Communist police indicated they intended to seal off an area one kilometer—five eighths of a mile—deep on the 70-mile West Berlin border. To be caught in this area without specific permission could mean a abrupt death from the guns of the Soviet-trained border police.

Hint Sabotage In Depot Crash

Washington (AP)—Sen. Tobey (R., N. H.) said Wednesday the FBI is investigating the possibility of sabotage in the wreck of a crack Boston-to-Washington passenger train that hurtled into Union station here last Thursday.

He told reporters he hopes the FBI can report its findings Thursday to the senate commerce committee, which launched a public inquiry into the accident Wednesday. Tobey is the committee chairman.

It had previously been disclosed that the FBI was among the agencies looking into the causes of the wreck, in which more than 50 persons were injured.

At the initial committee hearing two witnesses for the Pennsylvania railroad testified that someone may have tampered with the brakes of the train—possibly twice—before it crashed.

No More Nazism Says Adenauer

Bonn, Germany (AP)—Chancellor Konrad Adenauer told the West German Parliament Wednesday he wanted to assure Germany and the world that Nazism will never again return to Nazism.

He pledged that his government would keep a close watch on all traces of neo-Nazism to stamp it out.

He assured the world that when West Germany becomes a formal republic "it would be with the free world for peace and freedom, which were outlined so excellently by President Eisenhower yesterday in his inaugural address."

The chancellor arose in the first 1953 session of the Bundestag (lower House) to deliver a statement on the political future caused here by two recent allied actions.

These were the arrest last Thursday by the British of seven former leading Nazis on suspicion of plotting to seize power, and the publication over the week-end by the Americans of a public opinion survey by 1,200 people which reported a significant rise in neo-Nazi and nationalist sentiments among 48 million West Germans.

Hirohito Congratulates Tokyo (AP)—Emperor Hirohito today sent congratulations to President Eisenhower on his inauguration.

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Asks Congress To Outline New Water Policy

McKay Wants Customer Preference In Revisions

Washington (AP)—New Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay said Wednesday he hopes Congress will outline a water policy for the nation in more detail, and has found congressmen receptive to the idea.

McKay told reporters he thought it might be wise to include some revisions of the existing preference customer provisions of the public power law.

"The Department of the Interior follows the law," McKay said. "In my conversations with members of Congress since I've been in Washington, I believe they are receptive to the idea of outlining a national water policy in more detail."

Under existing law and regulations public power must be sold at the lowest reasonable rates consistent with good business practices. Preference also must be given cooperatives and other public bodies, such as municipalities and government agencies.

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Truman on Trip To Old Home

En route to Independence, Mo., (AP)—Harry S. Truman, on his way home as a plain citizen, found out Wednesday what it's like to get around as an ex-President.

He took a fast walk into the station when his train reached Cincinnati at 7:15 a.m. to pick up a couple of morning papers. No secret service men were at his side to steer him through the crowd.

And when he returned to the track side to board the presidential private car he's using by courtesy of President Eisenhower he found the train being switched.

"I guess they won't go off and leave me," he said with a grin. This time he said it more like a question for this was not a presidential train, but the Baltimore and Ohio's Capital Limited, moving on regular schedule.

"I hope not," was the best assurance of the railroad official standing by his side.

As the train switched back in and he prepared to step aboard, a man gave this final goodbye: "Hope to see you in the White House again in four years."

"Oh, no, you won't," the grey haired former President said with emphasis.

Siamese Twin Finally Dies

Chicago (AP)—Tiny Roger Lee Brodie, Siamese twin who for 34 days amazed the medical world by surviving a head to head surgical separation, died last night.

The 16-month-old boy had been in a deep coma since the history-making operation Dec. 17. His brain circulation was impaired and his condition had been listed "very precarious" since the separation from his brother Rodney Dee.

Attending physicians had expressed amazement that he survived the 12 hour and 40 minute operation.

Find 13 Red Leaders Guilty of Conspiracy

New York (AP)—A federal court jury Wednesday found 13 New York communist leaders guilty of conspiracy.

The jury of six men and six women reached a verdict after receiving the case last Thursday. The trial lasted eight and one-half months.

All of the communist leaders were charged with conspiring to teach and advocate the overthrow of the U. S. government.

The jury foreman, Miss Lucille Collette, a music teacher, announced the verdict after 48 hours of deliberations: "We find the defendants guilty as charged."

They could receive maximum sentences of five years in prison and fines of \$10,000.

7 Red Mig-15s Shot Down by U. S. Sabrejets

Seoul (AP)—Allied Sabrejet pilots shot down seven Communist MIG jet fighters and damaged three others in battles high over Northwest Korea today, the U. S. Fifth Air Force said.

Two U. S. jet aces, Col. Royal N. Baker, McKinney, Tex., and Maj. Robinson Risner, Oklahoma City, each was credited with his eighth MIG destroyed.

U. S. losses, if any, will be announced in a week-end summary.

Today's bag was one of the biggest in several months. U. S. pilots destroyed eight MIGs last Wednesday—the most in one day since September.

On the ground Allied troops hurled back sharp communist attacks on the frozen Eastern Front while the Peiping radio boasted of an unconquerable defense line of tunnels across the Korean Peninsula.

War Casualties Total 128,971

Washington (AP)—Announced U. S. battle casualties in Korea reached 128,971 Wednesday, an increase of 250 since last week.

The Defense Department's weekly summary based on notifications to families through last Friday reported:

New total killed in action 20,362; wounded 95,596; missing 13,013; total 128,971; battle deaths 22,375; current missing 9,288.

Following is a breakdown of the casualties by services:

New total Army 101,022; Navy 1,777; Air Force 1,407; Marine Corps 24,765.

De Gasperi Wins Confidence Vote

Rome (AP)—The longest filibuster in Italian parliamentary history ended early today with a steamroller vote of confidence in Premier Alcide De Gasperi's anti-communist government and approval of the election change his regime demanded.

Certain defeat, the communists and their Socialist allies finally walked out of the parliamentary chamber after seven weeks of debate punctuated by frequent fist-fights in Parliament and strikes outside.

The remaining deputies quickly gave the Premier's Christian Democrat Cabinet a 399-25 vote of confidence. Then they approved, by a vote of 532-17, his new election law which allots 65 per cent of Parliament's seats to any party winning 51.1 per cent of the vote in next spring's general election. It goes now to the senate.

The deputies had been in session for 69 hours when the hoarse, bleary-eyed communists gave up and walked out.

Rhee Congratulates Ike on Inauguration

Seoul (AP)—South Korean President Syngman Rhee congratulated President Eisenhower today on his inauguration. Rhee called it "the dawn of a new era of international justice for all."

"Your inauguration," Rhee said in a message, "was not only a day of rejoicing to the people of America, but also to the free nations of the world that are struggling against international aggression."

The new President was in fine fettle, right up to the end. He still looked daisy-fresh, although his day had begun 18 hours earlier and had included the most impressive event any American can experience—being sworn in as president of the United States.

Ike's Cabinet Except Wilson Get Approval

McKay Now Secretary Of Interior Despite Senator Magnuson

Washington (AP)—President Eisenhower's cabinet selections—except for Charles E. Wilson to be secretary of defense—were approved Wednesday, clearing the way for them to begin running their departments.

A voice vote approved them. Prospects as to Wilson were still clouded with doubt because of the controversy over his big financial interest in General Motors which has billions of dollars in defense contracts. He is a former president of GM.

In a flurry of senate debate, Sen. Morse Ind.-Ore. asserted that Eisenhower should not go through with his plan to nominate Wilson for his official family although word from the White House was Eisenhower still had this intention.

Morse Raps Wilson "He's behind the eight-ball before he starts," Morse said of Wilson. "He's bound to be suspected on any matter directly or indirectly involving General Motors."

The cabinet appointees confirmed were: John Foster Dulles of New York as secretary of state.

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No Solution to Wilson Case

Washington (AP)—The abrupt delay of a senatorial inquiry signaled today that the new Eisenhower administration has found no solution to its most pressing political problem—whether to push for approval of Charles E. Wilson as secretary of defense.

At issue is Wilson's financial interests in General Motors, a big defense-contract holder.

The eight other Eisenhower cabinet members, hurriedly nominated officially after his inauguration yesterday, apparently were in line for Senate confirmation today. That would let them move into their jobs.

But Chairman Saltonstall (R-Mass.) told a reporter he was delaying until Friday an armed services committee hearing for Wilson.

West Europe Lauds Ike's Talk

London (AP)—Western Europe gave a warm welcome to President Eisenhower Wednesday and hailed his inaugural speech as proof of continued American cooperation.

There were signs, too, that Western Europe will pledge its support to Eisenhower's anti-communist policy just as it cooperated with outgoing President Truman.

Among senders of messages of good will to the new American president were West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer, President Marshal Tito of Yugoslavia, and King Baudouin of Belgium. From India President Rajendra Prasad expressed belief "friendship and co-operation between our two countries will continue to grow."

Western Europe's press took deep satisfaction in noting that Eisenhower apparently will follow the same general foreign policy lines as his predecessor.

Inaugural Ball Ends at 3 A.M.

Washington (AP)—Happy republicans wassailed on into the wee hours of today in a last great and gala jubilee marking the inauguration of President Eisenhower.

And Eisenhower and his lady celebrated right along with them.

They didn't hold out until the final curtain at 3 a.m., but departed at 1:18 comparatively early. Long lines of limousines and taxis, stalled in traffic were still bringing guests when he left.

The new President was in fine fettle, right up to the end. He still looked daisy-fresh, although his day had begun 18 hours earlier and had included the most impressive event any American can experience—being sworn in as president of the United States.