

**THE WEATHER**  
PARTLY CLOUDY tonight and Tuesday. Little change in temperature. Low tonight, 35; high Tuesday, 48.

DEC 29 1953  
HOME EDITION

**Fire Menaces Observatory**  
**Mt. Wilson**

**136 Cabins Destroyed Forcing 2000 to Flee Flames**  
Los Angeles (AP)—Wind-whipped flames, raving out of control, cracked less than a mile from the famed Mt. Wilson observatory Monday after presumably destroying 136 cabins and more than 2,000 people from their homes.  
The large-scale evacuations are from residences in half a dozen communities along the hillsides of the forested San Gabriel mountains some 12 miles east of here.  
Menaced along with the in-habitable observatory is the four million dollar television transmitter area which adjoins it. But one of the Los Angeles television transmitters are sited atop 5,887-foot Mt. Wil-



**HAPPY ABOUT WITHDRAWAL PLAN**

**Holiday Death Toll Totals 712**

(By The Associated Press)  
The nation counted a toll of 712 accident deaths during its 1953 Christmas holiday week.  
The final tabulation Monday listed 520 traffic victims, 81 who died in fires, and 111 victims of all other types of fatal accidents.  
Lives lost on the streets and highways exceeded a pre-holiday estimate by the National Safety Council. The council had calculated that 510 fatalities would occur during the 78-hour period between 6 a.m. local time Thursday and midnight Sunday.  
This year's traffic toll fell short of the 1950 record of 545 for a three-day Christmas period. The greatest Christmas traffic death total ever recorded was 556 during 1952's four-day holiday. Nevertheless, it meant one death every nine minutes during the holiday this year.  
The rate of deaths in traffic during the Christmas weekend was more than 50 per cent greater than the average daily toll of 102 for the first 11 months of the year.

**Idaho Slots on Way to Nevada**

Boise, Idaho (AP)—With only four days of legal life left in the state, more than 700 of Idaho's 3,600 slot machines were reported Monday en route to Nevada, their last refuge in this country.  
The State Supreme Court has ruled the slots illegal and they have been ordered out as of midnight, Dec. 31. Some counties which clamped on an immediate ban were caught up in legal controversies.  
Operators in Bannock and Bonneville counties got court injunctions to prolong the life of the slots until Dec. 31. Two deputy sheriffs who raided a slot club in Bannock county were arrested. They said they staged the raid before a copy of the court order was received.

**QUAKE SHAKES GREECE**

Athens (AP)—An earthquake shook Western Greece early Monday. The island of Cephalonia, off western Greece which was devastated by an earthquake in August, reported 10 violent tremors.  
Officers said gasoline was spread on Guley's home but that the arsonists fled before igniting it. Two Doukhobor suspects were arrested.

**Ex-Spy Says Hundreds Of Red Agents in U.S.**

Washington (AP)—Igor Gouzenko, whose testimony cracked a Soviet spy ring in Canada, says he thinks there may be hundreds of Red agents operating in the United States.  
And he recommended, in the copyrighted interview with the magazine U.S. News and World Report made public Monday, that the government "make it worth while for some of them to quit and come out with their documents."  
That is what Gouzenko himself did in 1945. He was then a code clerk in the Russian

These American soldiers in Korea clasp hands in anticipation of possible soon returning to homes and families after receiving news of President Eisenhower's announcement that two U.S. divisions will be withdrawn from Korea. Left to right: Pfc Joseph Jech of Cleveland, Ohio; Pvt. Murlyn Blue of Des Moines, Iowa; Pvt. Cameron Breitung of Peppin, Wis.; Pvt. Thomas J. Guthrie of Troy, N.Y., and Pfc. George Paich of Trafford, Pa., from the 2nd and 25th Divisions. (AP Wirephoto via radio from Tokyo)

**GI's Cheer Withdrawals But Koreans Gloomy**

Seoul (AP)—South Korea's President and foreign minister conferred privately Monday on U.S. plans to pull two divisions out of Korea, an authoritative source said.  
Foreign Minister Pyun Yung Tai flew to Chinhae where President Syngman Rhee is vacationing after voicing South Korea's displeasure over the proposed troop withdrawal.  
President Eisenhower's Saturday announcement brought cheers from most American soldiers here, and there were enthusiastic speculations as to which divisions would leave Korea.  
But Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor, 8th Army commander, stressed that "it can be safely assumed that the departure of these divisions will not take place immediately."  
Taylor also warned that soldiers with considerable time left to serve in Korea will be transferred to other units. Their places will be filled by men whose tours of duty are virtually complete.  
The armed forces radio service Monday broadcast hourly (Continued on Page 5, Column 5)

**Liquor Agents to Be Disciplined**

Portland (AP)—Thomas J. Sheridan, assistant administrator of the Oregon Liquor Control commission, said Monday disciplinary action will be taken against two investigators involved in a fight in a Roseburg night spot earlier this month.  
The investigators, William Hoffer, Jr., and Dean O. Morris, both 26 and of Portland, did not appear for trial scheduled at Roseburg last week and Monday on charges of drunkenness, disorderly conduct and resisting arrest. Each forfeited \$100 bail.  
Sheridan said he and the attorney for the men told Roseburg officials at a conference last Monday that the men would not fight the charges and would forfeit bail.  
It has not yet been determined what disciplinary action will be taken, Sheridan said. The men were suspended after the fight earlier this month.

**Douks Threatening Dr. Emmet Guley**

Nelson, B.C. (AP)—Emmett Guley, former president of George Fox college at Newberg, Ore., has been the latest to feel the wrath of the Doukhobor religious sect in British Columbia, Nelson police said today.  
Officers said gasoline was spread on Guley's home but that the arsonists fled before igniting it. Two Doukhobor suspects were arrested.

**French Postal Strikes Spread**

Paris (AP)—A technicians strike which tied up French aviation for a week ended today, but a communist led postal workers strike threatened to spread.  
Control tower radio and radar technicians were ordered back to work after the Air Navigation Union and Action committee announced that an agreement had been reached with the Ministry of Aviation on wage demands.  
The aviation strike caused heavy financial losses to French and foreign air companies, and all rushed to restore cancelled flights and get service back to normal.  
A walkout of postal sorters which has piled up mountains of mail at distribution points since December 22 threatened to spread to previously unaffected local post offices.

**Dewey Probes Dock Election**

New York (AP)—State authorities, on orders from Gov. Thomas E. Dewey, Monday began a round of conferences to explore whether fraud and force influenced last week's waterfront election between two unions.  
Members of the State Mediation Board went into session first with officials of the old International Longshoremen's Association, ousted from the AFL on grounds it was gangster-ruled.  
The state officials, including Board Chairman Merlyn S. Pitzele and Mediator Jay Kramer, were to meet later today with representatives of the new AFL-ILA, foe of the old ILA in the recent election.  
A third meeting will be with the New York Shipping Association, representing shipping and stevedoring firms.  
Police Commissioner George P. Monaghan called a meeting of "those of my chiefs familiar with the waterfront" to plan action on Dewey's order.

**Party Leaders Reach Capital**

Washington (AP)—The Republican and Democratic party leaders of the Senate arrive in Washington today for conferences that may largely decide whether controversy or cooperation predominates in the 1954 congressional session.  
Aides said Senate Majority Leader Knowland (R., Calif.) and Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas, the Democratic leader, will hold conferences in advance of the congressional meeting date, Jan. 6.  
It is an election year session. Voting in November on all 435 House seats and 35 of the 96 senatorships will determine party control of Congress.  
Tension therefore is bound to be greater than in 1953, when Knowland and Johnson worked harmoniously on most legislation.

**Mother Sees 2-Headed Baby**

Indianapolis (AP)—Mrs. Margaret Hartley took her first look at her two-headed baby son Sunday and decided to take him home when he can be released from Riley hospital.  
The 27-year-old mother and her husband, Cecil, 44, have three daughters, all normal, in their small home on a back road near Petersburg, Ind. They range in age from 2 to 5.  
The Hartleys came to Indianapolis to see the baby and were admitted to his room alone. They showed no emotion when they came out in a short time. The baby's condition remains satisfactory.  
The hospital indicated the baby, born by caesarean section December 13 at Washington, Ind., may be released soon. Examinations have been completed, doctors said, but periodic oxygen treatments have been given because blood circulation hasn't been normal on the left side.  
Each of the baby's heads is set squarely on a pair of shoulders, set at the normal shoulder position on each side of the single body. The baby has four arms.

**Apartment Fire Out in Portland**

Portland (AP)—Fourteen pieces of fire equipment and the Jay W. Stevens disaster car sped to an apartment house fire in Portland's east side early today. None of the occupants of the building was injured.  
Firemen fought the stubborn blaze for 30 minutes. They estimated damage to the two-story structure and its contents at \$15,000. Six persons fled the building in their night clothes after rooms were filled with thick, pungent smoke that hampered fire fighter's efforts.

**Koreans Told Aid Continues**

Taipei, Formosa, (AP)—Adm. Arthur Radford, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, today assured Nationalist China that American aid "will be continued as presently planned."  
Radford and Asst. U.S. Secretary of State Walter Robertson wound up conferences with top Nationalist leaders and left for Manila to attend the inauguration Wednesday of President elect Ramon Magsaysay.  
Government sources said the statements by Radford and Robertson tended to allay fears that American aid to Nationalist China would be cut drastically.

**Uses Spoon to Dig Out of Jail**

Eugene, (AP)—The first escape from the 26-month-old city jail here occurred early Monday morning.  
George Fenton Townsend, 18, awaiting trial on a burglary charge, broke out of the maximum security cellblock. He dug a hole with a spoon and an iron rod in the floor so he could reach out and open his cell.  
Then he got out of the cellblock by hacking a hole in walls, ripping loose a ventilation pipe and climbing to the second floor from where he walked out.  
The youth's freedom was short-lived. A city patrolman captured him an hour later after stopping him on a routine check.

**French Airforce Bombs Red Invaders of Laos**

Saigon, Indochina (AP)—French fighters and bombers plastered the Communist-led invaders of Laos Monday and French ground defenders of the little Indochinese kingdom hastily strengthened key bases.  
The French were reported concentrating south of Vietnam-held Thakhek, on the Thailand border. French reconnaissance units moving north from their base at Seno reported they had been unable to make contact with the rebel forces who lunged across Laos last week, cutting Indochina in two for the first time in the seven-year-old war.  
The French announced they had lost two companies of their own and North African troops in the Vietnam attack. The scouting units reported, however, they were rounding up soldiers of former garrisons in the area who had fled into the jungle at the Vietnam advance.  
The Vietnam radio, meanwhile, claimed that the "greater part" of the Laotian troops under French command had deserted and joined the Red force.  
The radio claimed also that the 100-mile invasion had been carried out by the "Laotian national liberation troops," but (Continued on Page 5, Column 5)

**Weather Details**

Maximum yesterday, 47; minimum low, 41. Total 24-hour precipitation: .041 for month: 7.96; normal: 6.3. Season precipitation: 19.76; normal: 17.81. Snow height: 0 feet. (Report by U.S. Weather Bureau.)

**McKay Appoints Dr. Pearl Bonneville Administrator**

**WSC Engineer Successor to Dr. Paul Raver**

By JAMES D. OLSON  
Dr. William A. Pearl, director of the Institute of Technology at Washington State college, Monday was appointed Bonneville Power administrator by Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay.  
Dr. Pearl will succeed Dr. Paul J. Raver, who resigned to become superintendent of the Seattle Light department. Dr. Pearl will take over the administrator's office on January 15, Secretary McKay said.  
The new Bonneville administrator has a long background of mechanical engineering and research experience, being a registered engineer in Oregon and Illinois. He owns a farm in Oregon. Dr. Pearl is a graduate of Washington State college and for one year he served as acting president of the college.  
Noted Engineer  
For ten years Dr. Pearl was with the Whiting Corporation of Chicago. He started there as chief engineer in the Stoker division of the company and went on to become vice president in charge of manufacturing. He returned to Washington State college in 1946.  
Simultaneously with the Whiting service he was on the staff of the Illinois Institute of Technology as a professor of mechanical engineering and director of the engineering shop laboratories. He also was in charge of major projects at the Armour Research Foundation.  
(Continued on Page 5, Column 7)

**Indian Reds for Peaceful Policy**

Madras, India (AP)—India's communist high command told the first party congress in five years yesterday that it must keep trying to win power peacefully at the polls, rather than through the terrorist tactics used until two years ago.  
The Moscow-backed policy directive was put forward by the convention's steering committee headed by the party secretary general, Ajay K. Ghosh. Ghosh arrived in Bombay less than three weeks ago after a six-month visit to the Soviet capital for medical treatment. This peaceful action program continues a policy adopted in October, 1951. The committee said "experience has proved its correctness."  
The program rejects terrorism—which ousted Secretary General B. T. Ranadive had advocated—as unsuited to India's Gandhian tradition of non-violence. The party committee called for a "broad based united front able to establish a government of democratic unity."

**Claims Kremlin On Defensive**

Washington (AP)—Secretary of State Dulles says the free world has put the rulers of Russia "on a diplomatic defensive" and that "we are ready to talk to the Soviet leaders about any concrete points of difference, wherever they may exist."  
In his report on the State Department, Dulles said, "our policies are proving successful." He wrote:  
"We have, you might say, chased Soviet Russia across the map of Europe and of Asia in our efforts to get its rulers to negotiate. Now it is beginning to look as if we have caught them."  
His report on the State Department, Dulles said, "our policies are proving successful." He wrote:  
"We have, you might say, chased Soviet Russia across the map of Europe and of Asia in our efforts to get its rulers to negotiate. Now it is beginning to look as if we have caught them."

**New Report on Snake Dam Site**

Washington (AP)—An army engineers' report on recent surveys of potential dam sites on the Snake river and its tributaries, including controversial Hells Canyon, is expected next month.  
Sen. Dworshak (R., Idaho) said Saturday the Corps of Engineers will send the report to congress in January.  
He told a reporter:  
"For the first time, as a result of these investigations of additional sites, it will be possible for congress to have a basis for comparison and to determine which constitute the next possible sites for development of the upper watershed of the Columbia river basin."  
"It would be imprudent and contrary to public interest to concentrate on one site without giving consideration to the potentialities of all possible sites for multiple purpose projects."

**155 Death Toll In New Zealand**

Auckland, New Zealand (AP)—Authorities reported Monday that 11 persons previously unaccounted for after New Zealand's tragic Christmas eve railroad wreck have been found safe. The announcement trimmed the possible death toll to 155.  
Officials previously had listed the probable toll as 166. The revised figures on the disaster now stand at:  
Persons on the train—278.  
Known survivors—123.  
Bodies recovered—114.  
Missing—41.  
The announcement came as New Zealand scientists said measuring instruments being erected on the summits of volcanic peaks here may warn to future disturbances like the one believed to have caused the wreck.  
The train, the Wellington-Auckland Night express crashed after a flood which swept down a gorge from a crater lake atop 9,125-foot Mt. Ruapehu washed out a railway bridge.  
**Weather Details**  
Maximum yesterday, 47; minimum low, 41. Total 24-hour precipitation: .041 for month: 7.96; normal: 6.3. Season precipitation: 19.76; normal: 17.81. Snow height: 0 feet. (Report by U.S. Weather Bureau.)