



WET SLUSH KEEPS CARS OFF STREETS—This picture, taken at 1:30 p.m. Monday, looking east from the corner of Central and Main streets, shows Medford as it looked in the wake of the heaviest snowfall for several years. Begrimed, churned-up slush covered the streets before city scrapers removed much of it last night. This ordinarily busy corner was almost deserted, and only a few cars were moving when the picture was taken during the last of the snow flurries before light rains began. —(Brainerd photo).

Rainfall on Snow Makes Medford 'Sloppy'; Floods Not Imminent

Rain falling on top of a four-to-fourteen inch layer of snow last night and this morning made "sloppy" the only word to describe conditions underfoot and on highways in the Rogue valley today.

The weather bureau here, which had predicted the rain following yesterday's snow, said this morning that while the flood potential of rain and melting snow is increasing, no danger of flood condition is seen for at least a 24-hour period.

Rain is falling generally throughout southern Oregon, from high in the Siskiyou to the summit of Siskiyou mountain, the bureau said. But the snowpack above the 3,000 foot altitude mark is dry and fluffy, and should absorb much moisture before it begins to run off.

Nuisances Foreseen
The snow on the valley floor will create local nuisances, the bureau said, flooding gutters and probably overtaxing the capacity of storm sewers. But streams and rivers should be able to handle it all without difficulty, the bureau added.

Yesterday's snowfall had a marked effect on the entire valley, keeping closed many schools and roads, and providing fun for kids.

City Superintendent Vernon Thorpe said he had been in-

formed that an estimated 300 youngsters enjoyed the blocked-off sliding area on Crown avenue yesterday evening. And snowmen, plain and fancy, rose on lawns in all parts of town.

Streets Scraped
Two city graders and a tractor with a scraper attachment were in service for five hours, and six trucks and two loader tractors were used for three and a half hours early this morning to clear snow from the streets, Thorpe said.

Fourteen men participated in the work, concentrating on the business district and on streets where drainage generally is most trouble some.

Snow was plowed off the main runway at the municipal airport yesterday.

Ashland Schools Close
All schools in the Ashland consolidated district were closed today according to the Ashland school superintendent's office.

Buses on the Soda Springs and Siskiyou routes were not operating, and many students in outlying areas were unable to get to school. A decision on whether the schools will reopen tomorrow was due to be made this afternoon and will be announced by radio, the superintendent's office said.

The only reports available at the county school superintendent's office this morning indicated that Rich, Applegate, and

Sams Valley schools were still closed today, and that the Talent schools were able to reopen. School officials said many bus routes had been cleared of snow, but children living in rural areas are often unable to get from their homes to the bus stops. Many of them would have to walk considerable distances in deep snow.

Most Roads Open
Most county roads are now open, through narrow passages, and crews have begun widening operations in the areas around Butte Falls, Evans Creek, and Sterling, County Engineer Paul Rynning said this morning. Snow plows and graders are finally able to make some headway in their battle to keep school bus and mail routes open, he said.

Reports from Crater Lake National park received at park headquarters at 10 a.m. today indicated temperatures at the park have moderated sharply in the past 24 hours. Temperature this morning was 30 degrees above zero.

Road conditions have also improved with the west entrance now open from Medford and Prospect, but park officials say they are still discouraging all but essential traffic. The road to the rim of the lake has been opened by park service crews.

There are six inches of new wet snow on top of the total pack but headquarters here had not learned the total depth by noon today. It was measured at 124 inches yesterday but would have settled some since then.

Hardship Reports At Caves Exaggerated
First reports from the Oregon Caves that the effect that maintenance crews there were snowbound and suffering hardships turned out to be badly exaggerated, it was reported today from the office of E. P. Leavitt, superintendent of both Crater Lake park and the Oregon Caves National monument.

D. D. Crumley, chief clerk for the park service here, said Leavitt has learned that the crews at Oregon Caves have ample food, fuel, and a stand-by electric power plant. Their situation is not nearly so serious as first reported, he said.

Crumley said the two skiers who brought word to Grants Pass about the isolated caretakers at the caves were Portlanders who apparently embellished their tale for the sake of heroics. They actually left the caves against the orders and advice of the caretakers, according to Crumley.

State road crews are at work at Oregon Caves highway and have succeeded in opening it as far as Grayback creek at the foot of the mountain, Resort Manager J. A. Christensen told Leavitt this morning. He said several trees are down across the road and telephone service to the monument has been interrupted.

American Bankers Stamp Now On Sale
The American Bankers' three-cent commemorative stamp is now on sale at the Medford post office, Postmaster Moore Hamilton said today. The stamp commemorates the 75th year of the American Bankers' association.

Jobless Pay Nearly Doubles Over 1948
Compensable claims at the Medford office of the state employment service increased from 2,531 in December, 1948, to 4,810 in December, 1949, with payments jumping from \$26,977 to \$76,087, according to the annual summary released by the employment commission today. Similar increases were noted all over the state with the exception of the Portland metropolitan area and The Dalles.

Seasonal lay-offs in Oregon during the final four months of 1949 increased unemployment from 36,000 to 69,000 but the changes were much less rapid than a year ago when 72,000 were thrown out of work during the September-February decline, the commission said.

Still hopeful that the peak would not reach last winter's top of 93,000, officials were keeping careful check on the week-by-week barometer of local office claimants.

PLAN COMPLAINT AGAINST LEWIS

Volunteers Fight Colorado Fire

Blaze Sweeps Over Area In Vicinity Of Plush Resort

Raging Brush, Timber Flames Near Control

Colorado Springs, Colo., Jan. 17—(U.P.)—High winds whipped a brush and timber fire in the famed Broadmoor hotel district to new fury today and spread the flames into warehouses on an army post in the vicinity.

The public information office at Camp Carson, located in the Broadmoor area, said that four big warehouses and a laundry were afire.

Colorado Springs, Colo., Jan. 17—(U.P.)—Five thousand firemen, troops, and other volunteers today began bringing under control a raging brush and timber fire which swept over a 14-square-mile area in the vicinity of the plush Broadmoor hotel resort district south of here.

The blaze, which started in the vicinity of a restaurant at midnight and spread with the aid of high winds through dry grass and pine timberlands, was being kept away from buildings in the vicinity by an army of firefighters.

300 Threatened
The famed Broadmoor hotel itself never was endangered, but the \$3,500,000 Cheyenne mountain zoo on its grounds, the army's nearby Camp Carson and mansions and summer cottages were threatened.

Authorities said the blaze had been halted at its eastern terminus near U. S. highway 85-87 and that the main fire now was confined in Fisher's canyon to the south. There are no houses or other improvements in the canyon.

The fire whipped to within 150 yards of the animal pits on the zoo's grounds before firefighters but it out. An estimated 5,000 men were engaged in battling the blaze by 9:30 a. m. They included regular army and navy personnel from Camp Carson and a Seabee battalion, national guardsmen, Colorado Springs and El Paso county employees, and men students of Colorado college who were dismissed from their classes.

Fire-fighting equipment was sent from as far away as Pueblo 40 miles south. Officials in charge of the volunteers said, however, the fire threat had diminished so much that they had stopped calling for aid.

The high winds which reached up to 70 miles an hour during the early morning hours had shifted, blowing the fire away from the Broadmoor district. Unless it changed back, there was a good chance the blaze could be brought under control shortly.

Veteran Groups Urge World War II Bonus

Washington, Jan. 17—(U.P.)—Two major veterans organizations urged congress today to approve a bonus for veterans of World War II.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars renewed its long-standing bonus appeal, and Amvets—a World War I organization—endorsed the bonus for the first time.

Amvets National Commander Harold Russell told the house veterans committee that "by every standard of equity the bonus is justifiable."

Russell and Clyde A. Lewis, commander in chief of the VFW, endorsed pending bills to compute the bonus at the rate of \$3 per day for service in this country and \$4 per day for service overseas.

The maximum bonus would be \$4,500, with an extra \$500 for men who were wounded in action.

Burns Jail Escapees Enjoy Brief Freedom

Burns, Ore., Jan. 17—(U.P.)—Three Portland youths held as burglary suspects sawed their way out of the Burns city jail last night but were recaptured today in the rear compartment of an automobile at a roadblock outside Vale, Ore.

The fugitives are Donald Bre shears, 19, Portland; George Edward Northern, 18, of Portland and Oakland, Cal., and Morris Williams, 19, Portland.

Held For California
They were being held here for California authorities in connection with a series of burglaries at Oakland and Redding, Cal., and at Lakeview and Portland, Ore.

Police Officer Dan Mallory said the three prisoners hacked a hole about eight inches in diameter through thin metal behind the jail's boiler. One of the youths squeezed through the hole, obtained keys from the jail office and unlocked the cell, freeing the other two.

The fugitives then broke into an arms cabinet in the police station and stole two .22 caliber automatic pistols and one .32 caliber automatic.

Police Notified
Police notified Oregon state police, who set up roadblocks on highways leading out of Burns. At 6 a. m., seven hours after the escape, a state policeman became suspicious of a pickup truck stopped at a roadblock outside Vale.

He searched the car and found the three youths huddled in the rear compartment.

Chief of Police Walter D. Lipscomb went to Vale to return the trio to jail here.

Many Business Items Face Ashland Council

Ashland, Jan. 17—Appointment of a new fire chief, reorganization of duties in the electrical, city engineer and purchasing agent departments, change of plats at Mountain View cemetery and proposed lease of 12 acres near the cemetery by J. P. Clark may be discussed by Ashland city council at a session at 7:30 p. m. today at the city hall.

The fire chief will succeed Clint Baughman, who was re-elected.

Other business pending included a new fire hall, a Magnolia mill causeway, a bill mailing proposal, acquisition of power rights in the Bellview area and possibility of Bonneville power here.

City Attorney Harry A. Skerry reported that the state highway commission has received Ashland's application for truck service route funds.

New Storm Heading In Over Brookings

By United Press

A new chain of rain and snow-laden storms rolled towards the Oregon-California border Tuesday as a bitter cold wave held fast all of Washington state and northern Oregon.

The first of the new series of blows was expected to hit around Brookings, Ore., at mid-afternoon Tuesday. The Seattle forecast said the storm would bring more rain relief to northern California and southern Oregon but would add a fresh layer of snow to northern sections of the Pacific northwest.

Northern California caught the first real relief from the Arctic blast that hit the region last week-end, claiming at least 20 dead. Gale-driven rain swept out of the Pacific ocean giving the area the worst dreaching in years.

Meanwhile, a freezing cloud blanket covered most of Washington and Oregon. Sub-freezing temperatures continued west of the Cascade mountains and sub-zero readings prevailed to the east.

Salem, Ore., Jan. 17—(U.P.)—Gov. Douglas McKay today re-appointed Blaine Hallock of Baker as a member of the state sanitary authority for a four-year term.

Red Tag Days To Be Held As Scheduled

The Red Tag sale days, scheduled by many Medford merchants for Friday and Saturday, January 20 and 21, will be held as planned, it was announced today by Robert Agard, chairman of the retail trades committee of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce.

A weather bureau prediction of continued rain, which will probably melt off the last of the snow, encouraged the merchants to stay with their plans for the money-saving event, Agard said.

Airliner Skids Off Runway At Kalispell

Kalispell, Mont., Jan. 17—(U.P.)—A Northwest Airlines passenger plane skidded off a runway here today, the sheriff's office reported. None of the passengers or crew members was reported injured.

The plane, a Martin 202, carried four passengers and a crew of three.

Lower Mississippi Valley Mobilizes To Fight Floods

Chicago, Jan. 17—(U.P.)—The lower Mississippi valley mobilized today to fight major floods as rain-swollen Kentucky and Tennessee streams joined the rampaging Wabash and Ohio rivers in lowland onslaught.

In the first major Mississippi river alert since the 1937 army engineers warned 12,000 southeast Missouri residents that they may have to flee for their lives.

Hundreds Evacuated
The order also alerted thousands of residents of Kentucky, Illinois and Tennessee to prepare for high waters.

Hundreds of lowland residents in the three states were evacuated today.

Snow fell from the Great Lakes westward to the storm-weary Pacific northwest, and localized blizzards blasted some areas.

Sub-zero cold gripped the northern border states from Michigan westward to Washington, and the cold air mass rode eastward to the Atlantic seaboard on gusty winds.

Residents Warned
Col. Louis H. Foote, district army engineer, warned southeast Missouri residents from the Arkansas line north to 29 miles above Cairo, Ill., that they will have to abandon their homes in the Mississippi bottoms if the Big Bird Point - New Madrid floodway has to be opened.

Opening the floodway just below Cairo would flood 130,000 acres of farm and timberland overrun a number of small communities and effect an estimated 12,000 persons.

But it would free much water from the Mississippi's main channel and reduce the pressure on the river's levee system.

Henry Allen, Former GOP Leader, Dies

Wichita, Kan., Jan. 17—(U.P.)—Henry J. Allen, United States senator and a republican leader in Kansas for a quarter of a century, died today at his Hillcrest home here. He was 81.

Allen is survived by his widow, Elsie, and a daughter, Mrs. Henrietta Holmes, who lives in England with her husband, who is a counselor to United States Ambassador Lewis Douglas.

Allen, who also was a former governor of Kansas, was widely known as a newspaper publisher and editor and at the time of his death was an important stockholder in the Wichita Beacon.

Allen, who went to the United States senate to fill the unexpired term of the late Charles McNary, was elected vice president under former President Herbert Hoover, was recognized as a spokesman for the White House.

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General Counsel Of NLRB Prepares To Invoke T-H Act

Complaint Expected To Be Issued Wednesday

Washington, Jan. 17—(U.P.)—President Truman today rejected an appeal by Sen. Owen Brewster (R., Me.) to invoke the Taft-Hartley emergency provisions in the coal strike.

Washington, Jan. 17—(U.P.)—Robert N. Denham, general counsel of the national labor relations board, today prepared to invoke the injunctive powers of the Taft-Hartley act against John L. Lewis and his coal miners.

Denham's staff aides said he plans to issue a formal complaint against Lewis and the United Mine Workers' union probably on Wednesday with a view to ending the current wildcat and "twice-a-week" coal strikes.

Probe Completed
Denham, who has been studying coal operators' complaints against Lewis for the past week, told the United Press he has completed his investigation and "hopes" to act soon.

His action might be tempered, however, by White House decisions. President Truman still is resisting demands for a presidential crack-down against Lewis, but government officials said "one big blizzard" could force him to seek a Taft-Hartley injunction without waiting for the NLRB general counsel to act.

Coal Supplies Low
Even under present conditions, they said, special reports from the bureau of mines show coal supplies are so low that Mr. Truman may have to send the justice department into court for an injunction "at any moment."

They said if the White House decides such a move is necessary, the justice department will ask the court to force the 400,000 soft coal miners to work a full five-day week.

Pittsburgh, Jan. 17—(U.P.)—Angry rank-and-file United Mine Workers' pickets patrolled the coal fields today driving for an all-out strike to bring the long-drawn coal contract dispute to a head.

The pickets cruised on a 24-hour basis in western Pennsylvania completely offsetting efforts of UMW President John L. Lewis' lieutenants to end the "rebel" walkouts.

Credit Cut Off
More than 78,600 miners already were idle in six states, cutting coal production more than 400,000 tons a day in the face of already widespread shortages. The rank-and-file strike apparently was stepped up by the anger of the miners over the cutting off of credit to strikers by a large chain store serving the coal fields. Another chain considered similar action.

The miners called the action a "dirty squeeze play," and declared they would close "every damn mine in the country." One local at Brownsville, Pa., sent out an invitation to other miners of the area to join them in a mass meeting Thursday to plan new action.

Pay Hike For Medics Sought By Board

Salem, Ore., Jan. 17—(U.P.)—Because of a shortage of doctors reported at state institutions and in the state health department, today to recommend salary increases of \$50 a month for doctors at the institutions and \$100 a month for doctors in the health department.

State Budget Director Harry Dorman and Director of Institutions William C. Ryan told the board that the increases recommended had been agreed upon at a recent conference of institution superintendents and health department representatives.

The civil service commission must approve the increases before they become effective.

Recess Granted In Harry Bridges Case

San Francisco, Jan. 17—(U.P.)—Defense attorneys for Harry Bridges, obviously caught unprepared by the sudden end of prosecution testimony, today were granted a six-day recess in the perjury-suspect trial of the CIO longshore leader.

Trial of Bridges and two co-defendants was recessed until next Monday after the defense finished cross examination of one government witness.

Federal Judge George B. Harris granted the recess on the defense plea that the sudden end of the prosecution's case had left the defense unprepared to present its witnesses in orderly fashion.

Rescue Workers Inch Nearer Trapped Miner

Mahanoy City, Pa., Jan. 17—(U.P.)—Rescue workers inched slowly today through a vein of solid anthracite toward the spot where 25-year-old Edward Burda has been trapped for four days.

The rescuers were between 10 and 25 feet from the bottom of the 160-foot deep mine where Burda was imprisoned by a cave-in last Friday.

"It's very dangerous down there," State Mine Inspector Ben Reinhold said. "The roof is treacherous. We have to work carefully. We don't want anybody else trapped."

Salem, Ore., Jan. 17—(U.P.)—Gov. Douglas McKay today accepted the honorary chairmanship of the Oregon state committee of the National Probation and Parole Association.

WEATHER
FORECAST: Cloudy with rain tonight and Wednesday. Snow mixed with rain tonight. Little change in temperature.
Highest yesterday 31.3
Lowest this morning 21.3
Prec. to 4:30 a.m. today31