

# Pounding Rains Continue in Southland

By UNITED PRESS

Pounding rains continued in the Southland today, but zooming temperatures melted blizzards in the West.

Three days of freakish, savage weather across the nation's southern half had left at least five persons dead and property damage estimated in the hundreds of thousands of dollars.

More persons were feared dead in the collapse of a 100-foot bridge over the flood-swollen Homochitto river near Woodville, Miss., yesterday. At least three vehicles, and perhaps four, tumbled into the raging water.

Natchez Police Chief S. C. Craft said "The water is too high and swift to get to the cars. We don't know how many people have died."

The vast spring storm started with blizzards in the northern plains which swept into Oklahoma a Texas. Choking dust storms then hit the Southwest, while tornadoes and record-breaking rains swept from Texas into Arkansas, Alabama, and Mississippi.

The savage squall line ripped Mobile, Ala., with a tree-toppling twister and drowned the gulf city in 13.30 inches of rain in less than eight hours yesterday.

The Mobile downpour topped an 1874 record of 12.78 inches and prompted a pretty dentist's assistant, Kathy Fraucher, to go to work in a bathing suit. Nearby boats were used to nearby rural areas to rescue flood-trapped families.

Other twisters hit the Alabama tri-cities area of Florence, Sheffield, and Tusculumbia. Three persons were injured, roofs were torn off, and 30 homes and three downtown Sheffield buildings were destroyed.

The storm spread farther east across Dixie and took the form of a pea-soup fog along the Atlantic Coast. A seaman was killed and another was injured when two freighters collided in a fog-bank off the North Carolina capes. The fog was also blamed

## Murder Charge Pending For Killing of Wife

Portland — (U.P.) — A murder charge was to be filed today against Willie Moore, 64, of Portland who police said shot and killed his wife, Ora, 60, last night, climaxing an argument over the break up of their marriage.

Moore shot his wife three times with a .32 automatic at her home. She died instantly. Moore then gave himself up to police.

for a fatal traffic accident. Heavy rains continued in the Southeast and Central Atlantic states today, dumping 1.26 inches of rain on Savannah, Ga., and 1.13 inches on Flattop, W. Va.

In the West, meanwhile, the damage of a freak April blizzard could not yet be estimated because communications to many Texas communities were still out.

## On The Side

(Distributed by King Features Syndicate, Inc.)

If you do love as well as I, Then every minute from your heart, A thought does part, And winced with desire does fly Till it has met in a straight line A thought of mine. May you then often think of me, And by that thinking know it is true I thought of you. —Herbert.

What are you going to give your wife as a wedding anniversary present? Don't tell me. It's none of my business. But will you take a suggestion? Give her a watch and have this inscription on it: "At any hour of the day I love you." Of course, it would make a good wedding anniversary present for a husband, too. But wives are more appreciative of gifts with a more romantic touch.

Passing By Katharine Cornell. Distinguished lady of the theater. Great parts do much toward making great theatrical reputations. Miss Cornell was especially fortunate in that respect early in her career. She sprang into prominence with the part of Iris March in "The Green Hat," following which she had another great role in "The Letter" and after that an even greater one in "The Barretts of Wimpole Street." Yes sir, opportunity really knocked on Katharine's door.

Asides To the list of helpful hints on husband hunting should probably be added the recent observation by Maureen O'Hara: "If you want instant admiration appear in a red dress with a low cut neckline." . . . It was George W. Brown, operator of a New York City gymnasium specializing in figure streamlining, who originated the highly provocative phrase: "How are you going to look in a bathing suit?"

Asking Queries from clients. Q. How old was Rudolph Valentino at the time of his death? A. Thirty-one. Q. What is the origin of

A bright sun and warming temperatures melted eight-foot snowdrifts today. Roads in Southeast Wyoming and Northeast Colorado were open to motorists who were willing to travel at a crawl and snow-clogged roads in Texas and New Mexico were expected to become open today.

The surprise blizzard marooned hundreds of travelers, includ-

ing 15 persons in a Greyhound bus near Capulin, N.M. The passengers lived on a single box of chocolates until they were rescued yesterday.

## Helser Admits Company Erred On Bond Transfer

San Francisco — (U.P.) — J. Henry Helsler, head of the Portland, Ore., firm bearing his name admitted yesterday that his company "made a mistake" in transferring bonds to preferred stock in the same company and charging a broker's fee.

Helser testified for the fifth day yesterday at a trial on charges by the Securities and Exchange commission that his company violated fraud provisions of the securities laws.

No Personal Check He maintained, however, that although his company had made a mistake, only his clients who had accounts handled by two brokerage houses had suffered.

Frank Kennemer, SEC attorney, brought up the subject a second time under direct examination and asked Helsler if he had personally checked the accounts.

Helser replied that he had not personally, but relied on the advice of the statistical department.

Kennemer then introduced records of 157 clients in which all had been offered for exchange from bonds to preferred stock and all of them had suffered "disastrously."

Helser then admitted he was not aware of this and was misinformed.

Confidential Information He also testified that he had received confidential account market information from the head of a large textile corporation which proved valuable for investment by his clients.

Kennemer then introduced the minutes of an Helsler executive meeting early in 1954 during which Helsler was quoted as saying in regards to the textile firm head: "I don't like doing business with people I can't trust."

Obviously embarrassed by the disclosure of what he termed "confidential company information," Helsler said he had changed his opinion of the executive since that meeting.

## Project at SOC Survives Slash

Salem — (U.P.) — Seven projects and nearly \$4,000,000 were slashed from the Board of Higher Education building program submitted to the joint ways and means committee today by a buildings subcommittee.

The board had requested \$7,900,000 for 13 projects to be built during the next biennium. The subcommittee cut the number of projects to six and recommended an appropriation of \$3,975,000.

In order of priority, the subcommittee recommendations included, Portland State College, \$850,000; Southern Oregon College, \$450,000; Oregon State College, \$1,800,000; University of Oregon, \$550,000; dental school equipment, \$175,000; and one-third of a utility tunnel unit at OSC, \$150,000.

The money for dental school equipment was required because the Board of Higher Education has been unable to find a buyer for the old structure. Proceeds from the sale were to have been used for equipping the new building.

## WILSON TO SPEAK

Pullman, Wash. — (U.P.) — President O. Meredith Wilson of the University of Oregon will be the baccalaureate speaker at Washington State College June 5, WSC President C. Clement French said today.

Thursday, April 14, 1955

MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—NINE

## Stores To Join In Hardware Week

Four Medford and one Ashland hardware stores join tomorrow to start observance of Itha Hardware week, one of the nation's biggest retail promotions.

The firms which belong to the Independent Retail Hardware association and which are participating in the joint promotion effort are Acme, Crain and Mohr, Hubbard Brothers and Siskiyou Hardware stores in Medford, and Bauder Hardware store, Ashland.

The week April 15 to 23, will feature one of the nation's biggest promotion efforts, including local and national advertising. This week's Saturday Evening Post contains 40 consecutive pages of hardware advertising in connection with the event.

More than 23,000 independent hardware dealers are participating throughout the nation, which features special prices on a wide range of specially stocked items, special store decorations, displays of materials and equipment for do-it-yourself enthusiasts, and other promotion events.

## HEART DISEASE LEADS

Portland — (U.P.) — Heart disease is still Oregon's leading cause of death. The State Board of Health said today 5773 persons died of it last year.

## Tonic Offered for Congressional Debates

Washington — (U.P.) — Each member of Congress today was offered a 25-pound supply of "a spring tonic guaranteed to inject a pungent flavor into the dulled of congressional debates."

The free offer with no strings attached was announced by Rep. Joe Kilgore (D-Tex.). Kilgore and other members of the Texas congressional delegation are all set to help distribute from a semi-trailer truck some 20,000 pounds of sweet, Texas-grown, Bermuda onions.

## Viewing Cherry Blossoms Becomes Free-for-All

Chichibu, Japan — (U.P.) — Eyewitnesses reported a free-for-all between two groups of cherry blossom-viewing sake (rice wine) drinkers rivaled a Japanese "Western" movie in excitement. Thirty Tokyo taxi drivers and 32 firemen from nearby Chiba Prefecture mixed it up with empty beer bottles and walking sticks after an argument.

Eight persons were injured, one seriously, by the time police restored order.

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