

NUCLEAR TEST RUINS EQUIPMENT

Floods Threatened In Four States As Water Rises

Diver Joins Search For Missing Vehicles

By UNITED PRESS
Southland rivers, gorged by three days of torrential rains, rose towards flood crests today in Alabama, Mississippi, South Carolina and Louisiana.

No new storms threatened Dixie, but tornadoic weather which raged across the nation's southern half had left at least 11 persons feared dead and millions of dollars' damage.

In Mississippi, the Pearl, Pascagoula, and Leaf rivers threatened to spill over thousands of acres today. Alabama was warned to prepare for the worst floods since 1948 on the lower Alabama, Coosa and Tombigbee rivers.

Diver Joins Search

Meanwhile, a professional diver joined the search of the flood-swollen Homochitto river in Mississippi, where at least two vehicles plunged off a broken bridge. Two persons, and possibly more, were feared dead.

Elsewhere in the nation, fog still shrouded New York City where an American tanker and a British ship collided, officials said.

In Texas and Oklahoma workmen repaired miles of blizzard-damaged communications and power lines in summer-like temperatures. Ice, heavy snow, and 76-mile-per hour winds had snapped the lines and temporarily marooned hundreds of motorists, but the eight-foot drifts were practically melted away today.

Cold Snap Threatened

Farther west, more blowing dust was in store for farmers in Eastern Colorado and parts of New Mexico, and a threatening cold snap prompted livestock warnings for extreme Northern Wyoming.

The sudden Southeast was still being doused with rain in some portions today, including 3.03 inches at Augusta, Ga., and 2.17 inches at Macon, Ga.

These rains, however, were welcomed by drought-plagued farmers.

Robert Sage Selected Washington Principal

Robert Sage, 35, principal of the Gold Hill elementary school for the past six years, has been appointed principal of Washington school in Medford, it was announced this morning.

He was offered the post following a meeting of the board of School District 49 this week, and accepted today. He succeeds Kenneth Hulbert, who will be named principal of the new Jefferson school in September.

Sage, a native of Jackson county, attended Table Rock elementary school and Medford High school, and received his BS in education at Southern Oregon college in 1946. From 1946 to 1949 he was teacher and coach at Jackson school. He earned the master of education degree at the University of Oregon in 1954, and also has taken graduate work in education at the University of Boston.

He is married and the father of sons aged 3 and 5, and a daughter, 9.

DOW-JONES AVERAGES

New York — (U.P.) — Dow-Jones final stock averages: 30 industrials 425.45 up 2.99; 20 railroads 158.30 up 1.43; 15 utilities 64.72 up 0.94, and 65 stocks 159.14 up 1.04.

Ellsworth Bill To Protect Timber on Mining Claims

Washington — (U.P.) — Rep. Harris Ellsworth introduced in the House yesterday a bill designed to protect timber in federal forests from exploitation by mining claimants.

The bill would allow the government to continue to manage and sell timber located on unpatented mining claims. At present mining claimants can prevent the Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management from disposing of timber on their claims.

Under the measure, drafted jointly by the Interior and Agriculture departments, the claim-



BOATS HAVE RIGHT OF WAY—Two stranded children are rescued by neighbors in a boat after thunder clouds dumped 1 1/2 inches of rain on Mobile, Ala. Homes were flooded and hundreds of autos stalled. The one at right has stopped to allow boat to pass.

Demurrer of Murder Suspect is Overruled

Circuit Judge H. K. Hanna has overruled a demurrer to a first degree murder charge against Bernice Hampton (Tex) White, 37, of 228 Hartley rd., Medford.

White was ordered to appear in court when he is recovered from a recent operation.

Five other men appeared in circuit court for sentencing this morning and two of them were

Injunction Hearing Under Way in Court

A hearing was under way in circuit court this morning on an injunction sought by Kermit C. Combes and Evelyn G. Combes against Bert G. Harr, Christine Harr, Art Brown, and D. B. Winingham.

The Combeses seek an order enjoining the defendants from use and trespass on property owned by Mr. and Mrs. Combes along Squaw Creek rd. in the Applegate area.

A complaint filed recently charges the defendants have taken earth from land owned by Combes while widening Squaw Creek rd., and are operating log trucks on the property.

Combes was arraigned March 23 in district court on a complaint, filed by Bert Harr, charging him with disorderly conduct. The case is still pending.

US Refuses Visits To 15 Jailed Flyers

Washington — (U.P.) — The United States stood firm today against Red China's renewed offer to let relatives of 15 jailed airmen visit them in their Chinese prisons.

Officials said the Far Eastern situation, if anything, has grown worse since the end of January when the United States first refused to let the relatives go.

China, thus, they said, the U.S. government could not change its stand now and let the kin visit the fliers.

The renewed offer came in a letter from the Chinese Red Cross to Mr. and Mrs. Harold Fischer of Swea City, Ia., whose son Harold is in a Chinese jail. The Reds held 14 other American airmen.

Ellsworth said O & C lands in western Oregon were exempted from the bill. He said it needn't apply to these lands because they are protected in a similar way by a 1948 act which he sponsored.

given terms in Oregon state prison.

Those appearing were Earl Howard Brown, 25, of route 1, box 773, Grants Pass; Earl Wayne Taylor, 17, Butte Falls; Paul Ronald Holten, 22, Winston, Ore.; John Silva, 27, of route 1, box 191, Rogue River, and Lincoln Eldred McFall, 35, of route 1, box 215, Rogue River.

Terms Suspended

Brown and Silva received suspended one-year sentences on charges of larceny. Holten was given a suspended three-month sentence and was fined \$50 on a charge of assault and battery.

Taylor received a one-year term in Oregon state prison on a charge of larceny, and McFall was given a one-year prison term on a similar charge.

White has been charged with first degree murder in the death of Eugene Raymond Birk, 32, Phoenix, who died after being struck by a board which eye-witnesses said was wielded by White.

The court already has overruled a motion to quash the charge. The demurrer, entered by Robert Duncan, White's attorney, was overruled yesterday.

White underwent an emergency appendectomy last week, and will appear in court as soon as attending physicians certify that he is physically able to do so.

White House Aide In Corsi Inquiry

Washington — (U.P.) — A Senate Judiciary Subcommittee investigation of the controversial firing of Edward J. Corsi will touch on the role played by a top White House aide, informed sources said today.

The disclosure came as the subcommittee prepared for a public airing of the politically explosive question of why Corsi was abruptly dismissed as State Department adviser on refugee problems.

Informed sources identified one White House witness as Maxwell M. Raab, presidential assistant on minority problems.

Corsi told reporters Thursday that Raab was "very anxious to have me help" in the refugee relief program and had first invited him to take the job as refugee adviser in the State Department.

COL. PAINE BETTER

Col. W. H. Paine, 84, of 56 North Orange st., who has been at Community hospital since Wednesday evening is reported to have had "a good night," and is in satisfactory condition. The retired Army officer was taken unexpectedly ill and is under treatment for an acute respiratory condition. He may not have visitors as yet.

Weather

FORECAST: Mostly cloudy with occasional light rain tonight. Considerable cloudiness and a few showers Saturday. Not so cold tonight. Low tonight 34. High Saturday 44.

Highest Yesterday 48
Lowest this Morning 28
Prec. to 4:30 a.m. Today, Trace

Rebel Grenades Hurlled Into Saigon

Saigon, Indochina — (U.P.) — Rebelious bands staged hit and run attacks on local outposts in the out-country and hurled grenades in Saigon itself in a new outburst of violence against the government of American-backed Premier Ngo Dinh Diem.

One Viet Namese soldier was killed and six others were wounded in two grenade attacks in Saigon. One of the grenades was tossed at a group of government troops in the heart of Saigon's teeming suburb of Cholon, stronghold of the rebellious sects.

The other exploded in front of central police headquarters, nerve center of the incubating civil war, but caused no injuries.

Diem was forced today to cancel his proposed trip to the Afro-Asian conference at Bandung because of the rising tension and the threat of continued bloodshed in South Viet Nam.

Southwest of this capital, blockaded by rebels, guerrilla warfare cracked anew throughout the rich rice country of the lower Mekong.

Hank Girl Said Marijuana Smoker

Portland — (U.P.) — A witness at the Fong murder trial today testified that Diane Hank had said she took narcotics at the Fong home.

Mrs. Shirley Macfarlane, 19, told the jury she had been a friend of the murdered Hank girl since grade school days.

"She (Diane) told me that she had taken dope at the Fong house," she said. Sherry and Wayne (Wey Him Fong) and herself had smoked marijuana," Mrs. Macfarlane testified.

Sherry and Wey Him Fong are on trial in circuit court here for the first degree murder of the 16-year-old Hank girl in January of last year.

Sen. Welker Collapses But Recovers Quickly

Washington — (U.P.) — Sen. Herman Welker (R-Ia.) collapsed in the Senate dining room today for the second time in recent weeks. He again recovered quickly.

Dr. George W. Calver, Capitol physician, said Welker was merely overtired and had been "trying to do too much." He said the 48-year-old senator is "all right" otherwise.

Welker was lunching in the main dining room when he collapsed.

Eden To Call National Elections on May 26

London — (U.P.) — Prime Minister Sir Anthony Eden announced tonight he will call national general elections in Britain May 26.

In a television broadcast to the nation, Eden said he had asked the Queen to dissolve the current Parliament May 6 and she had agreed to do so.

Polling will take place May 26, Eden said, and the new Parliament will be summoned June 7 to resume legislative business.

Newport, Ore. — (U.P.) — Lincoln county's recently completed courthouse is to be dedicated tomorrow.

Items Subjected To Savage Fury Of City-Killer

Pilotless Drone Crashes on Takeoff

Las Vegas — (U.P.) — A nuclear device of city-killer size was exploded in the Nevada desert today, its savage fury slamming into more than a million dollars worth of U.S. weapons and supplies in the biggest test this year of military equipment beneath the atom bomb.

A group of observers from Canada and Great Britain watched from five and one-half miles away.

The nuclear device, second most powerful detonated in tests this year, packed a wallop equivalent to 25,000 tons of TNT stronger by one-fourth than the bombs that flattened Hiroshima and Nagasaki during World War II.

Costly Experiment

Part of the income taxes due from millions of citizens on this deadline day go to pay for atomic experiments and the equipment subjected to its blast, heat and radiation. By these tests, the Atomic Energy Commission and the military get a bearing on how best to protect soldiers and civilians from the horrors of nuclear warfare.

The blast, triggered at 11:15 a.m. (PST) atop a 400-foot tower, was the 12th of the 1955 series and the first set off at Frenchman Flat, 55 miles northeast of here, since the first atomic cannon shot in world history was fired there in 1953. All detonations since then have been fired at nearby Yucca Flat, also in the Nevada Proving Grounds.

Minor Accident

A minor incident marred the opening of today's test when a pilotless drone Shooting Star fighter plane scheduled to fly into the atomic blast, crashed on takeoff. No one was injured.

Today's was not as powerful as a similar tower device exploded earlier this spring, but still wicked enough to blast to smithereens some of the military equipment ranged around ground zero at the base of the tower.

This was the major weapons effects test of the present series, and only once before has there been a more elaborate layout of items put to the fission test.

Experiments Carried Out

Approximately 40 different experiments were carried out beneath this device—the strength of a bomb an enemy could be expected to use against supply centers in strategic cities where railroad terminals provide handy stockpiling facilities.

The latest combat clothing, vehicles, road graders, tractors, cranes and even defensive fortifications were placed at varying distances from the slender steel tower which almost vanished in the blinding blast.

Siskiyou County Business Expected To Suffer Through Shortage of Rain, Snow

Yreka, Calif. — (U.P.) — R. W. Bower, supervisor of Klamath National Forest, said today the shortage of rain and snow in California could have serious effects on Siskiyou county business and industry.

Bower said precipitation this year is ranging from 68 per cent of normal at Happy Camp to 35 per cent at Mt. Hebron. He said all streams are low and that many of the smaller creeks are not running enough water to reach the rivers at this time.

Will Touch All

"This shortage of moisture will no doubt effect many activities in the county and will directly or indirectly touch all of us," he said.

Reports reaching here said some wells in the Montague area have gone dry and some farmers believe it is already too late for rain to help their lands.

Hans Karstenson, office manager of the Federal Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation County Committee, said the water shortage will be critical unless relief comes soon. He said deep-rooted crops, such as alfalfa, are practically beyond help now. However, he said late rains could save such shallow-rooted

Russia, Austria Sign Agreement On State Treaty

Occupation Troops Would Be Withdrawn

Moscow — (U.P.) — Austria and Russia signed today a new state treaty agreement in which the Soviet promises to withdraw its occupation troops by the end of this year if a formal treaty can be put into effect by then.

In doing so Russia dropped its insistence on keeping occupation troops in Austria indefinitely and thus removed one of the major points blocking a treaty agreement with the United States, Britain and France.

The agreements signed today in the form of an aide memoire wiped out in four days of Austro-Soviet talks a 10-year-old impasse in the cold war. Both Austria and Russia appeared optimistic the agreements would be approved by the West.

To Release Prisoners

The Soviets also agreed to release all Austrian prisoners of war and civilians presently held in the Soviet Union as soon as Soviet troops are withdrawn from Austria. This was another of the major points blocking a state treaty.

These and other treaty terms agreed upon in the talks were announced in an official communication issued shortly before Chancellor Julius Raab and his Austrian negotiators took off for Vienna with the statement "we return to Vienna a happy people."

Significant Move

The fixing of a deadline for withdrawal of occupational troops was regarded as one of the most significant Soviet moves in more than nine years of treaty negotiations with the western Big Three.

Since the United States, Britain and France also must sign the state treaty, the next step is for them to consider the terms.

A call was expected soon for a conference of the Big Four with Austria with the aim of meshing Western views with the Austro-Soviet agreement.

State and Federal Tax Deadline Is Tonight

Today is the deadline for filing state and federal income tax statements. Those postponed prior to midnight tonight will be accepted without penalties.

The federal tax office in the Federal building, 33 North Riverside ave., will remain open until 7 p.m. today to aid in filling out state tax statements. Aid in filling out state tax statements is being given by representatives of the state tax commission who have temporary offices in the courthouse.

Federal tax statements should be mailed to Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue, Portland. State tax statements should be sent to Oregon State Tax Commission, Salem.

Salk Vaccinations Delayed for Week

The Salk anti-polio vaccination program in Jackson county has been delayed a week and will not start until Monday, April 25, it was announced shortly before noon today by Dr. A. E. Merkel, county health officer.

Start of the vaccination program for first and second grade pupils tentatively had been slated to start next Monday. The decision to set back the program one week was made because of lack of definite information as to when the vaccine will arrive here.

To Follow Salk Advice

Dr. Jonas Salk's recommendation on use of the vaccine will be followed in Jackson county,

Dr. Merkel said. This means that a second shot will be given one week following the first.

The third, or booster shot, then will be given seven months to one year later. The first two shots will be paid for by the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. The third shot must be paid for by the individuals.

Dr. Merkel said this morning that the Salk vaccine is expected to be available to private physicians in Jackson county about as soon as it will be available for the first and second grade inoculation program. Some private physicians already are preparing waiting lists for inoculations.

Under the new schedule the inoculation program for first and second graders in Medford will start Monday, April 25, at Lincoln school. The rest of the program in Medford will be: Tuesday, April 26, St. Mary's school; Wednesday, April 27, Washington school; Thursday, April 28, Jackson school; Friday, April 29, Roosevelt school.

This schedule supersedes that published on Page 1 of Section 2 of today's issue of The Mail Tribune, which was prepared before the change in plans.

Talent Woman Hurt By Hit-Run Car; Driver Is Sought

Mrs. Ruby Bartley, 55, route 1, box 237, Talent, was taken to Ashland hospital for treatment of serious injuries last night after being struck by an unidentified automobile, it was reported this morning.

State police said that a two-state search is being conducted for the driver of the car which hit Mrs. Bartley some time last evening. She was found in a ditch south of the Talent junction at about 9 p.m., and was taken to the hospital. She had a broken wrist, both legs were broken, and the extent of her internal injuries is not yet determined.

Thrown Into Ditch

As state police reconstructed the event, Mrs. Bartley was walking north along Highway 99 toward a store. She apparently was hit by a passing southbound car, and thrown into the ditch where she was later found by Philip R. Turpin and two companions. Their addresses are not listed.

When officers tried to talk to her in the hospital, she was in no condition to tell them any details they reported.

It is still uncertain as to just what time Mrs. Bartley was hit. Officers are conducting an intensive investigation this morning, following up a few clues which they have found. The California highway patrol has been notified, and is on the lookout for a car which was described to officers here.

Underpass Project Contract Awarded

Portland — (U.P.) — A contract for construction of a second underpass beneath the Southern Pacific railroad just north of Ashland, and widening the highway into the city, was let by the state highway commission late yesterday.

Low bidder and winner of the contract was Miller & Strong, Inc., Eugene. The low bid was \$252,950.

Highway 99 now narrows to two lanes just north of the underpass. The proposed project will widen the highway under the railroad through the construction of the separate underpass, and will carry four lanes as far as the city limits.

The commission also let a contract for construction of a culvert on Quartz creek and a bridge on McNeil creek to E. W. Construction Co., Eugene, on a low bid of \$13,470.

Orchard Heating General in Valley; Expect No Damage

Orchard heating was general throughout the Medford area early today as temperatures dropped to an estimated 24 degrees in the coldest spots. Little or no commercial fruit damage from the cold was expected.

Some orchards reported that the temperature dropped twice during the early morning hours. Heaters were lighted after the first drop, shortly after 3 a.m., and a smaller drop occurred at about 5:15 a.m.

County Agent Don Berry said clouds which came over the valley between 3:30 and 4 a.m. helped the situation. "It could have been a bad night," he said.

A feature of this morning's heating was the fact that some orchards were heated with wood fires instead of the oil heaters long used in this area. Kershaw orchard, a 75-acre tract, and several smaller blocks reportedly were heated by Presto-log fires this morning.

Smoke Said Less

The wood fires, together with the increasingly large number of return stack heaters in the area, were credited by many people for what appeared to be less of the oily black smoke than usually results from general orchard heating.

This morning's cold was accompanied by one bit of freakish weather in the Ashland area, where snow on the ground was reported by the owner of one peach orchard.

Low temperature at the weather bureau this morning was 28 degrees. Low tonight is expected to be about 34, at which temperature heating is not needed.

Three Courses Open In School Integration

Washington — (U.P.) — The Supreme Court today faced one of the toughest decisions in its 166-year history, how and when to require Southern states to open the same school doors to white and Negro children.

At the end of a four-day hearing on the momentous issue, three courses were open to the high court—order gradual integration, immediate integration or a middle course.

If the justices had expected some spirit of compromise between opposing parties at the hearings, they were disappointed. Southern states remained in their opposition to any order requiring immediate integration. And the Negro groups were equally insistent that color bars in schools be abolished by next fall or by 1956 at the very latest.

Eisenhower Gets Backing From George On Policy of Silence on Quemoy, Matsu

Augusta, Ga. — (U.P.) — President Eisenhower today received powerful backing from Democratic Sen. Walter F. George for the presidential policy against stating publicly whether the U.S. will fight to defend Quemoy and Matsu.

Visit at Golf Club

The Georgia Democrat, who heads the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, visited Mr. Eisenhower Thursday at the Augusta National Golf Club where the President is combining work and play on a vacation from Washington.

George said a public statement by the President on U.S. intentions regarding Quemoy and Matsu would turn a tick-

lish, dangerous issue into a political football.

He said the cause of peace could not be served by the President declaring in advance what this country would do in event of a Red Chinese attack on the Nationalist held off-shore islands in the Formosa Strait.

Views Conflict

George's views were directly contrary to those of some equally powerful Senate Republicans.

Sen. William F. Knowland (R-Calif.), Senate minority leader, and Sen. Styles Bridges (R-N.H.) have urged that the President or the secretary of state make a public declaration of what the United States would do in event of an attack on Matsu and Que-

mooy. George expressed most of his views on the Formosa Strait islands in an address before the Georgia Bankers Association.

George said he and the President discussed the advantages of Mr. Eisenhower's program to exchange secret atomic information with NATO countries.

FOA Functions Discussed

He said he also talked with Mr. Eisenhower about an impending executive order to transfer functions of the Foreign Operations Administration to the State Defense Departments.

George predicted that the foreign aid envisioned by the President would be approved by Congress without serious disagreement.