

Feather River Pours New Flood Into Yuba

REHABILITATION AID TO FLOODED FAMILIES SLATED

Major rehabilitation assistance for the hundreds of families stricken by last week's floods along the Rogue river will get under way probably tomorrow, according to Red Cross officials.

The organization in the meantime is continuing the emergency assistance which it has been offering to flood victims since the river first rose out of its banks last Wednesday night. The burden of providing this assistance—food, shelter, clothing and Christmas presents for youngsters—has fallen on the volunteers in each community affected.

Community Units

The Jackson county chapter of the Red Cross is unique in that it is organized on a community unit basis, each of which operated independently during the days of the flood emergency. It is through these local units that the emergency assistance is still being provided, with the chapter coordinating the work.

The National Red Cross has given a "blank check" to the local chapter to pay for whatever emergency relief is necessary. Miss Josephine McNamara, a professional disaster worker, has arrived to supervise the long-pull job of providing aid where necessary in the rehabilitation work yet to be done. Two other trained workers are being assigned here.

Many Homes

Preliminary estimates, based on a week's end survey, indicate that about 400 families, mostly in the Shady Cove-Trail and Rogue River areas of Jackson county, were left homeless, some of them temporarily. A number of them have already been able to move back into their homes, and are able to provide for their own needs. But others still are receiving bedding, food, shelter and clothing to get them past the emergency period.

The rehabilitation job has several aspects, according to the Red Cross officials. The agency will work hand in hand with the Small Business administration, which is authorized to provide long-term, low-interest loans to those needing them to make their business operative.

Others, who either suffered smaller amounts of damage, or who are better fixed financially, will need no assistance at all.

Red Cross Assistance

Still others, whose losses were great and who cannot see their way clear to assume the obligations of loans, will receive outright non-reimbursable assistance from the Red Cross directly, for furniture, for necessary appliances, for household repairs and reconstruction. Each case will be handled on an individual basis, based on the need of the individuals as brought out by conferences with them.

The Red Cross does not call this assistance charity. It is, rather, a means by which people assist their neighbors who are in temporary difficulties. Neither does the agency reveal the names of those who are being assisted on the theory that each recipient of aid is entitled to his own privacy in matters of this nature.

Estimates Incomplete

There is still no firm estimate of the amount of damage caused by the floods in Jackson county. Probably the greatest financial loss will be to homes and businesses along the river, where the total will run into the hun-

Bicycle Licenses Placed on Sale

Bicycle licenses for 1956 are on sale today at the city police station.

Police urged children having bicycles to purchase licenses for them during the Christmas holidays. Purchasers of licenses must show police either the old license plate or identification furnished by police when the old plate was purchased.

To register new or unlicensed bicycles the serial number, wheel size, brand name, name of the brake, and main and trim colors of the bicycle are required.

Licenses cost 25 cents. Licenses aid police to identify and recover lost or stolen bicycles.

Weather

FORECAST: Fog or low cloudiness tonight and Wednesday morning. Partly cloudy Wednesday afternoon. Low tonight 29, high Wednesday 45. Highest Yesterday 34. Lowest this Morning 33. Prec. to 4:30 a.m. Today .17

Oregon Counts Toll Of Dead; Five Die In Slide at Remote Coos Bay Drowning Brings Number to 12

Portland—(U.P.)—Flood-battered southwest Oregon counted a mounting toll of death and destruction today from slides and raging waters including a tragedy in which five members of one family were killed when a rain-soaked hill crushed a house at Remote. There was hope the waters would recede today.

Another drowning was reported in the Coos Bay area, bringing the death toll from floods in Oregon since last Wednesday to 12.

More people had to be evacuated yesterday.

Roads Blocked

Some main routes in western Oregon still were blocked this morning but Highway 99 was reported open all the way.

The slide at Remote in western Coos county resulted in death to Marion E. Neal, 40; his wife, 39; and three of their children, Tommy, 18; Mary, 16; and Becky, 20 months. Two others, Billy, 6, and Margaret, 12, were taken to a Roseburg hospital. Douglas County Coroner L. L. Powers said the only member of the family to escape injury was Arvis, a 7-year-old boy.

Powers went to the scene because the Highway 42 was blocked between Remote and Coquille. The Neal home was swept about 300 feet across a field. Word of the slide was relayed by ham radio.

Coquille Isolated

The Coast Guard reported yesterday that an unidentified man drowned in the Coos Bay area when he missed a step into a boat that was trying to evacuate him. He was swept away by the Coquille river, the Coast Guard said.

Coquille was virtually cut off from the outside world with roads out and communication lines down. The Coquille river reached a record 26.7 feet last night.

A number of families were evacuated from flooded areas around Coquille yesterday and were being cared for by the Red Cross in Coquille Community hall. Civil Defense Director John Pickett said that many houses were flooded along the riverbank and several were in danger of floating away. A bridge washed down the Coquille river by Coos Bay Lumber Company employees set out to "beach" it.

Umpqua Going Down

Myrtle Point also was hard hit and ham radio operators said the city was without power. A helicopter was to try to fly an electrician into the area today.

Riddle, a southern Douglas county town, remained isolated by high water today. The Umpqua river at Roseburg was reported going down this morning, however.

The Coquille began leveling off last night but high tide early today was expected to delay the runoff.

The Rogue river, which reached an all-time high last week, was reported falling yesterday but crests in the area flooded. The Willamette river was falling at Portland after going more than four feet over flood stage Christmas day.

Ike To Leave For Vacation Tomorrow

Washington—(U.P.)—President Eisenhower will leave here by air tomorrow for a two-week vacation at Key West, Fla., the White House said today.

White House Press Secretary James C. Hagerty said the President is taking the advice of his physicians to go south for sun, fresh air, rest, and exercise.

Soviet Budget Shows Decrease In Money For Military, Increase In Power Sites

Moscow—(U.P.)—Soviet oil output is soaring, the government announced today.

Petroleum Industry Minister Mikhail A. Evseyenko told the Supreme Soviet at a special session that he will "successfully fulfill" the aim of an 85 per cent increase in oil output this year over 1950.

Speaking before a morning session of the Council of the Soviet Union, one of the Supreme Soviet's two equal chambers—Evseyenko said oil output in eastern regions of the Soviet Union now represented 58 per cent of the country's total output.

Before World War II, he said,

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RAMPAGING RIVER—This aerial photograph of inundated Yuba City was made from an Air Force plane as 8,000 were ordered to evacuate the town, flooded by the raging waters of the Yuba and Feather rivers. —(International)

621 Killed On Highways

Seven Are Killed In Accidents in State Over Weekend

At least seven persons lost their lives in Oregon traffic accidents during the Christmas weekend.

A three-car accident near Camp Adair yesterday afternoon resulted in the death of an elderly Corvallis couple. The victims were H. A. Franklin, 78, and his wife, Kathryn, 71.

State police said their car was traveling south when it strayed into the path of a car driven by Edward Thurber, 40, Willamina. Thurber was hospitalized in Corvallis. A third car, driven by Dean W. Frost, 37, Oakridge, went into a ditch to avoid the accident. He was not injured.

Crashes House

Choon N. Louie, 36, Cottage Grove, was killed Christmas night when the car he was driving left the road and plunged into a house. No one was in the house at the time.

Donald H. Wilkinson, 21-year-old McMinnville slinger, was killed when his car ploughed off the road near Carlton Sunday. He had been home on Christmas leave.

Harry E. Conklin, Salem, died Sunday in a collision on Highway 99 north of Salem.

In earlier traffic accidents, Charles J. McCall, 53, Gervais, and William Hiscoc, 47, Beaverton, were killed.

'Always Fair Weather' In Sutherlin Theater

Sutherlin—(U.P.)—Volunteers were frantically piling sandbags in the main street here yesterday as flood water rushed into homes and businesses.

Water was also rushing into the town theater and it was inevitable someone should notice what was playing.

It was: "It's Always Fair Weather."

Road Crews Working To Open Inaccessible Sections of County

Road crews are working throughout the county today in attempts to repair immediately all dangerous spots and make accessible a number of areas isolated by wash-outs, according to County Engineer Paul Rynning.

McKee bridge on the Applegate river was opened Saturday after repairs were made to a washed out approach and Red Blanket road was opened after a washout near the Red Blanket bridge was repaired.

Some Roads Still Closed

Still closed are Bear Creek bridge on Crater Lake highway; Sugar Pine creek bridge on upper Elk creek; Netherlands bridge on Big Butte creek, three miles off Crater Lake highway; a small bridge at the head of Trail Creek road; and an irrigation bridge on the Gold Hill-Tolo road.

Rynning said he hoped the Gold Hill-Tolo road would be opened today.

Table Rock road north of Bybee bridge was opened before the week-end, although it is still rough, Rynning said.

The state highway department is in charge of repairs to the Crater Lake highway, as well as of the washed out highway below Ruch on the Applegate river.

Approaches to three bridges on main stem national forest access roads have been washed out

Local Auto Dealer Brings Christmas Joy To Flooded Family

A Medford used car dealer brightened Christmas for a flooded family in the Tolo area last week, it was reported today by the Central Point rural fire district.

The dealer called the fire district and said he wanted to buy gifts for a family within the fire district who had been hard hit by last week's flood. It was reported. After checking families in the district, it was found that a family of three small boys in the Tolo area faced a bleak holiday season because of flood conditions at their home.

The dealer bought Christmas gifts for the three boys and the mother and father turned a drab Christmas day for the family into one of joy, a fire district spokesman said.

The gifts were delivered by personnel of the fire district. Wives of district firemen have been saving used clothing for some time and gave them to the Salvation Army for distribution to families made needy by the flood, it was reported.

Patrols Exchange Fire In Gaza Strip Today

Jerusalem—(U.P.)—An Israeli patrol exchanged automatic weapons fire with Egyptians near the tense Gaza Strip today. No casualties were reported in the brief exchange.

It was the third incident reported in the border area in two days.

'Black Christmas' Sets New Record For Holiday Deaths

By UNITED PRESS

The "black Christmas" weekend of 1955 set an all time, all-holiday record for traffic deaths, a steadily mounting death count showed today.

The three-day Christmas weekend became the deadliest holiday in the nation's history when the United Press count passed the 588 record set over the four-day Christmas weekend of 1952.

The count showed a total of 621 traffic fatalities from 6 p.m. Friday until midnight Monday. There were 72 deaths in fires, 7 in plane crashes and 131 in miscellaneous accidents for an overall accidental death toll of 831.

Texas had the worst record with 54 traffic deaths. Illinois had 46. Michigan and California each had 44.

The death rate during this year's three-day holiday was seven every hour. Safety experts felt sure this killing pace would push the final count close to the 600 mark.

Ned H. Dearborn, president of the National Safety Council, said the nation's motorists had turned the holiday into a "black Christmas."

Christmas Turns Black

"We may have dreamed of a white Christmas, but we have turned it black with a record of death, destruction and disaster on the highway by which no American can help but be depressed, ashamed, and frightened," he said.

The death count mocked the spirit of Christmas and some persons even stooped to looting the bodies of the holiday victims.

Such a case was reported at Webster City, Iowa, after an 8-year-old girl was killed in a smash-up Monday. Someone got to the wrecked car before police arrived and made off with a wallet and purse containing \$175.

Fires Strike Suddenly

The holiday was also marred by killer fires which struck without warning across the country.

In the worst holocaust, a farmhouse blaze took six lives—a mother and her five sons—near Gaylord, Mich., Monday. A downtown city block in Lowell, Mass., went up in flames, causing \$1,800,000 damage, and fires which destroyed an historic church and a rail terminal in Chicago were blamed for \$1,500,000 damage.

Tokyo—(U.P.)—An atom-for-peace agreement between the U.S. and Japan went into effect today with the exchange of notes in Washington, the Japanese Foreign office announced.

Expect New Crests On San Joaquin, Sacramento Rivers

Search For Missing Dead Halted By Water

San Francisco—(U.P.)—The Feather river lashed back again today, pouring a new flood of muddy water through broken levees over stricken Yuba City to halt search for the dead.

New crests were also expected in the threatened Delta areas of San Joaquin and Sacramento rivers, but none so high as yesterday, nor as great as the floods that earlier took at least 55 lives—at least 13 in Yuba City—in California and Oregon. Thirteen deaths were counted in Oregon and 42 in California, but scores still were missing and officials said there may be as many as 100 victims. Flood damage was expected to total more than \$100,000,000.

Residents Evacuated

An additional 200 Air Force troops were sent into the Delta area today to sandbag and bolster the weak levee system in the lying island country that is criss-crossed with river channels, canals and sloughs. Most of these islands consist of agricultural and reclaimed land. The inhabitants already were evacuated and no additional loss of lives was expected either there or at Yuba City. Very few persons live on the islands and most of them are farmers.

The flooded rivers in other areas all rose some yesterday due to the new rains, but were subsiding again today. Yuba City remained the gloomy spot. Water Contaminated

The task of rehabilitation and control appeared almost insurmountable for Yuba City authorities and 300 additional troops were being brought in to augment the 100 already there to protect lives and property.

Flood workers faced another task as residents returned to deserted Yuba City. The water supply has become contaminated with the sludge of the floods and medical authorities prepared to inoculate for typhoid. All water had to be boiled or purified by chemicals.

The muddy water began rising at the rate of three inches an hour during the night. Finally they overflowed the gap at Guntree, broken during last Saturday's flood when 10,000 persons fled for their lives.

Search Delayed

The worst effect of the new flooding was the delay it caused in the grim work of searching through the ruined houses and the debris for those who failed to escape last Saturday's wall of water. There may be as many as 100 victims, officials said.

It also kept the city's residents from returning to salvage what they could from the ooze that covered what once was their homes.

Armed guards patrolled the streets, imposing a dusk to dawn curfew to prevent looting. Anyone in the city had to show a pass.

The Army Engineer's office at Marysville, across the river from Yuba City, reported to Stanley Pierson, state director of civil defense, that the new crest "will no doubt cover most of the territory that was covered in the last breakthrough."

Worked Through Night

Repair crews toiled throughout the night in an attempt to repair the yawning gap in the 33-foot levee but the Army Engineers admitted they had "no hope" of fixing it before day-break.

The Yuba City situation appeared to be the most serious in the Far West, where storms and floods have taken a toll of 53 lives and caused at least \$100,000,000 damage to the states of California, Oregon and Nevada.

This was the situation in other areas:

Eureka: Death toll in Humboldt-Del Norte county area rose to 11. More than 400 homes wiped out by Eel and Klamath river floods. Some 1500 other homes still unusable. Red Cross, civil defense caring for 1000 refugees. Several towns still without electricity.

Russian River: River rising again at Healdsburg, reaching crest slightly below bankful stage last night. At Guerneville, a resort town inundated last week, river expected to reach bankful stage of 29 feet, then to start falling steadily.

Watsonville: Pajaro river rising, but expected to crest below flood stage early today.

Cattle Feed Needed

Salinas River: Salinas river expected to flood the low lying areas.

Sutter County: Flood stricken dairy farmers in eastern Sutter county appeal for hay for 3000 head of cattle fodderless for five days. More than 200 homes and farms flooded in Nicolaus-Rio Oso area, 18 miles southeast of Yuba City.