

Icy Temperatures Plague Midwest In Coldest Spring

By UNITED PRESS
Icy temperatures gripped the nation today and plunged close to the zero mark in the northern Midwest in one of the coldest springs in history.

Arctic blasts from central Canada moved east from the Midwest into the Ohio Valley and south to Texas Thursday night and April snow blanketed the country from the lower Great Lakes to Texas.

Highways Treacherous
The winter-in-spring flurries also hit in Colorado and North and South Dakota and mingled there with freezing rain to give highways a treacherous coat of ice.

Temperatures near zero, 30 degrees below normal, were forecast today for parts of North Dakota and Minnesota. Freezing temperatures also were expected to hover over northern Illinois and Indiana, as well as southern Missouri and northern Oklahoma.

The grim remains of winter followed a pattern of continuous spring snow storms which have whipped across the Great Plains into the east and given vent to devastating tornadoes in the South. More than 100 deaths have been blamed on this year's weather-vicious spring and the threat continued.

Welcome in Drought Areas
Gray skies with rain and possible snow also were expected in the East. Snow blanketed northeastern New York Thursday night.

Farmers in the drought-stricken Southwest and Plains States were not entirely glum about the weather, though. Reports said there was hope the spring snows would give the necessary precipitation for the blight areas to "bale themselves out" with heavy crops this year.

Senate Discusses Bills To Improve Coast Highway

Salem—(U.P.)—Two measures looking toward eventual improvement of the Oregon coast "Tourist Haven" highway, U.S. 101, were back on the floor of the Senate today with a favorable recommendation from the Senate Highway committee.

One measure, House bill 297, would authorize the State Highway commission to enter into negotiation with Washington state authorities to explore the feasibility of building a bridge across the Columbia between Astoria and Megler, Wash.

Would Authorize Bonds
The other measure, Senate bill 308, would authorize the commission to issue \$12,600,000 in bonds to finance the straightening and modernizing of the coast highway between Gold Beach and Brookings.

The Columbia river bridge bill passed the House unanimously March 26, and was expected to have little trouble on the floor of the Senate when it comes up for final action, probably Monday. The bill already carries the signatures of 16 senators, and the votes of 16 senators would put the bill on the government's desk.

Would Pay for Surveys
The measure would direct the highway commission to start at once on surveys, plans, designs and cost estimates, in consultation with Washington state and federal officials. It also would authorize the commission to spend up to \$100,000 or one-half the actual cost, whichever is the lesser figure, with Washington state putting up the other half.

The effect of Senate bill 308 would be to authorize the commission to issue the bonds to finance the work on the most winding section of the coast highway, between Gold Beach and Brookings.

Tax Reduction Bill Presented To Force Cut in Federal Spending

Washington—(U.P.)—A high-ranking Republican today jumped the gun on would-be congressional tax cutters by offering his own bill to cut taxes \$15 billion.

Rep. Richard M. Simpson, third-ranking Republican on the tax-writing Ways and Means Committee, introduced a bill Thursday to lower both individual and corporation taxes as of Jan. 1.

The bill was put forward at a time when belief was growing in Congress that the Democrats

were playing a waiting game before introducing their own tax reduction bill later this year.

Would Force Economy
Simpson said his bill would "force the spenders in government" to economize. His measure would increase to \$650 from \$600 the amount of tax-exempt income allowed a taxpayer for himself and each dependent.

It also would make an across-the-board reduction of 5 per cent in income tax rates on individuals and corporations. The maximum tax on capital gains would

be cut in half—from 25 per cent to 12½ per cent.

Other congressional news: **Norman:** The Senate Internal Security Subcommittee said it has not agreed—nor been asked—to let the State Department censor testimony about foreign officials. Subcommittee counsel Robert Morris said there is "no change in subcommittee policy or procedure" as a result of the furor over the suicide of E. Herbert Norman, Canadian ambassador to Egypt, whom the subcommittee accused of Communism.

Postal: The House Appropriations Committee scheduled a closed session to take up Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield's emergency request for more money to run his department through July 1. Summerfield ordered postal services cut at midnight unless the money is forthcoming beforehand. But L. Robe Walter, Summerfield's special assistant for public relations, said it was "conceivable" that "something might be worked out" to prevent the cuts from going into effect on schedule.

Lands: The House has passed and sent to the Senate a bill to put a halt to military "grabbing" of public lands. Rep. Clair Engle (D-Calif.), sponsor of the bill, said the practice has reached staggering proportions. The measure would require the services to get prior congressional approval before they could withdraw 5,000 acres of public land for their own use.

Agencies: The House has approved \$250,000 for a broad investigation to determine whether federal regulatory agencies are carrying out the law as originally intended by Congress. Democratic congressmen have said they are getting numerous complaints that some of the agencies are not meting out fair treatment.

Oregon Civil Rights Would Be Extended By Bills in Senate

Salem—(U.P.)—The Senate had ready for first reading today bills extending Oregon's civil rights statutes to trailer parks and housing projects financed by public money.

The trailer park bill (HB646) passed the House 41-16 Thursday after extended debate, but the housing bill went through 47-10 with little vocal opposition.

Under House bill 646, a person discriminated against by reason of race, religion, color, or national origin in trailer parks, camp grounds or places offering personal and public services like barber shops could file a complaint with the labor commissioner.

Could Initiate Action
The attorney general also could initiate action with the labor commissioner if he thought discrimination was taking place. If discrimination were proved following a hearing, the offending business' license would be revoked.

The bill, sponsored by Rep. Shirley Field, Portland Republican, and others also would include discrimination in places offering public entertainment, recreation or amusement.

It would extend the public accommodations act of 1953 which

covered discrimination in motels, hotels and restaurants.

The housing unit bill (HB647) would prohibit discrimination in any housing unit benefiting from public aid, according to Rep. Don Willner, Portland Democrat and a sponsor of both bills.

Opponents said the civil rights bills all said they were for civil rights and against discrimination in principle.

Hard on Trailer Parks
Rep. John D. Goss, Portland Republican, said that the trailer park bill was itself "discriminatory against the White race." He said it would make it hard for trailer parks to get rid of "undesirable" tenants because owners would have the threat of a suit over their heads.

Goss said that the legislation was not needed because since 1954 the labor commission had considered only one motel discrimination case, two in tourist camps and three in hotels.

Faith Credited in Restoring Eyesight

Los Angeles—(U.P.)—A man who was blind for three months following an auto accident has credited his wife's strong religious faith for the "miraculous" recovery of his eyesight.

Bob Nail, 24, said his sight suddenly returned to him last April 4 after he had gone blind three months previously. He blamed his blindness on a severe concussion suffered in an Illinois auto accident six months ago.

Nail's eyesight returned to him after he came here with his wife, Doris, to the Braille Institute. He said doctors had offered him no encouragement and he had presumed his sight was permanently gone.

"But on April 4 I got the oddest sensation," he said. "I suddenly saw shifting shadows and color sensations. Things slowly took shape. I could see clearly."

He said he started yelling "like a cyclone had hit."

Nail credited faith for his eyesight recovery.

"I think the thing that kept me going was that my wife has a lot of faith and I have some and both of us had enough between us to see me through," he said. The Nails are Lutherans.

ST. AGNES
Green Bay, Wis.—(U.P.)—The children of Lt. Cmdr. Joseph L. Agnes of St. Agnes Drive here are enrolled at St. Agnes School. Their father became commander of the Green Bay Naval Training Center Jan. 21.

—St. Agnes Day, of course.

Negro Erronously Invited To Banquet Of Ranking Virginians

Richmond, Va.—(U.P.)—The director of Virginia's Chamber of Commerce said today he was "awful sorry" but an aide used Who's Who to pick the guest list of distinguished Virginians for a fancy banquet and that's how a Negro publisher happened to get invited.

The invitation of Dr. Cillian B. Powell, publisher of New York's

Amsterdam News, caused no end of confusion at the Statehouse because it's against the law in segregated Virginia for whites and Negroes to eat together. The consternation was compounded in this capital of the Confederacy when Powell refused to send back the invitation unless Gov. Thomas B. Stanley himself asks for it.

Won't Disregard It
Stanley signed it, Powell said in New York, and "until I get a withdrawal from the governor I will not consider disregarding the invitation."

Director Richard F. Gillis of the state Chamber of Commerce said his staff used Who's Who to pick out names for the guest list of a "dinner for distinguished Virginians" May 17, the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Jamestown Colony.

"We're distressed as can be," Gillis said.

Powell said he was so pleased when he received the invitation he immediately made reservations at Richmond's John Marshall hotel for the anniversary celebration. This was expected to cause more reaction since Virginia law also prohibits hotels from racially mixing their guests.

Course of Action Undecided
Gillis said he and other state and Chamber of Commerce officials had not decided on a course of action in the light of Powell's refusal to send back the invitation unless the governor asks for it.

Gillis sent Powell a telegram asking that it be returned but got the answer that the governor would have to ask for it.

'Soviet Union' Casts Veto in Model UN

Stanford, Calif.—(U.P.)—The Soviet Union, represented by the University of California, has cast its first veto during a security council session of the 1957 Model United Nations meeting.

During the second session Thursday, the Russian delegation vetoed a resolution proposed by Egypt, represented by the University of Washington, which called for negotiations for settlement of the Suez Canal crisis.

The student council also took up the Arab-Israeli dispute over the Gaza Strip and free navigation of the Suez Canal and the Gulf or Aqaba. Earlier it discussed such current problems as the Hungarian question and admission of the African State of Ghana to the U. N.

The sessions will continue until Saturday when the General Assembly, made up of students from 58 western colleges and universities, meets to consider the proposals originating in the various committees.

FOREIGN STUDENTS
Ithaca, N.Y.—(U.P.)—Cornell University reports it has the largest number of foreign students in its history. There is a total of 540 foreign students, 5.3 per cent of the student body.

Probe of Tax, Credit Policies Due

Washington—(U.P.)—The Senate Finance Committee voted today to undertake a sweeping investigation of federal tax and credit policies.

The action was announced by Chairman Harry F. Byrd (D-Va.). He said the inquiry was approved by a unanimous vote.

Sen. Robert S. Kerr (D-Okla.), author of the motion adopted, said the investigation would go into, among other things, the cause of the "drastic increase" in interest rates and their effect on the national economy.

The proposed inquiry appeared broad enough to cover the field which President Eisenhower proposed in his January State of the Union Message. He asked Congress to set up a commission composed of congressional and presidential appointees to make a broad study of monetary and fiscal policy.

Congress, however, has shown no interest in the President's proposal. The House recently killed a plan to have a similar investigation carried on by its Banking Committee.

Byrd said the Senate Finance Committee already had adequate authority and funds to undertake its investigation without seeking approval of the entire Senate.

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