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Deaths Feared Certain But No Bodies Found

(Continued from Page 1)

little dip I saw the water. It swept down the street in a wall maybe two feet high.

"It surged against a 16-apartment building, hip-deep to three men there. Then the level mounted.

"There was a splintering sound, sharp and loud. The big apartment building where the three men had been began to swing around slowly as if on a top-sided railroad turntable. There was a crack and kindling wood began to break away."

The frame buildings—built hurriedly to house some 40,000 shipyard and other war workers—nearest the break were snatched from their foundations. Some were broken open by the force of the flood. Others ground themselves to pieces against other buildings.

Red Cross officials are coordinating lists of survivors and the missing today, but it may be several days before survivors are reunited with their families.

Emergency Declared

A state of limited emergency has been declared by Gov. John H. Hall and there was a possibility that a special session of the legislature may be called to cope with the relief of those who lost everything but their lives.

Private families of the Portland area joined with the Red Cross, churches, city agencies and others to care for the thousands of refugees. Cots were set up in schools, churches, armories and other buildings.

Emergency calls interrupted radio programs throughout the afternoon. When the dike broke hundreds of private citizens were on the way to the flood area.

Typical was the comment of an elderly woman from Beaverton, near Portland, who asked that a family be sent to her home.

"I don't care what color they are black or white," she told a Red Cross registration clerk. "They're human, aren't they?"

The Red Cross made 10,000 cots and blankets available. Flood victims will be fed and clothed if necessary from Red Cross supplies.

Negro Singer Silent On Red Issue

WASHINGTON, May 31 (AP)—Paul Robeson, negro singer, refused today to tell a senatorial committee whether he is a member of the American communist party. He said he is willing to go to jail rather than tell.

Robeson appeared before the senate judiciary committee, along with several other witnesses, to oppose the Mundt-Nixon communist control bill. He said he thinks members of the communist party "have done a magnificent job in America."

But he declined to answer a specific question by Senator Ferguson (R-Mich.) as to his party membership.

Ferguson told reporters afterwards the committee will decide later whether to start contempt action against the singer. Chairman Wiley (R-Wis.) expressed doubt that the committee would, but Senator Moore (R-Okla.) said he is in favor of it.

"Robeson seems to want to be made a martyr," Moore said, "and maybe we ought to make him one. Sometimes a year in jail cools some of these people off."

Robeson said that if the Mundt-Nixon bill is passed, he will not obey it.

Asked whether he would fight for the United States in case of a war with Russia, Robeson said he would have to decide that when the time came.

But he balked at the query about communist party membership.

Idaho Flood Waters Recede

By The Associated Press

Most Idaho flood waters were receding with the Pend Oreille one of the few major streams still rising in the state.

At St. Maries, Idaho, the St. Joe river fell one foot in 24 hours to ease pressure on a dike protecting hundreds of acres of farm land near the town. Gov. C. A. Robins declared a "state of disaster and emergency" in the community yesterday before leaving to inspect "greater flood damage at Bonners Ferry."

The Snake and Clearwater rivers crested Saturday at Lewiston and were receding. The Salmon river dropped two feet between Riggs and Whitehead, Idaho, and water drained off the north and south highway.

The Pend Oreille river was well above flood stage at Priest River, Idaho, and was flooding some 12,000 acres of farm land in Cusick area of Washington.

Czechs Cast Protest Vote Against Reds

PRAGUE, May 31 (AP)—The ministry of interior said today 770,701 Czechs cast blank ballots in Sunday's parliamentary election—their means of showing opposition to the communist-led government.

The communist-led national front ticket—the only one entered—received 6,429,145 votes, the ministry said. There had been no doubt of the communist victory.

The ministry said the total vote was 7,199,846 of a registration of 8,005,887. There was no announcement of how many invalid ballots were cast. A total of 806,401 voters did not go to the polls or had their ballots declared invalid.

In some localities the protest ballots ran as high as 39 per cent. Many districts returned votes for the government ticket from 96 to 100 per cent.

The figures for Bohemia-Moravia: total vote 5,454,301; national front 4,929,250, blanks 525,051.

Slovakia: total 1,745,545; national front 1,499,895; blanks, 245,650.

The communist leaders, solidly entrenched since the revolution they directed in February, had declared beforehand the elections would show the "will of the people" and endorsement of the government.

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Smiling Evacuees Still Shaken From Vanport Experience



Mr. and Mrs. Coy Perkins study the map of Vanport which appeared in the Portland Oregonian this morning a few hours after their arrival from the north. The Perkins were among the first to evacuate the project and witnessed the breaking of the big dike from their windows. Mrs. Perkins is the daughter of Mrs. Keith K. Ambrose of this city and wear stopping here for several days. The Perkins have their 8-month-old daughter Kimberly with them.

GOP Platform Detail Asked

WASHINGTON, May 31 (AP)—Senator Taft (R-Ohio) came out today for a detailed republican platform that will make the democrats "get specific" in their presidential campaign pledges.

Taft told a reporter there has been the usual talk among republicans of adopting a short, readable platform outlining the general principles on which the party will stand in the November election.

"But I don't think we can afford just to generalize," he said. "We have a record in congress that must be spelled out in some detail.

"Besides, I want to put the democrats in a position where they will have to get specific about where

they stand on such issues as civil rights. If we dealt only in generalities, it would be an invitation to them to gloss over issues like that."

Taft said there has been some discussion among republican leaders of calling the party's resolutions committee into pre-convention session here for early work on the platform.

Potatoes should always be sorted before being stored. Any that are bruised or cracked should be set aside and used first. Large size potatoes may be used for baking, small sizes for boiling.

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Vanport Men Stick To Homes

VANPORT, Ore., May 31 (AP)—Many residents of this flood-stricken city refused to leave their homes until police officers forced them with drawn guns.

The police said bulletins issued longings of aid neighbors.

by the Portland Housing Authority, operator of the city of 18,700 residents, indicated there was little immediate danger. Horns and sirens were blown when the railroad embankment protecting the city crumbled. Many did not hear them.

"The people just didn't believe that there was a break," said one officer. "They wanted to see the water first before fleeing their homes. Many stopped to pack boxes."

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