

MIGHTY FLOOD STRAINS DIKES

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS
This modern world note:
"The man who admits he is Los Angeles' phantom gunman, the shoot-and-run sniper who has killed one woman and wounded four, was arrested yesterday and gave Sheriff's deputies this explanation for his acts:
"When I shoot at a woman I get excited and get a thrill out of it."
I suppose there always were people like that. Our modern super-communication system possibly just brings more of them to our attention these days.
Anyway, I HOPE that's it.

Muddled thinking note:
"The Oregon Council of Churches began distributing its anti-gambling petitions yesterday. The petitions seek to put on the November ballot a proposal to OUT-LAW pari-mutuel betting in the state."
How about just falling back on the CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF OREGON, of which Section 4, Article XV reads:
"Lotteries, Prohibited. Lotteries, and the SALE OF LOTTERY TICKETS, for ANY PURPOSE WHATSOEVER, are prohibited, and the legislature assembly SHALL (not may) PREVENT the same by penal laws."
Personal opinion note:
Every time we pass a law and then fall to enforce it, we tear down respect for law. Every time a legislature passes an UNCONSTITUTIONAL law and gets away with it, it undermines constitutional government.
I'm no lawyer, but when you play a pari-mutuel machine you pay your money, you get a ticket and you take your chance on getting paid. If that isn't a lottery, I don't know what a lottery is.

More personal opinion:
If we want to gamble in Oregon, we'd better repeal Section 4, Article XV of our state constitution. I hate to see constitutions FLOUT-ED.
Economics note:
"American people SAVED 13 billion dollars last year, a sharp increase from the 1 1/2 billion they saved in 1950."
How come?
I don't know, but I suspect that in mid-1951 (the savings began about August) a lot of people took a good look at the economic skies and came to the conclusion that with the federal government spending money with both hands and heading for bankruptcy at high speed a little personal cash stashed away might come in handy sooner or later.

Politics note:
Sen. Taft says in Boston this morning that congressmen should consider IMPEACHMENT of President Truman for his seizure of the steel industry.
"I think the seizure of steel is a valid case for impeachment," he told a news conference. "It is valid for presentation to the house, certainly."
Under our federal constitution, the power of impeachment is the sole prerogative of the house of representatives.
I think, senator, that congress would be on very thin rubbery ice indeed if, after having ABDICATED the authority given to it by the Founding Fathers in the constitution, it should attempt to impeach the President in this particular instance.
This steel crisis was a long time in the making. It was obvious to everybody for weeks that it was going to end in a nasty and dangerous mess. If existing laws are bad, congress had plenty of time to REPEAL them. If new laws were needed to meet the new and unprecedented situation, congress had plenty of POWER to enact them.
BUT—
While the crisis was brewing, congress did nothing but sit on its hands.
Advice to voters:
If you want a better government, you'd better get yourselves a better congress.
Congress has the POWER to do almost anything that needs to be done within the limits of the constitution, but for nearly two decades it has LACKED THE COURAGE.

Phone Peace Hope Mild; Steel Eyed

By The Associated Press
There appeared a mild note of optimism Thursday as negotiators made new attempts to settle disputes involving thousands of striking communication workers.
At the same time, in the nation's top labor dispute, the government was believed preparing to grant Philip Murray's CIO Steelworkers a wage hike. But how much and how soon was not disclosed by Secretary of Commerce Sawyer, boss of the government-aided steel industry.
The talks in the strike of 16,000 CIO communication workers against the Western Electric Company were to be resumed in New York. Although several major issues remained in dispute, there appeared some progress in negotiations.

WESTERN UNION
But there were no signs of early settlement of the two week old strike of 30,000 AFL Commercial Telegraphers Union workers against the Western Union Company.
A federal mediator in Washington heard top officials of both sides to their first meeting since the strike started on April 3.
Both sides in the communications industry stemmed from wage disputes.
The 11-day strike by Western Electric installers in 43 states has made idle thousands of telephone workers who have refused to cross picket lines.

TWA officials in Portland, Ore., Wednesday night ordered a strike by telephone operators in Oregon. They charged the Portland T. & T. Company with locking out workers after they returned to work after earlier refusing to cross picket lines.
The union said operators, returning to their jobs after withdrawal of picket lines, were told their jobs had been filled. Company spokesmen denied a lockout. They said service is continuing despite picketing at Portland and 13 upstate Oregon cities.
Western Union picket action threatened to postpone Wednesday night's baseball game between St. Louis and Pittsburgh at Sportsman's Park in St. Louis.

STEEL SNARL
In the steel dispute, Sawyer met separately Wednesday with Murray and Benjamin Fairless, president of the U.S. Steel Corp., presumably to lay the groundwork for a government-imposed wage increase.
The Wage Stabilization Board's proposal calls for a flat 1 1/2 cents an hour raise for the steel workers, plus about 8 1/2 cents in fringe benefits.
The board also approved grants to the union shop—that all workers must join the union.
The steel companies rejected the WSB's recommendations. The industry has filed several court suits contending President Truman had no authority to seize the industry.
Sen. Bridges and several others sponsored a resolution calling for the Senate Judiciary committee to make a full investigation of the seizure.

In Klamath
There was little change today in local aspects of the strikes against Western Union and Pacific Telephone and Telegraph companies, except that the picket line has been withdrawn from the Western Union office.
The office had been picketed by members of the Commercial Telegraphers Union (AFL) from Seattle. A skeleton force is keeping the office open.
Pickets were still on the sidewalk outside the telephone exchange, but service has not been disrupted.

Anti-Gambling Petitions Out
PORTLAND—The Oregon Council of Churches began distributing its anti-gambling petitions Wednesday.
About 3,000 were sent to all parts of the state. The petitions seek to put on the November ballot a proposal to outlaw pari-mutuel betting in the state.



WHO'S GUILTY? City firemen say the big white frame building at 815 Pine St. was deliberately set afire yesterday afternoon. Walt Spawn (above), points to the spot he and the firemen found charred paper and burnt matches inside the tinder-dry structure. Spawn, restaurantman, recently moved his lunchroom from the Pine St. building.

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Air Chief Says 'Stay-Down' Minor

Pentagon's Policy Held 'Pretty Sad'

WASHINGTON—Sen. Douglas (D-Ill.), a wounded Marine veteran, rose Thursday to accuse the Pentagon of trying to "put a price tag" on the morale of this nation's fighting men.
He called the system "pretty sad."
In a frequently emotional appeal to his colleagues, Douglas urged them to consider abolishing the entire system of extra "hazard pay" allowances to servicemen.
He said the system of making incentive and hazard pay allowances to airmen creates "an artificial elite, a super-elite and a super-super elite."
Airmen get \$50 to \$210 in hazard pay a month, according to rank. Douglas said this system—and the Marines' insistence on accepting only volunteers—develops "snobishness" and "a false feeling of superiority" unfair to the Army infantry, which he said gets "the left overs" from other services.
The white-haired senator still bears the scars of crippling wounds suffered as a Marine infantry major at Okinawa.
He called on the Senate Preparedness subcommittee to reduce sharply these bonus payments and to make them equal for officers as well as special pay to those in actual combat in Korea.
"Don't think you get very good men for money," he said. "I just don't think that putting a price tag on men's military service is a very good incentive."
He very gravely underestimated the qualities of men.
Defense Department officials denied at a public hearing Wednesday that "chairborne pilots" collect extra hazard-pay allowances for joy riding aerial missions, as charged by Douglas in Senate speeches.



ORETECH ROYALTY—Omega Epsilon Rho, OTI craft fraternity, selected the beautiful bevy above to reign at the fraternity's annual Sweetheart Ball this Spring. The girls are (top to bottom) Queen Elaine Jeffords, of Hereford, and Princesses Audrey Ferguson, Betty Brown and Kay Bowman. This year's ball is scheduled April 26 as a feature of the Oretch visitation program. The public is invited to tour the college layout April 25.

Kefauver Gets Douglas Help

By The Associated Press
Sen. Douglas (D-Ill.), threw his support Thursday behind Estes Kefauver of Tennessee as "the best available candidate of our party" for the Democratic presidential nomination.
Douglas' announcement came just 24 hours after Gov. Stevenson of Illinois declared he could not accept top place on the Democratic ticket. Douglas had been supporting Stevenson.
At a news conference, Douglas also repeated what he has said before—that he would not accept the party nomination for president.
However, Douglas said he did not know whether Kefauver could defeat Gen. Eisenhower in the November election. If Eisenhower is the Republican nominee, "Let's let the people decide that," Douglas said.
The Illinois senator said he believes Kefauver has a very good chance to be nominated.
However, Douglas said he did not know whether Kefauver could defeat Gen. Eisenhower in the November election. If Eisenhower is the Republican nominee, "Let's let the people decide that," Douglas said.

Sickswiff

BRIGHTON, England (AP)—Joseph Griffin was fined one pound (\$2.00) Wednesday for speeding along Brighton's streets in his motorized invalid chair.
Griffin's wheel-chair with a motor attached was caught breezing along at 41 miles an hour after passing two automobiles. The speed limit for invalid chairs is 20 miles an hour.
The police superintendent expressed regret at bringing up the case but said his headquarters was getting too many complaints of speeding invalid chairs which overturn easily and were a danger to other road users.

Phantom Tells Of Shootings

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The man who admits he is Los Angeles' "Phantom Gunman," the shoot-and-run sniper who has killed one woman and wounded four, gave Sheriff's deputies this explanation for his acts:
"When I shoot at women I get excited and get a thrill out of it."
Evan Charles Thomas, 29, husky, sun-tanned railroad switchman, was arrested Wednesday after a shot in the night narrowly missed a woman in the Los Nietos district.
Thomas attributed the shootings to an unnatural urge, but said he had "no rhyme or reason for choosing victims."
Thomas was arrested after deputies noticed him hovering close as they investigated the firing of a .22 bullet into the home of Mrs. Joan Hiles, 22, his neighbor. The shot crashed through a window while she watched television and missed her by less than three feet.

Fire Destroys 4,500 Homes

TOKYO, Friday, April 18 (AP)—A raging, wind-fanned fire destroyed at least 4,500 homes in Totтори, left 15,000 persons homeless and still burning early today, Kyodo News Agency reported.
It was Japan's worst post-war fire. There were no deaths reported in the city of 61,000 but at least 140 persons were injured.
The flames razed Totтори's downtown section, including police headquarters, the city's Red Cross hospital, the post and telegraph office, two newspapers and several department stores.
Police said the fire broke out at 3 p.m., Thursday in an overloaded electric wire in the heart of the city on Southwest Honshu Island. It was quickly fanned into a roaring conflagration by a strong southerly wind which blew all day.



SIG UNANDER

Unander Seeks Support Here

Sig Unander, Republican candidate for State Treasurer, was in Klamath Falls Wednesday in furtherance of his campaign for that party's nomination.
Unander is from Portland, a native Oregonian, and was chairman of the state Republican organization in 1950.
He began his career in politics as executive assistant during the term of Gov. Charles A. Sprague and in his present campaign carries a high recommendation from the former governor.
Unander says he believes himself capable of carrying out the duties of Treasurer, and also that he is particularly well versed in the work of the State Board of Control, of which the Treasurer is a member.
That board directs the 10 state institutions.
Unander said he planned to return to Klamath County for more campaigning before the May 16 primary.
He is opposed for the GOP nomination by Fred E. Robinson of Medford, and Jack Lynch of Portland.

Families Flee Owyhee Flood

ONTARIO, Ore. (AP)—The flooding Owyhee River washed out one bridge, closed two others and chased six families from the narrow Owyhee Valley Wednesday.
A sudden surge in the snow melt sent the river overflowing. It washed out a Reclamation Bureau bridge on the road to Owyhee Dam. A bridge on Highway 201 also was closed after supports were washed away. A Union Pacific bridge on the Homedale-Nyssa branch also was closed.
The six families fled to the valley between the dam and the point where the Owyhee flows into the Snake River, just south of Nyssa. They were able to take most of their belongings and livestock with them.
Some sewers were flooded in Ontario as the Snake rose two feet in 24 hours. A sanitary problem arose as sewage backed into basements.
The water covered two-thirds of Falk Island, two miles downstream from Ontario in the Snake River. Two families were evacuated there.

Weed Seniors Visit Oretch

Thirty-one seniors of the Weed, Calif., high school visited the Oregon Tech campus Wednesday and were taken on an extended tour of the school.
The group was under supervision of T. P. Pemberton, industrial arts teacher, and had a particular interest in technical education. Several of the seniors indicated they intend to enroll at OTI next school year.
A day of public visits to the Oregon Tech campus is scheduled for April 25, and visitors will be taken on conducted tours of the plant.

Ranch Sales Reported

TULELAKE—In a round-robin exchange of land Mr. and Mrs. Albert Beck sold their 75-acre ranch one mile south of town, farmed by their son Irvin Beck, to A. G. Boyd. No consideration on this transaction was given.
The Beck in turn bought a 240-acre ranch at Bonanza from Mr. and Mrs. Loren V. Shepherd who owned it for one year. This is the former Ed Goren ranch and was purchased by Shepherd and his father-in-law, the late Harry Wilson. Main sale price was \$85,000. Possession will be given at once.
Another farm sale reported this week is that of the Roy G. Holmes place of 170 acres at Bonanza, sold to Bernard Jendzrejewski who will be assisted in operations by his father John Jendzrejewski. The family has lived on the Lakeview highway near the Merrill junction.

Cities Face Ruin; Towns Abandoned

OMAHA, Neb. (AP)—Levees straggling the monstrously high Missouri River along Omaha and Council Bluffs, Ia., still held the upper hand Thursday but the situation was touch and go.
River forecasters continued to predict a crest "sometime Thursday night" in this metropolitan area of some 366,000 persons.
Round-the-clock and almost inch-by-inch vigilance was being maintained along the 23 miles of primary levees which so far have kept the raging waters from the two cities.
Sand boils developed but were quickly choked off as the tremendous pressure kept increasing.
The water crept above the original flood wall height in spots but has been erected in places to meet the rising water. But pumps lifted the spilled water back into the channel.

LEVELS
The river level passed the 29 1/2 foot mark Thursday. Flood stage is 19 feet. The previous record high, in 1881, was 24.6 feet. The crest is expected to measure 31 1/2 feet.
Meanwhile, the pattern of farmland flooding, evacuations, and levee raising work which the river is set earlier upstream was being repeated along reaches southward almost to Kansas City.
Farmers all along the valley have moved livestock, machinery and household goods to higher ground.
At least a dozen towns and cities in Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas and Missouri—below Omaha—were fighting the water in some fashion or another.
Some as large as Elwood, Kas. (population 1,200) had been abandoned almost completely to the relentlessly climbing water.
The story was the same as it has been for almost 10 days as the Missouri, gorged by the rapid melting of heavy winter snows in the Dakotas, began sending its biggest known load of water downstream, hitting Bismarck, N.D., Pierre, S.D., and Sioux City, Ia., in turn. Only the locations and intensity are changing.
The Missouri, the Mississippi, the Milk in Montana, the Red River of the north in Minnesota and the Minnesota water which the river is with punishing blows and have a lot left to deal out.

DEATHS
At least two persons had died in the floods.
Mrs. Rosemary Mohr, 28, was being rowed to her home in St. Paul's west side by volunteer ferryman Ed Thilen Wednesday night when the boat capsized.
Neighbors heard Thilen's cries and pulled him out but were unable to find Mrs. Mohr in the darkness.
Her body was recovered later from 7 feet of Mississippi River flood water.
On April 6, William J. Red Boy, 24, of Poplar, Mont., drowned in the Cannonball river, a tributary of the Missouri, south of Bismarck, N.D. Floodwaters on the tributary were ferocious on the main stream flood.
Mrs. Mohr's death came at the height of the flood at St. Paul.
The Mississippi created three Wednesday at 22.2 feet. Early Thursday Army engineers said it appeared to be falling slightly.

Weather
FORECAST: Klamath Falls and vicinity and Northern California, sunny through Friday. High Friday 70, low Thursday night 38.
High Wednesday _____ 63
Low last night _____ 35
Precip. Wednesday _____ 0
Precip. since Oct. 1 _____ 14.22
Normal for period _____ 9.52
Period last year _____ 12.35



9 O'clock Special
THE 9 O'CLOCK SPECIAL came to the photographer this morning in the person of two Henley High School girls, Rose Ginko and Ruth Green, (l. to r.). The girls were in a group of students from Henley guided on a conducted tour of the Herald and News plant by members of the paper's circulation department.