

WEATHER BREAKS IN CALIFORNIA

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS
The American Association for the Advancement of Science, holding its annual convention this week in Atlanta, tells us this morning that atomic energy may save the famed American chestnut tree, which is presently threatened with extinction by a blight disease.

I think that perhaps IF I HAD TO I could get along without chestnut trees.

The scientists add—
Atomic radiations can change the GENETIC STRUCTURE of some plants. Sometimes these "altered" plants are resistant to diseases. So they're going to try spraying the seeds of the chestnut tree with atomic X-rays in the hope that some of them will become CHANGED and able to resist the chestnut blight.

Fascinating thought:
Maybe we could SPRAY THE KREMLIN (possibly from a high-flying plane) with some of this atomic radiation, thus eventually changing the communist tribe that inhabits these grim premises into HUMAN BEINGS that would be resistant to the deadly germ that inoculates power-holding rulers with an uncontrollable desire to conquer the world.

That would be SOMETHING!
GOP Senator Andrew Schoepel of Kansas says in Washington today he thinks congress might consider bushels, bales or pounds—rather than ACRES—as the measure used in attempts to control farm production. Acres, he says, are too flexible to be used as a measurement. Like a rubber tape measure, they can be STRETCHED—with fertilizer and such.

But he adds, we ought to go on subsidizing farm production—perhaps with progressively higher loans on better grades of agricultural commodities that are likely to go into government storage.

I wonder, Senator, if we'll ever be able to control over-production—which lies at the root of the farm problem—as long as we go on SUBSIDIZING IT.

As a publisher of newspapers, I'm pretty sure that if the government guaranteed to buy all the papers I produce, I'd go right on producing all the papers my presses would turn out—even if all the government could find to do with them was to stash them away in storage warehouses.

Human nature, you know, is human nature.

Speaking of newspapers—
The Calgary Herald, published up in Canada, says in a pre-Christmas-day editorial:

"It's going to be nothing but good, good, good news in Klamath Falls, Oregon, this week. If NO news is good news, then the readers of the Klamath Falls Herald and News can expect to have a good time reading their paper's front page.

"The editors of that newspaper—at least, it is a newspaper 51 weeks of the year—are planning again to use only "good" news items on the front page for the six days preceding Christmas. By doing this, they do not assume that they will prevent the people of Klamath Falls from having uncomfortable thoughts about the nasty world around them.

"People in Klamath Falls may feel better because their front page is all sweetness. Most people aren't so silly—they will buy their paper to FIND OUT WHAT IS GOING ON IN THE WORLD."

(The capital letters are mine.)

No, brother; it isn't quite that way.
We of the Herald and News are sure our readers read ALL THE PAPER—not just the front page. We look upon our front page as our show window—and, like all good merchants, we seek to display our show window our BEST MERCHANDISE.

We refuse to believe that crime and scandal and catastrophe and war are the newspaper's best merchandise.

Rainfall Listed For California

SAN FRANCISCO (UP)—An impressive amount of rain fell in Northern California between Dec. 15 and 27, the weatherman reported today.
Hoberg's report in Lake County measured 31.1 inches. Blue Canyon in the Sierra measured 30.81 inches. Downville reported 26.91. Soda Springs 26.87. Pacific House 20.78 and Hetch Hetchy 17.81.
On the North Coast, Cloverdale had 20.65. Guerneville 20.94. Headburg 16.69. Ukiah 12.55 and Eureka 7.23.
Santa Rosa had 13.59 inches. Between July 1 and Dec. 27, 1954, Santa Rosa had 12.07 inches. Sacramento had 10.16 inches, compared with 7.51 for the season to date in 1954.

Thornton Makes Klamath Ruling

SALEM (AP)—Klamath Indian Reservation lands are protected against trespass by Oregon state laws, Atty. Gen. Robert Y. Thornton ruled Tuesday.
The question arose in connection with efforts by the Klamath Tribal Council to prohibit and regulate the entry by hunters and fishermen on the reservation lands.
Thornton ruled that anyone who enters the lands without permission can be prosecuted under state law, if entry is prohibited by the tribal council.

The Herald and News

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Oregon Streams Still Subside

Only Coquille Continues To Cause Trouble In State

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
Western Oregon's rivers continued to subside Wednesday and only the Coquille continued to cause major trouble.
Rains ended and the mercury tumbled, reaching 4 degrees at Klamath Falls.
All three of the young survivors of the massive landslide at Remote which killed five members of the Marion E. Neal family were reported doing very well.
Alvis Neal, 8, was taken to a hospital at Roseburg Tuesday night for a check-up. He previously had remained at Remote while his sister, Margaret Elaine, 13, and his brother, Billy, 6, were rushed to the hospital Monday night over a slide-clogged road.
After his check-up Alvis was released to his maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Robbins of Klamath Falls.
Billy and Margaret were released to the grandparents Wednesday. Margaret Elaine, with a back fracture, will remain in the hospital. She had been found in the slide debris.

France Tangles With Commies

PARIS (AP)—Former Premier Pierre Mendes-France tangled with Communist hecklers last night in his first major campaign speech here.
He shouted them down to reject their demands for a "popular front" alliance after the Jan. 2 election of a new National Assembly.
Mendes-France, leader of a leftist "Republican Front" of Radicals and Socialists, had invited all political leaders opposing him to debate the issues. Only Communist party boss Jacques Duclos showed up, backed by a Red cheering section conspicuous among the 8,000 excited Parisians on hand to hear and heckle.

Thousands of others milling around outside made several attempts to break into the crowded meeting hall and smashed one of its big glass doors.
Mendes-France, thrown out of the premiership on a vote of confidence last February, is trying to stage a major political comeback in the general elections. His bitter rival in his own Radical (Moderate) party, Premier Edgar Faure, called for the balloting five months ahead of the constitutional schedule over the opposition of the ex-premier and several other political leaders shouting "popular front" and "unity" interrupted Mendes-France for as much as 10 minutes at a time. But he pulled open his tie and collar and shouted into the loud-speaker system that he and the Socialists allied with him wanted none of the Reds or their program.
He was particularly critical of the Red demand that the French quit Algeria, torn by nationalist violence. Such a withdrawal, he said, would only result in the massacre of the million Frenchmen living there.

The final totals provide for expenditures of 593 billion rubles and expenditures of 570 billion. The defense item is nearly 10 per cent below the 1955 estimate of 112 billion rubles.
The Soviet government values the ruble arbitrarily at 25 cents. Many defense items are hidden under other budget categories.
The other house of the Soviet legislature—the Council of the Union—resumed its budget debates later in the day.
A session of both houses was called for 10 a.m. Moscow time Thursday (11 p.m. PST Wednesday). It will presumably hear the session's climactic reports by Communist Party Chief Khrushchev and Premier Bulganin and other subjects.
The Council of Nationalities also approved Wednesday the international exchange of parliamentary delegations between the Soviet Union and various countries which was initiated by the Soviet government early this year. The house called for continuation of this program in 1956.
There was criticism of the United States and certain other countries which have not responded to the Soviet call for mutual visits of such parliamentary groups.

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Hours Told For Sledding

The sledding areas on Wilford Avenue, Washington Street and Manzanita Street were open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. today, announced Bob Bonney, city recreation director.
Bonney said the sled low on Conger Hill would operate from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. today. The ski tow at Moore Park was opened at noon Wednesday and will operate from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily until further notice, the recreation chief announced.

Smith Daughter Hearing Delayed

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP)—The custody hearing asked by Mrs. Ellen Hightower of San Jose, who seeks to retain Susan Smith, has been set over to Jan. 21.
The child is the daughter of Kenneth Smith, Portland attorney killed by a bomb in his automobile last April, and Marjorie Smith, who was acquitted of any part in the killings.
Smith was killed and Mrs. Smith charged, the child was taken to San Jose by Mrs. High-tower, Smith's sister. Mrs. Smith was cleared, she asked for her daughter but Mrs. Hightower resisted.

SHOOTING HOURS

OREGON	
December 29	
OPEN	CLOSE
7:06	4:43
CALIFORNIA	
December 29	
OPEN	CLOSE
7:04	4:41

New Defense Policy Set By Air Force

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Air Force Wednesday ordered an immediate change in production strategy to meet the threat of violent devastation at the outset of a general atomic war.
Secretary Donald A. Quarles laid down the policy, approved by the Defense Department, reversing the old idea of building up war industries after the start of hostilities.
The new plan, which Quarles ordered the Air Force and industry to put into effect at once, gives top priority to selected aircraft and missiles that would be used to deliver counter-atomic blows and to defend this country from nuclear assault.
Quarles said the new policy was dictated by technical advances and shifting international political and military power which required "radical changes in our national strategy and 'a new approach'" to industrial planning for a national emergency.
AF POLICY
The Air Force policy is based on the realization, Quarles said, that sufficient resources are not available to attain complete readiness for all airplanes, guided missiles and supporting equipment.
Therefore, priorities will be assigned to all weapons and the plants making them with the top categories going to armaments requiring "special handling" (a military way of describing atomic weapons) which must be kept in active production under the most demanding conditions of a nuclear war.
Quarles stressed the need for dispersal of war industry but emphasized that vulnerability was the key consideration and that dispersal is one factor in reducing vulnerability.
Air Force officials, in explaining the policy, said there was no attempt to change current procurement of aircraft, missiles and related equipment but that it "fits the requirements of a short war—war-it is flexible."
Second priority was assigned to weapons and supporting systems for which production will be kept up under adverse conditions.
Quarles said that "under extremely austere emergency conditions" production capacity in this category which survived destruction at the outset of a nuclear war would be organized to support production of weapons in the top priority category.
Third priority was assigned to weapons which might not be produced in case of a general war involving severe industrial damage but which would be produced in a limited war or during an emergency period of rapid production increases prior to a war.
The air staff was given the job of deciding which weapons and systems should go in the various categories and was ordered to revise these lists every six months—in May and November of each year.

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Reds Release AF Sergeant

BERLIN (AP)—A U. S. Air Force sergeant from Brooklyn, held for 24 hours by the Communists in East Berlin after an automobile accident, was back in West Berlin today.
U. S. Army officials said the accident which the Reds blamed on the sergeant's "drunkenness" actually was due to poor visibility and slippery roads. Soviet authorities turned him over to American officials last night at Karlshorst, East Berlin suburb where the Russians have headquarters.
The Army said this is what happened:
At Sgt. Mike Kilman, 46, stationed at Orly Airfield in Paris, paid a Christmas visit to his German wife and her parents in West Berlin. He drove them to visit friends in East Berlin Monday night.
The East German Communists claimed Kilman ignored a traffic stop sign and that several persons were injured in an ensuing accident. He took the injured to a hospital where they received first aid and were dismissed.
The Red police told Kilman his car would be returned if he accompanied them to their headquarters. He said they kept him in a barred room.
The U. S. Army began its investigation after the Reds announced a "drunken American" had caused the accident. Kilman's release came several hours after the Americans requested the Soviets to locate the sergeant.

Hillings Raps War Scares

WASHINGTON (UP)—Rep. Patrick J. Hillings (R-Calif.) back from a trip through Russia and other communist countries, said today "there is little likelihood of war with Russia in 1956."
Hillings, one of many congressmen who visited Russia during the congressional recess, told the Silver Spring, Md., Rotary Club that as long as the United States maintains superiority Russia "won't take a chance" on starting a war.
He said he is satisfied that this country has more and better planes, bases and nuclear weapons than the Soviets.
Hillings predicts that the Chinese Communists will continue pressure on Formosa next year and will make a concentrated effort to capture Indonesia and other Asiatic territory by internal subversion.
But he said that "despite the blurring statements of the Red Bobbsey Twins, Bulganin and Khrushchev, the Russians don't want war at this time and are not prepared for it."
"They are having economic difficulties and the committee which is now running the Soviet Union needs more time to solidify its control," he said.
Hillings also listed West Germany as a potential danger spot. He said the free world would be in serious trouble "if something should happen to German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer."

Weather

FORECAST—Klamath Falls and vicinity: Fair through Thursday. High 35 Thursday; low Wednesday night 10.
High yesterday — 27
Low last night — 4
Precip. last 24 hours — .15
Precip. since Oct. 1 — 10.96
Same period last year — 1.87
Normal for period — 4.47

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Let's look at the "cold figures" of this year. Motor vehicle fatalities through October totaled 30,980. They show a gain of 7 per cent over the total for the corresponding months of 1954.
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Cleaning Up Starts; 47 Reported Dead

SAN FRANCISCO (UP)—California, beset by a week of torrential rains and catastrophic floods, welcomed today the return of its famed sunshine.
As thousands of persons began the grim task of cleaning up their flood ravaged homes, the state listed 47 dead and estimated the damage conservatively at 100 million dollars. Floods took another 12 lives in Oregon.
Even with a break in the weather, the danger from further floods was not yet over in the delta area. This is a vast area of islands and channels through which the swollen Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers are dumping their muddy waters into San Francisco Bay.
"The situation is still critical," said the San Joaquin County sheriff's office at Stockton early today. "It will remain critical at least through tomorrow."

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At Ileton, a community of 2000 persons on the lower Sacramento River, 300 men worked day and night to bolster the levees with sandbags. Mayor Morris Stewart said the levees withstood a high tide of 9.8 feet Tuesday.
"It's still very dangerous and it's a mighty tough battle," he said, "but we're holding."
The town has been battling flood waters and high tides for seven straight days. The main danger lies a mile and a half south of the town, where the San Joaquin and Mokelumne rivers join. The Sacramento flows on the north side of town.
RIO VISTA
The town of Rio Vista, on the Sacramento River five miles west of Ileton, also was battling high waters, but it was having an earlier time of it. Much of that town lies on higher ground.
Levees in the delta area of Contra Costa County, which lies west of San Joaquin County, were held against the San Joaquin River. Some later failures were reported, but they were on the east of the levees rather than on the water side.
A dam, at least, was unlikely. For the first time in 13 days, the weatherman issued a prediction that did not call for either light or heavy rains. He predicted sunny skies and colder weather in the mountains. The colder weather spelled an end to the disastrous mountain runoff.

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PORTLAND (AP)—The case against William C. Peddicord, blind salesman and part-time chemist charged with last April's Meier & Frank Co. store bombing, is being studied by the Multnomah County Grand Jury.
Authorities began presenting their evidence Tuesday. A finding is expected some time Wednesday or Thursday.
The case against Mrs. Joyce Keller, his sister-in-law, charged with aiding him, will be taken up immediately after the grand jury completes its study of the case against Peddicord.

\$90 Million Suit Filed

NEW YORK (UP)—Sperry Rand Corp. yesterday filed a \$90 million dollar treble damage suit against the International Business Machine Corp., charging that IBM has unfairly been causing Sperry Rand business to diminish steadily.
Sperry Rand charges among other things that IBM has "interfered with the efficient normal operation" of tabulating machines manufactured by Sperry Rand, the merged corporations of Sperry Gyroscope and Remington Rand.
Thomas W. Watson Sr., chairman of the board of IBM, issued a prompt denial of "any violation of the anti-trust laws or that our conduct at any time has been adverse to the legitimate business interests of Sperry Rand Corp."
The suit, brought under the civil anti-trust laws, charges that in the last 19 years practically all of the electric tabulating machines in the United States have been manufactured by IBM which leases the machines rather than sell them as Sperry Rand does.
Sperry Rand, whose board chairman is Gen. Douglas MacArthur, charged that IBM also participated with government agencies in the preparation of bids, plans and specifications for tabulating machines to be procured by the government in such a way as to get favored treatment for IBM.



ON THEIR WAY TO WORK at the First National Bank this morning when the 9 o'clock photographer stopped them were Jo Anne Borden, left, 710 Lowell Street, and Esther Morris, 2036 Garden.