

# SHINTO WORSHIPERS CRUSHED

## Herald and News

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### In The Day's News

**By FRANK JENKINS**  
In the final days of 1955 a great fear was lifted from the Klamath country of Southern Oregon and Far Northern California. At the same time, a door was opened that can lead to greater development than the Klamath country has ever known — or even dreamed of.

The fear was the loss of our water — without which the Klamath country would be valueless. The opportunity lies in PUTTING OUR WATER TO WORK in every way that water can be made to work.

Let's deal first with the fear. We have in the upper basin of the Klamath river an approximate million and a half acre feet of water per year. Our water lies at a high elevation. Water runs downhill more cheaply than it can be pumped uphill. It is therefore looked upon with covetous eyes by water-short areas.

To the south of us lie vast areas that must have MORE WATER if they are to go on growing. They haven't water enough of their own. If they are to get the water they need, they must get it from somewhere else.

Water is no longer a fixed and immovable asset. It has become an article of commerce. It can be moved from place to place — FROM places that have it but aren't using it all TO places that lack it and WILL use it all. If you doubt that, give a thought to the fabulous Feather River Project. It is now definitely proposed to move the water of the Feather River from Far Northern California to Far Southern California — clear to San Diego.

If that can be done with the water of the Feather river, it can be done with the water of the Klamath river.

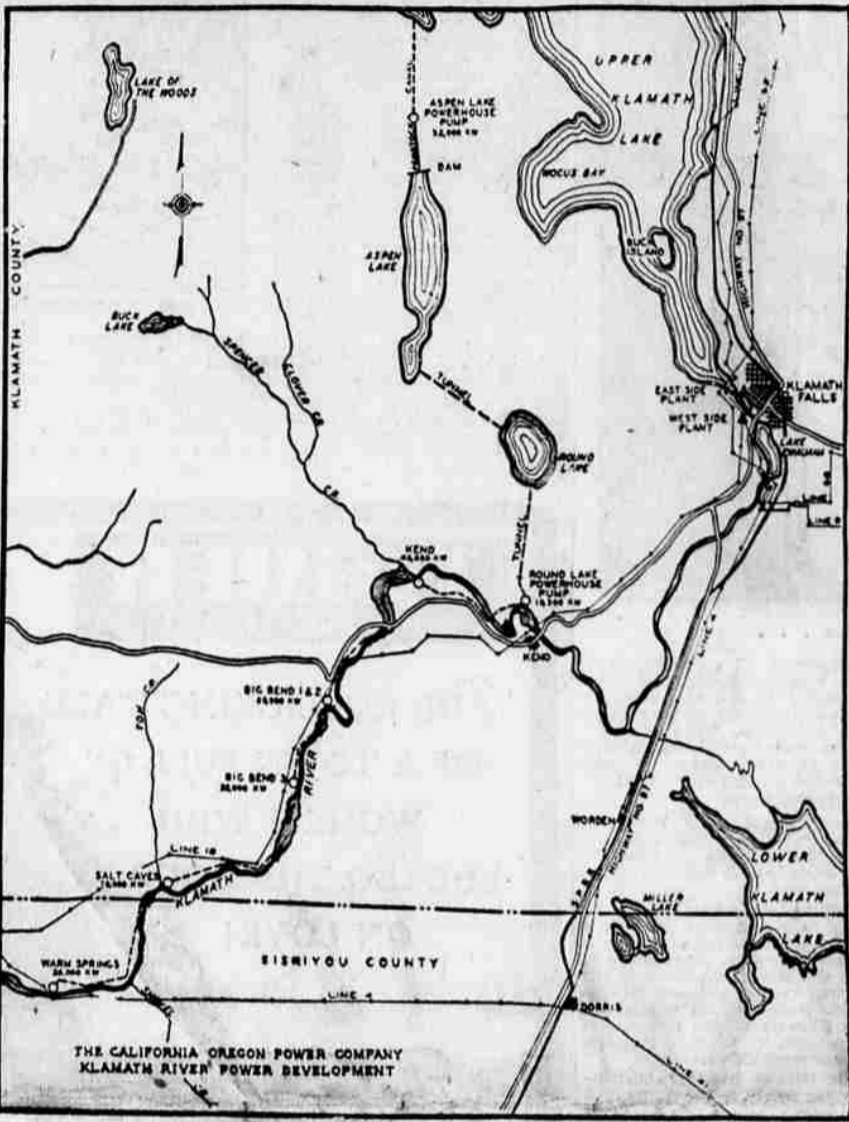
What's more — if we don't commit the water of the Klamath river to complete beneficial use. Complete beneficial use of water includes domestic needs (including municipalities), agriculture, industry, recreation and power.

As long as our water remains uncommitted to complete beneficial use it will be subject to export for use elsewhere. That's FLAT. In the world of the future, no water ANYWHERE — especially in the arid West — is going to be permitted to run to waste.

That fear has been removed by the signing of the contract between the Bureau of Reclamation and the California Oregon Power Company which will permit the final harnessing of the waters of the Klamath river below Keno for the production of power.

When the canyon of the Klamath river is filled with power plants developing power for the uses of our people and for industry to provide more payrolls, there will be no more Klamath water running to waste.

It will all be USED. There will no longer be any surplus. It is now expected that by June or July of this year men will be busy in the canyon of the Klamath below Keno beginning the long-delayed job of building power plants to use the Klamath's falling waters to provide power to heat and light our homes, run our domestic appliances, pump our water and turn the wheels of new industries to provide new payrolls and then the economy of this great area of Southern Oregon and Far Northern California.



Sketch of proposed river development

## \$70 Million May Be Spent By Copco In Proposed Klamath River Development

"We foresee great things for the Klamath country in the next few years," was the jubilant comment of John C. Boyle, vice president and general manager of California Oregon Power Company, at Medford when he learned of the Interior Department's approval in Washington, D.C., of the Copco-Bureau of Reclamation contract.

"It is definitely good news for us all," he added. The next steps necessary before actual work can start on the first part of the \$70 million, 12-year revised program planned by Copco include licensing by the Oregon state hydro-electric commission, approval by the state regulatory bodies of California and Oregon and the filing of a copy of the contract with the federal power commission.

During the time it takes for the contract to be forwarded to the regional office in Sacramento and then to Medford for the necessary signatures, the legal department of Copco is preparing the formal applications to be presented as soon as the contract is signed.

It can reasonably be expected that final approval will be received in the near future, Boyle said. This approval also protects irrigation water for the present and for the future in the Klamath Basin and Northern California, he added.

"Because of delays, Copco has decided to combine Big Bend No. 1 and Big Bend No. 2 and increase the output from 50,000 to 80,000 kilowatts," Boyle said. "This will bring the cost of the combined project to \$12,700,000."

While it is difficult to estimate in advance the tax revenue to the city and to Klamath County from the Big Bend projects, tax experts have set the figure at approximately \$118,400 annually from that portion alone.

Copco's 1954-55 property tax paid to Klamath County on existing properties amounted to \$274,893. When the \$70 million program is completed, today's estimate of the total annual tax Copco would pay to Klamath County is \$850,000.

In addition to tax benefits to the city and county, Boyle remarked that labor costs run up to 40 per cent on construction work of this kind. He expressed the hope that work could start on the Big Bend projects by the summer of 1956. Because much of the generating equipment, water wheels and other machinery must be manufactured to specification — and usually requires about two years — completion date would be early in 1959. During the two and one-half years of construction on that portion of the over-all program, a payroll of about \$2 1/2 million a year would be added to this area.

Schedules on the overall program have not been made, the Copco general manager stated. The upstream storage part of the program will provide 580,000 acre feet of water storage at Aspen Lake and Round Lake projects.

"That will give us another Upper Klamath Lake of water storage plus 25 per cent," was the way it was expressed by Sam Ritchey, local Copco manager. The completed project will provide 315,000 kilowatts of power, which is just about double the capacity of the present Copco system plants.

Five of those killed this year were deer hunters. The four others were bird hunters.

An additional four duck hunters drowned in three separate accidents.

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"There is no priority on any bill right now," Johnson told reporters. He indicated that farm legislation and disaster relief bills inspired by flood damage at both ends of the country this year will get early consideration.

Another big battle is shaping up over farm legislation, which Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas, the Democratic floor leader, said will get early attention.

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## California Flood Cost Total Gains

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — By the best available reckoning, a billion dollars went down the drain in Northern California's unparalleled Christmas floods.

A billion dollars — counting more than 150 million dollars in property wrecked by the wild, rushing deluge, plus the value that the wasted water would have had for irrigation and other uses.

Theoretically, state and federal engineers say, all or most of the disaster could have been averted with man-made projects either proposed or in the talking stage.

"If all the projects advanced in the California Water Plan had been built, the damage would have been negligible," said Harvey O. Banks acting state engineer.

The plan calls for 270 major dams throughout the state and conserving features, the engineers say, which the state engineers would have spared hard-hit Yuba City, Santa Cruz, Humboldt and Del Norte Counties, the San Joaquin Valley and just about every other area flooded last week.

In addition to their life-and-property-saving features, the engineers said, the works in the California water plan would have made it possible to store much of the estimated 84 million acre feet of water that fell on the northern two-thirds of the state in less than a week.

Eighty-four million acre feet — that's enough water to cover the entire state with over 10 inches of water. Or, another way, it is 5 1/2 times all the water consumed in California in a year.

## Fewer Hunting Mishaps Told

PORTLAND (AP) — Oregon had fewer hunting accidents in 1955 and a spokesman for the State Game Commission expressed hope that safe hunting campaigns are beginning to pay off.

Nine hunters died of gunshot wounds in 1955 and 28 others suffered non-fatal wounds. The year before, 13 were killed and 37 wounded.

Ben Shay of the Game Commission said that in all the 1955 hunting accidents only three of the victims were mistaken for game. The rest were attributed to accidental gun discharges, described by Shay as "absolute carelessness."

Several state agencies and sportsmen's groups joined in hunting safety campaigns the past year. One of these was the Governor's Red Hat Day, which received extensive publicity. In addition, Shay said, several hunters' safety courses, patterned after those sponsored by the National Rifle Assn., were held in Oregon.

Complete hunting accident reports have been available only this year and last, Shay said. State police and county sheriffs now make such reports to the Game Commission.

## Ice Skating

The skating rink at Moore Park should be open this afternoon, if it does not storm. Recreation Director Bob Bonney announced yesterday.

He said that the rink would be open from 1-5 p.m. and 7-10 p.m. unless there is a snow or a sharp drop in temperature which would crack the surface of the rink. If there are any changes, announcements will be made on Klamath Falls radio stations.

## Farm Issue Bulks Large In Congress

WASHINGTON (AP) — Foreign policy and farm aid legislation took top billing Saturday as congressional leaders returned to Washington for the opening of the 1956 legislative session Tuesday.

Sen. Wiley of Wisconsin, top Republican on the Foreign Relations Committee, said recent statements by Russian leaders, Nikita Khrushchev and Nikita Khrushchev will spur a strengthening of "our overall military-diplomatic position."

Suggesting that congressional leaders adopt a New Year's resolution to "try to keep partisan politics out of our international relations," Wiley predicted the R & D leaders' comments will prompt Senate and House committee to "give the armed forces the benefit of the doubt on proposed increases" in appropriations.

"If anything, we should be intensifying our guided missile, nuclear and related programs," Wiley said.

Wiley predicted nevertheless that administration plans to seek an increase in foreign aid funds will face a fight in Congress.

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## Olive Cornett Declines Office

Mrs. Olive Cornett, national Republican committeewoman from Oregon since 1948, announced here Saturday that she will not seek reelection at the state-wide primary next May.

During her first four years as a committeewoman, Mrs. Cornett also served as a member of the executive committee of the Republican National Committee.

She will hold the committeewoman post until after the Republican National Convention next summer in San Francisco.

"I also intend to continue as an active party worker until the general election next November," she added.

A successor to Mrs. Cornett will be elected in May. Oregon is the only state in the union that picks national committee members at the primary election. This applies to both the Republican and Democratic parties.

## Man To Try Vodka Sales

WIESBADEN, Germany (AP) — An American liquor salesman said Saturday he would leave next month for Moscow to try to sell American vodka to the Russians.

The American kind, he claims, is "more friendly" than the Russian brand.

William Crawford, 40, sales representative in Europe for a U.S. liquor manufacturer, hopes his trip will stimulate "good spirits" among the Russians — and publicity for his firm.

He analyzed the vodka situation this way: "American vodka is made from grain. Russian vodka is made from potatoes. People who eat too many potatoes are aggressive, like the Irish. Hence, American vodka may make the Russians less aggressive."

(Not all Russian vodka is made from rye or barley.)

## 30 Thousand Stampede In Wild Melee

NIIGATA, Japan (AP) — Thirty thousand New Year's worshipers stampeded at a famed Shinto shrine at five minutes after midnight Sunday and trampled to death at least 112 persons.

Dozens still were missing and 75 were injured. It was Japan's worst recorded New Year's tragedy.

A scramble for sacred rice balls thrown to the crowd by Shinto priests apparently touched off the tragedy. The terror-stricken mob collapsed a 5-foot stone wall by the sheer pressure of surging bodies and created new disaster.

Crowds thronged the Iyahiko shrine at this Sea of Japan port 267 miles northwest of Tokyo for traditional prayers of thanks and pleas for good fortune in the opening minutes of the New Year.

The shrine, major Shinto place of worship for this area, stands on high ground. The crowd pressed forward on the platform before the altar and up narrow stairways and passageways leading to the altar.

Shinto priests mounted two towers and threw the traditional mochi, Japanese rice balls, to the rear of the huge crowd.

Some of the worshipers — many of them children — had finished their prayers as the rice throwing began.

Taunoo Togawa, reporter for the newspaper Asahi, said those near the altar "swarmed back down the stairs to catch the mochi, crashing or were crushed under the oncoming human wave," Togawa said.

"There was a pile of dead and injured at the bottom of the stairs. Some tumbled down and some were trampled," said Hyoshio Takahashi, a shrine official.

The mass of humanity pressed forward toward the altar even as many of the more terrified worshipers lost their footing and were engulfed under trampling feet.

"I felt it was in a human gale," said Teruo Tamura, a farm housewife who was trampled on the stairs. "My feet left the ground. Then I was pressed under the crowd to the ground. Two of my friends were killed instantly."

There were only 11 policemen at the scene. Every Japanese family pounds and bakes its own rice cakes. But the worshipers sought mochi thrown by the priests with the special blessing of the shrine for good luck.

The tragedy struck as thousands of temple bells all over Japan were ringing in the New Year and hundreds of thousands jammed the Shinto shrines thanking their gods for bumper crops and praying for good fortune in 1956.

At the Koyasu Shrine, about 100 worshipers were kneeling before the altar with heads bowed and hands clasped in prayer when the disaster struck, police said.

Hundreds were standing on the platform before the altar.

Thousands pressed behind down a series of stairs leading from the altar, along a paved passageway and out all the way to the main gate of the shrine. They were waiting their turn to worship at the small open-air altar.

Suddenly the packed mass of humanity moved in a wave of terror. Shrieks rent the air. Men, women and children fell under the trampling feet.

Screaming with fright, hundreds around the platform fought towards the narrow stairway, pushing against the crowd which at the start of the stampede still was surging forward.

## Alaska Has Heavy Snow

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (UP) — Snowbound Alaskans dug out from the heaviest early winter snowfall in history today but officials agreed "the worst is over."

"However, the big job of removing the snow still is ahead," said George Shannon, Anchorage city manager. "It will probably take us several days to get the job done."

M. R. Shrock of the Territorial Employment Service here said the "help-wanted" sign was out for men willing to shovel snow. There were 25 applicants but more than a 100 more men were needed.

The snow fell steadily for more than 60 hours from here south to Yakutat and the mayors of both Anchorage and Cordova declared emergencies at the height of the storm.

Nellie Brown, Anchorage's first woman resident, snowshoed into town from her home three miles away yesterday.

"I used to come in to town this way back in the old days and I'm still not too old to snowshoe in again," she said.

## Weather

FORECAST—Klamath Falls and vicinity: Cloudy Sunday, occasional light rain and snow Sunday night, cloudy Monday. Low Sunday night 28.

High Saturday 36 Low Friday night 8

High Saturday 36 Low Friday night 8

High Saturday 36 Low Friday night 8

High Saturday 36 Low Friday night 8

High Saturday 36 Low Friday night 8

## BULLETIN

At midnight Saturday the nation's traffic death toll had reached 106, as compared with 260 at the corresponding hour of the 1955 Christmas weekend in which traffic accidents claimed 609 lives.

## BRISK BATTLE

RABAT, French Morocco (AP) — French troops patrolling the Rif Mountain area of northern Morocco Friday fought a brisk battle with a well-armed rebel band and killed 10 of the outlaws, officials announced Saturday. They said there were no casualties on the French side.

## SAINT NAMED

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope Pius XII has named the Apostle Matthew patron saint of bookkeepers. The Apostle was himself a keeper of accounts before he became a follower of Jesus and one of the writers of the Gospel.

## NO PAPER

The Herald and News will not publish an edition Monday, January 2 because of the New Year's holidays. Normal publication will resume Tuesday, January 3.

## Navy Reveals KF Base Bids

SEATTLE (AP) — Bids for two projects at the Klamath Falls Air Force Base, opened by the Navy here Thursday, totaled \$1,562,114. Only one bid was received on each project — extension of the runway and relocating of Bureau of Reclamation facilities.

Morrison Knudsen Co., Inc., of Seattle and Boise bid \$1,234,000 for the job of extending the runway 2,300 feet.

## SHOOTING HOURS

OREGON		
January 2		
OPEN	CLOSE	
7:06	4:46	
January 3		
OPEN	CLOSE	
7:06	4:47	
CALIFORNIA		
January 2		
OPEN	CLOSE	
7:04	4:44	
January 3		
OPEN	CLOSE	
7:04	4:44	



C. BUZ LARKIN, local insurance man on North Seventh Street, was caught pondering the new year Saturday morning by the 9 o'clock photographer. Same as last year.