



**HARD-FIGHTING CIVIL DEFENSE** workers were credited with saving Alturas from total inundation Sunday by raging flood waters which caused damage estimated at more than \$100,000. Don Kettler, Herald and News photographer, who reached the stricken community a few hours after the Pit River overflowed its banks, obtained these graphic action shots. Shown (left to right) water pouring over the Klamath Falls-Alturas

highway, one mile north of Timber Mountain Inn. Volunteer workers are shown building a channel to divert the flood waters in Alturas. Next a bulldozer is pictured erecting dikes to protect railroad bridges. Far right is a home surrounded by a miniature lake with two boys shown crawling along a wooden fence to get out of the danger area. Three hundred civil defense workers were mobilized to battle the flood under the di-

rection of Charles Lederer, Sheriff E. R. (Buck) Server organized crews of volunteers who removed furniture and other household goods from scores of flooded homes. Red Cross officials opened a canteen at Modoc County Courthouse to feed the flood workers. Standby crews are ready to go into action again if a new storm develops. Almost countless tons of sand were bagged and distributed throughout the town. Mitchell

Jurasevick, manager of the Niles Hotel, declined an offer of sand and was prepared to protect his property with 300 sacks of flour. Modoc County health officials were surveying the flooded area Monday as a precaution against an outbreak of disease. Cleanup work has been started but it will be many days before the damages can be repaired.

# ALTURAS FLOODED BY PIT RIVER

## In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS  
President Eisenhower sends to the congress this morning a message proposing a balanced budget in the fiscal years of 1956 and 1957. Perhaps it would be well to pause here and explain the term "fiscal year." A fiscal year is a MONEY year—that is to say, a bookkeeping year. The U.S. government's fiscal year begins on July 1 and ends the following June 30. The fiscal year that will end on the 30th of the coming June is known in accounting parlance as "fiscal 1956."

In brief, Ike proposes no tax reduction AND HIGHER SPENDING. That is made possible by the prosperous state of our economy, which is bringing in a lot of tax money. In addition, he proposes to REDUCE THE DEBT by some 74 million dollars by the end of the present fiscal year on June 30. In the next fiscal year, which will end on June 30, 1957, he proposes a debt reduction of 500 million dollars. At that rate, in some 600 years we could be even with the world.

Pretty slow, you say? Well, it's better than going in the hole every year. If we go in the hole every year for 600 years, where will we be? History tells us in no uncertain terms we'll be bankrupt long before that time.

Why the added spending? The bulk of it is for defense. We must think of defense spending in this modern cold war world something like this: If you lived in a dark forest peopled by bloodthirsty savages and hungry wild beasts, you'd feel that you HAD to have good guns and plenty of ammunition even if you had to go short on other things. We're surrounded by communists—which are far more dangerous than savages or wild beasts.

I'm hopelessly old-fashioned, of course—so much so that I think we could cut a couple of billions or so in the way of frills and extravagances out of our proposed total of expenditures and hardly miss it.

I rather imagine Ike feels the same way about it, but we must remember that this is an election year and so he is under tremendous pressure to make it appear that if the GOP is returned to power every voter will get everything he wants and won't have anything worth while taken away from him.

I feel this way about Ike: He described himself at the beginning of his political career as a moderate conservative—a middle-of-the-roader, neither a reckless spender nor a tightwad. In general, he has lived up to that definition.

He has reduced spending. Our country has prospered under his policies.

I have the feeling that if his policies are continued our country will continue to prosper. And I have the further feeling that if his policies are continued we won't spend ourselves into bankruptcy.

The political news this morning contains a VERY interesting paragraph. It reads: "President Eisenhower's budget figures got a mixed reception in congress. The Republicans tended to stress the balancing of outgo with income. The Democratic comments WERE POINTED MORE AT THE PROPOSED INCREASE IN SPENDING."

That is to say, the Democrats, who have been the big spenders, are critical of President Eisenhower because in his budget message he proposes to spend somewhat more than he has been spending.

How come? This explanation: Whenever the party in power does, or proposes to do, the party out of power has to be against. That is the first law of politics. Otherwise, the voters might ask: WHY CHANGE?

## Yuba City Fights High River Crest

SAN FRANCISCO (UP) — Mud-moored levee workers sloshed across the spongy top of the repaired dike at Yuba City today in belief they had saved the city from a second inundation by Feather River.

Yuba City, however, still remained the critical situation in the Northern California flood disaster area. All the coastal streams that had gone over their banks and driven thousands from their homes during the weekend were reported falling today. The crisis passed when the 48-hour storm came to an end yesterday afternoon.

For a time, the storm had threatened to duplicate the Christmas week disaster when floods resulted in 75 deaths and more than 175 million dollars property damage. Although the storm had passed, constant vigilance had to be maintained at Yuba City.

**CRITICAL HOURS**  
The danger there was pinpointed at Shanghai Bend, where the Feather River lapped at the muddy top of the reconstructed levee. It was here that the bulwarks broke at Christmas time, sending nearly 10,000 persons fleeing for their lives and killing at least 33.

At 6 a.m. this morning, the river stood at 67.1 feet, a danger point, but the river was falling above Yuba City and the waters were rising at the rate of only a tenth of a foot an hour at Yuba City.

The levee at Shanghai Bend is 71 feet high, and the city levee commission did not believe the water now would go over the top. The greatest danger, however, was whether the levees would continue to hold. Since the Christmas break, construction crews and heavy equipment has been used in the three-week struggle to restore the city's defenses. This work, however, was untested, unpacked and spotty. There always was the chance that the river could come boiling in from the bottom.

**AROUND THE CLOCK**  
A crew of Army Engineers from Camp Beale Air Force Base, working in shifts of 100 around the clock and augmented by city volunteers, continued to man the levee. Heavy equipment had to be removed because it could not be used in the mud.

Upstream, north of Yuba City, the river had dropped a tenth of a foot at Gridley. At Oroville, 16 hours away as the stream flows, the river had dropped seven feet. So far, three deaths were reported from the current flooding: Henry R. Beneken Sr., 64, a carpenter, apparently slipped into the paper mill creek behind his home at Forest Hills in Marin County around midnight and drowned. Ray Stepp, 50, drowned in an irrigation ditch south of Alturas, and John Maurer, 32, Eureka contractor, was killed Saturday by a falling tree as he worked to break a log jam in a creek.

Two San Francisco duck hunters, 55 miles and a man identified only as Mr. Riski, were missing and feared dead on Butte Slough, 15 miles northwest of Yuba City. Early today, Army Engineers watched the swollen Feather River inch up along the weak Shanghai Bend levee just south of Yuba City. On Dec. 24, forcing 10,000 persons to flee for their lives, Yuba City counted 33 flood victims alone.

At midnight, the Feather River stood at 67.3 feet opposite Yuba City proper and 66.3 at the Shanghai Bend levee. Since Christmas, the levee had been built up to 70 to 71 feet, but 67 feet is considered "dangerous."

Eisenhower's budget also anticipates—as he had said in his State of the Union message earlier this month—that the government will wind up the current fiscal year, ending next June 30, in the black. This is because revenues are running ahead of expenditures due to the general prosperity in 1955.

Here are the president's over-all figures: Spending in this fiscal year to be \$64,270,000,000 and income \$64,500,000,000, with a surplus for this year of 230 million. Spending in the new fiscal year, ending in mid-1957, to be \$65,556,

## Herald and News

KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON, MONDAY, JANUARY 16, 1956  
Price Five Cents—10 Pages Telephone 8111 No. 3375

## Inspectors Study Train Wreck Cause

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS  
An eastbound Union Pacific passenger train jumped from the tracks as it entered an S curve east of The Dalles early Monday, spilling the engine and several cars.

Inspectors searched for clues to the cause in the rain-softened earth. The 65 passengers on the Spokane bound train were shaken but unhurt, and continued later by bus.

As the diesel engine left the rails it plowed into stacks of ties. One of them flew against the windshield, showering brakeman W. B. Ford with glass. He was hospitalized for treatment of cuts and engineer R. W. Harvey who said the engine seemed to hit a bump then leave the rails, suffered a back injury. Both are from Portland.

**SLIDES**  
Rains that touched off slides and high water over much of Oregon and southwestern Washington slackened late Sunday and Monday, giving streams a chance to fall back to safer levels.

More rain was forecast for Tuesday, though. Surging water from snow melt caused a road undermined by Sunday swept out a highway bridge north of Prineville, in central Oregon. South on the California border the Lost River spread out over some low spots in Klamath County. And all up and down Western Oregon there was high water and sliding earth.

Virtually all of the rivers created before dawn Monday without causing extensive damage. **SCHOOL BUS**  
An empty school bus broke through a road undermined by high water at Mapleton and some 20 houses were marooned there as the Siuslaw River went four feet above flood stage before starting to fall.

At Willamette City near Oakridge, southeast of Eugene, volunteers built a temporary dike and bulldozers started cutting a new channel for the upper Willamette so it would bypass houses.

The Union Pacific reported three westbound trains delayed in making a detour of the derailment area and the eastbound morning mail train was late. A temporary track around the derailment was to be ready for use in early afternoon.

9 o'clock Special  
Gary Pearson, 935 Pacific Terrace, was on his way to Klamath Union High School this morning when the 9 o'clock photographer stopped him. Gary is a senior.

## Rain Causes Langell, Poe Valley Flood

The crest of a flood in Langell and Poe valleys which was caused by warm rains over the weekend was in the vicinity of Olene at 11 a.m. today according to J. Pitta Elmore, Klamath Reclamation Project manager.

Elmore said that the water downstream from Olene should begin to recede by late this afternoon. The floods, which began when the warm rain fell and melted off the snowpack Saturday morning, were described as being comparable to and possibly worse than the floods during the week before Christmas. However, Elmore said that any precipitation now is snow, and that it probably will not melt off rapidly.

There was no reported damage to any improvements, other than fields and pasture land, Elmore stated.

**FLOOD CREST**  
The flow at the crest of the flood, which reached Harold Dam at the head of Poe Valley at about 1 a.m. today, was estimated at about 4,000 second feet. The level at the Lost River Diversion Dam southeast of Klamath Falls was reported at about 8:30 a.m. to be within three tenths of a foot of the high reached last month.

The flow through the Lost River Diversion Channel to the Klamath River has reached the capacity of the channel, and the bureau began releasing about 1,000 second feet of water down the lower channel of the river at about 10 a.m. Elmore reported. The water will flow into the Tulelake sumps.

He said that about 3,000 second feet of water would be sent through the diversion channel when the crest reaches the dam.

**MINOR SLIDES**  
Meanwhile, both state and county highway officials reported that there were a number of minor slides and flooded roads in the county, but that the only major highway closure was on the Merrill-Main state highway, where traffic was being diverted around a flooded stretch.

Ed Probst, county road superintendent, said that county crews had "been lucky" that the flood had not caused worse damage to the road system.

According to the Herald and News correspondent at Bonanza, (Continued on page 4)

## Residents Battle Rampaging Water

By LYLE DOWNING  
ALTURAS — A 24-hour battle against the raging flood waters of the north fork of the Pit River which inundated nearly a square mile of Alturas had apparently been won Monday morning.

Charles Lederer, Modoc County civil defense director, told the Herald and News that the river which swirled over its banks early Sunday morning and for a time threatened to engulf the entire community, was rapidly receding.

One man was drowned Sunday as a result of the flood. Ray Stepp, 50-year-old ranch worker, fell into a swollen irrigation ditch near Lakeley, 20 miles south of here. His body was recovered by Modoc County Sheriff E. R. (Buck) Server.

**DEFENSE WORKERS**  
Monday morning civil defense workers were still standing guard on the banks of the Pit which was heavily sandbagged along most of its course through the center of Alturas.

A survey of the damage showed that virtually all streets in the southern section of the town were flooded. Water was a foot deep in many homes in that area.

Five frame buildings of the United States Forest Service were surrounded by a miniature lake. One of the chief concerns of the flood fighters and a focal point of their activities throughout Sunday was the Modoc Medical Center, where 58 patients were prepared for immediate evacuation. Water lapped for hours against the rear wall of the rambling one-story hospital building. Civil defense workers stood by ready to transfer the patients to Modoc Union High School.

**DRASTIC TURN**  
Shortly after 3 p.m. Sunday it appeared the situation had taken a drastic turn for the worse. A shortwave radio report was received at civil defense headquarters in Modoc County Courthouse announcing a cloud burst at Cedar Pass, 15 miles upstream from Alturas. Water from that area was further swelling the Pit. However, the increased water did not affect the flow of the river here.

The first big break for the better came shortly after 6 p.m. Sunday when the wind shifted from south to north and sudden skies quickly cleared.

**CREWS STAND BY**  
Civil Defense Director Lederer said emergency crews will be kept on a standby basis for the next 24 hours.

"We are certain the worst is over," he added. "We now face the big task of cleaning up the flooded area."

Almost countless tons of sand were bagged and distributed throughout the community by the civil defense workers.

## Residents Battle Rampaging Water

ALTURAS — A 24-hour battle against the raging flood waters of the north fork of the Pit River which inundated nearly a square mile of Alturas had apparently been won Monday morning.

Charles Lederer, Modoc County civil defense director, told the Herald and News that the river which swirled over its banks early Sunday morning and for a time threatened to engulf the entire community, was rapidly receding.

One man was drowned Sunday as a result of the flood. Ray Stepp, 50-year-old ranch worker, fell into a swollen irrigation ditch near Lakeley, 20 miles south of here. His body was recovered by Modoc County Sheriff E. R. (Buck) Server.

**DEFENSE WORKERS**  
Monday morning civil defense workers were still standing guard on the banks of the Pit which was heavily sandbagged along most of its course through the center of Alturas.

A survey of the damage showed that virtually all streets in the southern section of the town were flooded. Water was a foot deep in many homes in that area.

Five frame buildings of the United States Forest Service were surrounded by a miniature lake. One of the chief concerns of the flood fighters and a focal point of their activities throughout Sunday was the Modoc Medical Center, where 58 patients were prepared for immediate evacuation. Water lapped for hours against the rear wall of the rambling one-story hospital building. Civil defense workers stood by ready to transfer the patients to Modoc Union High School.

**DRASTIC TURN**  
Shortly after 3 p.m. Sunday it appeared the situation had taken a drastic turn for the worse. A shortwave radio report was received at civil defense headquarters in Modoc County Courthouse announcing a cloud burst at Cedar Pass, 15 miles upstream from Alturas. Water from that area was further swelling the Pit. However, the increased water did not affect the flow of the river here.

The first big break for the better came shortly after 6 p.m. Sunday when the wind shifted from south to north and sudden skies quickly cleared.

**CREWS STAND BY**  
Civil Defense Director Lederer said emergency crews will be kept on a standby basis for the next 24 hours.

"We are certain the worst is over," he added. "We now face the big task of cleaning up the flooded area."

Almost countless tons of sand were bagged and distributed throughout the community by the civil defense workers.

Mitchell Jurasevick, manager of the Niles Hotel, declined an offer of sand and was prepared to protect his property with 300 sacks of flour. Modoc County health officials were surveying the flooded area Monday as a precaution against an outbreak of disease. Cleanup work has been started but it will be many days before the damages can be repaired.

One of the big events of the Teens Against Polio division of the March of Dimes Drive will be a dance planned for Saturday, January 21 at the Klamath Falls Armory. Music will be by the Starlighters dance band with dancing from 9 p.m. to 2 p.m.

## Patterson To Tell Plans

COOS BAY (UP) — Gov. Paul Patterson will announce by Feb. 1 whether he will enter the race for U. S. senator from Oregon.

Political observers expect him to, especially since he said he would run. Whether the governor's decision would change Deets' was uncertain.

The governor made his announcement at the end of a talk to an informal Republican group here. He said his wife is willing to go along with any decision he makes.

Patterson, on the strength of his vote-getting record, would be favored to gain his party's nomination and oppose Sen. Morse (D-Ore.) in the November election. Republican leaders have been urging him to do that almost since the day he piled up a big margin in being elected governor in 1954.

Patterson said he has been traveling about the state to determine whether the people want him to carry on the governorship or to take on a "new political job." If enough people want him to run for senator, he will not "shirk" his duty, he said.

## Indians Seek Land Payment

FLORENCE, Ore. (UP) — Three tribes of Oregon coastal Indians want a sizable chunk of Uncle Sam's cash or a seat in the United Nations.

Their attorney, James Green, a justice of the peace here, said the tribes are tired of waiting for the federal government to pay them for land along the coast.

If the cash—they want about 100 million dollars—isn't forthcoming soon they will demand seats in the U. N. as sovereign powers, Green said.

The confederated tribes of the Siuslaw, Lower Umpqua and Coos Bay say they signed a treaty for the United States to buy a strip of land in 1855. The strip includes the present-day cities of Florence, Reedsport and Coos Bay.

## Inspectors Study Train Wreck Cause

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS  
An eastbound Union Pacific passenger train jumped from the tracks as it entered an S curve east of The Dalles early Monday, spilling the engine and several cars.

Inspectors searched for clues to the cause in the rain-softened earth. The 65 passengers on the Spokane bound train were shaken but unhurt, and continued later by bus.

As the diesel engine left the rails it plowed into stacks of ties. One of them flew against the windshield, showering brakeman W. B. Ford with glass. He was hospitalized for treatment of cuts and engineer R. W. Harvey who said the engine seemed to hit a bump then leave the rails, suffered a back injury. Both are from Portland.

**SLIDES**  
Rains that touched off slides and high water over much of Oregon and southwestern Washington slackened late Sunday and Monday, giving streams a chance to fall back to safer levels.

More rain was forecast for Tuesday, though. Surging water from snow melt caused a road undermined by Sunday swept out a highway bridge north of Prineville, in central Oregon. South on the California border the Lost River spread out over some low spots in Klamath County. And all up and down Western Oregon there was high water and sliding earth.

Virtually all of the rivers created before dawn Monday without causing extensive damage. **SCHOOL BUS**  
An empty school bus broke through a road undermined by high water at Mapleton and some 20 houses were marooned there as the Siuslaw River went four feet above flood stage before starting to fall.

At Willamette City near Oakridge, southeast of Eugene, volunteers built a temporary dike and bulldozers started cutting a new channel for the upper Willamette so it would bypass houses.

The Union Pacific reported three westbound trains delayed in making a detour of the derailment area and the eastbound morning mail train was late. A temporary track around the derailment was to be ready for use in early afternoon.

9 o'clock Special  
Gary Pearson, 935 Pacific Terrace, was on his way to Klamath Union High School this morning when the 9 o'clock photographer stopped him. Gary is a senior.

## Weather

**FORECAST—Klamath Falls and vicinity: Clearing Monday night and Tuesday morning. Rain Tuesday afternoon. High Tuesday 52; low Monday night 35.**

Low last night 38  
High yesterday 44  
Precip. last 24 hours 68  
Since Oct. 1 13.84  
Same period last year 3.41  
Normal for period 5.77

**CHANGES**  
VIENNA, Austria, (UP) — Two more changes in the Romanian government, making five in three days, were announced Monday by Radio Bucharest. Stefan Balan was appointed minister for construction. He replaces Georgehe Hossu, who Saturday was named the new minister of agriculture with the apparent task of speeding up collectivization. Mihai Suter was appointed new minister for the timber industry.

**VIENNA, Austria, (UP) —** Two more changes in the Romanian government, making five in three days, were announced Monday by Radio Bucharest. Stefan Balan was appointed minister for construction. He replaces Georgehe Hossu, who Saturday was named the new minister of agriculture with the apparent task of speeding up collectivization. Mihai Suter was appointed new minister for the timber industry.

**VIENNA, Austria, (UP) —** Two more changes in the Romanian government, making five in three days, were announced Monday by Radio Bucharest. Stefan Balan was appointed minister for construction. He replaces Georgehe Hossu, who Saturday was named the new minister of agriculture with the apparent task of speeding up collectivization. Mihai Suter was appointed new minister for the timber industry.

**VIENNA, Austria, (UP) —** Two more changes in the Romanian government, making five in three days, were announced Monday by Radio Bucharest. Stefan Balan was appointed minister for construction. He replaces Georgehe Hossu, who Saturday was named the new minister of agriculture with the apparent task of speeding up collectivization. Mihai Suter was appointed new minister for the timber industry.

**VIENNA, Austria, (UP) —** Two more changes in the Romanian government, making five in three days, were announced Monday by Radio Bucharest. Stefan Balan was appointed minister for construction. He replaces Georgehe Hossu, who Saturday was named the new minister of agriculture with the apparent task of speeding up collectivization. Mihai Suter was appointed new minister for the timber industry.

**VIENNA, Austria, (UP) —** Two more changes in the Romanian government, making five in three days, were announced Monday by Radio Bucharest. Stefan Balan was appointed minister for construction. He replaces Georgehe Hossu, who Saturday was named the new minister of agriculture with the apparent task of speeding up collectivization. Mihai Suter was appointed new minister for the timber industry.

**VIENNA, Austria, (UP) —** Two more changes in the Romanian government, making five in three days, were announced Monday by Radio Bucharest. Stefan Balan was appointed minister for construction. He replaces Georgehe Hossu, who Saturday was named the new minister of agriculture with the apparent task of speeding up collectivization. Mihai Suter was appointed new minister for the timber industry.

**VIENNA, Austria, (UP) —** Two more changes in the Romanian government, making five in three days, were announced Monday by Radio Bucharest. Stefan Balan was appointed minister for construction. He replaces Georgehe Hossu, who Saturday was named the new minister of agriculture with the apparent task of speeding up collectivization. Mihai Suter was appointed new minister for the timber industry.

**VIENNA, Austria, (UP) —** Two more changes in the Romanian government, making five in three days, were announced Monday by Radio Bucharest. Stefan Balan was appointed minister for construction. He replaces Georgehe Hossu, who Saturday was named the new minister of agriculture with the apparent task of speeding up collectivization. Mihai Suter was appointed new minister for the timber industry.

# Ike Presents Balanced U.S. Budget

WASHINGTON (UP) — President Eisenhower Monday sent Congress a balanced budget for the new fiscal year proposing a rise of 1 1/2 billion dollars in government spending. He said the bigger spending would be more than offset by an expected climb in revenue.

Eisenhower's budget also anticipates—as he had said in his State of the Union message earlier this month—that the government will wind up the current fiscal year, ending next June 30, in the black. This is because revenues are running ahead of expenditures due to the general prosperity in 1955.

Here are the president's over-all figures: Spending in this fiscal year to be \$64,270,000,000 and income \$64,500,000,000, with a surplus for this year of 230 million. Spending in the new fiscal year, ending in mid-1957, to be \$65,556,000,000 and income \$66,300,000,000, leaving a surplus of 435 million.

The massive figures got a mixed reception in Congress. By and large, Republicans tended to stress the balancing of outgo with income—something the government has achieved in only three years out of the last 25.

On the Democratic side, comments ran more toward pointing at the proposed increase in spending.

The biggest part of the spending increase proposed by the President was in what he listed as for major national security—meaning chiefly the defense establishment, atomic energy and foreign military aid.

Here is a general breakdown by government functions of the proposed 1 1/2 billion spending boost: National security, at home and abroad, 903 million dollars. Welfare, 228 million dollars. Interest on the debt, 191 million. General government, 146 million. Veterans affairs, 86 million. International affairs, 55 million. Reductions were listed for commerce and housing, amounting to 111 million dollars; natural resources 14 million; and agriculture 12 million.

In a message accompanying his budget, Eisenhower repeated the go-slow caution of his State of the Union message as to a tax cut.

He said the government could stay in the black in the next 18 months by "trim" margins only if Congress gives him "the utmost cooperation" in holding down spending and awaiting a prudent time for tax cuts.

As long as booming prosperity continues, Eisenhower said, Congress should put at least some re-

duction of the national debt ahead of tax slashing.

His new spending blueprint allowed for some debt reduction, but not for tax cuts. He reiterated that Congress should act to keep corporation and excise taxes at their present levels, rather than allow them to drop as scheduled on April 1 to the levels in effect before the Korean War.

For fiscal 1957, which begins next July 1, Eisenhower proposed that Uncle Sam spend \$65,865,000,000. He estimated that federal income in that 12-month period would be \$66,300,000,000. If both predictions are achieved, the government will wind up the fiscal year with a surplus of 435 million.

In other main facets of his budget message Eisenhower: 1. Estimated that spending this

(Continued on page 4)