

CALIFORNIANS MOP UP DEBRIS

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

The San Francisco Chronicle carried a story this morning in which this sentence appeared: "This will be the 32nd day of rain in the 42 days since December 15, and the seventh day of rain in the last eight days."

I've heard that statement repeated today at least 40 times—always in tones of deep disgust. In Northern California, the weather is beginning to get on people's nerves. It generally conceded that in its proper place and in reasonable quantities rain is good, but the consensus is that 32 days of it out of a total of 42 days is too much of a good thing.

Tales of woe are forthcoming whenever two or more persons get together. A friend down in San Mateo awoke this morning to find that a cottonwood tree in a neighbor's yard had let go all holds during the night's downpour and had crashed down right in the middle of his pet plot of shrubbery. The only consolation in his hour of sorrow lay in the fact that the neighbor was in a hurry to get to work and offered to donate the tree for firewood.

He figures that it will yield at least a cord, and at present prices for firewood that is something. On the other hand, the cost of getting it sawed up will be something fearful to contemplate. So he's afraid he's going to have to saw it up himself, since he was so brash as to accept his neighbor's offer. That thought isn't adding anything to the gaiety of the occasion.

Another citizen who lives on Tiburon Island looked out this morning and what he saw ruined the day for him. On the west side of his property he had planted last year a row of eight fancy imported pine trees. During the night a playful neighbor wandering in from the stormy Pacific had toppled all eight of them over on their sides. Since most of the roots on the downwind side had remained in the ground, he thinks maybe he can prop the trees up and with luck they'll go on growing, but the prospect of getting out to the west side to do the job wasn't giving him any pleasure along about the lunch hour today.

But these were minor catastrophes. Down in Redwood City a normally dry gully had gone on a bender during the night, and come morning the waters were two feet deep in the living room of a newly built home. Not only was the furniture floating around in a woe-begone way, the room was paneled, and the commutator who was telling the tale was pretty certain that when the water subsided the paneling would warp and he'd have to do the whole job over again. What was giving him acute pain was the news, just broken to him by his insurance agent, that his policy didn't cover flood damage.

That raises an interesting issue. In most of the flooded towns, little if any flood insurance was carried. The reason is that in the very nature of things flood insurance is expensive. If your property is located in a place where floods are likely to occur, it is a foregone conclusion that you're going to be flooded if old Jupiter Pluvius goes on a rampage. Since insurance rates are based on the probability of loss, it follows that if you live in a place that is subject to floods in times of abnormal precipitation the cost of flood insurance is going to be pretty steep.

It appears that down this way nearly everybody relied on California's sunny climate and failed to take out flood insurance. The result is a lot of unhappiness in this particular year. That brings up another thought. In this campaign year—which follows a year of rather spectacular floods in various parts of the country, congress is doing a lot of talking about government flood insurance. I can see where people living in the river valleys and the creek bottoms are going to be all for it, but I can't help wondering how the people who live on the hills will feel about it.

Elmer Deetz Files Senate Candidacy
SALEM (AP)—State Rep. Elmer Deetz, Canby, today filed a Thursday for the Republican nomination for U. S. senator. He seeks the position held by Sen. Wayne Morse, Democrat. Deetz is the first person in either party to file for the office. Gov. Paul Patterson has said he would have a statement in the next week or so on whether he will run for the Republican nomination for the office. Deetz became prominent two years ago when he was active in the successful fight against state milk control. His initiative measure was approved by the people, wiping out 21 years of milk price regulation.

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Davis Says Sarena Patents Not Illegal

WASHINGTON (AP)—An Interior Department official's contention that the disputed Al Sarena mining patents complied fully with mining laws was studied Friday by a Senate-House committee in preparation for further inquiry next week.

Clarence A. Davis, under secretary of the Interior Department, Thursday placed before the committee his denial of charges that the grant of 15 patents was a "timber grab."

He will return for further questioning next Tuesday. Davis declared the matters involved in the patenting of land in Oregon's Rogue River National Forest to Al Sarena Mines, Inc., in 1954 were "not matters of discretion or of political action."

Instead, he said, they are "matters of law and evidence." The patents gave the Sarena company ownership of the land and title to the timber on it. Critics of the grants contend the patenting was a "giveaway" because the timber is estimated to be worth far more than what the firm paid for the patents.

U.S., Soviet Pact Asked By Bulganin
WASHINGTON (AP)—The heart of Soviet Premier Bulganin's letter to President Eisenhower is reported to be a proposal for a treaty of friendship between Russia and the United States, coupled with the suggestion that this would promote world peace. United States officials are studying this latest Soviet move seriously but skeptically. They feel it is almost certainly a propaganda maneuver. Bulganin is understood to have proposed a pact pledging the United States and the Soviet Union to settle differences within the framework of the United Nations Charter and to avoid interference in each other's internal affairs.

LATEST INITIATIVE
This latest Moscow initiative is puzzling to diplomats. Just last year Russia canceled somewhat similar treaties with Great Britain and France in angry protest over formation of the Western European Union. The WEU is part of the arrangement under which West Germany is being rearmament as a member both of WEU and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Bulganin's letter was delivered to Eisenhower Wednesday. Its contents have been closely guarded, although publication is expected eventually, perhaps after Eisenhower has prepared and dispatched a reply. It seems unlikely that will be done before his talks here next week with the British Prime Minister, Sir Anthony Eden. The White House had no comment on the authoritative report that a proposed friendship treaty is the main point of the communication, which it described Wednesday as a "friendly letter."

The proposition appeared to confront Eisenhower and Secretary of State Dulles with problems of both policy and propaganda. They want to take advantage of every Soviet move which offers a hope of making some real improvement in relations between East and West. At the same time, they oppose participating in any kind of agreement which would simply raise surface hopes about peace and create an illusion of greater security.



REP. SAM COON

Coon To Seek Reelection

In a telephone call from Washington, D.C., this morning, Republican Congressman Sam Coon of the second congressional district, announced his candidacy for reelection.

Coon, a Baker County rancher, was first elected to Congress in 1952 and is now completing his second term. He is a member of the Education and Labor Committee and of the National Forest Reservation Committee.

Lie Detector Plans Dropped
LOS ANGELES (UP)—The district attorney's office today dropped plans to give lie detector tests to the crew of a Santa Fe commuter train which overturned in California's worst train wreck in history.

The Sunday crash claimed its 30th victim yesterday, Mrs. Laura Bryning, 35, of Camp Pendleton. Crain, died in Good Samaritan Hospital. The woman's son also was injured when the two-car train tipped over while speeding 70 miles per hour on a curve.

Viaduct Job Pact Studied
The Salem bureau of the Associated Press said today that negotiations for the awarding of the bids for the Klamath Falls South Sixth Street viaduct are entering the final phase.

CANDIDACY FILED
PORTLAND (AP)—District Judge Richard J. Burke said Thursday he will be a candidate for the Multnomah County circuit court seat now held by Judge Alfred P. Dobson. Dobson has not said whether he will seek reelection.

Abbott Eyed For Possible Suicide Try

OAKLAND (UP)—A suicide watch was posted today around the Alameda County jail cell of Burton W. Abbott, who is awaiting to be sentenced for the kidnap-murder of Stephanie Bryan.

Mothers Plan Dimes Event
The mothers of Klamath Falls will contribute their part to the March of Dimes Drive Tuesday, January 31, when they stage "Porchlight Night" in the city, announced Mrs. Lela Woods, chairman of the event, today.

Wage Increase Pact Signed
A contract calling for a 44 per cent wage increase and increases in benefits was signed this morning between representatives of the Klamath Basin Pine Mills Company of Klamath Falls and Local 612 of the International Woodworkers of America (IWOA), Hal Geiger, local union business agent, reported.

Crater Skiing Reported Fair
Skiing is expected to be excellent over the weekend at Tomahawk Ski Bowl at the junction of the Rocky Point-Lake of the Woods roads, Don Divens reported this morning. Twelve inches of powder snow has fallen on a good snow base.

Final Polio Auction Set
The Klamath Falls Lions Club Polio Radio Auction over KFLW will enter its final phase tonight from 9 to 10 o'clock. The civic club has collected \$325 so far in its Wednesday and Thursday night broadcasts, reported Deane Sacher, chairman of the event. At 10:15 tonight the auction will be resumed and will run until all items to be sold are auctioned.

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PLANNING THE BLOCK OF DIMES to be staged this Saturday on Main Street between Eighth and Ninth streets, were these two members of the Klamath County Junior Chamber of Commerce, Chuck Boleyn, right, is chairman of the event and Don Christy, co-chairman. The Jaycees are challenging the record set by the Exchange Club's Block of Dimes record of last Saturday on the same location. The Exchange Club collected \$285 for the March of Dimes anti-polio fund in its event.



MRS. LELA WOODS

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Weather
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Flooded Angelenos Permitted To Return

LOS ANGELES (UP)—Southern California today mopped up flooded areas following a two-day downpour that dumped more than nine inches of rain at many points.

Three Killed During State Snowstorm
By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
Three persons were dead in the wake of the heaviest snowfall of the season, which had drifted down on Western Oregon Friday morning.

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TOMMY AND BEVERLY POTTER of 2425 Autumn Street, were snapped by the 9 o'clock photographer this morning while the youngsters were buying candy at Maryann's Cafe, 121 West Main Street. Tommy is in the sixth grade at Riverside School and his sister is a third grader.



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