

Flood Waters Leave 43 Deaths In Wake

New Crest Threatens 'Frisco Bay'

By JAMES D. WHITE
SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Northern communities washed back into their flooded homes today, looking for the dead and missing and counting the damage in their worst disaster since the 1906 earthquake.

Surging rivers from Southern Oregon to Monterey Bay were receding, but a mighty crest of water borne by the giant San Joaquin-Sacramento system threatened to pile up with a high incoming tide east of San Francisco Bay.

Leaves protecting tial flats in the rich delta country northeast of here trembled under pounding waves as trucks roared through the night with sandbags for emergency gangs rushing from one weak spot to another.

43 ARE DEAD
Deaths from the floods in Northern California and Southern Oregon are estimated at 43, with five missing in Oregon.

In addition, John Mayer, associated Press correspondent at Maryville and Yuba City, estimated today that perhaps scores were drowned in their cars when Feather River levee broke there.

The rains began a week before Christmas. They have left perhaps 60,000 acres of crops and caused damage estimated conservatively at 100 million dollars.

The total dead almost certainly will go higher. At Yuba City, for instance, six bodies have been found, but one is from a family of four. The other three are missing.

Figures are uncertain, with many communities still out in critical areas, and families and whole populations scattered in hasty evacuations.

Southern Oregon, caught in the abrupt rush of storms which caused the California floods, counted six dead and five missing.

There was hope that the worst was over. The U. S. Weather Bureau said a lingering low-pressure area caused occasional rains last night from San Francisco north. These were expected to spread southward today and tomorrow. But the bureau foresaw a recurrence of last week's storm, which dumped up to 13 inches of rain within 48 hours in one locality in the Santa Cruz mountains south of here.

Receding water left flood marks six feet high on houses in Yuba City, 120 miles northwest of here. Some of its 8,000 residents were permitted to return yesterday to assess their losses, but were assessed out again as night fell because of a possible "backlash" from the Feather and Sacramento rivers.

Our Weather
Mostly fair and colder today and tonight. Fair and colder tomorrow.

Low this morning — 49
High today — 57
High yesterday — 77
Low tonight — 38
High tomorrow — 56
Sunrise 7:30 a.m.; sunset 5:17

More Weather Data on Page 2-A



Water Swirls Around Hotel In Downtown Reno. (AP)



This Was A Parking Lot In Santa Cruz, Calif. (AP)

Winter Due To End Holiday Tomorrow

Cold Weather Slated To Return

Like practically everyone else, King Winter was at the end of a long Yuletide weekend today, prepared to move back into the Carolinas tomorrow.

After the gift of the warmest Christmas on record, Winter stirred up fresh new masses of cold air this morning and rushed them into the South.

A 32-degree low is forecast for Charlotte tomorrow, and the mercury is expected to hit 36 in the afternoon. The latter figure is just four degrees over the low reading here yesterday morning.

NEW RECORD
Yesterday the mercury soared to an unbelievable 77 degrees. That's six degrees over the previous high of 71 for the date, recorded in 1889.

The beautiful, sunny weather capped an almost perfect Christmas and brought out thousands of drivers. Streets and roads were jammed with people out for rides and visits to friends and relatives.

A cold front moved through the city yesterday afternoon but a bright sun brushed it away. The cold air made its presence felt this morning when the temperature dropped to 40. But a high of 50 was forecast for this afternoon.

Skies should remain fair through tomorrow.

Cold Front Chills Mid-Continent Area

A cold front chilled much of the mid-continent today and spread as far south as the Gulf region.

Readings dropped about 10 degrees in much of the Great Lakes and Ohio Valley regions. In New England the mercury plummeted as much as 25 degrees in spots.

Light rains, meanwhile, continued along the Pacific Coast with the heaviest amount falling over the southern Oregon coast. In California, the U. S. Weather Bureau forecast a recurrence of last week's deluge which caused devastating floods.

LIGHT SNOW
Light snow and snow flurries hit portions of Minnesota, Wisconsin and extreme northern Illinois.

Falls were small except at Rochester, Minn., where 10 inches of snow fell during the night. Snow flurries also occurred in parts of New York and Vermont.

At Fargo, N.D., the mercury cooled 24 degrees to 17 above today from yesterday's 71 reading. Portions of North Dakota, Minnesota and northern Wisconsin reported readings of 10 to 15 above.

Temperatures cooled from 10 to 30 both in a 24-hour period in the Southern Plains states. Readings stood in the 30s and 40s. Brownsville, on the Texas coast, was the warmest, with a reading of 67. Low readings of 16 were reported at International Falls, Minn., and Mt. Washington, N.H.

Income Tax Cut Possible
WASHINGTON (AP)—Influential members of the House Ways and Means Committee say an individual income tax cut is possible next year.

Rep. Daniel A. Reed of New York, the tax-writing group's senior Republican member, said in an interview he foresaw a "strong possibility" of some trimming of individual income tax rates.

But he said he anticipated with what he described as a "growing body of opinion among the leaders of both parties... that any tax reduction move should await clear evidence of the fiscal situation sometime in the spring."

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Fire Claims Lives Of Six

GAYLORD, Mich.—A 36-year-old mother and her five children died early today when a flash fire destroyed their two-story farmhouse on U. S. 27 six miles north of Gaylord.

State police identified the dead as Mrs. Gladys Soaper and her children, Elaine, 12, Marilyn, 12, Lawrence, 10, Owen, 3 and Dale, 2.

Police said Mrs. Soaper's husband Warren was the sole survivor.

Soaper told police he was awakened by smoke around 2 a.m. He said he called to his wife. They managed to gather two of the children and start downstairs.

He said smoke and fire separated him from his family and that he thought they had followed him to safety through a kitchen door.

He said he tried to re-enter the house but was driven back by the smoke and flames.

He was taken to a Gaylord hospital for treatment of shock.

Evening Prayer

We thank Thee, our Father, for the gift of Thy Son. May we catch something of the joy of the angels when we think of Thy great love for all the world.

In the midst of our giving to others, may we not forget Thy supreme gift to us. In our blessed Saviour's name. Amen.

Yuba City Covered By Wall Of Water

MARYSVILLE, Calif.—The water came in with a loud roar and a wall, spreading in all directions and with such pressure that it raced up hills almost as high as they were then. People literally had to run for their lives.

Within 45 minutes, all but post-and-Army ducks. I don't know how many trapped people they saved, but the figure must be in the hundreds.

Two and a half hours later the water began receding. Even before that the pressure was relieved on the Marysville levees and that city was never flooded.

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FLASHED WORD
When the Yuba City levee on the Feather River broke, we flashed the word over the one remaining radio station.

The residents of Yuba City, and her sister city of Marysville, the sewage system is not working.

Some were trapped. I don't know how many. I expect that most of them who perished—we don't know.



SOME SPENT CHRISTMAS like this in flooded areas of far Western states. These two mothers, driven from their homes by high waters, entertain their children with stories and picture books in a school being used as a refugee center at Yuba City, Calif. Mrs. Joe Powell is at left with Loretta, 2, and Joe Jr., 11 months. Mrs. Dru Mathies is at right with Lena, 1½; Chris, 2½; Danny, 9; and Stephen, 6. (AP Wirephoto.)



A WALL comes from two-year-old Eva Plades despite the Christmas package she's clutching. The Plades family, headed for Brooklyn to live with relatives, came from Greece. The wife arrived in New York over the weekend with her parents, George and Anna Plades. (AP Wirephoto.)

All-Time Holiday Death Record Seen; 572 Killed

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
An all-time holiday death record loomed as a distinct possibility today as the nation's motorists began the long homeward trek.

By 10 a.m. traffic fatalities numbered 461. There were 51 deaths in fires and 60 from various sense-defeating causes. The overall total was 572.

Ned H. Dearborn, president of the National Safety Council, said in Chicago that "the last day is always the worst." He said past experience has shown the highway death rate spurs during the closing hours of this holiday period.

He predicted 500 persons would die from traffic accidents during the 78-hour period that began 6 p.m. (local time) Friday and ends at midnight. He said:

If the present rate of eight highway deaths an hour continues, we are definitely headed for a new all-time record. It will be the holiday claim of 592 traffic victims. There were 572 deaths from fires and 60 miscellaneous fatalities, bringing the overall total to 632.

The only way to avert an all-time record now is for every motorist to redouble his care on the way home.

WORLD HIT 81
If the rate of eight traffic deaths per hour is maintained, the toll would reach 624 at the end of the 78-hour period.

The present traffic toll recorded in the four-day Christmas holiday period of 1952, is 556. The record number of total deaths for any three-day Christmas holiday period is 605, set during year's three-day Independence Day.

Last year's two-day Christmas holiday.

Dinner Ends In Death

A Christmas Eve dinner resulted in death for Mrs. Nancy Sue House, 28-year-old wife of James E. House, 3512 Eastwood Dr. According to the report at Police Headquarters, Mr. and Mrs. William Bundy of 1009 Woodside Ave., went to a local restaurant for dinner about 7:30 p. m. Christmas Eve.

The report stated that Mr. House informed police that with the second bite of steak, Mrs. House became strangled.

An ambulance was summoned and upon arrival at Mercy Hospital Mrs. House was pronounced dead by Dr. S. L. Potter, according to the report.

Funeral services for Mrs. House were conducted today at 3 p. m. at First Baptist Church by Dr. C. W. Warren, pastor, assisted by the Rev. J. C. Jones Jr., internment was in Sharon Memorial Park.

Acting pallbearers were Graeme Yates, Leo Palmer, L. D. Whitsett Jr., Glen Keener, William A. Bundy and Johnny York.

Mrs. House was a fashion illustrator for a number of women's apparel shops in Charlotte and was a member of First Baptist Church, and of Beta Sigma Beta. She was born Sept. 8, 1929.

Boys Only Survivors Of Terrorist Ambush

ALGIERS, Algeria—Two little French boys, 9 and 3, are the lone survivors of a family ambushed by Nationalist terrorists on Christmas Eve. The chief of the rebel band spared the boys' lives.

Jean-Claude Sherard, the 9-year-old, and his brother Jean were riding with their father, a forest guard, their mother and brother Rene, 12, in Eastern Algeria 40 miles south of Setif. Some 30 rebels hiding behind roadside bushes began pouring shots into the car.

The fusillade killed the father, mother and Rene, and the car plunged into the ditch. Rebels who found the two surviving children asked their leader in French, "What do we do with these? Finish them off?"

"No," was the reply, "let them go."

Hand in hand, the two wounded children started toward the nearest French post. When the three-year-old could walk no further, Jean-Claude left him crying under a bush and ran the rest of the way to get help.

France's "little war" with the Nationalist rebels took 14 lives during the Christmas week, including two Europeans and six Moslems and killed two Algerian soldiers in a clash. French troops killed 11 rebels in various actions.

Party Hosts Were Missing

BARBOURVILLE, Va.—Everybody had a grand time at the Christmas "open house" held by the Barbourville Volunteer Fire Department—except the firemen themselves.

Folks were just beginning to show up for the 7 p. m. to 9 p. m. affair when the alarm sounded. Off sped the firemen. When two hours later, they finally had put out the blaze and came trooping back to the firehouse, the last guests were going home.

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