

Giant Freeze Grips Nation East of Rockies

Reds Mass Fleet of Junks Near Matsu

Scene of Maine Train Derailment



MAINE WRECK—The Maine Central passenger train "Pine Tree Limited" was wrecked by a washout near Augusta, Me. last night. Two milk cars in front of the train fell into the Kennebec River (background). No one was seriously injured, although three passengers were still in Augusta General Hospital early today. Doctors said they were listed as good.

2 Train Wrecks Injure 60; Weather Cited as Cause

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

At least 60 persons were injured, none seriously, in a pair of train wrecks last night. Railroad officials said both accidents were caused by the weather.

At Sauk Center, Minn., all 12 cars of the Western Star, Seattle-Chicago passenger train, were derailed when 14-below-zero temperatures caused a rail to become brittle and break.

Gives Up Hope for Road Ballot

Jackson Solon Urges Colleagues to Consider 'Stop Gap' Proposal

LANSING (U)—The leading highway advocate in the Michigan Senate said yesterday there is no hope of getting a road expansion program on the April 4 ballot for voter decision.

Sen. Edward Hutchinson (R-Fennville) said he was not concerned about the rush by some lawmakers and Gov. Williams to get a proposal on the ballot. The deadline is Feb. 23.

"As far as I can see," Hutchinson said, "there is not going to be any bond issue so there is no need to be so hasty about getting something ready for the ballot. The Legislature can take care of this in due time."

And in the House, the fate of the Feltz bill, which requires a referendum, dropped even lower.

This measure would raise gasoline taxes two cents a gallon and allow local governments to use part of the money for their own bond issues.

Just Had Good Eyes

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Rats Take Over Tachen Islands as Pullout Ends

70-Boat Armada Along China Coast Threatens New Formosa Crisis

TAIPEI, Formosa (U)—Red China massed a fleet of armed motorized junks off the Nationalist outpost island of Matsu today, the Defense Ministry said, in an ominous new threat right on the heels of Chiang Kai-shek's peaceful evacuation of the Tachens with U.S. help.

The appearance of more than 70 armed junks along the China coast near Foochow posed a possible new crisis in the tense Formosa strait.

And on the Tachens, the rats took over today. The twin islands 200 miles north of Formosa are all theirs until the Communists come.

Rats—thousands of them, and some as long as your forearm scurried through the deserted villages as the last evacuation ship pulled away from the mudflats.

More than 25,000 Chinese Nationalist troops and civilians were removed in six days of evacuation under the protective guns, ships and planes of the U.S. 7th Fleet.

Except for the rats, the islands lie deserted—low, brown and scrubby. The scene of teeming activity a week ago and a frenzy of loading operation for six days now appeared like a medieval area.

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

MSC Marking 100th Birthday

900 Dignitaries Gather on Campus to Launch Centennial Celebration

EAST LANSING (UP)—Some 900 educators, businessmen, and government officials from all parts of the world gathered here today for the start of a year-long celebration of Michigan State College's 100th birthday.

They marveled at the 570-acre campus which grew from a tiny clearing hacked out of the Michigan woods in 1855.

Speakers praised the concept on which the forerunner of the nation's land-grant colleges was founded: College education for the "common man."

The principal founders' day speaker was Dr. James B. Conant, United States high commissioner for Germany, who delivered the convocation address at 3 p.m.

Dr. John A. Hannah, president of Michigan State College, will speak at the Founders' Day awards dinner at 7 p.m.

Others speakers were Gov. G. Mennen Williams; Dr. Harlan H. Hatcher, president of the University of Michigan; and Dr. William W. Whitehouse, president of Albion College.

The United States will foot the bill for the training and reorganization program.

SAIGON, Viet Nam (U)—The United States today formally took over the reorganization and training of the Vietnamese national army.

Premier Ngo Dinh Diem announced the program, agreed upon by Viet Nam, France and the United States, will be directed by Lt. Gen. John W. O'Daniel.

The young national army is to be slashed from its present strength of 217,000 to about 140,000. During 1955 an unspecified reserve force authoritatively reported as 150,000 will be established.

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Lincoln Portrait Displayed



BEARDLESS ABE—A newly-restored portrait of Abraham Lincoln, by George P. A. Healy in 1860, shows the president as clean-shaven. It is said to be the last one painted of Lincoln before he grew a beard. Viewing the portrait, recently placed in the Corcoran Art Gallery in Washington, are Hermann W. Williams Jr., gallery director, and Henry Dorra, assistant. Washington observances of Lincoln's birthday today include the placing of a wreath in the Lincoln Memorial by Maj. Gen. John H. Stokes, commander of the Washington Military District, and a cantata by Carl Sandburg at the memorial later in the day.

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Mercury Drops to Two Below in Pontiac Today

Temperature Low From Rockies to Atlantic; 25 Reported Dead

The eastern two thirds of the nation fell victim to an attack of numbing cold and zero temperatures today, leaving Pontiac with the coldest weather of the season, a stinging two below zero.

The weekend forecast for the area calls for slightly warmer temperatures tomorrow with a high of 14 to 18 and a drop to 6 to 10 tomorrow night.

The high today is expected to range between 12 and 16 with a low near zero tonight.

The two below zero reading here was the lowest temperature recorded here since Feb. 12 last year when the mercury hit zero. But it was a far cry from the 14 below recorded for this date in 1875.

The Oakland County Road Commission reported this morning that main trunklines were slippery in spots and county roads were mostly slippery.

Officials said high winds had caused drifting in some sections and crews are still plowing and sanding some roads.

The Pontiac Automobile Club reported that they had received nearly 50 calls this morning from motorists who were stalled or needed other service because of the weather.

Precipitation in the area since January 1 is .36 of an inch lower than normal and the temperature since the same date is one degree above normal.

Yesterday's low in downtown Pontiac was 7 degrees and the high was 19. The two below temperature was recorded at 8 a.m. today but the mercury had climbed to 13 by 1 p.m.

The arctic air sent temperatures tumbling from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico and from the Rockies to the Atlantic Coast.

Much of the South got the full sting of the icy blasts.

Fires caused deaths of 18 men in a Chicago hotel; three aged persons in a nurses' home in Brownwood, Tex.; a father and three children in their cottage home in Kennebunk, Maine.

The cold in the south extended from Virginia, which reported six inches of snow in the southwest area, southward through the Carolinas and Georgia and along the Gulf states to Louisiana. Traces of snow were reported in Georgia and Tennessee.

It was near zero in much of the Southeast—and below zero in some places. Readings of zero and below were reported in Kentucky with 10 below in some mountain areas.

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 6)

Pflimlin Starts Cabinet Roster

Bid for Job of French Premier Bolstered by Backroom Conferences

PARIS (UP)—Pierre Pflimlin began forming a cabinet today, his chances of winning National Assembly approval Monday or Tuesday greatly enhanced by a series of backroom conferences with political leaders.

Pflimlin called on President Rene Coty at the Elysee palace shortly after midnight and informed him officially he would try to solve France's crisis by presenting a full cabinet list to the divided Assembly early next week.

He received his greatest boost last night when the radical Socialist party of Pierre Mendes-France, who was ousted a week ago as premier, voted by a narrow margin to support him. He had conferred with Mendes-France during the day.

The Socialists, as expected, said they would not join his government but they did not threaten to vote against him. They also left the door open to future support if he follows Mendes-France's policies in North Africa.

He had the support of his own party, the Catholic Popular Republicans, and probably also the support of Antoine Pinay's Independents although it was the Popular Republicans who torpedoed Pinay's efforts to form a government earlier this week.

21 Die in Blaze at Chicago Hotel

Sift Debris of Crowded Skid Row Building for More Victims; 14 Hurt

CHICAGO (U)—A raging fire swept through a crowded Skid Row hotel early today, killing 21 men and injuring 12 tenants and 2 firemen.

Hours after the extra-alarm fire was extinguished, firemen still searched the debris of the wrecked building for other bodies. They had fought the blaze in subzero weather for nearly four hours.

Only six of the dead were identified immediately. Some of the dead were victims of smoke inhalation and exposure. Others were burned almost beyond recognition.

More than 200 residents of the Barton Hotel in the five-story brick building at 644-648 West Madison St., fled into sub-zero weather.

Firemen helped scores down ladders and fire escapes from the upper floors. The 365-room hotel occupied the top four floors and an employee said 245 rooms were occupied.

Eight men were hospitalized while several others were treated for injuries in nearby mission houses in the skid row district, about a mile from the Loop.

The extra alarm fire was fought in temperatures of one below zero and with winds of nearly 20 miles an hour. Firemen fought the blaze nearly four hours before it was brought under control.

Anthony Dykes, 45, a janitor at the hotel, told police the first alarm of the fire came from an unidentified man on the second floor. The cause of the blaze was not immediately determined.

Coroner Walter McCarron said he would make a "thorough" investigation of conditions at the hotel. He said he was "appalled" by the fact that 245 persons were permitted to live in the four stories of the hotel.

To Nest in West

SHAWNEE, Okla. (U)—A marriage license was issued yesterday to Margaret Buzzard and John Bird.

Clinics to Be Held Sunday

Rabies Program in County Cuts Disease 75 Per Cent

Rabies—the dangerous disease of dogs—has been cut approximately 75 per cent during the past two years in the area under jurisdiction of the Oakland County health director, who has charge of the program in most of the county outside the city of Pontiac.

"The rabies control program inaugurated two years ago by the Board of Supervisors has paid big dividends," Dr. Monroe stated. "In 1952 there were 74 positive cases of rabies reported in Oakland County, while in 1954 we had only 17."

"The last case was reported in July—over six months ago." In areas not under the control program—municipalities which conduct their own dog licensing and control program—there were 31 cases of rabies last year.

"The success of the rabies control program can be attributed directly to better control of stray and unwanted dogs," Dr. Monroe asserted, "along with the fact that 245 persons were permitted to live in the four stories of the hotel."

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Joe Haas Visits Pearl Harbor

Would Like to Meet Kin of Boys Who Died There on His Return

By JOE HAAS

HONOLULU — A day's cruise through Pearl Harbor on a leisurely moving yacht is a positive must for every American citizen visiting here. Nothing in a person's life could produce such mixed emotions. You are both deeply saddened and immensely enthralled.

Without doubt it now is the world's top naval and armed aviation center. No harbor could have more natural advantages. None could have more done for it by man.

It is practically land locked, and large enough to hold our entire navy. It held

much of it on that Sunday morning in 1941 when it was left a terrible shambles, and 3,047 of our young men made the supreme sacrifice.

Since then it has been developed in a manner that has cost many billions. There's nothing in the world that now can match it.

Nobody but American citizens are allowed to come within hailing or sight seeing distance of it, and they must individually lay their souls on the dotted line. The catechism through which they are put shows that here is one spot where there can be no more leaks in our national defense.

After you have convinced the officers in charge that you are all that you claim to be, you then are allowed access only to its most remote activities.

Pearl Harbor's present rating in our armed forces is shown by the biggest headlines that today's Honolulu Star-Bulletin could get on its front page: "If there's a war, it will be run from here."

In spite of all this activity, one's thoughts go back to the

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