

FLOODS

LT. T. G. Salt Lake City, April 14, 1952 Monday.

In the flood news, the words are -- going up. Army engineers on the scene today revised their predictions -- upward. They now say that Omaha will have a flood crest of thirty-one and a half feet. Which is a foot and a half higher than the previous forecast. The deluge in the Missouri Valley is already a record breaker -- and it gets worse.

One way of picturing the flood is to think of a great long wave, higher than a three-story building -- that mountainous mass of brown, muddy water, surging down stream. More than three stories above the normal level of the river. Ripping and tearing with stupendous power.

Today the crest was at Sioux City -- that monstrous river-wave. Much of Sioux City, Iowa, on high ground, will be spared -- although today the inundation was pouring through the streets to the edge ~~of the~~

~~the~~ business district. On the other side of the river, Sioux City, Nebraska, is one expanse of water, broken by the tops of buildings ~~thru~~ thrust above the flood. One town after another -- abandoned, people having moved out. Thousands homeless, hosts of refugees -- the greatest mass evacuation that section of the Missouri Valley has ever known. ^{It} Near the town of Alabatin, Iowa, the raging Missouri cut its way through an old river channel, ^{where} ~~through~~ which the stream once flowed; -- at some forgotten time. That new arm of the river cut off the town, which is isolated now -- in the midst of the waters.

The devastation - so great that the governors of three states, Nebraska, Iowa and South Dakota, have declared conditions of emergency, and are appealing to the federal government for aid.

There is one thing favorable -- plenty of advance information. People in threatened areas had warning in time, cleared out before the deluge engulfed them. In consequence, no lives are reported lost, ^{and}

hardly any injuries.

Today, two men were missing at Blenco, Iowa.--

It was feared they had been drowned. They were in a motor boat, navigating around the town -- which was deep under water. They were chugging along at the level of telephone lines, and the ^{ir}boat got snarled in wires. They were able to get across to the roof of a farm storage building and there they were marooned. *

They cut a hole in the roof of the building, which was filled with grain;-- and ^{then they} scooped out quantities of ^{it.} grain.

^{using the grain}
~~This they used~~ to spell out a message in large letters on the flat roof. A scout plane spotted the message, ^{and}

^{soon} guided a boat ^{to the} ~~which~~ ^{of} rescued the marooned navigators.

ADD FLOODS

The latest, flood waters rolling into
St. Paul, Minnesota which ~~me~~ means -- the Mississippi
overflowing its banks. ^e That Father of Waters ~~is~~
joining the deluge in the Middle West tonight.

In some places -- vivid showing
abandonment of the farm lands. The highway -- running
along an embankment a dozen feet above low-lying fields.
Farmers riding their tractors and other equipment
up onto the highway, parking them beside the road. The
highway -- lined, on each side, with farm equipment.
Apparently safe there from expected floods.

The news was telling of hot holiday weather
in eastern states. In some places, rain in others
-- for Easter. Not in Salt Lake -- the brightest of
skies on a clear spring day. Perfect -- for Easter.

FOLLOW FLOODS

I am in Salt Lake City tonight -- after a trip across the Flood area. The Missouri -- a huge tumbling torrent - muddy and menacing. Further west -- every river and stream the same. In the desert country -- rushing torrents, where, ordinarily -- there would be a mere trickle of water -- maybe a dry river bed.

In some places -- vivid showing evacuation of the farm lands. The highway -- running along an embankment a dozen feet above low-lying fields. Farmers running their tractors and other equipment up onto the highway, parking them beside the road. The highway -- lined, on each side, with farm equipment. Apparently safe there from expected floods.

The news was telling of bad holiday weather in eastern states. Snow in some places, rain in others -- for Easter. But in Salt Lake -- the brightest of skies on a mild spring day. Perfect -- for Easter.

But it also had a meaning - ~~it~~ in terms of flood. The mild weather - bringing a quick thaw of great snows in the mountains. People here were telling me today about the tough winter - record blizzards piling up mountains of snow. From my Hotel Utah window I can see the Wasatch Mountains only a few miles away - gleaming white with snow. At Alta, nearby in the mountains where I spent part of ~~the~~ today, Felix Koziol, of the Forestry Service, and I drove through snow walls much higher than the car. At Alta I found the snow over a hundred inches deep. So it's easy to see the meaning of spring weather at this Easter time; what a quick thaw might do - is likely to do. Here in Utah mountain streams are almost sure to flood some of the inhabitants out of their homes. However, the inundation pours quickly into the Great Salt Lake and that lake is now rising for what may be an all time high water level.

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On the eastern side of the Rockies, the same story - except that the melting snows pour their

oceans of water into the treacherous Missouri River -
causing the record breaking floods there.


TIDE LANDS

Q Dispatch from Washington predicts that President Truman will veto the Tide Lands Oil Bill, ~~but~~ we have this from a Utah Democrat -- I. A. Smoot, former Postmaster of Salt Lake City. He had a talk with President Truman today -- and upon emerging from the Whitehouse, told the news reporters - "I may get into trouble saying this -- but he did not tell me not to say anything, ~~but~~ he told me he will veto the Tide Lands Bill."

This of course
~~which~~ applies to that measure *passed by*
both houses of Congress -- which would give to Seaboard states the title to oil deposits off shore -- as far out as the three-mile limit. Reserving to the government -- *all* petroleum still further out. That is, for the extent of what is called, "the Continental Shelf." Oil deposits inside the three-mile limit would be the most convenient and valuable. The states claim ~~that is~~ *see* -- in a long time quarrel with the federal government.

STRIKE

The telephone strike in Ohio has been settled following ^{the} previous agreement signed between the telephone company and employes in Michigan. The terms are much the same -- the union in Ohio winning pay raises ranging from four to seven dollars per week. Union President Beirne says he hopes this Ohio settlement, following Michigan, will speed up the negotiation of disputes in other states -- and end the nationwide strike.



ADD STRIKE

But the latest news tonight pictures more telephone workers walking out -- as the Union extends the strike, which dims earlier hopes for a settlement.

Washington Times about General Lee now changes from "active active" to "inactive active."

But it is technically correct, generally speaking, to say that Congress -- that Congress -- which created the rank of a five-star general back in the second world war. A general of only four stars or less usually retires and becomes inactive -- when he reaches his age limit. But a five-star general, or admiral, remains on the active list as long as he lives. When he retires from duty he is described as being "on the active list without assignment." That's the wording of the law. It is, for example, the status of General MacArthur right now.

ISENHOWER

This political campaign is producing a lot of double talk, and here is the latest. Giving the status of -- General Isenhour. The news dispatch from Washington states that General Ike now changes from "active active" to "inactive active." *How is that* ~~Yes, the talk~~
for ~~sure is~~ double talk?

But it is technically correct, according to an Act of Congress. ~~Act of Congress~~ which created the rank of a five-star general back in the second world war. A general of only four stars or less, simply retires and becomes inactive -- when he reaches his age limit. But a five-star general, or admiral -- remains on the active list as long as he lives. When he retires from army duty he is described as being "on the active list without assignment." That's the wording of the law. It is, for example, the status of General McArthur right now.

General Ike, resigning his European command, asked for "inactive status." But he was wrong -- there being no such thing for a five-star general. He remains on the active list -- though inactive.

So that's what produces the double talk -- added to all of the other double talk of the political campaign - General Ike passing from "active active" to "inactive active." ~~R~~ sounds a bit like pago-pago or hula-hula.

MACARTHUR

General Douglas MacArthur continues to present the picture -- of one who talks in vain. What he keeps on saying has no visible effect. In fact, has the opposite effect -- as illustrated by news from Oregon tonight. In that state the general has tried his best to keep out of the primary -- but he is in it. Yesterday he told Oregon voters not to waste their ballots by voting for him -- because he is not a candidate. So what does Oregon say today?

The head of the local "MacArthur for President" boom ^{insists} ~~says~~ that the general's continued refusal only increases his chance of winning the nomination. "Enhances it tremendously" declares Irvin Hohensee. He states that the general's advice -- "don't waste ballots by voting for him" -- will only make more and more Oregonians cast those ballots for MacArthur.

When the general says, "No," they act as if he were saying "Yes." And -- regard his denials as a reason for doing the opposite. "We are well

aware of the fact," said ^{Mac Arthur} the Number One booster today,
"that ^{the} General ~~MacArthur~~ is not seeking the presidency,
or angling for the job, or thrusting himself forward
to get it." All of which is a good reason for giving
him the job, ^{that is,} according to the ~~logical~~ ^{Mac Arthur} logic of the
boosters.

POLISH SHIPS

A dispatch from Stockholm tells of shipments of armament from Red Czecho Slovakia to Communist China -- traffic ^{that} has been kept a secret for months. Stockholm -- just learning about it. The secrecy is interesting, ^{because it involves} -- a cover-up of doings in the Persian Gulf. Which historic body of water might seem to have little to do with either Czecho Slovakia or China.

The trade route is described as being from the great Skoda works; -- trains loaded with cannon and tanks proceeding to seaports of Red Poland. There the cargo is loaded aboard ships, which ^{then} navigate via the ~~at~~ ^{the North Sea, Atlantic, the} Baltic, the Mediterranean, and the Suez Canal. The vessels refuel on the way; -- and that's the tricky part of it.

In the Persian Gulf, they take aboard supplies of oil -- from those famous Iranian oil fields seized from the British. ^{There of Persia} A Red tanker puts out from the ^{great} oil port of Abadan, and meets the armament ships at a ~~secret~~ secret rendezvous in the Persian Gulf.

^{TP} This is said to be the first chance the Iranians have had to sell ^{the} oil they seized from the British.

PLANE

Here's the latest on a great airliner in trouble over the Pacific -- a Pan American Strato-cruiser with thirty-seven aboard. ~~Two~~ Two engines out of commission, A third engine smoking, But the big plane was able to fly on to Hawaii where it made a safe landing tonight at the city of Hilo. Further details are likely to present a thriller of aviation; - with a happy ending.

WANGER

News from Hollywood -- that Walter Wanger will throw himself on the mercy of the court. The movie producer says he will do it -- for the sake of his children. To avoid a sensational and scandalous trial -- on the charge of having shot a motion picture agent whom he named in connection with his wife. The case goes to ~~the~~ trial tomorrow and Walter Wanger will make no defense - throwing himself ~~in~~ on the mercy of the court.

CHIMPANZEE

At Los Angeles, Dick the chimpanzee is back in his cage tonight -- and nobody is blaming him for his wild rampage. The chimp went on a tear -- assaulting human beings, smacking them down, knocking them flat. But no wonder -- after what happened.

Dick got out of his cage at the Griffiths Park Zoo. ~~and~~ his keeper was coaxing him back; But there were some bystanders; and one of them hauled off, and punched Dick in the mouth. Whereupon the chimpanzee started off on his rampage -- giving what he got; ~~Giving~~ with his fists. *too!*

Not far away was a golf course, where Ellie Klein was teeing off. *Well, Dick-* The-chimp belted him in the mid-riff, ^{and} knocked him flat. Another golfer tried to intervene, ^{He also got} ~~and sustained~~ a one-punch knockout. Dick weighs only about a hundred pounds, but he ^{is} all muscle -- with a sleep producer in both fists.

His third victim was a young woman golfer.

~~ick-~~The-chimp knocked her flat with a punch, ^{and} then grabbed

her golf club and waved it like a bludgeon.

But he dropped the golf club. He preferred to do his fighting with his fists; and his next opponent was - an automobile. He whaled away at it - with left and right, landing a terrific one-two punch on the side of the car, denting the car in two places.

Dick might still be in there, punching, but he has a weakness for soda pop. His keeper sidled up with a bottle of pop -- special pop spiked with sleeping pills. The chimpanzee was thirsty after all that fist fighting. He grabbed the bottle - down the hatch - and then, he grew drowsy; fell off to sleep.

So he is back in his cage tonight. I'll bet nobody will take any swings at Dick-the-Chimp again!

Nelson, it's all yours!