

Washita Runs Wild; Flood Peril Grows As New Storms Hit

By Mather Eakes

Heavy rains and thunderstorms Wednesday night added new danger to the flood waters that rampaged over parts of central and southwestern Oklahoma from Tuesday night's cloudbursts, flash floods and tornadoes.

More rains and thunderstorms are predicted for Thursday.

One person was drowned at Seminole. One person was in the hospital from the tornado that hit Meeker.

The woman who drowned was Norwelta Chatham, 26.

Miss Chatham's body was found on Wewoka creek early Wednesday about a mile and a half southeast of the bridge, near Seminole. Kenneth Addington and Warren Hagelbert, both of Seminole, found the body hanging to a pipeline.

More flooding is feared as high waters rage down the Washita and North and South Canadian rivers.

The heaviest flood was in the vicinity of Anadarko. More than nine inches of rain fell at Fort Cobb. Carnegie reported 8.60 inches—6.75 inches of it in three hours.

State highways were closed in 17 places by the flooding rivers and creeks. The highway department had all crews working to prevent further damage.

Total damage from the storms and floods was estimated at well over \$1 million. No estimate was made on highway and bridge damage.

Extensive flooding over a 75-mile stretch of the South Canadian river bottoms from Calvin east to Whitefield was forecast.

The South Canadian late Wednesday reached flood stage at Union City and warnings were issued to Norman and Purcell. At Calvin the river had reached its crest and was falling unless the new head builds it up again.

Biggest threat was at Whitefield. The river was at flood stage there and still rising. It

was expected to be four feet over flood stage Thursday morning.

Warnings were issued to Whitefield to get people and livestock out of lowlands.

The North Canadian is expected to add to the South Canadian flood below where they join 15 miles west of Whitefield.

The North Canadian was overflowing at Wetumka and is expected to add to the South Canadian flood below where they join 15 miles west of Whitefield.

Industry was at a complete standstill at Anadarko Wednesday night as the rising Washita flooded the city's power plant. Power went off at 1:50 p. m. and K. C. Finch, city manager, said efforts were being made to instal portable power units.

Rain started falling again there about 8:30 p. m. Wednesday.

The Washita river was four feet higher than during the 1933 flood, the worst in the history of the town. The town was without electric power, the water system paralyzed, and water backing up in the sewer lines.

The river was still rising Wednesday night. The city power plant was flooded early in the afternoon as flood waters spilled through the railroad gap from the river. Efforts to sandbag the gap proved futile.

The water pressure was low in the city, but the city manager said this could be remedied by using fire department pumpers during the emergency. A few families were evacuated along the river banks. The city had a total of 4.04 inches of rainfall Tuesday night.

Sheriff Ty Yount was considering declaring an emergency to ask for outside help in obtaining water and emergency power. Prisoners at the Anadarko jail were transferred to Chickasha.

The towns of Carnegie, Mountain View and Gracemont were partially under water and

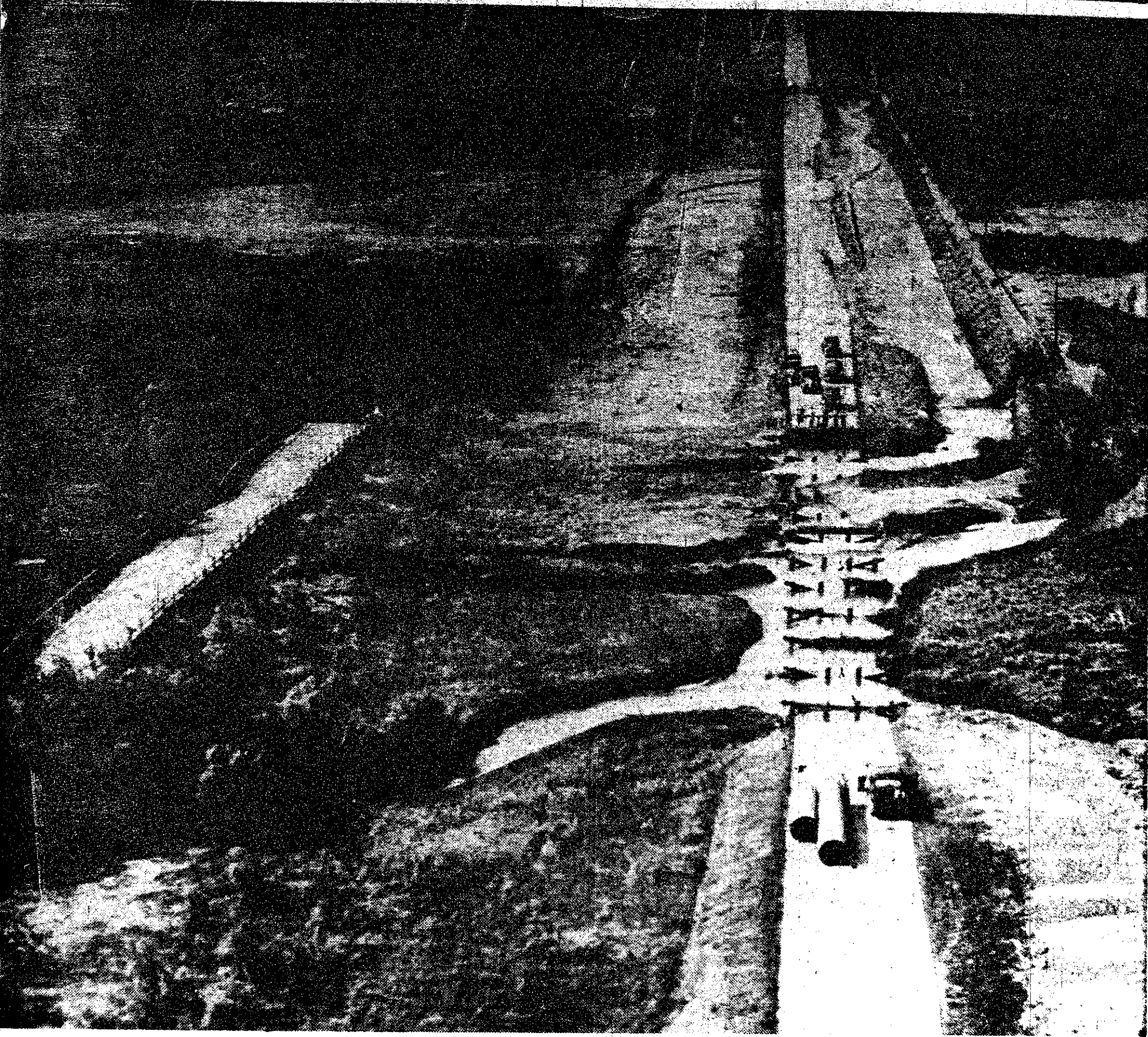
(Continued on Page 2, Column 1)

Laughlin
wy.

They Housewives Get
Boy Last Price Fling

Washita Puts
Out Its Muddy
Fingers Again

Tornadoes Skip
In State Again



—Daily Oklahoman Staff Photos

But Wet This 300-foot bridge was lifted from its base on U. S. 281 north of Gracemont when the rain-swollen White Bread creek rampaged Tuesday night. The bridge was carried then dropped intact 50 yards west of the roadway. It was the largest of four bridges in the state out by flood waters. The highway still was closed to traffic late Wednesday.

Ask for
our favorite
Beer in
"ONE-WAY"
Glass Bottles



"But we don't have to bring 'em back, Paw! . . . They're those new 'One-Way' Glass Beer and Ale Bottles—No Deposits—No Returns!"





Out of Service The Anadarko power plant, above, went out of service Wednesday afternoon when Washita river flood waters crept into the building and grounded its generators. Twelve plant workers were rescued from the building by boat.

Tricks of a Runaway River

The runaway Washita river and its feeder streams played strange tricks Wednesday as they spread terror and destruction through west central Oklahoma. A sturdy railroad bridge stood undamaged in the middle of a mile-wide torrent west of Anadarko. But the tracks on both sides were washed away. Near Fort Cobb, an island 15 feet across was the only land to be seen within half a mile of one farm. Resting on the tiny piece of dry land

was a marooned white Brahma cow. A park on the northern outskirts of Anadarko was under several feet of water. But a concrete swimming pool in the park, apparently protected by a solid railing, was dry. At Grace-mont, where a third of the town was flooded by White Bread creek, homeless residents with their belongings lined the high water mark waiting for it to go down. A group of children, however, romped and swam in the water.



High But Wet This 300-foot bridge day night. The bridge washed out by flood waters. The highway



Common Sight Isolated farm houses along the Washita river valley were a common sight from the air Wednesday. This one is a mile east of Fort Cobb.

RCA VICTOR TELEVISION

Plus { AM and STATIC-FREE FM RADIO
10- and 12-inch RECORD PLAYER

and the New RCA Victor System of Recorded Music

English Adults Only To See 'Snake Pit'

LONDON, May 18—(AP)—The American movie, "The Snake Pit," dealing with the experiences of a young woman in a mental hospital, will be shown in Britain to adults only.

That was the decision handed down by the nation's censor after mulling over an appeal from a group of London nurses that the picture be banned. It will open Thursday at the Marble Arch Odeon theater.

Noted Historian Dies

SOUTHPORT, Conn., May 18—(AP)—James Truslow Adams, 70, noted American historian, died Wednesday night at his home.

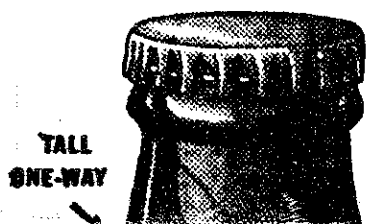
LOAN PAYMENTS REDUCED

ON PERSONAL LOANS \$25 to \$300
Now Up to 20 Months To Repay

Borrow on Your SIGNATURE ONLY
SECURED LOANS ALSO MADE
QUICK ACTION
PHONE 7-4521

Write or Come In
Out-of-town Loans Also Made
STATE FINANCE CO.
Room 201 American Nat'l Bldg.
Corner Main and Robinson Ph. 7-4521

Ask for your favorite Beer in "ONE-WAY" Glass Bottles



Flood Romps Over Washita River Valley

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

almost isolated. There were only two routes open into Anadarko, U. S. 62 east and U. S. 281 south.

As the flood waters rage down the Washita and North and South Canadian rivers, more floods are expected downstream.

Highway workmen found a lost bridge near Gracemont. The 300-foot span washed 100 yards downstream into a field. The flash flood Tuesday night hit it with a wall of water that pounded it from its moorings and smashed it to pieces in the field.

Workmen Wednesday night were feverishly stacking sand bags against abutments of a bridge across the Washita north of Carnegie to prevent the still rising river from cutting the approaches to the 747-foot steel bridge on SH 55.

Nearly all the highways—beginning in Caddo county and extending west to the Texas line and south to the Red river—suffered severe damage from the flooding waters.

Southwestern Bell Telephone Co. reported 80 long distance circuits out in the Anadarko area, almost completely isolating three towns—Fort Cobb, Binger and Lookeba.

Stillwater Is Deluged
Heavy rain deluged Stillwater late Wednesday night. The torrent started pouring from a thundercloud that came over the city about 11 p. m. Streets filled curb-full of water, but no flood condition existed.

Lines were knocked out completely between Gracemont and Binger and west of Anadarko toward Hobart.

Telephone service was being restored in Oklahoma City but some phones were still out early Thursday.

There were 18 telephone poles missing west of Anadarko. Company officials expect more troubles.

The Public Service Co. of Tulsa, which serves the Anadarko area with electricity, also was having difficulty in the area.

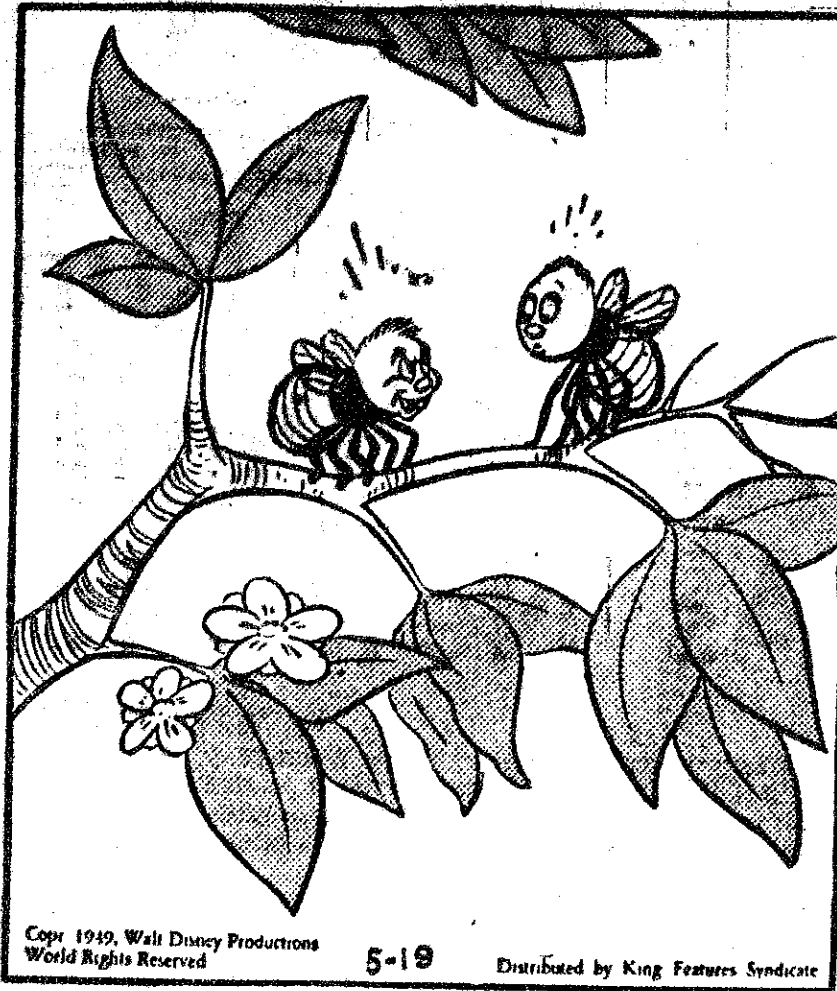
Oklahoma Gas and Electric Co. Wednesday night reported its entire system was in order. The power was tripped out momentarily at intervals Tuesday night, but only temporary trouble resulted.

Roadway Washed Out
Just west of Mountain View, approximately 3,000 yards of roadway on SH 3, where it approaches the river bridge, were washed out. Highway crews Wednesday night were filling in to open the road as soon as possible.

Norman Wednesday began sweeping out after floods from Tuesday

MERRY MENAGERIE

By Walt Disney



Copyright 1949, Walt Disney Productions
World Rights Reserved

5-19

Distributed by King Features Syndicate

"I bet my pop can sting your pop!"

Baptists A Hot Po

CONTINUED FROM

charges against the E heard.

"I've just got a sn I've got a church tha

"I'm going to star seminary boys. They crying. They said th one to lead them. I t the evidence and I w They got it, and I p bring this fight to th

What is some of ti

"One professor sto and made these four

"One—The Bible spired than a preach stands up to preach."

"Two—If the virg is ever disproved, do your faith."

"Three—He made miracles.

"Four—If you acc you are no better th They have a pope. Yc pope."

"Why some of the asked to speak before Baptist convention ha World Council of Chu Baptists are not with tists because of the Pe Churches."

Mr. Gibson says all l cerning the seminary lished in his own n Informer."

The convention also federal aid for paroch a report by Dr. Jose Washington, D. C.

He said the proposal aid to parochial scho candid, firm notificatio lean people that in Catholics the same re which we ourselves er which they have so sig here, we do not inter our free American lif tarian dictatorship fro Dr. Dawson is chie public relations comm

ommendation received voice vote of approval persons crowding the s The SBC sessions three meetings daily t Because of wet terr stadium, the Wednesda was held in the audito ginal plan calls for mo

ernoon sessions in the night gatherings in th

Royal Guests S In Alphabetical

gining to back up in Lexington. The south side of Main street was flooded for about a block.

Near Purcell, Dan McGrew and his drilling crew from the Maysville field spent Tuesday night on the Walnut creek bridge just south of the city.

The high water flooded their automobile when they started off the bridge, so they pushed the car back up on the bridge and spent the night.

Oil Workers Trapped
A. W. Merrell, a Purcell oilfield worker, was also trapped on the bridge for the night.

Willard Mantooth, Purcell, operating a motor boat, rescued two persons from the bridge before the others were marooned. During the rescue the boat narrowly missed turning over in the treacherous water swirling around the bridge.

Fields from the state line to Oklahoma City showed signs of washing. Corn and alfalfa in some places was beaten to the ground by the torrential fall Tuesday night.

The state highway department Wednesday night reported the following highways closed:

U. S. 75—South of Wetumka at Wetumka creek. Open only to one-way traffic near Schuler. Closed north of Wetumka on the North Canadian.

U. S. 281—North of Gracemont at Whitebread creek. Bridge washed out. SH 54—Five miles north of Gotebo.

State Bond Vote Is Set

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

has stated he wants this question submitted without any other question on the ballot to confuse the issue. Repeal has blocked lots of legislation in this session and I hope it is not mixed up in this election."

He said that \$11 millions is needed immediately to meet emergency conditions in institutions. He said the legislature is able to appropriate only \$1,600,000 for temporary repairs.

"We have been appropriating approximately \$2 millions every session for temporary repairs and patchwork," he added. "This will go on indefinitely unless we have a permanent program."

He said it was decided to submit the bond issue rather than increase taxes. The bonds will be retired by earmarking 2 cents of the present cigarette tax.

Kirksey Nix, McAlester, accused the legislature of ducking its responsibility for providing for state functions.

"You are about to plunge the state \$36 millions in debt," he said. "This is money that must be paid back.

out momentarily at intervals every night, but only temporary results.

Roadway Washed Out

Just west of Mountain View, approximately 3,000 yards of roadway on SH 9, where it approaches the river bridge, were washed out. Highway crews Wednesday night were filling in to open the road as soon as possible.

Norman Wednesday began sweeping out after floods from Tuesday night's deluge caused an estimated \$500,000 damage.

Transportation facilities were about back to normal as were telephone communications. More than 500 circuits were knocked out during the violent electrical storm that accompanied the downpour.

Water still stood in basements of houses, stores and University of Oklahoma buildings. University officials reported no extensive damage from the water standing in basements.

Some families in the low areas were still wading in and out of their homes.

But the water continued to recede. U. S. 77, which was closed between Oklahoma City and Norman Tuesday night, was reported open Wednesday afternoon by the state highway department.

The football road SH 74 was still closed because of high water.

U. S. 77 was open to traffic all the way from Oklahoma City to the state line, but highway crews were busy Wednesday afternoon repairing gullied shoulders.

Little River, three miles north of Norman, flooded flatlands Tuesday night after the torrential rain but went back into its banks Wednesday.

Meeker, too, began digging out its tornado, thankful that the damage was no worse.

The South Canadian river at Purcell was spreading over most of the river bed, but was not in danger of flooding. The channelized intersection at the Lexington side of the bridge was under water.

Walnut Creek Drops

South of Purcell, Walnut creek, which was several feet over the highway Tuesday night, had dropped almost as rapidly. Five boys were swimming in the stream Wednesday afternoon. Some 10 or 12 feet below debris drifted on bridge girders Tuesday night.

The Washita river near Pauls Valley was seven feet higher than the same time Tuesday but was still in its regular channel.

Red River on the Oklahoma-Texas line was running bank-full but not yet spreading into lowlands on either side.

Clinton also reported heavy rains that lasted two hours, filling the streets curb-full of water. It started raining at Hobart about 9 p. m.

Enid reported the temperature there dropped about 20 degrees in 30 minutes and heavy storm clouds moved over from the northwest.

At the same time Wednesday night, Elk City reported a heavy storm cloud moving in there from the southwest.

Hard rain was falling at Dill City, near Weatherford Wednesday night.

Water from a small creek was be-

aten to the ground by the torrential fall Tuesday night.

The state highway department Wednesday night reported the following highways closed:

U. S. 75—South of Wetumka at We-woka creek. Open only to one-way traffic near Schuiter. Closed north of Wetumka on the North Canadian.

U. S. 281—North of Gracemont at Whitebread creek. Bridge washed out.

SH 54—Five miles north of Gotebo.

SH 74—Two miles north of Maysville. Bridge out.

SH 50—Near Maude at Little river.

SH 56—North of Sasakwa.

SH 99—South of Seminole at Salt creek.

SH 76—Two miles south of Blanchard at Walnut creek. Wooden bridge out.

SH 39—Three miles west of Asher. Bridge out.

SH 74—Oklahoma City to Norman "football road."

SH 59—North of Carnegie at Washita river.

SH 34—North and south of Duke in Jackson county.

SH 6—Five miles south of Granite.

SH 58—North of Carnegie on the Washita river.

SH 9—West of Mountain View.

Army Sergeant Leaves Estate to 'Uncle Sam'

SAN ANTONIO, Texas, May 18—(AP)—A 71-year-old retired army sergeant who died here Sunday left his \$3,000 estate to Uncle Sam to do with as he "sees fit."

The will of John T. Fryar was filed for probate Wednesday. His attorney, who drew up the will in 1947, said he remembered Fryar saying he "got his money from the government and wanted to give it back."

unless we have a permanent program."

He said it was decided to submit the bond issue rather than increase taxes. The bonds will be retired by earmarking 2 cents of the present cigaret tax.

Kirksey Nix, McAlester, accused the legislature of ducking its responsibility for providing for state functions.


"You are about to plunge the state \$36 millions in debt," he said. "This is money that must be paid back. You are buying materials when prices are at their highest peak. You could raise the money for these institutions if you had the courage to tax industry."

"You're afraid to tax the oil industry. You're afraid to submit repeal. You're afraid of everybody except the common people who will have to pay off this debt."

Bootlegger's Delivery Boy Victim of Robbery

Roy Coppedge, 28, bootlegger delivery boy, told police Wednesday night he was robbed of \$49 and two pints of whisky by an armed man who gave him a fake call.

Coppedge who lives at 32 NE 8 said he received a call to an apartment house at 409 NW 11. He said when he arrived a man walked in the back door and pointed a pistol at him and took him into the basement. After the robbery the man fled.



The Name Describes the Flavor
BUTTER KERNEL
Taste as Good as it Sounds
Ask for these delicious peas at your favorite independent grocer's.
Tyler & Simpson Co.
Wholesale Distributors

Rothschild's VALUE Basement



You'll be
Cool as a Breeze!

The SBC session three meetings daily. Because of wet stadium, the Wednesday was held in the original plan calls for afternoon sessions in the night gatherings in

Royal Guest In Alphabet

LONDON, May 1, 700 persons sipped ham Palace Wednesday the right to say "presented at court." King George and threw the party for from nations begin through "L." They Thursday for those beginning with "M." These include 125 A

JOHNSON

23rd and

Oklahoma City
Fresh Fruit-Ve

STRAWBERRY

Big Luscious U. S. and Home

Mexican Sweet PINEAPPLE

Now is the time for your car

Ph. 58-8722

Watch Our

NEW FAN



Run Across Alley Fatal to City Boy

STATE TRAFFIC DEATHS
Late, 11; May to date, 16; Oklahoma County, 19
Late, 15; May to date, 20; Oklahoma County, 21

8-year-old boy was crushed beneath the wheels of an automobile Tuesday as he ran across an alley toward his home at the Humpty-Dumpty store, 429 NW 4.

Child, George Dewain Wood, son of George W. Wood, a dead when he arrived at Mercy hospital in an ambulance. Driver was not held.

Police told T. J. Schmidt and H. J. Wilson, police accident

... the young victim ... the rear of the grocery ... playing with some ... the accident.

... a crunching breaking ... wheels and thought ... some crates or paste ... George Olin Culpeper ... 34 NW 39, told the in-

... state manager of the L. ... cantile Co., 409 NW 4, ... driving about five miles ... did not know he had ... until a man shouted

... over a baby," the wit- ... to identify himself to ... "He's lying in the al-

... said he always parked his ... the rear of the grocery ... close to his place of ... said when he entered ... were no children in

... had gone less than 200 ... accident occurred.

... passed over the child's ... his chest and fractur- ... The body was taken to ... Draper Funeral home ... completion of arrange-

... addition to the mother ... a sister Linda Lou, 6 ... death brings the city's ... to five for 1949 as com- ... for the same period last

... on Page 15

City of Kentucky Closes Doors to Negroes

... N. Ky., May 18—(AP)— ... students will be ad- ... schools of the Univer- ... Dr. H. L. Donovan, ... said Wednesday.

Elephant Trunk Is Packed With Surprises!

... was an elephant's trunk ... out the side of that ... 3.77 Wednesday.

... ought to be straight- ... and for all. It will ... of fights from here to

... was taking care of ... city's baby elephant but ... when eight feet of ... the flooding Trinity ... up in Forest Park zoo ... sider, city zoo director, ... Worth with a Riss & ... remove the elephant ... where the trouble started. ... from Texas Christian ... art classes, sketching in ... Frasier and H. Hittson, ... zoo director, walking ... elephant toward the wait-

... elephant pen Queen ... trumpeted shrilly ... of the girls hissed

Eisler Probe Spurned by UN

NEW YORK, May 18—(AP)— The United Nations assembly late Wednesday slapped down a Polish move to bring up the case of Gerhart Eisler, fugitive communist.

The Eisler question was raised by Polish delegate Juliusz Katz-Suchy just as the weary delegates were ready to end their stormy six-week spring session.

The assembly finally adjourned at 5:19 p. m. The session began April 5. Assembly President Herbert V. Evatt of Australia ruled the Polish proposal was out of order.

Evatt's ruling was challenged by Katz-Suchy, who ignored the pounding of the president's gavel. He launched into a discussion of alleged violations of human rights involved in the removal of Eisler from the Polish liner Batory.

Eisler was taken off by British authorities at Southampton, England, last week.

The assembly upheld Evatt's ruling by a vote of 43-1, with 10 abstentions.

Eisler fled the United States as a stowaway on the Polish vessel while awaiting appeal from two jail sentences.

A British delegate told newsmen Katz-Suchy's conduct was a "farce." The U. S. delegation had no comment.

Playwright Will Wed

NEW YORK, May 18—(AP)—George S. Kaufman, 60, prominent Broadway playwright, said Wednesday he would be married next week to Lucrecia MacGrath, 35, British actress.

Housewives Get Last Price Fling

Governor Signs Ban On Loss Leaders

Housewives will have one last fling at below-cost bargain prices this weekend before a new law forces grocers to stop their competitive price war.

Gov. Turner signed the bill Wednesday which makes such things as 5-cent bread and \$1.69 cigars illegal.

Grocers, however, are not expected to get in line with the new rules before Monday.

Thirteen-cent oleomargarine, 5-cent bread, 30-cent coffee and six packages of chewing gum for a dime are some of the items scheduled to bow out as farewell cut-rate bargains.

Larry O. Bowman, manager, Oklahoma Retail Grocers' association, says the bill was signed too late to get prices changed for this weekend. Newspaper advertisements already had been prepared in several cases.

"But we're so glad to get the bill signed that we'll forgive grocers who don't fall in line before Monday," he said.

Bowman declares that loss leaders have been misleading. "We have found proof that dealers who cut prices on certain items to draw crowds raised prices on other items to make up the difference."

W. A. Coleman, vice-president of Standard-Humpty Dumpty stores, declares this has not been the case in his stores.

"We positively have not advanced the price one red cent on other items to balance the loss-leader prices," he said. "We've absorbed our loss—and it has been a substantial one."

Under the new law, items must be priced at cost plus 6 percent. Bowman points out, however, this 6 percent does not cover operating expenses. In some articles, 12 percent will be added to cost prices.

Monday, shoppers will notice a difference.

St. Louis Blast Hurts 13, Wrecks Building

ST. LOUIS, May 18—(AP)—An explosion believed to have been caused by escaping gas Wednesday wrecked a two-story brick building in north central St. Louis, injuring 13 persons.

Seven of the injured were dug from the debris. Others were cut by flying glass.

Washita Puts Out Its Muddy Fingers Again

By Eugene Hill
(Daily Oklahoman Staff Writer)

FROM THE AIR, May 18— The Washita river at Fort Cobb looks like a huge, muddy hand with its fingers stretched to cover roads, farm houses and whole sections of the town.

It was impossible Wednesday afternoon to mark the course of the river which burst out of its banks 18 hours earlier.

A eight-inch downpour at Carnegie, 11 miles upstream, and hard driving rains over the entire Washita valley widened the stream to more than a mile across at several points.

Lashed into foam as it poured across railroad beds, fences, highways and farm yards, the red water seemed to be everywhere.

The airview over Fort Cobb, 60 airline miles southwest of Oklahoma City, showed most of the town and all its business district were high and dry. But half a dozen square blocks in the northeast section were under water. Several houses were window deep in the flood, but residents appeared already to have moved their belongings to higher ground.

A DOZEN farmers living east of Fort Cobb, however, were less fortunate. One farm at a crossroads two miles east of the town was completely isolated. A man, woman and two children waved to our airplane from an upper story window.

All four roads leading to the house were under water for half a mile in each direction. The tops of three abandoned cars could be seen.

The town of Washita, five miles east of Fort Cobb, was not touched by the flood, although the river surrounds it on three sides. The town is built on a bluff rising 20 to 30 feet above the water.

But here again, outlying farm homes suffered extensive damage. One house seemed to be located in the river's exact center. A swift current smashed against its side.

A CLOSER check, though, revealed the river's main course was more than a mile west of the house. Highways and railroad tracks along the river apparently bore the main brunt of the flood.

In our plane, we tried to follow the Rock Island railroad tracks, but they disappeared at point after point. At some places only the tops of telegraph poles were visible.

A mile west of Fort Cobb, a railroad bridge still was standing, although the water was at track level. But the roadbed a hundred feet from the bridge was gone.

The picture was repeated a dozen times further downstream.

MOST startling highway damage was on U. S. 281 two miles north of Gracemont. There, White Bread creek, now back in its banks, lifted a 300-foot section of a wooden bridge and carried it 50 yards downstream.

Cars were stalled on either side of the washout.

Only at Fort Cobb, was SH 2, the main artery between Chickasha and Hobart, damaged. Huge chunks of the highway slab had been washed away.

But farm-to-market roads in the entire area were almost impassable.

More Pictures, Pages 7, 13, 21

Tornadoes Skip In State Again

Hobart, Altus Area Struck, None Injured

Two tornadoes struck in Oklahoma Wednesday night, a third waltzed along the southern border of Kansas and two more jumped past Altus.

No great damage was reported from them. None was reported injured.

A twister that hit Gould, about 30 miles west of Altus on U. S. 62, destroyed five buildings and damaged at least five more. Windows were knocked out of the school building and other structures.

A violent hail and rain storm followed. Total damage, including wheat crop loss, was estimated at between \$200,000 and \$300,000.

Another tornado dipped down on the Hobart municipal airport, and a hangar housing six planes was started a new panic in the town.

The twister missed Hobart itself, but residents—already jittery after two days of storms—ran pell-mell for shelter in the dark.

No Reports of Injuries

There were no reports of injuries either at the airport or from the confusion in town.

John Shear, CAA airways communicator at the field, said the tornado funnel struck in the dark at 8:38 p. m.

It ripped the walls away from the large multiple hangar and the roof fell in. There were about 10 private planes inside, he said.

The field itself is four miles south of Hobart, which is a wheat center of 6,000 population in the southwest corner of Oklahoma. It is about 100 miles southwest of Oklahoma City.

A storm warning observer at the city reservoir in Altus reported two tornadoes, one on each side of Altus, about 8 p. m. Wednesday night.

Torrential Rain Falls

The highway patrol reported that Victory school, six miles west of Altus, was leveled. It is at the intersection of SH 44 and U. S. 62. The tornado missed the two other buildings, a shop and a filling station, at Victory. No injuries were reported.

Altus, however, received a torrential rain about the same time. Police reported that winds reached gale proportions and blew one woman down who was trying to get to her storm cellar.

Tornadoes have struck all around Hobart in both Texas and Oklahoma in the last two days, and a storm warning system was set up in town.

As soon as the twister struck the airport, word was flashed to Hobart itself and firemen blew two blasts on their whistle.

Instantly the whole community became a madhouse.

Terrified Citizens Scurry

It was dark, and the night was full of terrified citizens rushing toward the nearest shelter.

"It was a miracle that no one was hurt . . . but it was surprising how fast the plan worked," said Clara Neal, Hobart resident. "The whole town was battened down in less than 10 minutes."

A heavy but short rain broke over the field an instant after the tornado passed. Shear said .58-inch of rain fell in "just a few minutes . . . it came in sheets."

Lighting also added to the fright and confusion as bolt after bolt struck in and around town.

The hangar was a total loss, but no early valuation was placed on the damage.