

Cold Nights Control Thaw

By Roger Linehan

DES MOINES (UPI) — Western Iowans are watching the weather closely these days and hoping for warm days and sub-freezing nights to control the snowmelt and keep it regular and steady.

Two state officials predicted Monday the major flood problems, depending on the snowmelt conditions, could come in western Iowa due to the heavy winter snows in the northwest and north central parts of Iowa.

Those parts of the state are in the one-third of Iowa which still has measurable snow remaining — most, of that being the legacy of the Jan. 10 blizzard.

That paralyzing storm inundated northern Iowa with snow, snarled traffic, killed cattle and may cause the delayed reaction of heavy runoff and possible floods.

Slow Snowmelt

Both Iowa Agriculture Secretary Robert Lounsberry and Civil Defense Operations and Planning Officer Donald Hinman said they are hoping for mild days followed by freezing nights to keep the snowmelt slow and distributed over a longer period of time.

They both said that several days of readings in the 50s and warm nights, with temperatures above freezing, could create quick and heavy snowmelt which could quickly swell rivers to bankful levels.

Officials of the national weather service said Monday that daytime thawing and nighttime freezing should facilitate a regular and distributed runoff. And, they said no heavy rains are in the forecast.

As far as flooding in the eastern three-quarters of the state which drains into the state he expects the flooding to be less serious.

"Two weeks ago we were talking about crests equal to 1952 on the Mississippi, but now predictions are that they may be lower," he said. "A number of levee construction projects would mean some overflow, but not of the magnitude of 1965 nor 1968," he said.

"If we get three or more days in a row of 50-degree-plus temperatures we'd better hope for some freezing weather for a few days," Lounsberry said.

"There's a vast amount of snow in the northwestern part of the state, which could cause real problems."

The agriculture secretary said the thaw-freeze-thaw-freeze conditions would allow

"a lot of the moisture to go into the soil" instead of running into the rivers.

Another factor which could cause the heavier flooding in western Iowa would be the rocky, hill land which drops westward toward the Missouri river, Lounsberry said. That land would allow the swifter flow of water and less absorption of the melting snow.

Hinman said his office would be especially watching the Little Sioux, Floyd and Boyer rivers in western Iowa

as the possible troublemakers noting that the headwaters of those streams drain areas still covered by heavy snow.

Some Problems

"Those look like they might present some problems and that again all depends on how much moisture we get between now and the receding of the snow," Hinman said. "The weather service has predicted fairly warm weather for the next three days. That's great, it's going

to recede that snow line and carry off the water in the best of conditions."

A week or more of sustained above freezing temperatures plus warm spring rains could create problems.

Pointing out the major flood levee construction along the Mississippi river in eastern Iowa, Hinman said about the only western Iowa city with major flood prevention is Hamburg, a town of 1,649 persons, in extreme southwestern Iowa.

April Decision On Generation of Nuclear Power

DES MOINES (AP) — A decision on the future of nuclear power generation in Iowa will be made April 11, the Iowa energy policy council has announced.

The announcement came at the end of a five-hour afternoon session Monday in which council members reviewed the initial report of the council's staff on the question of a nuclear moratorium.

The report made no specific recommendations on nuclear power in Iowa.

The report did say Iowa's short-term energy needs would have to be filled either by nuclear power or coal generating power plants.

New Location Found for Mamie Eisenhower Home

BOONE (AP) — A group of Boone residents who want to save the home of Mamie Doud Eisenhower say they have found a new site for the home.

Boone's First Baptist

church, which owns the frame home built in the 1880s, announced earlier it would donate it to the preservation group with the stipulation that it be moved off church property.

Terry Adams, secretary of the Boone Committee for Preservation of Historical Landmarks, Inc., said Monday that Warren Kruck, a former state senator from Boone and Greene counties,

donated land and a house across from the Doud home. Adams said the house will be torn down and the foundation enlarged to accommodate the Doud home, where the former President's wife was born in 1896.

Adams said the group hopes to raise the \$25,000 to \$30,000 needed to move and remodel the home through donations or a government grant.

Heart Attack, Stroke Risks Are Studied

IOWA CITY (AP) — A study of school-age children in Muscatine may show risk factors in heart attack and stroke patients have their roots in childhood.

Such risk factors are high blood pressure, high cholesterol levels, obesity and smoking.

Dr. Ronald Lauer, professor of pediatrics at the University of Iowa, is directing the study, which is part of re-

search supported by the National Institute of Health.

"Although it would appear children never get coronary artery disease . . . there is clear evidence this disease has its origin in childhood," Dr. Lauer said.

The study involves repeated sampling of a group of 5,000 children from kindergarten to high school.

So far, the study has revealed "a considerable number of children, particularly

adolescents, having levels of serum lipids, blood pressures and relative weights which are known to relate to the early development of coronary artery disease in adults," said Lauer.

Abnormal blood pressure in two children resulted in further examinations. One child had surgery to correct a narrowed aorta and another had surgery to save a kidney threatened by a narrowed renal artery.

Offers Loans For Education

DES MOINES — The Iowa department of social services again is offering loans to high school graduates interested in continuing their education.

The applicant may borrow up to \$1,500 each academic year. Interest is paid by the department of health education and welfare while the student is in school and for one year after leaving school after which repayment at seven percent interest begins.

To be eligible students must live on a farm or outside the city limits of an incorporated town in Iowa; have an adjusted family in-

come of less than \$15,000; attend an Iowa college or school within 50 miles of the Iowa border; be accepted for enrollment by the school.

For further information students may contact their local county office of the department of social services, financial aid officer of their school, the county extension office, or the Farmers Home Administration.

Students also may write Archie F. Bridges, rural rehabilitation supervisor, Iowa department of social services, Lucas state office building, Des Moines, 50319.

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