

# THE COURIER-TIMES

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## *Jupiter Pluvius Shatters Record With March Floods*

Flooded fields and basements filled with surface water attested a record breaking rainfall of 11.15 inches for the month of March in this vicinity. Harry L. Devin, official weather observer here, can find no counterpart of this in the more than 40 years since he first began observing weather conditions in this district.

The average for March over a **53-year period is a** precipitation of 4.30 inches. The first week of March this year was far under this average, with .33 of an inch. As the month progressed the rainfall became greater, to end with a 42-hour deluge Tuesday and Wednesday, to set a new record.

Clearing skies Thursday morning brought relief as flood waters continued to flow from fields through drainage systems built to

cope with only a small portion of the volume present. It was estimated that more than 4,000 acres of farm land in the Skagit valley were under water.

Plowing was brought to an absolute halt, and many roads in every district suffered greatly from weakened structures, as the water soaked roadbeds to a pulp. Pavements in some places have broken under the strain.

And back of it all has been the constant menace of a renewal of flood conditions of a few weeks ago when snow continued to fall in the hills down to the very low levels. A warm wind of only a few hours duration would spell disaster, according to reliable observers.

With the exception of one slide Wednesday on the Van Horn hill, no major damage has been reported.