

Fresh Snow and Sleet Add to Storm Problems

With fresh snow from three to six inches and a 24-hour forecast of freezing rain (sleet) due to set in Thursday afternoon, Bellingham and Whatcom county seemed headed for new storm conditions.

County Commissioner Harry Gonser in a telephone call said a 30-40-mile northeast wind was blowing in the Sumas-Everson district, with three inches of snow, and that part of the county was right back where it was Sunday.

All county roads were filling up fast and the Wiser lake road was reported closed.

County Superintendent William J. O'Neil said the Lynden, Fern-dale and Mount Baker district schools would close at noon to send the children home. The Blaine, Nooksack and Meridian schools failed to open Thursday morning.

Superintendent C. Paine Shangle announced that Bellingham schools would close at 1 p. m. Thursday and would remain closed Friday in the face of predicted weather.

The warm front that Bellingham was expecting Thursday—the long looked-for break in the weather—failed to arrive.

Coming in from the west coast of Vancouver island and reported as headed this way, it abruptly changed course and went to Portland, Ore., then moved up the coast.

The weather man expected it to reach Everett by noon and said it would then turn westward—and miss Bellingham completely.

GET MORE WEATHER

So this city got more weather. There was light snow during the night, increasing in fall Thursday morning until by 11 a. m., the city had three inches of new snow and the county got from three to six inches.

Temperatures rose from a low of 10 degrees at the soil conservation station on the McLeod road and 13.7 degrees at the airport weather station (registered at 1 a. m.) to 22 degrees at 10:30 a. m. Two inches of fresh snow was reported at both places.

A state highway worker coming into Supervisor Everett Baxter's office from Highway 99 south at 11 a. m. said it was sleeting in the Lake

(Please Turn to Page 3 Column 4)

Fresh Snow and Sleet Adds to Storm Problem

(From Page One)

Samish area and motorists were driving with heads out of the window as windshields froze over.

Baxter sent two trucks, equipped with push plows, into the Everson and Sumas district at 5 a. m., to keep the roads clear there, and by noon had no report from them of trouble. He had snow equipment out in other parts of the county as needed. County equipment was operating, too.

Mount Vernon had seven inches of new snow, the first big snow of the winter season. It was snowing generally throughout Skagit county but all schools were open except at Anacortes and Concrete, hardest hit in last week's storm.

Mount Baker lodge reported a total of 13 feet of snow and four inches of fresh snow, and said all ski facilities would be open this week end.