

B-SPS201

**PATHE JOURNAL**  
**6, Rue Francœur**  
**PARIS (18<sup>e</sup>) France**

**Paris, January 17th. 1955**

**FLOODS ALL OVER FRANCE**  
**Positive developed : 100 ft - 30 meters**

**East, West, Paris areas and Bordeaux.**

All over France the skies poured down water for the fourth consecutive day. Low lying communities in many areas were flooded. More rains are expected in the coming days in the regions bordering the Atlantic.

The Doubs river in eastern France reached its highest point in 40 years and the town of Dole on the river was badly flooded in its port area. Many persons were evacuated by boat from their homes as the rain continued to fall. The Moselle, near Metz also over flooded large areas of land, fields are under water and cattle had to be evacuated from lonely farms while road traffic stood on a standstill when water overflowed cutting roads and railway communications.

Both the Rhone and the Saone Rivers rose during yesterday due to the persistence of rain in the mountains and to decision by Swiss authorities at Geneva to open the locks which link Lake Léman to the Rhone.

High winds from 80 to 130 kilometers per hour struck the Bordeaux Region stopping navigation in the mouth of the Gironde. In the Lot & Garonne Department also the Garonne over flowed its banks and inundated the valleys.

In Paris the Navigation on the Seine was sporadic yesterday and was expected to stop entirely today. The Pont de l'Alma which presents the lowest passage throughout the city's bridges was giving the bargemen the gitters from early yesterday. However the Seine in the last 15 years has been protected by upstream dams which can convert large areas into reservoirs in periods of heavy rainfalls. This was what the authorities were doing yesterday in an effort to forestall anything like that which happened in 1910 when the Seine rose to 8 m.84 at the Pont d'Austerlitz. The Paris suburbs above Paris are flooded in many parts and it hoped that the rain will stop shortly before any disaster occurs in the whole Seine Valley.

**Picture shows in the following order :**

- views of Seine in Paris and in the suburbs, along the flooded embankments at Pont de l'Alma, wherethe famous "icecube" has its feet in the muddy waters...
- shots around Paris, along the Marne and the upper Seine course
- views of the Rhone river floods with large areas of field and lands under water.
- shots of the Garonne mouth at Bordeaux and in the surrounding countryside
- views of floods of the Moselle and the Ill, around Metz, and the Eastern part of France.