

Torrent of Telegrams to Ford

Reno

Western Union's regional office in Reno — the office that handles telegrams phoned in from eight western states — was deluged with wires for the White House yesterday. It began receiving them shortly after President Ford announced he was pardoning former President Nixon.

Warren Kreiger, Western Union's operations manager

here, wouldn't divulge the actual numbers of telegrams, but he said:

"The phones have been ringing constantly since about 8:15 a.m. We're up about 150 per cent over a normal Sunday. We usually have fewer than 25 people working on Sunday. We've had more than 50 here today, including all the management personnel."

Kreiger said, most of the

telegrams were from California. The office also serves Nevada, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Wyoming, Utah and Arizona.

Kreiger wouldn't discuss the tone of the messages.

"There is a definite tone," he said, "but we are absolutely forbidden to say what it is."

Another Western Union source, however, said in San Francisco that the first 14

telegrams received yesterday were "irate."

Our Correspondent

45 Lost in River

Kathmandu

Forty - five persons were feared drowned after a ferry capsized on the Kamala river in southeast Nepal, the national news agency reported yesterday.

Reuters