

Fire Sweeping Over Dayton Burning People

HILLS SAVED THOUSANDS IN FLOOD DISTRICT

FROM HILLTOPS, 25,000 SEE
HOMES RUINED AND FRIENDS
PERISH.

TREES MADE BY REFUGE

Situation Hard to Determine but It Is
Known That Workingmen's Quar-
ters in Dayton Are Among the
Flooded Areas—Frame Houses Are
Washed Away—Third Stories Held
Victims.

Columbus, March 26.—Dayton is on
fire, and hundreds of survivors may
be burned. The list of fatalities is
growing rapidly and may reach two
thousand.

Columbus, March 26.—Deaths in
Dayton may reach 2000. It is the
worst calamity since the Galveston
flood. This is the alarming message
received this afternoon by Governor
Cox from his private secretary who
wired from Springfield. "The river
at Dayton," the message added, "is
four miles wide. We cannot get any-
where near the city."

Columbus, O., March 26.—Build-
ings along Third street, Dayton, are
burning and people in them are dy-
ing. Farmers and everyone else
ought to try to get to Dayton this
afternoon even at the risk of their own
lives. This is the frank appeal to
residents of Ohio voiced by Governor
Cox this afternoon through the Uni-
Press.

Cincinnati, March 26. —
Although communication
with Dayton, Hamilton and
Middletown was indirectly
open early today, it is hard-
ly possible to even estimate
the fatalities and damage by
the floods yesterday and
last night. Reporters for
the Cincinnati Post who
have been at Dayton tele-
phoned from Lebanon that
Dayton officials regard 500
dead as a conservative esti-
mate. Other estimates range
up to 4,000 but the latter is
believed to be too enormously
high. Many parts of the
flooded districts cannot be
reached and hundreds of
persons are reported miss-
ing.

The National Cash Regis-
ter Co.'s plant is converted
into headquarters for the
city administration and late
yesterday 2600 refugees
were being cared for.

Communication is open to
Hamilton but it is impossi-
ble to get an accurate esti-
mate of the dead.

South of Dayton lies a low range of
hills and last night there were 25,000
rain-soaked chilled inhabitants of the
city camped there. Anguish over the
certain death of many relatives and
friends made a pitiful sight. No shel-
ter was obtained apart from a few
poor huts on the hills. Daytonville,
a suburb of workingmen's homes, is
under water and the frame buildings
were swept away. Edgemont and

Rat Killing Is Perfected

PLASTER PARIS IS THE NEW
METHOD.

Sweets and Meats Coax Rodents to
Eat Sure Killer.

Washington, March 26.—When
scientists about the year 3000 A. D.
in excavating the ruins of San Fran-
cisco, New York, or Chicago, come
across minute casts of strange little
animals, they will probably never
know that they represent the result of
the 1913 styles in rat killing just pro-
mulgated by Dr. W. C. Rucker, assist-
ant surgeon general of the United
States Health service.

Under Dr. Rucker's plan, plaster of
paris, embellished with a little pul-
verized sugar, sardine oil or beef
juice and flour is fed to the unsus-
pecting rodent, with the result that a
few hours after he suffers arterio-
sclerosis or, in other words, plaster
of paris hardening, and succumbs.

The poison consists of six parts of
the plaster of paris, one part of sugar
and just enough meat juice to make it
smell nice. Its effect is absolutely
certain, the assistant surgeon general
declares.

FIRE IS SPREADING.

Columbus, March 26.—At three-
thirty this afternoon John Bell,
the wire chief at Dayton, tele-
phoned the governor that the
fire in the flooded district has
leaped across Third street and
was sweeping the next block.
The governor is advised, via
Springfield, that from 10,000 to
12,000 people are in the build-
ings or those nearby and are
fighting the fire by lifting wa-
ter from the streets in buckets
and what other methods they can
provide. Three carloads of boats
on a special train from Spring-
field were due in Dayton this af-
ternoon.

North Dayton are similarly flooded.
Men Caught in Top Story.

Many were imprisoned in the third
stories of dwellings and buildings
and are still there. Many are cling-
ing to tops of trees and other havens.
Men on horseback, arriving hourly
from Piqua, Sidney Miletton and
Hamilton tell of death and devastation.

Fate of Many Villages in Doubt.

The fate of the villages of Miamis-
burg, and Franklin are in doubt and
it is feared they are wholly or par-
tially destroyed. Hamilton reports
that 500 died but this is not verified.
Eighteen are known to be dead at
Deleware and the total property loss
in this district is late today placed
at \$25,000,000.

PORTLAND OFFICER HERE.

Call to Ontario Proves Wild Goose
Chase to Chinese Hunters.

Two Chinese arrested in Ontario
on the supposition that they were
the two highbinders wanted for the
recent Chinese murders in Portland.
have been liberated on the strength
of lack of identification by Seld Wing,
a cousin of the well known Seld Beck
of Portland. Seld Wing was in La
Grande today on his way back to
Portland after a visit to Ontario
where he was taken by Detective E.
T. Abbott of Portland. Seld, who is
aiding the officers in finding the mur-
derers, led the Portland detective
through local Chinese quarters early
this morning on a still hunt for the
men whom they seek, the detective
and the Chinese reformer believing it
possible that the fugitives from jus-
tice might have gone into hiding
here during the past few days. They
found nothing and their trip to On-
tario was likewise fruitless as the
men held there were not Lee Sahn
and his partner, as believed.

FIRE AND WATER MAKE DAYTON CITY OF TEARS

(By United Press Staff correspondent, coming afoot from Dayton)
Lebanon, Ohio, March 26.—Dayton is a city of dead, dying and homeless and grief-
stricken. The tragic story of the enormity of it, will be unknown until the last
body is found and removed from the flood ruins, and the last burned bones found. Fire,
the latest menace, is spreading unchecked in the southern section of the city. There
may be a hundred dead or there may be a thousand. I don't know, and no one knows
—it is known that fire is cremating bodies in many instances.

The money loss in Dayton is terrific, but Dayton has found money to be the most
useless thing in the world, in this, her hour of disaster. She doesn't want money—
she wants food, clothing, nurses and doctors. Her theatres are flooded, department
stores are awash, the hotels are under water and the St. Elizabeth hospital and her 600
patients are imprisoned.

This dispatch, written a half mile from the flood center, which is in the middle of the
city where banks, skyscrapers, hotels, and stores are located. Between the city and safety
lies a whirlpool, and no one knows the disaster that has overtaken that part of Day-
ton which was the center of wealth. There was nothing but a sullen glare of flames last
night to light up the tragedy and its mysteries.

It was a night of terror. The flames showed men, women and children perched on
roofs of the houses in the path of the flames watching the fire. Some ventured into the
tumultuous stream, and rescued some of the victims.

WILSON ISSUES HELP APPEALS

NATIONAL CALAMITY IS THE WAY
HE FINDS IT.

Contributions Should Be Sent to Na-
tional Red Cross Headquarters.

Washington, March 25.—President
Wilson is appalled at the flood situa-
tion in Ohio and Indian and has ap-
pealed to all Americans for aid to the
victims.

In a statement issued today he said:
"The terrible floods in Ohio and
Indiana approach proportions of a
national calamity. The loss of life,
the infinite suffering has prompted me
to issue an earnest appeal to all who
are able to assist the labors of the
American Red Cross society to send
contributions to the headquarters of
that society or to the local treasuries.
We should make this a common
cause."

Spokane to Build Roads.

Spokane, Wash., March 26.—(Spe-
cial)—As a result of an energetic good
roads campaign waged by Spokane
citizens the last two years, Spokane
county will have \$919,096 for road
building and improvement in 1913 and
1914. With an additional \$163,000 ap-
propriated by the legislature for state
roads immediately tributary to Spo-
kane, the total is brought to \$1,082,
405. The distribution calls for 99 per
cent of the amount being concentrated
on continuous stretches of stand-
ard highway built from trade centers,
along main traveled roads which are
a part of the state primary trunk
highway system. In the comprehen-
sive road program a law has been
enacted providing for the develop-
ment of roads in counties whose as-
sessed valuations do not permit of
extensive road work. Thus a portion
of Spokane's road money will be used
in building highways in other coun-
ties, thus connecting all parts of the
state. Seattle and Tacoma are to take
care of the western Washington and
mountain counties in the same way.
All state road expenditures are made
by the state under direct supervision
of the state highway commissioner.

Big Mills Burned.

Hamilton, March 26.—The plant of
the Beckett Paper company, worth a
half million and two other plants
collapsed today and are burning. Last
night the Champion Coated Paper
company plant burned.

Forty Others Die.

Connersville, March 26.—Authentic
information says 40 were drowned in
Brookville, Ind.

(By Staff Correspondent.)

Lebanon, March 25.—Dayton is a
lost city today. One telephone wire
is working out of there today and that
is to Lebanon, a suburb. The city
government of Dayton is completely
imprisoned by water. Nothing has
been heard from it since the flood de-
scended.

Trust Office Only Haven.

It came so quickly that no one was
prepared.

The only organized relief work is
being conducted by the National Cash
Register company, whose plant lies
outside of the flood and fire zone, and
the plant is converted into rescue
mission hospital and thousands of
rich and poor slept on straw covered
floors. The company bought up near-
ly all the available food supply in
Dayton for stricken residents. Bare-
footed, John Patterson, president of
the company, waded through the flood
saving many families. He rowed a
boat himself, although nearly seven-
ty years old.

"I have received reports from men
along the roads which indicate the
estimate of 500 dead in Dayton is
conservative." This is the announce-
ment made this noon by Frank Bran-
don, general manager of the Dayton,
Lebanon & Cincinnati railroad.

Brandon estimates the damage in
Dayton from \$6,000,000 to \$10,000,
000. Brandon said:

"At first my men reported the num-
ber of deaths at 60. Later the reports
came in so fast that I quit counting.
When, finally, I was able to get de-
tails, the names of dead were appal-
ling."

CARROLL WAS HERE 5 WEEKS

ALLEGED BURLGAR SHOT AT BA-
KER IDENTIFIED.

Local Family Rented Furnished
Rooms to Cook and His Wife.

History pertaining to J. W. Carroll,
the man whose eye was shot out and
who was otherwise injured by Pitney
Curry at Baker, while he was alleged
to have been trying to rob a drug
store at Baker, has been uncovered
here. It was generally known that
he went to Baker from La Grande
but until yesterday evening no one
had been found that knows anything
about the man or his family. What
has been ascertained of him here gen-
erally points to his honesty, integrity
and industry. On the 13th of Febru-
ary he arrived here with his wife
from Pendleton but came there from
St. Marys, Idaho. He found rooms
in the home of W. C. Combs at 1903
Adams, and while there, a child was
born to them. He claimed to be a
cook by trade and in every way Indi-

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GREAT AREAS OF TWO STATES UNDER WATER

SUMMARY THIS AFTERNOON
SHOWS ENORMITY OF OHIO
FLOOD WATERS

RAIN FALLS FOR DAYS

Sixty-hour Rainfall Is Credited With
Being Cause of the Disaster—Great
Damage Done at Peru but Score of
Other Cities Are in Suffering From
Loss of Property and Death Is Gen-
eral.

Indianapolis, March 26.—
Loss of life in Indiana from
the floods will be more than
a hundred at least and some
estimates fix the dead as
high as a thousand. The
floods are undoubtedly the
worst in Indiana's history.
The heaviest loss of life will
probably have occurred at
Peru. The village of Brook-
ville in Southeastern Indi-
ana, was destroyed. Com-
munication with that town
is cut off and it is impossi-
ble to learn the fatalities.

The entire Wabash valley
is desolated and numerous
cities are isolated. It is feared
the toll of death will be
heavy.

After a sixty-hour down-
pour the rain is still falling
and no one knows when the
crest of the flood will be
reached.

The damage in Indian-
apolis is estimated at \$25,-
000,000, and destruction of
property is increasing hour-
ly. Two bridges worth a
half million each, are out,
and ten thousand houses
are flooded, and it is report-
ed that many met death
when West Washington
street collapsed, and caved in.

Out of the maze of conflicting
reports, are summaries this
afternoon that give, briefly, the situ-
ation in his appalling catastrophe as
it is seen by cooler heads. The fol-
lowing was authoritatively issued
late this afternoon as the best esti-
mate of the storm area:

In Ohio—The Miami valley is flood-
ed, inundating Dayton, Piqua, Troy,
Sidney, Carrollton, Miamisburg, Ham-
ilton, and a dozen smaller towns. It
is estimated that the dead in Dayton
is—giving the very lowest and con-
servative figures—between 100 and
300, but the exact number cannot be
determined. In the Mad river valley,
West Liberty and Springfield are
flooded. The Scioto river is overflow-
ed, inundating parts of Columbus and
adjacent small territories. Delaware
is flooded and 25 are reported dead
there. Four hundred are homeless
in the Ottawa river bottom and Zanes-
ville the Muskingum river is flooding
the city. Two thousand are home-
less and the great Sixth street bridge
has been swept away.

In Indiana—Peru, where many are
reported dead, is isolated. Indian-
apolis is flooded by the White river

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