

2000 TO 5000 FEARED DEAD AT DAYTON, O.

Streets of Ohio City Are Seething River 8 to 20 Feet Deep.

GREAT BUILDINGS TOPPLE

Hospital With 600 Patients, School Building With 400 Pupils Reported Gone.

HORROR HEIGHTENED BY FIRE

Office Buildings Filled With Hundreds Unable to Leave.

HOusetops ARE CROWDED

Famine Impends, as All Groceries and Supply Houses Are in Inun- dated District—Explosion Sets Fire Which Burns Block.

DAYTON, O., March 25.—The crest was reached at midnight. Water is now falling at the rate of half an inch an hour.

DAYTON, March 25.—The wind veered suddenly from south to north at 3 o'clock and the fires on Vine street spring up anew.

DAYTON, O., March 25 (By Telephone via Xenia).—Dayton tonight is nothing less than a seething river, three miles wide, a mile and a half on each side of the main street, its principal thoroughfare, while it is estimated that from 2000 to 5000 people have perished.

The Algonquin Hotel is submerged in water up to its third story, and above this level the downtown district office buildings, hotels and business houses are places of refuge.

A school building that was known to have housed not less than 400 school-children shortly before the waters rushed in that direction is entirely submerged, and as far as can be ascertained all of those little ones met a watery grave.

DAYTON, O., March 25.—Dayton, except for its most remote suburbs, tonight was covered with a seething flood of water from 8 to 20 feet deep. Any attempt to estimate the loss of life is hopeless.

It is sure to run into the hundreds and may go into the thousands. The property loss will total millions of dollars.

The flooded district comprises a circle with a radius of a mile and a half, and nowhere is the water less than six feet deep. In Main street, in the downtown section, the water is 20 feet deep.

Fires Add to Horror.

The horror is heightened by more than a dozen fires which can be seen in the flooded district, but out of reach of firefighters.

Most of the business houses and nearly all of the residences have occupants. Downtown the offices are filled with men unable to get home and on the upper floors and on some of the roofs of residences are helpless women and children. Hundreds of houses, substantial buildings in the residence district, many of them with helpless occupants have been washed away.

Hospital With 600 Reported Gone.

The St. Elizabeth's Hospital, with 600 patients, was reported to have been washed away. The building was known to be in many feet of water and indications are that the report may prove true.

The electric light plants were put out of business early in the day and total darkness, coupled with a torrential downpour, added to the horrors of the night.

Famine also became an immediate possibility.

All the supply and grocery houses are in the submerged district and at midnight it was said there was not enough bread to last the survivors another day.

John H. Patterson, president of the National Cash Register Company, who headed the relief work in the south end of the city, sent out an appeal for food supplies and for doctors and medicine. Tonight 3000 homeless were housed in the cash register office.

Business Block Burns.

A fire which started from an explosion in the Meyers Ice Cream Company plant, near Wyoming street, spread and burned the block on South Park, about a block from Wyoming. Another big fire is reported to have burned a downtown block.

The breaking of the Barton reservoir, which supplies the drinking water, (Concluded on Page 2.)

TERRE HAUTE IS TWICE DESOLATED

FLOOD FOLLOWS CLOSE ON TORNADO DISASTER.

Families Who Escaped Storm Now Find Themselves Surrounded by Waters of Wabash.

TERRE HAUTE, Ind., March 25.—Hardly recovering from the daze of the tornado of Sunday that claimed 20 lives, injured 250 and did property damage amounting to \$1,000,000, Terre Haute today faced its second disaster in 47 hours, when the waters of the Wabash left their banks, flooding part of the residence district.

Many families whose homes had escaped destruction in the tornado were surrounded and the residents were forced to flee for their lives.

The river has passed the 25-foot stage and is rising at the rate of five inches an hour. Railroad traffic is practically suspended and interurban traction service has been abandoned. Residents of Taylorville, Robertsville and West Terre Haute have deserted their homes. Five hundred houses are under water and the coal mines near here are flooded.

Relief stations established near the flooded districts are swamped with applications for aid.

GRADUATED TAX FAVORED

Tariff Schedule to Await Conference With President.

WASHINGTON, March 25.—A consensus of sentiment for a graduated form of income tax, as a part of the single tariff revision measure to be put through Congress at the extra session, developed at a meeting of the full majority of the House ways and means committee today.

Chairman Underwood and his Democratic colleagues labored all day on the income feature of the new tariff plan without coming to any formal agreement.

It is probable that nothing further will be done on the tariff schedules until the President finishes studying and conferring over them.

WIND DROWNS OUT CRIES

Girl Pinned Under Wreckage Uses Signs to Attract Rescuers.

OMAHA, March 25.—Miss Gurtha Long was compelled to resort to the sign language Sunday night after her screams failed to attract the attention of would-be rescuers standing within a few feet of her.

Miss Long was in her home when the storm broke. She was thrown this way and that and was finally pinned beneath some wreckage, with mattress and blankets over her. As soon as the storm passed men rushed into the house to find the girl, but were not able to find her, in spite of her screams, because of the roar of the wind and the stamping of feet. Miss Long worked one arm through the bedding and, wildly waving it, attracted the men above the wreckage.

MIMI PULL ON TONIGHT

Cable and Anchors for Task Are Re- ceived at Bay City.

BAY CITY, Or., March 25.—(Special.)—Cable for pulling the German bark Mimi off the sand arrived here today on a barge towed by the John Cusby. It will be put ashore tomorrow and the first pull is scheduled for tomorrow night.

One hundred tons of ballast are being removed and the sand dredged from around the grounded vessel. The 11 1000-pound anchors will be dropped about 400 feet ahead of the vessel and as she pulls to the first the others will be placed ahead.

An effort to get the vessel into deep water will be made at 2:30 A. M. Wednesday.

FORTUNE ELUDES GRASP

Missing Husband's Signature Neces- sary to Obtain Legacy.

CHICAGO, March 25.—Penniless and unable to collect a legacy of \$25,000 until she finds her husband or establishes his death, Mrs. Martha May appealed to the police today to search for him.

May, a traveling photographer, disappeared five months ago. A few days later Mrs. May received word that her mother had died at Dresden, Germany, leaving her an estate valued at \$25,000. The German law requires the signatures of both husband and wife or proof that the husband is dead before a legacy can be awarded.

BRIDGE OUT AT COLUMBUS

Scioto River Rising Rapidly at Early Hour This Morning.

COLUMBUS, O., March 25.—(Wednes-
day.)—The Broad-street bridge over the Scioto River, the last connecting link between the east and west divisions of the city, was swept away shortly after 1 A. M.

The river is rising rapidly, due to a heavy rain.

FOURTH ROBBER GETS LIFE

Youth of 20 Shares Sentence of Three Who Have Gone Before.

CHICAGO, March 25.—Frank McErlane, 20 years old, one of the automobile bandits, was found guilty of highway robbery today and was sentenced to life imprisonment.

Three other members of the band previously had been sentenced to life terms.

PORTLAND OFFERS AID TO SUFFERERS

Funds Will Be Sent to Omaha, if Needed.

WORD FROM OHIO IS AWAITED

Elks Instruct Omaha Body to Draw on Local Lodge.

MANY JOIN RELIEF MOVE

Commercial Bodies Pledge Assis- tance to Stricken Cities—Chamber of Commerce Official Recipient of Funds for Aid of Victims.

INFORMATION CONCERNING FLOOD SUFFERERS WANTED.

The Oregonian desires information concerning Portland people or relatives of Portland people in Dayton, Hamilton, Delaware, O., Fort Wayne, Ind. or other points in the flood district. Please communicate with this office today.

IF THE PEOPLE OF OMAHA OR THE OFFICIALS OF THAT STRICKEN CITY NEED ANY HELP PORTLAND STANDS READY TO OFFER IT.

Assurances to this effect were sent to Mayor Dahlman, of Omaha, yesterday by the Mayor and presidents of Portland's commercial bodies who, on the previous day, had sent messages of sympathy and offers of aid.

Thus far no word has come from Omaha asking for assistance. It is understood that the people there are undertaking to care for the homeless without outside help. This was the tenor of the note sent by Mayor Dahlman to President Wilson and it is probable that this same brazen and determined attitude can be maintained toward the rest of the world from which kind offers have come.

Elks Offer Funds.

C. C. Bradley, exalted ruler of the Portland Lodge of Elks, telegraphed the Omaha lodge yesterday to draw on the Portland Elks for whatever funds are needed to care for the homeless. It is reported, however, that the grand lodge of Elks has sent substantial contributions to Omaha for this purpose and that the subordinate lodges will not be called upon. The Elks' home at Omaha has been turned into a hospital, according to advice received here.

A. L. Mohler, president of the Union Pacific, telegraphed to J. D. Farrell, president of the O.-W. R. & N. Company, yesterday that more than 50 Union Pacific employes have been made homeless. The company is caring for

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INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

The Weather.
YESTERDAY'S—Maximum temperature, 44 degrees; minimum, 29 degrees.
TODAY'S—Fair; variable winds, mostly southerly.

Storm and Floods.

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Ohio headwaters flood Northern and Western Pennsylvania. Page 2.
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Portland and Vicinity.

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Engagement of Miss Flynn announced. Page 12.

Veteran lawyers of city are guests of honor at bar banquet.

East Side favored as entrance to city by Clackamas Southern. Page 18.
Lodgers rescued from fire destroying Park Hill Hotel. Page 5.

BIG BOND ISSUE SECURED

Northwestern Electric Company Files \$10,000,000 Mortgage.

One of the largest fees in the history of Multnomah County was paid yesterday at the courthouse when a \$10,000,000 mortgage covering the properties and rights of the Northwestern Electric Company was filed for record. It is made out in favor of the Anglo-California Trust Company, of San Francisco, and is a first mortgage guaranteeing an issue of 10,000 30-year 5 per cent gold bonds of the denomination of \$1000 each. The recording fee was \$49.90.

The Northwestern Electric Company recently secured a franchise to sell light and power in Portland. The money being raised from the sale of bonds is being used in the development of power sites near White Salmon and at other points in Washington. The San Francisco trust company is simply trustee for the bondholders.

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ALDERMAN CHOSEN HEAD OF SCHOOLS

Superintendent Named for One-Year Term.

RIGLER IS MADE SUPERVISOR

Special Schools Placed on Strong Foundation Is Aim.

SALARY INCREASE DENIED

Owing to Opposition in School Board to State Official, Compromise Re- sults and Pay Remains at \$4500 Annually.

L. R. Alderman, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, was elected superintendent of the Portland schools by the Board of Education yesterday afternoon. The vote was three to two, L. N. Fieschner, J. V. Beach and M. G. Munly voting in favor and R. L. Sabin and Mrs. J. B. Kerr voting against him. He was elected for a one-year term.

At the same meeting, Frank Rigler, who has been superintendent of city schools for many years, and who had resigned voluntarily, was elected supervisor of special schools, including the night schools, summer schools and vocational schools, a work in which he has become deeply interested and which he suggested for a strong foundation.

The Board also elected D. A. Grout and C. A. Rice as assistant superintendents for a two-year term. Mr. Grout has long been connected with the schools in this capacity and by many was said to be a good man to succeed his present chief, Mr. Rigler. Mr. Rice has been an assistant, but one year.

Thomas Is Re-Elected.

R. H. Thomas, who has been clerk of the Board for a number of years, was re-elected for another term of one year. He has systematized the work of the district and has brought order out of chaos.

One of the surprises of the meeting, which was executive, was that Mr. Alderman was elected for but one year and that the pay of the superintendent was not increased. It stands at \$4500 a year. There were recommendations from some clubs and various persons urging an increase, but it is said the opposition to Mr. Alderman made it necessary for those favoring him to make some compromises in order to elect him at all. It was decided that Mr. Alderman would be chosen for one

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TOP ESTIMATE ON LOSS OF LIFE 7675

FIGURES BASED ON UNVERI- FIED NEWS FROM 2 STATES.

Homeless in Ohio and Indiana Esti- mated at 100,000—Property Loss Placed at \$25,000,000.

CHICAGO, March 25.—Unverified reports from flood-swept cities in Ohio and Indiana show the following estimated loss of life:

Ohio—
Dayton, 100 to 5000; Piqua (rumored), 540; Delaware, 50 to 100; Sidney 23 to 50; Middletown, 15 to 20; Hamilton, 12; Tippencanoe City, 3 to 5; scattering, 15; total Ohio, 759 to 7175.

Indiana—
Peru, 200 to 500; Newcastle, 3; Lafayette, 2; Noblesville, 2; Frankfort, 1; Fort Wayne, 1; Rushville, 1; total Indiana, 210 to 500.

Grand total, 959 to 7675.

The homeless, most of them temporarily, are estimated to number upwards of 100,000.

The property damage is roughly estimated at \$25,000,000 or more.

All the great railroad systems running through the flooded states are tied up by floods and washouts.

COX PLANS TO SEND AID CALL

Ohio's Governor Fears State Will Have to Ask for Supplies.

COLUMBUS, O., March 25.—"If our worst fears are confirmed, it will be necessary for us to call on the outside world for supplies in order to make provision for the worst calamity that has ever befallen this state," said Governor Cox in a telegram he sent tonight to the New York World.

The Governor also informed the New York paper that troops were ordered out for duty in the Capital City and that the Naval Reserves were dispatched from Toledo to Piqua.

The Dayton companies are on duty in this city, he said.

Cincinnati companies, presumably, the Governor said in his message, would be dispatched to Hamilton and Middletown in the Miami Valley, which sent out distress signals shortly after noon.

Governor Cox late tonight issued an order to Brigadier-General Speaks to call out the entire Ohio National Guard tomorrow morning for duty in the flood-swept district, which comprises practically the whole state.

ROSEBUD PARADE GETS O.K.

School Board Sanctions Rose Festival Juvenile Feature.

"Human Rosebuds" will be furnished for the great parade of children, one of the best features of the Rose Festival week, by the schools of Portland. Members of the Board of Education gave the event their approval yesterday upon request of a committee from the East Side Business Men's Club.

R. L. Sabin, chairman of the Board, called attention of the members to the fact that the parade and necessary drilling is opposed by "some of the best principals and teachers," but suggested that the children might give a calliathenics drill, instead Mr. Beach thought nothing less than the parade would satisfy the people and it was finally ordered.

It was stipulated that the parade is purely a voluntary matter with parents, children, principals and teachers, the Board simply giving consent under those conditions. Therefore, no child will be obliged to participate.

ANIMAL PICTURES CAUGHT

W. L. Finley Secures Rare Photo- graphs by Daring Feats.

William L. Finley, State Game Warden, returned yesterday from a two weeks' hunting trip near Oak Ridge, Lane County, where he had gone to study the destruction done to game and domestic animals by wolves, wild cats and cougars. George H. Kelly, of the State Game Commission; Jack Rees and Walter Gadsby, of Portland, and Jasper Hills, of Oak Ridge, who accompanied Mr. Finley, remained to continue the hunt.

The party had three hounds, and at the time Mr. Finley left they had killed two cougars, or mountain lions, and three wildcats. Mr. Finley obtained many photographs of the wild animals climbing trees. He exposed three and one-half dozen films on a wounded wildcat.

Mr. Kelly was badly scratched by a wounded wildcat.

BARLEY CROP IS DAMAGED

Walla Walla Farmers Complain of Prices Charged for Their Seed.

WALLA WALLA, Wash., March 25.—(Special.)—The cold weather has damaged the barley crop north of the town, according to a dozen or more farmers, who were here today to purchase seed barley.

Wheat, which is more hardy, has withstood the cold. The farmers have to pay \$30 a ton for seed barley and get but \$21 and \$22. They are making complaints.

MOTHER RESCUES CHILD

Woman Dashes Into Burning House Just Before It Collapses.

Just before the roof of her burning house fell in, Mrs. Charles R. Simmonds, of 240 East Seventh-ninth street, North, rushed in through the blazing rooms and snatched up her year-old baby yesterday morning.

She returned safely to the outside, and then the dwelling collapsed. Neither mother or child was injured.

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STORM-SWEPT INDIANA LIKE ONE VAST SEA

More Than 200 Lives Lost, With Property Damage of Twenty Millions.

CR.EKS ARE RAGING RIVERS

Plight of Indianapolis Pre- cludes Giving of Aid to Outside Districts.

WHOLE STATE IS UNPREPARED

Number of Homeless Is Es- timated Close to 200,000.

COLD ADDS TO SUFFERING

Militia Aids Police in Patrolling Stricken Districts—Situation in Smaller Towns Is Border- ing on Desperate.

INDIANAPOLIS, March 25.—The waters of Fall Creek are threatening the city hospital, where a large number of patients are confined. Governor Ralston has ordered out the hospital corps of the Indiana National Guard to aid in removing the sick to a large hall.

INDIANAPOLIS, March 25.—A state-wide flood, appalling in its immensity and terrifying in its swiftness, claimed certainly more than 300 lives, according to fragmentary reports, made nearly 200,000 homeless and has done property damage of more than \$20,000,000 in Indiana today and tonight.

The rush of waters caught the state unprepared, and the following desperate fight to "save life and property" seemed futile.

From Peru came a sudden message that the town was overwhelmed and hundreds drowned before they knew their full peril.

Creeks Usually Dry Are Torrents.

The White River and several creeks which surround the business district of Indianapolis, ordinarily dry in Summer, are tonight raging torrents, sweeping everything in their path. When the streetcar service was stopped at noon it trapped thousands in the business district. Some bridges are unsafe and traffic and the waters sweeping over the others defy vehicles and pedestrians.

The White River levee at Morris street went out tonight, submerging hundreds of homes, adding 2000 to the 7000 homeless here.

Hops of Saving Levee Gone.

Thousands of spectators were watching the river when, with a roar, hundreds of tons of dirt crumbled under the pressure and great walls of murky black water rushed through the opening. People living in the vicinity property they could hastily tie up in sheets, tablecloths and bedding.

All hopes of saving part of the levee has been abandoned and all families were removed from that district. No loss of life has been reported here, but several persons are reported missing.

The Washington-street bridge, which connects West Indianapolis with the city proper, is shaky tonight and it is feared it will be torn out.

The majority of street lights are shut off and the water is flowing into cellars and extinguishing furnace fires, while the mercury is dropping.

The entire state is practically one huge sea and every brook, creek and river is taking its toll of damage.

Public service corporations of the entire state are helpless, railroads and traction lines have cancelled nearly all trains and many cities are without fire protection and light.

Rescuers Kept Busy.

Dwellers along streams today devoted their labors to rescuing those trapped in their homes and to removing furniture and merchandise to higher ground.

During the day reports of loss of life were received, but none has been verified, because wire service is paralyzed. Seven are known to have been drowned, two at Lafayette, three at Newcastle, and one at Frankfort and one at Rushville.

The appalling swiftness with which the waters have risen caught the entire state unprepared. Streams that were brooks Easter morning have become raging torrents during the last 24 hours. Persons who retired apparently safe at home last night this morning were rescued from second-story windows by boats.

No hope for relief to the stricken (Concluded on Page 2.)

