

200 PEOPLE KILLED IN OMAHA CYCLONE

TEN MILLIONS
PROPERTY LOSS
FROM TORNADO

Hundred and Sixty-Nine Buildings
Razed, 200 Damaged—Storm Area
Six Blocks Wide—Bodies Hurled
Hundred of Yards by Wind

Heavy Rain Follows Cyclone Saves
Many Buildings Threatened With
Destruction by Fire

OMAHA, Neb., March 24.—At 3 o'clock this afternoon the known dead in the cyclone which swept Omaha and the other cities and towns of the middle west totalled 179, with a number of outlying points still unreported. The table follows:

- Omaha, Council Bluffs and Ralston, 96.
- Yutan, 15.
- Berlin, 8.
- Other Nebraska towns, 18.
- Terre Haute, Indiana, 18.
- Marion, Ind., 2.
- Woodbine, Iowa, 6.
- Flat Springs, Mo., 5.
- Chicago, 4.
- Erie, Ill., 4.
- Bonifay, Florida, 3.
- Total known dead, 179.

OMAHA, Neb., March 24.—With ninety-six known dead through the cyclone which wrecked this city and neighboring communities last night Mayor James C. Dahlman at 1 o'clock this afternoon still declared he estimated the number of dead in Omaha and its immediate vicinity at two hundred. The ninety-six known dead are those only found in Omaha, Ralston and Council Bluffs up to this time, but there is little doubt that many more bodies will be recovered in the three hours before night. Twenty-five persons are definitely known to be missing, including two babies, but the confusion everywhere makes all estimates as yet mostly guess work. Many thousands have been injured more or less seriously.

In Council Bluffs the property loss is estimated at about \$250,000.

100 Buildings Razed.

One hundred and sixty-nine buildings were razed in Omaha, divided as follows: Houses 150, churches 11, and schools 8.

More than 200 other houses were badly damaged.

At a special meeting this afternoon, Mayor Dahlman and the city commissioners appropriated \$25,000 for the relief of the sufferers.

A thorough inspection this afternoon confirmed the report that the property damaged here would reach \$10,000,000. The storm area here was six blocks wide and nearly every house in its path was razed or badly damaged.

Bodies of victims were found today hundreds of yards from where the wind struck. The cries of injured persons drew rescuers to many different points simultaneously.

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WILSON OFFERS AID
TO CYCLONE SUFFERERS

WASHINGTON, March 24.—At the request of Jos. P. Tumulty, President Wilson's secretary, the United Press Association delivered a message from Wilson to Mayor Dahlman of Omaha, over the United Press wire, after all efforts to transmit the message over commercial wires had failed.

The message offered sympathy and assistance to the stricken city. Mayor Dahlman replied that he thought he could handle the situation.

TROOPS GUARD
RUINED DISTRICT
FROM PILLAGE

Council Bluffs and Adjoining Cities
Also Suffer—Insurance Recovery
Only Half Million—Frightful Stories of Havoc Wrought by Storm

Storm Originated Near Louisville,
Swept Along Platte River to Ashland, Thence to Omaha via Ralston

OMAHA, Neb., March 24.—Two hundred dead and \$10,000,000 loss in Omaha alone is the toll taken by the worst tornado which ever visited Nebraska, according to declarations at 11 o'clock today by Mayor John Dahlman, Governor Morehead and Commissioner Ryder. These predictions were made after the three officials had toured the devastated sections in an automobile. It was also admitted that these figures might be increased later in the day. The estimates above do not include the dead at Ralston, a suburb, or in Council Bluffs, Iowa, just across the Missouri river from here.

Latest reports from Council Bluffs say that four more bodies had been taken from homes in the storm's path. This brings the list of known dead there up to 12.

Loss Is Ten Millions.

It is now believed that the tornado went further east than was at first reported, causing more fatalities than earlier advices indicated.

A canvass of every tornado insurance company here leads to the belief that the \$10,000,000 loss is covered by only \$500,000 insurance. This is partly due to the Indian prophecy that Omaha was immune from cyclones. The residents of the city had placed great confidence in this prediction, and carried but little insurance. The city frequently has been visited by high winds, but never before suffered serious damage.

More than 100,000 grief-stricken and hysterical persons assailed every source of information today for assurances that relatives and friends are safe.

Regiment on Guard.

Soldiers and police are keeping the crowds back by main force. Six relief stations have been established on the North Side. An entire regiment of state militia will be on the scene before night.

Reports from outlying towns tell frightful stories of the havoc wrought by the storm. Fears are expressed for the residents of Gretna, Ashland and Louisville, all Nebraska towns, which lie in the center of the cyclone's path. Communication with these towns still is down.

BLAZING HOUSES
LINED STREETS

OMAHA, Neb., March 24.—George Hammer, one of the most prominent merchants in the middle west, proprietor of the Byrne-Hammer Dry Goods company, was taken from the wreckage last night. He died in a hospital this morning. Mrs. Arthur Lavidge and her baby son, who were visiting the Hammer family, were seriously injured. A street car on the North Side was totally destroyed and ten passengers seriously injured. Conductor Caldwell saw the cyclone coming and shouted a warning. He rushed to a basement of a nearby building, accompanied by the several passengers. The storm struck the car a moment later. After the storm Caldwell complied with the company's rules and remained with his wrecked car all night.

Deatur and Franklin streets are filled with debris. These streets were lined with blazing homes for a following of the storm. The Idlewild Refugees rushed to the hilltops of both streets and watched their homes

CHILD INSTITUTE
AND CONVENT IN
CYCLONE'S PATH

Babes Blown Away and Picked Up
Safe and Sound—Phone Girls Are
Heroines of Occasion—Church and
Convent Wrecked by Gale

Wires in All Directions Down Making
Details Tardy—Town of Yutan Destroyed, With 15 Dead

OMAHA, Neb., March 24.—A soldier who guarded the corner of Twenty-eighth and Lake streets all night reported that seven corpses were recovered there before his arrival, and that from 10 to 15 more were removed after his arrival. Two babies were picked up and blown away from the Child Saving Institute, on the west side, where foundations are cared for. This institution was in the center of the storm's path. Others were found dead, piled in heaps on the floor. One child, called Thelma, was found dead a block away. The other, a little girl named Cynthia is still missing. Nearly everybody in the institution was injured, some seriously; others escaped with slight bruises.

Phone Girls Heroines.

Omaha's telephone girls proved themselves heroines. Not a girl deserted her post, remaining with the receivers glued to their ears, sending all calls for assistance and doing yeoman service. So far as known none of the operators was injured.

Linenmen are busy today repairing the wrecked lines. The Webster telephone exchange on the north side was the center of rescue activities, physicians, army officers, nurses and soldiers receiving duty calls from there. About 175 girls were at work there when the storm struck. They continued at their post while windows were shattered and while they themselves were showered by broken glass.

Buried Under Wall.

One of the restrooms in the Webster exchange was converted into a morgue and another room was set aside for the injured. F. E. Russell, aged 63, lay on the floor of the exchange with his face and body frightfully crushed. He had been buried under a brick wall at Twenty-fourth and Lake streets, fire surrounding him on all sides. He was almost dead when rescued.

Rev. P. J. Judge, pastor of the Sacred Heart Catholic church, remained at the telephone exchange comforting the suffering and offering prayers for the dying throughout the night. Many members of his congregation were injured. Trees and poles fill the streets about the exchange, making it impossible for

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KING OF THE HELLENES, WHO WAS ASSASSINATED, HIS WIFE AND A VIEW OF THE ROYAL PALACE AT TATOI



QUEEN OLGA OF GREECE



THE TATOL PALACE



KING GEORGE I OF GREECE

In the above photographs are pictured George I, the King of the Hellenes, who was assassinated on March 18 at Salonica, the city he had just wrested from the Turks at the head of a victorious army; his wife, Queen Olga, and a view of the Royal Palace at Tatol.

UNITED PRESS
ONLY WIRE INTO
STRIKEN OMAHA

NEW YORK, March 24.—At 11 o'clock today H. S. Brooks, general commercial superintendent of the American Telephone and Telegraph company issued the following statement:

"Although this company has suffered heavily by the tornado, we have had one wire working out of Omaha since 5:45 o'clock (eastern time) this morning. To this hour it seems to be the only wire working out of the stricken city.

"We have been besieged with requests for even a few moments use of this wire but we have turned it over to the United Press exclusively, on the theory, that through its channels, the news will reach every section of the country and the government officials and the executives of adjoining states, who can take proper action.

"We have even set aside our own desires to communicate more directly with our own people. In the hour of distress such as this the public is entitled to consideration ahead of any commercial needs."

COLD WEATHER
IN NORTHWEST

PORTLAND, Ore., March 24.—Cold weather continued prevalent throughout the Northwest today, although the temperature and storm conditions are gradually moderating. Rain and snow in many parts of the Northwest prevented the usual display of Easter fire yesterday.

HYDE JUROR FOUND
DEAD FROM ASSAULT

KANSAS CITY, Mo., March 24.—Found in a side street with his head battered, at the conclusion of the trial, C. C. Spangler, a member of the third jury in the case of Dr. B. C. Hyde, accused of killing Colonel Thomas H. Swope, is dead here today.

The jury failed to agree on a verdict but it is believed the assault was the outcome of the trial.

The National Print Cutters, association of America will convene at York, Pa., on April 26.

FLORIDA SWEEP
BY CYCLONE AS
IS ALABAMA

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., March 24.—Three persons were killed and twenty-two injured in a cyclone which swept Bonifay, Florida, last night, according to reports received here today.

Alabama was also swept by the cyclone. Most of the wires in that state are down, and details have not been received.

MISSOURI TOWN
RUINED BY STORM

DES MOINES, Iowa, March 24.—Telegrams received here today state that the town of Flag Springs, Mo., with six hundred inhabitants, was swept by storm. Five bodies have already been recovered, several are missing and many injured. Several churches and ten residences were destroyed.

EIGHT MEET DEATH
AT BERLIN, NEBRASKA

LINCOLN, Neb., March 24.—Reports received here this afternoon say that eight persons met death in a cyclone which yesterday practically destroyed Berlin, Neb., five miles southeast of here. Nebraska City is the nearest town to Berlin but the roads between the towns are impassable. Only a church and one residence were left standing in Berlin.

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BOY, DESPONDENT, SHOOTS SELF

Despondent because he accidentally inflicted a knife wound upon a companion during a scuffle Sunday afternoon, Lloyd Wilgammott, aged 16, shot himself shortly after the noon hour today, just below the left shoulder. No serious consequences are expected.

Young Wilgammott is employed in the tailoring establishment of W. W. Eifert on West Main street. He returned from lunch today and shortly after Mrs. Collins, the mother of the boy injured in a scuffle with Wilgammott Sunday, entered and left her son's trousers, more or less blood-stained to be cleaned. Wilgammott then took a .32 calibre shell, wrapped a piece of leather about it and inserted it in a .38 revolver. He then walked out to the wood shed in the rear of the shop and shot himself in the shoulder. He rushed back into the shop, called to Mr. Eifert that he had shot himself and fell. The ambulance was called and the boy rushed to the hospital. It is not believed that his life is in danger unless infection follows.

Mr. Eifert states that Wilgammott seemed to be worrying during the entire morning, culminating when the trousers came in. The boy evidently held himself to blame for the accident to Collins although he was not blamed by Collins or witnesses.

THIRTY KILLED
BY CYCLONE AT
TERRE HAUTE

175 Injured and 145 Buildings Destroyed Thousands of Homeless People Being Fed in School Houses by City—Freaks of Storm

Many Towns Report Death and Destruction—Insane Refugee Fights Rescuers—Mother Made Maniac

TERRE HAUTE, Ind., March 24.—Up to noon today twenty bodies had been removed from the wreckage wrought by yesterday's tornado, and it is now estimated that the total dead here will reach thirty. 150 were injured and 130 homes wrecked.

The cyclone took a northeasterly course against Terre Haute, razing buildings and putting the electric light plant out of commission. The city was in darkness after the storm last night but very little looting was reported. Hundreds of citizens volunteered to aid the police in patrolling the streets, and their offers were accepted. All the public schools have been turned into hospitals.

Other Towns Destroyed.

Reports received here today say that many were killed by storms in Heath Vigo county. While it was reported there had been fatalities in Perth, later advices say no one was killed.

Prairieton, a village of 400 persons six miles from here, was destroyed by cyclone. It is impossible to learn the fatalities there as the roads are impassable.

At noon the city fed 1000 homeless people in two schoolhouses. There are 15 corpses in the morgue and 175 injured in the hospitals. Rescuers are digging in the ruins of many homes and expect to find more dead.

One insane refugee fought his rescuers. A mother was found standing in the rain beside her two children and asked the rescuers not to wake her baby. Unknown to her, one of her children had been disemboweled by falling timbers, and the other was suffering from fatal wounds in its head.

Known Dead Here Are:

Mrs. Fred King and baby.
Moses Carter.
Mrs. Moses Carter and baby.
Mrs. Tally.
Miss Bell, 12.
Unidentified woman.
Charles Edwards, 8.
Jeff Fox.
McCarter.
Rodgers.
Neal Yeager.
Charles Davis.
James Brown.
J. B. Houck.
Four unidentified men.
Fatally injured:
Mrs. Leonard Stern and day old baby.
Mrs. Catherine Loudon.
Reese Loudon.
Mrs. Flora Woods and baby.

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INVALID CAUGHT
IN WRECKED HOME

OMAHA, Neb., March 24.—B. H. Field, an invalid, was caught in the wreckage of his home. He was extricated, but died five minutes later.

The home of Mrs. James Byrnes was demolished, but she escaped unhurt. Nathan Stevens and 12 other members of his household fled to the cellar and escaped unhurt when his house was wrecked.

Mrs. Lee Utt was taking a bath when the storm broke. Hearing the rumbling she jumped from the tub and fled from the house unhurt. The house was wrecked.