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MEDFORD, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 1913.

NO. 3.

3000 DEATHS FROM FLOOD AT DAYTON FIRE ADDS TO TERRORS OF DELUGE

DAYTON CITY OF DEAD AND DYING HOMELESS AND GRIEF STRICKEN AND MONEY LOSS IS STUPENDOUS

Fire Adds to Horrors of Situation—Buildings Crowded With Refugees
Collapse—Death Census Delayed Until Flood Subsides—Money Not
Wanted, but Food, Blankets and Shelter—Whirlpool Cuts off City
From World—Mad Waters Swirl Among Skyscrapers—Big Hotels and
Theatres Under Water—Sullen Glare of Flames Lights Up Tragedy
Staff Correspondent of United Press Vividly Describes Scenes

EVERY MINUTE ADDSTO HORROR OF SITUATION

Calamity Greatest Since That of Galveston Flood—Hundreds Perish in
Dayton Burned Alive in Flood Isolated Buildings—Wild Stories

Comprehensive Estimate of Fatalities
Impossible—Many Other Towns
Endangered by Rising Streams

STORM ADDS TO HORROR OF FLOOD DISTRICT

Terrific Downpour Throughout Indiana Increases Perils—Corpses
Floating in Flood Waters Pass Indianapolis—Cities Without Water

Passenger Train Drops Through
Flood Weakened Bridge Over the
Wabash and Is Lost in Stream

DAYTON AFIRE; FLAMES SWEEP MANY BLOCKS

From Ten to Twelve Thousand Refugees in Buildings Aflame and
Fighting Fire With Buckets—Governor Appeals to Farmers to Aid

Three Carload of Boats Due This Afternoon—Fatalities "Not More than
Three Thousand"

HALF MILLION PEOPLE HOMELESS PROPERTY LOSS IS \$50,000,000 FROM OHIO AND INDIANA FLOODS

Miami Valley for 80 Miles is Inundated—Dayton, Piqua, Troy, Sidney Carrolton, Hamilton and a Dozen Smaller Towns Submerged—Part of
Columbus Under Water—Delaware Flooded—Peru Suffers Terribly—
Fort Wayne, Marion, Muncie Partly Under Water—Kokomo and Other
Cities Isolated—Terre Haute, Logansport and Fifty Other Indiana
Cities Flooded

FIRE ADDS TO HORROR OF DISASTER

COLUMBUS, Ohio, March 26.—Fire is sweeping Dayton this afternoon and its residents are meeting death in the flames, according to information received by Governor Cox here.

At 2 o'clock this afternoon the governor announced his determination to reach Dayton with state troops and assistance, regardless of cost. He plans to send a train to Cleveland, and from there to Toledo, hoping to reach Piqua or Troy from that city. He hopes to send the militia and supplies and newspaper men into Dayton by boats from Troy.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, March 26.—The deaths in Dayton may reach 2000. It is the worst calamity since the Galveston flood. This alarming message was received here this afternoon by Governor Cox from George Burba, the governor's private secretary, who wired from Springfield.

"The river at Dayton," the message added, "is four miles wide. I cannot get anywhere near the city. It is awful. The water is up to the second story of the Phillips House."

At 2 o'clock this afternoon Governor Cox was notified that Zanesville, Ohio, is in danger of immediate destruction. The situation, the message said, could not be worse. Frantic appeals for aid were included in the telegram.

WASHINGTON, March 26.—The flood waters in Indiana and Ohio will be augmented by continued rains, according to the forecast issued here this afternoon by the government weather bureau.

Reports received from Pittsburg say that the Allegheny river there is rising at an alarming rate.

(Staff Correspondence)
DAYTON, Ohio, March 26.—(By a messenger to Lebanon, Ohio)—Dayton today is a city of the dead, the dying, the homeless and the grief-stricken. The tragic story will be unknown until the last bodies are removed from the flood or from ruins of the fire that is spreading unchecked in the southern section of the city.

The whole story probably will never be known—the heroism of men, the martyrdom of women, and the mad hysteria which caused some to leap into the flood.

A man marooned on the roof of his home shot and killed his wife and three children, and then sent a bullet into his own brain rather than see them drown. A man who witnessed this act gave me the details. Their bodies, he said, floated away.

There may be a hundred dead—or

a thousand. The death census will not be taken until the waters recede, leaving their prey behind.

The money loss is heavy—but nobody cares about the money loss, though it will run into millions. Dayton, once proud and wealthy, found money the most useless thing in the world in its hour of disaster. It does not want money. It asks only for food, clothing, nurses, doctors and medicines.

J. C. Hale, in charge of the relief committee, sends the following message to the rest of the nation through the United Press:

"Don't send money; we cannot use it."

This dispatch is written half a 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. Only one mile intervenes, but it might as well be a thousand or 5,000 miles, for no word of what has happened beyond that whirlpool since noon yesterday has come across that brief mile of water.

Flood Surrounds Hospital.

It is known that big hotels are under water; that theatres are flooded; that department stores are floating away; that the jail is inundated; that churches are awash that St. Elizabeth's hospital is surrounded by water and that its six hundred patients are imprisoned by the flood.

No one beyond the flood zone knows the disaster that has overtaken that part of Dayton, which was nothing but the sullen glare of flames last night to light up the tragedy and its mysteries. It was a night of terror, and that part of Dayton having homes to sleep in woke up this morning heartbroken.

Fires Break Out.

The flames last night showed men, women and children perched on the roofs of houses in the path of the flames, watching the fire.

Some ventured into the tumultuous

(Continued on Page 4)

COLUMBUS, Ohio, March 26.—With every minute bringing news of fresh disaster, there is not a doubt this afternoon that hundreds—possibly thousands—of human beings have perished in Ohio and Indiana in the terrific floods which are making of those states one vast grave. No man can say within hundreds how many lives have been lost.

Probably two thousand souls have perished in Dayton, according to the secretary of Governor Cox of Ohio. Later reports say that hundreds are being burned alive there, penned like rats in the upper stories of flood isolated buildings.

Waste of Tossing Waters.
Eighty miles of the rich Miami valley, in which Dayton lies, is a waste of tossing waters, bearing on their breast the bodies of countless humans and animals killed by the flood.

From all over Indiana and Ohio come momentarily wild stories of ruin and dismay. Columbus, Hamilton, Peru, Piqua, Zanesville, Indianapolis and a hundred other towns and villages hourly swell the toll of death.

Anything like a comprehensive estimate of the fatalities is impossible and will be impossible for many hours. From Washington comes the information that streams which as yet have not slain are rising in the banks and many towns in Pennsylvania are in danger.

Million People Homeless.

There is no doubt that close to one million people, homeless, homeless, starving and freezing, are either marooned in their wasted homes or camping desolate on the bare hill-sides of the stricken region. The damage to property will surely amount to uncounted millions.

Every resource of the Ohio and Indiana governors backed a personal appeal from the president

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., March 26.—A terrific storm this afternoon added to the horrors of the flood situation in northern Indiana. The first authentic knowledge that deaths have occurred here came this afternoon when the corpses of a man, a woman and two children were seen floating in the flood waters in West Indianapolis.

Indianapolis is without water, gas and transportation facilities. Wabash, Logansport, Kokomo, Peru, Lafayette and a score of smaller towns in the Wabash valley are isolated. Most of these places are without water, electricity, food and fuel.

Reports from the south indicate that the waters are rising in that section.

A passenger train on the Chicago & Eastern Illinois railroad dropped through a flood weakened bridge over the Wabash river at Clinton, Ind., according to a report received this afternoon. The news cannot be confirmed.

JIM HAM LEWIS ELECTED SENATOR WITH SHERMAN

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., March 26.—James Hamilton Lewis, democrat, and Lawrence Y. Sherman, republican, were elected United States senators here today by a combination of democrats and republicans in the state legislature.

Seventy democrats and sixty republicans pledged themselves to vote for Lewis for the long term and Sherman for the short term.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, March 26.—At 3:30 o'clock this afternoon John Bell, wire chief at Dayton, telephoned Governor Cox here that the fire in the flooded district of Dayton had leaped across Third street and was sweeping the next block. Governor Cox was advised, via Springfield, that from 10,000 to 12,000 persons were in the burning buildings. They are fighting the fires, lifting water from the flood in buckets.

Dead Placed at 3000.

Three carloads of boats on a special train from Springfield passed Xenia and are due in Dayton at 3:30. Cox notified Bell, who shouted the good news across the street to the firefighters.

The Y. M. C. A. is trying to direct the flood rescue operations. Its members started in row boats to meet the train and pilot the rescuers to the scene of the fire.

Edward Hanley, a wealthy Dayton man, notified Governor Cox, via Springfield, at 3:30 that he estimated the fatalities then at "not more than 3000."

The Beekel hotel in Dayton took fire at noon but the guests fought the flames desperately and managed to subdue them.

Appeal for Help.

"Buildings along Third street, Dayton, are burning and people in them are dying. Farmers and every one else ought to try to get to Dayton this afternoon, even at the risk of their own lives."

This frantic appeal to the residents of Ohio was voiced by Governor Cox this afternoon through the United Press.

"All people living along the rivers leading to Dayton," pleaded the governor, "ought to try to get there in boats at once. I appeal especially to the people of Troy, where there is a boat club."

Leading Fusion Candidates for Mayoralty of New York



Charles S. Whitman.

John Purroy Mitchel.

George McAneny.

SUMMARY OF FLOOD DAMAGE IN OHIO AND INDIANA

CLEVELAND, Ohio, March 26.—It was still impossible at 1 o'clock this afternoon to accurately estimate the total of the flood fatalities in Ohio and Indiana, but it is believed that fully five hundred thousand were made homeless. Two thousand dead is a conservative figure. The property damage will exceed \$50,000,000.

Ohio—The Miami valley for 80 miles is flooded, inundating Dayton, Piqua, Troy, Sidney, Carrollton, Miamisburg, Hamilton and a dozen smaller towns. It is estimated the dead in Dayton will be between one thousand and two thousand. There is no definite estimate from the other cities.

In the Mad River valley, West Liberty and Springfield are floods.

The Scioto river overflowed, inundating part of Columbus and the adjacent small communities.

Delaware is flooded. Twenty-five persons are reported dead. There are 4,000 homeless.

The Ottawa river flooded Lima.

At Zanesville, the Muskegon river is flooding the city, 2,000 are homeless and the great Sixth Street bridge has been swept away.

Indiana—Peru: Many are reported dead; the city is isolated by the White river. 1,000 homes are inundated, and there is immense property damage loss.

Fort Wayne is flooded, the lighting plant is out of commission and a water famine is threatened.

Marion, Elwood, Broad Ripple, LaFayette, Rushville, Muncie and Noblesville are partly under water.

At Richmond twenty bridges are gone and many are homeless.

Kokomo is flooded by Wildcat Creek and 1,500 are homeless.

Half of the city of Shelbyville is under water.

Logansport is isolated, and scores of houses have been washed away.

The residential section of Terre Haute is flooded, railroad traffic is dead and 500 homes are under water.

CINCINNATI, O., March 26.—South of Dayton lies a low range of hills. Last night there were twenty-five thousand rainsoaked, chilled inhabitants of the city camped there. Their anguish over the certain death of many of their kin was pitiful in the extreme. No tents or other shelter was obtainable apart from the few poor huts on the hills.

Daytonview, a suburb of working-men's homes, is under water and the frame buildings there are swept away. Edgemont and North Dayton are similarly flooded.

Imprisoned upstairs.

Many persons in the downtown district are imprisoned in the third stories of dwellings and business blocks and the roofs there are crowded. Many were reported to be clinging to the tops of trees and the telephone poles.

Down in the great Miami valley, the richest farming section in Ohio, farm houses, barns, livestock and human corpses are all massed together on the crest of the flood. Some places are less than half a mile wide and through these places the swollen river is sweeping with tremendous force, tearing away bridges and all other obstructions.

Fate Still in Doubt.
The fate of the villages of Miamisburg and Franklin is in doubt. It is feared they are wholly or partially destroyed. Hamilton reports five hundred dead, but this is unverified. Eighteen persons are known to be dead in Delaware. It is expected that later reports from the outlying parts of Delaware county will bring the death toll for that county over the hundred mark. The property loss in Toledo is small.

Men on horseback are arriving every hour from Piqua, Sidney, Liddleton and Hamilton, all telling of death and devastation. Thousands of refugees are camped on the hills about these towns, without food and lacking protection against the wind and rain.

The total property loss is expected to run from twenty to fifty millions. In Cleveland and Northern Ohio the damage is tremendous, but the fatalities are few.

Bond declared:
"I have positive assurances from Peru at 1 o'clock this afternoon that the deaths will reach three hundred there."

Bond asserts that twenty-five persons perished in the Peru courthouse alone and that three thousand are seeking refuge in the upper stories of that structure. The factories are crowded with women and children, and there is little food available.

The water is receding rapidly and rescuers probably will begin the search for bodies tomorrow. It is believed many of the drowned were swept miles away from the city.

In one house a whole family of twelve were found dead. It is reported twenty-five corpses have already been found.

FLOOD THREATENS MANY DISTRICTS IN PENNSYLVANIA

PITTSBURG, Pa., March 26.—Flood waters with their consequent fatalities threatened many parts of Pennsylvania, according to the weather bureau here today. The endangered districts have been warned to provide against the possible floods.

The Allegheny river is at flood stage here and is rising at the rate of 10 inches an hour. It is predicted that the river will be 42 feet at Wheeling, W. Va., tomorrow.

The Beaver river has inundated a dozen small towns in Pennsylvania. One death is reported here and one death at Lima, Ohio, from the activity of flood waters.

DEATHS AT PERU FROM BIG FLOOD WILL REACH 300

SOUTH BEND, Ind., March 26.—Three hundred persons perished in the flood waters which engulfed Peru, Ind., according to Manager Bond of the local Bell Telephone company, who is in direct communication with the stricken city.

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