

FLOOD CONDITIONS IMPROVING RAPIDLY; LOSS OF LIFE GREATLY EXAGGERATED IN EARLY REPORTS

ESTIMATE OF FATALITIES CUT DOWN TO 700

Rapidly Receding Waters and Cessation of Rains Make Explorations by Rescue Parties Possible—Weather Prevents Danger of Pestilence

Ohio River on Rampage and Cincinnati Threatened—Refugees Housed and Fed

CLEVELAND, Ohio, March 28.—Improved conditions everywhere throughout the flooded districts of Ohio and Indiana were reported today. Rapidly receding waters and a cessation of rains made explorations by rescue parties possible, and those reported that the early estimates of death in both Ohio and Indiana were greatly exaggerated.

Revised and conservative estimates place the total number of dead in Ohio as low as 600 and the fatalities in Indiana as low as 100. Many Columbus and Indianapolis rescuers regard these figures as too low, but even the most radical estimates now place the number of dead under 1200.

Suffering from lack of wood has been eliminated, and with clear and cold weather prevailing in both of the stricken states, the danger of pestilence is over.

Ohio on Rampage. The Ohio river is on a rampage in certain sections, but reports from Dayton and Columbus say conditions are greatly improved, although commercial paralysis will prevail for days.

Telegraph and railroad service is demoralized in Ohio, there being no wires for the transmission of messages except those of the press associations. A similar situation prevails in Indiana.

It was believed here today that by night every refugee in both Indiana and Ohio would be housed and fed.

Dayton Emerges from Flood. DAYTON, Ohio, March 28.—For the first time since the flood all the water is off the streets in front of the Algonquin hotel. The water reached the second story the first two days.

The downtown section is still flooded. The people rejoiced on the flooded streets. They were glad to be alive. The refugees joked, laughed and cried in turns. They had been

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WHOLE FAMILIES FOUND DEAD IN FLOODED HOMES

COLUMBUS, Ohio, March 28.—At 1 o'clock this afternoon Coroner Benkert estimated that 200 persons met death in the flood here. Rescuers report that whole families were found dead in some of the flooded homes.

Governor Cox this afternoon sent a special message to the state legislature, summarizing the loss of life and damage by flood. He said supplies had reached Zanesville and Piqua; that reports of the fatalities had been exaggerated and that every city asking for troops had been reached.

The state has taken over control of the railroads and are using them for relief purposes.

Governor Cox this afternoon received the following from George Barba, his private secretary, who is at Dayton:

"There will be no further fatalities in Dayton. The property loss is much greater than the first reports indicated. Every house in the flooded district is practically ruined and clothing is badly needed."

ALL ESTIMATES OF DEATH LIST MERE GUESSES

Dayton Probably Lost 200, Columbus 200, Chillicothe 50, Tiffin 50, Brookville 50, Hamilton 50 to 200, Troy 125, Zanesville Unknown

No More Deaths in Dayton—Government Using Every Resource to Etem Wave of Death and Ruin

COLUMBUS, O., March 28.—With the greatest uncertainty still prevailing as to the actual number who have perished in the disastrous floods in Ohio and Indiana, it has become a practical certainty that fears that the death list would run into the thousands were ill-founded. So far as can be estimated—and any estimate is a mere guess—the total dead probably will not exceed eight hundred.

In Dayton, Ohio,—the greatest sufferer—it is now believed not more than two hundred names will appear in the fatal list. Columbus, Ohio, probably will add two hundred; Chillicothe fifty, and Tiffin fifty. Brookville, Ind., may have fifty. Hamilton, Ohio, may have from fifty to two hundred. Troy, Ohio, is said to have 125. Zanesville, Ohio, has been hard hit but it is isolated and the fatalities are still unknown.

Estimates Mere Guess. In a score of other cities and towns there have been deaths from flood and fire but all attempts to estimate these must for the present be futile.

"There will be no more deaths in Dayton," was the welcome message from his secretary which this afternoon reached Governor Cox in Columbus and from all over the stricken region reports hourly arrive that the subsiding waters are at last allowing the frenzied efforts of rescuers to tell in the fight for humanity against the deadly blows of flood and fire.

Throughout the whole region stricken by the disaster, the United States government and the state governments are using every resource to stem the wave of death and ruin. Most of the sufferers isolated by water throughout the region will be rescued and most of them fed by night. Railroads have been taken charge of for the work of rescue and telegraph and telephone wires are being used solely to aid the sufferers and to carry the press despatches which help the world to realize the calamity and to hasten to the work of rescue.

Flood Dies at Evansville. Evansville was warned that the Wabash river floods have passed Terre Haute, Ind., and are expected there tonight. Boats are fast removing inhabitants of the city to places of safety. Enormous damage is expected but it is not believed any fatalities will result.

TRAGIC STORIES OF FLOOD VICTIMS

CLEVELAND, Ohio, March 28.—Tragic stories of the sufferings endured by Columbus flood victims were told here today by refugees. State Representatives Kirkpatrick and Cooper were among the arrivals, both agreeing that the reports of fatalities have been greatly exaggerated.

"A single bridge," said Kirkpatrick, "remains standing in Columbus. The rescue work there, however, has been systematized and marooned persons are being carried to safety." "Last night I saw a mother and seven children, the eldest of whom was but 11 years, rescued. They were faint from exposure and lack of food. The husband and father was missing."

"At one of the moving picture shows Wednesday when the reel stopped, one man shouted that

ACCUSED OF \$300,000 FRAUDS



Philip Musica, eldest son of Antonio Musica, the head of the United States Hair company of New York, was caught at New Orleans with other members of the family on their way to Honduras with about \$100,000. The frauds of the Musicas, for which they have been indicted in New York, are believed to reach at least \$300,000, perhaps twice that sum.

ANTI-FIGHT BILLS DOOMED TO DEFEAT

SACRAMENTO, Cal., March 28.—An incomplete canvass of both houses of the legislature today indicated that the proposed anti-prizefight bill will never reach the governor. If the complexion of the legislature remains unchanged, the following can be safely predicted as the course the proposed legislation will take:

Anti-fight bills will be reported out of committee in both houses, with recommendation that they do pass.

The assembly will vote against the bill by a liberal majority. The vote will be close in the senate.

BUSCH, THE BREWER, LARGEST CONTRIBUTOR

ST. LOUIS, Mo., March 28.—Telegraphing from Pasadena, Cal., Adolphus Busch, one of the owners of a big brewery here, instructed his firm to contribute \$25,000 for the relief of flood victims in Ohio and Indiana. Busch also wired the National Red Cross to draw on his firm for that amount at once.

ANGLING FOR CORPSES WITH GRAPPLING HOOKS

COLUMBUS, O., March 28.—The police of Circleville, 25 miles south of here, telephoned this afternoon that corpses are floating about on the river there and that men with grappling hooks have recovered several.

TRAGIC STORIES OF FLOOD VICTIMS

CLEVELAND, Ohio, March 28.—A storage dam had broken. When I reached the street I saw people everywhere, some half dressed and some carrying bird cages and pet dogs. One saloonkeeper dashed from his place of business with a cash register in his arms. He never stopped until he reached the top-most point of the capitol dome.

"When the flood started the water came so fast that men starting to give the alarm failed to reach the bridges on the west side before they were swept away."

"I saw a streetcar swept from a bridge, falling against a building. The passengers clambered up to the windows of the building and escaped."

C. E. Barton, another refugee, said he saw seven persons who had been swept into a tree top slowly succumb to the cold yesterday and drop into the water.

DAYTON DEAD NOT TO EXCEED THREE HUNDRED

Sections of City Supposed to Have Longest List of Fatalities Almost Free of Them—Famine General Throughout City, Being Remedied

Indiana Escapes With Slight Loss of Life but Heavy Property Damage—Indianapolis Has No Deaths

DAYTON, Ohio, March 27.—The dead by flood and fire in Dayton will not exceed three hundred persons. This statement is based on an investigation which covered all parts of the city.

Those districts which had been expected to show the largest roll of deaths have been found almost free from fatalities. Reports, however, are still awaited from North Dayton, and Riverdale, where the levees are supposed to have broken.

The first men to penetrate these regions report that there have not been more than ten deaths in North Dayton and but few in Riverdale. The flood is receding quickly and it is expected that many dead will be recovered by nightfall.

Famine is general throughout the city, but this condition, too is being rapidly remedied, now that the falling waters permit transit to the stricken sections.

ENCOURAGING REPORTS

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., March 28.—Encouraging reports from flood-swept Indiana were received here today, although it will be months before normal conditions are restored. Actual information is lacking but it is believed that relief has reached flood sufferers in Northern and Central Indiana.

Communication was partially restored today with Peru. Its chief of police said the situation there had been greatly exaggerated and the fatalities would not exceed fifty.

Franklin county was hard hit, especially the town of Brookville, but it is not believed the death list in the country will exceed fifty.

The most discouraging reports today came from the lower end of the Wabash river. It was reported the flood crest had just reached this section and the trouble there was just starting.

PROPERTY LOSS \$50,000,000

More than two thousand refugees are being cared for here and boats are scouring West Indianapolis and Broad Ripple for marooned sufferers. Reports of enormous loss of life in West Indianapolis could not be confirmed, the police estimating the fatalities at not more than ten.

The property loss throughout the state may reach \$50,000,000. Through search of the houses in West Indianapolis today failed to reveal a single death. The river is nearly at its normal depth. Rumors of heavily fatalities here are all dissipated here today.

CHURCHILL APPOINTED STATE SUPERINTENDENT

SALEM, Or., March 28.—J. A. Churchill, for 20 years superintendent of the city schools at Baker, Or., was appointed today by Governor West to succeed L. R. Alderman as state superintendent of schools. Alderman, who has accepted the superintendency of the Portland city schools will remain in office until July 1.

FIFTEEN CORPSES RECOVERED AT BROOKVILLE, INDIANA

CONNERSVILLE, Ind., March 28.—Telephone messages from Brookville, Ind., say that 15 corpses have been recovered there.

HUNTINGTON WILSON



Huntington Wilson, assistant secretary of state, who was prominent in the foreign affairs of the government during the four years of the Taft administration, has hastened his departure from the state department.

FRIGHTFUL STORY FLOOD DISASTER AT ZANESVILLE

COLUMBUS, Ohio, March 28.—A frightful story of conditions in Zanesville was reported to Governor Cox this afternoon by S. K. Mitchell, superintendent of the Ohio Electric Railway company of Zanesville. Mitchell climbed a telephone pole four miles west of Zanesville and, attaching an instrument to the wires, telephoned the following message:

"We have only enough food to supply Zanesville for 24 hours. Fatalities in the seventh and eighth wards have been heavy."

"The city west of Main street is under water, extending back three miles from the National road."

"Five hundred persons from Putnam who are penned in the fair grounds are starving. Quick action is necessary."

SEVENTEEN LOST LIFE AT CHILlicothe, OHIO

CHILlicothe, Ohio, March 28.—Seventeen are known to be dead here as a result of the floods. Nine of these are identified. Three fourths of the city was flooded Tuesday. A famine is threatened.

FUED LEADERS DIE ELECTRIC CHAIR

RICHMOND, Va., March 28.—Overwhelmed at last after a century of mountain feudal tyranny, the power of the Allen gang was forever put to an end today when Floyd and Claude Allen, father and son, died in the electric chair for the quintuple murder in the Hillsville courthouse, March 14, 1912. Just a year and a fortnight after their desperate effort to avenge the conviction of a kinsman by a mere court, they entered the death chamber after all avenues of possible reprieve had been barred against them.

When a jury foreman tremblingly announced a verdict of guilty against Victor Allen on a charge of perjury in a moonshining case, the rage of the patriarch of the clan vented itself in a pistol volley, in which other members of the family joined. Judge Thomas L. Massie, Commonwealth Attorney Thornton L. Foster and Sheriff Lew Webb were carried from the courtroom dead or dying. Juror

BOGGS ASKED TO RESIGN BY CITY COUNCIL

George Porter Representing the Councilmen Requests City Attorney Boggs to Tender His Resignation on Political Grounds

Boggs Refuses to Resign and Council Will Remove Him at Its Next Session—Six Solid Now

O. Carter Boggs will be removed as city attorney at the next regular session of the city council to be held next Tuesday evening, April 1. The "solid six" not the "solid four," have so decided and will so vote.

Representing the council, George Porter, councilman from the first ward, called upon the city attorney this morning and requested him to tender his resignation. Boggs absolutely refused to accede to this request and so forces the council to remove him. Boggs declares that he intends to put the councilmen individually on record as regards the George H. Miller case, and for this purpose is said to have refused to resign. As the councilmen are practically unanimous in their denunciation of the "trial," Boggs' declaration as to putting them on record is not viewed with any alarm.

COUNCIL A UNIT

The members of the city council declare that they believe City Attorney Boggs' removal is demanded for the welfare of the city. They hold him responsible for the turmoil which has existed since the new administration took office and declare that if it was not for his agitation and influence that they could get along with Mayor Eifert without any jangle or discord. They charge him with using his office for political persecutions.

"I view the matter in this light," stated Councilman Porter today. "The people showed at the recent election what they thought of the change in appointive offices and of the charges against Mr. Miller. The people are the supreme court in affairs of this kind and I certainly will obey their mandates. I believe that Mr. Boggs is responsible for this discord and that he should go for the best interests of the city."

WANT HARMONY

"In the future I believe there will be no further split votes on appointments. We can and will get together, but a new city attorney must be secured first."

Members of the city council state they have no particular attorney in view to fill the office of city attorney. The mayor will not be hampered in choosing an attorney to take the place of Boggs.

The chief change directed by the councilmen at Mr. Boggs is to the effect that Boggs used his office for political persecution in the Miller case.

RIVER RISING AT CINCINNATI

CINCINNATI, Ohio, March 28.—With the river here recording 62 9-10 feet of water, thirteen feet over the dangerline, and still rising, Cincinnati today faces a serious flood. Residents in the lowlying districts are fleeing to higher ground.

Six bodies which had floated from Miami were recovered at eVince, near here today.

No rain fell here today and none is reported at Dayton.

IT'S HARD TO DIE SAYS SWANSON; TRIES 44 TIMES

When Dynamite Fails Man Believed to Be Demented Drives Two From Room and Hacks Himself Over Head With Ax and Knife

Forty-three Gashes Are Inflicted While Brothers Look on Afraid to Interfere With Crazy Man

That it is indeed hard to die even when a man wants to, is the belief of Chris Swanson today following many attempts by him within 24 hours to kill himself. The first time he used dynamite and then he attempted to beat out his own brains with an ax as well as cut his throat with a knife. In spite of the two attempts Chris will recover, according to Dr. E. R. Seely who is attending him.

Swanson attempted Thursday morning to blow himself up with dynamite. It was believed that this was an accident until early today when he arose from his bed, chased his two brothers out of the room, secured an ax and a knife and attacked himself. The knife was employed first but as it was dull he used the ax to cut himself over the head while his brothers watched him powerless to interfere. He cut his scalp in 43 places. Finally he grew tired of slashing, threw the ax away and returned to his bed. His scalp was cut to pulp. Dr. Seely was hurriedly summoned and dressed the wounds. The bed was literally soaked with blood.

Dr. Seely attempted to bring Swanson to the hospital but he absolutely refused to come. He promised to behave himself.

FIRE LOSSES AT DAYTON SLIGHT SAY AUTHORITIES

DAYTON, Ohio, March 28.—At 2 o'clock this afternoon 22 bodies lay in the general morgue here. Identification of the corpses is proceeding slowly.

Water is being pumped out of the basement of the Algonquin hotel this afternoon to repair whatever damage may have been done to the Algonquin's artesian well, so as to get a supply of water for protection in the event of fire. Another artesian plant will be in operation before night.

When the city authorities had time to look around today it was officially announced that the fire losses to the city were slight except along Third street between Jefferson and St. Clair avenues. There the Dayton gas light company's building and rows of three story houses were burned. The only other fires of note were at the Troy-Pearl laundry plant and some small apartment houses on the west side of the city. Not a single municipal building, theater or club or church was destroyed.

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