



The Indianapolis Times

Fair tonight and Wednesday; slightly warmer Wednesday.

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FLOODS AND COLD WEATHER CAUSE HUGE FARM LOSS

'Pocket District' in Southern Indiana in Greatest Danger, With River and Creeks Falling Here.

MANY FORCED TO FLEE HOMES
Break in Levee Halted Near Sunshine Gardens; Eighty-Sixth Street Bridge Is Saved by Workers.

High water and cold have caused Marion county farmers a loss of \$2,500,000, it was estimated today by Horace Abbott, county agricultural agent, on the basis of information gathered as the flood waters receded in this vicinity, only to menace Evansville and other points in the pocket section of Indiana.

White river has fallen 1.6 feet at the West street gauge since Monday. Stage today at the Sixty-fourth street bridge was 9.1 feet, a drop of four feet since Saturday. Fall creek, at the Illinois street bridge, had dropped more than two feet today.

Crest of the Wabash river flood passed Terre Haute Monday night, causing about 500 families to leave their homes. Fifteen families abandoned homes at Clinton.

Water covers several sections in the Indianapolis flood area today, but further damage is remote, as streams are falling. No rain is forecast and skies are scheduled to clear.

Most effort late Monday and during the night was directed at stopping a break in a levee to prevent flooding of Sunshine Gardens by backwater from White river and at saving the Eighty-sixth street bridge over the river.

Deputy sheriffs Monday removed families from River Park and other flooded suburbs.

Roads Are Damaged
Crews working under direction of Bruce Short, county surveyor, and Herbert Bloemker, county road supervisor, won their fight against the water at both points.

For the fifth time this year the county is estimated at \$25,000.

Discussing Marion county farm damage, Abbott explained that it would have been greater had not cold weather prevented extensive seeding.

Average yield is 15 to 20 per cent less, Abbott estimated, with the total in oats down to 3,000 acres. Planting season is past, but he advised that farmers who still wish to try for a crop should seed alfalfa with oats.

Planting completed is only 35 per cent of normal, slowing planting of corn. The farm agent advises planting of early maturing corn to offset the lateness of seeding.

Peach Yield
Abbott forecasts yields of cherries and apples at about normal, but the peach yield will be small. Only damage to fruit would be delay in spraying, due to rainfall.

Except in extremely low sections, pastures are expected to be good.

For the fifth time this year the southern Indiana pocket area faces flood menace as the Ohio river rises, and the Wabash, White and Patoka rivers flood crests move southward.

At Evansville the Wabash has been above its flood stage of six feet several days, and is expected to reach twenty-four feet.

Road conditions in flood areas were described today as follows, in a state highway department bulletin:

Road 37, open between Paoli and English; 54, covered by seven inches of water at Ellettsburg; no further rise expected; 57, closed at Newburg; 58, open between Ellettsburg and Sandborn, closed between Bedford and the Martin county line.

Roads Are Covered
Water covers road 62 between Evansville and Booneville; 64, open from Huntington to Birdseye; 67, open from Spencer to Worthington; 161, closed between 62 and 164, covered by water between Jasper and Celestine, and 450, closed from Bedford to the Martin county line.

State-wide survey of flood conditions has been completed, it was announced by Elmer F. Straub, assistant-general of the national guard, but so far it has not been necessary to extend aid, except at Lafayette, where forty persons are being sheltered in the armory.

Those being cared for are residents of a section known as a "box car" colony on the banks of the Wabash river.

City officials are considering action to force two local gravel firms to remove obstructions from the White river channel at Raymond street.

Dumping Call Harmful
Works board members who made tours of the flooded areas since Saturday morning criticised the companies for dumping gravel at this point, increasing the flood threat. They said the city attorney's office, several months ago, had been directed to bring about removal of the blockade, but nothing had been done.

Mayor Reginald H. Sullivan conferred with city hall officers Monday afternoon and today was expected to order steps taken.

Within the last three years the city blasted the river channel, changing the stream's course to prevent further flood menace. Two boys Sunday lost their lives at the place, considered one of the most dangerous flood spots in the county.

HOPE GROWING FOR BANK TO PAY IN FULL

Fletcher-American Assets Far Exceed Depositor Liability, Is Claim.

WAIVERS BEING SIGNED

Action Is Under Way to Form Institution Backed by R. F. C.

Hope of Fletcher American National bank depositors that eventually they will receive 100 cents on the dollar of their deposits was encouraged today by statement of bank officials that the bank's assets greatly exceed its depositor liability.

It was explained by the committee forming the new American National bank, to take over assets of the old bank, that even if only 58 cents on the dollar is realized from non-liquid assets, depositors still will receive their full deposits, in time.

As soon as the reorganization plan is completed, with the signing of waivers by depositors and shareholders, and with sale of \$1,800,000 in common stock, 50 per cent of the impounded deposits will be made available.

Stockholders May Share
The remaining 50 per cent, representing approximately \$5,500,000 in deposits, will be paid after liquidation of nearly \$11,000,000 in non-liquid assets and repayment of a \$1,200,000 government loan.

These segregated, or non-liquid assets, which will be given the Reconstruction Finance Corporation as security for its loan, represent loans to business and commercial houses, as well as interests in various properties, values of which probably will be enhanced as business conditions improve.

When both the R. F. C. and depositors have been paid in full with 3 per cent interest, stockholders of the old bank will share in the balance.

Reorganization committee members were gratified with the number of consent and waiver agreements signed and turned in by depositors Monday, and by the subscriptions for stock.

Waivers Being Signed
Sale of the stock is required by the R. F. C. to match the \$1,800,000 preferred stock issue for which it has subscribed.

It was announced today that bank officials would be on hand until 6 each night to help make out the necessary blanks. Persons may enter by the side door on Pennsylvania street.

Bank officials from a southern Indiana city were among those who arrived early Monday to sign waivers. They also signed a stock purchase agreement.

DEFAULT FACED ON POOR RELIEF NOTES
County Council Will Act to Issue New Bonds.

With the county facing default on approximately \$250,000 of poor relief notes which were due Monday, the county council today considered an emergency measure to preserve the county's credit.

The council will act Wednesday on an ordinance to issue new bonds to note-holders in exchange for relief notes. Commissioners informed councilmen that note-holders had agreed to the plan.

Due to insufficient tax collections and uncertainty as to amount of spring tax delinquencies, the county will be able to pay off less than half of a \$400,000 poor relief issue due this month. The refunding method will be employed for remainder of the notes.

Under the plan, the county will issue not more than \$250,000 worth of bonds, at 6 per cent interest, maturing in nineteen semi-annual periods, beginning May 15, 1934.

Pickpocket Gets \$69 From Purse
Mrs. Elliott Thompson, 4626 College avenue, carried her purse light under her arm Monday while she shopped at downtown stores. However, a pickpocket succeeded in opening the purse and abstracting an inner coin purse which held \$69.

"Daughter's Caller" Is Thief
A man admitted to the home of Miss Della Roney, 718 East Thirty-fourth street, Monday night when he told her mother he had an appointment with the daughter, stole \$3, according to a report to police.

Hourly Temperatures
6 a. m. 55 10 a. m. 63
7 a. m. 57 11 a. m. 64
8 a. m. 59 12 (noon) 65
9 a. m. 61 1 p. m. 67

Today's Short Story
A cozy room in a private home on the north side belonging to Mrs. A. LeSaulnier was vacant. Desiring to find a gentleman as a tenant, she called R. 5551 and placed an ad under the room for rent column. A gentleman rented the room Sunday. Here is the ad containing twelve words that brought speedy results:

PENN. 1347 N.—Cozy room, near bath, quiet home, reasonable, gentleman. LI-8857.

TWO CENTS A WORD—You can find a tenant for your spare room at a cost of only two cents a word with a Times Room ad. Call R. 5551 or come to Want Ad Headquarters, 214 West Maryland street.

ROOSEVELT ASKS ALL NATIONS TO PLEDGE AGAINST SENDING ANY TROOPS OVER FRONTIERS

Lid's Off; Straw Lids On



Miss Elizabeth K. Davis

Here is the season's best forecast of the passing of rains and floods. Today (a day late) the straw hat season was officially on and, although but few appeared on the streets, the sun debut was sufficient to make wearing of a straw not too ridiculous.

Miss Elizabeth K. Davis, 309 East Fall creek boulevard, turned to mannish styles and a mirror in L. Strauss & Co., to don a new sailor.

QUAKE ROCKS FRISCO REGION

District for 100 Miles Is Shaken: Oakland Is Hardest Hit.

BY FRANK H. BARTHOLOMEW
Times Staff Correspondent
SAN FRANCISCO, May 16.—The San Francisco peninsula and the surrounding area for a hundred miles was rocked by a sharp earthquake at dawn today.

The tremor occurred at 3:46 a. m., and lasted approximately forty-five seconds.

No damage was reported, although the city came to life at once.

Telephone service was temporarily interrupted as girls left the switchboards. Market street and other principal thoroughfares were filled with taxicabs rushing between hotels.

Stockton, ninety miles east, reported a sharp shock, as did Sacramento, 100 miles northeast. Petaluma, forty miles north, said the quake was severe.

Vallejo, at the north end of San Francisco bay, reported to the United Press that three separate tremors were felt.

In the Oakland office of the telephone company all automatic clocks were stopped.

Early reports indicated that the earthquake was felt most severely in the east bay section, comprising Oakland, Alameda, Hayward, Berkeley, Richmond and Martinez.

In the United Press relay at San Francisco, located on the fourth floor of a newspaper building, lighting fixtures swayed sharply through the first quake and a "following shock" but the transmission equipment did not go out of commission.

Four officers and 200 men will go to the Clark county woods, and eight officers and 400 men into the Monroe-Morgan county preserve.

Harry Thomas, superintendent of the Monroe-Morgan forest, will be at the camp south of Martinsville, and C. W. Guernsey will direct the rehabilitation in Clark county.

Fred Hoke, director of the state unemployment commission, announced arrangements have been made to send 2,400 more men from Indiana into the civilian conservation camp at Camp Knox, Ky., the first contingent of 1,200 to leave Friday.

World Will Know Where to Put Responsibility If One Strong Country Refuses, President Says in Message to 54 Rulers.

NO DIRECT MENTION MADE OF GERMANY

U. S. Executive Seizes Leadership of War-Threatened Globe in Effort to Mobilize All Peoples in Drive for Peace.

BY RAYMOND CLAPPER
United Press Staff Correspondent

WASHINGTON, May 16.—President Roosevelt seized the leadership of a war-threatened world today and, in a message cabled directly to the rulers of fifty-four countries, summoned all nations to pledge themselves to send no armed forces whatsoever across their frontiers.

He warned that if any strong nation refuses, the civilized world will know where to place the blame.

"I urge that no nation assume such a responsibility," he said.

Raising his powerful voice above the rumbling war drums of Europe, the President sent his sharp imperative call for peace in the form of an open uncoded message addressed to all the sovereigns of the world, and through them to their respective peoples.

As a first step, President Roosevelt urged the nations to accept the disarmament plan proposed by Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald at the world disarmament conference.

That would reduce offensive weapons, and set up a system of consultation to bring the powers together when peace is menaced.

While this is being done, he proposed that no country should increase its existing armaments.

Then came his emergency armistice proposal in the following words:

"That all the nations of the world should enter into a solemn and definite pact of non-aggression; that they solemnly should reaffirm the obligation they have assumed to limit and reduce their armaments, and provided these obligations faithfully are executed by all signatory powers, individually agree that they will send no armed forces of whatever nature across their frontiers."

"Common sense points out that if any stronger nation refuses to join with genuine sincerity in these concerted efforts for political and economic peace, the one at Geneva and the other at London, progress can be obstructed and ultimately blocked."

Fixing of Responsibility
"In such event the civilized world, seeking both forms of peace, will know where the responsibility for failure lies."

"I urge that no nation assume such a responsibility, and that all the nations joined in these great conferences translate their professed policies into one action."

The President plans to send a copy of his message to foreign nations to congress today for its information. It was learned at the White House.

The message was addressed to fifty-four sovereigns including Russia. The message to Russia was addressed to "President Mikhail Kalinin, All Union Central Executive committee, Moscow, Russia."

This is the first time an American President has communicated directly with the Soviet authorities; it was taken to be significant of the President's desire to mobilize the entire world in his gigantic drive for peace.

No Direct Mention of Germany
It was thought destined to be a historic utterance—notice to the world that the United States has assumed her share of responsibility in the strife-torn family of nations.

No direct mention of Germany was made. But the utterance was timed on the eve of Chancellor Hitler's statement to the reichstag on Wednesday which the world is awaiting with tense apprehension lest it reopen the issue which threw the world into the most deadly war of history nearly twenty years ago.

His message was an appeal for the success of both the world economic conference and the Geneva disarmament conference.

With such high hopes of recovery hanging on the economic conference, Mr. Roosevelt said it menaced by the tense feeling between Germany and her old enemies.

Addreses World's Rulers
For the first time in history, so far as observers here recalled, the President of the United States directly addressed the rulers of the entire world and pleaded with them for common action to save civilization. Mr. Roosevelt did so in the "profound hope" that they would answer his call.

The President called attention to the conferences for disarmament and economic restoration, the one now meeting at Geneva, the other soon to convene at London.

"The happiness, the prosperity, and the very lives of the men, women and children who inhabit the whole world are bound up in the decisions which their governments will make in the near future," he warned.

Why Nations Bear Arms
Recalling the failure of the disarmament conference to achieve anything in its eighteen months of bickering, Mr. Roosevelt warned: "Confused policies still clash dangerously. Our duty lies in the di-

rection of bringing practical results through concerted action based upon the greatest good to the greatest number.

"Before the imperative call of this great duty," he said, "petty obstacles must be swept away and petty aims forgotten."

Nations arm for two reasons, Mr. Roosevelt said. A few wish to gain the territories of their neighbors. But the great majorities arm because they are afraid of invasion.

"There is justification for this fear," he said. "Modern weapons of offense are vastly stronger than modern weapons of defense."

"If all nations will agree wholly to eliminate from possession and use the weapons which make possible a successful attack, defenses automatically will become impregnable and the frontiers and independence of every nation will become secure."

Urges Immediate Reduction
Mr. Roosevelt said that the ultimate object of the disarmament conference was to eliminate all offensive weapons. But pending that future goal, he proposed the immediate reduction of some of these weapons and the elimination of "many others."

The President then outlined this sweeping program.

1. To take, at once, the first definite step toward this objective, as broadly outlined in the MacDonald plan.

2. To agree upon a time and procedure for taking the following steps:

3. To agree that while the first and following steps are being taken, no nation shall increase its existing armament over and above the limitations of treaty obligations.

Action Is Demanded
"But the peace of the world," he added, "must be secured during the whole period of disarmament and I, therefore, propose a fourth step concurrent with and wholly dependent upon the faithful fulfillment of these three proposals and subject to existing treaty rights:

"That all the nations of the world should enter into a solemn and definite pact of nonaggression; that they solemnly should reaffirm the obligations they have assumed to limit and reduce their armaments, and provided these obligations faithfully are executed by all signatory powers, individually agree that they will send no armed force of whatever nature across their frontiers."

A single strong nation, the President pointed out, may wreck this program, and added significantly: "I urge that no nation assume such a responsibility, and that all the nations joined in these great conferences (disarmament and economic) translate their professed policies into action."

Message Shatters Precedent
"This," he said, "is the way to political and economic peace."

"I trust that your government will join in the fulfillment of these hopes."

Today marks the second time within a year that an American President has thrown the weight of the United States suddenly and dramatically behind an effort to rescue the flagging disarmament conference.

Almost exactly a year ago, President Hoover, without warning, sent the disarmament conference a proposal for the reduction of armies and navies by one-third.

Italy accepted at once and other powers indicated a willingness to study the plan. But it perished in the maze of committees and talks at Geneva.

Mr. Roosevelt's action in the disarmament sphere was, as it has been in domestic matters, dramatic and precedent shattering.

Instead of making his proposal directly to the disarmament conference, the routine way, he appealed over the heads of the Geneva diplomats directly to the rulers of the world.