

FLOOD MENACE RECALLS HAVOC WROUGHT IN '13

White River and Creek Leap Banks, Bringing City Death, Misery.

(Continued From Page One)

a stunned Indianapolis hastily sought safety from the floods.

On March 26, the Sun reported four bodies floating in the swirling waters that had invaded West Indianapolis . . . 10,000 homeless . . . communication cut off from the West Side . . . 10,000 trapped in their homes if the Morris-st levee broke . . . \$2,500,000 property damaged.

Blizzard Adds to Mystery

Added to the suffering was a blizzard which struck Indianapolis and forced the temperature down to abnormal lows.

All available relief resources were gathered to care for the refugees. A committee of leading citizens appealed for a \$100,000 reconstruction fund.

President Woodrow Wilson telegraphed Gov. Samuel Ralston, "I deeply sympathize with the people of your state in the terrible disaster that has come upon you. Can the Federal government assist you in any way?"

Overworked police made valiant efforts to save the injured, stop looting and halt profiteers who took advantage of the threatened food famine.

Dead Estimated at 20

As in every disaster caused by the rebellion of nature, disease made its way into the flooded West Side districts and physicians labored to maintain sanitation and prevent the rise of pneumonia.

The Sun said that rescue workers were so intent upon saving the living that no attempt was made to recover the bodies seen floating in flooded areas. The dead were estimated as approximately 20.

No complete check was ever announced, because many recluses lived in shanties on the banks of White River and it was impossible to determine whether any were drowned or had fled.

Flood Waters Recede

The flood had begun to subside on March 27, and by April 7 the city had returned to a semblance of normal. A demand was made that improvement be made to prevent another disastrous flood.

Today, Indianapolis is well protected from flood dangers by strengthened levees along White River.

All along the path of the awe-inspiring White and Wabash Rivers in Indiana precautions have been taken against serious floods taking huge property and human tolls.

Rains May Cause Trouble

The Weather Bureau does not anticipate floods this spring, but nature, never tamed and always unpredictable, may send flood waters rushing into the lowlands, Mr. Armstrong admits.

There is danger of floods every spring after bitterly cold winters which jam the rivers with ice.

If a sudden warm spell and heavy rains follow a cold snap and deep snowfall early in March there probably will be floods. But, thanks to the march of science, there is little likelihood any floods could be as devastating as those in the never-to-be-forgotten year of 1913.

FARLEY OPENS F. D. R. CAMPAIGN IN MISSOURI

Alton (Ill.) Youth, 8 Feet 4 Inches Tall, Thinks It Time He Stopped Growing

BY CULLEN J. SMITH
United Press Staff Correspondent

ALTON, Ill., Feb. 22.—Robert Wadlow, youthful giant, today celebrated his eighteenth birthday by marking up a gain in height of two and a half inches in one year, and observed shyly:

"It's about time I stopped growing."

He now soars to a height of 8 feet 4 inches, weighs 390 pounds, and gets around in size 35 shoes. Physicians who have studied his startling growth believe he may continue to grow until he is 22 or 23, possibly attaining a height of 9 feet.

Robert smiles easily and talks boisterously in a soft, husky voice. He peers a trifle self-consciously through gold-rimmed spectacles. His great height bothers him a little in moving about and he has to stoop to avoid brushing his head against electric light fixtures and door tops.

ALTHOUGH generally good-natured Robert bristles when any one mentions him as a possible circus attraction or alludes to the quantity of food he consumes.

"How much I eat or what I eat is nobody's business but my own," he said earnestly. "That's the way I feel about it, and it makes me sore every time anybody talks about it."

"And as far as circuses are concerned, I wouldn't join one if it was the last thing on earth I could do. There are too many people to stretch their necks at me now. That's why I don't like big cities like Chicago and St. Louis."

Regarding circus "tall men" Robert said he's seen some pretty tall ones, but had never seen one why could "top" him.

"They look pretty sick when I stand up—even when they wear high-heeled boots and cowboy hats," he said, grantly.

ROBERT's ambition is to be a lawyer. When he graduated from high school last month he immediately enrolled in a pre-law course in Shurtleff College at Alton and hopes to enter Washington University in St. Louis.

At Shurtleff he occasionally plays basketball, but he thinks it a "pretty easy game." Spreading his huge hands expressively he remarked, "I just stand down at the basket and when somebody throws me the ball I drop it in."

Robert's growth is attributed to over-activity of the pituitary gland, a small gland at the base of the brain. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Wadlow, who are normal in size, have refused to allow an operation. They believe it would be dangerous.

ROBERT has four younger brothers and sisters—all of normal size. They are: Helen, 16; Betty, 11; Eugene, 13, and Harold Jr., 3.

He has no girl friend right now, explaining "there's a lot better things I can do with money than to spend it on girls." In spare moments he likes to tinker with cameras—his principal hobby.

He thinks airplanes are "mighty fine," and takes trips in them quite frequently. He has no ambitions of being an aviator, however, and becoming a prizefighter is "absolutely out."

ROBERT has ordered state police to execute the plan, but did not deny that he might do so.

A third witness who provided damning testimony against Hauptmann, 88-year-old Amundus Hochmuth, also may be cross-examined. Mr. Hochmuth was another Sourland Mountain resident who said he saw Hauptmann near the Lindbergh estate. He said he saw Hauptmann in a motor car near Hopewell at approximately the time of the kidnapping and that he had a ladder in the car. The state contended that the baby was removed from its nursery window by way of a ladder.

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