

## OVER 100 DEAD IN MISSISSIPPI, SAYS RED CROSS

79 Bodies Are Recovered  
in Tupelo; Two-Thirds  
of City Destroyed.

(Continued From Page One)

ing Lee County, of which Tupelo is the seat, its path was across several Negro communities. It was feared that the death toll in each would be heavy.

The twisting wind struck only a corner of Booneville, and destroyed six houses. One was the home of J. O. Robertson, county supervisor and prominent in civic and social affairs in northeast Mississippi. Robertson, 54, his daughter-in-law, 26, and his granddaughter, Peggy Ann Robertson, 4, were killed.

His wife, 50, and his son, Guy, 25, were injured critically and may not survive. O. J. Robertson, another son, and James Sidney Robertson, his 10-months-old son, were less seriously hurt.

### AIR HEAVY WITH DEBRIS

Frank Hutcheson, 15, died in the wreckage of his parents' home at Red Bay. Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Brooks were injured critically. About 12 houses were wrecked in that community of 1500 population.

The tornado was generated in a huge storm area that included most of Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, and a part of Tennessee. Heavy rain alternating with hail had been falling all yesterday afternoon and evening.

Out of this murky, wet night the swirling wind came with the fury and speed of a thunder bolt. It hit here at 8:40 amid the crashing of buildings and trees and the tinkling of broken windows. Witnesses said the air was heavy with flying timbers and other debris.

### CITY UNWARNED, UNPREPARED

It struck a city unwarmed and unprepared. In less than 10 minutes it had destroyed homes, stores and public buildings, leveling a path across two-thirds of the city, and had raced on to destroy a CCC camp one mile to the west. After that, it seemed to have dissipated.

The electric lighting system failed even while the wind cone spun and telephone and electric poles crashed to earth. The resulting darkness added to the suffering and panic. For the first few minutes after the wind passed, survivors ran through the black streets screaming and shouting.

But in a very short time some order was established in and rescue work began.

### SUMMONS OUTSIDE AID

Only one telephone line leading to the outside world was left intact and within 20 minutes authorities had commandeered it to summon aid from surrounding cities as far south as Jackson in the center of the state, and from Memphis, 95 miles northwest.

Within an hour ambulances, trucks and passenger cars were racing along the gravel roads, made slippery and dangerous by prolonged rain, toward the city.

Soon after midnight, ambulances and private cars were carrying the injured to New Albany, Pontotoc, and other towns nearby. An hour later doctors and nurses arrived from Memphis in ambulances and established an emergency hospital in the courthouse, where they worked over the injured by the yellow light of farm lanterns.

### CLAIMS DAMAGE \$2,000,000

Soon after dawn a special train arrived from Memphis with complete hospital equipment, medical and food supplies, and doctors, surgeons and nurses.

At daybreak, a Tupelo insurance man with much experience in appraising local property toured the residential districts and estimated property damage at \$2,000,000.

One of the worst hit districts was that around the municipal water tower and reservoir largely inhabited by Negroes. The water tank was blown down and survivors told of seeing at least 20 Negroes blown into the reservoir. Several bodies had been recovered and workers were dragging for more.

Survivors told harrowing stories. Several saw bodies being hurtled through the air with great velocity. Roofs were lifted from buildings and set down a quarter mile away. Trees were jerked up by their roots and carried hundreds of yards.

### 6 Die in Tennessee

By United Press  
COLUMBIA, Tenn., April 6.—A devastating tornado left a trail of six known dead in Maury County today and an unestimated property damage.

About 40 homes were demolished here.

Central City, Armour and Cross Bridge also were hit by the twister. Power lines were destroyed, throwing the ravaged communities in complete darkness. Searchers were using lanterns at 3 a. m. today, and believed the death toll would mount as more debris is cleared.

### 5 Die in Grenada, Miss.

By United Press  
GRENADA, Miss., April 6.—A tornado killed five persons six miles east of Coffeyville last night, it was revealed today after communication lines were re-established.

Those killed included four white persons in one family, Ellis R. Murphree, 25; his wife, Francis, and two children, James, 3, and a year-old baby. An unidentified Negro was killed. Four were injured.

### Alabama Town Hit

By United Press  
HUNTSVILLE, Ala., April 6.—Four persons were known to have been killed and a fifth, an infant, was believed to have perished when a tornado struck Elwood, Ala., about 30 miles northwest of here last night. Deputy Sheriff H. L. Landers said today.

### Local Boy in Storm Area

Fearing their 13-year-old son may have been injured in the tornado which struck Tupelo, Miss., last night, Mr. and Mrs. Fred H. Stanford, 5305 Julian-av., left today for that stricken city.

The boy, Fred Stanford Jr., is a student in the Tupelo Military Academy. The parents had not heard from him since the storm occurred.

## Colleen's Dream Castle Assembled; Ready for Showing Here Tomorrow



Miss Colleen Moore of movieland is pictured receiving greetings when she arrived in Indianapolis for two weeks' stay with her \$425,000 doll house. Left to right: Loretta Dillon, a patient in James Whitcomb Riley Hospital, held by Miss Mary Heckard, hospital superintendent of nurses; Hugh McK. Landon, chairman of the hospital board of directors; Miss Moore; Fred Hoke, reception committee chairman; Mrs. Carl W. Foltz, executive committee chairman in charge of the exhibit, and Mayor Kern.

## Authorities Map Traffic Drive as Two More Die

### City, County, State Police Join Hands to Halt Increasing Toll, Which Has Reached 38 for Year.

City, county and state authorities joined hands today in a new effort to reduce the constantly increasing 1936 traffic death toll, which today had reached 38 in Marion County. Two deaths yesterday brought the total.

Donald F. Stiver, state safety director, in a conference with state police lieutenants today said that an even stricter enforcement of traffic laws was necessary. He has had the department on the lookout for traffic violations for several weeks, and has asked them to continue their vigilance.

It took 300,000 pieces, exclusive of rivets, to put the structure together originally, but it is known down for shipping into 300 units. Each room is packed in a separate box and the outside shell goes into four boxes. These boxes are lined with rubber.

Some of them have been working on this \$435,000 miniature castle, which belongs to Colleen Moore, the movie actress, since it arrived here yesterday, and expect to have it ready late this afternoon.

The Junior League, with Mrs. C. Harvey Bradley and Mrs. William C. Bobbs acting as co-chairmen, is to give a dinner in Ayres, to be followed by a preview of the house.

At 8:30 Miss Moore is to broadcast a description of her house over station WIRE, and the "world's most exquisite toy" is to go on view tomorrow.

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City police, believing they had the problem settled, turned their attention today to enforcement of other provisions of the traffic code.

"This whole idea started when I bought Colleen a miniature dictionary when she was two," Mr. Morrison said. "We were living in Port Huron, Mich., then, and as soon as I arrived home with this gift, she asked me to build a house around it."

"I made the first one with a cigar box, but my technique improved on the next seven," he added. "This last one took us 10 years to build, and we still are working on it. Colleen has put some of her own jewels in it. Many of the pieces are priceless because they could not be duplicated."

Chief Morrissey issued an order that no more "courtesy" stickers should be given to county residents, and he asked officers to check especially on alimony parking. He also told all members of the department to assume full personal responsibility for enforcement of the traffic code.

He explained that in the past too many officers had left this work just to the motorcycle division. There

is not enough members in the traffic department, he pointed out, to sufficiently cover the city, and all officers will have to take part in this safety drive.

Two more automobile deaths were recorded yesterday. Nathan Medaris, 78, of Lawrence, victim of a hit-and-run driver, died in the United States Veterans' Hospital of injuries received Feb. 17 when he was struck while walking on state road No. 67.

Tilford A. Fitzpatrick, 57, of 1123 E. Raymond-st., died in City Hospital of injuries suffered March 14 when struck by an automobile in the 200 block on Shelby-st.

Boys, 7, Is Killed

A 7-year-old boy died Saturday afternoon, a few hours after he was struck by a truck. He was Donald McFall of 1224 W. 21st-st., who was injured at 21st and Hardings-sts.

Twenty-four traffic arrests were made Saturday and none yesterday, department records show. Five persons were charged with speeding, three on joint charges of speeding and failure to stop at a preference street, and four were accused of drunken driving.

Mayor Kern and Safety Board members are expected to confer with Chief Morrissey tomorrow on ways to halt the county traffic toll.

The City Council also may take final action tonight on a measure which police believe will aid them in tracking down hit-and-run drivers.

Medaris Rites Tomorrow

Funeral services for Mr. Medaris are to be held at 2 tomorrow in the Lawrence M. E. Church. Burial is to be in the I. O. O. F. Cemetery in Indianapolis.

Born in Spencer, Mr. Medaris enlisted in Company F, Fifteenth Infantry, on December 21, 1881. He

helped subdue the last Sioux and Apache Indian uprisings and fought in skirmishes in Montana, North Dakota, Colorado and New Mexico.

Survivors are a daughter, Mrs. Hubert B. Johnson, and two granddaughters, Misses Dorothy Joan and Alice Lucille Johnson, all of Indianapolis.

Arrange Fitzpatrick Rites

Funeral rites for Mr. Fitzpatrick were being arranged today. His body was released to the J. C. Wilson funeral home. Survivors are a sister and a niece.

Gurnie Corbett, 48, of 134 W. Southern-av., who walked out of a beer tavern at 1634 S. Meridian-st. Saturday night and against the side of a moving automobile, was reported in a critical condition at City Hospital today. He suffered a skull fracture and severe lacerations of the head. Eaval Lambert, 23, of 2332 S. West-st., was driver of the automobile.

Mrs. Catherine Holiday, 50, of 2138 Fletcher-av., received a serious head injury early yesterday morning when she fell while attempting to get into an automobile at 1061 W. 16th-st. She was taken to City Hospital.

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