

HUNDREDS DIE IN CYCLONES; TWISTERS SMASH TOWNS INTO RUINS THROUGH CENTRAL U. S.

Big Casualty Lists and Tremendous Property Damage Reported From Jay, Allen, Randolph, St. Joseph and Adams Counties, in Indiana—State Total Deaths 27 and Ohio Will Total 26—Georgia Tornado Takes 50 Lives.

TANGLED MASS MADE OF HUNDREDS OF HOMES

INDIANAPOLIS, March 29—Twenty-seven dead and at least 100 missing was the toll taken in the tornado which swept through northern Indiana yesterday, according to reports reaching Indianapolis today.

There are known to be 10 dead in Jay county, nine in Allen, one in Steuben and seven in Randolph. Portland reported 10 dead in that city, and Union City seven.

Six counties, Jay, Allen, Randolph, Steuben, St. Joseph and Adams were in the path of the wind. It will be another day before the official number of dead and missing is ascertained.

West Liberty Hardest Hit

West Liberty, 8 miles north of Portland, was the hardest hit of the Indiana towns. Seven persons were killed there and the entire town destroyed by fire, which followed the storm.

At this point the storm is said to have veered northeast into Adams county, striking Geneva, where three persons were killed and a number of houses and other structures blown down.

Five were killed at Zulu, a suburb of Ft. Wayne, where practically every house is said to have been destroyed. One person was killed at Townley and one at Monroeville. All the buildings in the latter town are reported to have been destroyed.

The entire town of Edgerton, 18 miles east of Ft. Wayne, was destroyed by the storm and the property damage at Ossian is estimated at \$250,000.

Among the dead in the Fort Wayne region are the following:

Mrs. Julia Merriman, Hoagland, Allen county.

Three-year-old child of Harvey Grodian, near Monroeville, Allen county.

August Fluttermore, grocer, Townley, Allen county.

Mrs. James McCoy 38, Townley.

James McCoy, 13, near Townley.

Mrs. Will Simons, near Monroeville.

Virginia Grant, age three, near Monroeville.

William Doudt, 60, Orland, Steuben county.

David Kessler, West Liberty, Jay county.

Frank Smith, West Liberty.

Mrs. Frank Smith, West Liberty.

Three children of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Smith.

Katherine Fields, aged five, near Geneva, Adams county.

Mabel Fields, 11, near Geneva.

Mrs. Katherine Cross, 79, near Geneva.

Keith Haggett, aged six, West Liberty.

Port Wayne hospitals are reported to be caring for 45 victims of the wind storm. Several are expected to die.

Six counties were struck by the tornado.

Local organizations in the towns nearest the storm centers are giving every possible relief. Reports of complete razing of several villages are being investigated. All the injured and homeless are being cared for.

Masons are rebuilding chimneys so fires may be built. There is some suffering from the cold.

It will be impossible to estimate the damage done in the outlying districts for some time as rescuing parties are finding the roads in some places almost impassable. Communities that have been visited are reported to have suffered severely.

L. J. Vandele, who runs a general store at Tillmans, in this county, which, however, escaped the storm, tells the story of how the tornado appeared.

"My wife and I were sitting in the front of our home," he said, "it began to rain a little and there was a high wind. Both of us got up and went out on the porch. It seemed that only a mile or so away we could see trees flying through the air, parts of barns and houses being carried away, and all of a sudden we saw something that resembled a great cloud of smoke. I think, perhaps, it was explosion of some kind.

"My wife and I started for the cellar of our home when all at once everything seemed to be calm. The storm was over; it did not last more than 12 minutes. After the calm we started in the direction of Townley, where the storm seemed to be the worst in that vicinity. When I got to Townley such a sight I never care to see again. The residents were homeless and they were doing all that they could to render assistance to those who were hurt and to care for the bodies of those who had been killed."

Live Stock Running Loose.

On the road between Zulu and Monroeville and between Townley and Edgerton, several hundred head of horses, cattle and hogs were running loose. When the storm destroyed the barns and the pens in which the stock was housed, they made a wild stampede for safety. Farmers were unable to control them, and they were making a wide search today to recover their stock. Many heads were crooked when barns were blown down, being set on fire by embers from homes which took fire after being wrecked.

An accurate estimate of the property damage is not possible at this time. One man at Edgerton said he was positive that the loss in Edgerton alone would reach a million dollars.

There were about 75 houses in the town, all except four being destroyed, in addition to the railroad station, the grain elevator and two stores.

Storm Struck at Arba.

The storm which killed seven near Union City, struck first at Arba, Randolph county. All telephone and telegraph lines between that town and this point are down, but persons coming from there today said that almost every house in the town was leveled by the wind. It also was reported

Howard Estates Shows

\$153,518.69, By Tax

Inheritance tax on the estate of Mrs. Mary A. Howard, 321 North Tenth street, amounted to \$1,885.38. County Treasurer Weldner said Monday. The estate showed an inventory of \$153,518.69.

John R. Howard, a wholesale grocer, is the son of Mary A. Howard, who was the widow of I. R. Howard.

SUBMARINE FORCE

TOO SMALL, SAYS

ITS FORMER HEAD

WASHINGTON, March 29.—The navy's submarine force was entirely inadequate to meet the demands of war against Germany, Rear Admiral A. W. Grant, formerly in command of the Atlantic fleet submarine force, testifying today before the senate committee, investigating the navy's conduct of the war. The submersibles, he said, were too small, of widely different types, of small radius of action, inadequately armed and poorly designed as to engines.

"It took nearly two years of propaganda to get the navy department to realize the importance of building submarines capable of combatting the 800 ton German U-boats," the witness declared.

Must Lay Up for Repairs.

Admiral Grant said that soon after the United States entered the war, he was instructed to prepare and send 15 submarines abroad. He told the department, he declared, that such an expedition arrived at the Azores Islands safely, the vessels would have to be laid up for repairs virtually all the time, as they had been since they were commissioned.

LIGHT SURVEY GIVEN

TO PITTSBURGH MEN

The Morris-Knowles company of Pittsburgh was given the contract to make a survey of the city electric light plant with recommendations, relative to the proposed \$200,000 bond issue for additional equipment for the plant, by the board of works Monday.

The Pittsburgh corporation accepted the offer at the contract price, \$600.

H. A. Holmes, an expert electrical engineer in the employ of the firm, will conduct the survey of the plant, and it is understood that at least six weeks will be consumed.

Work on the survey will begin shortly. No action on the proposed bond issue will be taken by either council or the board of works until the survey is completed.

Holy Week Services

in City Churches

St. Andrew's—Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.

Way of the Cross, Lamentations and benediction.

St. Mary's—Holy hour, Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

Trinity Episcopal—The Rev. C. W. Brewbaker, of Dayton, will conduct evangelistic services at 7:30 each evening.

St. Paul's Episcopal—Services each day at 10, 4 and 7:30.

First English Lutheran—The Rev. F. A. Dressel will speak at 7:30 p.m. Monday, "The Burnt Offering."

Second English Lutheran—Services at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, and continued at the same hour until Friday evening.

St. Paul's Lutheran—Service Monday evening at 7:30; continued service from 12 to 3 p.m. Friday.

English Lutheran—Lenten services Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 7:30 p.m.

First Presbyterian—The pastor, the Rev. J. J. Rae, will speak at 7:30 p.m. Monday on "The Making of Martyrs."

G. O. P. ASKS HIRAM

JOHNSON TO COME

Wayne county Republican leaders are doing their utmost to have Hiram Johnson, presidential candidate, to speak at the big Republican mass meeting here April 29, they said Monday.

E. M. Campfield, a member of the county central committee, has been given the promise of Z. C. Swain, state manager for Johnson in Indiana, to do all within his power to get the California senator to speak in Richmond, Campfield said.

Invitations were sent out Saturday to all Republican candidates for state offices to be present at the big love-feast as well as candidates for congress. Wayne county candidates have also received special invitations.

Agricola, a small settlement in Alabama, had a death list of five.

Reports from practically over both Georgia and Alabama told of heavy downpours of rain and winds that reached cyclonic velocity. In many places buildings were razed or their roofs were carried away, trees were uprooted, and havoc was wrought generally. It was feared the rains would cause the rivers to overflow their banks and add to the suffering.

Westpoint, one of the towns hit by the storm yesterday, was inundated by floods last December and was just recovering from the effects of that disaster in which many lives were lost and great property damage done.

Railroad service as well as telephone and telegraphic service today either was suspended altogether or greatly impaired and last night many places were in total darkness as electric wires were down or power houses wrecked.

LIMA, O., March 29.—Seven persons dead and immense property damage was the toll of last night's wind storm over this section of the state.

Moses Archer, farmer, was killed near Lima. Three were killed at Van Wert, and three at Moulton. Interurban traffic has been suspended and wire communication is seriously impaired.

MANY INJURED, \$100,000 LOSS, WAYNE'S TOLL

Wreckage of Score of Houses

Marks Path of Tornado

Near Fountain City—Two Hurt Seriously.

MUCH STOCK IS KILLED

More than a score of buildings were demolished, and a number of persons were hurt, at least two of them seriously, by a tornado, which swept through the northern part of Wayne county about 6 p. m., Sunday. The heavy injured are Charles Davis and Frank Pierce.

The damage done to property and livestock is estimated to reach more than \$100,000. Scores of persons were in the wrecked houses when the tornado swept down on them, and that none of the injured was fatally hurt, was miraculous.

The tornado, which came from the west, was about 200 yards wide, and swept in a northeasterly direction, from Fountain City, missing both Fountain City and Arba.

Barns, houses and other buildings in the path of the twister were either completely demolished or badly wrecked. Telephone and telegraph wires and fences were torn away from the path of the storm, and many trees and poles were blown down.

Heavy Rain Follows.

Heavy rain and an unusually high wind followed the tornado, and several places which escaped the actual twister were damaged slightly by the winds that followed.

The first house struck was at Pleasant View farm, owned by Ben Wright. Here the house was badly wrecked, and two barns were destroyed besides several other outbuildings.

Although there were eight people in the Wright home, none of them were hurt. Several head of cattle and hogs were in the barns, but none of these were injured.

Sweeping East, the twister wrecked the homes of Fred Beckhofer and Walter Schroeder, and here, as at the Wright home, no one was seriously hurt. A large quantity of stock was killed on these farms, however.

One of the worst wrecks of the district, that of George Beeson, Monday, "The Burnt Offering."

Beeson home was blown completely to the ground, and all that remains is a mass of wreckage scattered over the ground.

Mrs. Beeson was cut and bruised severely by debris, and Mrs. Charles Green with her husband, stopped at the Beeson home to escape the storm, was also slightly cut about the face and head.

The home of Emery Lewis, about a mile northeast of the Beeson home, was also completely wrecked, and the exact nature of the damage was not determined, but it is believed his hurts will not prove fatal.

Frank Pierce was also seriously hurt when one of the farm buildings near Arba was destroyed.

At the home of Harlan Reese, just north of Arba, the house was completely wrecked, and the barn partially destroyed. Mr. and Mrs. Reese and their three children were in the house when the tornado struck, and the three children, Ralph, Thelma and Iris, were slightly cut about the head and face.

Two school houses were wrecked by the storm, one the old Brown school east of Fountain City, was one of the landmarks of that part of the county. The other was the Arba school, and was only recently completed.

Crowds of people flocked to the scene of the tornado all Monday morning, and farmers of the community, whose homes were not wrecked, were busy helping their less fortunate neighbors. School children at Fountain City were given half a holiday to visit the storm area.

Autos, and Horses Barred

Indefinitely From Main

Street Temporary Bridge

Automobile and horse drawn traffic will be barred from the temporary Main street bridge over Whitewater for some time, city officials said Monday. However street cars and interurban trolleys will continue to use the bridge.

A supporting abutment to the structure gave way Friday afternoon, causing all traffic to be halted. It was later found that the collapse of the support did not endanger street car lines.

A letter, from the county commissioners, was received by the board of works Monday, in which the county board said that it would in no way be responsible for the bridge, and that the county would not stand for any part of the damage incurred. The board referred the letter to City Engineer Davis.

It is understood that the board does not plan to make any large expenditures for the repair of the temporary bridge. In view of the fact that I. L. Smith, contractor for the new bridge, has said that the new structure will be completed within 60 days, board members Monday expressed the opinion that it would not be prudent to spend any large amounts of money in repairing the wooden structure.

Clemenceau Is In Palestine

PARIS, March 29.—Former Premier Clemenceau, who has been in Egypt for several weeks on a tour of recreation, has returned to Cairo from the Sudan and is proceeding to Palestine. It is announced in Cairo messages. He will spend the greater part of holy week in Palestine.

Man Sentenced in Muncie

Confesses Forgeries in City

Clarence Lyons, sentenced in Muncie Saturday, for obtaining money under false pretenses, confessed to having passed several bad checks in Richmond, Police Chief Wenger said Monday.

Wenger, Ed McNally and Mayor Zimmerman went to Muncie Sunday, and Lyons confessed his guilt. He was sentenced to serve a term of one to seven years at the Michigan City prison.

BERLIN GOVERNMENT

MAY MOVE ON REDS; SITUATION QUIETER

(By Associated Press)

BERLIN, March 29.—Energetic measures to restore order and to protect the German people from "illegal acts," will be taken by the government against communist forces operating in the Ruhr region, said a manifesto issued by the government today. If the leaders of the communists fail by March 30 to give adequate guarantees to General von Watter, commander of government troops in that district.

The following stipulations are laid down on conditions upon which the government will refrain from taking drastic steps to punish those who have opposed its authority:

Unconditional recognition of constitutional state authorities. Restoration of official civilian and police services, providing they have not been implicated in the movement supporting the reactionary regime set up by Dr. Gangwolt Kapp, on March 13.

Immediate release of prisoners. If these conditions are accepted, the government will not intervene, but if not, General von Watter will receive full powers to proceed.

The manifesto declares the Bielefeld agreement has not been kept, as attacks on Wessel are continuing, and that "numerous complaints from all phases of the republic against the crimes of the extremists" have been received by the government.

PARIS, March 29.—Absolute confirmation of the entrance of regular German army troops into the Ruhr district, on the edge of the allied zone of occupation, without any permission from the allied, has been received by the French foreign office, it was declared today.

This subject it was stated, probably will come up before the supreme council in London.

ESSEN, March 29.—A conference held in Essen today between representatives of the Berlin government, and the communists, in the Ruhr region heard Paul Levy of Frankfurt, president of the communist party or Germany, declare that his party could not win its fight under the present conditions.

NOVOROSSISK CITY

(By Associated Press)

NOVOROSSISK, Russia, March 28.—Occupation of this city by Bolshevik forces occurred Saturday morning at ten o'clock.

Thousands of General Denikine's volunteer soldiers went over to the soviet side, and most of the remainder went on board ship and departed for Crimea with Denikine.

Some ships which resisted occupation of the city by the Bolsheviks were Russian which fired a few shells at the soviet forces. The United States cruiser Galveston was the last warship to leave the harbor, and was not fired upon, although British and American warships were under fire from Bolshevik machine guns while departing.

Virtually all shipping of value was removed from the harbor before the Bolsheviks gained control of the city.

NEW CONTRACT SOON, THINKS COAL HEAD

(By Associated Press)

NEW YORK, March 29.—A new wage agreement based on the majority report of President Wilson's bituminous coal commission will be signed within a week, it is predicted by members of the general scale committee of operators and miners, who arrived here today to negotiate a new contract.

John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, said that common sense would rule throughout the conference, and there would be no reason for further delay in clearing up the bituminous situation.

He pointed out that the award of the president's commission was to be used as a basis for a new contract, and would not be written into a new agreement without discussion.

Eleven Children, and 18 Grandchildren Survive

Mrs. Mary Sitloh, 75

Mrs. Mary E. Sitloh, 75 years old, died at her home at 1217 South J street at 10 a. m. Sunday of pneumonia. She has been a resident of Richmond for a great many years.

She is survived by three daughters, Mrs. Elizabeth Hines, of Indianapolis; Mrs. Louise Mullins and Mrs. Eleanor Neal, of Richmond; eight sons, Edward, John, Harry, Henry, Adolph, Frank, William and George; two brothers, Henry Tienan and Adolph of St. Louis; and 18 grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at the home at 1 p. m. Wednesday. Burial will be in Lutheran. The Rev. Nicklas will officiate.

Upholds the LaFollette Law

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, March 29.—The supreme court in deciding appeal brought by British ship owners, today upheld the constitutionality of the provision of the LaFollette seaman's act relating to the payment of wages upon demands.

EIGHT DEAD, SIXTEEN HURT

IN DARKE COUNTY TORNADO AREA; HUGE PROPERTY LOSS

Flail of Death, Wielded by Wind, Passes North of Richmond and Takes Toll From Kurai Residents of Darke—Heaviest Damage Done Along Wildcat Road, Northwest of Greenville—Path About a Mile and One-half Wide—Storm Follows Wake of Heavy Rainstorm.

ALMOST \$1,000,000 IS ESTIMATE OF DAMAGE

GREENVILLE, O., Mar. 29.—Eight persons are dead and 16 are injured, four of them probably fatally, as a result of the tornado which swept over Darke county from Indiana, about 8 p. m. Sunday.

Property damage estimated at almost a million dollars was done, and more than a score of houses were completely demolished. Persons killed and hurt are all rural inhabitants of Darke county.

THE DEAD

Will Mote, decapitated, leg torn off; Mrs. John Olwine, body crushed; Elmer Cole, died of internal injuries; infant son of Omer Heck, neck broken, other injuries. Three persons known dead at Lightsville, O., names not known.

Miss Jessie Dennison, school teacher, Dayton, O., found dead in yard, head crushed. Two weeks old infant of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Cox, shock. Russell Fields, fractured skull, cuts and bruises. Mrs. Polly Heistand, crushed.

THE INJURED

Charles Snyder, fractured skull, deep cut over heart, other cuts, may die. John Olwine, leg crushed, other injuries, may die. Mrs. Omer Heck, internal injuries, may die. Miss Wilda Weybrecht, severe cuts and bruises, internal injuries, may die.

Mrs. Bert Weybrecht, cut about head, serious. Mrs. Ed Puterbaugh, cut about head, internal injuries. Clarabelle Shade, fractured jaw, bruises, shock. Park Shade, fractured jaw, fractured leg, cuts and bruises. Mrs. Park Shade, slight cuts about face. Mary Shade, injuries to head, cuts on body. Glenn Shade, collar bone broken, cuts and bruises. Ira Warfel, head cut and body bruises. Bert Weybrecht, head cut and body bruises. Mrs. Charles Snyder, cut on head and face. Roscoe Bryson, scalp wounds and bruises. Mrs. Roscoe Bryson, cuts and bruises. Mrs. Alfred Cox, skull fractured, broken arm, severed artery in base of brain. Probably fatally injured.

The tornado followed quickly in the wake of a heavy rain storm, and without warning, the high wind sweeping down on the countryside, uprooting trees, tearing houses and barns, and scattering debris for a mile along the path of the storm.

The heaviest damage was done along what is known as Wildcat road, about a mile and a half northwest of Greenville. The path of the storm was from one to two miles wide, and started at the southwest corner of the county and traveled northeast, increasing in violence as it went.

Four Killed at Lightsville.

Four persons were killed, and a score or more injured, at least one fatally, and 18 houses were demolished at the town of Lightsville, about 8 miles northwest of here. Debris was blown for several hundred yards around the path of the storm.

Miss Jessie Dennison, a school teacher in Dayton, O., was found dead in the yard after the storm had passed. She had been visiting her parents over the week-end.

A number of bruises and cuts were found on her body, and the combined shock of the many blows is believed to have caused her death.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Cox were in their home when the twister swooped down on them, completely demolishing the building. Their two weeks' old baby was just recovering from influenza, and the shock is believed to have caused its death.

Mrs. Cox was found unconscious, badly cut and bruised with her arm broken and jaw fractured in two places. She was rushed to a nearby home, but is not expected to live more than 24 hours.

Russell Fields was killed by a blow in the head from flying timber, as he was seeking shelter from the blast. Mrs. Polly Heistand was visiting her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Laberman, when the storm came.

Her body was found in a badly mangled condition, beneath a pile of rubbish. Mr. and Mrs. Laberman escaped with minor injuries.

Many of the dead and injured were struck by falling houses and debris as they were seeking shelter from the high winds. William Mote was killed as he and Mrs. Mote were descending the cellar steps to escape the twister.

As he started down the steps, the house collapsed, completely severing his head and left leg. Mrs. Mote, who was in front of her husband, escaped serious injury.

At the home of John Olwine, neither he nor his wife had time to reach safety, and Mrs. Olwine was crushed when the house collapsed. Olwine's leg was crushed and he received other injuries.

Baby Blown 200 Feet.

The infant son of Omer Heck was blown about 200 feet, from the house to the orchard, and his neck was broken as he was hurled against a tree. Falling debris struck Mrs. Heck, causing internal injuries that may result in her death and left leg. Mrs. Mote, who was in front of her husband, escaped serious injury.

At the home of Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe Bryson, 11 persons were seated at the dinner table when the twister struck. Nine of these were seriously injured, but the others escaped with a few scratches.

When word of the catastrophe spread to surrounding towns relief parties rushed to the scene with food, clothing and blankets.

Physicians were called and worked until an early hour this morning. Many of the injured were taken to the hospital at Union City.

Relief workers found considerable difficulty in reaching the stricken persons. Communications were impossible because of wires being down and interurban cars were forced to stop.

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City Escapes 3 Storm Disasters in 7 Years

Sunday's storm, which passed over the northern part of the county