

# Terrors of Deadly Twister

## Hundred Killed, Many Injured, Thousands Homeless

### EXTRA THE OMAHA DAILY BEE EXTRA

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## GREAT SECTION OF OMAHA IS DEVASTATED BY THE MOST DESTRUCTIVE STORM IN STATE'S HISTORY

Slowly, but surely, the people are having their eyes opened to the tremendous extent of the incalculable damage wrought by the death-dealing tornado that swept over Omaha early Sunday evening.

The number of known killed is creeping up close to the 100 mark. The severely injured are more than twice as numerous, and the homeless count into the thousands.

The blow came, as it were, in the twinkling of the eye, so swiftly, and so deadly and destructive that its victims did not know what had overtaken them.

The tornado came just at dusk accompanied by a deafening din and roar, collapsing houses like card board, and tossing all sorts of objects about, passing on so quickly that its coming and going seemed to be simultaneous.

### Darkness Quickly Follows Devastation.

After the tornado followed a deep darkness, and a dense downpour of rain. Lights were out, traffic stopped, telephone communication broken.

The stricken neighborhoods rushed to one another's relief, the imprisoned were dug out of cellars in which they had taken refuge. Nearby homes were turned into hospitals, the entire medical staff of the community drafted for emergency work.

Conflagrations bursting out in the wake of the storm kept the fire department busy, and gave a lurid background to the scene of devastation.

Autos and ambulances were called into requisition, and with the speedy cessation of the rain, although street cars were stopped, and street lamps extinguished, thousands from all over the city poured forth as curious spectators, the procession to and fro continuing through the night.

### Storm No Respector of Persons.

Only with the break of day, however, was the terrible desolation fully visible.

The tornado proved to be no respecter of persons, and in no way discriminated between poverty and wealth. It had invaded the hovel and palace, the dwelling of the wage worker, and the mansion of his employer. Striking diagonally across the city, it scooped up the hollows and slopes, and shaved off the hill tops, where the houses Omaha was most proud of had stood.

The chief loss of life seems to have been suffered at certain spots—around Forty-sixth and Leavenworth, at Fortieth and Farnam, where a crowd had taken refuge in a wrecked garage; in a crowded moving picture show on North Twenty-fourth street, in a north side pool hall filled with negro visitors.

Half breath escapes and personal narratives of extraordinary experiences are so numerous that comparatively few of them can find their way into print.

Relief measures are under way. Governor Morehead has called out several companies of the militia and stand guard over the exposed property. A mass meeting of citizens, called by the mayor, has started a relief fund and organized for work, and the state, through the governor and legislature, promises to extend a helping hand.

### What Daylight View Disclosed.

Daylight only brought out stronger the havoc last night's awful storm had wrought.

The cloudy morning and the piercing wind from the north seemed fitting accompaniments for the scene of wreck and ruin that spread for miles through the best built residence section of the city, where householders who had escaped with their lives were trying to salvage something of their effects from the debris of what had been their homes.

The worst reports of damage done to property were more than confirmed by inspection after day had come again. The path of the storm center varied from two to six blocks wide, and along the way houses were smashed to bits, torn to shreds, heaped in fantastical piles or scattered wide and far, as if the demon of the air had spitefully tossed them about. Then the wonder was that any had escaped alive from the shattered homes. Freaks of the storm are many; houses left unscathed where all about is heaped up ruin; the traditional splinter driven through a tree is to be seen, while huge slivers driven into the sides of houses are many; in one place, the first story of a two-story building is torn out, while the upper story settled down on the foundation. Shade trees are broken, uprooted, scattered near and far. Trolley wires are down, and with them electric light wires, telephone cables, all twisted and snarled into dangerous webs, or left hanging in low festoons across the streets.

### Path of the Storm Traced Out.

The first trace of the storm in Omaha is at Fifty-fourth and Center streets. From there it traveled north, veering slightly to the east, to Leavenworth. Then it took a northeasterly course to Fortieth and Farnam, sweeping its way clear of everything. Still traveling a little east of north, it covered its course from Fortieth east to Thirty-fourth, till Bemis Park was reached. Then it turned sharply to the east, and passed down along Parker and Blondo, to Twenty-fourth, where its path is about six blocks wide. In this section the damage is most complete. The diagonal course of the twister across this part of the city wrecked a wider range than in any other section. Finally, at about Fourteenth and Spencer, the storm went over the bluff, demolished the Missouri Pacific roundhouse, leveled the big trestle work of the Illinois Central over Carter lake, wrecked some buildings around the Rod and Gun club grounds, and disappeared.

The first serious damage done in Omaha was suffered by Heals school, which is unroofed, and partly destroyed; the last, apparently, was the wrecking of the trestlework of the Illinois Central; between the two extremes stretches a path some four and one-half miles in extent, and from two to six blocks in width, along which the damage is practically total.

### Story of Death Dealing Storm that Struck Omaha Easter Sunday

The most appalling catastrophe in all Omaha's history befell the city just before sunset on a beautiful Easter day. Just before 6 o'clock on Sunday evening a tornado swooped down on the city, coming from the southwest and tearing a path through to the north and east from two to three blocks wide and about four miles long.

From the best accounts that could be obtained, the storm seems to have first struck the city of Omaha back of the Field club; from there it

moved in a direction a little east of north till it crossed Cuming street, two miles north; then it veered slightly more to the east, till Lake street was reached at Twenty-fourth, a mile further on; here it seemed to separate, the more destructive part moving east along Lake, Ohio, Maple Locust and Binney streets, till it crossed the river, more than a mile away.

**Best Residence Section.** This was through the best built residence section of the city,

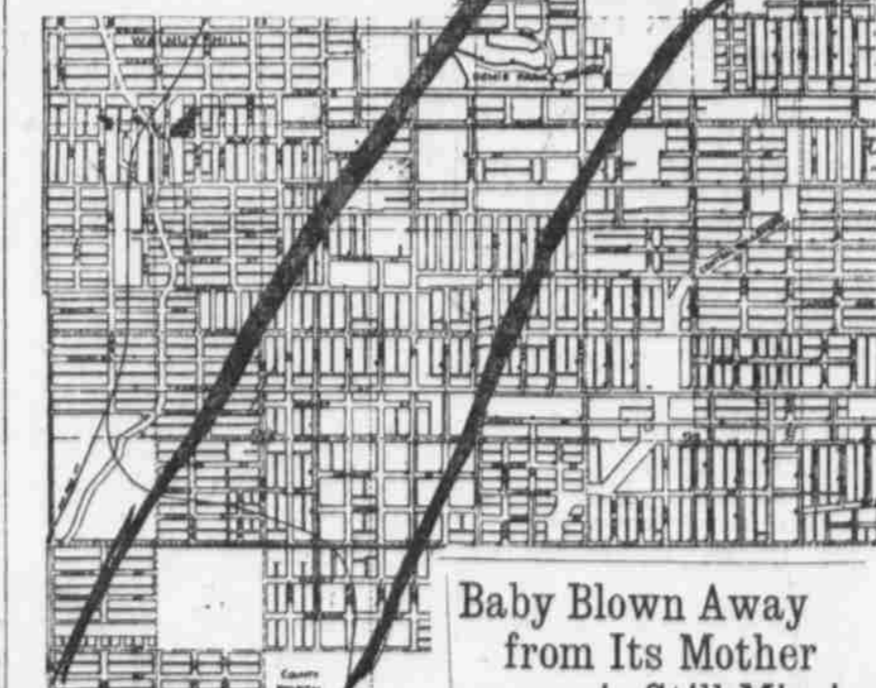
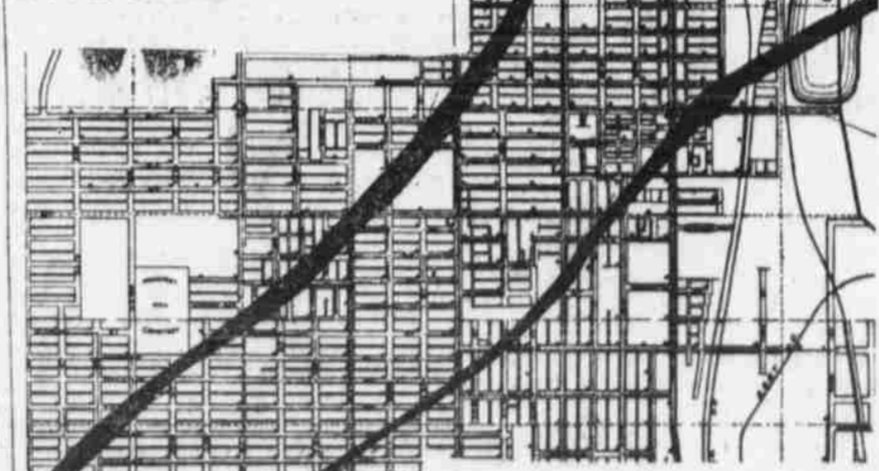
The Tornado



### BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATIONS PROTECTED

Inquiry at the different building and loan association offices elicits the information that they are all amply protected by what are termed blanket tornado insurance policies. These are not for the protection of the borrowers, but for those members who have invested money in the stock in the different associations. Very many of the borrowers are carrying policies for tornado losses on their respective residences and in that way are fully protected against loss. The above safety feature was adopted by the associations at the time of the Bellevue tornado a few years ago and absolutely protects the members of the association against any loss of their savings or investments and will be of assistance to the officers in rendering assistance to those borrowing members whose homes have been damaged.

### Track of Devil Cloud



### BROWNELL HALL ESCAPES; NOT IN PATH OF THE STORM

Many inquiries from out in the state have been received regarding pupils at Brownell Hall. The tornado was not even felt at the school, and the occupants knew nothing of the catastrophe until after it was over.

### Baby Blown Away from Its Mother is Still Missing

Mrs. W. W. Sherwood, 3511 California, was in bed sick, when the storm struck her home, the wreckage of the buildings fell in upon her, causing serious injuries, from the effects of which it is doubtful if she will recover. In the bed with her was a babe a week old. When the mother was dug from the wreckage, the child could not be found. It is thought that it was blown to another part of the house and killed. The mother was taken to the Methodist hospital.

## Estimate of Storm Damage

Lives Lost	140
Persons Injured	240
Houses Demolished	350
Churches Wrecked	11
Schools Wrecked	8
Buildings Damaged	1250

## The List of the Dead

- BABY ANITA, 3 years old, missing.
- A. J. PECK, 4117 Farnam.
- BENJAMIN BARNES, brother of B. J. Barnes, druggist at Fortieth and Dodge.
- MRS. A. H. BIGELOW, 2527 Cass street.
- MARIE BOOKER, 1414 North Thirtieth street.
- JEAN B. BROOKS, real estate dealer, Twenty-fourth and Lake.
- INFANT SON of Morris Christenson, Fifty-fifth and Center.
- HARRY COOPER, Telephone lineman.
- C. F. COPLEY, 2620 North Twenty-fourth.
- MRS. CLIFF DANIELS, Nineteenth and Locust streets.
- CLIFF DANIELS, mail carrier, Nineteenth and Locust streets.
- MRS. B. DAVIS, 4428 Jackson.
- MRS. DAVIS, Forty-fourth and Howard.
- GEORGE J. DUNCAN, 4101 Farnam street, advertising solicitor for The Bee, died at Nicholas Senn hospital.
- C. W. DILLON, proprietor of pool hall, Twenty-fourth and Grant.
- FERGUSON, 2035 North Nineteenth.
- TWO DAUGHTERS of Cliff Daniels, aged 8 and 12 years.
- D. L. FIELD, 2808 Franklin, at coroner's.
- WILLIAM FISHER, Forty-sixth and Marcy.
- MRS. E. F. FITZGERALD, 2704 North Twentieth.
- MRS. F. G. GOODENOUGH, 4703 Mason street.
- HENRIETTA GRIEB, Twenty-seventh and Burdette.
- J. G. HANSEN, 4690 Mayberry avenue, trackman employed by street car company.
- MRS. J. G. HANSEN, 4690 Mayberry avenue.
- MR. and MRS. HARDY of Cedar Creek Valley are reported dead.
- MISS HEINE and SISTERS, Twentieth and Miami.
- ANDREW HENRICKSON, Forty-second and Harney.
- MRS. ELLEN HENSMAN, 1021 South Forty-sixth street.
- HENZ, found at 4600 Leavenworth street.
- MRS. VAN DAUEN.
- MRS. HOAGE.
- B. I. BARNES.
- LARSON, man.
- LOYD GLOVER, colored, 2102 North Twenty-seventh street.
- GEORGE HANSETT, colored, Twenty-first and Grant streets.
- "SUNNY" FORD, colored, Twenty-first and Grant streets.
- T. E. JOHNSON, colored, Twenty-sixth and Seward streets.
- JOHN DOYLE, Forty-eighth and Mason streets.
- MR. HANSON, Forty-eighth and Mason streets.
- MRS. HANSON, Forty-seventh and Pacific streets.
- JOHN RYAN.
- MRS. F. G. GOODNOUGH, 4713 Mason street.
- MRS. ELLA JOHNSON, 2813 North Twentieth street.
- NATHAN KRINSKY, baker, 2308 North Twenty-fourth street.
- MRS. KRINSKY.
- FIVE SMALL KRINSKY children SOLOMON WARTZEL, baker, 2308 North Twenty-fourth street.
- EMMA ROESING, 12 years of age, Twenty-seventh and D streets, South Omaha.
- MISS JEPSON, Forty-eighth and Mason streets.
- MRS. FRANK DAVIE, 4110 William street.
- CHARLOTTE DAVIE, 4110 William street.
- F. V. FITCH.
- MRS. SABER, Thirty-second and Charles streets.
- MARIE HANSON, 2723 Blondo.
- MRS. LAVIDGE, 369 South Thirty-eighth street.
- LAVIDGE BOY, 2 years old.
- MRS. DAVIS.
- MRS. R. R. VANDEVAN, 3218 Charles street.
- C. B. WISSON, Thirty-second and Hamilton.
- MOOR KIEWE, 2522 Burdette.
- H. V. FITZ, 2723 Pratt street.
- EMMA ROESING, 1321 North Twenty-ninth street, South Omaha.
- MRS. FRANK DAVEY, Forty-eighth and Pierce streets.
- MRS. J. D. HOGG, 3411 Cuming street.
- MISS HASS, sister of William Hass, a salesman for Paxton & Gallagher's.
- MRS. HOLM and BABY DAUGHTER, Thirty-eighth and Chicago.
- MISS FREDA HULTING, 2633 Chicago, died after reaching Child Saving Institute.
- MARY HANSEN, 2723 Blondo.
- FOURTEEN-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER of Edward N. Jepsen, 1025 South Forty-eighth.
- JIMPSON, workman, Missouri Pacific roundhouse, Fifteenth and Emmet.
- AGED LADY, unidentified, now at the Wise Memorial hospital.
- SMALL SHRUNKEN LADY, rather large face, thin gray hair.
- NEIS LARSON, 522 North Thirty-sixth street.
- MR. PECK, at Burkett-Leale's.
- NATHAN KRINSKY, proprietor of bakery, Twenty-fourth and Grant.

(Continued on Page Two.)

### EIGHT KILLED AT BERLIN

Otoe County Village is Practically Wiped Out of Existence.

### BUT THREE BUILDINGS STANDING

One of These is a Church with the Roof Torn Off—It is Being Used for a Hospital—Many Are Injured.

BERLIN, Neb., March 22.—This village was practically wiped out of existence by a tornado which struck it at 4:30 Sunday evening. Eight persons are known to be dead and many are injured. Partial list of victims:

Dead:

- HENRY KOCH, WIFE, son, aged 16 and daughter aged 14.
- DAUGHTER OF LOUIS TREDE.
- SECTION FOREMAN, living in boxcar; members of family injured.

Injured:

- Louis Trede, implement dealer.
- Mrs. Fred Meestman, not expected to live.

All the business houses and all dwelling houses in town, except two, are wrecked. Two churches were totally wrecked and a third church had the roof torn off. The damaged church is being used as a hospital.

The new school house and the bank are among the buildings wrecked. The property loss will exceed a quarter of a million dollars.

Berlin is a village of about 400 inhabitants.

(Continued on Page Two.)

## Help for the Homeless

Omaha has suffered the most appalling calamity in all its history. Hundreds of happy homes have been demolished and thousands of citizens are, temporarily at least, in need of assistance. All sorts of aid is solicited—money, clothing, bedding, etc. Bring or send your offering to The Bee business office, and it will be taken care of to the end that it will do the most good. Help is needed and must be had promptly. Come on.