

Omaha Relief Work Well Organized; More Supplies Needed by Committee

Floods in Ohio Slowly Receding, Disclosing the Extent of Damage Wrought

KEEP FRIENDS POSTED
 Mail them copies of The Bee — the paper with best account of the storm havoc and relief work.
 It Beats Writing Letters

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE EXTRA

VOL. XLII—NO. 243.

OMAHA, FRIDAY MORNING,

28, 1913—FOURTEEN PAGES,

SINGLE COPY TWO CENTS.

FIVE THOUSAND DEATHS DUE TO FLOOD AND FIRE

Conflagration Which Broke Out in Dayton Wednesday is Still Raging.

MAYOR ASKS FOR DYNAMITE

Attempt Will Be Made to Stay Fire with Explosives.

DEATH LIST GROWS HOURLY

Threatened Break in Lewiston Reservoir Adds to Danger.

MANY DEAD IN COLUMBUS

Relief Party Finds from Six Hundred to One Thousand Bodies in the Western Part of the City.

BULLETIN.

STONEY, O., March 27.—Word was received here that 500 men are at work on the Lakeview dam at the Lewiston reservoir and that danger of a break in the reservoir walls has been averted for the present.

BULLETIN.

BELLEFONTAINE, O., March 27.—Led by pastors of the churches, who called their congregations together and emphasized the urgent need of assistance and aid by children and women of endangered villages, scores of men worked all night and continued their efforts today to repair the threatened break in the banks of the Lewiston reservoir. The walls were holding at noon. The first train entered this city from Toledo last night and 200 passengers of the wrecked Pennsylvania train who have been marooned here were taken to Urbana during the night.

BULLETIN.

INDIANAPOLIS, March 27.—Governor Hatton this noon declared West Indianapolis under martial law. Vandals started to rob and pillage and a company of the state troops was rushed into the district and a number of arrests were made.

The menace of fire continues this morning in the flooded district of Ohio. Dayton is still burning and appeals have been sent out for dynamite to blow up buildings in the path of the flames.

The Lewiston reservoir north of Dayton is still holding. Men are being rushed in to protect and strengthen it. A blizzard is reported from parts of the inundated area. Cold weather and snow hamper the work of rescue.

Relief measures are being perfected in many cities. Carloads of provisions clothing and other supplies are ready for transportation as fast as trains can be moved. The Ohio national guardmen are also ready to move to Dayton as soon as they can enter the city. At Piquette the flood conditions are growing worse every moment. No fire has been reported from that city. The Ohio is rising, but the danger stake at Cincinnati is believed to have been passed.

Western Pennsylvania is facing a grave flood situation. Sharon and New Castle are fifteen feet of flood.

Six hundred to one thousand were drowned in the western part of Columbus, O.

CHICAGO, March 27.—Estimates of the loss of life by floods in Ohio and Indiana were still inaccurate early today, although 1,500 was placed as the minimum by the most conservative. Other estimates which included large loss of life in towns and districts shut off from communication, ran as high as 5,000.

Governor Cox of Ohio said last night that it was believed that more than 1,000 persons had perished in Dayton alone and that the loss of life in other parts of the state might increase the total to 2,000 or over more.

The latest report from Piquette, O., placed the number of dead there at 500, but there has been no verification of this report.

Fires were raging in various parts of Dayton all night and it was feared that many of those marooned in buildings in the inundated district were burned to death.

The waters in most of the flooded districts were receding, but there was great difficulty in reaching the refugees in buildings because of the swift current. Many gasoline launches were rushed into the flooded district and it was expected that they would be of great service.

(Continued on Page Two.)

The Weather

Forecast till 7 p. m. Friday:
 For Omaha, Council Bluffs and vicinity—Fair and warmer tonight and Friday.

Temperature at Omaha—	Hours	Deg.
5 a. m.	13	
6 a. m.	12	
7 a. m.	12	
8 a. m.	12	
9 a. m.	15	
10 a. m.	18	
11 a. m.	20	
12 m.	23	
1 p. m.	24	
2 p. m.	25	
3 p. m.	28	

PRICES OF FOOD BOOSTED

Governor of Indiana Resents Action of Commission Men.

MAY DECLARE MARTIAL LAW

Disease from Unsanitary Conditions Threatens to Take Greater Toll in Indianapolis Than the Floods.

INDIANAPOLIS, March 27.—That Indianapolis may be under martial law before the day is over was intimated today by Governor Hatton, when he learned that prices on all foodstuffs had been increased by commission merchants. The price of eggs has been advanced 10 cents since yesterday, with corresponding higher prices on other commodities.

Governor Hatton, who is making an investigation, is very indignant and speaking of affairs, said: "I will do anything that is necessary to protect our people against these extortionist prices."

He declined to discuss the matter further until he completes his investigation. Before the supply of bread available in the west side had been consumed today, loaves were selling at 20 cents each. The supply of meat has been exhausted.

Organized rescue work was resumed after daylight today in the flooded district of West Indianapolis. Police officials and rescue workers estimated that 500 persons spent the second night of the flood on the second floors of houses and buildings, three were known to have been drowned and a night of snow and freezing temperature threatened an increase in the death list and is expected to grow steadily through the day.

One thousand loaves of bread and other supplies were sent into the flooded districts at daylight. Relief work proceeded a little more rapidly after an additional fall of eighteen inches in White river. At the city dog pound, on the edge of the flooded district, hot soup and coffee were served to the refugees this morning.

Disease arising from unsanitary conditions and the exposure of the flood victims already threatens to claim a greater toll than the waters.

Five women, rescued and taken to Tomlinson hall, are suffering from pneumonia, and scores of whooping cough and measles were discovered among the refugees.

Those suffering from contagious diseases were removed at once and inspectors from the city board of health, aided by corps of nurses detailed from various hospitals, set to work to prevent exposure of the refugees to contagion and to take care of the other sick.

Tomlinson hall refugees were supplied with 500 mattresses and 500 blankets from the army supplies at Fort Benjamin Harrison.

Deposit Check is Blown 150 Miles By the Tornado

A certificate of deposit for \$10 drawn on the Omaha postal savings bank was found stuck in an inch and a half of mud Tuesday afternoon near Pomeroy, Ia., 150 miles from Omaha, by Rural Carrier J. A. Johnson. The certificate was dated March 16 of this year and the depositor's name was S. L. Bush. The check was returned by mail to Postmaster Wharton's office and upon investigation the owner, Mr. Bush, a colored fireman living at 402 Howard street, was found and the bit of paper returned to him. Mr. Bush said the check was originally in an outside pocket of a vest which he had hung on the line in the rear of his house just before the storm. He was mightily pleased to receive the money, which he had given up for lost along with a considerable amount of other belongings.

Bryan Is Not Lost, as Was Supposed

WASHINGTON, March 27.—Secretary Bryan, who has been out of communication with the State department for the last twenty-four hours, in the Ohio flooded districts and for whom grave fears were felt, was heard from today on his way eastward from Akron.

Ten-Day Holiday Period in Ohio

COLUMBUS, O., March 27.—Governor Cox today issued a proclamation declaring a holiday in all flood districts in Ohio for the next ten days. This was done to protect negotiable paper that might be subject to protest.

OUTSIDE CONTRIBUTIONS ARE GLADLY ACCEPTED

In order that there may be no misunderstanding of the attitude of Omaha towards outside assistance in tornado relief work, we wish it to be understood which while Omaha is undertaking to handle the situation locally, a great many outside cash contributions have come in voluntarily. In every case these have been accepted and acknowledged with gratitude. There is no intention to decline money so received.

COMMERCIAL CLUB OF OMAHA.
 GEORGE H. KELLY, President.
 CASPER E. YOST, Vice President.
 J. M. GUILD, Commissioner.

FIRE SWEEPS DAYTON IN WAKE OF WATER

Eighteen Blocks in Business Section Burned Over, and Flames Not Yet Subdued.

SEVENTY THOUSAND MAROONED

City's Population Imprisoned by the Raging Flood.

WATER SLOWLY GOING DOWN

Flood Recedes, Showing Something of Devastation Wrought.

RESCUERS' THRILLING TALES

Startling Adventures and Wonderful Escapes Mingle with Sad Stories of Pathetic Deaths in Stricken City.

DAYTON, O., March 27.—The following is a tabulated estimate of conditions tonight:

Dead, accurate estimates impossible.
 Persons marooned 70,000
 Residences submerged 15,000
 Miles of streets inundated 120
 Persons provided for in rescue stations 5,000
 Horses killed 500
 Automobiles damaged 1,000

These figures placed Dayton's loss at \$25,000,000 and were estimated by persons who had explored part of the flood area.

BULLETIN.

DAYTON, O., March 27.—All but a few of those hundreds of persons who have been marooned in the downtown sections of flooded Dayton since Tuesday morning are safe. This was the news brought out late today by an Associated Press staff man, the first to succeed in the perilous task of penetrating as far north as the Big Miami river, which runs through the center of the town.

Chief of Police J. N. Allaback, himself marooned, who has been directing the rescue work, gave the first information as to the situation in what has been the waterbound district.

Except for possible loss of life on the north side of the river there will not be more than 200 dead in Dayton, according to Allaback's estimate, after he had been given information as to the situation on the south side.

STONEY, O., March 27.—A message received here from Dayton, via Tippencanoe, today says that fire has consumed that territory in the flooded city bounded on the north by First street, on the east by St. Clair, on the south by Third street and on the west by the boulevard. The message came to the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton railroad. If true the information means that the territory nine blocks long and two blocks wide has burned.

The district is a fine residence section and contains the Beckel house, court house, jail, Central Union Telephone company, Callahan bank building and several other structures.

Snow Adds to Suffering. DAYTON, March 27.—Snow added to terrors of the elements today. Hundreds of refugees are being taken out of the Hickory street school. The weather is bitter cold, adding to the suffering of those trapped on top of their homes. Fire is sweeping almost the entire downtown district. The flames are leaping hundreds of feet in the air. The conflagration has destroyed several blocks in the heart of the business section, as indicated from observations taken early from the roof of the National Cash Register building.

Seventy Thousand Marooned. Unlike other cities heretofore overwhelmed by flood Dayton has not representative citizens to relieve victims of the flood and fire that have swept the city.

(Continued on Page Two.)

Communication With Zanesville is Severed by Flood

PITTSBURG, March 27.—Telephone connection with stricken Zanesville, O., was severed this morning after the following message came through the local office from the Zanesville chief operator: "We are leaving the exchange in boats. Water up to the second story, conditions here getting worse every minute."

ZANESVILLE, O., March 27.—(Via Phone to Pittsburg.)—This city tonight is literally awaiting the worst. Seven persons are known to be dead and the fate of 30 others, workmen and their families, who had their home in the flood district, is in doubt. The city is under martial law. Several stores in the downtown section are burning and there is little hope of extinguishing the flames.

Several thousand persons are homeless. They are being taken care of in stores and public buildings. Nearly one-half of the town is under fifteen to twenty feet of water. A number of residences and other buildings have been swept away.



Drawn for The Bee by Powell.

THOUSAND DIE IN COLUMBUS

First Estimate of Loss of Life in Ohio Capital Too Low.

STRICKEN AREA HEARD FROM

Indescribable State of Affairs West of the River is Disclosed—Houses Are Crushed Like Eggshells.

COLUMBUS, O., March 27.—Between 600 and 1,000 persons lost their lives in the flooded west side of Columbus, according to representatives of the Columbus Dispatch, who have just gotten into communication with the newspaper from the previously isolated part of the city. This same estimate is given by persons in charge of the relief station on the hill top west of the flooded section.

According to those who invaded the stricken district, the charities, the big state institution and store room in the hill top section were crowded with refugees, many of whom were rescued from the muddy waters and who told stories of indescribable horrors.

Former Mayor George S. Marshall, who was in telephone communication with Attorney Cecil Randall, his law partner, said today that Mr. Randall asserted the death toll would reach at least 1,000.

Throng of excited groups of people from the flood stricken section of the city who were crowded into the temporary rescue quarters asserted that the estimate of Mr. Randall is not exaggerated. The true extent of the awful tragedy enacted during the sweeping away of homes and the exact death toll will not be known for several days, until the mass of hundreds of uprooted trees which are strewn over the lowlands south of the city are uncovered. This mass of debris now is under several feet of water with swift currents running in many directions.

Many of those rescued tell of escaping from their homes by the fractions of minutes just before the rushing waters swept their houses away and crushed them like egg shells against buildings. Scores of entire families, the people assert, were swept down with their houses in the swift current.

Every available inch of space in the Columbus State Hospital for the Insane

(Continued on Page Two.)

LET EVERYBODY HELP

Send your contribution for the tornado victims to any Omaha newspaper and it will be acknowledged in the paper and turned into official relief fund.

The price of The Morning Bee in Omaha is two cents and The Evening Bee one cent. The Bee Publishing company is not responsible for the extra charges made by newsboys for extras as the price for these is the same as for regular editions.

COX REVIEWS FLOOD OUTLOOK

Ohio Governor Says Calamity Worst Ever Known in America.

NEW YORK, March 27.—Governor James Cox of Ohio telegraphed from Columbus, O., as follows: "The exact extent of the appalling flood in Ohio is still unknown. Every hour impresses us with the uncertainty of the situation. The waters have assumed such unknown heights in many parts of the state that it will be hardly less than a miracle if villages and towns are not wiped out of existence in the southern and southwestern parts of Ohio. The storm is moving south of east."

"Please give great publicity to an appeal for help. My judgment is that there has never been such a tragedy in the history of the republic."

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Looking Ahead

Legislators Come to Understanding on the Measures.

REQUIRES VOTE OF PEOPLE

Each Town Affected Must Give Consent by Vote After Petition and Question Lays Over Three Years.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)
 LINCOLN, March 27.—(Special.)—The Douglas delegation in the house has finally agreed on Mike Lee's Greater Omaha bills and the members expect to use their best efforts in passing them. It is understood also that representatives of South Omaha have agreed to the measures. The bills are now in the hands of the sitting committee and will be raised very shortly.

The delegation and representatives of South Omaha agreed to an amendment providing that before the towns consolidate the proposition shall be submitted to a vote of the people interested, and if it fails to secure a majority in each city and village the question shall not be

AGREE ON GREATER OMAHA

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LEWIS AND SHERMAN ELECTED TO SENATE

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., March 27.—Governor Dunne's plan for breaking the senatorial deadlock was put into effect yesterday.

Colonel James Hamilton Lewis of Chicago, was elected for the full six-year term to succeed Shelby M. Cullom.

Lawrence Y. Sherman of Springfield, was elected to fill the unexpired two years of the term to succeed Albert J. Hopkins, who vacated the office March 4, 1909.

FIRE ARE RAGING IN DAYTON

Thousands Penned in Upper Floors of Business Block Are Fearing Water from the Lewiston Reservoir.

COLUMBUS, O., March 27.—Five hundred lives were lost at Piquette, according to information received here at 12:30 by Senator S. E. Kiser of Piquette. His informant was J. Guy Odonnell, prosecuting attorney of Miami county.

MAIL STOLEN FROM LOCK BOXES BY USE OF KEYS

ABERDEEN, S. D., March 27.—(Special Telegram.)—Carl Atness, aged 17, was arrested last night and held for preliminary hearing on charge of robbing the mails. Atness had keys to postoffice boxes of four prominent business firms in his possession, and has acknowledged he had for months been opening the boxes and taking therefrom all letters containing remittances. He has destroyed all stolen checks and drafts, but used whatever money he found in letters. It is believed that checks and drafts stolen and destroyed will amount to several thousand dollars.

HUNDREDS HELPED TO NEW START IN RELIEF DISTRICTS

Systematic Arrangement of Providing for Tornado Victims Results in Efficient Work.

AUDITORIUM CENTRAL DEPOT

Women Volunteers Sort Supplies as Contributions Pour In.

RUMORS OF EXTORTION HEARD

Committee Ready to Take Drastic Action if Needed.

OMAHA'S ACTION COMPLIMENTED

Visitors from Outside Admire Attitude Taken by Citizens.

CROWDS IN STRICKEN AREA

Thousands of Visitors from Iowa and Nebraska and Other States Come and Go by Every Train.

The district stations established to distribute the relief to destitute or needy victims of the Sunday tornado are getting down to business in response to steadily increasing calls for help.

At the Auditorium, which is converted into a central supply depot, a lively scene is presented in receiving the garments, bed clothes, shoes and other wearing apparel brought in by generous people. These supplies are being sorted out by a large corps of woman volunteers from the different charitable organizations assisted by shop women detailed from some of the stores.

The things are classified according to kind and variety—things for infants in one pile, for children in another, for women in another, for men in still another—so that time may be saved and the right things given to the right people. The relief committee is holding daily meetings to grapple with all sorts of problems that are presented.

Complaints Being Investigated. Complaint comes in, which in being investigated, with reference to alleged extortions practiced upon storm sufferers. While these have not been verified, it is charged that taking advantage of the situation, making their services or goods absolutely necessary, some folks have been raising their rates beyond what is customary. One complaint relates to the charge for window glass, and another goes to certain grocers and butchers said to be boosting prices. Members of the relief committee declare they will not stand for any extortion of this kind, and that if the charges are verified, some drastic measures will be taken.

Contributions for the relief fund are continually coming in, yet as the work is taken up it is seen that the money already in hand will have to be greatly multiplied. Every newspaper in the city is accepting contributions, and turning them over to the treasurer officially in charge.

Compliments for Relief Work. Visitors from outside are expressing admiration for the manner in which the people of Omaha have organized in the

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PHOTO PORTFOLIO OF THE OMAHA TORNADO--The Bee has in preparation a booklet showing thirty views taken by our photographers along the path of the big storm. This booklet, on fine paper, 7x9 inch pages, will be ready for delivery in a day or two. SEND US YOUR ORDERS NOW--PRICE 10 CENTS.