

Houses Smashed by Dayton Flood.



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Many houses in Dayton were swept from their foundations to be hurled against other buildings by the water which swept through the streets as if through a millrace.

How Ohio Flood Stopped Traffic.

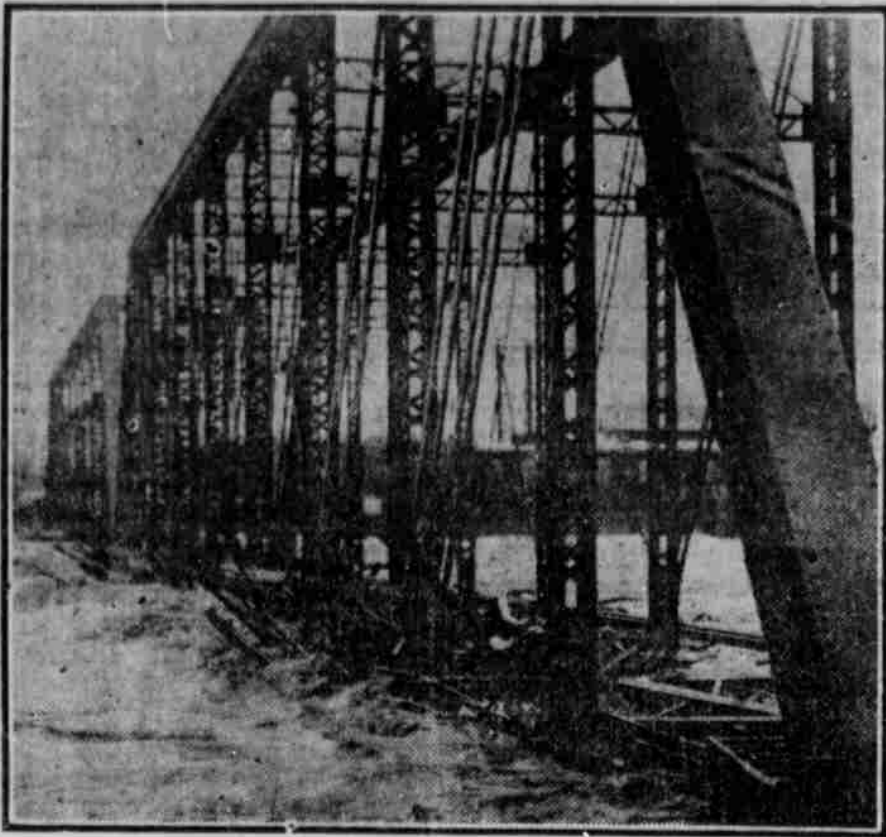


Photo copyright, 1913, by American Press Association.

This shows debris caught against the Pennsylvania railroad bridge at Columbus, O. Ordinarily the surface of the water is sixteen feet below the bridge.

Rescuing Sufferers at Dayton.



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Cables were strung from telegraph and telephone poles to reach persons marooned on house-tops or upper floors. The crowd in the foreground had thus been rescued and are waiting to be taken away in carriages or autos.

LOST RELATIVES IN FLOOD

Old Soldier Who Lost All in Flood Passes Through Alliance.

A PITIFUL STORY.

T. J. Kavanaugh, a Confederate old soldier seventy-two years of age, came in on train No. 41 Friday night and stayed over in Alliance until the noon train, No. 43, Saturday noon when he went to Crawford. His story, told in a halting way to the Herald reporter, is full of interesting news on the flood situation in Ohio.

Here is the story, as given to the Herald, "My home is in Middletown, Ohio, twenty-three miles from Cincinnati, on the Big Miami river. I have lived in Middletown for twenty-two years and have a machinist-blacksmith shop. The population of Middletown was about 3,500 people. It is in the center of a prosperous farming community, and I have seen a number of floods in my long residence there, but never anything like this one.

"We had warning before the flood started from people farther up the river and got to the higher ground about three-quarters of a mile from our house. My wife and son Tom, were with me. We had to wade through water up to our knees to get to the higher ground. There were about 800 people with us. We were surrounded by water on all sides. The surrounding country was one vast lake. We were short of food and had to drink the muddy river water until the government rescue boats arrived. They brought us food and after a time took us away.

"My wife and son went with me to the higher ground when the first flood came. We waded. After we got there my wife wanted to go back and get a carpet she had made herself and which she did not want to lose. My son, Tom, wanted to go back and get the new top buggy he had. The house was about three-quarters of a mile away. While they were gone the second and the biggest flood came with a roar that could be heard for miles. I am certain that it was a cloud burst. The water filled the whole valley and was higher than the telephone poles. The town was completely covered and when I came away it could not be seen. My wife and son were of course swept away. I never want to see Ohio again and came away because I could not bear to see my home after the water went down. The big flood came without an instant's warning and it was the most awful thing I have ever seen. No one had a chance to get away from it and at least fifty must have been drowned where we were. The government's estimate of the loss of life is entirely too low, because they count only the bodies that are found, while many many of them were washed down the river and may never be found. The government did great work in rescuing and taking care of people.

"A government gasoline passenger motor boat came where we were six days ago and took others with me to Cincinnati, which was crowded with refugees. That part of Ohio is very thickly settled and there are many small rivers and creeks, tributaries to the Big Miami river. They were all flooded by the heavy rain, cloud-burst and the melting of the snow in the Allegheny mountains. The whole country around there is an inland sea. I still have my residence property and shop, or will have as soon as the water goes down, but I cannot borrow money on them now, and am getting along by the assistance of friends who helped me secure money in Cincinnati to come west with.

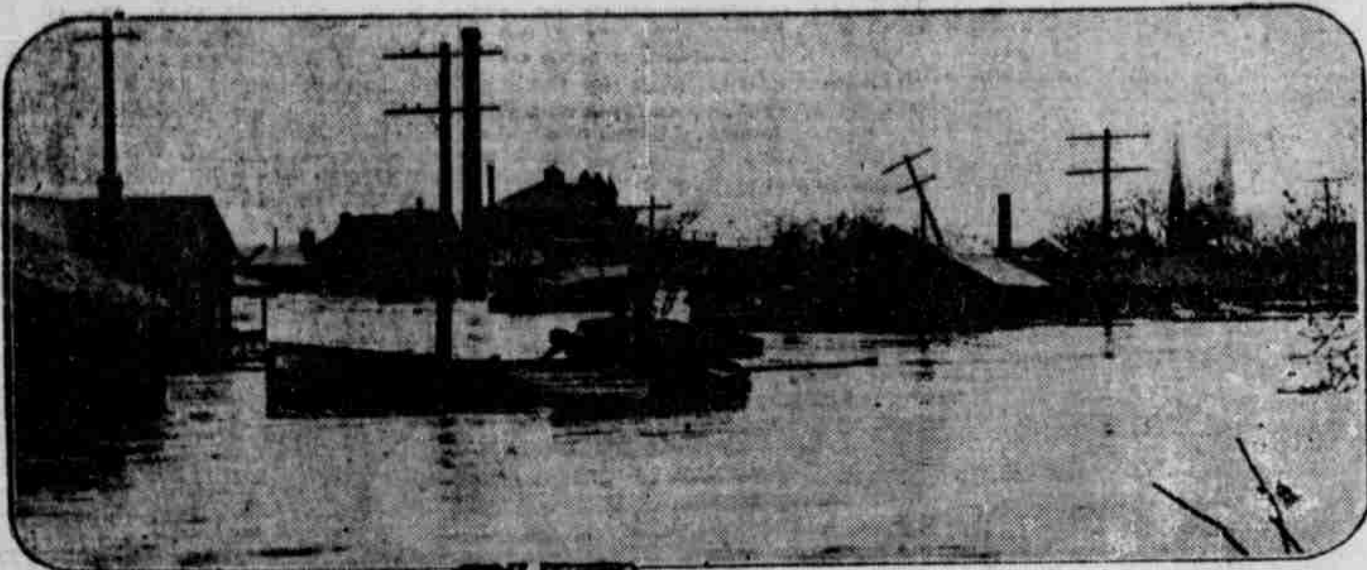
"I am on my way to Crawford, where I will stay a while with friend and will then go to Lead, S. D., where I have friends. I have not a relative left in the world. I was a colonel in the 11th Alabama heavy artillery in the Civil War, but never have I seen anything so horrible as this flood in which I have lost both my wife and son."

Mr. Kavanaugh left Saturday noon for Crawford. He stated that everyone was kind and that he was offered many kinds of assistance.

Mrs. Nellie Wilson and daughters, Elizabeth and Dorothy, went to Bridgeport Saturday noon to visit with her sister, Mrs. J. H. Mann. They returned to Alliance Monday.

F. S. McCaffree, C. G. Stein and L. R. Jones of Scottsbluff, were Alliance visitors Saturday.

Pictures Taken Throughout Flood Districts of Ohio Tell Appalling Story of Great Disaster.



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Flood scenes throughout Ohio have offered rich opportunities to camera men, and the latter have not been found wanting. From every point in the submerged, water swept and wreck scattered districts have come remarkable photographs telling the outside world of the appalling plight that has befallen Ohio's people. Above, at top, is shown a striking general view of Dayton, presenting scenes of houses almost entirely submerged by water. The lower picture shows the wreckage piled up at Columbus, O.

How Torrent Rushed Through Columbus.

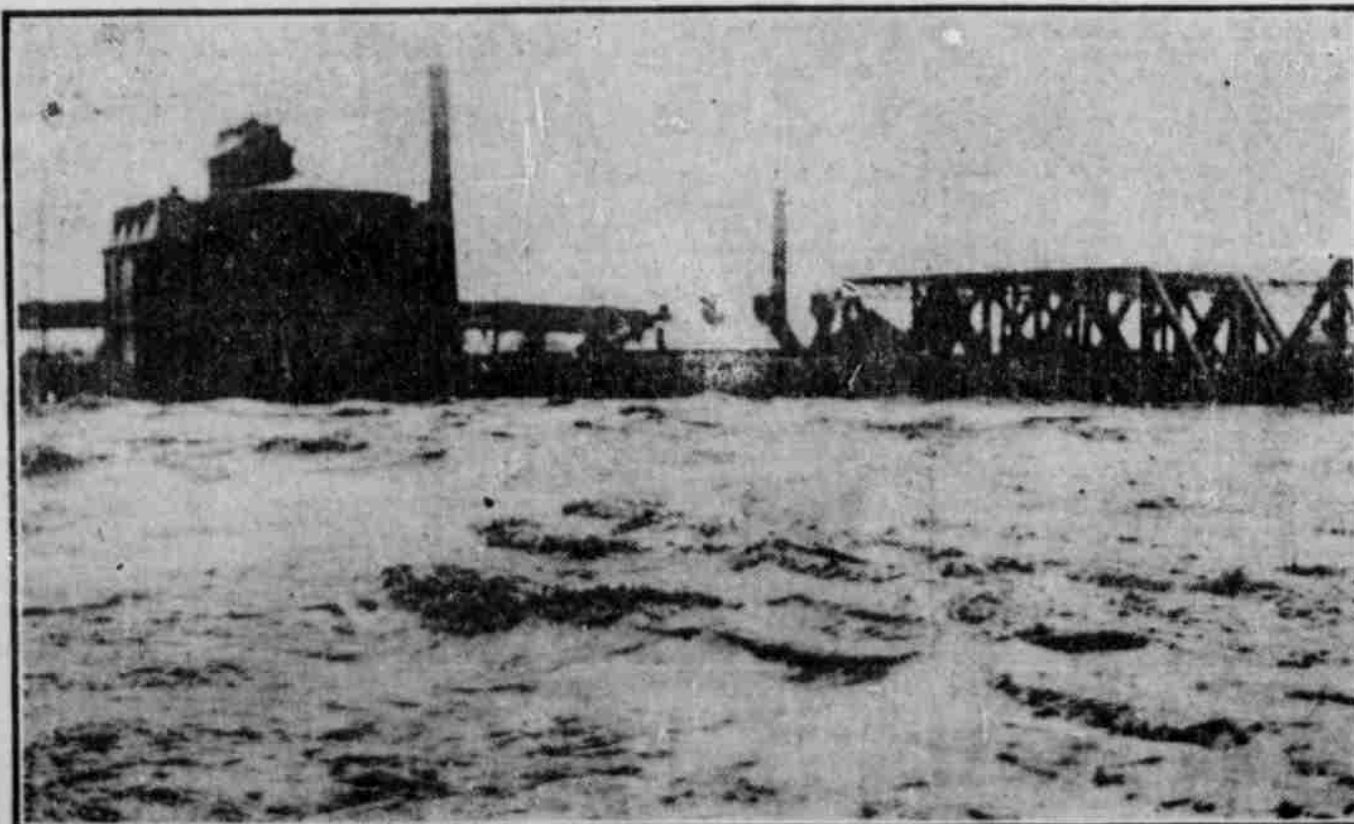


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This picture gives an idea of the difficulties that beset the rescuers of flood victims. The water rushed through the streets with tremendous velocity, forming whirlpools and eddies that threatened to swamp boats.

W. H. THOMAS IN FLOOD

Former Alliance Man Loses Property in Dayton.

AN INTERESTING LETTER.

We give below a letter received by W. S. Acheson, of Alliance, from W. H. Thomas, who formerly resided here and who has many friends and acquaintances in the city. He also owns property in Alliance. The envelope in which the letter was mailed had no stamp, the words "Dayton Flood" being written where the stamp is usually placed. N. A. Kirk, of Alliance, also received a letter from Mr. Thomas. Following is the letter sent to Mr. Acheson:

Dayton, O., April 2, 1913.

Mr. W. S. (Acheson and Brothers, Alliance, Neb.

My Dear Friends:

Your kind letter of inquiry to hand, and I thank you very much for your interest in me and mine. Yes, we were in the awful, awful flood. Mrs. Thomas and myself stepped out into a rescue boat from our second story window. We had three chances to go out before we did, but as the people in the one story houses were so much worse off I told the boatmen to get them first. The water came within 18 inches of the ceiling on our first floor. I would not have left then if I had not been afraid of fire, as so many houses burned from gas explosion. We were not in the worst part of the flood district and all we got was the back water, which could not escape on account of so much debris which piled up against a railroad bridge. Our loss will be quite heavy, as we lost three houses in the flood district. We just moved into our new home last December. We are thankful we escaped with our lives and have no complaint to make, as so many lost their lives.

and many lost all their property. Elizabeth and Ralph were not at home, the former being away to her school and the latter in Cincinnati, for which we were thankful. The loss of life will not be near as heavy as was first reported, perhaps not more than 200. But parties who claim to know say the financial loss will be more than three times as much as the Johnston and Galveston floods put together.

The city is under martial law. Sight-seers are put to work. Looters are shot on the spot and buried at once, like a dog. One of the devils had a woman's hand in his pocket, with several rings on the fingers. Postage stamps cannot be had in Dayton and the people have been instructed to write "Dayton Flood" where the stamp should be. The descriptions you see in the papers are not exaggerated in the least. Public utilities are all out of commission. We have no gas, no electric lights or telephones, and there are no street cars. I could tell you much more and will at some future time.

As ever your friend,
W. H. Thomas.

P. S. You might hand this letter to the Alliance papers, as other friends might be interested. I send you a piece of our piano.

LA SHAR VISITS ALLIANCE.

Prominent Denver Real Estate Operator Here.

J. E. LaShar, president of the LaShar Investment Company, with offices at 525 Kiltredge Building, Denver, spent Monday afternoon and evening in Alliance. Mr. LaShar is prominent in real estate circles in Denver and has been very successful in plating and selling a number of additions. Denver real estate has made many fortunes by its rapid rise in value.

Mr. LaShar is investigating Box Butte county land with the view of becoming interested here. He will probably visit Alliance again soon.

First Annual Ball

OF

Post M, T. P. A., Alliance, Nebr.

WILL BE HELD AT THE

Phelan Opera House

FRIDAY EVENING,
APRIL 11, 1913

Everybody arrange territory to be in Alliance on that date

Everybody Welcome