

# The Plattsmouth Journal.

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NO. 23

# ELEVEN DEAD AT LOUISVILLE

## CLOUDBURST TAKES HEAVY TOLL OF LIFE LAST NIGHT

### All of the McCarver Family Die in Flood That Swept House Away—Many Thrilling Rescues Made by Citizens in Storm and Darkness.

## CITY IS SCENE OF DEATH AND DESTRUCTION TODAY

### Work of Rescue Carried on in Darkness by Aid of Lanterns Telephone Girls Stick to Post—Property Loss of Thousands of Dollars Due to Flood.

Death and destruction followed a cloudburst at 6 o'clock yesterday afternoon a few miles south of Louisville and as the result of the storm Louisville today is a city of mourning for the damage that followed in the wake of the flood that swept through that city a few moments after the cloudburst occurred.

Eleven known dead are reported and a number of Mexicans residing on the bottoms near the Platte are also reported as missing, but it will be some time before a check can be made to ascertain just the exact status of the residents of that part of the town, owing to the fact that many do not speak English and it difficult to find whether or not there are members of the colony missing.

The storm, gathering all afternoon, broke in its full fury late in the day and soon the flood waters filled Mill creek to the dimensions of a river and the water sweeping from the confines of the creek flowed into the city of Louisville leaving a terrible damage in its wake. The flood swept between the city hall and opera house building and the Drake hotel to the depth of from six to eight feet and in a few moments the flood had reached every building in the town and filled the cellars and lower floors of all the buildings. Sidewalks were torn up by the flood and tossed along on the crest of the flood and lodged so that the water instead of being able to flow back toward the river was swept on to the bottoms west of Louisville and in its pathway left only wreckage and death.

The residences that were located in the vicinity of Mill creek were all under water and many thrilling rescues were made in the midst of the dark and terror of the flood and storm as the electric current was cut off when the lines were swept away in the early part of the flood and it was with difficulty that the rescues were made by the men of the community.

The residence of the McCarver family near the creek was swept from its foundation and borne on the crest of the angry flood waters toward the Platte river and the members of the family who had gathered there to attend the funeral of the mother, Mrs. John McCarver, who was burned to death there Thursday, are all reported as being drowned. The bodies recovered from the wreckage and the flood are Robert McCarver, Mrs. Alfred Laird and son, Herbert, of Valley; Mrs. J. W. Morgan, Paul and Pauline Brunkow, while the members of the family missing are Will McCarver and wife, the latter mother of the two Brunkow children, Willie Laird, a small boy of the Morgan family, aged 5 years, and a sister of the late Mrs. McCarver, who arrived yesterday from Illinois to attend the funeral services.

In the vicinity of the creek, by the aid of lanterns and directed by the cries of those caught in their homes by the flood, the rescuers labored in getting out many who in a few moments more would have been drowned. At the home of George Schoeman and wife the rescue party had great difficulty in getting the occupants of the house out to safety and Mr. Schoeman was rescued only by having a rope placed around his neck and shoulders and being drawn to the arms of the men of the party

### LIST OF KNOWN DEAD

- Robert McCarver
- Alfred Laird and sons, Herbert and Willie, Valley.
- Mrs. J. W. Morgan
- Paul and Pauline Brunkow.
- Will McCarver and wife.
- Morgan, 5-yr. old boy.
- Mrs. M. J. Smith, an aunt of the McCarver boys.

who were out aiding in the rescue work. The home of Mrs. C. G. Clifford was also badly damaged by the flood and the occupants of the house brought to safety with the greatest of difficulty as was also the case at the home of Mrs. Margaret Ossenkop, who, with her daughter, Mable, was brought out of the house with the water almost over her head and carried to a place of safety.

Mrs. Emmanline Hamman was rescued from her home near the creek after a battle with the waters for some time before the drenched and almost exhausted rescuers could reach her and remove her to a place out of the path of the flood.

The property damage will mount into the thousands of dollars as there is not a place in the main section of the town that was not flooded and stocks of goods in the first floors of the buildings suffered a great deal of damage from the waters that flowed from both the back and front of the stores. In the Drake hotel the water on the first floor rose to the depth of three and four feet and the residents in the hotel sought refuge in the second story of the building.

The large concrete bridges over Mill creek are twisted and torn as though by an earthquake and south of Louisville all of the bridges leading to the city are destroyed in the flood that followed the cloudburst and it is necessary to make the way into the city on foot in order to reach the scene of the destruction wrought by the storm. In the town and nearby localities outbuildings, sheds, stock and autos were swept away by the flood and the loss will be hard to estimate at this time until the full reports are in from all sections of the vicinity of Louisville.

## BUSHNELL STRUCK BY WIND STORM; DAMAGE HEAVY

### Twenty-Five Loaded Fruit Cars Blown From Union Pacific Tracks in the West.

A terrific windstorm, accompanied by heavy rainfall, struck Bushnell, Neb., and vicinity late yesterday afternoon, blowing 25 loaded fruit cars off the Union Pacific tracks at Bushnell, uprooting trees and causing other damage, the extent of which has not been determined, according to telephone reports to The Omaha Bee last night.

The storm struck suddenly and continued unabated for more than 20 minutes. Street signs were blown down, houses unroofed and debris scattered about, the report stated.

### FLOOD HAVELOCK SHOPS

The storm at Lincoln and vicinity was quite extensive, reports from that city state, and among other places that were touched by the high water was Havelock. In the pumping station at that place the water stood at a depth of five feet and in the Burlington shops there, it is reported four feet of water was standing all over the various departments with damage to the equipment that will probably run into thousands of dollars, altho it is impossible to estimate the amount at this time.

### CITY IS ISOLATED BY THE TERRIFIC STORMS

### One Train from Omaha Today is the Only Communication From Here to the North and West.

Following the cloudbursts in Louisville and north through Sarpy county and Omaha, this city was a place shut off from rail communication with the west and north save in the connection made at Pacific Junction with No. 6 over the Burlington. The Burlington lines were paralyzed by the washouts that occurred at Bellevue and also at Louisville and Cedar Creek so that their lines were completely closed. The west-bound Missouri Pacific had had washouts on their lines near the Pappio creek that completely shut off all traffic with Omaha.

Along the line of the Burlington west of the city there were large sections where the tracks between Louisville and Cedar Creek and many of these were from six to fifteen feet deep and will require much work to repair them. The section men were out all night laboring to repair what they could of the track, but it was an almost hopeless task in the face of the damage that had been done to the tracks.

It is hoped to have the Burlington lines through to Omaha repaired by night so that the traffic can be resumed tomorrow as usual.

The Missouri Pacific in order to reach Omaha, had to make connections with the Burlington at Greapolis, switching their northbound early morning train as well as the St. Louis baseball special there and sending them back over the Burlington lines to this city and thence to Pacific Junction and the Bluffs transfer.

A large number of Plattsmouth people who were in attendance at the circus in Omaha, were compelled to remain there over night and reached here this morning at 11 o'clock on the stub that connected with the bated No. 6 at Pacific Junction.

### RAIN DISAPPOINTS COUNTY FAIR GOERS

### Delegation From This City Expecting to Drive to Weeping Water Stopped by Heavy Rain.

After a week of preparation by the Plattsmouth business men and citizens to join in a general observance of Plattsmouth day at the Cass county fair at Weeping Water, the plans of the day were dashed to pieces when this morning a very heavy rain storm made the traveling by auto impossible and compelled the boosters to remain at home in this city.

This is a great disappointment to all those who had planned to attend the fair, but is one of the things that occur to upset the best arranged plans of men and which there is no way of preventing.

The pledges of cars had been numerous and a crowd from 200 to 250 was promised for the day but in the face of the continuing rain there was nothing left to do but to pass up the trip and remain at home. The disappointment was keen both to the Plattsmouth and Weeping Water people as it had been arranged to have a real day of good fellowship and pleasure at the fair.

### GRANTED DIVORCE DECREE

In the case of Lena Dyke vs. Charles F. Dyke in the district court, Judge Begley has entered a decree granting the prayer of the petitioner, Mrs. Dykes for an absolute divorce.

### HAVE THRILLING EXPERIENCE IN A REAL HAIL STORM

### George J. Monk and Members of C. E. Cook Family Have Car Riddled by Large Hail Stones.

Returning last evening from the Cass county fair at Weeping Water, George J. Monk and Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Cook of this city had a most thrilling experience in the rain and hail storm that visited that section of Cass county.

The party started for home about 5 o'clock and when about a mile and a half north of Weeping Water they had some car trouble which delayed them until the rain storm started and the hail stones came down in sheets, turning the lowlands into a sea of water and in the hollows at the foot of the hills there were streams from thirty to one hundred feet wide.

About 5:30 the hail commenced to fall and in a few moments the car was under a heavy bombardment. The hail stones falling the size of large hen eggs and of all shapes that could be imagined. The top of the car received twenty holes in the hood of the car there were many dents made that still attest the force of the hail storm. The windshield was broken and the case of the motorometer broken by the force of the hail in the few moments that the car struggled through the storm.

The car was finally driven to the John Rauth home where the autoists sought shelter and the Rauth family, being absent, they made themselves at home for a short time until Mrs. Rauth and one of the children returned home and a few moments later Mr. Rauth arrived and proceeded to show the visitors the most royal hospitality and kept them at the home until this morning when Mr. Monk and Mr. and Mrs. Cook returned home.

The experience was one that will be long remembered and Mr. Cook, who has been a resident of this county for a great many years has seen the worst storm in his memory. He states that the trees around the Rauth home were quite badly stripped by the hail, but does not think that the crop of corn was badly damaged, as it was well along toward maturity.

### TORNADO AT COUNCIL BLUFFS KILLS FIVE

### Storm There Last Night Kills Five and Injures Four Persons in Southern Part of City.

Five persons were killed and four injured last night by a tornado in Council Bluffs which swept an area three blocks wide in the southern part of the Iowa city, wrecking many buildings. Flood water from Indian creek added to suffering, handicapping rescuers.

The list of known dead include the following: Fred Rouppe, 35, stockman, Wellsville, Mo.; Mrs. Leta Kalftrup, 45, and three children, George, 7, Richard, 6, and Chester, 4.

The injured are Lars Kalftrup, husband of the dead woman; Frank Dow, 35, leg broken and Henry McDevitt, both of Perry, Iowa; Ed Collier, 53, and daughter, Goldie, 12.

Killed in Home Mrs. Kalftrup and children were killed in their home on Twentieth avenue just off Tostevitz street. Kalftrup, who was in the house when the tornado struck, returned to his demolished home immediately after his injuries had been attended at Jennie Edmundson Memorial hospital.

Rouppe and O. E. Goshorn, also of Wellsville, Mo., were in the Washash eating house, in the Washash railway yards when the wind crashed two windows. Rouppe rushed outside and was felled by debris hurled about and was killed instantly. Goshorn, remaining inside the cafe, was injured. The men were enroute to Omaha to buy sheep.

Dow and McDevitt were injured when struck by missiles in the Milwaukee railroad shops, where they are employed. The injured were taken to Jennie Edmundson Memorial hospital.

Collier and his daughter were pinned under wreckage in a Washash section house in which they lived. They were removed to the hospital in a serious condition. Collier's wife and their other children were slightly hurt. They were taken to the home of friends.

High water which engulfed a wide

area in Council Bluffs made it difficult for relief workers to reach the victims. The injured were brought to the Rock Island-Milwaukee passenger station on a one-coach train, and from there taken to the hospital.

### SAFE FROM THE EARTHQUAKE

From Saturday's Daily—Rev. W. N. Halsey of Omaha, at one time principal of the Plattsmouth high school in the early nineties, has received word from his sister, Miss Lila Halsey, a missionary in Japan announcing her safety at the time of the great earthquake. The letter from Miss Halsey stated that she was on a train returning from Tokio at the time the earthquake occurred and by a few hours escaped the destruction of the city of Tokio.

### BOY WANDERER FROM ST. JOSEPH IN BAD

### Passes Worthless Check For \$2 at Maury Drug Store and Gets In Hands of the Law.

From Friday's Daily—Yesterday afternoon the police force and Sheriff Quinton were given the S. O. S. when a youth of from thirteen to fourteen years of age was reported as having passed a check for \$2 at the Maury Drug store and a search was made of the city in an effort to locate the boy with the result that he was found sometime later at the Missouri Pacific station by Sheriff C. D. Quinton.

It seems that the boy had come into the store during the time Mr. Maury was out and had made a small purchase and tendered a check for \$2 drawn on the Farmers' State bank of this city which was cashed by Mrs. Maury who was in the store at the time and as the boy departed she decided to call and learn if the check was good. The bank informed her that the check, signed by "Bobbie White," was worthless as far as representing real money and that he had no account. This caused a search to be made for the boy and about 4 o'clock the lad was located by the sheriff.

The boy stated that he was thirteen years of age and had come here from St. Joseph, Missouri, in his wandering around looking for work or a place to live. He stated to the authorities that he had no parents or relatives living and was a homeless wanderer. The boy was taken to the county jail where he will be cared for until his case is disposed of.

It is probable that owing to the age and condition of the boy, who is without relatives or friends that it may be deemed best to send him to the state reform school for boys where he can be educated and cared for.

### BURLINGTON HAS WRECK ON BILLINGS LINE

### LIST OF DEAD MAY REACH 100, ACCORDING TO REPORTS FROM CASPER, WYO.

### TRAIN PLUNGES INTO RIVER

### Caught in Coaches, Passengers Are Drowned in the River When Bridge Collapses.

From Friday's Daily—One of the worst wrecks on the Burlington lines in recent years occurred about 10 o'clock last night when eastbound passenger train No. 20 on the Denver-Billings line crashed through the bridge over the Big Muddy river at Lockett, Wyoming, eighteen miles east of Casper. At the last reports the dead on the train was estimated at from 37 to 100 and the task of recovering the bodies from the coaches was being conducted by a relief force hurried by special train from Casper.

The story told by Dan McLain of Denver, a passenger on one of the sleeping cars, was that he was the sole survivor of the coach in which he was riding and that at least 100 persons perished in the surging flood waters of the river.

As far as could be learned two day coaches, one sleeper, one baggage and one mail car crashed into the river when the bridge was swept away by the force of the flood waters caused by the heavy rains in Wyoming all day yesterday.

The trainmen who notified the Casper dispatchers office of the wreck said that only two of the train's seven cars remained on the track. Two day coaches, one sleeper, one baggage and one express car left the rails, he said.

Four cars were completely submerged, and one car was standing on end, McLain said, and he did not believe any of the trapped passengers escaped from the wreckage. McLain made his way to the Mid-west camp in the Big Muddy oil fields and telephoned news of the accident to Douglas, eight miles away. Word received at the local telegraph office of the Burlington railroad from Superintendent Grissinger was to the effect the Big Muddy was a raging torrent and rescue work was out of the question.

When told that a passenger estimated the loss of life at 100 persons, the dispatcher said, "It would be easy at that." He was unable to say how many people there were on the train, however.

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