

Worse Than War, Says Nebraskan of Tornado Area

Woods Brothers' Camp Unharm'd But Town Only Two Miles Away Wiped From Earth.

"It staggers the imagination, it stuns the mind. It is wholly and utterly indescribable."
Those were the words of Bert Faulkner, manager of the Woods Bros. Construction company, with headquarters in Lincoln, used today in describing the "bomb of death" in the vicinity of Thompsonville, Ill., which was raked by the most terrific tornado in the country's history. Mr. Faulkner, at Thompsonville, where his company has a large camp, when the tornado spread death and desolation for miles around, was on his way back to Lincoln.
He told the story of horror at the Burlington station in Omaha while waiting for his train.

Few Employees Injured.

"Thompsonville was not damaged at all," he said. "We felt only a slight wind there. Only a few of our em-

Omahan's Father Safe.

At least one Omaha family still is torn by anxiety over the fate of relatives who were in the tornado belt.

Joel W. Barber, 4677 Marcy street, salesman for Andrew Murphy & Son, has not heard from his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. Barber, who were either at Bush or Benton, Ill., when the storm broke. Neither has he heard from a sister, Mrs. E. Roland and a niece, Annabella Roland, who were at Murphysboro, where more than 150 were killed.

Mrs. R. B. Bradshaw was relieved by news that her father, W. H. Krueger, was safe at Cape Girardeau, Mo., where a death toll was taken.

plays in camps outside the city were injured. Their injuries are minor."
Here Mr. Faulkner hesitated. "Go on," he was urged.
"It's impossible to tell what happened in that district," he said. "It's a maddening situation."
Then Mr. Faulkner told of what happened at Parrish, a town of 250, only two miles east of Thompsonville.

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Brother of Omahan Tells of Tornado



Bert Faulkner

Bert Faulkner, manager of the Woods Bros. Construction company, Lincoln, and a brother of Mrs. George L. DeLacy, 3918 Harney street, who returned Friday from Thompsonville, Ill., in the tornado district.

The town was completely wiped off the face of the earth.

Roads Are Impassable.

"Press reports have not begun to tell of the real loss of life. I counted 43 bodies at Parrish myself. When I left it was impossible to get adequate relief agencies established there because the roads leading to where there was once a town and made almost impassable by debris strewn in the high-ways. High voltage electric wires make the journey perilous.

Worse Than France.

"But for miles around there is debris. Here you will find a pile of splintered lumber that once formed the walls of a happy family fire-side. There you will find a splintered plank sticking in the soggy ground pointing heavenward like a soldier's saber at salute.

"The property loss in the entire stricken area, of course, cannot be estimated. Time only will permit of this. But that is not the thing to be thought of now. I saw the desolation of France, the wrecked cities, the pillaged homes, the heart-broken women behind the lines of war. I saw it and understood because it was war. But when I walked through what once were the streets of Parrish I could scarcely see and I could not understand.

Aged Over Night.

"I saw mothers who had aged many years over night. Their clothes were partially stripped from their bodies. And in several instances these mothers carried in their arms dead babies. The bodies had been dragged from the wreckage by the frantic mothers who refused the pleas of friends and strangers alike to put them down. They would not believe the children in their arms were dead. In one instance, at least on mother held the body of her unclothed child. The clothing had gone like the plans and the hopes of Parrish—with the demon winds.

"Rescue workers have not reached this town in sufficient numbers to do real work. Of course they will. They can't do everything at once.
In Four Minutes.
"Many of the children who were killed there died from concussion. They were picked up and carried on the wings of the tornado a quarter to half a mile. The fall to earth would cause death without leaving a mark on the bodies. The bodies of several children were picked up on hillsides half a mile from the town. It is not to be doubted that others still are unfound.
"Trees, four and five feet in diameter were snapped off near the ground as though they had been sticks in the hands of a giant.
"The whole ghastly thing happened in four minutes. Contrary to common belief that a tornado never follows a rain this one did. It had been raining almost all day and a few minutes before the funnel of death shaped in the brass-hued heavens it had killed. The people were caught without warning. They were trapped."

Central Nebraska Farmers Organize Cow Testing Body

Kearney, March 20.—The Central Nebraska Cow Testing association was organized here, at a meeting of farmers. Emery Peters of St. Michael was elected president; Owen Dalley, Minden, vice president, and B. E. Bowersox, Kearney, secretary treasurer. Herman Peterson and W. H. Swartsley of Riverside, together with the officers, constitute the board of directors.

Organization took place at a meeting called by the Nebraska Dairy Development society and addressed by its vice president, Dan Morris, and Otto Liebers of Lincoln.
Systematic testing of dairy cows over the district for a period of one year is the objective of the association.

Injured Farmer Improving.

Beatrice, March 20.—George Moore, Liberty farmer, who was kicked in the face by a mule and seriously injured, is improving. His jaw was shattered, his nose broken and his face badly gashed. He was unconscious for some time after the accident occurred.

Mystery Maid New Factor in Shepherd Case

Unnamed Girl, Formerly Connected With Detective Agency, May Be Trump Card for State.

Chicago, March 20.—A mystery girl entered the McClintock case here today as the state and defense began marshaling their forces for the court battle tomorrow when William D. Shepherd and his co-defendant in the indictment charging murder for the death of William Nelson McClintock, will be arraigned.
The girl, said to have figured prominently in the affairs of the Jones Detective Agency, alleged to have been employed by Shepherd, was to be brought to the state's attorney's office today to tell her story.
Two other women, connected with the agency, already have been questioned by Judge Harry Olson, chief instigator of the McClintock death investigation.

Tells of Visit.

One of them, Gladys Roberts, former secretary to John Jones, head of the agency, is reported to have told Judge Olson of a visit made by Shepherd to the agency's office.

"Shepherd and Jones went into a private office and closed the doors," Miss Roberts told him. Judge Olson declared. "Out of curiosity I listened and heard some of the conversation. Shepherd had been drinking, and I heard Jones say to him: 'The trouble with you, is you talk too much. If you stick to that one story, they will never get anything on you.'"


Miss Roberts told him, Judge Olson said, that Jones expected a raid on his agency office by the state's attorney's office, and had transferred a number of papers to the home of Evan Jones, not a relative.

The mystery woman, it was expected, would fill in the breaks in this story, and it was considered possible that she would be placed on the witness stand tomorrow when the grand jury witnesses are summoned.

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moned to tell why they gave their testimony.
Counsel for Shepherd let it be known this afternoon that their efforts at the arraignment tomorrow will be directed toward quashing of the indictment against their client. This failing, they said, they will offer \$500,000 bail for Shepherd's release.

Auto Dealers to Hold Show at Scottsbluff

Scottsbluff, March 20.—Automobile dealers of this city have organized with these officers: Henry Bongardner, president; C. F. Minner, vice president, and A. F. Middaugh, secretary-treasurer. The association voted to hold its first annual automobile show in this city April 23, 24 and 25.

Farmers Start Sowing Oats.

Beatrice, March 20.—A few farmers started sowing their oats crop yesterday, and the work will be well in hand within the next few days. The acreage will be about the same as last season.

Legion Relief Fund Near Gone

Help for Veterans Discontinued Temporarily, Due to Heavy Drain.

The state emergency relief fund for world war veterans, administered by the American Legion committee, is practically exhausted, according to advices sent Nebraska legion posts. Only the most extreme cases will be considered until after June 30, when the present fiscal year ends.

The fund receives approximately \$100,000 a year, interest from the \$2,000,000 invested for the fund under the act of the state legislature of 1920. The drain on the fund in the last few months has been heavy because of economic conditions in the state, particularly the lack of employment.

Influenza Relaxes Its Grip at Newcastle

Newcastle, March 20.—An epidemic of influenza which has kept the doctors busy for the last two weeks is beginning to relax its grip in this locality. Those who had the disease suffered with a sore throat, high fever and weakness which confined them to bed for several days. The epidemic was quite general, teachers and pupils in the schools being affected, and in some cases whole families were sick at the same time.

Rancher Hurt in Runaway.

Fort Morgan, Colo., March 20.—George Whitney, 62, rancher, living southeast of Fort Morgan, was badly hurt when his team became frightened at some paper lying along the road and ran away, throwing him out of the wagon. Whitney lived formerly at Alliance, Neb.

York Sunday Schools Hold Convention at Bradshaw

York, March 20.—York county annual Sunday school convention was held at Bradshaw Tuesday and Wednesday. J. D. Kimberly, state superintendent of boys' work, Margaret Ellen Brown, general secretary of Nebraska Christian Education council; Superintendent W. G. Brooks of York city schools, and Mrs. W. E. McCloud, county president, had places on the program. Music was furnished by Bradshaw people. N. M. Hammer of York was elected president.

Cortland Postmaster Named.

Beatrice, March 20.—Herman Ulrich has been appointed postmaster at Cortland. There were about half a dozen applicants for the place.



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