

# WATER PLAYS HAVOC

**NORTH NEBRASKA RAILROADS SUFFER BADLY.**  
**MANY BRIDGES SWEEP AWAY**  
**TRAIN TRAFFIC IS BADLY DEMORALIZED BY THE RAINS.**  
**FLOOD THREATENS NORFOLK**

**The Heavy Rainfall of Saturday, Which Amounts to Almost Three Inches, Has Caused Serious Trouble Throughout the Northwest.**

[From Monday's Daily.]  
Following the terrific rainfall of all day Saturday and Saturday night, during which torrents totaled almost three inches of rain in Norfolk and all over the northwest, and which was mixed with hail and snow in some portions of the country, northern Nebraska is today badly damaged by the flood that came in her rivers, many bridges have been washed out along all streams, railroad traffic has been demoralized over most lines and abandoned for many hours in some places, milldams are either out or very seriously threatened, business houses have their cellars filled, avenues in Norfolk ran rivers and many miles of land are under water.

This morning the clouds that came down from the north threatening to add their contribution to the flood situation cleared away after a very mild sprinkle and the weather forecast promises for tomorrow fair weather that may be expected to give the floods a chance to subside.

**Dike is in Danger.**  
The dike at Norfolk, which has been erected for the purpose of withholding the wall of water that banks up from the Northfork overflow, became endangered Saturday night, and is not yet out of a critical condition. If the dike should break, water would rush through and do great damage all over the business section of Norfolk. A small leak in the dike Sunday morning gave alarm and the fire whistle was sounded. The leak was stopped. There were men at work on the dike all of last night and the bank was held against the water with difficulty. The Northfork river was very high yesterday morning, fell last night and began rising again before morning so that it is now as high as ever and more rain will bring it into serious shape.

**West Side Flooded.**  
The residence section on the west side was flooded Saturday night by the terrific rainfall and the overflow from the gulch northwest of the city. Avenues running east and west were transformed into rivers and the water stood feet deep in sections. Norfolk avenue was a wide, swiftly flowing stream and teams found that they could go against it with difficulty. Wagons were swirled from their course by the current. Lawns were covered with the water and left with a covering of mud. Madison avenue was also a little creek for a number of hours.

**Elkhorn is Very High.**  
The Elkhorn river is said to be at the highest point known to it within fifteen years, and it is bank full all along the channel. Most of the wagon bridges in Madison county have been sent out and many railroad bridges have been threatened.

The first street bridge over the Elkhorn south of Norfolk has become impassable. The water almost cut away the approach yesterday but teams still continued to pass in a very dangerous manner until today. The Flannigan bridge near Battle Creek is gone; the bridge north of Battle Creek is out. A railroad bridge over the Northwestern at Clearwater was threatened last night and gravel trains were sent from Norfolk and from Ewing to protect it. A bridge over the Northfork east of Hadar has gone out. A bridge was partly out on the Union Pacific road near Madison, but has been repaired.

**Trains Out of Commission.**  
A bad track near Meadow Grove on the main line of the Northwestern Saturday night delayed the Chicago-Deadwood train here from 7 o'clock that morning until 3:25 yesterday morning. A gravel train was sent ahead to prepare the track for trains. A washout of 1,000 feet on the Scribner-Oakdale branch of the Northwestern caused delay to trains and a washout on the Union Pacific of a long distance, together with damage to a bridge, caused the Union Pacific train to be stalled all night Saturday, all day Sunday and all night until 3 this morning at Columbus. The Sioux City train due in Norfolk last night at 7 o'clock, arrived at 6 this morning. It was unable to get past Wayne yesterday and it was believed that it would not get by Wayne today. The train had to wade water in coming into Norfolk Saturday night. No trouble has been created on the Bonesteel line, and trains arrived yesterday and today promptly on schedule. The cut at Niobrara which formerly gave trouble, is being kept in shape by fifty Hungarians who are stationed at Niobrara.

Railroad men report many miles under water between Long Pine and

Norfolk, and a soft track all the way on account of the water.  
At West Point the dam is in danger of being left high and dry, as the Elkhorn threatens to cut an entirely new channel.

**Pierce Has Very High Water.**  
A telephone message from The News correspondent at Pierce this morning states that the water at that point is the highest it has been in many years. The dam there has not been damaged. The farmers have had to build dams in many instances to protect their fields. Two bridges on Willow Creek have gone out. The water at Pierce vitally interests Norfolk, as all of it will come down the Northfork channel. The standing today was just about the same as it was yesterday morning. There was little fear of the dam going out.

Yesterday morning several people living east of the Northfork in Norfolk were forced to move out of their homes on account of the water that had crept into the lower floors.  
Water in the cellars has played havoc with business houses and pumps are kept constantly going. It was with difficulty that The News issued today, as the pressman and all hands connected with the printing, folding and mailing of the paper were compelled to stand, with rubber boots, in water several inches deep.

A force of men were kept at work on the dike all of last night and have thus far succeeded in keeping the five or six leaks under control. Posts have been driven on the land side of the embankment, sacks filled with earth have been laid and driven in until the seepage has been reduced to a minimum, and it is believed that the dike can be held against a rise of another foot. Street Commissioner Haase is in charge of the work and the utmost vigilance will be exercised until all danger of a flood is passed.

The Sugar City Cereal mill company, which has gauges in the river, reports that there has been a fall of from four to five inches in the water above the dam since Sunday morning, but that there has been a rise of an inch and a half below since last night, and a further rise is anticipated.

**Lime Threatened Combustion.**  
The early rise from the gulch made itself manifest early Saturday at the lumber yard of L. C. Mittelstadt and when the water commenced to rise up in his stock of barreled lime he made a quick move of the material to the cold storage lot a block south. It was feared that the slaking of the lime would start a fire and damage from that element would be added to the damage from the flood.

**Useless to Pump Cellars.**  
The cellar or basement that has no water in it is the exception rather than the rule in Norfolk, and those who have endeavored to reduce the amount of water on tap through pumping find that it is labor without results, as it persists in holding to the level and it is not possible to reduce it until the flood has subsided and the natural drainage channels are again available.

**What the Record Shows.**  
The rainfall of Saturday was two and one-half inches, followed by a trace yesterday. This brings the total for the month to six and nine-hundredths inches, and with two weeks and a half of the month to hear from it is not improbable that the record will be broken. The wettest May on record was that of 1899, when eight and thirty-hundredths of rain fell. Another rain like that of Saturday will bring it above the previous record. It was not the amount of rain that fell Saturday which caused the flood, but coming after the rains that had previously soaked the soil there was nothing for it to do but find its lowest level through the drainage channels as the ground was already thoroughly soaked and the result was the worst flood of many years.

## NEBRASKA COMMISSION BACK.

**State Will Have Space in the Agricultural Building.**  
Senator Wm. P. Warner of Dakota City, president of the Nebraska commission for the Lewis and Clark exposition of Portland Ore., has returned from his first visit to the exposition city, where he had been on official business concerning the Nebraska display. The other commissioners are Harry G. Sheed of Lincoln and Judge Loomis of Fremont, who are now at Portland and will be relieved by Senator Warner about June 1. Senator Warner stated that the exposition is going to be a grand success. The grounds and the buildings are beautiful, the location being an ideal one, and everything is about ready for the opening. He says Portland will have a great advantage over St. Louis in the matter of climate, as Portland is a regular summer resort, and the weather from now until fall will be perfect.

Nebraska does not have a separate building for its exhibit, but has a space of 32x75 feet in the agricultural building, the best space in the building, as it has aisles on four sides. The exhibit will consist mainly of cereals, mostly corn, and is a particularly good one and will no doubt carry off the prize in this line. Japan will have a very fine exhibit and tried to get twice the space allotted.

**SALESMEN WANTED**—Retired farmer or man acquainted in this vicinity, reliable man of good address with team for permanent work. Write giving full particulars to box 1088, Omaha, Neb.

# WILL HARNESS GULCH NOW

**CITY IS TO EMPLOY COMPETENT ENGINEER TO INSPECT.**

**RELIEF OFFERED WEST SIDERS**

**Mayor Friday Announced Today That the City Council Has Arranged With a Competent Engineer to Suggest a Remedy for Corporation Gulch.**

Relief for the west side from the disastrous overflow of Corporation gulch, is at last in sight. The city council, according to Mayor Friday, has arranged with Civil Engineer King, of the Chicago & Northwestern, to inspect the gulch and to advise the city as to how the matter may be best adjusted.

Mr. King is in this sort of work all of the time. He is the man who protects the Northwestern railroad in this territory from water damage. He studies out remedies and executes them. He is highly competent to tell Norfolk just what is to be done with that water.

The gulch has done immense damage for years on the west side and Norfolk avenue is now cut up badly where the water of last week ran swiftly. Lawns have suffered every spring, cellars have been filled, gardens have been torn to pieces and much other damage has been done. For years an effort has been made to have something effected toward a remedy for the undesirable situation but nothing has yet been attempted and the announcement of Mayor Friday today will be received with open arms by residents of the west side, whose suffering from the water evil had become almost unbearable.

In years gone by the gulch swept across Norfolk avenue above Thirtieth street and tore the life out of the yards and lawns in that neighborhood until the property owners began building dikes along their lots, elevating their land and damming the gulch. At this the water was turned directly down Norfolk avenue, where it washed with considerable force. Each freshet sent the water over the avenue and down street to the railroad tracks, where drain pipes leading to the river were struck. It has long been contended that the natural course of the water is south to the Elkhorn river, but one fact has been firmly established—that the present drainage does not take care of the overflow as it should.

## TUESDAY TOPICS.

R. H. Reynolds is transacting business at Winside yesterday.  
F. F. Miller arrived in Norfolk on a delayed train from Columbus yesterday.  
Mrs. J. M. Livingstone, who has been quite ill for the past few weeks, is convalescent.  
Walter Starkey has gone to Hawarden, Iowa, his home, where he has accepted a position.

Clarence Hille left yesterday noon for Selig, Oklahoma, for a visit with relatives and old friends.

Mrs. Louis M. Keene, Jr., of Fremont, is in the city visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. McClary.

Miss Lizzie Conrad of Creston, Ia., is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Livingstone on North Eighth street.

Rev. Dr. Sisson of Stanton and Rev. Mr. Carter of Randolph were guests of Rev. and Mrs. J. F. Poucher over night.

Miss M. E. Smith, formerly head nurse at Clarkson hospital Omaha, is in the city, a guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Huse.

The Modern Brotherhood of America enjoyed a very pleasant apron and necktie social Friday night. The receipts from the sales of neckties and aprons amounted to \$18.75.

Geo. L. Nelson, who recently sold out his paper at Hartington, this state, has purchased the Lincoln County Times at Canton, S. D. The paper was established eighteen months ago by Jacob Olson, a blind man, and has been a success from the first.

Miss Edith a Viele, secretary of the Norfolk high school alumni association, has issued invitations in behalf of the association for the approaching banquet, which will be tendered to the incoming high school class on the night of June 3 at Marquardt hall.

Workmen have begun to dig the tunnels at the Nebraska state hospital for the insane here, and as soon as the tunnels are completed, connecting the various buildings so that food may be transferred from the main kitchen to the different cottages, it will be possible to ship patients to Norfolk from Lincoln.

Frank Campbell of Omaha, general agent for the New York Life insurance company, and formerly a resident of this city, has won a contest for having written the most business for the first three months of the year, and has been invited to the diamond jubilee meeting at New York. This is the first jubilee of the sort ever held and Mr. Campbell feels highly elated over the victory.

It is expected that Earl Fairbanks, the youth who is now in the county jail at Madison awaiting trial before the district court next December, and who confessed complicity in setting one fire in Norfolk, will be released from the jail today on bail of \$500, and will be sent to the Fischback farm to await his hearing. Bert Luke, his companion, is still in jail but it is said that he will also be bailed out of prison soon and given liberty until

the December term of court. Young Luke is quoted by an attorney as having said that he would rather suicide than remain in jail there alone from now until December. His friends believe that he could not endure the confinement and will make an especial effort to secure his bond.

Carl Rohde, son of George Rohde of this city, writing from Chicago regarding the strike situation there, says, at the end of his letter, "Mandel Bros. have just delivered a package at our house. There were three policemen on the wagon. The man who delivered it had on a deputy sheriff's star and carried a rifle and belt of cartridges, and was accompanied by a deputy sheriff, also armed. How is this for a frontier town?"

The grand lodge of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, jurisdiction of South Dakota, is in session at Waverlytown. The question of reducing South Dakota's contribution to the supreme lodge is the most important before the session. That jurisdiction pays \$50,000 and receives no cash benefits in return and, like Nebraska, it will oppose a raise in the contribution if not the payment of the guaranty fund on the same basis that they have been paying.

W. O. Hall has sold his colt, Ill Tell, a very fine animal, to W. C. Day of Battle Creek. T. D. Preece of that place drove the colt home. Ill Tell is from Myrtle De Yarman, the animal that burned here last fall. Myrtle's record traces from Danton Wilkes 7608, the sire of ten in the 2:20 and sire of Veta 2:09 1/4; Kassel 2:09 1/4; sire of Fred the Kid 2:08 1/4 and Fred Pabst 2:12 1/4; sire also of Danton Oh So, 2:08. Ill Tell is by Axtell 31485, on the other side of the house. Axtell is by Axtell 5183. At Terra Haute he started to beat the 3-year-old record 2:13 1/4 by Soon All and turned a four cornered track in 2:12 with the first half in 1:05 1/2. Then he was sold for \$105,000 to Col. John Conley, one of a syndicate, and retired champion of trotting stallions and of all the 3-year-olds.

Jacob Meyer is a recent arrival in Norfolk from Little Asia and proposes to make this country his home in the future. The country from which he comes is under Russian control, and though but about half the size of Nebraska it has contributed 25,000 regulars and 75,000 volunteers for the war in Manchuria. He says that he reads with laughable interest the theory advanced in the German papers of this country that Japan will be able to whip Russia. With five fighting men available to Japan's one, he considers it only a matter of time when the larger country will crush the smaller on land and on sea. The Russians are building many new warships and are sending forces into Manchuria at the rate of 5,000 a day, while the facilities of the railway are being improved for the handling of troops, equipment and provisions. With new side tracks and the double tracking of the road they are dispatching trains every ten minutes and it is considered but a matter of time when Japan will be forced to terms quite the opposite of what are now demanded of Russia.

# DIKE BREAKS AT NELIGH

**ELKHORN WATER RUSHES SOUTH FROM MAIN CHANNEL.**

**HIGHEST WATER HERE TONIGHT**

**The River at Neligh Has Begun to Fall, and Dropped Six Inches This Morning—Feed Yards Were Flooded and Men Saved Cattle in Boats.**

Neligh, Neb., May 16.—Special to The News: The dike which withheld the Elkhorn river from the lowlands south of this city broke early today and the river is now rushing at furious rate south of its regular channel, flooding the fields in its path. Families in the district got out during the night and no persons are in danger.

The highest water in the Elkhorn will reach Norfolk about tonight. The river here began falling at 8 this morning and has now gone down about six inches.

The approach to the main bridge over the Elkhorn here has been washed out and the bridge can not be used today. The approach to the Merritt bridge south of here was washed out.

Hundreds of head of stock were endangered by the flood which swept into the feed yards and a force of 100 men were employed all day and all through the night to rescue the animals by means of boats. Four head of hogs were drowned.

Mr. Auringer of this city, together with several others, experienced a dangerous hour south of the river. They got on the dike and were left completely surrounded by water when it gave way. They feared they might not be able to get out alive and the calls for help were heard all over the town. They were finally rescued. The Staples family, south of here, got out of their home in the night.

## Cheap Lands.

A first class eighty-acre tract of improved land, splendid location, good soil, all lays level and nice, only five miles from Norfolk, Neb. Price right. G. R. Sells, Norfolk, Nebraska.

Want ads telephoned to The News up until 2 o'clock will get in that day's paper.

# RIVER SURROUNDS HOMES

**RISE IN NORTHFORK DURING THE NIGHT MAKES TROUBLE.**

**WATER IMPRISONS FAMILIES**

**A Five Inch Rise in the Northfork River Last Night Has Sent the Stream Out of Its Banks and Many Blocks of Residences are Flooded.**

[From Tuesday's Daily.]  
The Northfork river at this point rose about five inches during last night and the overflow below the Norfolk avenue bridge, where the river has gone out of its banks, has sent a flood of water west through the lower residence districts as far as Third street, surrounding dozens of homes, imprisoning a number of families during the night and transforming many blocks into one big lake.

Among the families which were surrounded by water when daylight came today were the following: Heckman, August Bathke, Kruger, Kruger, Jr., Blank, Laubsch, Laubsch, jr., Dressher.

**Get Out by Wagons.**  
The women and children in the families which had been surrounded were taken from the homes in wagons early today. The men were forced to wade out from their houses through water more than knee deep.

Many other families who were threatened, made the best of their opportunity early and got out of their homes, which looked as though they would surely be flooded before night if the river continued to rise.

**Gale Drives Water Wall.**  
A gale this morning from the northwest—a very cold, raw gale at that—drove the wall of water which has been banked up against the railroad dike north of the business portion of town, hard against the embankment and sent mad looking breakers over the wall at times. With a rise of a foot more it was believed the water would run over into town.

The dike, however, has thus far held in admirable shape and little leaks, which spring up now and then, are rapidly stopped.

**River a Mile Wide.**  
The Northfork river, which is naturally a narrow though very deep stream, is today a mile wide, east and west, on Norfolk avenue just across the bridge on the avenue. At the milldam it still rushes down in a torrent and utters ugly threats as it rushes. So deep has the overflow become on North First street that hacks no longer dare venture to drive that portion.

**Cellars Still Filled.**  
Cellars all over the city, in both residences and business houses, are still filled with more or less water, so long as the water in the river remains at its present height there is little hope of the cellars emptying. Pumping is futile from the fact that as soon as the pumping has drawn out a little water, more flows in through the floors.

## Her Boy Hadn't Drowned.

Mrs. Miller, living on Braasch avenue, was last night thrown into a frantic state when boys of the neighborhood came to her and told her that her little son, while playing near the swollen river, had fallen over the bank and was drowned. They had seen him drown, they declared. Mrs. Miller, hurriedly rushing to the river, found no trace of her boy but was told that a small boy had been seen coming out of the water once and that it was not known what became of him later. This only increased her anxiety and her nerves were in serious condition when the little fellow returned home.

The high water on the Omaha railroad, which had been between Wayne and Wakefield and which had washed out a mile of track, has now reached Pender and trouble is developing in that section. Trains for the most part in and out of Norfolk were on time today in spite of the water.

## High Waters Eat Dirt.

This is one of the times when embankments, fascines, and fillings of brush and rock are ineffectual in preventing the cutting of the dirt and sand along the river banks, and many acres of north Nebraska soil are being whirled away in the muddy current toward the Missouri, while the course of the river will be found to have changed in many not unimportant details after the waters have subsided. Roadways and bridges and approaches are certain to suffer along with the fields and farm property that are along the river and sides. Where the Northfork passes East Madison avenue there has been a great amount of dirt washed away and some of the residence property in that vicinity is very likely to suffer. Along the Elkhorn it will be impossible to tell the amount of damage that has been done in this particular until after the subsidence of the flood, and even then it will only be possible to estimate the loss to the farmers and the county.

## STORM DAMAGE AT OTHER POINTS

**Railroads in Various Sections of the State Have Suffered.**

The news of flood damage throughout Nebraska indicates that there was a tremendous rainfall, covering almost the entire state. The Burlington, C. St. P. M. & O., Union Pacific and Northwestern roads have suffered much damage, but repairs have been made and the trains are again about

on schedule time. Saturday Kearney experienced the worst storm in years. At Elm Creek the water washed out about 1,400 feet of Union Pacific track. Five trains were blocked to the west of the washout and six trains waited on the east of it to cross. At 9 o'clock Sunday morning the trains were able to pass over the temporarily repaired track. Large numbers of ties were used and cribbing scaffold was built across the break.

There was no train through from Montana and the Black Hills on the Burlington since Friday until yesterday morning. The washouts on the Burlington are between Ravenna and Grand Island. Three washouts had been repaired before midnight Sunday night and there were more to be encountered.

Heavy rains this side of Columbus are responsible for the swollen condition of the Platte, as well as the storm around Kearney.

The Omaha road had a bad washout between Wayne and Wakefield, the grading being swept from under the tracks for a considerable distance, interfering with the service, and today is the first that the regular schedule has been restored.

The Burlington has a bad washout of track on its line between Grand Island and Cairo, and the southbound Pacific coast express was delayed there nearly eight hours.

Reports from various sections of the state indicate that many of the smaller streams are out of their banks and that much damage is threatened to bridges and railway embankments. Up in Dakota county the Logan river is high and vast tracts of country are under water, which means the ruination of a large acreage of wheat, potatoes and other growing crops. Down through the Blue valley the Big Blue is getting out of its banks and much damage is apprehended. The same is true of the Nemaha in the southeastern part of the state.

With all the high water in the smaller streams the floods have thus far had very little perceptible effect on the Missouri river, owing to its unusually low stage for this season of the year.

The heaviest rains during the twenty-four hours up to 7 Monday morning were at Grand Island, 4.95 inches; Columbus, 3.95 inches; Hartington, 2.80 inches; Oakdale, 2.70 inches. Reports from other sections of the state show downpours from one-half to two inches, making an average in the state of from one-half to nearly five inches of rainfall since Sunday morning. It is ascertained that the weather is clear in the west and that the rainy season has probably reached its maximum.

## Twin Boys.

Norfolk relatives of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Brubaker learn that they have welcomed twin boys to their home at Belwood. Mrs. Brubaker was formerly Miss Lizzie Miller, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Miller of this city.

# A CASE OF BLACKMAIL

**SENSATIONAL SUIT BROUGHT IN OMAHA TODAY.**

**EDITOR ROSEWATER FIGURES**

**The Bee Man and the Chief of Police are Placed Under Arrest on a Charge Which They Claim They Can Prove is Blackmail.**

Omaha, May 15.—Special to The News: Edward Rosewater, editor of the Omaha Bee and Chief of Police Donahue, are defendants in a sensational suit brought today by Morris Algoe, charging Rosewater with blackmail and adultery and Donahue with false imprisonment and blackmail. Algoe was in turn arrested by Rosewater and Donahue charged with blackmail. Algoe says he caught Rosewater in a room at the Murray hotel with Mrs. Algoe, and that he demanded that Rosewater settle and received \$250, which the chief and Rosewater later forced him to return while being held in the chief's office. On the other hand Rosewater says he went to the Algoe room at their request to close a business matter. He claims that when he reached the room Algoe was not there, but Mrs. Algoe closed and locked the door and he asked her what it meant and demanded that the door be unlocked. About this time Algoe appeared and burst in the door, charging Rosewater with adultery. Rosewater says that Algoe demanded money and he gave him \$250.

Rosewater, the chief of police and the county attorney all claim that it is a case of blackmail, pure and simple, and the case promises sensational development.

## Letter List.

List of letters remaining uncalled for at the postoffice at Norfolk, Neb., May 16, 1905:

Charley Beckenborg, Charles Julian, Clinton McDonald, Mrs. Dora Peterson, A. A. Richey, F. Thorne.

If not called for in fifteen days will be sent to the dead letter office.

Parties calling for any of the above please say "advertised."

John R. Hays, P. M.

## Holmes' \$5.00 Portraits

Are universally admired by people of artistic tastes. Send for a little book explaining all about portraits and enlarging pictures. It is free. Address: GEORGE HOLMES, 915 N. 16th St., Omaha, Neb.