

WIRES AGAIN SERVICEABLE

Hundreds of Men Required to Re-Establish Communication.

LOCAL LINES NOT ALL IN USE

Telephone and Telegraph Companies Use Seven Hundred Workers to Repair Damage Done on Sunday Night.

Telephone and telegraph officials rapidly are bringing order out of chaos and restoration of communication with the outside world is practically complete this morning.

Yesterday and last night the telephone company brought in 500 linemen and electrical workers from Minneapolis, St. Paul, Sioux City, Des Moines and nearby towns. They were divided up into gangs and began repairs and rebuilding. Attention first was given to the long distance lines.

The Western Union Telegraph company was able to restore some of its lines through the storm swept area yesterday and was handling business to and from Chicago, Denver, Lincoln and over in Iowa.

Like the telephone company, the Western Union's trouble was within a radius of a few miles from the Omaha headquarters. Here in the city, the trouble is where the wires come up out of the conduit system, at these points the wires being snapped off, or carried down by the poles, felled by the wind.

Ten Thousand Messages Held Up. After the storm more than 10,000 messages accumulated at the Omaha offices. A great proportion of them being night and day letters and messages to friends, apprising them of conditions here.

Sioux City Brings Offer of Assistance

T. A. Black, vice president of the Security National bank and president of the Sioux City Commercial club, with W. E. Holmes, secretary of the same club, arrived Monday in Omaha to extend to the mayor and Commercial club officials any aid they might need as a result of the cyclone disaster.

H. H. BALDRIGE SAVES HIS LIFE BY WATCHING TORNADO

Howard H. Baldrige, 124 North Thirty-ninth street, attributes the saving of his life to the fact that he was out of doors at the time the cyclone struck his house. Mrs. Baldrige went to the basement, but Mr. Baldrige went to the front door to watch the progress of the storm.

DEAD GIRL BLOWN FROM HOUSE INTO MAN'S ARMS

The incidents that occurred at Fifty-fifth and Center streets during the storm were remarkable. A 4-year-old girl was blown out of a house and into the arms of Charles Allen, who was in the center of the street in front of the building.

EIGHT REPORTED KILLED ON IOWA SIDE OF RIVER

Between Bartlett and Pacific Junction on the Iowa side of the river it is reported that Ed Lambert, a farmer, and two children were killed by a cyclone that struck there shortly after 6 o'clock Sunday night.

RESCUE LODGE OPENED ON NORTH TWENTY-FOURTH

Rescue lodge No. 2, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, has opened quarters at 422 North Twenty-fourth street and is ready to receive the injured.

CYCLONE FIRST STRUCK MILE WEST OF PAVILLION

Reports from Pavillion are to the effect that the cyclone started about a mile west of that place. An observer noticed a large, heavy cloud near the earth traveling in a northeasterly direc-

Just Like Cardboard Houses



Photo by The Bee's Staff Artist.

tion, and its heavy, greenish hue fascinated and attracted him. Suddenly he noticed that it began to whirl, and the first place it hit the earth was a mile west of Pavillion, where it gathered up ten telegraph poles along the Union Pacific right-of-way, then after demolishing a farmer's barn it seemed to ascend and precipitated again at Ralston.

Storm Wipes Perth, Indiana, Off Map

Perth, Ind., March 24.—Perth, a small town of 400 inhabitants in the northern part of Clay county, practically was wiped off the map by a tornado last night, but only one person was injured.

The home of Robert Foster was blown down. Foster and four children were in the house at the time but all escaped unhurt, except Louise, aged seven.

Damage at Anita. Anita, Ia., March 24.—(Special.)—In Anita little damage was done, but the three large cattle barns of Sam Hansen, five miles south of town, were totally destroyed, with a small loss of cattle.

Farm Buildings Go. Casey, Ia., March 24.—(Special.)—The damage in Casey was very light, but John Wilkinson, who lives two miles south, lost all buildings but his house, which was protected by a grove.

Governor Morehead Commends City of Omaha for Its Prompt Action

Governor Morehead, who has viewed the scenes of the tornado, has issued the following statement:

I received a telegram from the mayor of Omaha at 12:30 a. m. stating that a large portion of their city had been swept by a disastrous tornado. Arrangements were made within an hour for a special train with the adjutant general and a number of his men who started for the scene of the storm, arriving at Omaha at 3:46 a. m. in hopes that the disaster had been overstated.

As soon as it was daylight in several automobiles we visited the part of the city that had been swept by the storm and found it even worse than reported. To form an intelligent idea of the number of dead and wounded at this time would be impossible, or to make an intelligent estimate of the financial loss.

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Telephone Girls Give Exhibition of Most Remarkable Heroism During Storm

When the panic raged the fiercest during the period of the storm the twenty-five girls doing duty as night operators at what is known as the Webster street station, between Twenty-second and Twenty-fourth and Lake street, displayed remarkable heroism.

Every girl stuck to her switch board, while every window in the building crashed in, shooting the shattered glass across the room in every direction. Many of the girls had their faces and hands out and gashed with the flying glass, but to a girl they stuck to their switch boards, answering calls, making connections.

Ten Bodies Are Removed from the North Side Idlewild Pool Hall

Eight bodies more of colored, well known in the north part of the city, were taken from the ruins of the Idlewild pool hall, making a total of ten. They are Scott Barber, George Hansen, Lloyd Glover, Tom Johnson, George Hamlat, Scully Ford, Charles South and a man named Dunn. The corpse of C. W. Dillon, the proprietor, was found early in the morning. The bodies were all more or less mutilated and were removed at once to the Obee undertaking parlor at 2518 Lake street.

Five Public Schools Are Closed Because of Damage by the Storm

Five public schools were out of commission because of the storm. At the Lake school, Nineteenth and Lake street there was not a whole window left in the structure, which is one of the largest schools in the city.

Beautiful Bemis Park is Now a Scene of the Most Dense Destruction

The corner at Forty-second and Harney is about as complete a ruin as can be found along the entire length of the devastated path.

Altogether Too Close for Comfort



Photo by The Bee's Staff Artist.

comfortable, and the city authorities are using every means to prevent looting and cribbing. I desire to commend the mayor and city authorities for their prompt action.

On reaching this section of the city by daylight I found it well patrolled by police and it required the authority of the mayor before we were allowed to pass through on our trip of inspection.

Mayor Hartman is to be commended as well for his prompt action in rendering his services, and 200 government troops are aiding the mayor in keeping order and preventing looting in the district. Unfortunately as the city and people are in this storm, I am receiving telegrams from different states, as well as from prominent citizens in the state offering to help in a financial way the unfortunate victims.

The citizens are opening their homes and it would appear to me that they will be able to temporarily provide for these unfortunate people. At the present time there have been recovered from the ruins more than 100 dead bodies and the hospitals and private homes report something over 250 wounded. Property loss, in a rough estimate, is at \$2,500,000 to \$4,000,000. It is also estimated that there are from 1,500 to 2,500 buildings wrecked.

Men assisting in the rescue work say that they expect to find at least twenty more bodies in the ruins of the pool hall. Bodies of three other colored persons were found at noon by searchers and removed to Obee's. They are Mrs. Odessa Parks, 239 North Twenty-fourth street; unidentified man killed at the Abernathy rooming house at Twenty-fifth and Burdette streets; Marie Lindsay, 143 North Thirtieth street.

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TOWN OF YUTAN STRUCK BY STORM AND WRECKED

Fifteen Reported Dead and Forty Persons Injured, and Heavy Property Loss as Result of Tornado Near Valley.

Ten are dead, a number injured and the town wrecked by a tornado that passed over the town of Yutan last Sunday afternoon. The principal business houses were thrown into the street and many residences were demolished. To make matters worse, the broke out in the middle of the town, blowing up on the Union Pacific road, near Valley.

The town had three schools. The school at Valley, near the Union Pacific road, was destroyed. The school at Yutan, near the Union Pacific road, was destroyed. The school at Yutan, near the Union Pacific road, was destroyed.

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Citizens Respond Generously to the Call for Aid for Tornado Sufferers

City commissioners passed an ordinance appropriating \$5,000 for relief work. Citizens present at the meeting organized and \$25,000 more was donated. A citizens relief committee was organized, composed of fifty citizens and an executive committee chosen to work with the seven city councilmen.

Governor Morehead notified Mayor Dahlman that he would send a special message to the legislature asking for the appropriation of sufficient funds to care for the homeless throughout the state.

Police Commissioner Ryder issued orders for all saloons in the vicinity of the wrecked district to remain closed until further notice.

Mayor Dahlman created the following control districts for the troops and militia now on guard about the ruins. First district, along Sherman Avenue and Corby street; information stations at Sherman and Corby and Twenty-fourth and Ohio. Second district, Twenty-eighth street west and south to California; information stations at Thirtieth and Second and Thirty-fourth and Coming. Third district, California, south and west, information stations at Thirty-fifth and Dodge and Thirty-eighth and California and Forty-third and Leavenworth.

Cots will be placed in the Auditorium and those without shelter will be housed there. The city purchasing agent has arranged for enough beds to care for all those who can sleep in the auditorium. The Elks rooms have been thrown open to the homeless and the Union Gospel mission still provide seventy-five men with beds.

The citizens committee has asked the newspapers to accept donations and turn the money over to the committee for distribution. T. J. Mahoney, E. F. Denison, Robert Cowell, C. C. Rosewater, J. M. Guld, T. C. Byrne and Father Williams, met and began planning the system according to which it will work.

"Omaha never has been found wanting and her people will not fail at this time," So said a dozen prominent citizens in the council chamber at the city hall today.

"We will meet the needs of our people," Robert Cowell.

"If you have seen the wreckage you know that there are many in need," said Senator J. H. Millard, as he gave \$2,000 toward relief.

In this calamity we should have to false pride and if the state asks to help us we should sincerely thank the legislature and the governor," said Chairman T. J. Mahoney.

Many people are homeless outside of Omaha and the people of Omaha, now raising relief funds, will ask that the legislature be most generous to them, as Omaha is more prosperous and her citizens are responding nobly to the call.

Donations at the time of the organization of the committee were as follows: Union Pacific, \$5,000. Kilpatrick company, \$500. Omaha Printing company, \$500. Gas company, \$5,000. Street railway company, \$5,000. Omaha National bank, \$2,500. Merchants National bank, \$200. Mahoney & Kennedy law firm, \$500. Byrne & Hammer company, \$500. World-Herald, \$1,000. Sander land Bros., \$500. J. A. Sunderland, \$500. Mrs. E. W. Nash, \$2,500. M. Levy, \$500. Father Stenson, \$50. Nebraska Clothing company, \$50. El Johnston, former mayor of South Omaha, \$100. Peter Loch, \$100. School board, \$100. Other donations are being received rapidly and before the day is out the executive committee will probably be in possession of from \$10,000 to \$20,000 for immediate use.

Woman's Cries for Help Spur the Rescuers to Unsuccessful Efforts

Mrs. James D. Hogg, wife of the local general agent of the Janesville Machine company, was suffocated by a gas in the cellar of her home at 311 Cuming street. She was pinned by the neck by a piece of timber.

A rescue party composed of T. J. Cronin, A. O. Schroeder, James Panoh and Herman Joe Connell, worked desperately to reach her before she died, but were prevented from doing so by the gas which escaped from the broken pipes and by the mass of timber which barred the way.

Mrs. Hogg's voice could be heard by the rescuers and for fifteen minutes before she died she conversed with them. She begged pathetically for the men to save her.

"Something is holding me by the neck," she cried. "Can't you come? Can't you save me? I am choking. It is the gas."

Mrs. Hogg was in the back part of the house when the storm struck and she reached the cellar, while her husband, who was in the front room, was reported to have been taken out, injured, but alive.

Next door a similar scene with a fatal ending was being enacted and the members of the little rescue party were nearly distracted by pleadings for help from two places when their best efforts seemed so futile.

In the cellar of a new house at 311 Cuming, which like the one next door was demolished, Mrs. Martha Sorenson of Malina, Neb., was found injured, and was taken to the Methodist hospital.

But in this same house a boy about 12 years old died. His body had not been recovered this morning. Mrs. Hogg's body was not recovered till 5 o'clock this morning, though the rescuers worked as swiftly as possible, thinking she could be rescued alive.

"The Strife is O'er," Sang Cassius, Shimer—He is Dead—Church is Destroyed

"The strife is o'er, the battle done; the victory of life is won," sang Cassius Shimer of his South Forty-second street at the Easter services in McCabe Methodist church Sunday morning. Many in the congregation afterward remarked that it was the best he had ever sung; that he had put sentiment and earnestness into the song.

"The powers of death have done their worst, but Christ their legions hath outbursted," ran the second verse, and there were some, because of the earnestness and the sweetness of his tone, who thought upon its meaning.

Cassius Shimer was killed when the tornado destroyed his home. The church in which he had sung was badly wrecked. Friends are now remarking how appropriate was his last song. "The strife is o'er," the verses of which read:

"The strife is o'er, the battle done. The victory of life is won. The song of triumph has begun—alleluia. The powers of death have done their worst, but Christ their legions hath outbursted; Let songs of holy joy outburst—alleluia. The three sad days are quickly sped; He rises glorious from the dead. All glory to our risen head—alleluia, amen."

North Twenty-Fourth Street Looks Very Much Like a Deserted Battlefield

Lake street and vicinity resemble a battlefield after a terrific conflict when daylight, gray and dismal, lighted up the destruction which followed in the wake of the awful onslaught of the raging tornado Sunday night.

Bodies stretched out side by side on the ground, covered with strips of tarpaulin, soldiers patrolling the ruined district and the thousands upon thousands of people, crowded as near the ruins and dead as possible, greeted the dawn of day.

Distracted relatives, anxious friends and neighbors rushed to and fro in the ruined district, inquiring for brother, sister or close friend, who had been in the storm, fearful of what might be their fate, but hoping by some miracle they escaped from the death dealing monster.

Nearly 100 bodies were laid side by side on the floor of Coronor Crosby's undertaking establishment. Many of the bodies were so badly mutilated it was hardly possible to identify them. Many were burned, half clothed and disfigured.

All through the day crowds upon crowds of people besieged the coroner's office, inquiring for relatives or friends, for whom they had anxiously waited during the long night to return and when daylight brought no tidings of these whereabouts, sought the coroner's office. Many viewed the bodies, but their fear of finding them among the dead did not materialize, and they left the death chamber, hope kindled anew for the safe return of those they sought.

Women became hysterical, men broke down and sobbed and little children wailed, as they discovered among the dead some relative. The coroner's office presented a pathetic scene indeed, with the bodies strewn about the floor, more arriving each hour and identified bodies being taken away by relatives and friends.

The biggest freak story yet told of the storm's caprices was the experience of Prof. E. W. Hunt, 3229 Cuming street, who, after the storm was over, found himself wearing a hat that was hanging in the closet before the house was blown over. When he arrived home shortly before the terrific wind began to blow he placed the hat and coat he had been wearing upon a chair and then went downstairs to tell the family of Mrs. Cora Curtis that a cyclone was coming and to get into the basement. They preceded him down and just as he was in the hallway of the first floor the second story was blown off and when he came to from the shock he found his hair full of mortar from the brick walls and a tan hat that had been hanging in the closet of his room on his head. The house was ruined. The family members were all bruised, but escaped serious injury.

His Life Saved by Holding Onto One of the Doors of His Residence

Oscar Carlson, night cashier of the Calumet restaurant, residing at Forty-fifth and Leavenworth streets, had his life saved in a peculiar way. When the storm approached and the wind began to blow a hurricane, he attempted to look outdoors and in resisting a sudden gust he clung tenaciously to the door. The next thing he knew he was out in the back yard with the door on top of him, and when he arose and looked around he found himself strangely alone. There was not a house in sight as far as he could see in the semi-darkness, and outside of a few bruises, he was all right.

Freak of Storm Takes Hat from the Closet; Puts it on Prof. Hunt's Head

Beautiful Bemis Park is Now a Scene of the Most Dense Destruction

Homes Wiped Out Soon After Their New Owners Have Purchased Them

Five Public Schools Are Closed Because of Damage by the Storm

Des Moines Sends Doctors and Trained Nurses to Omaha on a Special Train