

Crowd Around the Moving Picture Show



Ruins of Diamond Theater on Lake Street Attracted Much Attention.

FLOODED CITIES START THE WORK OF REBUILDING

(Continued from Page One.)

...been delayed by wantons and other mishaps of the flood. However, a trainload of supplies is expected soon from Washington.

Citizens Undertakers.
The activity of certain local undertakers called forth the wrath of Major Dupuy, who issued a statement in which he called them "ghouls" for their feverish activity in seeking out bodies, and it is alleged, some times burying them without making report to the authorities. He declared that they were "trying to work a hold-up game on helpless friends and relatives of those who have lost their lives."

Chairmen of the various committees were unanimous today in asking that word be spread broadcast that mere sightseeing visitors are not wanted here. The railroads have been informed of this attitude and conductors are refusing to accept passengers who cannot show that their presence here is necessary.

There were thousands of visitors in the city today. Most of them were from surrounding towns. The signs "Relief car" which many of them bore were manifestly to solicit the majority of the bodies of the flood victims will be found buried under the debris in the Miami canal, under great piles of wreckage and far down the river at Miamiburg, Middletown and Hamilton, in the opinion of men who have examined the ground.

Few Caught in Homes.
Few people were caught in their homes, as most all of them had received sufficient warning of the approaching disaster to enable them to get out before the flood assumed dangerous proportions. Those who were drowned, for the most part, were caught in the streets, either while on their way to their places of business or employment, or while trying to get to places of safety when forced to flee from their homes.

Lieutenant Leatherman, surgeon of the Third regiment, Ohio National Guard, who went through the flood in West Dayton, said that he saw scores of dead bodies floating down the Miami river; and many people were swimming, but there was not one chance in ten thousand that these were saved, he said. The water was icy cold and the current terrific.

"The flood," he related, "came when hundreds of people were in the streets, scoffing at the idea that a flood could come. Hadn't the levees always protected them? Had Dayton ever had a serious flood? Why be alarmed? And so they were carried to their death. How many, of course, no one knows exactly."

Bodies Under Wreckage.
In one district, it was stated at sanitary department headquarters, dozens of bodies could be seen under piles of wreckage, here a hand and there a foot sticking out from under the debris. Efforts were directed for several hours in an attempt to get at these bodies, but none had been taken out when night fell.

The work of extending succor to the marooned inhabitants of the districts which still are flooded continued during the day. In many sections were to be seen rowboats, skiffs and canoes making their way with extreme difficulty among the heaps of wreckage and overturned houses, among meshes of telegraph, telephone and electric light wires, seeking out possible victims who had been un- cared for. Among the organizations engaged in rescue work is the company of naval reserves from the United States ship Essex at Toledo, under command of Captain A. P. Nickless. The company reached Dayton on a special relief train from Toledo on Thursday and immediately launched a number of boats in the raging torrents which were sweeping the city from end to end. Up to 6 o'clock tonight the sailors had been constantly on duty and had to their credit a total of 90 rescued and they were not thinking of sleep when darkness fell.

Boat Rescue 375.
One crew, in command of Ensign E. E. Diebold, with two boats, rescued 75 persons from the business section and that district immediately east of Main street and west of Eagle street. Many of the people were taken from their homes only after the sailors had mounted to the tops of partially overturned houses and chopped their way through to the attics, where the inmates were huddled together waiting for death to enter.

Another crew, under Junior Lieutenant Ross Willoh, succeeded in saving 300, while three boats in command of Senior Lieutenant Theodore Schmidt rescued 244 persons. The majority of these latter were taken from box cars, warehouses, freight sheds and grain elevators in the railroad yards. It was here that the water attained its greatest violence, rushing in whirlpools between the freight buildings on either side of the tracks. Navigation was extremely perilous on account of many submerged box cars, flat cars and overturned sheds.

Several times the sailors were captured, but managed to keep with their boats

and fight them again. Not a life was lost, either among the reserves or among the hundreds whom they attempted to rescue.

While sailors worked incessantly to save lives, Lieutenant Walter Gayhart, also of the ship's company, succeeded in establishing a supply station in East Fifth street, where many refugees congregated, and issued rations to the suffering. He slept tonight after seventy-one hours of continuous labor.

No Visitors Allowed.
Only those doing relief work or having official business were allowed out of doors after 6 o'clock tonight. With the additional military forces which arrived the city was thoroughly policed. The city was in darkness again tonight. Even with the careful policing during the last few nights some robbing has been done. It has been impossible to do much relief work at night, and the curfew order was due in part to the advisability of keeping the men where they can protect their own households, if necessary. Fronts of stores have been broken down and merchandise exposed. Some of this has been stolen. One thief gathered a quantity of jewelry and was making away with it in a traveling bag when arrested. Major Dupuy is angered at certain undertakers and expressed it in the following statement: "These body snatching ghouls who operate as undertakers will be treated as they deserve, if it takes the entire military power at the command of the National Guard. There are a number of reliable undertakers in Dayton who have complied strictly with the order to report the recovery of all bodies, but there have been reports received here of numerous instances of undertakers grabbing bodies and rushing them to their own establishments. Then they either prey on the grief stricken relatives or the public will have to pay for the burial of the unidentified dead."

May Arrest Undertakers.
"All medical and military officers have received orders to promptly arrest any undertaker or other person who removes a body and does not immediately report it to this department. It was said at military headquarters that a total of only forty-six bodies was reported up to this evening, although it was known that no less than 121 bodies had been taken to different morgues and to private homes. This was ascertained by a computation of returns made by different rescuing squads engaged in the flooded districts."

Major Dupuy stated that he fears an epidemic of some kind, unless the most rigid sanitary rules are enforced. "There are thousands of dead horses and other animals strewn about the city," said the surgeon. "While we are pressing into service large number of these of the carcasses as many of these are buried beneath great heaps of heavy wreckage, which it is necessary to remove before the bodies can be taken to the incinerating plants."

All Drug Stocks Destroyed.
"To add to the menace of the situation we found that with one or two exceptions every stock of drugs in Dayton was destroyed by the flood. Many of our officers are without medical or surgical supplies. A lieutenant doctor came to me today begging for supplies. He said he had several obstetrical cases to care for, besides several urgent surgical cases, but had nothing to work with. Medical knowledge does not do a man much good if he has not drugs and instruments."

"Already there are a considerable number of sick people, but we are making every effort possible to care for these patients. A maternity hospital has been established in Dayton View, an emergency hospital is being operated under extreme difficulties, however—in the court house, and a hospital for contagious diseases already is treating several cases of chickenpox, mumps and measles. "There are innumerable cases of influenza, pneumonia, acute rheumatism, tonsillitis and the like being treated by the doctors of our corps, and many other cases have been reported by local physicians."

Major Dupuy stated that the city has been divided into six sanitary districts, each district in charge of an officer of the sanitary corps of the National Guard.

As it will be several weeks before the sewer system is in operation again, a large corps of men will be kept active in disposing of refuse and in disinfecting all premises occupied by refugees. Strict orders regarding the disposition of garbage have been issued, and the people have been advised by means of bulletins, posted in conspicuous places in the streets, how best to preserve the public health.

A small army of sanitary inspectors has been pressed into service and every effort will be made to prevent any outbreak of a pestilence. It was owing to the frightful flood conditions throughout the entire territory, of which Dayton is the heart, making transportation facilities of all kinds useless, that supplies for the medical corps did not reach here until several days after the flood broke. Several cars of lime already have reached

the city and many more are en route from different points. A carload of ambulance supplies is on the way from Cincinnati.

Arrangements for placing sanitary measures in the hands of federal officials were completed at the conference between Secretary of War Garrison, Major General Leonard Wood, Surgeon General Rupert Blue and the local relief committee, headed by John H. Patterson. After Secretary Garrison had talked over the telephone with Governor Cox he decided that while the state militia would be able to police the city the federal government should have charge of the sanitation.

Mr. Garrison stated that Major Thomas Rhoades, in co-operation with Major General C. Normandy, would have charge in Dayton. Major Normandy had experience in furthering relief in the Mississippi flood district last year.

Secretary Garrison gave out the substance of his telegram to President Wilson as follows:

"I find the situation at Dayton to be as follows: "The flood has subsided so that they have communication with all parts of the city, no one being now in any position of peril or without food or shelter. The National cash register plant has been turned into a supply depot and lodging place for those who have no other present place."

Surgeon General Leads Work.
"Surgeon General Blue and some of his officers are here, as are also some naval surgeons. We are all working in concert. The governor, the mayor, the local committee and the citizens have all expressed much gratitude at the action of the national government and have welcomed us warmly, all of them stating that the fact that a direct representative has been sent to their community has been of the greatest benefit to the morals of the city."

"I find a competent force is already organized to clean up the streets, remove the debris and do general work of that description and have agreed to work under the direction of the army surgeon I leave in charge of sanitation. The National Guards have their adjutant general, George P. Wood, here, in command of the military situation, and he has cordially offered to co-operate in every way with our work of sanitation. "I think that the situation here is very satisfactory and that this commission will find itself in a reassured position within a very short time, and facing only their problems of repair, restoration and rehabilitation."

"I will go back to Cincinnati tonight to get into touch with matters left unfinished there, and will go to Columbus at the earliest moment. Governor Cox tells me that he thinks matters are in a satisfactory condition at Columbus; that he has ample immediate supply of medicines and other necessities, and that much of each is on the way. The weather is very fine and there does not seem to be any cause of apprehension of further floods in the vicinity of Dayton."

Fifteen Thousand Are Fed.
Fifteen thousand persons subsisted today on rations given out under direction of the relief committee. Ten thousand of these, it is estimated, were in their homes and food was carried in them in boats and automobiles. About 5,000 ar-

being cared for at the relief station. This shows a marked reduction in the number of persons being publicly fed. The relief committee has made no attempt to keep a record of the number of rations sent out. There is plenty of food and it is being placed into baskets in lots to serve five persons for two days. Candles are given out with the food. The relief stations have been saved in capacity now for the flood has subsided enough for people to leave their homes. Homes of persons more fortunate have been thrown open to those whose homes have been swept away or destroyed. Homes usually housing four or five persons in many instances now are sheltering from twenty to thirty.

Beginning early today the relief committee sent out tons of food for these people. Some were found in the more remote sections who had not tasted food since Tuesday, but, comparatively, these cases were few.

Dr. William Colby Rucker, assistant

surgeon general of the United States public health service, who came here from Washington at the direction of the secretary of the treasury with Surgeon General Blue, tonight gave the Associated Press the following outline of the sanitary conditions existing in the city: "A survey of conditions in Dayton today shows that the sanitary situation is not so bad as was at first thought. Citizens have been warned to boil all drinking water and to buy refuse. City water is now flowing under twenty pounds' pressure. Sewers in some sections are again in operation. The city expects to have others working tomorrow."

"The city has been divided into six sanitary districts and tonight physicians who have been sworn in as district sanitary officers are being instructed as to their precise duties as heads of these districts."

Surgeon General Blue and Dr. Rucker will go to Hamilton tomorrow to observe the situation there.

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