

SEVERAL CITIES SWEEPED BY FLOOD

Hundreds of Buildings Wiped Out at Topeka, Kan.

FIFTY DEAD AT KANSAS CITY

Financial Loss In Stricken Districts Will Run Into Millions.

MANY THOUSANDS HOMELESS

People Were Taken at Great Risk From Tree Tops and House Tops in Small Boats—Water is Now Receding and Worst is Over—Epidemic of Disease Threatens Refugees—Disaster at Other Places.

Topeka, Kan., June 2.—This city and vicinity has experienced the most destructive floods in its history. Hundreds of buildings in North Topeka are wrecked, several destroyed by a fire caused by slacking lime, at least 40 persons drowned, and over 8,000 homeless. All bridges to flooded sections are washed away. The water is now receding and it is believed that the worst is over. Rescuers worked for several days knee-deep in water and sometimes up to their necks, and saved at least 400 persons. People were taken from house tops and trees at great risk, and many were in a half famished condition, having been compelled to cling to their perilous positions for as long as 72 hours.

Briefly stated, the present condition of the flood is this:

Thirty-four known dead.

About 8,000 people without homes.

Over \$4,000,000 loss of property.

Banks collapsed, 2; wholesale grocery stores flooded, 2.

Big business blocks almost ready to crumble, 50.

Wholesale commission houses deserted, 6.

Rock Island train, containing 150 passengers, held here by high water.

City water works plant useless.

One of the most distressing features of the situation now is the possibility that there will be a spread of contagious diseases. People of all classes are huddled together in houses not large enough for them, and on all sides they are surrounded by water. Doctors and medical relief cannot reach the sufferers to any great extent. A case of diphtheria has been reported from the woolen mill in North Topeka, where there are a large number of children, in addition to the adults. There is also a case of two of scarlet fever among the refugees on the north side. Hundreds of cases of measles are prevalent among the children, and on account of the exposed condition of the patients will result fatally in many cases.

The possibility of an epidemic is now the most serious thing the city must contend with. The physician of the city, under the direction of the city health board, are making heroic efforts to check the threatened calamity. In this work they are being well aided by the health boards of the state and county.

Dr. L. F. Grubbs says that the sanitary condition of North Topeka when the water shall go down will be such that the place will not be fit for habitation for some months. He says he thinks the best plan would be to get tents from the state and establish a tent city on some plot of high ground.

Provisions of all sorts are becoming scarce in Topeka. No freight trains have entered the city for several days, and as large quantities of groceries were destroyed in North Topeka there will not be enough for the people to eat if the present situation lasts much longer. It is charged that certain of the merchants have formed a combination for the purpose of controlling the prices of provisions.

It will be at least a week before freight trains from the east can enter Topeka, and perhaps longer. An effort will be made to secure a stock of provisions from the smaller towns south of here, and this may relieve the situation somewhat.

Thrilling Rescues.

E. L. Bailey and E. M. Alexander performed some of the most heroic work of rescue. In the darkness, at the greatest risk of their own lives, they succeeded in reaching one of the burning lumber yards and rescued a dozen women and children. On the way to the south shore one of the women fainted from fatigue and fright, and this all but swamped the boat. The men made superhuman efforts and finally reached the pontoon bridge with their precious cargo. Here willing hands seized them and carried them over the Melan bridge to safety.

This is only one of a hundred thrilling rescues. The most prominent men of the town donned oilskins, and submerged in water up to their breasts, worked for hours in the cold water. Women and children were given the preference in the work of rescue.

Eighteen people were rescued late in the afternoon from a house at 1,98 North Monroe street. From this place the current is now swift, and after great labor the place was reached. A man who has just returned from the scene of the flood says he could see as many as 10 persons hanging from trees near the Bardou avenue bridge at the foot of Morse street.

W. N. Keppard and his wife, aged people, were rescued. They were so numb that they could not feel and had to be knocked into the water before the men could reach them. They were standing close together in the

attic of a house, and so severe had been their experience that their minds gave way under the strain. They cannot recover. A Mrs. Anderson and her year-old baby have been for three days in a tree in plain sight of people who were powerless to rescue them. The mother clasped her child close in her arms and managed to brace herself against a tree in a reasonably secure position. For three days she kept up the battle for life. When her rescue was very near she lost consciousness. Both the mother and child fell into 12 feet of water and were drowned, being immediately drawn under by the current.

Harvey Parsons, a local newspaper man, had a thrilling experience. He took a boat Friday night and made his way to a house in the hope of making some rescues. A woman and her baby, names unknown, were in the house, and Parsons took them into his boat. They had proceeded only a short distance when the boat capsized. Parsons contrived to get himself and the others up into a tree, and there they stayed until they were rescued. They were brought to a place of safety, but probably will not survive.

B. L. Wise, former city engineer, was dragged from the hay loft of a barn. He was unconscious and numb from cold but soon revived. His story of the beginning of the flood is dramatic.

Perched in Trees.

By the aid of small steam and gasoline launches 40 men in South Garfield Park were rescued. They had perched themselves in trees. They had nothing to eat for 36 hours. These men were kept in a fenced grove, where they could not keep a close watch of the situation. All they could see was the angry water rushing about among the trunks of the trees. One of the men said that they could not hear the other speak above the roar of water. Uncertainty was thus added to their other misery, and not one of them had any hopes of escaping.

Patrick Beline, his wife and three small children were taken from the attic of their small dwelling. The parents were obliged to hold the two younger children constantly to keep their heads above water. They were nearly starved, and probably cannot recover.

E. L. Cowdry and his brother are among those who escaped from the flood. When asked for a story of his experience, he said:

"Oh, it was terrible; I can't describe it. It seemed like I have lived in a horrible nightmare for the past two days. Early on Thursday we saw that the water would be high, but with the usual persistence of people who dislike to leave their own homes, put off the time as long as possible. It came near being our undoing. Friday the whole of North Topeka, it seemed, overflowed within an hour. The dreadful water came creeping up faster than the people could get out. We were forced to leave in such a hurry that we could not even take a blanket. I was satisfied that our house was destroyed, as it was in the direct path of the fire. All I have in the world is the clothing that I am now wearing. Hundreds of others are in as bad a condition as we are."

H. J. Henry, a hardware merchant, first sent his father and mother to safety and then undertook to remain and keep their property out of the hands of looters. He managed to escape when the flood came by riding a trusty horse. As far as Mr. Henry knows, his stock of hardware has been swept away with the building and entire establishment.

These are only a few of numerous instances of distress. Hundreds who were rich are now poor, and the poor people are in distress. Many lost absolutely everything. They had the savings of years taken by water. Now they have only the titles to the water-covered land.

Thousands of dead horses, cattle and smaller animals are floating down the stream.

20,000 ARE HOMELESS

Many Drowned and Property Loss Heavy at Kansas City.

Kansas City, June 2.—With gas and electric lights extinguished, the water works shut down and the city practically at the mercy of the first fire that shall break out, with railroad transportation feeble and uncertain, Kansas City may, if the waters do not recede within the next two or three days, be compelled to fight for her very life.

The first authentic information from Kansas City, Kan., we received last night. In that district 20,000 people are homeless. Many have been drowned, but the number cannot be estimated. The property loss has been heavy. The situation there is a parallel to the situation here—apparently no better, and no worse.

There is no great probability that there will be further loss of life, if the river does not rise very suddenly. All through the wholesale district and in the east and west bottoms there are people still in houses—many of them anxious to be taken away—a good number of them content to remain where they are, with all the chances of the flood. The police have done wonders in rescuing people, and have probably brought 250 of them safe to the high ground. In the east and west bottoms a number of obstinate people are still clinging to their homes. Although the police have run boats beneath their windows and offered to save them, they refused to leave and will take their chances. It is utterly impossible to form any estimate of the number of dead in Kansas City. There have been manifold stories of how boats laden with people have been seen to sink—there have been reports without end of bodies seen floating on wreckage, of men who have tried to drive

wagons laden with their household effects against certain death in the swift current and gone down in the flood. The majority of these stories lack proof, however, and even if true, the proof may never be had.

There is no possibility of getting at the names of the dead, and no chance of forming any estimate that can confidently be termed accurate. It is likely, however, that the number of fatalities in Kansas City, Mo., will approximate 50. Down in the wholesale district people were waving white cloths to attract attention. The condition of some of these people is pitiable. They have been held prisoners for two days, threatened with death by drowning, and at one time by fire. For the most part they were without food, and for 24 hours without drinking water. Every effort is being made, and they will all be saved unless the water rises more. The financial damage is about as great now as it is likely to become unless the water rises much higher. The great danger is that the foundations of buildings may be undermined. However, the buildings that have withstood the flood all day have an excellent chance of holding out for some time.

The most serious proposition is that of food. The supply in Kansas City, Kan., is not as ample as in Kansas City, Mo., and unless prompt measures are taken there is a probability of much suffering. The electric line from Leavenworth, 28 miles away, has been opened and 10,000 rations were brought in. This amount, however, was insufficient for a single day's supply, and more is needed at once.

At Argentine, Kan., where the Santa Fe yards and buildings and two-thirds of the dwelling houses are under water, a number of houses were washed away. Many hundreds of freight cars stand submerged and the boxes break loose from the trucks and float away. The cars now moving down the Missouri river are from the Argentine yards. Not one inhabitant of Argentine is missing.

6,000 Homeless at Des Moines.

Des Moines, Ia., June 1.—Once more hope has been inspired in the breasts of the 6,000 flood refugees by the report that the river has begun to slowly decline. So far as is known but seven authenticated fatalities have been reported. For over two days it has rained constantly and the mercury has stood close to the freezing point. Scores of men, women and children have spent hours at a time in soaking wet garments, sitting on the roofs of their homes awaiting the arrival of rescuers. The last of these was removed last evening. More fatalities will result from exposure than from drowning. The property loss will mount into the millions.

Hundreds of Houses Carried Away.

Lawrence, Kan., June 1.—The water here is falling. Half the houses on the north side are washed away, but the people have all gone to high ground and are safe. The river is six to seven miles wide here. Hundreds of homes have been carried down the river. There are only two or three small spots on the north side, and most of the 3,000 people over there are homeless and have lost all their personal property. There has been much loss of live stock.

The Flood in Nebraska.

Lincoln, Neb., June 2.—The flood situation is greatly improved in Lincoln. The water in the western lowlands is between five and six feet below the high water point of Saturday, and some of the drowned-out residents have moved back to their homes. A short distance outside of Lincoln conditions are still bad and railways are making little effort to run trains on regular schedules. There is some improvement at Beatrice, and the worst is thought to be over, but the town is still isolated except by wire.

ALMOST A LYNCHING

Negro Gamblers Caused Riot at West Liberty, Pa., Ball Grounds.

Pittsburg, June 1. — In a riot at a base ball ground at High Bridge, in West Liberty Borough, one negro was killed, two were probably fatally shot, a third was badly beaten and thrown over a hill and three white boys were severely but not fatally wounded. One of the negroes escaped lynching by a very narrow margin.

Six negro crap shooters attempted to do business, and when warned to leave opened fire with revolvers and wounded several persons. A mob quickly formed, and two negroes took refuge in a chicken coop, from where they continued firing on the crowd. One of the mob climbed to the roof, and the next time the negro inside opened the door to fire, a huge rock fell and landed on his head. The negro, who was identified later as Charles Kelley, fell forward, and at the same instant both arms went out and from his hands flew two revolvers. There was a rush at the prostrate form, and the man was literally pounded to death with clubs and stones.

The other negro was dragged from the coop and a rope was procured. He was dragged at least 300 yards with the rope around his neck, and the mob was about to hang him when the officers arrived. The negro was wounded in a dozen places and cannot live.

Erie Police Force Resigns.

Erie, Pa., June 1.—Mayor Hardwick has accepted the resignations of the city police force whose signatures were affixed to the ultimatum sent to him last Tuesday, in which the 34 patrolmen stated that unless their salaries were increased from \$60 to \$75 before June 1 they would leave the employ of the city. This morning the force consists of Chief Sullivan, Captain Cuhlane, Special Officer Marshall and Clerk Luslin.

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There's many a man whose lungs are to-day "as sound as a dollar" who at one time suffered severely with weak or diseased lungs. The change has been brought about by the use of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. It has cured men and women whose condition was regarded as hopeless, who were given up by physicians as beyond all hope of cure. "Golden Medical Discovery" cures obstinate deep-seated coughs, bronchitis, weak lungs, hemorrhage, and other diseased conditions which if neglected or unskillfully treated terminate fatally in consumption.

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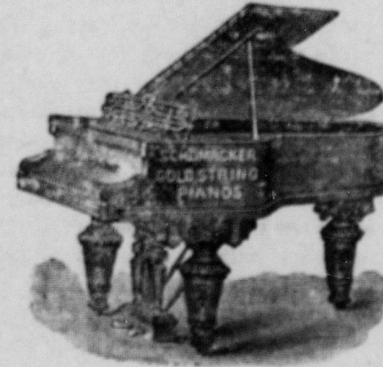
Don't be deceived into trading a substance for a shadow. Any substitute offered as "just as good" as "Golden Medical Discovery" is a shadow of that medicine. There are cures behind every claim made for the "Discovery," which no "just as good" medicine can show.

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Anyone purchasing a Piano from us will always be supplied with a competent tuner and will not be at the mercy of vagrants or vagabonds who go around the country representing themselves to be tuners.

What we want you to do is to visit our store, whether you buy or not. We shall treat you courteously, and shall not insist on selling you against your inclination, but we do insist that you examine our goods, make comparisons, and see for yourself if it is not to your interest to deal with us.

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The undersigned having been restored to health by simple means, after suffering for several years with a severe lung affection, and that dread disease Consumption, it anxious to make known to his fellow sufferers the means of cure. To those who desire it, he will cheerfully send (free of charge) a copy of the prescription used, which they will find a sure cure for Consumption, Asthma, Catarrh, Bronchitis and all throat and lung Maladies. He hopes all sufferers will try his remedy, as it is invaluable. Those desiring the prescription, which will cost them nothing, and may prove a blessing, will please address,
Rev. EDWARD A. WILSON, Brooklyn, New York.

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

Estate of CALVIN M. BOWER, Esq., deceased. Late of Bellefonte borough.
Letters testamentary upon said estate having been granted by the Register of Wills to the undersigned, all persons knowing themselves to be indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment, and those having claims, to present them for settlement.
ELLEN E. BOWER,
JOHN C. BOWER,
Administrators.

COURT PROCLAMATION—Special Term.

Whereas the Hon. John G. Love, President Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of the 4th district consisting of the county of Centre, Pa., has issued his precept bearing date the 17th day of May 1903, and to me directed, for holding a special term of Court of Common Pleas of Center and Termination, General Jail delivory, Orphan's Court and Quarter Sessions of the Peace, in Bellefonte, for the county of Centre and to commence on the fourth Monday of June next, being the 22nd day of June, 1903, notice is hereby given that all persons summoned as jurors are hereby notified to attend. Given under my hand at Bellefonte the 18th day of May, 1903, and the one hundredth and twenty sixth year of the Independence of the United States.
H. S. TAYLOR, Sheriff.
May 18th, 1903.

RULE ON HEIRS.

PENNSYLVANIA, CENTRE COUNTY, SS:
I, A. G. Arthey, clerk of the Orphan's Court of said county of Centre, do hereby certify that in an Orphan's Court held at Bellefonte, the 4th day of May, A. D. 1903, before the Honorable the Judges of said Court, on motion a rule was granted upon the heirs and legal representatives of Sarah Schreck, deceased, to come into Court on the fourth Monday of August next to show cause why the real estate of said deceased should not be sold. Said notice to be given as in requisition.
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Court at Bellefonte, the 6th day of May, A. D. 1903.
A. G. ARTHEY,
C. O. C.

INFORMATION WANTED:

Certain patrons, through negligence, or for peculiar reasons known to themselves, remove from one locality to another, without notifying this office. We are anxious to locate them so that they may receive their paper regularly and for other reasons, inasmuch as any one who can furnish the present address of the following will confer a special favor. We give the former address:
GEO. A. MILLER, Aaronburg.
J. C. SPRIKLE, Stormstown.
L. R. SMITH, Centre Hill.
J. A. WHITEMAN, Ashola, Pa.
IRA AYRES, Gardean, Pa.
E. F. GARDNER, Howard, N. Y.
PAUL SWAB, Buffalo, N. Y.
MRS. W. P. MITCHELL, Howard.
SAM CONDO, Lewisburg, Pa.
O. W. MARKS, Harndab, Pa.
MISS EFFIE KRAMER, Beech Creek.
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