

## CYCLONE DEVASTATES THE CITY OF OMAHA; FIRE FOLLOWS IN WAKE OF THE STORM; HUNDREDS DEAD AND DAMAGES ENORMOUS

**A Large Section of Nebraska's Capital Is In Ruins**  
Today as Result of Tornado Cutting a Wide Swath Through City—Troops Ordered Out to Prevent Looting—Several Villages in the Vicinity Wiped Out.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Omaha, chief city of Nebraska, storm-wrecked and perhaps burning, was so effectually cut off from the rest of the world this forenoon, that only meagre estimates of the death list and damage could be obtained. Brief dispatches early this morning, forced through by devious routes, indicated that several hundred persons perished and hundreds of others were injured. Special trains and troops are being rushed to the scene, and the telegraph companies are making every effort to restore communication.

Early last evening an equinoctial gale of varying intensity, began sweeping through the Missouri Valley and the Middle West, leaving ruin in its path. At least six states sustained heavy damage. Terre Haute, Ind., reports a death list there and environs which may reach 50. Towns in Iowa, Illinois, Kansas, Oklahoma and Missouri were shaken.

Wire communication with Omaha was broken shortly after 6 o'clock last evening, and since that time what few dispatches crept forth came over a single railroad telegraph wire which remained intact. That the city and suburbs sustained great damage seemed certain. One of the latest dispatches, received via Lincoln, described the path of the tornado as being "80 miles long and from 4 to 6 blocks wide." United States troops from Fort Omaha were immediately called out, it was said, and the stricken zone put under martial law.

The National Red Cross has volunteered its services for the injured, and Governor Morehead, of Nebraska, left Lincoln early today personally to assist in the relief work. Railroad bridges were down, however, and train schedules demoralized. Hysterical passengers arriving at Lincoln from Omaha were unable to give any connected account of the disaster except to say that the residential portion of the city suffered most.

## TWO HUNDRED KNOWN DEAD; MORE BODIES IN THE RUINS

Omaha, Neb., March 24.—(Via telephone via Lincoln)—Governor Morehead, Mayor Dahlman and Police Commissioner Ryder stated at noon today that at least 200 were killed in yesterday evening's storm here. Reports from Council Bluffs were to the effect that four more bodies had been recovered from the ruins of homes there.

The list of injured is expected to reach seven hundred. Many have been found today in the homes of friends where they took refuge after the storm.

[Canadian Press.]

Omaha, Neb., March 24.—A tornado swept through Omaha shortly after 6 o'clock yesterday afternoon, cutting a path three to six blocks wide and eight miles long, causing an appalling loss of life and immense destruction of property. Hundreds of buildings were destroyed, and up to 10 o'clock last night it appeared that at least a hundred had been killed and thrice that number injured.

### HUNDREDS KILLED.

Chicago, March 24.—The first dispatch received direct from Omaha reached here at 5:10 a.m., and stated that hundreds of people were killed and injured by a cyclone that circled cities of Omaha and Council Bluffs at 5:40 p.m. last night. All telegraph and telephone wires blown down.

### TROOPS ORDERED OUT.

Chicago, March 24.—The Nebraska state troops have been ordered out by the governor to preserve order and prevent looting at Omaha. The Chicago, Burlington and Quincy, and the Rock Island roads, are preparing special trains to be sent to Omaha carrying physicians and nurses.

## TORNADO CAME FROM WEST ZIGZAGGED ACROSS THE CITY

Lincoln, Neb., March 24.—One hundred are dead, twice as many more were injured, some fatally, by a death-dealing tornado which devastated Omaha and its environs early last night. It demoralized telegraph and telephone service at several points. Property damage will amount up into the hundreds of thousands.

The tornado swept in from the southwest, and zigzagged to the northeast over the residence portion of the city, leaving in its wake destruction and carnage from two to four blocks wide. Fire sprung up all over this area, and added to the horror of the twister.

Firemen were unable to respond to the numerous alarms, and many houses were allowed to burn to the ground. The police were unable to properly protect the stricken district, and the soldiers were called out from Fort Omaha. The tornado zone is now practically under martial law.

### Appalling Disaster.

On account of the appalling character of the catastrophe, only a few names of the dead and injured were available. The following is a partial list of the identified dead:

Wm. Fisher, Mabel McBride, Neil Larson, G. F. Copley, Walter Peterson, Sam Dengler, P. H. Harris, Mary Harris, Mrs. George Schreder, killed on a farm near Plattsmouth, Omaha's suburbs, suffered heavily from the storm. Ralston, southwest of Omaha, was razed to the ground and a score or more are dead. Council Bluffs, Ia., suffered nine dead, a score or more injured, and great damage to property.

The worst damage was done and the largest toll of lives was exacted in the

western part of Omaha and in the vicinity of Twenty-fourth and Lake streets. The destruction in the residence portion was well-nigh appalling. Whole blocks of homes were picked up and dashed into a shapeless mass. Street cars were hurled from the tracks and demolished.

### Buried in Debris.

A moving picture show at Twenty-fourth and Lake streets was destroyed. Ten dead and eight injured have thus far been removed from the ruins. About 50 persons were in the theatre at the time of the disaster, and it is feared that most of them are buried in the debris. Benis Park, one of the prettiest residence districts in Omaha, (Continued on Page Eleven.)

## Tubercular Patients About Same as Before Treatment

The Byron Sanatorium, consumptive patients treated with the Friedman tuberculosis cure a little more than one week ago are practically in the same health that they were in prior to treatment. No new developments have been noticed to date. Nevertheless the patients are hopeful.

## SOUTHERN INDIANA HIT BY TORNADO SEVENTEEN KILLED

**Storm Swept Through a Part of Terre Haute and County of Vigo.**

**Nearly Every House in the Town of Prairieon Was Wiped Out.**

[Canadian Press.]

Terre Haute, Ind., March 24.—Seventeen victims of a tornado, which swept through part of Terre Haute and Vigo County late last night, had been identified today, and more than 75 injured were being cared for in improvised hospitals. Several more bodies are expected to be found when the ruins of 200 homes, levelled by the storm, have been cleared away.

At the request of the mayor, Governor Ralston today ordered out Company B, of the Indiana National Guard, to patrol the devastated district and help in the rescue work. More than 150 persons were made homeless by the twister, and the city council in extra session appropriated \$500 to start a relief fund.

Telephone messages reaching here from Prairieon, nine miles south, state that nearly every house in the town had been destroyed, and that many homes between here and that place had been levelled. Torrential rains, accompanied by the tornado, and probably saved many persons, plumed in the wreckage, from burning to death, as electric wires and lightning fired several parts of the debris.

## Y. M. C. A. TO CANVASS CITY FOR MONEY

**Between Fifty and One Hundred Workers to Start Around on Tuesday Morning Early.**

**EFFORTS MUST BE MEASURED IN ACCORDANCE WITH REVENUE.**

Work Far-Reaching—Should Not Be Permitted to Drop for Want of Support.

Bright and early Tuesday morning, between fifty and a hundred Y. M. C. A. workers will start on canvass of the city for funds to assist in carrying on the splendid work in which the association is engaged.

The reasons for making this appeal have been fully set forth in recent issues of The Advertiser; it now remains for the citizens, who take an interest in the moral and physical welfare of those who are to succeed them. The men who are to have charge of public and social affairs in the future should be given a hearty and liberal response.

### Work Far-Reaching.

The work in which the Y. M. C. A. is engaged is too important, too far-reaching, to be permitted to be relaxed in the slightest degree, merely because of a lack of funds; rather should its efforts be increased than its scope of action hindered.

For the Y. M. C. A. to stand still, to measure its efforts according to the amount of its ordinary revenue, as at present, would be unfortunate; for it to cease from its labors would be a positive calamity. The work of character-building and making of good citizens nothing better; it now remains for the citizens, who take an interest in the moral and physical welfare of those who are to succeed them. The men who are to have charge of public and social affairs in the future should be given a hearty and liberal response.

### Duty and Privilege.

It is both a duty and a privilege to assist in this splendid work, and if that duty is performed, and that privilege exercised, by all at it should be, the association will be encouraged to fresh efforts, feeling that it has at its back more than merely the moral support of the public.

The directors of the Y. M. C. A. nobly do their share. Each one contributes liberally to the funds, but none of them participate in any of the privileges. They are workers, every one of them. Four days of the present week they are giving to assist in making the canvass a success, and giving it ungrudgingly.

Encourage the canvassers with a welcome smile and a liberal subscription, and you are certain to feel the better for it.

## "I Am Pledged to Fire a Building Every Week— Murder? — Perhaps!"

STATEMENT TO W. G. SHEPHERD BY LILLIAN LENTON,  
AN ENGLISH SUFFRAGETTE

[By William G. Shepherd.]

London, March 25.—"Are the English suffragettes preparing to commit murder in order to win the vote?"

I have just returned from the bedside of Lillian Lenton, London's newest, prettiest, wildest suffragette—the girl who was released the other day from Holloway prison because she contracted pleurisy when jail officials tried forcibly to feed her soup through her nose. I asked Miss Lenton this question—of whether we may expect assassinations at the hands of women—and here is what she said to me:

"We women are growing very desperate here in England. The rest of the world does not even guess the problems we are facing. We must have the vote if we are to preserve the decency and morality of the English race. We must have it at any cost—even at the cost of human life!"

"I have entered into a pledge to help to set fire to one building every week in England."

"We broke windows—that did not help at all. We have dynamited Lloyd George's home—that has not helped much. I and Olive Wharry burned up the \$10,000 tea pavilion in Kew Gardens—that has not helped a great deal. And now—"

"Well, Mrs. Pankhurst has told us not to take human life—yet, at any rate. All the inner circle of militants understand that she does not want us actually to kill anybody, but—"

"But what?" I persisted. "Sometimes it looks to me as if she couldn't always hold some of the women in check. They lose their patience when they see things going so terribly slowly."

"But are there really women who would commit murder? Do you, yourself, know any suffragettes in London who would actually kill?"

"I know more than a dozen girls who are so zealous that they would be willing to take human life and to die on the gallows, if they saw that, by so doing, they could gain the vote for women in England! 'Sometimes I am not so sure myself that killing wouldn't help matters! But still we must be loyal to Mrs. Pankhurst while she is our leader!'"

### Started by Father.

How did this 22-year-old beauty, Lillian Lenton, come to such a belief—the belief that battle, murder and sudden death may be effective, may, indeed, be necessary instruments to win a mere political point, enfranchisement for women?

"Well, it all begins 23 years ago, my story does," she told me, as she settled herself in bed with her hand under her cheek.

"It's funny, but my father started it. I think his love affair with my mother must have been tender, for I have seen them together when they did not seem to be sweethearts. Just before my birth—I was the first child—my father resolved that he would not have a man doctor to attend my mother. But men and women will be men!"

### (Continued on Page Ten.)

## ONTARIO LIBERAL CLUBS FORM A FEDERATION

**Representatives of Thirty-One Organizations in Conference at Toronto.**

[Canadian Press.]

Toronto, March 24.—Representatives of 31 Liberal clubs met at the Temple building today and formed a provincial federation of Liberal clubs. J. R. Marshall, of Hamilton, was chairman of the organization meeting, which was addressed by Hon. Mackenzie King and others. Tonight the visiting representatives will be tendered a banquet at the Ontario Club, when N. W. Rowell will be toastmaster.

The organization, it is stated, does not propose to interfere with existing ward organizations. Its aim is educational.

## HAMILTON HYDRO TO BE CUT TO \$15 H. P.

**Herald Announces Reduction for October—London Pays \$24.**

The Hamilton Herald says: The announcement made on Thursday at the board of control meeting to the effect that Hamilton would likely be given a reduction to \$15 per horsepower in the price of power after Oct. 1, is being talked over with a great deal of satisfaction at the city hall, and by citizens generally. This reduction will bring the price of power down to \$12.22 to \$15, these reductions having been made inside of three years, and a revision of local rates will likely follow the cut in the power cost.

The price charged in London at present is \$24 per horsepower. CASTRO AT CHERBOURG. Cherbourg, March 24.—General Cipriani arrived here this morning from New York on board the America, which had been considerably detained by the stormy weather, proceeded with the liner to Hamburg.

### THE WEATHER.

TOMORROW—COLDER.

Forecasts. Today—Strong winds and gales, south-westerly to westerly; mild today, with rain and local thunderstorms. Tuesday—Strong northwesterly winds; colder, with light snowfalls or buries. Local Temperatures. The highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 55; lowest, 42 degrees above zero.



LILLIAN LENTON PHOTOGRAPHED IN BED WHILE CORRESPONDENT SHEPHERD WAS INTERVIEWING HER FOR THE READERS OF THE ADVERTISER.

## REPORT ON RAY SPARKLING DENIED BY PHYSICIANS

**State They Didn't Tell Prosecuting Attorney About Ray's Condition.**

**Did Not Say He Was Free From Disease That Killed Others.**

Although a press dispatch from Bad Axe credits Prosecuting Attorney Boomhower, of that place, with a statement to the effect that symptoms of a disease similar to that from which his brother and father were alleged to have been suffering at the time of their death, were entirely absent in the case of Ray Sparkling, the younger brother, Dr. Stockwell and Dr. Morey, two of the three physicians called in to report on the case, deny that any such statement originated in them.

A Port Huron paper published the following:

Dr. Stockwell and Dr. Morey, two of the three physicians named to examine the condition of Ray Sparkling, and Prosecutor Thomas George, today disclosed ignorance of the press dispatch, the contents of which were credited to Prosecutor Boomhower, and denied communicating any of the statements which were included in the communication. Dr. Hanson could not be located, but the men interviewed declared that they had no knowledge that he had communicated with the Huron County prosecutor and that they did not believe he had done so. In the face of these facts, it would appear that he has employed a physician to make a visit to the home of the patient, unknown to the three medical men, he has been misquoted or he is speaking unpossessed of the facts.

The press dispatch from Bad Axe follows:

"Prosecuting Attorney Boomhower has received a report in the case of Ray Sparkling, which he has had investigated by St. Clair county officials. The report contradicts the published statements that young Sparkling shows disease symptoms similar to his brother Seyrel, before the latter's death."

"Ray is rapidly recovering from his illness, which, it is claimed by the examining physicians, is not similar to his ailment at the time Seyrel died."

## HYDRO WINKED AT USERS ON SUNDAY

**Many Complaints About Intermittent Illumination Caused by Interruptions.**

Many hydro users complained today that their lights were intermittent for an hour or more Sunday night. General Manager Glauertz, however, stated that the interruptions throughout the city were not serious. The explanation was given that many of the wires on the local transmission lines are sagged as a result of limbs of trees blowing across them on Friday. The sagging wires swaying closer together than they should, but not touching, give no trouble in dry weather, but the dampness of Sunday night formed an atmospheric connection between the wires, in this way short-circuiting some of the lines.

To avoid repetitions of the trouble in damp weather the wires will have to be tightened.

## KILLED BY AUTO.

Montreal, March 24.—While on an errand for his mother Armand Hurtubise, 13 years old, was struck by an automobile on East Ontario street on Thursday and died from his injuries yesterday.

## PROBLEMS SAME AS IN OTHER CENTRES SAYS MR. ASHPLANT

"The West London breakerwater is not a job to be nibbled at," is the opinion of Engineer W. Norman Ashplant, who accedes to the position of city engineer April 1.

"West London requires something that will stand for all time. I guess West London will get what it wants, it will, if I have anything to do with it."

"Your city appeals to me as comparing favorably with any other city of its size that I recall to memory in a mental survey of many places I have visited in various countries," said Mr. Ashplant today.

**Good Material Here.** "I think you have the material here for a city beautiful. Of course, from an engineer's point of view it will require considerable time and expenditure of funds to reach the ideal. "I notice that while your municipal engineering problems are on general lines much the same as those which engineers have to contend with and solve in other colonial centres such as Cape Town, Johannesburg, Pretoria and various South African cities of my experience, there is a pleasing comparison to the advantage of Canada in first impressions."

**Sees Bad Streets.** "I have not failed to notice the serious condition of many of your streets, and realize that the city board of works has on hand some heavy propositions that will certainly require early consideration and a liberal appropriation of funds to enable them to carry out the necessary work on efficient lines."

"I believe the citizens of London realize this and are prepared to support your board of works and finance committee in their endeavor to meet the requirements of the situation."

**Will Realize Expectations.** "I have no doubt from what brief opportunity I have had to look over the conditions prevailing that London is destined to realize the best expectations of her citizens. I have been impressed by the marked aggressiveness of Canadian life."

"The three essentials of the up-to-date modern city, essentials to the health, comfort and convenience of the citizens at large, are: an adequate water supply, drainage, and good roads. Compared with these things, electric light, tramways and other facilities are secondary luxuries," said Mr. Ashplant.

## SUFFRAGETTE ARSON SQUAD AGAIN BUSY IN OLD LONDON

[Canadian Press.] London, March 24.—Suffragette handiwork has been marauding in a southeastern suburb of London, before dawn today, setting fire to a house under construction. The women were disturbed during their work of destruction by a passing policeman.

They fled and all trace of them was lost. The flames were extinguished before great damage had been done. The championship golf links at Sandwich, Kent, were the scene of another raid by militant suffragettes, who damaged the greens considerably.

## MANY COMPLAINTS FLOODED CELLARS

**Carling's Creek Fails to Carry Off Storm Water—Good System Needed.**

At the city engineer's office this morning, quite a number of complaints were received of cellars flooding through the failure of Carling's Creek to carry away the storm water in the neighborhood of Dufferin avenue and Elizabeth street.

"The people know what the remedy for this is," said Engineer Brazier. "They will know how to vote on the storm-sewer bylaw."

**Death of Mrs. Hurlock.**—Mrs. Elizabeth Hurlock, wife of John Hurlock, 909 Waterloo street, died at her home on Sunday. Mrs. Hurlock was in her 57th year. The funeral will be held privately from her late residence on Tuesday at 3 o'clock, with services at 2:30. Interment will be made in Woodland Cemetery.

## ADRIFT IN MID-OCEAN Passengers Rescued From Crippled Swedish Steamer Texas.

[Canadian Press.] New York, March 24.—A wireless message was received here today from the Scandinavian-American line steamer C. F. Tielzon, saying that she had taken off 43 passengers from the Swedish steamer Texas, adrift in mid-ocean with her propeller gone. Yesterday a wireless report of the accident to the Texas was received in London, which said that the C. F. Tielzon was going to the assistance of the vessel, then in latitude 48, longitude 34. The Texas was bound from Gothenburg to Newport News.

## RIVER GOES UP BUT FLOOD ISN'T IMMINENT

**Four Feet Eight Inches of Water Goes Over Spring-bank Dam.**

Although the heavy rains of Sunday and this morning caused the river to rise considerably there is practically no danger of a flood. At half past two this afternoon four feet eight inches of water was going over the dam at Springbank, but as all the logs had been taken out of the dam, all danger of the river overflowing its banks was eliminated.

The water in the south branch rose considerably during the night and at 8 o'clock this morning it was as high as it has been this spring, but shortly after noon it started to recede and it is expected that by tomorrow it will be back to normal.

## BROKE HIS SKULL

**Homer Snelgrove Fell Into Mill Machinery at Mount Brydges.**

[Special to The Advertiser.] Mount Brydges, March 24.—Mr. Homer Snelgrove met with a very serious accident on Saturday afternoon at Mr. Longfield's sawmill. He slipped and fell among the machinery. His face and neck were so badly cut that several stitches were required, and he was unconscious for some time, and has a slight fracture of the skull. He is in a very serious condition at his home, and is under the care of Dr. Woods.

## LEADING MUSICIAN DEAD.

St. John, N. B., March 24.—Ed J. Harrison, prominent in musical circles, died today at the home for incurables. He held the chess championship of New Brunswick for five years and tied with P. Narrowsay, of Ottawa, for the Canadian champion-ship.