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THE NEWS RECORD

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70-MILE GALE BRINGS DOWN MUCH LOSS

Western Ontario Swept by Most Terrific Storm

MOST SERIOUS DAMAGE IN CITIES AND COUNTRY

Kitchener, Galt, Brantford, Suffer Severely.—New F. W. D. Building Wrecked, Bethany Mennonite Church, Collegiate Institute and Janzen Block Unroofed, Dozens of Other Buildings Seriously Damaged.

LOCAL DAMAGE EXCEEDS \$200,000.

Western Ontario was swept by a windstorm, the fury of which has never been equalled here, at a little past eight o'clock on Saturday night. In the cities it was heralded by the failure of the electric lights, the street cars came to a stop, and soon the storm burst in all its fury.

The wind snapped trees like matches, and blew the rain before it in sheets. It tore the roofs off houses and factories; it left line upon line of fallen fences; telegraph and telephone wires, caught by the falling trees, came down in the direst confusion. In many homes the inhabitants felt their abodes rock like a ship upon a stormy sea. Above all, in the dark clouds a mysterious blue-green sheet of light came and went, fast and yet too slow for lightning, and added to the terrors of a fearful night. At half-past 8 the machine for ascertaining the velocity of the wind at the storm signal station in Toronto showed the gale raging at the rate of 78 miles an hour.

What was probably the worst storm that has ever swept over the city and district was that Saturday night and early Sunday morning, which was a wave of the high gales which hit Ontario. To-day carpenters and tinmiths are busy repairing damaged roofs and structures. Many thousands of dollars worth of damage was caused by the high wind, which was of a cyclonic nature. Roofs were lifted and carried away, chimneys were demolished, plate glass windows were smashed and timber pieces broken off buildings. The heaviest loss in the city was on the F.W.D. building in the east end of the city which to-day is nothing but a mass of twisted debris of brick, mortar and steel. In the country also much damage resulted. Roofs of barns in numerous cases were taken off and windmills demolished.

It was about 6 o'clock when the fierceness of the temper of the gale was noticed. The shaking timbers in homes and office buildings caused a tremor among those inside. But it was only when one got outside and down town that he or she became aware of the fact that any serious damage had been caused by the gale.

The ferocity of the storm continued until about 8.15 o'clock but the subsiding was only for an hour or so. Before 9.30 o'clock the velocity of the wind again increased although it did not reach the same point that it had an hour before. Considering this high velocity the Hydro Electric power service kept up remarkably well. One interruption only occurred and it came near the end of the first period of the storm. Owing to some of the poles on the Grand River Railway line being down there was no car service on the line Saturday evening, the last car leaving here at 7.15 o'clock.

The Heaviest Loss As said above the heaviest loss in the city is the F.W.D. building. The factory is in complete ruins. It is very unfortunate for the company that this mishap should occur owing to the repeated unavoidable delays they have experienced this year. A pile of brick, mortar and twisted steel bars is about all that remains of the building. Operations in construction had been so far advanced that three walls were up and construction work on the fourth was proceeding.

The damage that was caused will amount to at least \$100,000. This morning when the Record enquired of Mr. A. Kerr, the business manager of the company, it was learned that the company hopes to be able to have the debris cleared, to have the building operations resumed soon and to have the plant ready for operation by spring.

Another Heavy Loss Another heavy loss was that at Bethany Mennonite Church where the roof was blown off and thrown onto McMaster Street, blocking traffic. At the time of the accident services were being held in the edifice, luckily no one was injured when the timbers blew off. The damage will be many thousands of dollars.

Collegiate Also Damaged The southeastern half of the roof of the old building of the Collegiate Institute also was carried away and blown upon the adjoining properties. A rough estimate shows that this

down, Brantford was practically isolated. The windstorm did damage estimated at \$200,000. Mrs. Ed. Cocker, wife of a member of the fire department, was whirled into a mass of falling brick from the coping of the wholesale grocery house of George Watt & Sons. She was partially buried in the bricks and mortar, which fell three stories, but was hardly scratched. The greatest damage was caused at the plant of the Brantford Cordage Company, where 225 feet of a 43-foot warehouse was raised in the air and the roof lifted bodily and set on the roof of the adjoining main building of the plant.

STRAFORD INDUSTRIES The heaviest loss at Stratford was sustained at the Wool Stock Factory, on Front street. Not only was this building unroofed, but the upper story was virtually wrecked, entailing damage of several thousand dollars. A hundred yards away Pfeiffer & Co.'s planing mill was unroofed, the wreckage being carried over on top of the neighboring houses, which it damaged. A large show window in the Woolworth building was blown in. Dozens of chimneys and trees were blown down in all parts of the city. The Salvation Army and the Sullivan Steamship had large brick cornices whipped off.

TORNADO-LIKE IN GUELPH. In the vicinity of Guelph houses and barns were flattened, while in the city the damage was tremendous. On Strangway street the roof of a big brick house was carried across the street, smashing a veranda. Out at the O. A. C. seven valuable trees were blown down.

GREAT DAMAGE IN GALT. In all parts of Galt there are evidences of serious damage. Buildings including Goldie, McCulloch Company's storage pattern shop, the gas works and Thos. Kinmer & Co.'s wholesale house, were unroofed, with a part of the roof of the Kinmer building blown down. Shingles were ripped off roofs, windows blown in, chimneys blown over and fences laid low. Only a small part of the city was illuminated, owing to trees being blown down and breaking wires. In the east section of the city a big tree fell on a house, but fortunately no one was injured. Country roads are blocked with downed telephone poles, which are down and silos have been wrecked. In Preston the Crown Furniture building was partially unroofed. Mrs. Benwick of 85 Spruce street, was rendered unconscious when she was struck by the falling of an electric sign.

EIGHT BARN DOWN NEAR AYL-MER. At Aylmer business was paralyzed. Trees were uprooted and chimneys blown down. The grain stand at the fair grounds and Hambage's ice house were leveled. In Malahide and Yarmouth townships much damage is reported, including eight barns blown down between Aylmer and Ayr. THE STORM AT WOODSTOCK. At Woodstock trees were uprooted, small sheds and sign boards were leveled, shingles were torn from the roofs of residences, and fences blown away. The electric light system and telephone and telegraph wires were rendered useless.

LISTOWEL LOSES RINK. Listowel's new skating rink, approaching completion, was leveled by the windstorm, not an upright beam being left standing. This will have a severe effect on the town's hockey ambitions for the winter. The roof of the spinning plant of the Perfect Knit Company was blown off, estimated at \$5,000. The roof of the residence of Mr. Beverly Bamford, editor of The Standard, was carried over two houses, a distance of 150 yards and deposited in front of another man's house.

Trains coming in were halted by trees across the tracks, which had to be sawn through. Chimneys were toppled over, store signs blown down and the hotel windows, broken. Farmers in the country round about suffered severely, barns being unroofed, and silos blown down. The roof of the C.P.R. roundhouse was lifted off; damage done at the general store of J. M. Schinbain & Sons and the barn of Mr. Stricker at the head of Wallace street, destroyed. Barns of G. Gibson, town line, and F. Kemp, in Wallace, were unroofed.

HOUSE DESTROYED IN LONDON. One of the houses being erected by W. Kelley for the London Housing Commission on Salisbury street, was blown over. The roof was carried 100 feet away. It was all ready for the brick work which would have been completed shortly.

MAN KILLED IN TORONTO. George Dawson, an expressman, aged 23, was hit by a falling tree on the street and died a few hours afterward at St. Michael's Hospital. Miss Mary Duffy had her shoulder wrenched by a sign falling and striking her. For three hours and a half every street car in the city was tied up. Thousands of houses were without electric light and hundreds of stores. These had to resort to wax candles. Both the Toronto Electric Company and the hydro-electric were effected, though the latter escaped much better than its rival.

The bleachers at Hanlan's Point were blown down and smashed to pieces. The figure eight at the Exhibition grounds fared a like fate, and scarcely a pane of glass was left whole

DROP FIFTY FEET THREE MEN ESCAPE

Market Truck Goes Over Embankment and is Wrecked.

HAMILTON, Dec. 1.—J. Tweedie, Lew Best and M. Hayes, of Water-down, had a miraculous escape from death when the truck which Mr. Tweedie was driving, went over the Spider Bridge in front of Peter Hay's farm. Mr. Tweedie was coming in with a load of farm produce, and on attempting to make the turn in the road just north of the bridge, the steering gear refused to work. The truck with the three men went straight down over the bridge, a distance of forty feet. The truck was completely wrecked. The only injuries sustained by the occupants was a slight injury to Mr. Tweedie's hand. Mr. Tweedie gathered up the produce that was injured and proceeded to market in a car loaned by a neighbor.

Pieces Picked Up After the Storm

The damage around Centerville seems to be limited to holes in the roofs of barns. Mr. David Thaler's barn sustained quite a number of penetrations. The chimney of Mr. George Latsch's house was knocked down.

Mr. Cooper, Holmer Avenue, did not have to close his garage Saturday evening. The wind did all that was needed.

At Bridgeport about a quarter of the tin covering on the roof of the mill was torn off. The scale-house was overturned. Barn doors, chimneys and trees also were damaged.

The barn of Mr. Oscar Martin on the Waterloo-Lexington road was badly damaged.

The roof of the new brick dwelling of Mr. Howard Bricker east of the Mennonite Church on King Street, East, Kitchener, which is under construction, was severely damaged. The walls are bulged out. The big billboard opposite it was knocked down and smashed.

The storm played havoc with numerous telephone lines in and about the city. Among the lines out of order to-day is the New Dundas-Petersburg one; no communication for information from these districts could be established.

In several instances people thought there was a danger of a fire. The telephone wires coming in contact with electric power wires was the cause.

The Hydro Electric Power service kept up well. There was only one interruption on the whole line. "You should have seen the apparatus at the plant. They certainly ran some. Flashes of current jumped six feet sometimes." Superintendent V. S. McIntyre of the Kitchener Light Commission, said. Looking out into the country one could also see the current wires between the big hydro electric wires. The current at the local wires frequently dropped from 13,000 to 11,000 volts.

Victoria Park, Kitchener, also suffered. The glass panels in the ventilating section of the conservatory, were knocked out, frame work and one of the flag poles was broken off, a fence was knocked down and trees were felled.

One third of the front part of the roof of the Hydro City Shoe Company was pulled up and hung over the front part of the building.

A fine big Studebaker car all nicely closed in was wending its way on King Street. A gust of wind caught it just as it was passing the corner, and heaved it up and carried it a distance of about 150 feet.

GERMAN BARQUE GETS TO HALIFAX

HALIFAX, Dec. 1.—The first German vessel to enter Halifax harbor since the war is the half-mastered barque Paul, owned in Hamburg and commanded by captain Will Krueger. The Paul left Hamburg 38 days ago in ballast, for Philadelphia, and had a succession of fierce storms. She was reported in distress a week ago, and it was current talk that passing ships refused to render any assistance beyond taking off the crew in case they proposed to abandon the vessel. No one would take her in tow. That the captain was able to reach this port as he did without proper charts and ignorant of the coast, is remarkable.

Toronto, Dec. 1.—The provincial election in Grenville in which the recount gave Hon. G. Howard Ferguson a majority of 81 has been protested.

NOVEMBER BUILDING PERMITS

Table with 2 columns: Category and Value. Rows include Residences, Business Bldgs, Alterations, etc., and Total Eleven Months.

STERN MEASURES NEEDED TO AVERT ACTUAL FAMINE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—The pinch of the coal shortage promised to force the adoption of drastic measures to avert an actual famine. A variation of one month by the soft coal miners has brought on conditions like those prevailing during the war in many sections but war-time restrictions have not altogether checked the drain on coal piles. The latest authentic figures show that last week's soft coal output did not reach fifty per cent. of normal production. Governors of seven soft coal producing States at a conference in Chicago agreed that the State Governments should take all possible steps to obtain the production of coal, and recommended to the Federal Government that a complete fuel administration, with an administrator for each State.

DISLOCATION FROM QUICK TURN

Long Branch, N. J. Dec. 1.—Pte. Truman Lindsay 28 years old, dislocated his neck while sprawled out in his bunk at Camp Alfred Vail Signal Corps. "Want an orange, Truman?" asked his "buddy," John L. Hill. Lindsay turned quickly around and the dislocation took place. Lindsay is a member of the pigeon detachment of the 15th Service Company, and a native of New Windsor, Va. The young soldier's condition is critical.

BURIED IN MONTANA

Cargill, Dec. 1.—The body of Andrew Schmitzer, the victim of ptomaine poisoning was not forwarded here for interment. Mr. Louis Schmitzer brother of the deceased attended the funeral, which was held in Montana, where he died. He married in the West, a couple of years ago and leaves a widow and two small children.

PRINCE REACHES ENGLAND.

Toronto, Dec. 1.—The "Renown" with the Prince of Wales has reached England (news despatch received by telephone).

In all the grounds, Scarborough Beach suffered heavy damage, the stands being destroyed and the electric tower levelled. The following is a partial list of places damaged by the storm: Galt Lumber Company, foot of Spadina avenue, \$15,000; Simpson Planing Mills, \$10,000; Bayview Marine Construction Company, \$10,000; Queen City Yacht Club, \$2,500; Argonaut Yacht Club, \$1,000.

NO VESSELS LOST.

The most violent gale of wind in 29 years caused great damage in Sarnia and surrounding country. On Lake Huron there were several vessels in distress, but on Sunday morning they were all reported to be in shelter at Port Huron or elsewhere in the St. Clair river.

Part of the Wellington School a two-story brick building, was blown in and the roof fell on the building. Half built houses in the northern part of the city and elsewhere suffered severely. The roof of the Free Methodist church was lifted completely.

ALL WIRES DOWN!

As a result of Saturday night's terrific storm all telegraph wires out of Kitchener are down and the daily wire service for the News Record is completely disorganized.

On this account we have received neither the Canadian Press nor the special Record despatches to-day, and the morning papers constitute the sole source of supply for the day's outside news.

NO MORE MOTHER-IN-LAW.

New York, Dec. 1.—Wilbur B. Broer, a rug manufacturer of Brooklyn, solved the problem of what to do with a mother-in-law. His answer to the age-old question is—marry her. And so he is going to take as his bride Mrs. Kate Schorling, fifty-two years old. The bridegroom-to-be is forty-four. She is the mother of Broer's wife, who died in September, 1916, and has made his home with her since. He has no children.

WIFE'S SUICIDE LED MAN TO DEATH

Husband Shot Himself at Pond Where Wife's Body Was Found. TORONTO, Dec. 1.—Deeply saddened by the death of his wife, who committed suicide by drowning herself in Grenadier Pond last Thursday, and unable to withstand the loneliness ahead, John Woods, aged 38, first attended his wife's funeral on Saturday afternoon, then went to the spot where his wife had died, and shot himself through the head with a shotgun.

Friends of the unfortunate couple speak reverently of the deep attachment Woods had for his dead wife. When she failed to arrive home on Thursday night, he reported the matter to the police. The news of her death was brought home to him when he saw the account of the drowning of a woman in Grenadier Pond. He subsequently identified her as his wife, Mrs. Amelia Woods.

The tragic death of his wife was a shattering blow to Woods. All day Friday he was melancholy, and on Saturday told his friends that he felt he could not attend the funeral. However, he did attend the interment. On his return home he wrote two letters, one to his mother in Leeds, England, telling her of the death of his wife, and bidding her farewell; the other to his friends, speaking in reverent and endearing terms of his wife, and declaring his intention to go to the spot where she had died and follow her in death.

NO DISCUSSION FOR SOME WEEKS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—Although a new effort for compromise ratification of the peace treaty is expected to follow closely the reconvening of Congress to-day, little optimism that the question would be brought to a decisive vote for some weeks. It was agreed generally that even if the President asked that the fight for ratification be renewed at once, the work in that direction would be carried on privately in conferences of the opposing Senate groups while open business proceeded without interruption on the Senate floor. Since the last session ended, on Nov. 19, no Senator has seen the President. The Democratic leader did not expect to form a government was severely criticized, according to J. W. Curry, one of the members for Southeast Toronto, who was one of the revising committee.

DRURY FOLLOWED STRATTON PLAN

Toronto, Dec. 1.—Political circles are all agog to-day over the statement issued by Hartley Dewar, the Liberal leader in Ontario, outlining the attitude of Liberalism towards the Drury government. The statement was not solely the work of Mr. Dewar, but was passed upon by a committee of members appointed at the recent Liberal conference in Toronto at which, it is understood, the utterance of Mr. Dewar urging that he should be called upon to form a government was severely criticized, according to J. W. Curry, one of the members for Southeast Toronto, who was one of the revising committee.

FRANCE GETS 10 SUBMARINES

Paris, Dec. 1.—France is to get ten of the German submarines being captured during the war, she was unable to build to the extent of others of the allies, her plants being devoted to the making of munitions for the use of all. The remainder of the submarines will be broken up.

TRUNK BLOWN ACROSS ROOM

Hamilton, Dec. 1.—The police are investigating an explosion at the house of John Haranger, 29 Rowanwood avenue. The window-frame and glass of the bedroom were shattered, and a large trunk was thrown across the bedroom, where Haranger, his wife and two children were sleeping. None of them were injured, and no trace of explosive was found by the police.

GIVE GOVERNMENT A FAIR CHANCE

Sudbury Editor Made a Short Visit to This City at Week-End.

"Secession talk about Northern Ontario is all bosh. It comes from a few disgruntled fellows, and it is confined to points along the T. and O. line." Mr. W. E. Mason, of Sudbury, manager of the Sudbury Star, said when in conversation with the Record. Mr. Mason is an optimistic Northern-er and hopes to see this part of the province receive a just share of assistance and encouragement from the government. And so long as the powers that be at Toronto recognize the growing importance of northern Ontario, and act accordingly with their program of statesmanship, the people up north will be satisfied he said. "What do you think of the U.F.O. member for Manitowish, Beniah Bowman?" the Record asked. "Mr. Mason happened to have a copy of the Sudbury Star and he pointed to an editorial comment which may be taken as reflecting public opinion up Sudbury way. It is this: "By-elections for several members of the new U.F.O.—Labor cabinet are announced for December 22nd, and include Hon. Beniah Bowman, Minister of Lands and Forests, representing Manitowish Island. It is hoped that his election, in the interests of the North Country, will be by acclamation. At this time no good purpose will be served by opposing him. There are no important issues before the electors, and it is in the interests of the country generally and the North Country particularly that the new Government get down to business as soon as possible. The present is a time for co-operation, not opposition, and the country feels disposed to give the Government every opportunity in the formulation of their government plans. In Mr. Bowman, Manitowish will have its first Minister of the Crown and the North Shore will watch his career with interest."

Mr. Mason to his added: "That sums up our point of view. In short we say, let's give him a chance. We up north of course have our own problems and we look at political matters different than you may. For example, we have bilingualism up there which we oppose strenuously. As to political parties, our problems are such that we must pick out from the various parties blanks which fit to our interests. We had a good man as our representative, a Tory member, a jolly good fellow, I can say."

It was learned from Mr. Mason that Sudbury has a population of about 10,000. He is well taken up with the life up north. He is a former Galt boy but has been up in Sudbury ten years.

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