

DOMINION DAY

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The Circulation of the Morning Albertan on Saturday Was 12,468

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ELEVENTH YEAR—No. 104

TORNADO SWEEPS CITY OF REGINA; FIVE HUNDRED KILLED OR MAIMED

With all telegraph wires down at Regina as a result of havoc wrought by a cyclone which completely destroyed the greater part of the business section of the Saskatchewan Capital City, causing a loss of life the extent of which it was impossible to estimate last night, communication with the East was completely cut off for several hours and the receiving instrument in the office of The Morning Albertan was silent. The news first came by way of The Albertan's special wire to Vancouver, in the form of a brief dispatch stating that a great part of Regina had been destroyed. It was not until midnight that the following full account of the awful calamity was secured.

REGINA, Sask., June 30--With half the business section of the city lying in wreckage and street after street throughout the southern and central residential sections razed to the ground for blocks at a time, Regina is tonight a city of mourning, where but a few hours before a scene of almost gorgeous display in preparation for the celebration of Dominion Day.

Bunting and flags covered buildings everywhere and networks of colored electric lights glinting in the sunshine were strung ready for illumination on Dominion Day.

In the space of half an hour little was to be seen in many sections but building after building lying in ruins on the ground and scattered over the streets, swathed in their shrouds of gayly colored bunting. Early estimates place the loss at between four and five millions, while 500 killed and injured is only a hazy guess.

TORNADO CUTS SWATH SEVERAL BLOCKS WIDE RIGHT INTO HEART OF CITY, LAYING BUILDINGS FLAT IN ITS TERRIBLE WAKE

No idea can be obtained of the actual number of deaths. Every ambulance in the city has been working since six o'clock, carrying the bodies to the hospitals, which were filled earlier in the evening and to a number of improvised hospitals in some of the larger buildings left standing. Crowds of volunteers all over the city are assisting in the work of clearing up the wreckage and bodies of the killed and injured are being uncovered every minute. The streets are full of hurrying men and women, speeding on their errands of mercy.

Injured Everywhere

Everywhere are men and women with heads and hands swathed in bandages but all seem to be thinking of others' troubles, forgetful of their own.

It was five o'clock in the afternoon when the cyclone struck the city and in the history of the west, no such storm has ever been known.

Coming from the south, it dropped just a few blocks north of the southern city limits, cutting a swath several streets wide, right down into the centre of the city, laying buildings flat in its wake. The Methodist and Baptist and Knox churches, all magnificent structures, were the first of the larger buildings struck. The former went with a crash that hardly sounded above the howling of the storm and the roar of the cloudburst that accompanied the wind.

Blew Roof Off

The greater part of the roof was removed from the latter structure and the storm moved across Victoria Square, removing the walls and roof from the Y.W.C.A., notably wrecking the magnificent new public library, both new this year, and passing thence to the Presbyterian

church, which was but little better off than the Methodist. The Y.M.C.A. was next in line and half of the building was demolished in an instant. A few small buildings were moved from their locations, some being carried across the street, and the Masonic Temple was next attacked and just about razed.

In the next block to the west and one farther north, the telephone exchange stood apart by itself except for a few smaller buildings. Upon this the force of the storm had instantaneous effect, laying the building a flat mass of wreckage under which the girls were imprisoned for over an hour.

The Massey-Harris offices and warehouses, standing beside the C.P.R. yards, were practically demolished, and of the row of grain elevators upon which the farmers of the district are depending for the storage of their crop this season, but one remains, and that much the worse for wear.

No Estimate of Loss

Over on the north side of the tracks, warehouses were destroyed right and left. Up until late in the evening absolutely no attempt was made to estimate the loss of property.

The work of lifesaving will probably be continued until late in the morning, and possibly all tomorrow.

Except where it is necessary for the rescue of bodies the rubbish and ruins are lying where they fell.

Few people have thought to eat. Looking south from Lorne street hardly a residence is left standing, and on Victoria Square are the Methodist, Baptist and Presbyterian churches, all of which are ruined, the Y.W.C.A., the new public library and several smaller buildings are practically destroyed. The street is flat, almost from end to end.

The C.P.R. yards are a flat expanse of ruined shops and trains, hardly a car remaining whole. Several were picked up bodily and carried distances in the air. One was carried right through the freight sheds.

Razed North Side

The whole north side of the city is practically wiped out. No one knows how many are dead on this side of the city.

A canoe was carried from Wascana lake a distance of

three-quarters of a mile to Victoria park and dropped there. Others, together with dinghies and even small sailing vessels, lie strewn over the southern section of the city, at distances varying up to half a mile from the lake.

About half past eight in the evening, some clerks were working in the local branch of the Royal Bank of Canada, seeing that everything was all right, when some men finding the door open walked in and demanded the money in their accounts.

The electricians have been wandering through the devastated section, cutting live wires. Power came on about 9 o'clock after being off since the storm.

The most marvelous part of the whole disaster was that not a single building took fire, though for half an hour after the storm struck the power came on and off, and wires were spluttering dangerously among the ruins.

Husbands are hunting for their wives, mothers for their children. Men stop from time to time in their work of rescue to ask acquaintances passing for news of friends and relatives.

Five Drown in Lake

Many families were separated at the time of the storm as the day was a hot one and some sought comfort in the parks while others remained at home. Numbers were out on the waters of Wascana lake. Five are known to be drowned, falling to reach shore in time.

Every house in the city that is standing has been thrown open to the homeless.

One of the large grain elevators was picked up and thrown a distance of fifty feet from its foundation, falling on a freight train of box and cattle cars.

One house barely on the edge of the storm was picked off its foundations and that next it was settled squarely on the vacant site. A roof carried three blocks was poked cornerwise through the roof of the residence of one of Regina's prominent business men and remains there.

Mounted Police to Rescue

Lour livery stables have lost everything. Hardly a horse has been saved and the buildings and contents are total losses. Early in the evening the mounted police, at their barracks two and one half miles west of the city, were apprised of the disaster and the whole force, one hundred and fifty men, came immediately to the city and supervised the work of rescue throughout the night.

Buildings but a block from the scene of the devastation were left practically untouched having a few windows broken at the worst.

Three girls from the telephone exchange appeared in the doorway of one of the morning papers, telling that the building was flat and they were not believed at first but repeated their tale of how they came through from the second storey, carried down by the weight of a fifteen ton switchboard. Miraculously they were but little injured and escaped from a basement window.

Newspaper Men Rescue Girls

A relief party of some half dozen newspaper men started out through the storm of rain and flying bricks and glass and at once commenced the work of rescue of the many girls remaining in the building buried in heaps of brick and timbers knotted together with coils of lead and steel. The storm ceased at once and soon two hundred were on hand clearing up the wreckage.

Meanwhile small parties were at work on the Y.M.C.A., the Y.W.C.A. and other buildings in the downtown district.

The residential district was found to be even more serious and here the majority of the deaths were found. None of the girls in the telephone exchange were killed, although some were seriously injured, it is impossible to find as yet to what extent. All night long the telegraph offices were besieged with people sending messages to relatives in the outside world.

Six hundred families are homeless. The mayor and city council have started a fund and are providing for them.

Rumors of Disaster Elsewhere

Rumors are flying abroad in the city of disasters elsewhere, and many who escaped here are almost hysterical through their ignorance of the fate of friends throughout the province.

A hundred special constables have been sworn in. It is impossible to contemplate calmly what the storm will mean to the city. It was so absolutely unexpected as to stagger the coolest minded.

No one is even worrying about the financial loss. For the present the cry is, "On with the work of rescue."

BIG FAIR STARTS SPLENDIDLY; SIR RICHARD MCBRIDE MAKES FORMAL OPENING

Exhibits Are Far and Away the Best Ever Shown Locally; a Thrill in Every Heat of the Harness Races; Running Races Excellent

TRIBUTE TO THE RESOURCES OF WESTERN CANADA

Display of Exhibits Evidences that Western Canada is Keeping Pace With the March of Civilization; Good Racing Card for Today

TWO thousand persons witnessed the opening of the five days race meet at Victoria Park yesterday, and incidentally some good clean sport. There was a thrill in every heat of the harness events and excitement in plenty in the running races. Perhaps the surprise of the afternoon was the victory of Nellie G. in the 2:10 pace. The Indian, a speedy bay stallion owned by C. W. Wright, of Edmonton, was installed favorite at the outset, and rewarded his followers by capturing the first two heats in clever fashion. Rator nicely by his driver and owner, The Indian allowed Nellie G. to make the pace. Coming into the stretch, Wright called upon the stallion and in two pretty stretch drives The Indian outpaced the black leader and won handsily. But Nellie G. was still to be reckoned with. The Indian appeared to have his bolt in the first

CALGARY'S great Industrial Exhibition was thrown open to the public Saturday afternoon by Sir Richard McBride, premier of British Columbia, in the presence of a large crowd. It is the greatest fair ever held in western Canada and is more than one-third larger than last year's exhibition. The Calgary Exhibition is more than an ordinary exhibition. It is a remarkable testimonial to the wonderful resources of the province of Alberta and a tribute to the greatness of western Canada generally. Persons whose homes have been in Alberta for five or more years were perhaps more impressed with the advancement that was shown by the exhibits than those who have come to this country since the beginning of its recent rapid development. Time was in the western provinces of the Dominion when provincial

GOVERNMENT SUBSCRIBES \$25,000 FOR RELIEF

Regina, June 30.—Early this evening Mayor McAra and the civic authorities and a number of prominent citizens started a relief organization. Temporary hospitals were organized in the immigration hall and some of the city blocks, where doctors and volunteers attended to the injured as they were brought in on improvised ambulances. Premier Scott early conferred with Mayor McAra, and after being informed as to the extent of the disaster, stated that the provincial government would place \$25,000 at the disposal of the city authorities first thing Monday morning, and that, if necessary, more would be forthcoming. Steps have been taken to recall the local militia from Sewell camp and meanwhile a cordon has been drawn around the ruined strip to prevent pilage of the ruined property. Strong feeling prevails that so far as Regina city is concerned the election should be postponed and steps may be taken to this end.

CARLOAD OF YAK FOR FAIR

A carload of the sacred yak of India, a gift to the Dominion government from the Duke of Bedford, will be on exhibition at the exhibition beginning Tuesday. General Manager Richardson received a telegram yesterday stating that the animals would arrive in Calgary today en route to the national park at Banff. Through the courtesy of the park commission, he is able to have the yak exhibited at the fair. The animals will be quartered in a corral between horse barns 2 and 2, at Victoria Park

CROPS ARE THREE WEEKS IN ADVANCE OF ANY FORMER YEAR; THE OUTLOOK IS MOST ENCOURAGING; WEATHER FINE

An Abundance of Rain in the Southern Country Assures a Bumper Yield of Grain; the Farmers are Most Optimistic; a Great Year in Prospect

THE week end crop reports received by the C.P.R. from its agents in every part of Western Canada, are of the most encouraging kind. In the south country where there is supposed to be a partial drought at this season, there has been abundance of rain and every district has had plenty of moisture.

East of Calgary the irrigation company has not yet been called on to supply moisture, the rainfall being sufficient for the crops. The rain of Saturday night was general over the whole province and was especially welcome in the south country. The farmers who are in the city attending the fair and the Panama canal conference are all very optimistic in regard to the outlook.

The reports from the south read: "Prospects excellent and plenty of moisture." From the north country, around Didsbury and Red Deer, the reports are: "A super-abundance of moisture and vegetation very rapid. Want a few days cooler weather."

Along the Wetaskiwin branch the spring grain is heading out and the harvest will be three weeks earlier than in any former year. The crop outlook as a whole is the most encouraging that has been received over the C.P.R. wires for years and if the outlook is fulfilled, this will be the greatest year in the agricultural history of Alberta.

With the added prices for grain it is estimated that the grain crop of Alberta will this year exceed the \$10,000,000 mark.

PARTIAL LIST OF THE REGINA VICTIMS

Regina, Sask., June 30.—The following is a partial list of the killed and injured so far taken from the ruins and identified: J. Scott, J. J. Bryan, manager of Tudhope-Anderson Co. Mrs. W. T. McDonald, George Craven, Mrs. Gable, Mrs. Logie and child (doubtful). Three others not identified. Mrs. Paul McElroy, 14th avenue near Smith street. Two Chinamen. Mrs. J. D. Mackay and two children. Mr. Fred Hinson, James Hinson. Two taken out of Rev. Mr. Lewis' house, not identified. Mr. and Mrs. Blomhorn. Mrs. Shaw, 16th avenue. John Ferguson, butcher. Laurence Hodson, 10 years old, Smith street. Arthur Donaldson. The following is a list of the injured so far reported: At Grey Nuns' Hospital—William McMurdo, William Crabb, Charles Lynn, E. P. Rempton, A. B. McKillop, Mrs. Douglas and three girls. W. J. Wilson. Mrs. Reestrud, Mrs. H. Ayre. At Immigration Hall—Two slightly injured, unidentified. Mrs. F. H. Gordon, slightly. Miss Robertson, Donaldson block, acutely. At General Hospital—Ella Mathison.

Mrs. Holmes, Mrs. Susan Holmes, Mrs. Gogham, Jessie Graham, Jas. Louckie, Mrs. A. Bruce, Alex. Robertson, Mrs. McKegay, Lola Bates, E. Blomhorn, Frank Gerston, Carl Koider, J. R. Hodson, James Moldenay, Andrew Bayden, Mr. Leach, Bruce Langdon, Novo Bullock, Martin Korinnick, Mrs. Donald, A. T. Ferguson, Hazel Bullock, 2010 Lorne street, Margaret Shaw, 2220 10th avenue, Mrs. J. A. McArthur, 2022 Lorne street, R. P. Full (doubtful), T. W. Featherston, 1818 Oaker street, T. Shilling, 2170 Lorne street, F. W. Knight, 1420 Lorne street, John Lee, Walter Martin, Laura Skidding, William Priest, Arthur Smith, Elk Bowes, Reggie Hodson, D. H. Hyerson, Mrs. Jack, Andrew Evans, John Horobets, Ernie Langton, Mrs. Guthrie, Kenneth Gordon, Mrs. Gordon, Mrs. Dunn, James Dunn, Vera Audrey Saunders.

BIG FIRE IN SASKATOON

Saskatoon, Sask., June 30.—The J. A. Cairns department store is on fire and there is no hope of saving the building. Loss will be over half a million. Other stores in the vicinity may go.