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RAGING WATERS HAVE ENGULFED FULLY 2,000 PEOPLE

One Thousand to 1,700 In Ohio is Estimate of Drowned

HARROWING TALES FROM FLOOD DISTRICT

Men, Women and Children Rescued Over High 'Phone Cable in Dayton--Babies Born in the Midst of Death and Destruction--Enormous Loss of Property

(Canadian Press.)

Chicago, March 26—Day broke upon the desolation brought by floods throughout Ohio and Indiana with a slight hope that the estimates of the loss of life of the night before might be somewhat reduced, when search revealed more fully the situation of the stricken cities.

At daybreak only partly verified reports from the flood swept cities in the two states, showed 1264 to 1945 drowned, according to revised estimates of the loss of life in the cities upon apparent reduction in the figures from Dayton, according to refugees and upon a possible diminution in the reports from Peru, Ind.

In contrast to the slight hope of a possible reduced death list in the cities named, the possibility that other places not yet mentioned as having been visited by disaster, had suffered, was indicated in early reports.

Dayton, Ohio., March 26—The crest of the Dayton flood passed about midnight, but the next few hours showed no appreciable lowering of the water. Morning brought little hope of immediate relief to those who had spent the night in horror, however, and it is feared that the number of drowned had been greatly increased during the twelve hours of darkness.

The rescue work looked as hopeless as on yesterday. However, no one in the city attempted to sleep.

Among the known dead are: Anton Saetell, grocer, Vine and Main streets, killed in an explosion; his wife, drowned; unknown woman found nearby hanging on wire; the Bish family wiped out with the exception of a son, John; his mother, aged sixty-five, sister Florence, twenty-seven, niece Viola Bish, and Muriel, wife of John Bish, all being victims of the flood.

It is not believed the rescuers will be able to make any advance into the flooded district today, but will have to be contented with saving those who were marooned within a few doors of the water's edge.

More than 70,000 persons either were unable to reach their homes or were held in their water-locked houses and were unable to reach land.

The inundated district is estimated at more than fifteen square miles, most of which is under from six to eighteen feet of water.

No communication could be established with those in the commercial district and any attempt to say whether any or all of them drowned is merest conjecture.

CRAWL ALONG HIGH CABLE TO SAFETY

Dayton, Ohio, March 26—At Wyoming street, on the south side, where the National Cash Register Company centred its efforts at rescue, many saved their lives, last night by creeping on a telephone cable, a hundred feet above the flood. At first linemen crept along the cables carrying tow ropes to which the flat-bottomed boats were attached. When the flood became so fierce that the boats no longer were able to make headway against it, men and women crept along the cables to safety. Others, less daring, saw darkness fall and gave up hope of rescue.

The National Cash Register plant on the high hill, offers the only haven in the south end. Three women became mothers in the halls of its office building last night.

The first to seek safety by sliding his body along the telegraph conductors, was a man. Then came four women. The first of the women was Mrs. Luella Meyer. She is a widow with one son, a lad in knee breeches. He got out on the wire and with the agility of a cat, was soon across. The widow Meyers was not so young as the boy and possibly more aware of the danger below. When she was over the boiling torrent beneath, she swayed as though faint, slipped and the crowd stood by with abated breath.

By a lucky chance her senses came back to her in time, so that she could grasp one of the wires.

Hand over hand she was able slowly to pull herself to the nearest pole, where she rested her aching arms before again making the trial. This time she did not falter, but when she was picked up by the rescuers at the farthest pole toward safety, she was limp and nervous and physically exhausted.

Then came two more women who had watched the performance of Mrs. Meyers, and under the advice of the people, standing on safe ground, they kept looking up and were not subjected to the faintness of the first woman passenger. Then came a young man and his wife. The wife he sent first, and when she reached safety she refused to get into the ambulance without her baby.

Another five minutes and her husband had been brought out to safe ground. He had the baby in a pillow slip, and the youngster celebrated his arrival to safe ground by a lusty yell. Others followed to safety.

Brookville, Ohio, March 26 — The last man last night to arrive from Dayton, twelve miles east of here, verifies the report that the water is thirty feet deep in the business centre of the city and running like a mill race. He asserts a hundred persons have been drowned. Many of them lost their lives when boats in which they were rescuing persons marooned in the second and third stories of office buildings were upset by the rapid current.

He reported that ten militiamen on guard at the levee were carried down stream and drowned when the embankment gave way.

HUNDRED AND FIFTY DROWNED IN COLUMBUS

Columbus, Ohio—At least 150 persons were drowned in Columbus as a result of the flooded Scioto River, according to reports from the flooded west side section of the city this morning. The reports came as a result of a partial restoration of telephone communication with the west side.

Persons who are considered conservative, assert that they saw scores of bodies float down stream, and dozens of persons carried away in their houses.

MORNING ESTIMATE OF LIVES LOST

Ohio-Dayton, 500 to 1,000.
Piqua (rumored), 540.
Delaware, 50 to 100.
Sidney, 23 to 50.
Middletown, 50 to 100.
Hamilton, 12.
Tippecanoe City, 3 to 5.
Scattering, 16.
Total—Ohio—1,194 to 1,694.
Indiana—
Peru, 60 to 250.
Newcastle, 3.
Lafayette, 2.
Noblesville, 3.
Scattered, 3.
Fort Wayne,
Total—Indiana, 73 to 250.
Grand total—1,264 to 1,945.

QUARTER MILLION ARE HOMELESS

Harrowing Tales Come in to Columbus —People All Night in Tree Tops or on Drifting Houses

Columbus, Ohio, March 26—From Lake Erie to the Ohio River and from the Indiana to the Pennsylvania state lines, Ohio today is experiencing the worst flood the state has ever known. With an appalling loss of life at Dayton, estimated today to run over 500, almost every city and village in the state follows with a death toll that cannot be totalled until the raging waters subside.

Although first reports had put the loss of life at Dayton as high as 5,000, refugees arriving in Xenia from the flood stricken city said that it would be below 1,000. The most serious news early today was that the town of Miamisburg, with a population of 4,000 had been washed away.

Heavy rains continued throughout most of the state last night and all flood records in most sections of the state have been broken.

Bridges have been washed away, railway and interurban traffic is at a standstill and in many cities there is grave danger of fire loss, due to the shutting down of plants supplying water.

Governor Cox estimates that more than 250,000 people had been rendered homeless. The state is unable to cope with the situation in its entirety and the governor has called upon the national red cross society and adjoining states for aid. The immediate need is for tents and food for the homeless. Every militia company has been ordered to report for duty, and the troops will be sent to the points of greatest emergency. The state commissary department is making every effort to rush supplies to the many points which need them.

The property damage cannot at present be calculated, but will run far into the millions. This includes actual fire loss and flood and prospective loss where farming lands have been inundated and in many cases washed away.

Horrowing Tales Told

No immediate relief from the flood bound conditions is in sight, as rainy weather is promised for the state today.

Harrowing tales are now beginning to filter in from various sources; told of families who spent the night in a drenching rain in tree tops or on the roofs of their flooded homes. Many of these marooned in tree tops are believed to have been worn out from cold and fatigue, and to have dropped from their perilous positions to death in the flood.

Thrilling rescues are reported without number, as are also unavailing efforts to rescue persons seen to be drifting by in the ruins of their homes or on chance driftwood. The list of missing is also swelling, but it is believed that this will be materially reduced when scattered families have the opportunity to unite.

The city is completely cut off from the rest of the country by rail, and almost practically so by telephone and telegraph reports received show the greatest loss of life at Dayton, which may run from 500 to 1,000; Piqua, where 540 are reported drowned; Delaware, where the loss will be more than thirty; Hamilton, sixteen or more, and Troy, where great loss of life has been reported, with no definite figures available.

In this city three are known to be dead and eleven more are reported to be.

MANY WENT TO DEATH IN WABASH

Water 10 to 25 Feet Deep Rushing Through Peru Streets

Peru, Ind., March 26—(Via telephone to South Bend)—Death faced hundreds of persons who at dawn today were clinging to the roofs of buildings, where they sought refuge from the flood which last night swept in from the overflown banks of the Wabash River, drowning within a few minutes probably sixty persons.

The prospect at daylight was distressing. Currents of muddy water from ten to twenty-five feet deep, were racing through the main streets at twenty miles an hour. The water, however, was then believed to be receding slightly. Among those marooned was Major J. Krutzer. He was sick in his home when the floods rushed in on the city and was unable to escape before the water surrounded his home to a great depth. He delegated the functions of the mayor to Thomas Kreuger, superintendent of a lighting plant.

Food and clothing for 5,000 persons, sent from nearby towns during the night, had arrived to points within two and three miles of the downtown district, but at daylight the currents of the water running between the business houses was too swift to admit of navigation by ordinary rowboats.

No one was able to estimate the number of drowned because of the bodies that had been carried down the river and because of the submerging of whole streets of houses known to have been occupied before the water came up, but the city officials agreed that the fatalities would not be less than three score.

INDIANAPOLIS HEARS A TALE OF HORROR

White River Said to Have Carried Away Hundreds

Indianapolis, March 26—The break of day found anxiety in Indiana centred in Brookville and Connorsville on the White Water river, from which frantic appeals for aid were received by Governor Ralston late yesterday.

While the appeal was being made, wire communication to Connorsville failed.

The person who was talking with the governor said that a break in the White river levee had flooded the valley, sweeping hundreds of persons before it. Since then, it has been impossible to re-establish communication even for a few minutes, and the governor fears the worst there. The militia were ready all during the night to hurry to the town, but no train was operated in that direction.

Though the whole state is stupified by the enormity of the disaster, which in twenty-four hours drowned hundreds of persons and destroyed property valued at nearly $25,000,000, work on repairing the telephone and telegraph lines and railroads was started early.

Practically every railroad and traction company operating in the state has lost one or more bridges with several miles of track washed out or made shaky by the flood waters.

Indianapolis awoke to find the waters higher than ever appeared before with a property loss that two days ago would have been unbelievable. It is hard even yet to bring the full realization of the damage to the people, who had no thought of a flood from streams that ordinarily are unimportant, aiding only in beautifying the parks and boulevard driveways.

During the night the water advanced upon the exclusive residence section along Fall Creek. It tore away one bridge, destroyed the city's most pretentious driveway, and forced the families living along the banks to desert their palatial homes.

A few hours before they had no idea they were in any danger, and were awakened by the militiamen to be ordered from the threatened buildings, only to find every hotel in the city full. They were cared for at the homes of friends.

With the breaking of day, also, came the proposition of feeding the refugees to the number of 10,000. The city has appropriated enough to defray this expense today, but more will be needed tomorrow. A fund has been started, and it is believed that this will solve that problem. It was believed by telephone and telegraph company officials here that they soon would be able to establish a more certain communication with Peru, where scores are reported to be dead, and where many are suffering for food and clothing.

Two Hundred Drowned

Indianapolis, Ind., March 26—First word from West Indianapolis cut off from the city, where the great West Washington street bridge went out last night, came this morning when an Associated Press

(Continued on page 3, fifth column)

Miamisburg, Place of 4,000 Inhabitants, Said To Be Swept Away

BODIES CARRIED THROUGH STREETS

Quarter of Million of People in the Flooded Sections of Country Reported Homeless--Hope That Worst is Over, But Rain was Still Falling Today

BIRST BERG HAS BEEN REPORTED

Ice Expected in the Steamer Lanes Within Two or Three Weeks

Washington, March 26—The southward movement of the ice from the Arctic field has begun, according to reports received at the naval hydrographic office. The German steamer Mannheim has reported sighting an iceberg 100 feet in lat. 43 North, long. 49 degrees, 39 minutes west. This is the first report this year of seeing ice below 45 degrees latitude, and it is now expected icebergs will be in the steamer tracks within two or three weeks.

The whaler Scotia, detailed by the British Board of Trade to watch for ice in the steamship lanes of the North Atlantic will be at her station in a few days. The hydrographic office will receive her reports and distribute them among the shipping interests.

SUCCEEDS THE NOTED LEPINE

Paris, March 26—A high official of the French government has given out that the successor to M. Lepine, prefect of the Paris police, would be Celestin Hennion, now the founder of the department of general security under the minister of the interior. M. Hennion is an officer of the Legion of Honor and wears the violet decoration of public instruction and the green and red decoration of agriculture.

The cargo taken away by the C. P. R. mail steamer Empress of Ireland last Saturday was valued at $378,198 of which $261,321 was the value of foreign goods.

WEATHER BULLETIN

Issued by authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stupart, director of meterological service.

Synopsis—Unsettled weather prevails from the lake region to the maritime provinces with falls of rain, sleet and snow in many localities. In the western provinces the weather has continued very cold but it is now moderating in Alberta.

Still The Umbrella

Maritime—Strong easterly winds unsettled and cold with rain or sleet; Thursday easterly to southerly winds with occasional rain.

COMMISSION DECLINES TO APPROVE ALL RATES OF TELEPHONE COMPANY

Hearing Begun Here This Morning—Members of Board Take Trip to Carleton to See About Rodney Wharf Safeguards

The New Brunswick Public Utilities commission met here this morning to deal with the application of the New Brunswick Telephone Company for authorization of their classification of exchanges and schedules of rates and their request that exchanges may be changed from one classification to another by permission of the commission without public notice or public hearing.

After the preliminary formalities had been completed, counsel for the company sought to secure from the commission approval of all their schedules of rates. This the chairman declined to entertain on the grounds that, while the company had been permitted to continue to charge certain rates, this did not carry with it the commission's approval of the rates, and the commission could not approve or disapprove without the most exhaustive investigation. The company's request for the authorization of a new class, for exchanges of less than 100 stations in sparsely settled districts, was then taken up and Otty J. Fraser, general superintendent of the company was put on the stand to describe the need for the extra class.

When the session adjourned the commissioners took a trip to West St. John to investigate the conditions at Rodney wharf, where the St. John Railway Company has been instructed to erect safeguards.

The commission met at 10.30 o'clock in the local government rooms, Church street. Chairman G. O. D. Otty presided with Commissioners A. B. Connell and Felix Michaud and Secretary F. P. Robinson.

W. A. Ewing, K. C., and A. W. Bennett appeared for the New Brunswick Telephone Company and various other interests were represented as follows:—A. D. Ganong, for the town of St. Stephen; J. A. Sinclair, for the Farmers' Telephone Company and the Grand Manan Telephone Company; J. W. McCready for the New Brunswick Union of Municipalities and the Fredericton Board of Trade; D. A. Stewart, M. P. P., for the town of Campbellton and B. C. Barclay Boyd and Thomas Bell, appearing individually as subscribers of the Rothesay exchange.

When the meeting was called to order Mr. Ewing read the notice of the meeting which was called to deal with the application of the N. B. Telephone Company for authorization of a classification of the exchanges according to the number of subscribers changed the classification, this with the consent of the board but without the necessity for public notice or a public hearing.

Mr. Ewing then submitted the solemn declaration of employes of the company regarding the posting of notices of this hearing in the post offices nearest to the central exchanges of the company throughout the province.

The company's petition covering the application referred to was read in full at the request of the chairman who said there seemed to be some misunderstanding as to the purpose, mentioning a letter he had received from the board of trade of Gagetown objecting to increasing rates without authority of the commission.

Mr. Bennett offered to submit evidence to show the classification already in use but as classes A. B. C. and D. are unchanged and have already been authorized the chairman said that this was not necessary.

Chairman Says No

Mr. Bennett said that no order had been adopted by the commission approving of the rates and they wanted to have this on record but the chairman said that they could not pass on existing rates at present. They knew the company could make these changes, not because they were right or fair but because they had already been authorized by law. Mr. Bennett wanted the approval of the board to the rates on their merits as they had confirmed the rates in St. John.

The Chairman—"We did not necessarily approve of the rates in St. John, we merely decided that they were not excessive as compared with the rates in other parts of the province." He questioned whether subscribers, and of schedules of rentals and tolls for such classifications and for permission to make readjustment of rates according to the schedule when the increase the commission could approve of any rates without a most exhaustive inquiry.

Mr. McCready said that Mr. Bennett was offering to give information which he was here to seek and asked that it be allowed. It was finally decided to call witnesses.

Otty J. Fraser, general superintendent of the New Brunswick Telephone Company was sworn. He gave the existing classification as follows:—

Class A. 2,000 and upwards
Class B 400 and upwards.
Class C 100 and upwards
Class D fewer than 100.
Class E fewer than 100 but in sparsely settled districts.

The rates are governed according to the number of subscribers and the class of service, the service being better in the higher classes. The company has forty-three exchanges ranging from thirteen telephones in Chipman to 5,000 at St. John.

(Continued on page 7, fourth column.)

THIRTY PAY $2000 OR MORE IN CITY TAXES

Mayor Compiles Statement — Majority in $25 to $50 Class

Mayor Frink has compiled a statement showing a clasification of the city tax-payers according to the amount of taxes they pay. The list is as follows:—

Number of tax payers	Amount of taxes.
30	$2,000 and over
47	$1,000 to $2,000
107	500 to 1,000
353	200 to 500
679	100 to 200
876	50 to 100
1661	25 to 50
6957	5 to 25
2834	poll tax of $5.
200	under $5.

SYDNEY ANXIOUS ABOUT STEAMER HERAKLES

Halifax, N. S., March 26—Some anxiety is expressed at Sydney, N. S., for the safety of the steamship Herakles, which left Cardiff on March 1 bound for Sydney under charter to the Dominion Iron & Steel Company. She is a week overdue, and has not been reported for ten days The Herakles was launched in last November and is owned by Brunsgard Krasterud & Company of Norway. This was her first trans-Atlantic voyage.

ADRIANOPLE IN HANDS OF BULGARS

Fortress Captured This Morning After Terrific Fighting Lasting Since Monday

(Canadian Press)

Sofia, Bulgaria, March 26—It was announced by a trustworthy private source this morning that the Bulgarian cavalry had succeeded in entering the besieged Turkish fortress of Adrianople.

Mustapha, Pasha, March 26—The fortress of Adrianople was taken by storm by the Bulgarians this morning after fighting of the most terrible character lasting since Monday. Flames are devastating the city at many points.

After the outlying fortifications had been captured, the Turkish troops set fire to all their depots and stores as well as to the arsenal, and the artillery park. They also blew up the barracks and some powder magazines. Most of the population fled.

Shukri Pasha, the Turkish commander-in-chief of Adrianople, had not been captured up to a late hour in the afternoon.

Vienna, March 26—The Montenegrin government, besides allowing the Austria-Hungary consul to attend the inquiry into the occurrences at Jakova, intends inviting representatives of the other European powers to be present. Austria-Hungary will not oppose these invitations.

Fresh reports tell of conversions by coercion of Catholic Albanians at Jakova.

DREDGING WILL AFFECT FISHERMEN'S LOTS

The commissioner of harbors and ferries has discovered that the proposed dredging of the Navy Island bar, the approach to the foot of King street and Nelson and Wellington slips, West End., will include an area containing several harbor lots which are under lease to harbor fishermen. He brought the matter before the meeting of the city commissioners this morning and they decided to ask the fishermen whose lots are affected to appear before the commissioner to inform him whether their interests would be injured by the dredging.

MARITIME DOCTOR TO TEST EYESIGHT OF ST. LAWRENCE PILOTS

Montreal, March, 26—An important change is announced in the annual spring tests of the eyesight of pilots on the St. Lawrence, which consists in a doctor being brought from the maritime provinces to conduct the tests in the place of the local practitioners, who hitherto have been employed.

This doctor has had experience of testing the eyesight of mariners in his own locality.

BOSTON MAKING AN EFFORT TO GRAB CANADIAN TRADE

(Special to Times)

Boston, March 26—Directors of the Boston Chamber of Commerce are casting eyes toward Canadian traffic. In a 7,000 word document dealing with the railroad and steamship situation, the directors say:

"In view of the allegations of trunk line control of the New Haven Railroad (which, if effectual, would be a prejudical and intolerable limitation upon the economic development of New England), your directors desire to be authorized to urge upon the management of the Boston & Maine the necessity of an energetic development of traffic with Canadian points, and specifically that they make Boston as a port of export for Canadian products, accessible under equitable conditions to the Canadian trunk lines.

STOP THE WAR; MONEY EASIER

An Important Speech Made in British House By Earl Grey

A despatch to J. M. Robinson & Sons from Shearson Hammill & Co., New York, tells of an important speech by Sir Edward Grey in the British parliament, and says:

"Sir Edward Grey's speech is regarded as an ultimatum that war must stop."

Another despatch to Messrs. Robinson & Sons, from Shearson Hammill & Co., Montreal, says:—"We have received this morning from London the following cable: 'In our opinion Grey's statement indicates situation past danger point. Expect money will be easier after end of month.'"

London, March 26—Confirmation of the agreement of the European powers on the question of northern and eastern frontiers of the future state of Albania, was given by Sir Edward Grey, British Foreign Minister, in the House of Commons. He added that the outstanding questions with which the powers had to deal, although they might be troublesome, were not such as to cause anxiety.

One result of the agreement between the powers, he declared, should be the cessation of hostilities on the territory which was to belong to Albania.

Sir Edward Grey strongly counseled Montenegro to desist from further attacks on Scutari, but he hoped that if the decision of the European powers in this matter were not respected no separate power would take action which ought to take the form of united pressure by all the powers.

The foreign secretary also strongly urged Turkey and the Balkan Allies to accept the terms of mediation offered by the powers, and discouraged all idea of an indemnity from Turkey.

Sir Edward Grey concluded by congratulating the powers on having weathered the worst of the storm with every prospect of weathering it completely.

POPE ABLE TO SAY MASS THIS MORNING

Rome, March 26—Pope Pius X celebrated mass early this morning when he administered Communion to the servants of the household.

The physicians in attendance visited and examined the Pontiff both before and after the mass and expressed satisfaction with his condition. They, however, advised him to maintain caution and to again postpone his collective audiences. It was then decided that on April 3 the Pope would receive some of the bishops, and on April 4 give his first collective audience since he was taken ill.