

Thousands of Lives Lost In the Middle West

The Most Disastrous Flood in the History of the Country---5,000 People Reported Dead at Dayton, Ohio, and 30,000 Homeless---City Swept by Terrific Wind and Rain Storm for Three Days---Cities and Towns in Indiana and Missouri Suffer Great Damage From Floods

Springfield, O., Mar. 25—The Mayor of Dayton in an appeal made to the mayor of this city reported at eight o'clock tonight that the water is thirteen feet deep in the Union Station in Dayton and that according to unconfirmed reports 5,000 lives have been lost and fully 30,000 are homeless.

The Hydraulic dam at Pique has gone out and reports unconfirmed, say that 540 lives have been lost.

The Mayor of Dayton in his appeal asks for food for the stricken people of his city.

Exenia has already sent three carloads of food to that city.

The Springfield officials are now in session and plan to take action for the relief of the flood sufferers.

There is considerable suffering in this city there being fully 1500 families driven out of their homes. Rumors have been received of loss of life in the villages but these lack confirmation.

Chicago, March 25—Swept by wind and rain storms of terrific violence for three days vast areas of the middle west, from the Missouri River to the Alleghany Mountains tonight are inundated, many persons have been drowned and enormous property losses have been caused.

Ohio, Indiana, parts of Illinois and Missouri suffered most severely. Terre Haute, Indianapolis and Lafayette, Ind., and Delaware, Dayton, Columbus and Youngstown, Ohio, present particularly pitiable spectacles. In all of these cities there was some loss of life, according to reports available and in each city the property loss was heavy. In Delaware, Ohio, nineteen persons are known to have lost their lives and thirty to fifty others missing.

Terre Haute swept by a disastrous tornado last Sunday, today was partly inundated interfering with the removal of stricken families. The death list still remained at twenty, while the list of injured aggregates 250.

At Dayton, Ohio where three rivers the Miami, Stillwater and Mad, and another stream known as Wolf Creek conjoin, there was a loss of life according to some reports and destruction of property.

DAYTON INUNDATED

For the most part the city lies on a level flat with the four streams meeting almost in the heart of the place. The streams are protected by levees twenty-five feet high. The levee protecting the Miami River broke about 6 o'clock this morning and the flood was augmented by the rapidly rising waters of other streams. The situation was made worse by the breaking of the Laramie reservoir, fifty miles above Dayton.

The waters swept through the city. One report which lacked confirmation said the water in the main river was fifteen feet deep. All wire communication except one slender phone wire to Fonetown, a station six miles away, was broken, and information regarding the state of affairs in Dayton was difficult to obtain. (The telephone company said no lives had been lost, but opposite reports were persistent.)

Railroad and wagon bridges across the Miami river were swept away and others were in momentary danger of collapsing. The river still was rising at a late hour and fears were entertained that several other towns between Dayton and the Ohio River would suffer.

SIXTY PERSONS REPORTED DROWNED.

No definite information as to what actually happened at Dayton could be obtained until tonight, when information from Cincinnati came that sixty lives had been lost. Practically the entire city was under water and the residents had been forced to flee for their lives. Many of the more intrepid sought refuge on the rooftops.

At three o'clock this afternoon a young woman telephone operator at Dayton was in direct communication with Governor Cox at Columbus. She said she was the last person remaining in the exchange building and that there was seven feet of water in the main street. As she was talking

LOSS IS TERRIFIC.

J. C. Mackintosh & Co., bankers and brokers, received the following message over their private wires at noon today: New York, N. Y., March 26—Flood damage in Ohio valley is terrific. It is estimated that 7,000 lives are lost and 250,000 persons are homeless. The money loss is from \$25,000,000 to \$50,000,000. About half of it falls on railroads. Another storm is said to be approaching and the floods are rising.

she said, the Leonard building, across the street, collapsed. Many persons were believed to have been in the building at the time.

COLUMBUS FLOODED, TOO.

Columbus also suffered enormous damage from the flood. Railroad traffic was paralyzed early in the day. Fires in three large factories raged for many hours and for a time threatened a considerable portion of the district. Because of the flood firemen were unable to respond to the appeals for assistance.

Conditions at Indianapolis, Fort Wayne, Kokomo and other places in central Indiana were the worst in many years. In every part of the state there were reported disastrous inundations. At Lafayette two spans of a bridge went out. Two are reported dead. West Lafayette, where Purdue University is located, was cut off late in the afternoon when the levees were broken by the force of the waters of the Wabash River. The river is two miles wide and is rising rapidly.

1,500 FAMILIES HOMELESS.

At Indianapolis 1,500 families had been driven from their homes and four deaths were said to have resulted from drowning during the day. The pumping plant was forced to suspend operations and the city is without fire protection. At Peru property

damage of a half million was done by the flood. It was reported that Logansport also was under water. Governor Ralston this afternoon received a frantic appeal from Connersville, Ind., for aid for many sufferers there from the flood. It was said that the White River had broken over its banks and that there had ensued great loss of life. The entire business district of Rushville and part of the residence section is under water. One person is reported drowned. No trains entered or departed from that city today. The court house practically was the only dry place in the city, and it was crowded with refugees who had been driven from their homes.

CLOUDBURST AT CINCINNATI.

Cincinnati experienced a cloudburst early today, which started the Ohio River rising rapidly and flooded many of the streets. Families in the low lands below Milford were warned in time and fled to higher ground before the sweep of water reached that place. A big dam, a short distance north of Akron, Ohio, burst this afternoon and horsemen were hurried throughout the valley in different directions to warn the populace of the impending danger. Hundreds of farmers with their families fled to higher ground.

The great bridge over the Miami River at Middletown, Ohio, went out this afternoon. Fifteen persons were reported missing. Several houses were seen to be floating down the river, which was a raging torrent.

Sweeping up the Ohio valley from the west, the third storm in ten days, devastated different sections between Louisville and Cincinnati, in Kentucky and in extensive districts in Illinois, southwestern Ohio and Indiana. At Louisville the wind maintained a velocity of sixty miles an hour.

A number of persons were reported killed at Makanda, Illinois, although the report could not be confirmed.

A freight train was blown off the track of the Illinois Central Railroad and two of the crew were injured.

Other cities affected by the flood and storm are:

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SEVERE FIGHTING IN THE BALKANS

London, March 25—Just as the powers had come to an agreement which would enable them to bring their combined efforts to bear to end the Balkan war the Bulgarians and Serbians resumed serious fighting at Adrianople and Tchatalja. Only the scantiest account has been received of the battle along the famous lines, which is the first defence of Constantinople, and both the Bulgars and the Turks claim victory.

At Adrianople, however, according to the reports of the allies, they have gained their first important advantage against that fortress. The Bulgars claim to have captured all the forts and positions in front of the eastern line, or outer defences, and to have driven the Turks from their advanced position on the western and southern front.

The Serbians are not mentioned in the Bulgarian account of the attack, but a despatch from Belgrade says that the Twentieth (Serbian) Regiment penetrated to the walls of Adrianople taking a large number of prisoners, while the Serbian Danube division inflicted great damage on the town and fortress.

The bombardment began Sunday night, and the advance early Tuesday morning.

Berlin, March 26—Twenty nations, including the United States, are represented at the fourth International Congress of Physio-Therapeutics, which began its sessions in Berlin today. One of the largest delegations present is that the medical school of Tulane University, New Orleans.

PHYSICAL INSTRUCTORS MEET AT NEWARK

Newark, N. J., Mar. 26—Several hundred instructors of physical training connected with various schools in all parts of the United States are in attendance at the annual convention of the American Physical Education Association, which held its opening session here today in the auditorium of the Central High School. Physical training with special reference to schools of various grades will be thoroughly discussed by experts and there will also be athletic and gymnastic exhibitions by school children, members of the Y.M.C.A. and teams from several colleges in this vicinity. The convention will continue through the rest of the week.

BENCH SHOW OPENS IN CHICAGO TODAY

Chicago, March 26—The twelfth annual bench show of the Chicago Kennel Club opened here today at the First Regiment Armory under the most auspicious conditions. The show which can boast of a larger number of entries and classes than in any previous year is held under the American Kennel Club rules. Valuable cash prizes and trophies will be distributed to the winning exhibitors. All sections of the country are represented in the exhibit.

Reports from cities in all parts of the country indicate that there will be a great deal of building done this year.

THE WORLD'S NEWS IN SHORT METRE

New York, March 26—Enormous loss of life reported in Ohio and Indiana due to floods and the railroads are big losers.

Stock Exchange incorporation bill passes assembly at Albany.

Sir Edward Grey's speech in the House of Commons regarded as an ultimatum that the war must stop.

President Wilson is reported to be convinced that income tax will raise revenue lost through a low tariff bill.

New plan of Union Pacific dissolution, reported to provide for Southern Pacific to keep Central Pacific.

Steel operations continue up to capacity but buyers show hesitancy in placing orders.

Dresden Bank directors say Germany's financial distress is grossly exaggerated.

12 industrial advanced 1.29; 20 active railroads advanced 1 per cent. American stocks in London strong to 1 1/4 up.

Settlement in London began today.

A DARING AERONAUT

Joseph Brucker Will Attempt Flight of the Atlantic Ocean

Expects to Begin His Perilous Voyage in Three Weeks From the Canary Islands

Vienna, March 26—Joseph Brucker, the German-American aeronaut, who plans to cross the Atlantic in a dirigible balloon, has arranged to sail by steamship from Trieste tomorrow for the Canary Islands, where he expects to begin his voyage in about three weeks. Mr. Brucker is taking the balloon with him on the steamship and is accompanied by the two assistants who plan to make the aerial voyage with him.

The balloon is called the Suchard II, and is the largest balloon in existence. Its diameter is 80 feet, and its gas capacity 200,000 cubic feet. It is a non-rigid dirigible of the Parseval type and will carry two engines of the type used in the Parseval. Each of them is 110 horsepower and weighs 800 pounds. The balloon was finished many months ago and it was planned to attempt the trip a year ago, but there were some alterations to be made, and this delayed the start so it was planned to leave the Canary Islands this spring.

It is expected that with favorable winds the trip can be made in from six to eight days. It is expected that the landing will be either in the West Indies or at some point on the northern coast of South America. It is planned to run the motors alternately fourteen hours a day and to drift with the trade winds at night. The present plan is to make the trip at a height of from 500 to 600 feet. The dirigible will be steered by an ordinary vertical rudder. It is provided with large fins for rising and descending and for balancing.

The balloon bag is coated with a special preparation that absorbs water from the atmosphere by counteract the effect of the sun's rays. She will use sea water for ballast, descending to pump it in and discharging it when required. Under the gas bag is a gallery and suspended below this will be a power boat which is intended as the main living quarters of the balloon. The boat can be cut loose and used in case of accident. The dirigible will carry an ordinary compass and also a large supply of brilliant red aluminum globes. These will be dropped overboard one at a time and used as pointers by which to steer, it being impossible to allow for the leeway of a dirigible or aeroplane when steering by compass alone.

Mr. Brucker has an abiding faith in the success of the attempt, and feels confident that unless there is some weather phenomenon not heretofore recorded in the course of the northeast trade wind he will succeed. Every precaution that human ingenuity or professional skill has suggested has been taken, and Mr. Brucker is of the opinion that only a calamity that cannot be guarded against can defeat the expedition.

SPEAKER SPROULE'S RULING WAS CALLED IN QUESTION

Hon. Mr. Emmerson and Other Liberal Members Take the Ground That He Had no Right to Take the Chair While the House Was in Committee---Young Mr. White Poses as an Authority on Parliamentary Procedure---Hon. Mr. Pugsley Exposes a North Shore Dredging Scandal

Ottawa, March 25—The ruling of Speaker Sproule on Saturday, March 15, was questioned by Hon. H. R. Emmerson on motion to take up supply. He stated there was no authority for the speaker to have assumed control while the house was in committee or to have ruled that the debate should close. In this he was supported by Hugh Graham and Hon. Dr. Pugsley.

Finance minister White defended Speaker Sproule's action and argued that he had not attempted to limit British liberty of free speech.

Dr. Pugsley, who followed, frankly stated that the speaker had passed beyond the rules and had sought, without the authority, to curtail speech in parliament.

After this the house went into supply.

ST. JOHN CONTRACTORS, UNPAID

When the house went into supply at midnight, Hon. Dr. Pugsley called the attention of the minister of finance and the minister of public works to the fact that there were large outstanding accounts due to dredging contractors on the St. John works, and also on the Transcontinental Railway and he asked why some provision had not been made in the supplementary estimates for the payment of these outstanding debts.

While the St. John contractors were opposed to him in their political views, Dr. Pugsley wished to make it clear that the opposition had no desire to hold up the payment for work already done. The manager of an institution that was backing some of these contractors had appealed to him, as though the opposition were to blame.

Both Hon. Mr. White and Hon. Mr. Rogers replied that they had heard of no such complaints, and they stated that it was strange that a member of the opposition should have been appealed to in preference to the proper minister.

"I am informed that such is the case, however," persisted Dr. Pugsley. "There are vast amounts due on the Transcontinental work and these men can't get a dollar. We ought to see that our debts are paid before we proceed to vote money for next year's work."

A SHADY TRANSACTION

The member for St. John also drew attention to a rather shady appearing transaction with regard to the dredging on the Grand Dune flats of the Miramichi River whereby the government was losing between \$40,000 and \$50,000. The contract had been let by the former government to Messrs. Loggie at 11 cents a yard. Right after the election of 1911 another firm, including a man by the name of O'Leary, had bought the Loggie contract. Immediately they withdrew from the job and forfeited their deposit of \$3,500. The minister of public works called for new tenders and the same firm was awarded the contract as an increased figure, which would amount to a difference of nearly \$50,000.

Hon. Mr. Rogers said he was surprised to hear the hon. member refer to the matter in this way. The contract had been originally let by the late government and the reason the O'Leary people had dropped it was because they could not carry it on profitably in the deeper part of the water.

"My honorable friend cannot be correctly informed," said Dr. Pugsley. "The contract price was fair and the conduct of the gentlemen who did this utterly indefensible and should be punished. It was done right after the election and there was not sufficient time given to permit of competitive tenders being put in."

Hon. Mr. Emmerson called attention to the fact that "this O'Leary was a dispenser of funds in the New Brunswick election."

85-YEAR-OLD WOMAN CUTTING BACK TEETH

Amherst, N. S., March 25—Mrs. Michael Fortune, aged eighty-five years, who resides in Macan, is undergoing rather a peculiar experience at the present time. Three or four new back teeth have lately appeared in her mouth and Mrs. Fortune, who is hale and hearty, is in hopes that the full set will in due time arrive.

FREDERICTON AND GRAND LAKE RAILWAY WORK

Work on the Fredericton & Grand Lake Railway, which was partially built last season will be begun as soon as possible. The superstructure of the steel bridge at the mouth of the Nashwaak was placed in position some days ago and the track is now laid across it. The temporary bridge which was in use while the other was being built is being removed under the supervision of Mr. W. E. Seelye, The Workman brothers trestle-foremen for A. E. Trites & Sons arrived here yesterday and will begin at once on the Marysville spur. All material available in the temporary trestle will be used on that branch.

It is expected that the erection of the superstructure of the Noonan Brook bridge will begin in about a fortnight. The Dominion Construction Company will erect the bridge, the steel for which has been ordered.

The trades and labor council of Nelson, B. C., is planning the erection of a labor temple to cost \$20,000.

ALBERTA GENERAL ELECTIONS APRIL 16

Edmonton, Alta, March 25—The Alberta legislature prorogued this afternoon and was immediately dissolved. Writs will be issued tomorrow calling for new elections for April 16.

RIVER ICE JAMED AT WHEELER'S ISLAND

Conditions as far as floods are concerned are reported to be considerably improved, the drop in the temperature having caused the streams to subside. The snow-storm which set in last night and continued all day has had the same effect, but it is feared that rain or mild weather following the storm will have the effect of bringing the water up again. Preparations for stream-driving are being generally made now and driving on the small streams in the southern part of the province will begin with the next rise of water.

Conditions in the main St. John River all point to an early break-up of the ice. The ice at Woodstock and below is said to be much broken up. At Hawkshaw the ice ran Saturday night and now is jammed on the head of Wheeler's Island, some twenty miles above Fredericton. In the Nashwaak conditions are not much changed.

PAINFUL ACCIDENT

Mr. A. H. VanWart while looking after some lumbering operations at Springhill a few days ago cut his foot very badly, almost severing the large toe.