FLOOD AREA FACES HORRORS OF FAMINE AND PESTILENCE

DAYTON IS IN AWFUL PLIGHT

Estimate of Dead Placed at 800

WATERS ARE RECEDING

Terrific Current Retards Work of Rescuing Marooned.

MANY STORIES OF BRAVERY

The Great Miami River, Swollen to a Width Heretofore Unknown adn Running With a Terrific Current, Bars the Way to Specific Information of the Number of Dead—Thousands of Persons Are Still Marooned in Houses and on Opportune Roofs—Only a Few Corpses Have Been Recovered.

Dayton, O., March 26.—How great a death toll the deluge of Dayton had taken seemed tonight almost as much a matter of conjecture as yesterday, but acting on stories brought by survivors from the stricken districts, it was said the emergency committee had ordered a large number of coffins for immediate delivery.

The Great Miami River, swollen to a width heretofore unknown and running with a terrific current, barred the way to specific information of the number of dead. While thousands of persons still were marooned in houses and on opportune roofs in the central portion of the town, only a few corpses had been recovered and it was believed that in the northern section of the submerged city to which rescuing parties had been unable to penetrate would be found the greatest life loss.

Late tonight J. H. Miller, secretary of the board of health, estimated that the death list would reach 800.

While the flood steadily receded this afternoon the terrific current retarded rescue work and a cold, smarting rain added to discomforts of the already overburdened storm victims.

OARSMEN BRAVE TORRENT.

Expert oarsmen who braved the tide in the business section of the submerged city, this afternoon came back nerve-racked to relate narratives of pitiable appeals made to them by hundreds marooned in upper floors of tall buildings, about whose lower stories swirled a flood that threatened the structures' foundations. The dark colors in the narrative were lightened here and there by stories of bravery exhibited by many of the flood prisoners. A woman with three children, marooned in the upper floor of her home on the edge of the business district, called to the oarsmen: "Oh, I know you can't take me off," she cried, "but for the love of humanity please take this loaf of bread and jug of molasses to Sarah Pruyn down the street; I know she's starving."

Twice the boatmen attempted to take the food, but waves that eddied about the submerged house hurled them back. Further on, in the exclusive residence district, they were offered fabulous sums for rescue by many of the flood's prisoners. Their narrative inspired an effort late this afternoon to launch a boat for navigation on the vast river, but up to a late hour the craft had been unable to pass beyond areas already reached on the fringe of the flooded district.

RESCUERS WORK DESPERATELY

Rescue work efficiently managed, in which John Patterson, president of the National Cash Register Company, was a leading spirit, proceeded smoothly throughout the day. Missing members of families were restored to their loved ones through human clearing-houses established at several points on the fringe of the flood district. Great ledgers filled with names, presided over by volunteer bank clerks, were at the disposal of persons seeking missing kinsmen. If these had registered in the clearing-house, their addresses were quickly given to the inquirer.

Up to late tonight 3,000 of the homeless were housed in different places of refuge, most of them being cared for at the plant of the National Cash Register Company. Scores of the waters' victims were being carried from their places of imprisonment late this evening, and leaders of the rescuing parties were arranging for relays of torchbearers to light the work during the night.

Relief Committee Organized.

Xenia, O., March 26.—A relief committee has been organized in this city and is now sending supplies to Dayton. All the churches here are being made ready for Dayton refugees expected tonight. Xenia is preparing to take care of several hundred of these.

FIRST PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE TORNADO SWEPT CITY OF OMAHA

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A scene at a street corner, car junction point, in the heart of a district thickly populated by poor people. The storm did some of its most disastrous work here. About forty being killed in the immediate vicinity. In the foreground are the ruins of Idlewild Hall, which contained a pool hall. Fifteen bodies have been taken out and others will be found.

Showing the ruins of some of the houses of the residential district piled up in a heap by the swirling winds of the tornado. In the foreground, Judge W. W. Slabaugh, a prominent Omaha lawyer, is collecting his belongings after the tornado visited his home. His dog, untouched by the winds that demolished his home, is standing guard.

Sight in the Diamond Moving Picture Theater in the heart of the cyclone district. Fifty were killed in this building when it collapsed and at the time this picture was taken, bodies were still in the ruins.

BELIEVE DAYTON DOOMED BY FIRE

Continued from First Page.

fire in Dayton has revived and that he had to abandon his post. He said the situation was serious.

Middletown, O., March 27.—The city is illuminated tonight in the direction of Franklin, O., five miles from Miamisburg.

A telephone message to Middletown stated that the residence of J. Newcomb, at Franklin, was on fire and that it looked as though an entire block would be destroyed. The town is under water and no fire protection is possible.

At 2:30 this morning the reflection of what is supposed to be the fire at Dayton was clearly visible here. Middletown is 20 miles from Dayton. It is snowing here and a bitter cold wave sweeping over the town, causing much additional suffering.

Phoneton, O., March 27.—A telephone message from Piqua early this morning stated that the city was ablaze and that there was no way of checking the flames. It is reported that the fire started in the residence section and spread to the business houses. An estimate of the casualties here could not be made at the time, the message said. . .

Flames that destroyed eight buildings in Dayton's submerged business section last night cast a weird gloom over the flood-stricken city that added to the fears of thousands of refugees and marooned persons, and led to apprehension that there may have been many of the water's prisoners in the burned buildings.

Soon afterward notice was posted in headquarters of the emergency committee announcing that the city was under "martial law," and several companies of soldiers arrived from neighboring Ohio cities. The soldiers were employed to patrol the edges of the burned district and prevent further looting of homes freed from the flood's grasp. Up to a late hour last night there had been no material disorder.

Rescue squads worked frantically yesterday to throw back the veil that hides the true story of the Dayton disaster—the number of dead. Late tonight the arrival of motorboats gave hope that by tomorrow the northern section of the city, now cut off by the Big Miami's impassable barrier, may be penetrated, and then may be learned the fate of hundreds imprisoned by the torrent that poured down from the broken reservoir.

The list of dead was added to this afternoon by the death of a refugee. It was reported late tonight that a number of dead had been found in houses at Fifth and Eagle streets, but when rescuers worked their way into the partially submerged dwellings they found a number of the flood prisoners, who were weak from fright and hunger.

Already overburdened victims of the water's wrath were compelled to suffer again today in a cold, smarting rain.

Fire that appeared to threaten the business section tonight was confined to the block bounded by Second and Third streets, and Jefferson and St. Clair streets. In the block are the Fourth National Bank, Lattiman Drug Company, Evans Wholesale Drug Company and several commission houses. It was impossible to get within two miles of the fire, and from that distance it appeared that explosions, probably of drugs, made the fire seem of larger proportions than it was. It appeared to have about burned itself out, and it was not believed it would spread to other blocks.

IMPOSSIBLE TO GUESS LOSS.

It was impossible to ascertain, even approximately, the number of persons who might have been marooned in this section and who died after being trapped by flood and fire. Nevertheless, rescue work went steadily on, and about 3,000 persons were housed in places of refuge last night, the majority of them in buildings of the National Cash Register Company. At least 65,000 persons are imprisoned in homes and in business buildings. It is feared their two-day imprisonment, with accompanying hunger and fright, have caused tremendous suffering. The flood came with such suddenness that food supplies in homes were whisked away by the torrent that reached to second floors in almost the flash of an eye. Skiffs skirted the edge of the flooded district attempting to take food to those whom it was impossible to carry off, but the fierce current discouragingly retarded this work.

WIRES FINALLY OPENED.

Dayton was practically cut off from wire communication until late this afternoon. Then two wires into Cincinnati were obtained, and operators plunged into great piles of telegrams from Dayton citizens, almost frantic in their desire to assure friends outside of their safety. Operators at opposite ends of the wires reported that thousands of telegrams were piled up at relay offices. These were from people anxious over the fate of Dayton kinsmen.

Two oarsmen who braved the current that swirled through the business section of the city reported that the water at the Algonquin Hotel, at the southwest of Third and Ludlow streets, was 15 feet deep. From windows in the hotels and business buildings hundreds of the marooned begged piteously for rescue and food. The oarsmen said they saw no bodies floating on the flood tide, but declared that many persons must have perished in the waters' sudden rush through the streets.

Oarsmen who worked into the outskirts of the business section tonight reported that 250 persons marooned in the Arcade Building and 200 imprisoned in the Y. M. C. A. Building were begging for water.

A shortage of provisions was threatened when it was reported many relief trains, bound to Dayton from neighboring cities, had been stopped by high water. Every grocer in the city had been "sold out."

Encouragement was received in a message from the mayor of Springfield, who said he was sending six big trucks, loaded with provisions, that should reach Dayton early today. With the arrival of motorboats last night it was hoped to begin to distribute provisions among the marooned soon after daylight. Messages from the flood's prisoners in the business section said children were crying for milk, while their elders suffered from thirst that grew hourly. Volunteers were called for to man boats that will brave the dangerous currents today in an attempt to get food to the suffering.

A report that the dam above Dayton threatened to break added to the city's terror. If the dam breaks it will pour in a flood that will hold up rescue work for days. Reports that Fire Chief Ramby lost his life while attempting to reach a floating house, have not been confirmed.

PRESIDENT APPEALS TO NATION.

President Wilson issued the following appeal to the nation to help the sufferers in the Ohio and Indiana floods:

"The terrible floods in Ohio and Indiana have assumed the proportions of a national calamity. The loss of life and the infinite suffering involved prompt me to issue an earnest appeal to all who are able in however small a way to assist the labors of the American Red Cross to send contributions at once to the Red Cross at Washington or to the local treasurers of the society. We should make this a common cause. The needs of those upon whom this sudden and overwhelming disaster has come should quicken every one capable of sympathy and compassion to give immediate aid to those who are laboring to rescue and relieve. (Signed) "WOODROW WILSON."

The President also sent the following telegram to both Governor Ralston, at Indianapolis, and Governor Cox, at Columbus, Ohio:

"I deeply sympathize with the people of your state in the terrible disaster that has come upon them. Can the federal government assist in any way?"

MISSISSIPPI FLOODS PROBABLE.

Washington, March 26.—Cessation of rain in the floods districts within the next 24 hours was predicted tonight by the United States Weather Bureau.

"The storm, which is now centered in Kentucky and which has been causing general precipitation for several days," said the forecast, "will now move rapidly northeast and pass into the ocean by Thursday night accompanied by rains and shifting gales and followed by fair and much colder weather. The weather Friday will be fair throughout practically the entire country."

A repetition of the flood in the Ohio River experienced in January of this year, with a probable stage at Cairo of at least fifty feet within the next ten days, is indicated according to the bureau experts. The crest stage of the Mississippi may slightly exceed 27 feet by the end of the week. Additional reports confirm earlier indications of heavy rains on the watersheds of streams in Kentucky and Tennessee which enter the Ohio River from the south, but the precipitation north of the Ohio Wednesday was not heavy.

Definite stages in the Mississippi below Cairo, the Bureau said, could not be forecast tonight, but with the water now in sight a flood with stages not very greatly in excess of the stages experienced in February seemed probable.

MASSACHUSETTS' FUND

Twenty Thousand Dollars Raised for Ohio Flood Victims.

Boston, March 26.—In response to an appeal for help for the flood sufferers in Ohio and Indiana sent out today by Governor Foss, as president of the Red Cross board for Mossachusetts, $20,000 was raised in a few hours.

Governor Foss telegraphed Governor Cox, of Ohio, and Governor Ralston, of Indiana, expressing sympathy and stating that a fund for the relief of flood sufferers in their states had been opened.

Mayor Fitzgerald wired Governor Cox:

"Boston stands ready to furnish money, clothing and anything you want."

GORDON REEL'S SUCCESSOR

Col. Washington Slated for Superintendent of Highways.

Bureau of The Baltimore American,
Room 1005 World Building,
New York, March 26.

Col. William deH. Washington, a direct descendant of the family of George Washington, is slated for the position of state superintendent of highways, to succeed Gordon Reel, who was removed by Governor Sulzer. Colonel Washington is a well-known engineer, and has already been commended by the Governor as one of the leading authorities on road construction in the United States. He is an independent Democrat and resides in New York.

Colonel Washington, who is president of the West Virginia Society, was a guest of the Maryland Society at its annual banquet here last night.

BRITISH OFFICER HANGED

Killed a Man That He Might Marry His Wife.

Allahabad, British India, March 26. Lieutenant Clark, of the Indian army medical department, was hanged here today for the murder of Mr. Fulham, an examiner of military accounts, of which he was found guilty on March 1, by the Superior Court at Agra.

The trial of Lieutenant Clark and of Mrs. Fulham, his accomplice, caused a great sensation in India. They were charged together with poisoning Mr. Fulham and attempting to murder Mrs. Clark, in order that they might marry. Mrs. Clark was found badly wounded and later died. The crime was discovered through correspondence which had passed between the two prisoners.

IMPOSSIBLE TO TELL LOSSES

Continued from First Page.

Academy are rushed to Logansport to aid in the rescue and relief of scores of people marooned in the business districts.

In West Indianapolis one pitiable tale after another added to the horrors of the flood story during the entire day. Night fell there on an uncompleted work of rescue, after more than 500 persons had been taken to a single landing station at Blaine avenue and Morris street, where facilities were increased to 19 rowboats, a launch and two canoes. From three to four persons were brought in each boatload from the second floors of houses and from the roofs of one-story buildings.

Poorer classes constitute a majority of the population in this section of the city, and nearly all of them lived in one-story homes, now covered by the water. It is this situation that makes uncertain the estimates on the loss of life, as there is no manner of telling how many entire families may have been trapped in these little dwellings.

Governor Ralston visited as much of this section of the city as possible and the suffering he saw there, combined with reports of increasing disaster throughout the state, led him to prepare late in the afternoon a proclamation to be issued tomorrow calling for contributions of money, food and clothing.

Secretary of War Garrison offered assistance from the War Department, but Governor Ralston said he would not call for this aid unless Indiana citizens are not able to take care of the situation.

The big bridge of Kingan & Company, across White River, went out tonight and with it a large amount of debris was swept down the river and lodged against the Big Four Railroad bridge a few blocks below, which puts the latter in great danger. The bridge of the Vandalia Railroad is only one block below the Big Four's structure and is likely to be carried away if the bridge above it goes out.

WORST FLOOD IN HISTORY

Governor Cox Sends Appeal For Aid

IS WITHOUT PARALLEL

Waters Assume Unknown Heights In Many Places.

RIVER IS FOUR MILES WIDE

The Ohio Executive, In a Telephone Message to New York Says That the Extent of the Flood in Ohio Is Still Unknown — Urges Great Publicity to His Appeal For Help — Every Hour Filled With An Accumulation of Drastic Circumstances — Piteous Appeals From Marooned.

New York, March 26.—Governor James M. Cox, of Ohio, telegraphed tonight from Columbus as follows:

"The exact extent of the apalling flood in Ohio is still unknown. Every hour impresses us with the uncertainty of the situation. The waters have assumed such unknown heights in many parts of the state that it will be hardly less than a miracle if villages and towns are not wiped out of existence in the Southern and Southwestern parts of Ohio. The storm is moving South and East.

"Please give great publicity to an appeal for help. My judgment is that there has never been such a tragedy in the history of the republic.

"Columbus was the center of all activities in behalf of the stricken cities. Every hour has apparently been filled with an accumulation of drastic circumstances.

PITEOUS APPEALS FOR AID.

"Piteous appeals have been made by men who were surrounded by water and confronted by the approaching conflagration in the city of Dayton. Every human energy has been exerted to give relief and yet the measure of assistance has been comparatively small. It is my belief, however, that by daylight tomorrow those imprisoned in the business section of Dayton can be relieved.

"The day began by a storm signal from the weather bureau, advising that there would be a dangerous rise in the waters of the Muskingum River. All the towns along its south including Zanesville and Marietta were advised. Before noon the situation assumed a critical aspect at Zanesville and the historical Y bridge was blown up with dynamite.

"The loss of life in Zanesville is uncertain because all telephone communication ceased at noon. Marietta cannot be reached, but it is safe to assume that the same devastating results at Zanesville was carried on to Marietta.

"A flood situation developed in the Maumee and Sandusky Valleys in Northwestern Ohio, but the damage to life and property was nothing compared with that in the South.

SITUATION WITHOUT PARALLEL

"In many respects the Dayton situation is absolutely without parallel. The city is unable to send to the outside world any accurate idea of the real loss. North Dayton reported a loss of 100 lives. Later precisely the some situation was reported from Riverdale. West Dayton was almost completely under water, and the houses in Edgemont, a residential section, was so deep in the flood that great destruction to life and property certainly ensued there.

"Telephone communication was established before the day was out."

At 1:05 the Western Union wire, carrying Governor Cox's message, was suddenly interrupted.

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BAKING POWDER
Absolutely Pure.
The only Baking Powder made from Royal Grape Cream of Tartar
NO ALUM, NO LIME PHOSPHATE

AROUSE YOURSELF
Get rid of that tired, lazy feeling commonly known as Spring Fever. It really means inactive liver, clogged bowels and sluggish blood. Put some vim into the system, overcome all such disorders by taking
HOSTETTER'S STOMACH BITTERS

Pennsylvania Railroad
Special Notice Account Western Floods

On account of floods in Ohio and Indiana, all train service to points on the P. C. C. & St. L. Ry., Pan Handle Route, via Pittsburgh, has been temporarily discontinued.

Cincinnati is accessible via Washington and the Chesapeake & Ohio Ry. Columbus, O., can be reached via Chesapeake & Ohio Ry. and the Norfolk & Western Ry.

Trains for Cincinnati via Washington leave Baltimore, Union Station, at 1:45 P. M., 5:19 P. M., and through train at 9:55 P. M.

All train service to points on the Fort Wayne Route, west of Alliance, has been temporarily suspended.

A limited number of Chicago trains are running through via Alliance, Cleveland and the Lake Shore Road.

The sale of tickets has been suspended to all points to which train service is interrupted, but will be resumed as soon as train service is restored, of which prompt notice will be given the public.

Consult Ticket Agents.

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