

OMAHA WORLD-HERALD SOUVENIR FLOOD EDITION

## Souvenir Edition Pictures Nebraska Flood Disaster

### Flood Area Towns Report Conditions to Gov. Cochran

Oxford and Cambridge Among Hardest Hit Cities in the Valley

Missing at Parks

Pontoon Bridge Being Erected Over River Near Indianola

The first authentic, comprehensive picture of flood conditions in the Republican valley towns was obtained at a conference, called by Governor Cochran, in McCook Wednesday morning. The following are the reports made by representatives of the stricken towns:

**Max:** Leon Hines of Benkleman said there were no deaths at Max but several farms were destroyed. Three families there need rehabilitation.

**Parks:** Speaking also for Parks, Hines reported one child missing but that the village was "going along all right."

**Indianola:** Asa Wolfe, county superintendent and county clerk Cross chairman, reported no dead or missing there. A pontoon bridge was being put across the river at Indianola, he said.

**Bartley:** Arthur B. Wood, banker, said three lodges from McCook were recovered and five or six houses in the valley near were destroyed. He said two hundred animals were buried, one hundred others were found and 75 were returned to owners.

**Cambridge:** R. O. Finch, superintendent of the city light plant, said three persons were drowned there and one body was found. At least 45 houses were swept from their foundations, he said, and some were carried a quarter of a mile. Finch declared not half of the houses were worth returning. He said residents feared no contamination of water, although it has not been sterilized. Communication was the worst problem there, since farmers on south side of river could not get to Cambridge to obtain food and other necessities.

**Holbrook:** J. H. Scott, farmer and stock feeder, reported no deaths but said from 20 to 25 houses were under water at one time. The bridge there was not destroyed, he said, but approaches to the structure were damaged or washed out.

**Arapahoe:** W. K. Rinehold said one person drowned and three bodies were recovered, two from other towns. He said 10 houses were destroyed or damaged. Rinehold appealed to Cochran to ask railroads and others to use Nebraska labor as much as possible in reconstruction work.

**Edison:** W. R. Arnold, undertaker, said one Edison person drowned, a girl visiting at Oxford. The bridge at Oxford was not damaged, he said, but the river cut a new channel around it. The river was 14 feet over its banks in that vicinity, he reported. Many farms there were left worthless for present cultivation and hundreds of head of live stock were lost.

**Oxford:** H. A. Harnsberger, business man, said nine bodies were recovered, two from towns and 20 persons still were missing in the territory up to Cambridge.

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### Urges Camps for Children

Former New Yorker Offers Suggestions in Delinquency Fight

Tucson, Ariz., June 7 (U.P.)—A new idea to combat the wave of juvenile delinquency now sweeping the nation was advanced today by Michael Smith, former New York social service and educational expert who is residing here temporarily.

Smith proposed establishment of camps, financed with federal funds, for children from poverty-stricken families and those whose home environment is bad.

In a lengthy report to Relief Administrator Harry L. Hopkins, requested by federal authorities, Smith proposed:

1. The unit of camp organization should be the county, or, in sparsely-settled communities, several counties combined.

2. A camp committee including county relief officials, the school superintendent, the county health officer, and three laymen interested in children's camps, should control each camp.

3. Camp facilities could be obtained either by sending children to established camps on a per capita basis; by renting charity camps unable to operate because of lack of funds; construction of camps as PWA projects; renovation of disbanded CCC camps; by taking over quasi-public and industrial camps, or by renting private camps, scores of which are available because of lack of business.

### Republican, Gentle River, 'Goes Mad'

World-Herald Staff Member Describes Flight Over Flood Mile-Wide Amazon

(By airplane, The World-Herald dispatched one of its reporters to the flood area early Saturday morning. Mr. Youngman brought back the first pictures of the rampaging Republican, which, with the following descriptive story, appeared in Saturday afternoon's home editions.)

BY LAWRENCE YOUNGMAN.  
(World-Herald Staff Member.)

The Republican river, from the air, is an awesome thing as I beheld it from a plane.

Usually a mild-mannered stream, inclined to stay between its narrow, tree-lined banks, today it is a thing gone mad—a monstrous Frankenstein created by nature. Killing people, tearing at railroad tracks, obliterating entire farmsteads, wrecking bridges, drowning live stock, inundating fine farm houses, smashing along buildings—and those that it cannot move it craftily attacks by washing away at the foundation.

**Water Swells and Boils.**

From the air it was a mile-wide Amazon. The fury of the stream is shown by the manner in which the water swells and boils wherever its path is impeded by any sort of barrier. The trees that formerly lined its banks are now merely green punctuations—dotted lines—reminders of the days when the river was on its good behavior.

As the plane flew up the river, small groups of horses and cattle were seen here and there on

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### The World-Herald Tells of Disaster Along Republican

Indian Boys Defy Spirits

Three Save Companion Caught in Quicksand of Colorado River

Leupp, N. M., June 7 (U.P.)—Three full-blooded Navajo boys defied the dread Chindi spirits to save their friend from death. When Reid Briggs, a student of the Navajo reservation school here, was caught in the treacherous quicksands of the Little Colorado river, his three schoolmates came to his rescue.

At the risk of their own lives, they dragged him to a sandbar. Briggs had been submerged for over five minutes. Despite the Navajo fear of death and the Chindi spirits and the superstition which tells of a horrible fate those who approach one who has drowned, they worked over him, using artificial respiration.

Eugene Fitz, boys' advisor at the school, heard of their effort to revive Briggs. He found that Briggs was returning to consciousness, carried him across the river and home. The three Navajo heroes, Austin Williams, 14; Wesley Dickson, 16, and Fritz Bitso, 17, are members of an Indian Boy Scout troop.

**Blue Line Fades.**

St. Louis, Mo., June 7 (U.P.)—Only 32 veterans of the civil war are left in the St. Louis area. The Grand Army of Republic has five active posts.

Newspaper Presents Complete Narrative of Terrors Endured

First in with News

Stories of Hardship and Photos Showing Awful Destruction

The World-Herald with this special souvenir flood edition, distributed free, presents to dwellers in the Republican river flood area a printed and pictorial record of the terrible days through which its residents have just passed.

Included in this issue will be found the latest tabulated list of 53 known dead and 48 missing, a word picture from day to day of the fight against the flood reprinted from The World-Herald while the flood was at its height, and pictures of the seething water, taken by World-Herald photographers from the air and on water and land.

**Rose to the Need.**

Regular subscribers throughout the area will wish to preserve copies of this special edition for a record. They may wish to send them to friends describing the danger and hardships endured.

The demand has been great for a narrative account of the progress of the flood from the time it struck in Nebraska and plowed its path of death through prosperous cities and villages and productive farm lands.

The story also tells how Nebraska has sprung to the aid of its stricken citizens and how the work of rehabilitation under guidance of Governor Cochran already is under way.

When a wall of water engulfed a thousand farm homes along the river in southwest Nebraska Friday night, and flowed on with destructive force for four days, it placed the heaviest load on newspaper circulators they ever had met in Nebraska.

**Tornado Adds Horror.** With sensational stories flying that hundreds were dead, more hundreds injured and that property loss ran into the millions, there was a cry everywhere for definite information. News that a tornado had destroyed many lives and much property added to public horror.

All communication was broken save here and there an overloaded telephone wire. Town after town was inundated. Railroad tracks, washed out for long stretches, even yet are not repaired. Carefully built highways were torn out. All bridges in some counties had disappeared.

For a time only communication in many spots came through faint signals of amateur wireless operators.

All around people were dying, after having clung till exhausted to some support they met in the raging flood.

**First Into McCook.**

The Omaha World-Herald met this emergency. It sent its last Sunday's edition into McCook by airplane, first newspaper to reach that flood center, and has continued this service since from North Platte.

And since that time, by airplane, bus, truck, and special mes-

(Continued on Page 9, Column 5.)

### Associated Press Compiles List of Dead in Republican Valley Flood, Tornado

Following the the Associated Press' list of Nebraska tornado and flood victims in the Republican valley, as it stood Wednesday. A \* indicates a tornado death; all others were flood deaths.

#### Bodies Recovered.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Pettit and six children, Benkelman.

\*Mrs. Franz Zander, 22, and children, Delbert, 11 months, and Franz, jr., 3 years, near McCook.

George E. Colver, 47, Trenton, and son, George R., 7.

Robert Miller, Franklin.

Mrs. Josiah Harding, 45, Hale, Colo., at Trenton.

Art Duvall, Benkelman.

W. L. Stevens, Orleans, and mother, Mrs. Powell, and her grandchild, Jackie, 5, of Kearney.

Mrs. Charles Miller, 32, and children, Virginia May, 4, Charles Frances, 10, and Claudine, 2, near McCook.

Miss Elizabeth Shook of Imperial, at McCook.

Fred Sullivan, near McCook.

Virginia Blauvelt of Edison, at Oxford.

Mrs. Lee Mills, Oxford.

Mrs. Leonana Fuchs Anderson, 36, Oxford.

Frank Greenleaf, Franklin.

Will Watson, Franklin.

Rev. Thomas Bragg, Cambridge.

\*Ruth Stratton, 1 week old, Stratton.

\*Mrs. William Rohde and daughter, Pauline, 1½, near Miller.

\*Mrs. John Schmidt, 26, near Curtis.

\*Johnny Schelles, 10, near Curtis.

Glen Anderson of Holdrege, at Oxford.

Ray Bickford, 43, of Beaver City, at Orleans.

George Hayes, jr., 31, Arapahoe.

Glen Bell, McCook.

Mrs. Alvin Dakes, Orleans.

Mrs. Harvey Barnhart, St. Francis, Kans.

Mrs. Alva Stonecipher, Trenton.

Fred McIlvaine, McCook.

Mrs. John DeVries, 40, Oxford.

John Misterek, 50, Elwood.

Mrs. Will Andrews, Arapahoe.

Mrs. Jacob Schachtler, Oxford.

Ed Nordstrom, Oxford.

Henry Neumier, Carter.

George Sayer, sr., 65, Cambridge.

One unidentified girl at McCook.

An unidentified boy, near Cambridge.

#### Unofficial Dead.

Lois Burke, 4, Parks.

Mrs. Robert Harrison, Benkelman.

Pete Courtwright, 15, Benkelman.

Ora Davis, Benkelman.

Merna Workman, Benkelman.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Faylor and two children, Benkelman.

Mrs. Johanna Osborne, Benkelman.

Baby Miller, near McCook.

Mildred Stonecipher, Trenton.

Mrs. Howard Smith, Trenton.

Mr. and Mrs. James Thomas and son, Spencer, Trenton.

Mrs. Will Stevens of Orleans and Pat Stevens, 7, of Kearney.

Mrs. August Bohling, Alma.

Mrs. Charles Fuchs, Oxford.

Mrs. Orville Fuchs and daughter, Willis Lou, 6, Oxford.

Mrs. Herman Fuchs, Oxford.

Carl Anderson, Oxford.

Ralph Blauvelt, Oxford.

Elvira Schachtler, 24, and Lester, 28, Oxford.

James Mills, 6, son of Mrs. Lee Mills, Oxford.

John DeVries, jr., and son, Chester, 16, Oxford.

Mart Madison, Oxford.

Mrs. Emma Lindstrom of Holdrege.

Ray Kirwin, 45, Arapahoe.

Bill Andrews, 58, Arapahoe.

Truman Mosely, Cambridge.

Mrs. Henry Neumeyer and children, Dorothy and Bobby, of Carter.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Lacey of Omaha, near Carter.

Josiah Harding and son, 15, of Hale, Colo., at Trenton.

Owen Murtha, Trenton.

Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Wallace and 3 children, Culbertson.

# 28 Dead, 4 Missing in Floods; Flee Three Nebraska Towns

## Republican River Goes on Rampage

Stratton Family on  
House Floating  
Down Wild Stream

Fear Two Are Lost

100 Men Marooned  
in Trying to Save  
McCook Power Plant

Rain came down like Niagara over Nebraska today and sent residents of Trenton, Benkelman and Stratton fleeing from their homes as the Republican river's muddy overflow swirled through the village streets. Two were reported drowned near Trenton.

Mr. and Mrs. O. C. Murtha, elderly farm couple of near Trenton, were said to have lost their lives when swirling waters of the Republican took them by surprise and cut off their retreat to higher ground.

At Stratton a family of eight was marooned on top of a farm house floating down the river. Twenty other families got out of their homes in the nick of time, one of them managing to ford the inundated fields on horseback.

In McCook a hundred men were marooned in the power and water plant which they had been fighting all night to fortify against the threatening water. The city was without power, and only such drinking water as was in standpipes was available. Steps were being taken to ration the food.

### Trains Held, Dams Broken.

The flood's crest is expected at McCook late today. The river was rising three feet an hour this morning.

The Burlington is holding all its trains at McCook. Twenty-five hundred feet of track has been washed out near Curtis.

Several bridges were washed out, a new 60-foot highway span over Medicine creek having been swept aside and stood on end. Highways in all directions from McCook are under water.

A dam at the fish hatchery on Rock creek went out releasing a 38-foot wall of water, and on other dam broke near Curtis. The Blue and Nemaha rivers are also at flood stage.

Sidney, oddly enough, reported no rain.

But pioneers in southwestern Nebraska declared this the most serious flood ever experienced there, and stock losses and property damages are expected to run into many thousands of dollars.

### Fear \$1,000,000 Loss.

Following mid-week floods of the Republican and Frenchmen rivers, it was estimated that damages to highways, grades and bridges would total more than one million dollars in this southwest region. This total was expected to be sent to even higher levels with today's new inundation.

Meager reports from Beaver Valley, to the southeast of McCook, indicated that region also is experiencing one of the worst floods in its history.

Grand Island and 3.55 inches of rain before 9:30 a. m.—making May the wettest month on record there since 1908. The total was 9.22 inches.

### Hail in Richardson.

Kearney reported 1.85 inches, the biggest shower there in more than two years, bringing the May precipitation total to eight inches. For May, 1934, it was less than half an inch.

In Richardson county, hail mowed down a strip from a mile to three miles wide near Dawson and Humboldt reported considerable damages to crops, saying it was the heaviest hail thereabouts since 1898.



—A.P. Wirephoto.

## Rescuers to Aid of Flood Sufferers

Rescuers are shown here carrying a flood victim from the Fountain Creek district near

Colorado Springs, Colo. More than a score are reported dead or missing.



—A.P. Wirephoto.

## Hundreds Homeless as Waters Rise

Hundreds were made homeless as the flood waters inundated houses and farm buildings along

the creek. Here is a typical scene taken late Thursday afternoon.

## Witness Describes Flood Conditions at Arapahoe

### Children in Terror; as Waters Rise; Roar Heard a Mile

Arapahoe, Neb., May 31 (P).—Six persons marooned on a tiny knoll in the lowlands watching the rapidly rising water lap in the remaining ground that means their safety—

Two men overhauling their way along a network of wires to escape the hungry flood waters below them to reach a bridge and attempt a rescue of a marooned mill worker—

Three terror-stricken children clinging to their parents on the second floor of their home while men attempt to rescue them—

Such was the picture painted here tonight by Glen Hill, who excused himself in giving an eye-witness account of the flood conditions here to rush to his own home and remove his family.

### Miracle if Loss Not Great.

"It will be a miracle if the loss of life is not heavy in the Republican valley lowlands," said Hill. Unquestionably hundreds of head of live stock have been swept away. There must be 20 feet of water over much of the lowlands.

"The roar of the raging river can be heard for more than a mile. It was at the outskirts this evening. It started rising rapidly tonight. It rose six feet in two hours. The power plant went out.

"I don't know what has happened to George Hays, jr., and Everett De Boer. They grabbed telephone poles when the current swept them off the highway. They climbed the poles and worked their way for several hundred feet to a bridge where they hoped to make their way to a mill, to rescue a man there.

"Now nothing has been heard from them.

"Out in the surging waters a light still burns on the second floor of the home of Ray Swerpsfeger, marooned there with his wife and three small children.

"The water line is getting near the lamp. The men in the boats can't reach them it seems.

"A mile or so across the black waters can be seen the bonfire of people trapped in the lowlands while attempting to aid Charles Hasty remove his cattle. They had plenty of warning to get out but Hasty tried to save his cattle. One boat has reached them."

On this page are reprinted the first of the flood stories as published in the Omaha World-Herald on Friday, June 7. Other news of the flood as it was reported from day to day in the Omaha World-Herald is reprinted in the following pages in chronological order.

## Army Plane Scans Flood

Leaves at Dawn for  
McCook; Senator  
Fears for Health

With serious concern felt for the health and safety of flood-marooned residents in the McCook, Neb., area, an army plane was scheduled to leave Fort Crook shortly after dawn today for an aerial inspection of the district.

Seventh corps area officials here heeded a plea by State Senator W. C. Bullard, who telephoned from Grand Island. Lieutenant Arthur Strunk, air commander at Offutt field, Fort Crook, Friday night, prepared to take off for the stricken area.

### Health Dangers.

Bullard, in appealing for army aid, pointed out that, among other factors, there is danger of pollution of the town's water supply and, with the town's dairies all located in low areas, there is danger of the milk supply being cut off.

Lieutenant Strunk planned to fly over the area, landing at McCook if possible, and report back to corps area headquarters here.

Novel means were attempted, unsuccessfully up to an early hour today, to obtain news from the inundated territory A "land SOS," the first ever attempted in the memory of local amateurs, was sent out of Omaha Friday night by three short wave radio operators. Two local radio stations, WOW and KOIL, also joined in the attempt.

### Appeals Futile.

The local stations and amateur operators broadcast, over both long and short wave, appeals that anyone in the flood area hearing their messages request the nearest short wave operator to broadcast all available reports on conditions.

Short wave operators throughout the country were requested to stand by, awaiting word from the area, but none came, presumably because power plants, necessary to the operation of most short stations, were put out of service in most of the flood area.

A trace of rain fell in Omaha Friday night after a fall of .73 of an inch in the 24 hours preceding 7 p. m. The showers brought the total to 6.60 inches since January 1.

### Homes Swept Away.

The last word from Kiowa indicated about half of the town was under water.

At Elbert, a score of buildings—business establishments and residences—were reported washed down the torrents. Whether there had been any loss of life there remained undetermined.

The heaviest property damage here was along Fountain and Monument creeks, two streams which join a short distance from the city and flow through it just west of the business section. Many homes and business houses were damaged and several were swept away.

The crest of the floods passed on last night and struck Pueblo, Colo., where a large ward building at the state hospital was torn apart and half of it carried away.

### 16 in Hospitals.

Sixteen persons were receiving treatment in hospitals here for injuries and shock. Among them was Fred Whiteford who clung to a log and floated nearly five miles before he was taken from the water. His wife was among 11 persons who were rescued from the top of a barn.

William Linville said he saw two men pulled down by the swirling waters and a few minutes later watched helplessly as another lost his grip on a log and fell into the torrent.

Milo Thatcher, a carnival company employe, succeeded in rescuing eight women and three children, but was unable to reach an infant, floating to an unknown fate in its crib.

### High Water in Denver.

Flood waters flowed today for the second time in two years in the downtown streets of Denver.

Normally puny Cherry creek, which cuts almost through the center of the city, held the bulk of the turgid flow, and only trickles of water slopped over the reventments to spread along the low-lying streets of the wholesale district.

Warned well in advance that a flood was coming, thousands of Denver citizens lined the banks of the creek to watch the water enter the city. Two years ago two lives were lost and property damage was heavy.

## Heavy Loss as Colorado Rivers Swell

Six Are Drowned  
in Eastern Wyoming  
and One in Kansas

New Threat Arises

Platte Rising Near  
Fort Morgan and  
Warning Is Issued

By Associated Press.

Twenty-eight persons were reported dead, four missing, hundreds homeless and property damage in the millions as floods swept Colorado, Wyoming and Kansas today.

Heaviest toll was in the vicinity of Colorado Springs, where 13 fatalities were listed today with the six missing. Five other deaths were reported in northeastern Colorado earlier in the week.

Six persons were drowned at Glendo, Wyo., in what was described the worst flood in the history of the eastern Wyoming foothills. The dead were listed as follows:

### New Threat Arises.

Mrs. Willis Strickland and her 5-year-old son, drowned in Horseshoe creek near their ranch home about three miles southwest of Glendo. Dr. and Mrs. Fred Phifer and their son, Wood Phifer, and his wife, all of Wheatland, drowned in Chugwater creek near Chugwater.

Vern Reed, Independence, Kans., was drowned five miles west of Independence in a wheat field that had been inundated by flood water from the Elk river.

The first body of those drowned in the vicinity of Colorado Springs yesterday was found today and a huge new threat of high water developed in the extreme northeastern section of Colorado.

### Body Recovered.

The body of Donald Cimino, 38, was recovered in Fountain creek, a mile downstream from the spot where he was swept yesterday from his horse as he attempted to rescue a trucker caught in the swollen stream.

"Unprecedented" was the description of danger along the Platte given by County Commissioner T. J. Moore as he broadcast warnings to ranchers to remove their families and live stock from lowlands along the Platte from Fort Morgan eastward.

Emerging from a night of terror and its most disastrous flood in 15 years, the Colorado Springs area took stock by daylight and saw that this eastern slope city was the focal point of the waters' attack. Homes were swept away, highway and railway bridges gone, and communication, power and transportation paralyzed.

### Two Communities Isolated.

Pueblo, scene of the 1930 flood disaster, escaped with some property damage but no deaths.

Greatest concern today was centered on the still isolated community of Kiowa and its neighbor, Elbert, from which little news had emerged, but which suffered the brunt of two huge torrents originating in a cloudburst on the crest of a watershed which swept part here. They were Mr. and Mrs. Herman M. West and their two daughters, Esther Towsley, and Mrs. Oscar White, 30.

Fears for the safety of passengers of two automobiles reported overturned in washouts near Glendo, Wyo., were dispelled this morning. J. A. Gerl, telegraph operator at Orin Junction, four miles from the point where the cars left the road, said the machines were enveloped in the flood but the occupants found refuge on an isolated hill.

# 46 Believed Dead as Tornado Follows Flood in Nebraska; Estimates of Toll Up to 250

## Damage Likely to Reach Over Million Dollars

Republican River Becomes Sea of Water With Only High Hills Out of Flood; Houses Swept Downstream by Torrent

## National Guard and Red Cross Act

Two Towns Wiped Out by Wall of Water; Twisters Hit Near McCook and Curtis; Families Moved Out as Platte Rising

With ten dead identified, and at least 68 other deaths reported, and some estimates placing the toll of human lives as high as 250, southwestern Nebraska today was recovering from the worst flood and tornado in its history.

The reported deaths were: At McCook, 11; at Curtis, 13; at Oxford, 12; at Benkelman, 12; at Parks, 8; at Stockville, 9; at Alma, 6; at Trenton, 3; at Miller, 1.

The list of injured is expected to run into the scores. The most conservative estimate of the total property damage places it in the millions of dollars.

### Towns Demolished.

The towns of Max and Parks, Neb., and St. Francis, Kans., are said to be wiped out. Flood damage is severe at McCook, Benkelman, Stratton, Trenton, Culbertson, Holdrege, Arapahoe, Edison, Orleans and Republican City. Tornado damage has been reported from Trenton, Curtis and McCook.

Short wave radio stations are broadcasting appeals for help. National guardsmen are being sent from Kearney, Holdrege and Minden. Red Cross relief plans are being formulated in Lincoln, Denver and St. Louis. The Red Willow Red Cross was radioed authorization to spend whatever amount is necessary.

### Skies Are Clearing.

The sun is shining at Scottsbluff, and the worst is believed to be over; but it may be several days before the total cost in human lives and property will be ascertained.

### Platte Also Rising.

The waters are rushing on down toward the Missouri, and scores of persons are fleeing from the bottom lands of the Platte and other central Nebraska streams.

### An Eight-Foot Wall.

When the flood crest reached Bloomington in Franklin county this noon, an eight-foot wall of water swept through the town, wrecking everything before it.

### The known dead are:

Mrs. Frank Zamber, 32; Delbert Zamber, her 11-months-old son, and Frank Zamber, her 3-year-old son, at McCook. These deaths were attributed to the tornado.

Mr. and Mrs. O. C. Murtha, who lived on a farm near Trenton, drowned in the Republican river.

Pauline Rhode, 2-year-old daughter of William Rhode, farmer near Trenton. The child's head was severed by a heavy timber when the tornado destroyed the home.

Glen Anderson, Holdrege fireman, drowned while attempting rescue work.

### The known injured are:

Mrs. William Rhode, Trenton, several fractured ribs, a broken arm, and internal injuries. Her condition is critical.

Frank Zamber, McCook.  
Ed Steinke, McCook.  
Mrs. A. E. Rathe, and her two children, McCook.

Martin Polfus and four children, McCook.

Mrs. Johanna Moore, McCook.  
Dr. Workman of Curtis, who lost consciousness but was rescued while trying to swim back after attempting to cross flood waters on horseback to aid the injured.

### Boat Capsizes.

Glen Anderson's death came when the boat capsized while he and Roy Barber were attempting to reach three Fuchs families marooned near Oxford. Both men were Holdrege volunteer firemen, who had gone to Oxford to assist in the rescue work. They were both swept down the stream, but Barber escaped by grasping a tree and hanging on until rescued.

### Hear 28 Missing.

The Associated Press estimates that at least 28 persons are missing at Oxford. A short wave radio dispatch received in Omaha this noon said that 52 were dead, but this could not be confirmed.

A partial list of the missing at Oxford:

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Fuchs.  
Mr. and Mrs. Orville Fuchs and their daughter, Willis Lou, 6, and son, Howard, 3.  
Mr. and Mrs. Herman Fuchs and daughter, Mary, 3.  
Mrs. Leona Anderson and son, Carl, 12.  
Charles Morris, 68.  
Edward Morris, 65.  
Mrs. Beckey Askey, about 55.  
Mr. and Mrs. Lee Mills and son.

Mrs. Emma Lindstrom.  
W. P. Pleas.  
Bert Huff.  
Owen Hill and his son and daughter.

### John Best and two sons.

### See House Floating.

The Charles Miller home, from Trenton, was seen late yesterday floating down the street with Mr. and Mrs. Miller and five of their six children in it. They have not been accounted for. The other Miller child, a daughter, was found by rescuers this morning. Also missing are three men who were visiting in the Miller home, Dale Miller, Fred Swanson and Glenn C. Bell.

Fred Swanson, prominent McCook contractor, is also missing. Ten persons are missing from Goodland, Kans., but no bodies have been found.

L. L. Hines of Benkelman said eight bodies of people from the village of Parks, which was washed

off the map by yesterday's flood, have been recovered at Benkelman. He said 23 persons were missing.

### Rescued from House Top.

Mr. and Mrs. Alva Clarine and his father, Frank, were rescued from the roof of their house at Oxford after it washed more than two hundred yards downstream.

Telephone conversations with points on the outskirts of the flooded region created a picture of a vast sea of water, extending almost from edge to edge of the Republican valley. Only higher hills were still above water, and power and communication lines were a tangled snarl, partially under the swirling eddies.

The national guard medical regiment was being rushed from Holdrege, Lexington and Kearney, following authorization of such efforts by Acting Governor W. H. Jurgensen at Lincoln. Red Cross headquarters at Denver was also taking steps to organize relief work.

Lieutenant Edward Gillette, who also is a Nebraska senator, was leading an ambulance company from Holdrege.

### Reports Confusion.

Short wave radio sets in the stricken area sent out repeated calls for help, and airplanes flying over the area broadcast further news of the catastrophe. One short wave radio report said that 16 persons were dead at McCook, another that 16 families had been wiped out, and a third that 16 families were left homeless. Confirmation was impossible because the stations lacked power.

An emergency relief office was set up in the city hall at Oxford. Eight boats containing 25 men and fire department inhalator equipment were sent from Kearney to Oxford.

The flood covers an area two hundred miles long in the Republican river valley from the Colorado border to Republican City. The Platte rivers are also rising. Kearney reported that the Platte there was going up between three and five feet an hour this morning.

### Trains Are Halted.

Communication services are almost completely disrupted throughout the flood zone, roads are impassable, and all train service has stopped. Many miles of track and several bridges have been washed out.

A population of at least 15 thousand persons in the southwestern corner of the state is feeling the effects of the tornado and floods.

When the Rhode farm home near Trenton collapsed, a 3-week-old baby, Marie, was buried in the debris, but the child was later extricated unharmed.

G. J. O'Brien of Kansas City telephoned to Denver today that he had counted 23 bodies in the streets of St. Francis, Kans., after the Republican river flood struck there.

"There may be as many as 30 dead," O'Brien said. "Things look terrible. The river overflowed a whole portion of the city and it was a ghastly sight."

O'Brien said he had walked 10 miles to reach a telephone.

### Ex-Bluffs Folk Hurt.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred R. Smith, formerly of Council Bluffs, were seriously injured when a tornado demolished buildings on their farm south of Curtis, Neb., according to a telephone message to a nephew in Omaha, Charles Powell, 3905 North Seventeenth street.

The phone call regarding the injury to the Smith family revealed that doctors had been unable to reach them.

Two miles north and a mile east of Overton, the farms of J. W. Wilson, Charles Wisemiller and Charles Bryant were damaged. Damage in that territory has been estimated from 15 to 30 thousand dollars.

About seven miles south of Curtis, the tornado mowed through a path a mile wide causing serious damage to the E. J. Keogh, Jess Marsh and Ed Grouse places.

Near McCook, the farm homes of Joe Shipper, S. J. Mowery and J.

## Tales of Heroism Rise from Ravages of Flood

Heroes were made wholesale in southwestern Nebraska today, as fugitives from the flood waters clustered on hilltops and watched planes and boats fly over the raging waters in search of missing persons.

Craig Welch and Clinton Madison of McCook were credited with saving four lives by braving the river in a light canvas canoe.

They took "Grandpa" Dings from a roof to which he had clung for 12 hours through driving rain, rescued Nels Nielson from another roof on which he had been stranded for eight hours, and rescued a man named McKillie and an unidentified person.

Glen Anderson of Holdrege gave his own life in an effort to save others. He and Roy Barber set out in a small boat to cross the waters to rescue three marooned families. The boat

capsized. Both men had inner tubes around their bodies, and they fought the waters bravely. Barber managed to catch hold of some trees and hold tight until rescuers reached him. Anderson was swept away.

Telephone operators stood at their boards until the last possible minute. The Trenton operator did not leave until 11:30 a. m. yesterday, when the flood began to surge in the back door of the office.

Doctors were fighting to reach the injured. Dr. Workman of Curtis got a horse late last night and tried to cross the flood waters to reach farm homes which had been demolished. He and the horse became separated. He tried to swim back but lost consciousness. Rescuers were able to pull him from the water, however, and he is expected to recover if pneumonia does not set in.

W. Harse were reported badly damaged.

The village of Parks, near the border, was wiped out, with all but two buildings swept away, according to a radio report picked up at the Fort Omaha army station. The report said the sender was working from an amateur set in the flood district. Parks is a town of one hundred population.

Holbrook, east of McCook, was half flooded and practically everybody in town took refuge in the two-story brick school building. No casualties were reported.

### Two Fight for Life.

Two men fought for their lives at Arapahoe. Caught on the highway by the torrent, George Hays and Everett De Boer clung to telephone wires and worked their way hand over hand to the Arapahoe flour mill, on higher ground. The town went dark at 9 p. m. A dozen persons who had taken refuge on a hill were rescued by boats.

"A terrible wall of water came down the river about 8:45 p. m.," said Mrs. M. L. Cox, wife of an editor. "The rescuers had to light lanterns to guide the boats."

Three other Arapahoe men saved their lives by swimming when the current swept their boat against a tree and capsized it. The river was three miles wide.

Edison, the next town east, was partially inundated and fears were held for the safety of residents of low-lying farms on the edge of town. Telephone communication was cut off last night.

### Many Families Homeless.

More than one hundred Red Willow county families were homeless, standing in the sunshine of a perfect summer day studying the wreckage as the flood's crest swept on eastward.

Homes and buildings in south McCook were washed from foundations, but the main business section was not inundated. Many citizens estimated the damage in that community alone at a million dollars.

Fair weather is forecast for tonight and tomorrow in the stricken districts. Railway and highway crews already are out struggling to repair the damage.

Fred Kleitch, maintenance engineer for the state highway department at North Platte, said the Lincoln highway was open clear across the state this noon but in poor condition in some regions. It will be several days, however, before roads from North Platte to McCook are likely to be open.

### Cook Over Campfires.

Many miraculous escapes were reported. Mrs. Johanna Moore's home near McCook was crushed, but she was carried from the wreckage alive.

Mrs. H. A. Leper and her daughter ran to the basement of their farm home near McCook as the twister took it off the foundation. The house was scattered over a quarter of a mile, but neither woman was seriously hurt.

Nearly every house in the tor-

nado area suffered damage to chimney, windows and porches. Scores of persons were cooking over campfires today.

Other rivers in Nebraska were overflowing today and flood danger was apparent in many areas.

Platte valley residents saw their river rising rapidly. It was reported out of its banks at the Colorado line and residents from Scottsbluff to Grand Island were packing their belongings, ready for flight. A United Air Lines pilot reported the river over its banks between North Platte and Grand Island, but apparently nobody in danger.

The Gurnesey dam on the North Platte river in Wyoming is full to overflowing, a rare occurrence.

### South Loup Goes Out.

In Lexington, Buffalo creek went out of its banks and drained through the city streets last night.

A dozen highway bridges between Gothenburg and Lexington were washed away.

The South Loup river at Pleasanton, directly west of Grand Island, swept away a huge steel bridge at 8 p. m. last night. The town was inundated and all minor bridges were out. Residents in the lowlands fled their homes.

The Blue river at Beatrice went over its banks, too, damaging farms and halting train service. The river rose a foot during the night and was still rising this morning.

Vedigris creek, in the northeast part of the state, drove 25 families from their homes today at Verdigris following a cloudburst yesterday afternoon. Many small buildings were swept from their foundations in the first flood in 20 years.

## Red Cross Ready to Aid Stricken Nebraska Areas

Washington, D. C., June 1 (AP).—Cary T. Grayson, chairman of the American Red Cross, said today his organization was prepared to take whatever steps are necessary to cope with distress in flooded areas of southwestern Nebraska.

The disaster relief worker at Denver was reported ready to go into the flood areas to organize chapters to assure prompt relief as soon as he can get in.

L. M. Williamson of McCook was reported in touch with Red Cross chapters along the river and to have given them instructions to meet any relief situation as promptly as possible.

Reprinted on this page are news stories of the flood disaster which appeared in the Omaha World-Herald on Saturday, June 1.

# Flood Loss Set at 12 Millions; Death List Rises

**Fifteen Definitely Killed by Water or by Tornadoes**

**Total May Be 80**

**Many Are Homeless or Missing; Crest Moves Into Kansas**

Nebraska's flood and tornado death list stood Saturday night at 15 named or identified authentically, with a total of around 84 indicated on fairly well grounded reports.

Verification, however, was still impossible at many points. Fifty persons were listed as missing at McCook, with only slightly fewer at Oxford, and smaller numbers elsewhere.

The property damage will be around 12 million dollars, a telephone engineer said at midnight after an all-day survey.

Meanwhile the army prepared to send three boats to the lower parts of the two-hundred-mile stricken area, where persons were reported still marooned in trees, houses and on low hills. National guardsmen were ordered out for rescue and protection purposes, and Red Cross relief activity was begun.

The flood waters swept eastward, reaching Red Cloud late in the afternoon and Superior a little bit later. Meantime the Platte river system was high all along its length, but not dangerous.

### Tornado Kills Six.

The tornado which late Friday struck across the area already stricken with floods, caused at least six of the deaths in southwestern Nebraska, while others of the identified dead were water victims.

The injured run into scores. Across the line at St. Francis, Kans., on a tributary of the Republican, similar disaster overwhelmed the area, with reports of around 13 dead.

A summary of the casualties includes: Four identified tornado victims, two unidentified bodies washed up by the river, reports of six or more other dead (50 missing); at Oxford, one identified dead; 11 other reported dead; more than a score missing; at Curtis, one identified tornado victim; at Benkelman, 12 reported dead; at Trenton, 18 reported dead; at Parks, eight (bodies said to have been recovered); at Alma, six, three identified; a Miller, one tornado victim, identified; at River-ton, one reported; at Bloomington, three reported.

No word of number of deaths was yet available from Max, town near Benkelman reported to have been "wiped out" by the waters.

### Power Crew Reserved.

At McCook the 37 men who had been stranded atop and inside the wrecked electric power plant were removed by a boat late Saturday. The boat crew was aided by a cable anchored on shore, and the boat had been given the emergency power of an automobile engine.

Included among those taken off in the last boatload was J. R. Jacquett, manager of the plant.

Communications systems in the disaster region remained crippled Saturday, though rains had halted in much of the territory and efforts at emergency repair of telephone and telegraph lines, railroads and highways were being pushed.

At McCook the flood waters were receding Saturday night. Legionnaires and others continued searching parties, making rescues from trees. Rope bridges were being built over creeks to handle relief supplies.

### Many Families Homeless.

More than one hundred Red Willow county families were reported homeless, one airplane pilot re-

porting 45 persons isolated without shelter on a hill near McCook.

A plane from Broken Bow was impressed into service Saturday afternoon to fly up and down the river with supplies of food for marooned persons at several places. Jack Jeffords was the pilot. A passenger reported seeing a woman's body on a sandbar near Cambridge.

### Rescuers Rescued.

Four rescue workers near Oxford, for whom fears had been felt, were saved but two others were missing. Le Roy Barber of Holdrege, partner of Glen Anderson, was rescued after he snatched a tree branch and held on until help arrived. Also rescued were James H. Fitzsimmons of Oxford, Cliff Rowle of Holdrege and Asher Thomas of Kearney. They were stranded on an island after their motorboat overturned in the swift current and their location was ascertained by an airplane.

Missing rescue workers are Walt Parks and Max Banwell of Oxford.

W. J. Nissen, in charge of emergency relief work at Oxford, said he feared the death toll in his vicinity alone would reach one hundred.

An appeal was broadcast from Oxford by First Lieutenant Herman Mattson of the Kearney national guard unit for services of a motor launch or a seaplane, if any can be located.

"Unless some such craft can be found," Mattson told Editor Hugh Brown of Kearney, "there are scores of persons trapped in trees or hanging feebly to tottering houses who will lose their lives." A motor boat and two outboard motors sent from Kearney were found useless against the strong river current.

"Tell Omaha army officers we need services of large equipment, capable of bucking the flood current, or many persons will be lost," the national guardsman said.

Mattson said that possibly as many as one hundred persons were marooned on rooftops and in trees in the vicinity of Oxford.

Major G. N. Henninger of the national guard, after a boat trip to near Cambridge, said at midnight that a rumor of a six-foot wall of water rushing down the valley again from the west was false.

He said a group of people were marooned on an island near Cambridge but appeared to be safe for the time being. Henninger said the water was not rising at Cambridge. The report apparently developed from the influx of Medicine creek near Cambridge.

The river was receding gradually, and two more men were rescued by boatmen. They are Lee Mills and Herman Fuchs. No trace, however, was found of other members of their families.

Roe Gordon and George Dunn, both of Kearney, rescued an elderly man from a clum of willow trees and then were stranded on the opposite side of the stream when their motor boat apparently became disabled. The man rescued was believed to be George Fuchs.

Four small boats capsized when tossed about by the surging eaves, but national guard officers planned to use small boats tomorrow in case the lower water should prevent larger boats entering the shallow lagoons.

A score or more persons Saturday night saw two men and a woman fall from a housetop at Oxford to what many believed was certain death in the flood waters of the Republican river, but the trio clung doggedly to a roof cornice and drifted near the opposite shore, within reach of a rope. They were Charles Morris, 68; Edward Morris, 67, and their sister, Mrs. Becky Askey, 55. They had waited on the housetop for 24 hours in hopes a rescue party would reach them.

Food supplies were running short at McCook. Water and milk were scarce, and some common bakery goods could not be found in restaurants. A suggestion was made that arrangements be made for a plane transport between McCook and North Platte to bring in food.

### Frontier County Survey Made.

An official Red Cross survey of the tornado in Frontier county showed one person dead, two injured critically and nine others hurt. H. K. Douthit, county Red Cross chairman at Curtis, estimated property loss would be between

50 thousand dollars and 100 thousand dollars in Frontier county alone.

The fatality was Mrs. John J. Schmidt, 26, who lived about seven miles south of Curtis.

Douthit said the tornado cut a swath two to three miles wide and 15 miles long, beginning 15 miles southwest of Curtis and extending to a point about six miles south of Farnam, where three persons were hurt. Fifteen farm homes were destroyed.

Dr. A. V. Wortman and Dr. V. H. Magill, both of Curtis, swam part of the way across Medicine creek Saturday to reach some of the tornado victims.

Mrs. August Bohling, 45, and her two sons, Irwin, 18, and Albert, 16, lost their lives at Alma as they attempted to flee to hills in an automobile. The car stalled, was caught by the flood and was swept into the channel.

Rescuers at Alma were trying desperately to reach the family of Martin Ekburg, stranded in trees. Early in the afternoon, Ekburg, his wife and two nieces, could be discerned by the rescuers. Later, however, only three figures could be seen and it was feared one of the family had been drowned.

McCook rescue crews searched for Mr. and Mrs. Charles Miller and four of their children, who floated down the valley late Friday in their house. Charles Miller, jr., who was not at home, is safe, while a daughter of the family was saved by Clyde McKillip, who held her as he managed to catch hold of a tree bough where both perched through the night.

### Army Fixes Air Base.

The army established an air base for its flood area work at North Platte, with plans for three ships to circle the affected area, landing wherever possible and surveying the need for relief.

"As soon as we find out what is needed we are in position to dispatch clothing, food and bedding in the region," said General Stuart Heintzelman of the Seventh army corps area here. "At present no one outside knows what is needed."

Rowland Haynes, FERA administrator in Nebraska, sent Harry D. Elmore, state relief director, and Minnie Strobel, nursery supervisor, to North Platte to organize relief work from there.

### Fear Thirteen Drowned in St. Francis Region.

St. Francis, Kans., June 1 (U.P.)—Receding waters of the Republican river today left death and destruction in its wake. Thirteen were thought drowned here and many others are reported missing.

Damage in Cheyenne county alone was estimated at one million dollars by Marshal Roy Slyhoff. He said about 2,800 head of stock had been swept away.

A family of seven, that of Roy Allen, which lived close to the river south of St. Francis, is missing.

Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson, whose first name was not known here, were seen 12 miles downstream floating on top of their house. Current and swift-moving debris broke up the house and they have not been reported since.

Marshal Slyhoff had been asked to watch for the bodies of three children of the Harding family, which lived 20 miles upstream from St. Francis. Two boys, 8 and 10, and a girl, 19, were thought drowned.

Mrs. Harvey Barnhart, of a farm eight miles north of St. Francis, was reported drowned as she tried to swim from a barn to her house. Her children were stranded at the house.

Rescuers in boats saved a small girl who had taken refuge in a tree, and a boy from a barn loft. One crew drove a large tractor through four feet of water to save a family of seven.

Wells were flooded, and the city light and water plant was flooded by five feet of water. After 12 hours, the city's water supply was restored, but electric service was not expected to be resumed before Sunday night or later.

### Gothenburg Waits for Merger of Two Floods.

Gothenburg, Neb., June 1 (U.P.)—A town of 1,750 people waits here for the joining of two flood streams that may bring a new flood to Nebraska in a few days.

Yesterday the South Platte flooded parts of Brush, Sterling and other Colorado cities. The North Platte, gorged by cloudbursts in Wyoming, is already high and menacing at Scottsbluff, Neb.

R. H. Willis, state irrigation bureau chief, estimated the flow of the North Platte at Bridgeport today at 14 thousand second feet, but said he did not think the high water would reach here until the middle of the week.



Doctor Swims Back.

Dr. Arthur Wortman, University of Nebraska medical college graduate and formerly employed in The World-Herald composing room, had to swim for it late Friday, after he had tried to cross flood waters on horseback. Dr. Wortman had been summoned from Curtis to aid tornado victims. After the horse was swept from under him, he lost consciousness but was pulled from the water by rescuers.

At Kearney, 60 miles below Gothenburg, the rising river is lapping into lowlands, but there is no serious situation yet.

Harry L. Williams, president of the Platte Valley Power and Irrigation district, said he thought drainage water from local rains would recede in time to make room for the anticipated flood waters of the North and South Platte rivers.

Runoff waters from the hills damaged farm lands near here meanwhile, washed out three county bridges and undermined and caused collapse of the Myron Anderson farm home.

### Some Minor Flooding in Scottsbluff Area.

Scottsbluff, Neb., June 1 (U.P.)—Flood waters surged down the North Platte river here tonight.

Lowlands were flooded, but the river was staying in its banks generally, and no damage was reported. The water was laden with debris, however.

F. F. Lefever of the United States geological survey measured the flow of the river at Mitchell at 6 p. m. (C. S. T.) at 11,230 second feet. He said the water was moving at a rate of only two miles an hour.

In the lowlands, a few homes were surrounded by water, but their residents had moved their belongings and cattle out.

The McCook Daily Gazette, with no power for its presses, adhered to the old adage: "The show must go on." It came out today with a one-page extra, 16 inches by 10 inches, and printed on pink paper.

### Engineer Says Property Loss Twelve Million

North Platte, Neb., June 1 (U.P.)—The first general estimate of property damage from the Republican river floods was fixed at more than 12 million dollars here tonight for the Associated Press by R. R. Hartford, engineer of the Northwestern Bell Telephone company.

Hartford's estimates: Highway, bridge damage, one million dollars.

Railroad, telegraph damage, one million dollars.

General property damage, 10 million dollars.

Telephone lines, 30 thousand dollars.

Hartford made an 850-mile flight over the stricken area, landed at McCook, and drove to as many places as the road would permit.

He predicted telephone service from McCook to the east would be restored by Sunday noon, and from McCook north to North Platte by Sunday night.

Hartford found roads passable from North Platte south to Maywood and state highway department crews were working to get the route open the rest of the way to McCook by Monday night.

Reprinted on this page are news stories of the flood disaster which appeared in the Omaha World - Herald on Sunday, June 2.

## Appeal Made by Jurgensen

**Ask Nebraskans to Be Ready to Assist Flood Sufferers**

Lincoln, Neb., June 1 (U.P.)—Acting Governor W. H. Jurgensen tonight called upon "every man, woman and child in Nebraska to stand by and be ready to render immediate assistance" to the flood-tornado zone sufferers.

He issued the following statement:

"Everything possible is being done to alleviate the suffering and take care of the victims in the flood stricken areas. Food, army cots and medical assistance are being rushed into the inundated districts by rail, trucks and airplanes. The Red Cross and other relief organizations are cooperating to the fullest extent with the national guard units ordered out today under the direct command of the adjutant general. The governor's office will keep in direct touch with the situation until the emergency is past.

"The situation is very grave, the death toll appalling, the suffering intense. In this grave crisis which has proved so disastrous to so many of our people, I am calling upon every man, woman and child to stand by and be ready to render such immediate assistance as this unexpected emergency may exact."

WALTER H. JURGENSEN, Acting governor.

## Farmer, 70, Holds to Tree Branches Till Dawn, Safety

Oxford, Neb., June 1 (U.P.)—Death reached out in vain for one of the oldest residents of the water and wind ravaged section.

As the feeble light of a cheerless dawn exposed acres upon acres of turbulent waters where a few short hours before had been comfortable homes and thriving crops, watchers along the impromptu bank of the swollen Republican river at Oxford, anxiously turned their eyes in the direction of feeble calls seeming to come from the depths of the river itself.

Neighbors recognized the voice of Charles Clarine, 70, and for the they were powerless to aid. The one tin-bottomed rowboat would be a straw in the breeze before the tumbling waters.

The dawn quickened into daylight. There, 150 yards from shore, clinging tenaciously to the very top branches of a tree, was Clarine. Long, cold hours he had clung there, the debris strewn water his tomb should he relax his grip.

Finally Henry Mauer and Charles Kurtz, at the risk of their lives, launched the frail rowboat far upstream, by skillful maneuvering they guided the craft by the tree, rescued the weakening Clarine, hesitated at a roof-top to gather three more refugees and successfully guided the overloaded boat to shore.

## State Official Gives Dramatic View of Flood

BY FRANK B. O'CONNELL, (Secretary of the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission.)

Red Cloud, Neb., June 1 (U.P.)—Six weeks ago I stood on a hill here in this fertile valley and watched a blinding dust storm sweep across it, tearing away its powdered soil.

I am standing on the same hill today watching a wall of water sweep down it tearing everything in its path. I arrived at Red Cloud at 4 p. m. The river was well within its banks. At 4:10 p. m. a dull roar could be heard and 10 minutes later a wall of water four to 20 feet deep and from two to three miles wide appeared. In 30 minutes fields, pastures, highways, the railroads—everything was covered with black, surging, smelly water.

What happened here this afternoon has happened for two hundred miles down this fine farming valley.

I have seen a number of floods in Nebraska but none with the immensity of this one. Nebraska people must realize that this is a disaster of major importance and must give aid and succor to those unfortunate citizens who were in its way.

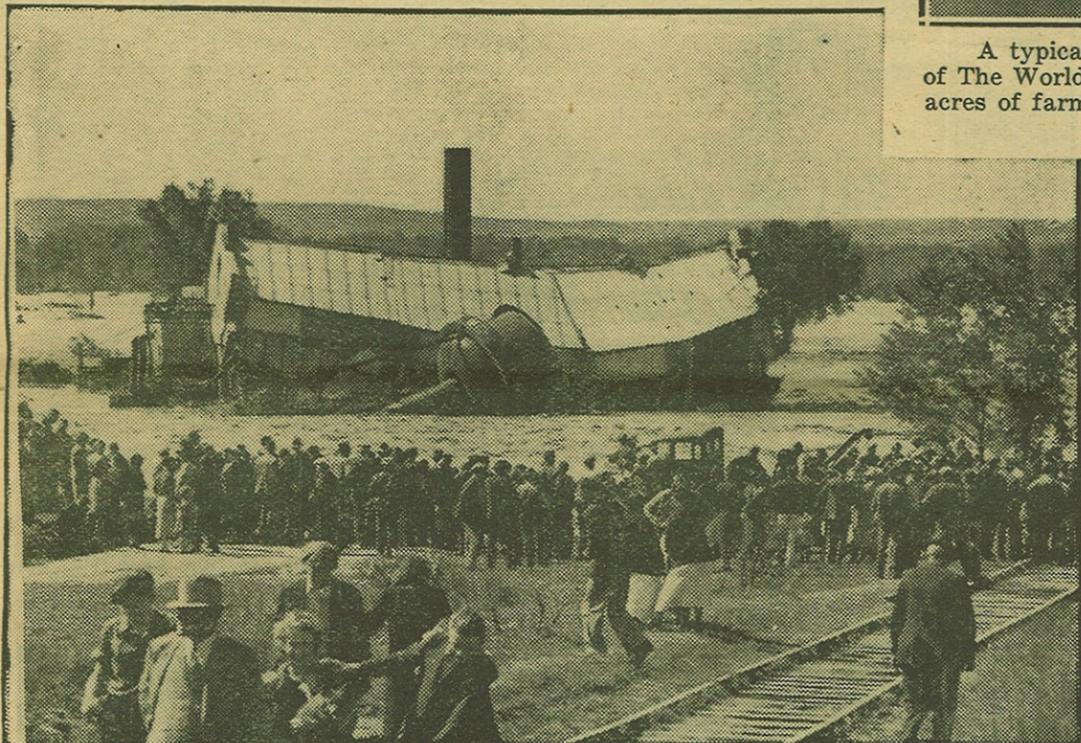


*Saved from Arapahoe Mill*

This boat load of flood victims are survivors of the flood near Arapahoe. They and others were forced to spend 48 hours in a mill near Arapahoe until rescuers could reach them. Several others made their way to land by means of a rope before the boat arrived.



A typical scene in the heart of the Nebraska flood area is pictured here. The World-Herald staff caught it from a plane piloted by Barney Burnham. The photograph shows acres of farmlands were swept by the waters of the Republican river in this area.



Thirty-six men are marooned today in the McCook, Neb., power plant, shown here. They had fought vainly for three days trying to save the plant, only to see it crushed into a jumble of machinery by the rising waters of the Republican river.

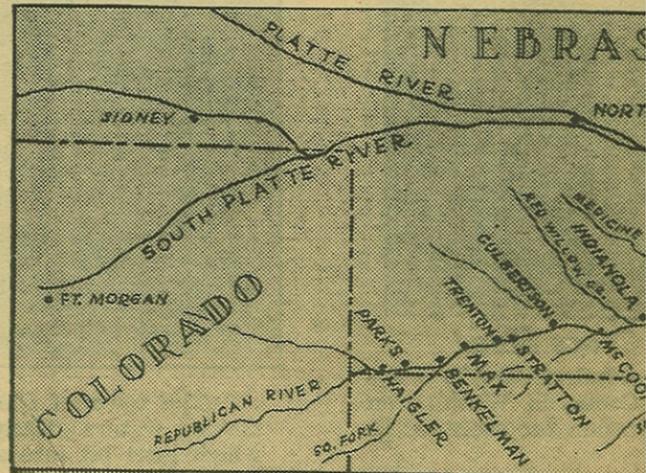


Glad shouts of little Howard Fuchs, 2, turned to sobs as he learned that his father, Orville, who lies exhausted beside him, that they would never see other members of this Oxford, Neb., family are missing in this typical Nebraska history. Beside Howard and his father is Charles Fuchs, and nephew is Herman Fuchs.



*Seek Bodies in Flood Wreckage*

A flood survivor at McCook is shown here searching for bodies in a demolished house cast up by flood waters on a railroad trestle over a small stream between the town proper and the city power plant, which is shown in the center.





Lawrence Youngman, World-Herald Staff Member, snapped the camera of Lawrence Youngman. Scores of farms and thousands of people were destroyed.



**Air View Shows Extent of Republican Valley Flood Waters**

This sweeping view of the Republican river valley, southwestern Nebraska's history. In the foreground is a small herd marooned on an island which Friday was a hilltop. snapped from an airplane Saturday by Lawrence Youngman of The World-Herald staff, shows how the usually quiet little stream went wild during the worst flood in

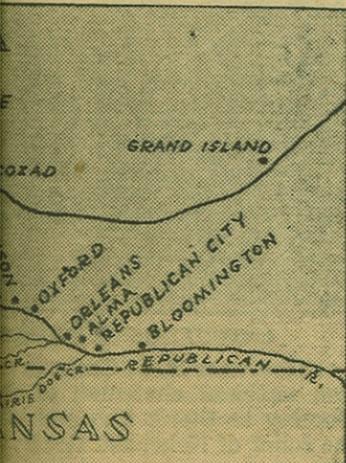


Minutes later when he learned from his mother that his son had been seen by other rescuers. Five other children were rescued from the worst flood disaster in Nebraska. Bending over his brother



**Mile of Railroad Washed Out**

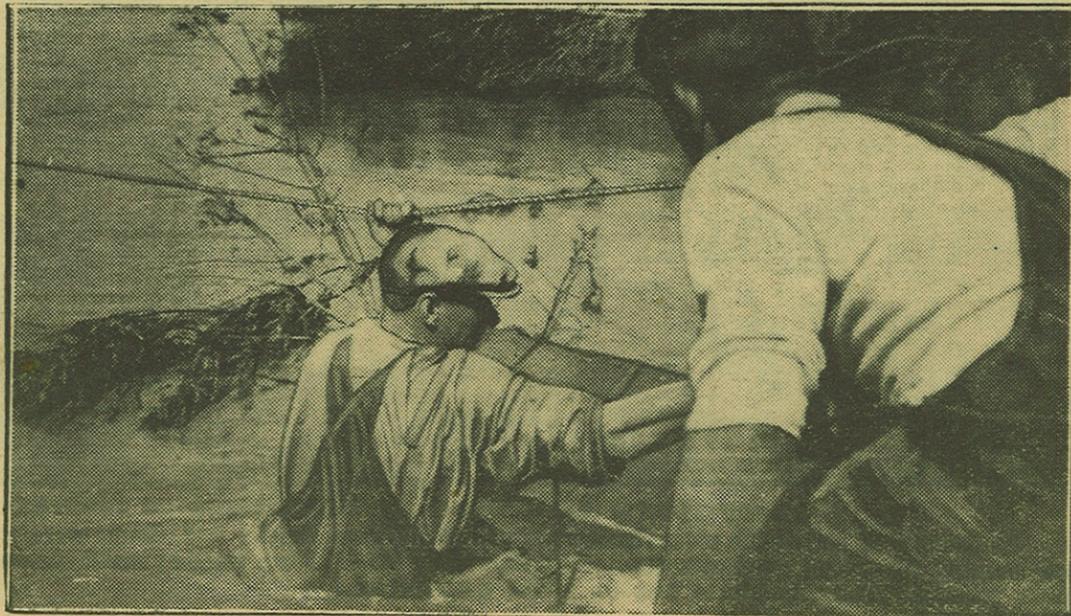
This picture shows where a mile of the Burlington railroad line was washed out one mile west of Orleans, Neb. A mile of Highway 89 alongside the tracks also is gone. The picture shows water washing over the remains of the railroad bridge and two highway spans.

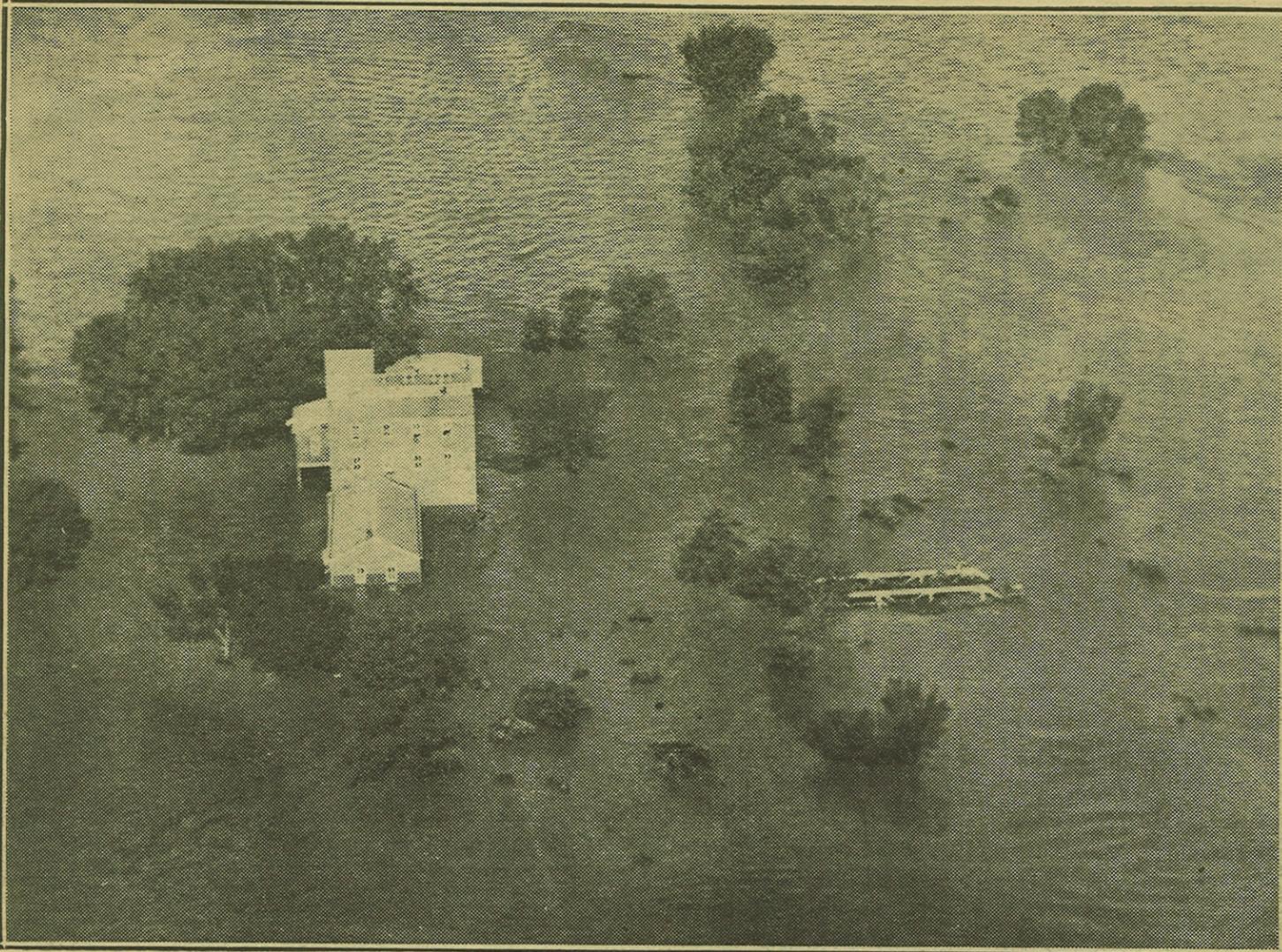


**Rope Leads Marooned Man to Safety**

Marooned on the Arapahoe mill for two days and two nights without food or water, John Eicht is shown here as he made his way to safety by crawling hand over hand by rope.

Map of Flood Area





"The old mill stream" became a raging replica of the Amazon. This is a view of a mill and bridge near Arapahoe as it appeared to The World-Herald's photographer. A little creek formerly wound away from the mill toward the bridge in right foreground. Damage was particularly heavy in this section of the flood area.



AS DEATH-DEALING FLOOD SWEEPED DOWN HILL.—One of the most unusual of flood pictures is this one snapped by a news photographer as he was trapped in his auto on a hillside in Colorado Springs, Colo., by a sudden surge of flood water that a few minutes before had been nothing but a trickle. A timber from a wrecked home was swept against the auto in circle and washed the party away, reached the foot of the hill.



**Pioneer Home Destroyed by Southwestern Nebraska Tornado**

On the site of one of the oldest homesteads in Red Willow county, this wreckage shows the havoc wrought by Friday's tornado. The windstorm was an added disaster as

creeks and rivers were at flood crest as the tornado hit. Note swollen small stream in background.

—Copyright, Ellingson Photo, McCook



**Soldier F**

Private D. C. Hager of this World-Herald photo in this World-Herald photo James Davis, 3, of Oxford baby, with his parents, M



**Bridge Washed Out**

This picture, taken yesterday, shows flood waters on the Republic auto traffic was paralyzed by No. 183 south of McCook was proaching entirely washed out inundated bottom lands in the



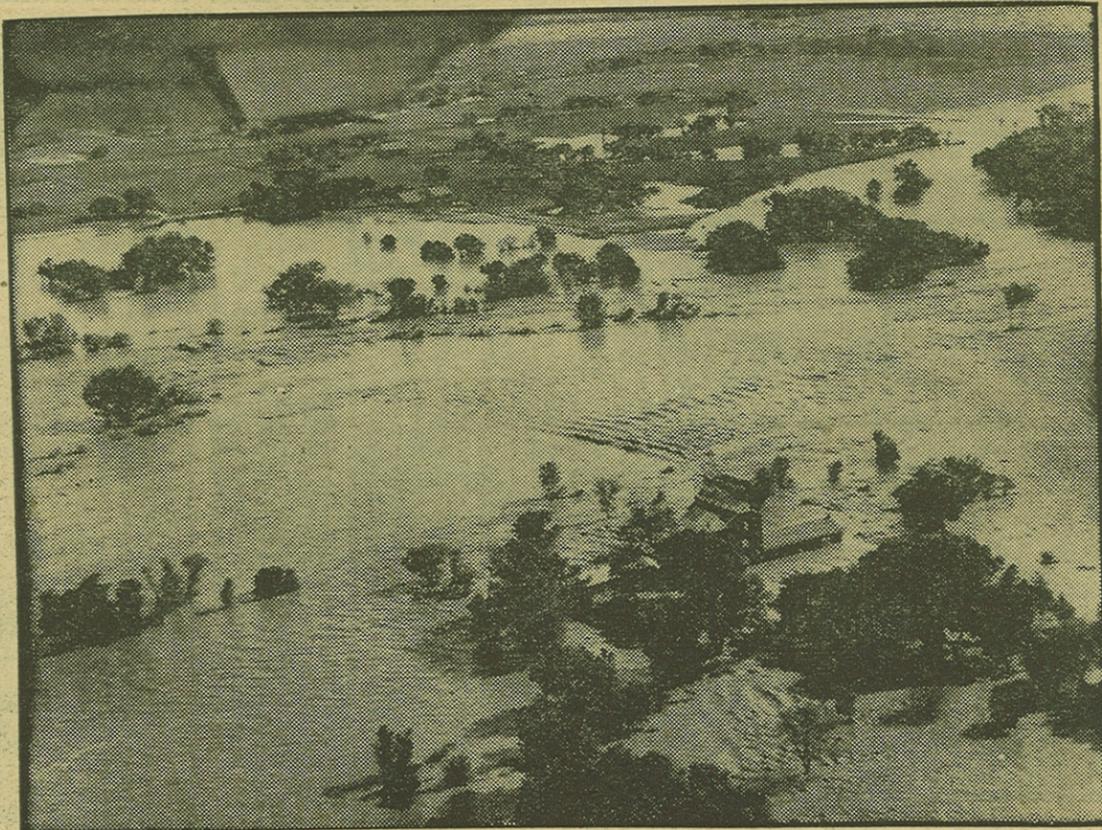
**Governor Th**

Governor R. L. Cochran, son, national chairman of Monday to thank him and the relief of Nebraska flood



**Babe Rescued from Flood Waters**

... is shown  
... fed John  
... after the  
... Mrs. O. L.  
Davis, all had been rescued Sunday morning from raging flood waters of the Republican river. John James seems to be bearing up well under hardship.



This is an air view of the area near Arapahoe, inundated by the flood that roared down the Republican river valley Friday afternoon. Two men were marooned for hours in the mill that can be seen in the foreground.



**Flood Near McCook**

... ernoon, shows one phase of the  
... r near McCook, where rail and  
... ouths. This bridge, on Highway  
... ly washed out, and the fill ap-  
... ters receded today after having



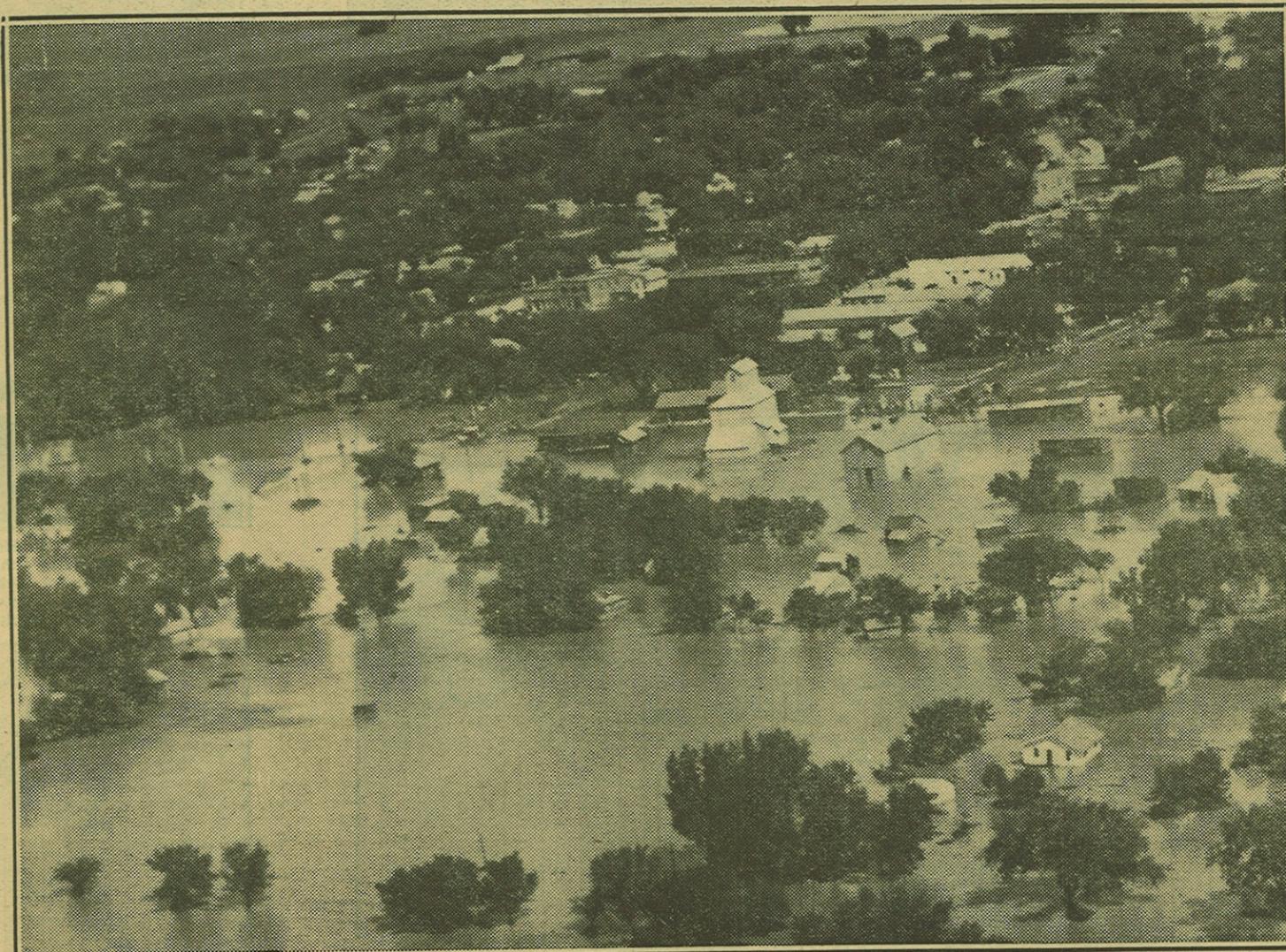
**Rope Leads Flood Victims to Safety**

Bill Krumme of Arapahoe was one of several men rescued by this rope which led from a flood-surrounded mill to the land. Marooned in the mill for two days, the men went without either food or water.



**Red Cross Head**

... lled on Admiral Cary T. Gray-  
... e Red Cross, in Washington  
... rganization for their aid in  
... tims.



The town of Cambridge Saturday was partially inundated by the Republican river's widespread and swiftly moving waters. Many persons, some of them owners of buildings under water, crowded the edge of the flood area, which here bit into a considerable part of the residence district.

Photos by Lawrence Youngman, World-Herald Staff Member.

# Flood Cities Report Toll

## Representatives Tell Governor Cochran of Need for Help

(Continued from Page 1.)  
 ter. One bridge was destroyed and one span of another was damaged. There was no loss in the town itself, but 52 families along the river were destitute, because their houses were destroyed or damaged. He said pilfering of dead live stock was increasing and that local men had been deputized to stop it. Oxford people have been warned to boil water. Only communication across the river was by a short wave radio set.

Orleans: Dr. A. A. Gardner said five Orleans residents drowned and three of their bodies were found. In the area to Carter, 12 were missing and eight bodies were found. He said 12 persons were rescued from trees after 48 hours.

Alma: C. E. Alter said one person drowned and the body was found. Five were rescued from trees and all others accounted for. He estimated 32 thousand acres in the valley were worthless for crops this year. Seven bridges in Harlan county were lost.

Culbertson: Carl Swanson, City attorney, said a family of six was lost in the floods, but that present suffering was not great. "We believe we can take care of the family needs," he said.

Trenton: A. Thuman, banker, said nine persons were missing there and three bodies were recovered. "The needy are rather few," he reported. "I believe that with the proper state and federal help we will recover. We feel fortunate in our misfortune."

Stratton: Wade Martin, banker, said no lives were lost in town, but three persons drowned nearby. Martin said transportation and bridges were the most serious problem there.

Benkelman: Leo Hines, attorney, said nine bodies have been recovered near Benkelman, and seven persons still were missing. He said 14 bridges were lost and many culverts damaged. Parks, he said, was damaged most. "Every house but two was hit by water." One body recovered there was of a person from a Colorado town, 60 miles away, he said. Between 40 and one hundred persons were fed in a church at Benkelman until Tuesday. Townspeople were called out by fire whistles to help bury the dead live stock.

Imperial: L. T. Booner, democratic county chairman, reported the town isolated but in good condition.

Curtis: H. P. Welkinson said two died and 14 were injured.

Maywood: Frank B. Morrison reported no deaths, but said there was property damage to houses.

Franklin, Riverton, Naponee and Bloomington were represented by Mrs. R. P. Hutchinson, who reported three drownings at Franklin and average property loss at all these towns.

# Alma Resident Organizes Warnings for Sixty Miles

A thousand unsung heroes helped reduce the death toll in Nebraska's flood disaster.

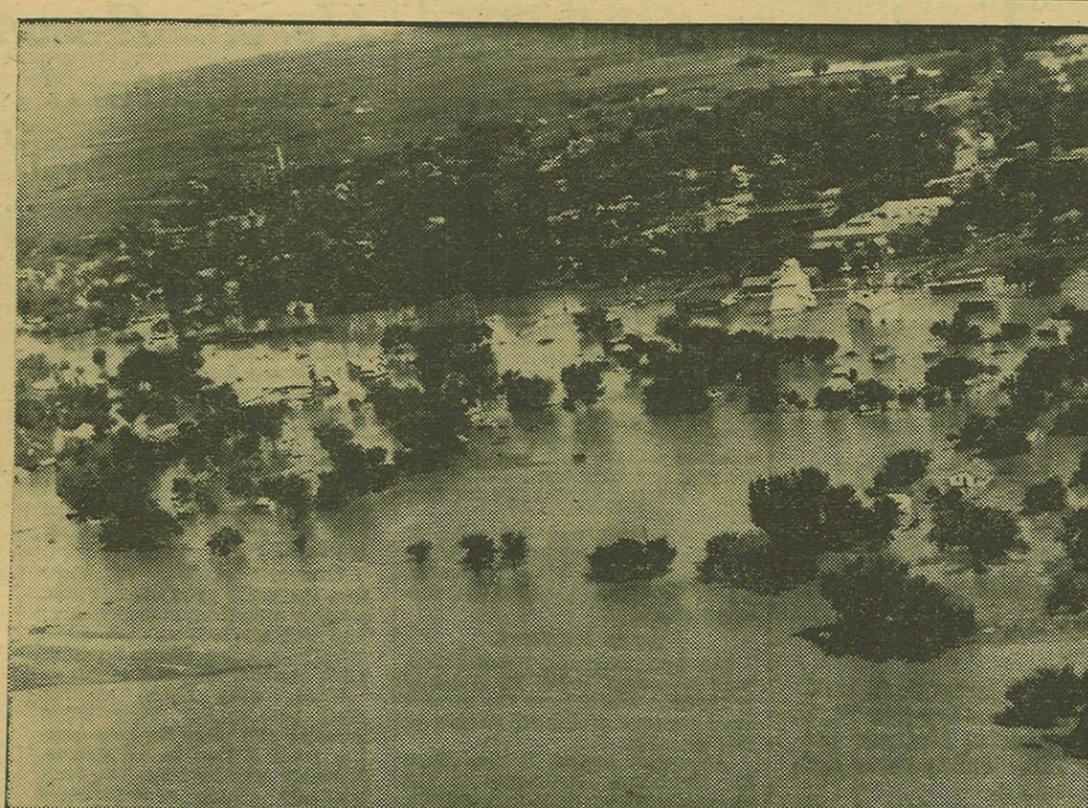
One of these was revealed at Superior when George Patterson of Alma arrived after organizing warning parties all the way down the river from his home 60 miles away. Patterson's own home, on high ground in Alma, was safe.

## Hope Given Up for Nine.

Ralph Miller at McCook gave up hope Saturday night for safety of his brothers, Charles and Dale, and members of Charles Miller's family, Mrs. Charles Miller, jr., Charles Francis, 10, Virginia May, 4, Claudine, 2, and a year-old son, and for two visitors in the house.

Though some distance from the Republican river, Nelson had an undermined building because of recent heavy rains. A 40-foot section of the east wall of the opera block fell away. No one was hurt. The structure, three stories high, was built in 1887.

A minister at Trenton told an inspecting engineer of the Northwestern Bell Telephone company at midnight Saturday that 13



This is how Cambridge, Neb., looked from the air this morning as Lawrence Youngman, World-Herald staff member, flew over the flooded area along the Republican river.

## Gentle River 'Goes Mad'

### World-Herald Staff Member Describes Flight Over Flood

(Continued from Page 1.)  
 high knolls or knobs in the river—the remnant of the live stock in the valley.

Rail Track Stood on Edge.  
 All along the river, on both sides, are groups of people. Some mourn the loss of their possessions, some sympathize with their friends on their losses—and some are hoping against hope for sign or news of friends and relatives.

The railroad track has suffered heavily, all along the flood territory. At some points as much as half a mile of track is submerged. Here and there portions of it are standing on edge, or twisted clear out of shape. The railroad crews are already at work, and are fighting the river all the way.

Most of the towns along the route are partially, at least, on hillsides. The water surrounds the sections in the lowlands, but in most parts of the town there is no danger. An exception, however, is Max, where a Palisades, Neb., aviator, Roy Brown, said at least half of the buildings were washed away.

Pueblo, Colo., June 7 (U. P.)—Police recently sought an "egg-breaking bandit." The robber is an unusual type in that he not only robbed houses but he stole eggs from the refrigerators and broke them on pianos in the living rooms of Pueblo homes.

disaster victims were dead there, but names nor details were not then available.

## 20 Lose Homes at Cambridge.

J. N. Rankin, Furnas county Red Cross chairman, said there are 20 homeless families at Cambridge and "several dead." He said food was provided for two hundred persons there Saturday.

All persons at Bartley and Indianola are reported accounted for.

A. A. Wolfe, Red Cross chairman for Red Willow county, said 18 injured persons are being cared for at McCook.

## Missing Men Safe.

W. P. Pleas and Bert Huff, for a time believed missing at Arapahoe, reported their safety late Saturday night.

Because of the flood the Missouri Pacific halted service between Concordia, Kans., and Prosser, Neb.

J. A. Kirk, McCook landowner, estimated the live stock damage in Red Willow county alone at 200 thousand dollars.

## Flooded Valley Narrow, Water Stands 10 Ft. Deep

### Topography Such That Danger Is Greater Than on Wide Stream

The Republican river valley, in which yesterday's devastating flood and tornado struck, is long and narrow. The river normally is from two hundred to three hundred feet wide, but last summer it dwindled almost to a trickle.

Army engineers in Omaha said that the topography was such as to send a stream of startling depth through the valley, and that hence the danger might be even greater than in some of the lower Mississippi river floods.

## Two Passenger Trains Are Delayed.

The Aristocrat, Burlington crack Denver-Chicago train, was marooned at Benkelman this morning and railroad officials said the passengers would probably be kept on the cars there at least until tomorrow night. It will be impossible to repair washouts which block the train any sooner. The number of passengers aboard was not known here, but rail executives said they would suffer no discomfort.

## 37 Men Marooned at Power Plant.

Marooned on the roof of the Nebraska Light and Power company plant at McCook are 37 men who had been working desperately to save the plant from the flood. Every attempt to reach them this morning failed. The plant, valued at 300 thousand dollars is seriously damaged, and McCook has no power or lights. Total property loss in McCook may run as high as 500 thousand dollars.

Fliers soaring over the flooded area estimated that water in many farm yards was as much as 10 feet deep. But live stock losses may not be as great as was first predicted because many farmers had moved their stock to higher ground last Tuesday because of a storm then.

## Short Wave Radio Carries Messages.

Short wave radio operators sent out a variety of reports throughout Saturday morning. One picked up at St. Louis, and relayed to Red Cross headquarters there, said: "McCook, Neb., isolated completely from telephone, telegraph, railroad, highways. Can get no reliable in-

## Man, 99, Wishes He Had Job.

Cleveland, June 7 (U.P.)—At 99, Albert La Montagne wishes he had a job. Until horse-cars came in,

formation from other counties. Severe flood raging. Seems certain counties as far west as Palisade are somewhat under water. Phone girls forced to leave their posts here Friday noon. Particulars will follow."

## Flood Water Rising on Platte River.

CCC camps along the Platte in the Grand Island-Ravenna territory were evacuated as flood waters threatened them this morning.

## Doctor Says Dead May Total 250.

Dr. J. M. Willis, who was up all night giving first aid to the injured, said he believed the death toll might reach 250 persons. No attempt was being made to count the injured at McCook.

## Crews Save Dam as Debris Gathers.

Irrigation crews toiled all night clearing debris that threatened the farmers' irrigation district dam at Henry and no damage was reported there.

## Oxford Man Says 20 Houses Demolished.

W. J. Nissen, former Oxford mayor, sent out word that 20 houses in his community were demolished and declared that damage to farm lands and property in his neighborhood would approximate a half million dollars.

## Families Moved Out South of Omaha.

The Missouri river was so swollen today, south of Omaha, that scores of families were evacuating the bottom lands. State highway department officials at Booneville sent out a warning to residents east of there along U. S. Highway No. 40 to "get out while there is time."

## Counties Listed Where Damage Great.

Nebraska counties which reports indicated suffered the greatest damage were Chase, Dundy, Hayes, Hitchcock, Frontier, Red Willow, Furnas, Harlan, Franklin, Webster and Nuckolls.

## Residents Thankful Platte Has Been Low.

Residents of Grand Island, Wood River and other communities in central Nebraska were giving thanks this morning that the Platte was so low this spring. They believe that it will be able to take care of the main flow when it hits their vicinities without causing serious overflows.

# World-Herald Tells of Flood

## Newspaper Presents Complete Narrative of Terrors Endured

(Continued from Page 1.)  
 senger, The World-Herald has served every town east of McCook with the latest flood information.

At this time, no Burlington trains are operating on the main line west of McCook or on the southern Nebraska line west of Superior. The Rock Island service stops at Belleville, Kans. There is no train service between Orleans and St. Francis, Kans., also hard hit by the river.

### Other Needs Met.

The Burlington Monday established special bus service from Hastings to Red Cloud accommodating mail and newspaper circulation.

On that day the postmaster at Franklin drove to Minden to pick up The World-Herald and mail for his city.

The World-Herald started its own truck from Holdrege to Orleans and Alma Monday.

This paper reached Edison, Arapahoe, Holbrook and Cambridge Monday through co-operation of postmasters who trucked to Oxford to pick up the mails.

The United States postoffice department Tuesday morning put on a truck line out of Oxford as far east as Superior for United States mails only.

A Burlington special truck line now operates between McCook and Superior for newspapers, baggage and express.

### Big Task Remains.

West of McCook, the problem remains to be solved as relief workers push the roads through mud and silt several feet deep to the towns of Culbertson, Stratton, Benkelman, Max, Trenton, Parks and Haigler.

## Silence Is Horror in Stricken Area; Fear Rides Flood

BY WILLIS YOUNG.

Oxford, Neb., June 1 (AP).—Silence was the great horror of the Nebraska flood district this morning.

Water was roaring by in a two-mile wide swath over a once docile stream bed, houses floated by and overbearing fears rode the current like a nightmare.

There was no communication upstream except for uncertain short wave radio. A single wire afforded some connection with the east. A few airplanes headed up the river, with chances of landing uncertain. Automobiles are hopeless, as the roads followed the river bed. There were no trains, bridges and tracks being twisted and useless.

The racing water covers farms which only a few days ago were described as the last "drouth" section of Nebraska.

## Highway No. 30 Only Route Open Across the State

Lincoln, Neb., June 1 (AP).—Highway No. 30 was the only passable east-west route across Nebraska today as raging floods coursed over the west central and southwestern part of the state.

A. T. Lobdell, head of the bureau of roads and bridges, said the district engineer at Grand Island reported inundation of that highway south of there was imminent as swollen Wood river, augmented by back water from the Platte, continued to rise.

Fred H. Klietsch, chief of the maintenance division, and two other persons left North Platte this morning in an attempt to reach McCook via Elwood. They found Highway 183, the direct route south from North Platte to McCook, blocked by water at Maywood, they informed Lobdell.

With the South Loup river tearing at the highway grade on No. 2 south of Ravenna, blocking of that route from Grand Island was imminent, Lobdell said he was advised.

### South Loup Goes Out.

In Lexington, Buffalo creek went out of its banks and drained through the city streets last night.

A dozen highway bridges between Gothenburg and Lexington were washed away.

# Find 37 Bodies; 91 Dead Listed; Many Missing

## Homeless in Southwest Nebraska May Reach 2,000; Governor Cochran Obtains Pledge of U. S. Aid in Stricken Republican Valley

### Crest Moves Out of the State

#### Speed Restoration of Utilities and Lines of Communication; Some Service Restored; Red Cross into Action; Disease Menace

Ninety-one deaths in the Republican river flood territory had been listed this morning, and State Senator W. C. Bullard, general chairman of relief work at McCook, predicted that the total would be about 140. Thirty-seven bodies have been recovered. Many are missing.

With Colorado reporting 19 known dead, Wyoming 7, Kansas 9, and Missouri 2, it appeared probable that the total of midwestern deaths would be between 150 and 200.

The most conservative estimate of the total property damage is more than 12 million dollars.

J. M. Power, directing Red Cross work at Oxford, believes that it will be at least another week before the full number of dead and injured is known.

#### Army Directs Search.

An armada of experienced Missouri river men in boats rushed from Omaha by army officers is searching the territory between Arapahoe and Orleans, and national guard officers have notified Oxford undertakers to be prepared to care for 15 more bodies.

Between one and two thousand Nebraska families are believed to be homeless. Governor Cochran, in Washington, appealed to the federal relief administration this morning for funds for emergency needs, reconstruction and rehabilitation.

Relief Administrator Harry L. Hopkins assured Mr. Cochran the FERA would advance the state funds. General Douglas McArthur, chief of staff, telegraphed full authority, following a conference with the governor, to Seventh corps area army engineers to assist the flood victims.

#### Red Cross on Scene.

The Red Cross moved into action swiftly. Mrs. Frances Blackburn, disaster relief worker from St. Louis, has set up headquarters at Oxford, and Albert Evans, St. Louis Red Cross director, is on his way to McCook to assume charge there.

The crest of the flood today is near Junction City, Kans., but reports indicate that its fury has been decreasing steadily. There were light showers again last night in much of the stricken territory.

Nearly all of the communities in the Republican river valley are without light and power. McCook's plant is being rebuilt by squads of men working in three shifts, and it was hoped that service would be resumed tonight. Holbrook's plant, which supplies power for several towns in that area, was flooded to a depth of 16 inches and out of commission.

#### Restore 'Phones.

Telephone service is being restored somewhat, much to the discomfort of persons clinging to wires and poles in the flood waters. Several reports have been received of persons shocked by the electric current.

Other Nebraska streams are high, but have not inflicted serious damage. South Platte waters are over the Union Pacific tracks at Paxton and Ogallala, but trains are still operating. The North Platte is out of its banks at a few points. The Nemaha river is overflowing for the third time this year, inundating hundreds of acres in Richardson county, but is not expected to go any higher.

#### Much Stock Lost.

Live stock losses in the Republican valley are tremendous. Senator Bullard estimated that five thousand cattle had been lost near McCook. At Benkelman one observer said he had traveled many yards by stepping from carcass to carcass.

State Representative Charles R. Herrick of Curtis said tornado and flood damage in Frontier county alone would reach a million dollars. H. A. Arnsberger of the Oxford chamber of commerce estimated that the loss in his town's

trade territory would also be a million dollars.

#### All Safe at Max.

The town of Max, which was wiped out Friday night by the flood waters, sent out word when communication was restored this morning that all 100 residents there are believed to be safe.

The village of Parks, also wiped out, sent out word today that there were eight fatalities there.

Lieutenant Arthur Strunk, making an aerial survey for army headquarters at Omaha, brought a list of 11 dead and five missing from Benkelman.

Cambridge is believed to have been especially hard hit, and Major Henninger, in charge of 260 guardsmen about Carter, went there this morning to seek accurate information.

#### Snakes Are Menace.

Receding waters are leaving an ugly landscape of ravines, slime, debris, and snakes. Hundreds of rattlers driven from their holes have added to the terror, and all relief workers are being urged to carry clubs.

Doctors in all the stricken communities are giving typhoid inoculations, and urging everyone to boil all water before drinking it. Army fliers stand ready to send more serum wherever it may be needed.

One highway into McCook has been opened up, and fresh water is being sent in. Water appears to be the greatest need, most villages having a sufficient supply of canned foods to carry them for several days.

#### Operator Saves Lives.

Panicky Kansans fled from their homes throughout the day Sunday as word was received of the havoc wrought in Nebraska. Manhattan's business district may be flooded, but it is believed that ample notice has been given throughout that territory to prevent any further loss of life.

Mrs. S. K. Rose, telephone operator at Milford, Kans., was credited with saving many lives by spreading the alarm as the Republican rose there this morning. It went up eight feet in less than three hours, sweeping the Union Pacific station off its foundation.

#### Highway Damage \$2,000,000.

R. H. Willis, chief of the Nebraska state bureau of irrigation, sent word to Kearney this morning that the Platte flood crest would reach there Wednesday. He predicted a two-foot rise at North Platte tonight.

Damage to Nebraska state and county highway systems in the Republican and Platte valleys will reach two million dollars, State Engineer A. C. Tilley said today. He divided this as follows: To state and federal Republican valley highways and bridges, 600 thousand dollars; to Platte valley federal highways and bridges, 100 thousand dollars; to county highways and bridges, \$1,250,000.

Lieutenant Robert Erlenkotter, supervising rescue work at Oxford, sent word to Captain Young, river engineer in Omaha, today that he thought the situation there would be sufficiently well in hand for him to return to Omaha tomorrow.

The Burlington railroad today had five hundred men working in the flood swept area rebuilding its tracks and bridges. Ed Flynn, vice-president of the railroad, today passed through Lincoln, en route to southwestern Nebraska. No es-

## \$10,000 Asked by Red Cross

### Omahans Urged to Aid in Flood, Tornado, Stricken Territory

As word of death and destruction continued to come from Nebraska's flood and tornado-ravaged southwestern territory, the Omaha Red Cross chapter today appealed for 10 thousand dollars for aid.

Red Cross authorities said five hundred dollars had been pledged by non, including one hundred dollars from the Fairmont Creamery company.

Contributions may be made at the Red Cross office, 406 Hospe building, or they may be sent to The World-Herald, which will forward them.

#### Quota Increased.

The fund, originally set at \$7,500, was increased today as national authorities emphasized the greater need because of the magnitude of the disaster.

An appeal signed by Dr. Glenn D. Whittcomb, chairman of the Omaha disaster relief committee, and W. S. Jardine, finance chairman of the Red Cross disaster committee, was made public today. It said:

"In southwestern Nebraska a succession of terrible calamities have destroyed life and property. Reports indicate that hundreds of men, women and children have been left homeless, without food, warm clothing or other necessities of life. Not only do they need temporary help, but assistance must be given to re-establish them for the future.

#### Relief Workers on Job.

"All along the Republican, Platte and Loup river valleys death and destruction is following in the path of raging water and tornadoes. Skilled Red Cross disaster relief workers are on the field and have the situation in hand.

"This same territory has been ravaged by drouth and dust storms for the past three years. With this disaster, the people are left penniless and are unable to help themselves.

"Will you help us put sufficient funds in the hands of Red Cross workers to help these people?"

"Send your donations as quickly as possible to the Red Cross office, 406 Hospe building."

Recognizing the emergency, Mayor Towl today issued a proclamation calling attention to the disaster, urging Omahans to contribute to the Red Cross.

Contributions made to date, through The World-Herald:

The World-Herald	\$100.00
P. D. ....	5.00
Cash	10.00
R. E. Winkelman	15.00
Total	\$130.00

timatè of the Burlington's loss was available.

Acting Governor W. H. Jurgensen arrived in the flood area today for a personal inspection trip.

Colonel R. E. Harwood of the regular army medical corps will fly to McCook in an army plane this afternoon to make a survey of the sanitary condition there. Colonel Harwood is going to McCook at the request of Governor Cochran and will remain there if necessary.

## Heroic Rescues Galore in Oxford Flood Area

### Folks Believed Dead Appear; Many Owe Lives to Others

BY ALLEN KOHAN.  
(World-Herald Staff Member.)

Oxford, Neb., June 3.—New stories of heroism were told almost hourly here this week-end as survivors of the Republican river flood arrived at relief headquarters.

One account was that of the heroism and sacrifice of John Campbell, Kearney fireman, and Clarence Boles, legionnaire of Lincoln, Neb., both volunteer workers.

Campbell, starting out alone into the night upon hearing that another volunteer named Barber had lost his balance and fallen into the swirling waters from his boat, rescued him last night.

Then, with Boles, another start was made. They heard screams and pleas for help coming from a tree in midstream. Arriving at the tree, the boat suddenly struck a submerged stump and turned over, throwing the two rescuers into the stream.

#### Rescuers Marooned.

Swimming to the tree from which the calls for help had come, they found Charles Fuchs, 70, and his son, Herman. The two survivors told the rescuers a tragic story of seeing most of the Fuchs family carried away by the raging torrent. A boat was sent to rescue the workers, but instead of accompanying the life saving boat back to shore, the two insisted that the father and son who had been in the tree since the flood waters early Saturday morning, be rescued first.

The rescue of Campbell and Boles was not accomplished until 9 a. m., Sunday.

All in Oxford had been saddened by the tragedy believed to have befallen the Fuchs family. Every one, 11 in all, was believed to have been drowned.

Then at the height of this sorrow, appeared the elder Fuchs and his son, Herman. They were asked about the rest.

"I believe they're all gone," said Herman Fuchs. "I saw them carried away by the water when it struck the house with such force that everything was washed away with it." Herman buried his face in his hands and wept.

#### Siren Heard.

Just then, the siren of an ambulance was heard. The crowd drew back away from the curb. Out of it feebly walked a half-clad man carrying in his arms a naked child.

"It's Orville Fuchs and his boy," someone yelled. The child was Howard, 2½ years old.

The boy, his face pale from fright, kept crying for his mother. "She's gone, child," wept the father. "We'll never see her again."

The two were placed on the same cot. National guardsmen began to bring them hot food.

#### Fell from Roof.

Here is what happened to the Fuchs family. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Fuchs, an elderly couple, lived on a farm near Oxford. Near them across the road lived Orville, their son, his wife and two children, Howard and Willis Lou, 7. Nearby was an-

other farm home in which lived another son, Herman, his wife, his wife's daughter, Virginia Blauvelt, and Ralph Blauvelt, a brother-in-law, and another brother-in-law, Lee Mills, his wife and son James, 6.

When the flood struck the group of homes, Ralph Blauvelt started to swim to the Orville Fuchs home to help them. He has not been seen since.

Herman Fuchs started out into the raging waters to search for Ralph but was crushed back against the side of the house by the water's fury.

Soon the house began to fill with water. From the first floor, all sought refuge on the second, then to the third, then to the attic. Finally the attic filled.

Breaking a hole through the roof, Herman climbed above. Then he began to lift the others to safety. The first was his father.

The house suddenly with all in it, was swept away. Aiding his father, who fell into the water beside him, he finally grabbed the limb of a tree. There they remained until saved.

#### Sleep Comes Quickly.

Workers experienced difficulty in the rescue of Rebecca Askey, 58, and her brothers Ed, 63, and Charles Morris, 68, this morning. Enfeebled by long exposure to the weather from midnight Friday until this morning, the three had to be carried on stretchers into boats and finally into the relief station. So overcome were they, that immediately after being placed on cots the three fell fast asleep.

#### Lieutenant Into Water.

Lieutenant Orlenkotter and two companions, Arlie Hinton and Merritt James, both of Nebraska City, were hurled into the stream Sunday when their boat struck a snag. They reached shore, rested, then cautiously returned to recover their boat.

Truman Moseley of Cambridge said he fell from a tree when the waters felled it, swam on and on in vain hope for another tree, meantime holding his son Kenneth, 20 months old. Finally he lost consciousness and the child, but was thrown by the current into a clump of trees. Striking one of them apparently restored his consciousness.

George Sayers of Cambridge was swept off his mule in front of the eyes of his children after he started out in a vain effort to save his cattle.

Rev. Thomas Bragg of Cambridge and his wife were standing in their home, with the water deep about them, when he suddenly said: "I think I have to go," and dropped, apparently victim of a heart attack. He was swept away a moment later as the house was taken, but Mrs. Bragg managed to leave it and was picked up by a boat shortly afterward.

#### Herd Wins Six Places.

Clarkfield, O., June 7 (U.P.)—N. W. Lee has been informed by the American Holstein Cattle association that his herd has received six places in the 1934 honor list of the society.

Reprinted on this page are news stories of the flood disaster which appeared in the Omaha World-Herald on Monday, June 3.

## After the Deluge

Flood followed by tornado, a combination that represents nature in her most cruel mood, struck at southwest Nebraska last week-end.

The loss of human life was heavy. Farms were robbed of live stock, swept away and destroyed in the furious waters. Buildings were damaged and wrecked. The cost of the blow in lives and dollars may not be fully known for days, but it will be large.

The tragedy brought instant expression of sympathy from all Nebraska, and immediate offers of help. There is no mistaking the human bond in times like this. The Red Cross was organizing relief work with traditional speed, and with the promise that all necessary funds would be available. Federal-state relief headquarters, which has been combating the daily woe of unemployment, lent its helping hand in the emergency. The national guardsmen were on the way to the stricken area.

The essential food and clothing and shelter, as well as all comfort, aid and sympathy, will be given to the families in towns and farms along the raging Republican river, and this will help the victims of the storm to endure their personal loss and sorrow.

When one seeks for the brighter lining to this cloud over southern Nebraska, he may find it in the fact that the rains which swelled creeks and streams and rivers into a destructive torrent marked the final redemption of all of the state from the drouth.

It is a heavy cost to pay, in life and property. Yet life must go on, and it is reassuring to know that in all southwestern Nebraska where the earth has been so burningly parched and where even the subsoil resources of water have been lost, rain has again come in sufficient quantity to restore the land and give once more the pledge of crops.

The flood also drives home the lesson of the need for water control in this state, for pressing on with the plans for irrigation projects, dams and stream revetments which will harness the Republican and its tributaries for the use of man, and stop occasional ravages which do men harm. The public works authority must be unportuned again to help reclaim this large area of Nebraska from the risk of withering drouth and the menace of destructive flood.

The Republican valley is stricken today, but it will rebuild to greater strength tomorrow.

# Many Agencies Rush Relief in Stricken Zone

Estimates of Flood Deaths Now Are 81 and 99 in Nebraska

## Guarding Health

Restore Wire Service; Little Danger Seen in Platte Situation

Rehabilitation of the Republican river valley was being rushed this morning while relief agencies strove to determine the number of dead.

Forty bodies have been recovered. The Associated Press, adding to this figure the number of persons missing and feared dead, estimates that the toll is 99. The United Press places the toll at 81.

As Oxford, 16 persons reported missing were found safe when rescue workers reached the south side of the receding stream. It is believed that many more may be found marooned on the hilltops.

Parks and Max, which were reported "wiped out," have been found to have suffered much less than was first feared. Parks was badly damaged but the situation at Max was not so serious.

All national guard companies were preparing to move out of the valley today. Approximately 250 guardsmen have been on duty.

### Fear 13 Millions Loss.

The latest estimate of the total damage in Nebraska is 13 million dollars. Kansas' loss is estimated at 12 million; Colorado's at 10 million, and Missouri's at three million.

The Red Cross, FERA, National guard, American Legion, army and many other organizations are co-operating in relief, rescues and reconstruction.

The Red Cross estimates two thousand families are homeless or "seriously affected" in Nebraska. Many houses, washed away and battered to pieces in groves of trees, will have to be replaced entirely.

Rowland Haynes, FERA administrator, has announced that he has authorization to supplement relief fund requests with sums needed for the purchase of commodities for refugees. A promise of sanitary engineers' aid in eliminating the threat of disease has been obtained in Washington by Governor Cochran.

### Fight Disease Menace.

Health precautions are uppermost in the minds of relief workers today. Wells are being tested, and thus far no signs of typhoid or other epidemic diseases have been found.

Medical men have been hopping from town to town by airplane with supplies and chemicals. Several villages, including Holbrook, Carter and Alma, are without water systems, and the water supplies of McCook and a number of other communities are meager.

Telegraph service was restored this morning to all points except Max and Stratton, and telephone service to most points.

Limited highway connections have been restored throughout the valley. The Burlington has five hundred men rebuilding track, bridges and roadbed.

Highway workers are erecting a temporary bridge over Red Willow creek on the road near here, which is expected to expedite traffic greatly. Other crews are repairing Highway No. 6 which connects the little towns on the floor of the long valley. With erection of a temporary span over a huge approach washout near Cambridge, the road will be open the full length, highway engineers say.

The first crossing of the Republican, swept clear of bridges from Colorado to Kansas, was expected to be ready at Alma by tonight.

### See No Danger Ahead.

The South Platte, North Platte, Arickaree and Nemaha were splashing over their banks here and there this morning, forcing many farm families out of their homes, but doing only trifling damage in comparison with that of the Republican.

It did appear that there was danger where the two Plattes run

## 'Bomb' Will Purify Water

To Drop Chemical at McCook if Airport Can't Receive Plane

Army headquarters here will send five planes into flood emergency work along the Republican river today, and may drop a chlorine "bomb" to be used to purify the McCook city water.

Colonel R. E. Harwood, medical officer, reached McCook by plane Monday evening and reported that the greatest need was the chlorine. It was planned to send a cylinder of the chemical on a pursuit plane, but its weight made this hazardous, so a bombing plane was ordered from Leavenworth. This will reach here this morning, pick up the cylinder in its bomb rack and proceed to McCook.

If the big plane cannot land at the McCook airport, it will drop the cylinder just like a bomb. A mechanic from the Omaha Utilities district, who will be aboard, together with Warren Houston, Kansas City expert, will assist in chlorinating the water.

Lieutenant Arthur Strunk today will fly the first mail into McCook and other stricken cities since last Friday.

Lieutenant Strunk, who has been "shuttling" between McCook and other flood cities and North Platte, expressed fear Monday night that by tonight the North Platte airport might be flooded by Platte river water. If this happens, army officers are anxious as to where they will get another landing field close to the flood region.

together. But the South Platte dumped its crest in yesterday and the North Platte is not likely to do so until tomorrow. The lower stream probably can handle them one at a time, this way, without much trouble.

Down in Kansas the Kaw, gorged by the influx from the death dealing Republican, the Smoky Hill, the Saline and the Blue, overflowed into Manhattan, home of Kansas State college, early today.

### Manhattan Flooded.

Water surrounded about a third of the city's homes. Refugees and live stock camped in the city park, and on the high college grounds. The main business street was under three feet of water.

At the Kansas I. O. O. F. home, five miles west of Manhattan, 95 men, 30 women and 46 women are marooned on the second floor. Drinking water is being taken to them by boat.

All communication from Manhattan west is cut off.

Water isolated Junction City yesterday, cutting off Fort Riley with its four thousand soldiers and CCC men, and sending three hundred lowland residents into the community hall for a night's lodging. The parade grounds was a lake and the great plain that in 1918 was Camp Funston was under several feet of water.

S. D. Flora, federal meteorologist at Topeka, Kans., estimated the Kaw might reach a stage of 26 feet—five feet above flood level—at the Kansas capital this afternoon.

The greatest flood damage in Missouri centered around Pattonsburg, Boonville, Jefferson City, Chillicothe, St. Charles and Tusculumbia. At Pattonsburg, 17 thousand acres of land were under water.

The Missouri river at Boonville was five feet above flood stage, its highest mark since 1903. The Grand river was 11 feet above flood stage at Chillicothe.

### "Can't Be Described."

Lieutenant Governor W. H. Jurgensen, after a personal visit to Oxford, Neb., said he could not find words to describe the destructiveness of the Republican river in this state.

State Senator W. C. Bullard of McCook said, "If anyone can visualize a series of bright little towns and modern farms, and then see everything wiped out in a three-mile wide path for over two hundred miles along the river—that's the picture. I think there will be 140 deaths."

## 'River Rats' Win Praise

Rescuers Bring Back a Story of Expectant Mother's Bravery

BY ALLEN KOHAN.

(World-Herald Staff Member.)

Nearly everyone in Oxford and in the surrounding towns today was heaping praise upon the little band of 10 men brought here by Lieutenant Erlenkotter of the United States army engineers' office of Omaha, in charge of the Missouri river channel work.

"They're regular river rats but they're the bravest and strongest men we've seen," is the praise often spoken.

These men do not object to the term "river rats." "That's what we are," they say. "But when they call us that, they mean it with praise."

If it had not been for these men coming here early Sunday morning with their five boats powered by outboard motors, those brought to safety would be among the missing today, it was said about the streets of the town.

But from the scene of destruction and loss of life, a tale of a new life was brought to headquarters by relief workers. Mrs. Clifford Mossberger, about to become a mother, was swept from her farm home near Arapahoe by the maddened waters.

Half swimming, half crawling, battered against trees, Mrs. Mossberger fought for her life and the new one which was about to arrive. Hysterical and screaming for help she was swept on and on. How she lived, she could not explain today.

Finally she clutched a tree. She felt firm earth. Wracked with pain she crawled, ran and stumbled to a distant light. She fell against the door of a farm home. She was carried in. A few minutes later her son was born. A physician, called from Beaver City, today pronounced the wife and child "doing nicely."

This story of Mrs. Mossberger was revealed by Russel Kunz and John Rozmajile, two of the band of river men brought here from Omaha.

## Busses to Start Carrying Mail in Flood Area Today

Uncle Sam's mail service in southwestern Nebraska, disrupted by floods which halted railway transportation, will take to busses and automobiles beginning today.

McCook, the center of the flood area, will receive its first mail since May 29 by bus today, J. A. Quinn, assistant superintendent of the railway mail service here, said. The bus will leave North Platte this morning.

Attempts are being made now, he said, to establish temporary emergency star routes out of Ogallala to 12 or 13 towns, and out of Superior as far west as possible—probably to Red Cloud. The automobile service will continue until railway transportation through the flood area is restored, he said.

## McCook Streets Dark but Tractor Saves Movie

Water Is Scarce but No Serious Illness; 6,000 See Ball Game

Special Dispatch to The World-Herald.

McCook, Neb., June 3.—Strange as it seems, this town Sunday had:

Not a drop of water to spare, but no serious illness.

Movies but no street lights.

Baseball but no power.

Rattlesnakes as the principal sightseers.

The regular city water pipe line supply was exhausted, but drinking water was rationed out from guarded tanks.

Physicians warned residents to boil their water and to take inoculations against typhoid. Army planes were ready to bring more serum if needed.

The movie theater set up a tractor to provide its own power, and had a capacity crowd Sunday. A baseball game drew six thousand spectators.

## Omaha Drenched; Total Here .62 During Morning

The downpour of .35 inch of rain between 11 and 12 this morning made a total of .62 inch since 7 a. m., and gave Omaha 3.46 inches for May and 6.49 inches for the year so far. Normal May rain is 3.77.

All records of cloudiness have been eclipsed this month. If the sun doesn't show this afternoon, the 1935 mark will be 29 per cent of a possible 129.9 hours of sunshine.

This has also been the fourth coolest May of record here with a mean temperature of 56.5 degrees for the first 30 days, 5.9 degrees below normal and 16.2 degrees below last year.

The highest temperature on Memorial day, 73, was 30 degrees cooler than Memorial day, 1934. Omaha received rain on 23 days this month.

## Rites for 7 Victims Held

McCook Mourns for Those Lost in the Flood and Storm

McCook, Neb., June 3 (P).—Seven flood and tornado victims were buried here today. Dance places and centers of amusement were closed in honor of the dead.

While hundreds of workers searched for several of her missing children, funeral services were held for Mrs. Charles Miller, jr. and Virginia Mae Miller, her daughter, and Elizabeth Shook, her sister. The Revs. Maynard, Methodist pastor, and Lowe, Christian church pastor, officiated. Mrs. Miller is survived by her husband and two rescued daughters, Carolotte and Nadine. Surviving Miss Shook are her father, Joe Shook, and sister, Marjorie Shook, both of McCook.

Franz Zander lay in McCook hospital today fighting for his life at the same time his wife and two children were being buried. Funeral services for Mrs. Zander, 22, Franz Zander, jr., 3, and Delbert Zander, 11 months, were held from a funeral home. Mrs. Zander is survived also by her father, the Rev. J. Kaufeld of Breeman, Kans., five sisters and four brothers.

Private services for Mrs. Owen Murtha, 67, of Trenton were held in Trenton today. Surviving are a son, Owen Murtha of McCook; two daughters, Mrs. John Cordell and Mrs. Fred Grovert of Trenton. Last rites for Ruth Stratton, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ross Stratton were read Saturday.

Services for Fred Swanson will be held tomorrow and the body forwarded to Oberlin, Kans. Surviving are the widow; a daughter, Jeanette; three sons, and a brother, Hardin, of McCook.

"Just for fun" Steven Sambraio, semi-pro baseball player, hopped onto a 20-pound badger with his bare hands. Before Sambraio was victor his legs was bitten severely and the badger had to be choked unconscious.

## FERA Moves to Aid Valley

Funds Made Available for Rehabilitation of Flooded Areas

Lincoln, Neb., June 3 (U.P.).—The federal relief administration moved swiftly this morning to clear the way for rehabilitation of the Republican valley of southwest Nebraska.

Rowland Haynes, FERA administrator, announced he will ask the state assistance committee to permit county funds, demanded by federal agencies, to subdivisions affected by the flood, to enable counties to utilize all their available money for use on roads, bridges and other necessary work.

This request, he said, will be supplemented by a recommendation that the remitted balance be replaced by new federal grants. Joins Red Cross.

Haynes said he had been authorized by Washington immediately, to submit a supplemental request for funds for relief of the stricken area. He further was authorized, he said, to assume the losses of any work stock or farm machinery advanced to FERA rural rehabilitation clients and prepare for supplemental help to aid them in re-establishing themselves.

Haynes today completed arrangements with the work division of FERA to aid in burying of drowned cattle or any other work in re-establishing sanitary conditions.

Harry Elmore, head of the relief division, today was appointed special liaison representative of the Nebraska FERA in the field. He is now in McCook and will confer today with Red Cross representatives to devise a comprehensive program.

### Hopkins Pledges

Aid to Cochran.

Washington, D. C., June 3 (U.P.).—Relief Administrator Harry L. Hopkins today assured Governor R. L. Cochran of Nebraska that the federal government would stand behind his state in the flood emergency.

"FERA will advance the state funds for emergency relief and rehabilitation work," Hopkins assured Cochran.

Cochran said he would apply to Hopkins for flood relief funds as "soon as we can determine just what our needs will be."

The government's work will be carried on in co-operation with the American Red Cross, which already has set up relief agencies at the flood scene. A pledge of aid from army forces of the Seventh corps area also was obtained by Cochran.

Cochran conferred, too with Admiral Carey T. Grayson, national Red Cross chairman. He outlined the situation and together they discussed needed relief.

Hopkins' assurance of federal aid came after he had conferred more than an hour with Cochran and Lawrence Westbrook, director of rural rehabilitation.

### Army Orders Issued.

General Douglas MacArthur, chief of staff, today telegraphed full authority to Major General Stuart P. Heintzelman, commander of the Seventh corps area, to employ army engineers to assist the flood stricken population of Nebraska, after Governor Cochran had described the flood conditions to him.

Cochran, who plans to leave here tomorrow, said Senator George W. Norris (rep., Neb.), would co-operate in keeping Washington authorities advised of the situation.

### Back Plane Seaters.

Camden, N. J., June 7 (U. P.).—Airplanes, too, have the back seat driver menace, according to Amelia Earhart, famous aviatrix. Stopping at the airport here for a brief rest, she said: "A woman in the back seat of a plane or an automobile should act just the same—trust the driver and refrain from comment."

### Kill Off Pests.

Boise, Idaho, June 7 (U.P.).—Idaho hunters made an enviable record in the three months ending April 1, when they killed 3,098 predatory animals—mountain lions, bears and coyotes.

Reprinted on this page are news stories of the flood disaster which appeared in the Omaha World-Herald on Tuesday, June 4.

# Governor in McCook; Granted "Free Hand" by U. S. in Flood Aid

## Renew Plea for Fund to Aid Stricken

## Flooded Area Jobs Languish

### Red Cross Urges Haste in Reaching Goal as Distress Shown

Total Is \$3,234

### Money Will Give Homes, Provide Food for Ravaged District

### Two Republican River PWA Projects Fail to Gain U. S. Money

Two PWA projects for impounding waters of the Republican river have been languishing in Washington due to doubts of federal engineers that in normal years the river would supply enough water for irrigation and power development involved.

Omaha Red Cross officials today renewed their appeal for funds to aid flood and tornado sufferers of southwestern Nebraska as tabulations at noon revealed they had collected only \$3,234.60 in their drive for 15 thousand dollars here.

The World-Herald, working with Red Cross officials, acknowledged receipt of \$722 at noon.

Everyone whose home is safe should give until it hurts to help those who suffered from the disaster. W. S. Jardine, finance chairman of the Red Cross disaster committee.

The money will be used to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless for the time being, care for the sick and injured and the helpless little ones, and protect the health of those threatened by the flood's aftermath.

The need is urgent and immediate. Contributions are asked from those who have not suffered the terror or the loss or anguish—from those who still have food and shelter, their loved ones and their health. Unless the response is prompt and generous there may be further loss of life, and certainly there will be further suffering.

Already Omahans are answering the call, but far more are needed. If Omaha people could see the devastation in the flood zone and the hardship which it caused, they would step forward en masse as they always have done to succor the stricken, to lend the helping hand. They would remember their own sorrows when the tornado of 1913 mowed a swath of death and desolation through the city. It is Omaha's neighbors, who offered aid then, who are suffering now.

The World-Herald is adding \$150 to its original subscription of \$100 to the fund. The Nebraska grand lodge of Masons, meeting here Tuesday, voted \$250 for the cause. South Omaha American Legion auxiliary made a \$25 contribution to the fund, and a partial list of contributions from city hall officials and employes totals \$196.

Send or bring your money either to The World-Herald or to Red Cross headquarters, 406 Hospe building, but don't delay. The need is now!

Omaha and Lincoln automobile dealers and employes came to the aid of their colleagues in the stricken area. Automobile men from these two towns sent \$170 to D. DeGrau, a McCook automobile dealer, for distribution to his employes who suffered. The Nebraska Automobile Dealers' association also contributed one hun-

The largest of the two is the Benkleman-Haigler-Arickree Public Irrigation district project, which has been rejected. Cost is estimated at \$2,326,000. It would provide irrigation systems along both forks extending slightly into Kansas and Colorado. Three reservoirs, according to the application on file at state PWA offices, would impound flood waters on streams notorious for destructive floods.

The Imperial Valley Public Power and Irrigation project, cost estimated at 455 thousand dollars, is still being considered. It calls for construction of a power dam across the north fork of the Republican, sometimes called the Frenchman river, in Chase county, near Imperial.

dred dollars to the general relief fund, making their contribution through The World-Herald.

Contributions made to date through The World-Herald.

Acknowledged	\$361.00
Mrs. G. W. Packer	4.00
Charles J. Johnson	5.00
King Pong Cafe	5.00
C. C.	1.00
Cash	1.00
Kate	10.00
Franklin Mann	1.00
A Friend	10.00
F. L. Campbell	5.00
Otto Baysdorfer	5.00
Ned Quinn, Sunol, Neb.	1.00
Mrs. Anna Johnson	5.00
Harry Appling, Jr.	5.00
B. C. Delatour, Lewellen, Neb.	10.00
J. A. Rosenberg, Newman Grove, Neb.	2.00
A Friend from Brimley, Neb.	5.00
E. S.	1.00
M. H.	2.00
T. B. C.	5.00
G. R. Butler	5.00
District Accounting Bureau Employees from the Railway Agency, Inc.	10.00
Paul Haze	5.00
Marjory Anfin	5.00
J. H. M.	5.00
C. W. Vost	5.00
Roussierian Order—AMORG	5.00
Nebraska Automobile Dealers' Ass'n	50.00
George Grimes	5.00
World-Herald, additional	150.00

Contributions to date of more than \$25 made direct to the Red Cross:

Dale Clark	\$ 100.00
Fairmont Creamery	100.00
Harding Creamery	50.00
Bordens Produce	50.00
Thomas Kilpatrick Co.	100.00
Service Life Insurance Co.	50.00
Guarantee Mutual Life	50.00
American Reserve Life Ins. Co.	63.50
Northwestern Bell Telephone	250.00
Fire Department	100.00
Omaha Ice Cold Storage	50.00
E. E. Elliott	25.00
Travelers Health Insurance	25.00
Jerpe Commission	40.00
Haskins Brothers & Co.	50.00
Alamito Dairy	25.00
Falstaff Brewing	500.00
John Deere Flow Co.	100.00
Nebraska Power Co.	250.00
Omaha Lions Club	35.50
Woodmen of the World	50.00
City Hall (Mayor Towl)	103.00
Nebraska Power Co.	250.00
J. L. Brandels & Sons	100.00
H. L. Lehmer	25.00
Stock Yards National Bank	25.00
National American Fire Insurance	25.00
Mutual Benefit Health	35.00
Alfred H. Clarke	25.00
Glazers Provisions	25.00
Mrs. C. W. Hamilton, sr.	25.00
Woodmen of the World	35.50
R. A. Elliott	25.00
World-Herald	250.00

## Wants 1 Man to Direct All Relief Work

### Calls Local Agency Heads and County Officials Together

### May Fly Over Area

### To Supply Live Stock and Seed, Help in Rebuilding Homes

Governor Cochran, arriving in McCook this morning from Washington, where he was given a "free hand" to meet the needs of Republican river flood sufferers, took immediate steps to organize the work.

He announced that he will recommend that one man be appointed to take charge of all phases of it—farm credit, rehabilitation, reconstruction, sanitation, etc. This, he believes, will prevent overlapping and waste of time and money.

It will be a six to eight months' job, the governor estimates, and he said he would prefer that the director be named in Washington without any recommendation from him.

After conferring with President Roosevelt and other federal officials the governor flew to North Platte and motored into McCook this morning. He indicated that basic live stock will be furnished farm families whose herds were wiped out, seed supplied for forage crops, assistance given in rebuilding homes, and sanitation aid assured to all.

With the governor is State Engineer Tilley, who will direct highway and bridge reconstruction. This afternoon the governor is expected to travel over the Republican valley, either in an army bomber which stands ready to take him, or by automobile.

Housing, Sanitation First. Tomorrow, at 10 a. m., he will meet at McCook with representatives of the Red Cross, FERA, PWA and officials of the eight counties and all communities affected. Rowland Haynes, FERA administrator, will also attend this conference, the governor said. "Housing and sanitation are the first problems to be considered," Cochran declared. "This work must go forward quickly."

May Get U. S. Money. The United States bureau of roads maintains a 10 million-dollar fund to repair damages in flood areas and he believes Nebraska may get some of this money. County road reconstruction, he thinks, may be financed through the public works or relief programs. The flood relief work will be done with funds entirely separate from Nebraska's portion of the works-relief fund from Washington, he said.

"Regrettable as this disaster was," the governor continued, "I feel it was fortunate I was in Washington when it happened so we could get immediate action."

59 Dead, 86 Missing. Albert Evans, director of Red Cross activity, said today that 59 persons are known to be dead and 86 others missing. Forty-five bodies have been recovered, the Associated Press reports, and 58 other deaths listed unofficially. The United Press places the known dead at 52 and the number of missing and probable dead at 43.

"In such disasters as this," Evans said, "we always list more than actually lose their lives. I have no doubts that many of those missing are at homes of relatives, or isolated beyond reach of telephone and telegraph and will be found safe eventually."

Red Cross Sends Workers. To avoid duplication, emergency relief work has been divided between the FERA and the Red Cross, the latter to concentrate on medical care, hospitalization, and

needs of persons not previously on FERA rolls.

Relief work was progressing at such speed in McCook that citizens scarcely had time to attend funeral rites for the victims.

The Red Cross force of eight was augmented this morning by arrival of six more workers, and Evans was organizing a crew to carry aid to Cambridge where several score persons were reported living in the Congregational church.

Two FERA work-relief camps, to meet sanitation problems, have been established at McCook and Oxford, and 350 FERA workers were sent from North Platte and Hastings this morning to man them. Additional camps will be opened if necessary.

CCC Men to Help. Senator Burke has sent word from Washington that 50 CCC men will be moved from the camp at Franklin to Alma to begin reconstruction work at once, and that a similar group probably will be sent soon from Nelson and Red Cloud.

N. E. Kearns, division freight agent of the Burlington at Lincoln, announced that he had been authorized to accept all shipments of feed for man or animal in the flood area on free billing.

Ample labor is available, according to Francis V. Cornell, Nebraska director of the national re-employment service, who has warned against an influx of out-of-state labor and sightseers.

500 Men at Work. Railroads have more than five hundred men at work, and Burlington Vice-President Flynn at Benkelman in active charge. Service between Oxford and McCook probably will be resumed in about 10 days.

Equally large crews were out repairing roads and bridges, and bus service into McCook began again last night. Railroads have chartered trucks to carry mail to the little valley towns which cannot be reached yet by train.

Telegraph, telephone and power companies also have large squads making the necessary repairs.

Agricultural Agents to Aid. The Nebraska agricultural extension service has offered the full resources of its agencies to the Red Cross. "Our agricultural agents in the area," Acting Director H. G. Gould said at Lincoln today, "have been instructed to co-operate 100 per cent with all relief agencies as in the past in rehabilitating the people who have had their homes, property and livestock swept away."

Identification of lost, strayed and drowned stock is going to be one of the most difficult tasks. Sheriff Emmett Trooper of Red Willow county and other officers today began arrangements to bury dead animals and feed surviving cattle until owners can claim it.

Health Safeguarded. Ingenious methods of cleaning up the debris are being used. In Riverton, fire hoses have been turned into homes to wash out the river silt.

Every possible precaution is being exercised, Governor Cochran has been assured, to safeguard health. Typhoid vaccine has been flown in, and thorough tests made of all drinking water supplies.

The drinking water shortage is being rapidly alleviated. One unit of the McCook power plant went into service this morning and pumps were immediately started to fill the standpipe.

A bright sun beat down on the reefs and drove rattlers back into the ground.

Omaha PWA headquarters received word from the Trenton village clerk that the 50 thousand dollar sewage disposal plant there, one of the first PWA projects in the state, had been destroyed. Instantly, Washington authorities were consulted regarding possible aid to the community.

To Co-operate With Red Cross. Cochran emphasized that any rehabilitation program adopted will in no way supersede or lessen the importance of Red Cross work and the efforts of other relief agencies.

"We want to cooperate with the Red Cross and others," the governor said in his brief talk with Albert Evans, relief director in McCook. "I hope you will make many suggestions to me."

Cochran said the gist of the rehabilitation will be to restore general conditions to normalcy and to attempt to give everybody

## Omahan's Parents, Sister, Believed Victims of Flood

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Lacey, 220 North Seventeenth street, who were on their farm in the Republican river valley near Carter when the flood waters struck are still missing and believed dead. Their son, Paul R., is in Omaha.

Paul Lacey's brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Neumeier and two children, Dorothy and Bobby, are also on the unofficial death list, along with Mart Madison of Oxford, on whose farm they lived.

a fair start again by providing basis needs, such as houses, food, seed, some livestock and other necessities.

Can't Restore All Wealth. "We can't expect to put everybody in the same position he was before," he said. "If a man has five thousand dollars in the bank, I think he should spend it to rehabilitate himself."

"This flood ought to increase rather than lessen our chances of getting approval of pending power, irrigation and water storage projects," the governor said.

Cochran said he hoped the evidences of a bountiful wheat crop along the highway would materialize to help the surrounding areas in the flood district.

Red Cross relief directors have been appointed for each county as follows: Frontier, Francis Morris; Furnas, Francis Blackburn; Hayes, H. H. Manning; Webster, Gerald Wesschris; Franklin, John Schneidig; Hitchcock, Elizabeth Reynolds, and Red Willow, Lyman Williams.

More Bodies Identified.

Additional bodies found have been identified as those of George E. Colver, 47, Trenton; John Mistereck, 50, Elwood; Mrs. John Devries, 40, Oxford; Fred McIlvaine of Wray, Colo., at McCook; Mrs. Alva Stonecypher, Trenton; Jackie Lee Stevens, 5, Kearney; Mrs. Stevens Powell, 81, Kearney, and the son of Mrs. Josiah Harding of Wray, Colo., at Benkelman.

Many of these were found several miles downstream. "That tells the story of the missing," commented W. J. Nissen, Oxford relief worker. "It's going to be an awful job finding them."

Mrs. Laura Spaulding is still in a critical condition in the McCook hospital as a result of injuries in the tornado. All other tornado victims have been released from the hospital.

At Arapahoe, Everett DeBoer, has suffered partial paralysis of the legs as a result of electric shocks he received while clinging to wires in the water. His companion, George Hayes, jr., was drowned.

Missouri River High.

Danger of a serious flood along the Platte continued to decrease today. But the Missouri was so high near Falls City that several families were preparing to move from their homes. Nebraska City has been warned to expect high water tonight or tomorrow.

On down in Kansas, the raging waters spread out after inundating much of Manhattan, and the danger appeared to be lessened.

Major General Heintzelman, Seventh Corps area commander, returned to Omaha today after flying over the flooded area there yesterday. He said the current had been so strong that it had bent steel rails as it washed out a bridge near Manhattan.

Kansas City Fearful.

Kansas City has three thousand men building a protecting levee on the south bank of the Kaw to prevent an overflow into the central industrial district. Air lines hurriedly made arrangements to abandon their Kansas City field if it is flooded. At noon, however, the threat appeared less serious.

Four national guard companies were called out at Topeka and Lawrence to help lowland residents move their belongings.

In Missouri, the entire personnel of the CCC is being held ready for emergency work when the raging water go through that state.

More than 27 thousand Kentucky school children have been given free lunches daily since last fall by the Kentucky emergency relief administration.

## Sidelights on the Flood

By Associated Press.

### Marry Despite Flood.

Sidney.—When a fellow wants to get married he wants to get married and no flood is going to stop him. Don E. Henry and Volta Marie Smith of Sterling, Colo., made the decision, got the license and came to Sidney only to find their Colorado credentials meant nothing in Nebraska and meanwhile the road between Sidney and Sterling became flooded. They persuaded Rev. J. J. Sheaff, pastor of the Methodist church, to go with them to the state line. There, a few feet across the border, surrounded by soggy pastures and with flood waters figuratively lapping at their feet, they became Mr. and Mrs. Don E. Henry.

### Banker, 70, Swims Out.

Cozad.—G. A. Matz, 70, president of the First National bank of Cozad, reached for his horse's tail after being swept from his saddle by the surging Platte river here—but he missed and had to swim out. He was trying to ride his horse through the river to herd some cattle out of the bottomlands. "I tell you I had a hard time

of it, I almost drowned," Matz said later.

### Horses Saved by Mule.

McCook.—Claude McClain, proprietor of the Pastime amusement park here, inspected his wrecked property and said in one house washed from its foundation and into some trees he found four bird dogs that had survived the flood. He also found two horses—apparently led to higher ground and safety by a mule.

### Golden Jubilee Held.

Wauneta.—The horrors of a flood-stricken area were laid aside Tuesday in Wauneta and the town joined in its scheduled golden jubilee celebration. Hundreds of visitors traveled the muddy roads to come to the scene of activity. Dr. H. H. Grosbach, a Wauneta physician for 50 years, was the guest of honor at all programs.

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ated that the loss in his town to southwest