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Violent Storm Sweeps Middle West States Taking Heavy Toll of Lives and Property

MORE THAN FIFTY KILLED SCORES INJURED; DAMAGE ESTIMATED IN MILLIONS

Wind and Rain Storm Extends From Nebraska to Ohio. Cincinnati and Vicinity Suffer Most

TWO TOWNS ALMOST ENTIRELY WIPED OUT
Assumes Proportions of Tornado in Eastern Missouri, Demolishing 162 Blocks in Saint Charles

Cincinnati, July 8.—Available reports early today show that 33 persons are dead and 15 are missing and believed to be buried in the ruins of buildings which were wrecked by the heavy rain and wind storm which passed on over Cincinnati and its suburbs last night.

According to figures compiled today more than 50 persons were killed and several scores were injured by the violent wind and rain storm which extended from Nebraska to Ohio last night.

The property damage is estimated at several millions of dollars. The greatest loss of life occurred in Cincinnati and vicinity, where 33 are known to be dead and 15 are missing. Eighteen of the dead were deck hands, drowned by the capsizing of the tow-boat Convey, on the Ohio river.

In eastern Missouri the storm assumed the proportions of a tornado, demolishing 162 blocks in St. Charles, a city of about 11,000 population. St. Peters, a town of about 300 inhabitants, and Gilmore, a village of about 100 people, were almost wiped out of existence. In St. Charles and St. Peters there was no loss of life, and in Gilmore only one person was killed.

In Lincoln and Guster counties, Nebraska, the wind and hail caused heavy crop damage and in the village of Calhoun several buildings were unroofed.

Tentative Proposals of Berlin Not Acceptable To U.S. In Present Form

But Situation Is Not Regarded as Hopeless, as Germany Seems Anxious to Compromise — Gerard Gets Tentative Draft of German Reply

Washington, July 8.—Further messages from Ambassador Gerard at Berlin have been transmitted to President Wilson at Cornish, N. H., outlining the German point of view on submarine warfare as embodied in a tentative draft of the German reply to the latest American note.

The Chapman-Alexander Party Begins Meeting at Montreal Saturday

Rev. Dr. and Mrs. J. Wilbur Chapman, Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Alexander and Mr. BarracloUGH, pianist, of the Chapman-Alexander party, will arrive at Montreal next Saturday, and will spend a week at the Presbyterian assembly grounds.

Outcome of Mexican Fighting Causes Anxiety

Washington, July 8.—Increasing anxiety is felt in official circles over the situation in Mexico City. No word was received yesterday concerning result of the fighting between the Carranza and Zepata forces, but meager official advices reported renewed hostilities on the outskirts of the capital.

Bukowina Is Offered to Roumania for Neutrality

Paris, July 8.—A Havas dispatch from Rome says the Giornale d'Italia has received the following from Count Stepan Tisa (Hungarian premier):

PROGRAM FOR FORESTRY DAY

Association at Montreal Hears Addresses and Holds Conferences on Topics of Importance

Today is state and national forestry day at the Montreal meeting of the North Carolina Forestry association. The program opened this morning with an address on "Our Appalachian National Forests," by William L. Hall of Washington, D. C., and at 11:20 o'clock, George S. Powell of Asheville, secretary of the Appalachian Park association, made the first of a series of conference talks.

DRINK PROBLEM NATIONAL ONE

So Insists Former Governor Patterson in Address Before Convention of Anti-Saloon League

Atlantic City, N. J., July 8.—Former Governor Malcom R. Patterson, of Tennessee, who was one of the speakers at today's session of the national Anti-Saloon League convention, urged that national prohibition was the proper way to deal with the liquor question.

LIQUOR MEN EAGERLY TOOK TO STATE'S RIGHTS

Now Seek Delay When Sentiment for State Prohibition Threatens to Overwhelm Their Business

ASSHEVILLE MEN TAKE PART IN PROCEEDINGS

Great Interest Centers in Fire Protection Conference This Afternoon—Plans Made to Protect Forests

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AUSTRIAN ARMY NOW FORCED TO TAKE DEFENSIVE

General Huerta Likely NOT TO BE PROSECUTED

Will Probably Be Released if He Agrees to Return to North of U. S.

Washington, July 8.—It is believed here that the case against General Huerta, charged with conspiracy to violate American neutrality by inciting a new Mexican revolution, might be abandoned.

SEARCH IS CONTINUED FOR REST OF HOLT'S DYNAMITE

New York, July 8.—Police continued today their investigation to ascertain whether Frank Holt placed bombs in any steamers on the Atlantic, as a result of reassuring messages from the Saxonia and Philadelphia, now in mid-ocean, saying that they had been searched for bombs and that none was found.

SOLDIERS TO HELP BRITISH FARMERS

London, July 8.—Soldiers are to be sent from the training camps to help British farmers with their harvests wherever there is a shortage of labor. The farmers must house and feed the soldiers, and pay them 65 cents a day which will be used to defray traveling expenses.

HAROLD MOORE IS WITH LUMBER CO.

Harold Moore, who has been a member of carrier force of The Gazette-News for more than a year, has accepted a position with a large lumber company at Sunburst and has assumed his new duties.

Russian Reinforcements Place Austro-Hungarians in Difficult Position Between Vistula and Bug

General German Offensive Has Not Developed But Early Drive Toward Calais Is Predicted

London, July 8.—Strong Russian re-inforcement between the Rivers Vistula and Bug have compelled the Austro-Hungarians driving on Warsaw from the south to assume the defensive. This sector where the Russians are making a stand is held almost exclusively by the Austrians, and according to official reports, the Austrians seem to be finding themselves in some difficulty.

The expected German offensive in the west has not yet developed but reports of big troop movements on that front persist. Berlin's claim that the Germans have retaken trenches near Ypres is not confined in British and French reports. At several points the Germans are attacking violently but he only appreciable loss conceded by Paris is in the St. Mihiel district, where a trip of trenches measuring 700 yards has fallen into German hands. The German official statement more than doubles this distance.

Letting the Turks attack with resultant heavy losses and exhaustion, appears to be the recent role of the British operating against the Pardanefors. Official dispatches heretofore have spoken of the fearlessness and valor of the Turks, but he late report of General Hamilton said that for the first time the Turks are showing no disposition to attack.

London, July 8.—The Petrograd correspondent of the Times says that according to private reports all passenger traffic on German railways has been suspended. It is believed that large forces of Germans are elaving the eastern front for the west and the correspondent predicts that the Germans are reinforcing for a rush toward Calais.

Rome, July 7, via Paris, July 7.—The Italian armored cruiser Amalfi was torpedoed and sunk at dawn today by an Austrian submarine which participated in a reconnaissance in the upper Adriatic. This was officially announced by the ministry of marine. Most of the members of the crew of the cruisers were saved.

Ammunition Laden Ship Is Fighting Fire In Hold

New York, July 8.—The Atlantic Transport Company's steamer Minnehaha, on the way from New York to London, is fighting a fire in hold No. 3, according to a wireless message received from the captain. It is not believed that the fire is serious.

THE WEATHER
GENERALLY FAIR