

Pestilence Threatens City Marooned By Two Cloudbursts

service men took charge of the military patrol at noon. The city was not surprised by the flood. Warning whistles sounded through out the city by fire whistles, church bells and sirens.

DOZENS SEEN TO DROWN

Hundreds in districts where the water was rapidly rising left their homes to seek high places of safety. Women, with babies in their arms and dragging some cherished family heirloom, were suddenly picked up by the furious currents and swept to their deaths. Of the hundreds, I witnessed dozens from my perilous position floating down the swift current at what a few hours previously was one of the main thoroughfares of the city. The flood swept madly on from the normal Arkansas and Fountain rivers and at seven o'clock a squad of armed police drove the crowds from the main bridges. Harassed by the terrible fright of the flood and half crazed by the loss of members of their family, the crowds battled hand to hand with the officers until it was necessary to use clubs freely.

DEATH DEFYING RESCUES

All the leading hotels were marooned. Big buildings collapsed, the great iron girders flying in all directions. Colorado rangers, national guardsmen and police officials performed miraculous and truly death-defying rescue work. The fires continued to rage fiercely and many persons were severely burned by flying embers, caught up by the high winds that prevailed through the early night. The big Florence Paint Company was one of the first buildings to succumb to the flames, and explosion after explosion occurred as the oils and varnishes were licked by the fire. A loud explosion shook the city when the fire reached the gas plant. An ice plant, several big garages, a lumber yard, a lumber plant and several

Scenes Of Death Too Terrible To Be Told, Says Eye-Witness

Colorado Springs, Colo., June 4.—"Beyond description." This was the dramatic comment of Charles S. Bailsback, special agent for the Santa Fe Railroad at Pueblo, and first man out of the stricken city after the destruction by floods. He declared that scenes of death and destruction at Pueblo were too terrible to be "put into words." Bailsback reached Colorado Springs in an automobile that he drove part of the way over the sunken roadbed of the Santa Fe Railroad. "I saw one span of the Fourth street bridge collapse and go twirling down stream with not less than 100 persons, men, women and children on it. The loss of life must have been terrific and I doubt if the exact number of casualties will ever be known. "I saw three rooming houses go into the torrent with lights burning in every window. Scores of the occupants must have drowned like rats." The channel of the Arkansas river, Bailsback said, now is from Seventh street to the Union Station, a distance of twelve city blocks. "The business section was completely inundated," he said. "Stores, packing houses, business places of all descriptions, in fact, were flooded. "The greatest loss of life was in three sections of the lowlands, inhabited mostly by foreigners—the grove near Clarks Mineral Springs; the lowlands proper and Pepper Sauce bottoms. "When I left the city, rescue parties in row boats and other craft were patrolling all the inundated sections, seeking dead and living. The city was under martial law with all railroads being issued on orders of the military commander. Bailsback said the military and civil authorities entrusted to him a message for Governor Shoup, calling for all possible help, but with out any definite or specific request. The fires, which caused great damage during Friday night, Bailsback continued, "had been extinguished

Fear is Expressed For the Safety of Passenger Trains

Canon City, Colo., June 4.—Fear was expressed here today that probably 300 passengers had perished when Missouri-Pacific passenger train number 2 and Denver and Rio Grande passenger train number 3 overturned by the flood of water in the Pueblo rail yards. The report came from railway officials in Pueblo as a confidential communication to the office here. Both trains had just pulled into the yards when the wall of water struck the cars, undermined the tracks and toppled over the coaches. Although authentic details were lacking, railroad men feared many of the passengers had perished. Efforts to reach Pueblo from this city by train had failed tonight although attempts have been made.

mercantile houses were quickly caught up by the conflagration.

Early in the evening the bridge at Eight street over the Fountain River went out and in a few minutes was followed by several other viaducts. At 10 o'clock the waters receded again momentarily but a new and sudden cloudburst swept the area, bringing the water to a height of ten feet in the business section. Stores ruined and stock destroyed, there are no foods, no gasoline and the rescue workers are terribly handicapped in furnishing relief of any kind to the maimed. Soldiers and civilian guards have been sworn in and organized efforts has resulted in little relief being afforded at this hour. Martial law is in effect and every one who enters the devastated district must be supplied with a military pass.

Aviator Tells of His Flight Over the City; Saw 17 Bridges Washed Away

Colorado Springs, Col., April 4.—The Evening Telegraph tonight publishes a story written by Ford C. Frick, a local aviator, who flew to the devastated city of Pueblo and circled over its environs for nearly an hour. He failed to make a landing. Frick was the first outside person to view the ruined district. "A vast expanse of water," was Frick's first view when he sailed over Pueblo. "Muddy water sucking, grasping, pulling at homes and store buildings alike here and there, with its freight of human lives, everywhere desolation and death," was Frick's description. "Although the storm has ceased, the Arkansas river refuses to be still and every moment pours down upon the city its thousands and thousands of gallons of flood water from the higher districts. "SQUIRMY MASS OF WATER. "If you really want to appreciate the stupendousness of the flood, you should view it from a height of 1,500 feet looking down at the flooded districts upon seething mass of water as it worms its way through stone walls, carrying away heavy foundations, sweeping bridges from their piers, taking its toll of human lives. "Pueblo Saturday presented all the appearances of a city built in a lake. Water was everywhere. There was no business, only the heart-breaking work of searching out the living from the dead, while from all around poured the pent-up waters of the flooded district. "Plunged into the heart of the flood struck near the Union Station from the northward and extending northwest and eastward to the city limits. "The whole scene is one of vast desolation. Box cars swept from the tracks are scattered about the streets, houses flooded from their foundations are piled together in greatest confusion. "And through it all Pueblo is cut

Pueblo's Beseeking Cry For Help Promptly Responded To

Denver, Colo., June 4.—"There is no way of estimating how many are dead, but we are in a hopeless state." This message was received late today by Mayor Bailey, of Denver, from J. G. Lovgren, president of the Chamber of Commerce at Pueblo. "Conditions are indescribable. Send all help possible in the way of food, clothing and shelter," Lovgren concluded. The property loss will exceed \$10,000,000, dozens of large business establishments and public buildings being razed by fire that started from bolts of lightning. Thousands of persons in the city scurried about the water-soaked streets during the day unable to help themselves or others so complete was the devastation wrought by the floods and fire.

ANSWER CRY FOR AID.

Pueblo's beseeking cry for assistance was promptly responded to by cities over the state, but it is doubtful if succor can reach the overwhelmed steel center for many hours. Bridges connecting the city with the several railroads have been swept away and railroad tracks are inundated for miles in every direction. It was estimated by some that it would be late Sunday before relief trains could be run into the city. In the meantime, aeroplanes with food and other necessities have left Colorado Springs and Denver. Practically all of the food supplies have been destroyed. A special train bearing American Legion volunteers, including fifty World War veterans who served with the engineer forces, was made up at the Union depot here at four o'clock, ready to depart for the devastated area. The train will carry tents and food supplies from the colonial guard station. It will go as far as Colorado Springs, where an effort will be made to get the necessities into the stricken city by automobile trucks. The American Red Cross was also preparing to send food, nurses and doctors. At Colorado Springs, a huge mass meeting was held late this afternoon and a committee appointed to arrange for rescue work in the nearby city. Aeroplanes will be sent over the 45-mile stretch to Pueblo and every effort made to carry in provisions. The menace of the rising waters failed to alarm the people during Friday evening and, when the flood increased to its height, it found hundreds of citizens separated from their homes by several feet of water. At 6:50 p. m., the Western Union manager at Pueblo stated that "there were 199 bodies in the morgue there and that others were being brought in continuously." He believed, he said, the death list will run as high as 500. "Most of the dead," he said, "were Mexicans and others who lived along the levee and who did not heed the warning to flee before the onrushing waters. "Bodies were discovered in piles of wreckage along the river front. Every effort was being made tonight to search all parts of the city for mode dead," he stated. "Not many persons are believed to have perished in the untown section," he concluded.

TWO SEPARATE CLOUDBURSTS.

There were two separate cloudbursts. The first, although it swelled the little Arkansas river to a stream miles wide, did not do such great damage. It broke at 7 p. m. The people were warned and were

NO NEW EXPERIENCE FOR FLOODED SECTION

Denver, Colo., June 4.—Pueblo and the section surrounding it have suffered in the past from disastrous floods. The Fountain river, a tributary of the Arkansas, is a treacherous stream. The Arkansas river flows through the main business section of Pueblo. City Hall is only a block distance from it and the Union Station and some of the city's most prominent business houses are near enough to be inundated. Twenty-five or 30 years ago a levee was built to protect the town from the river's overflows. Floods were frequent, inundating business houses and resulting in loss of lives. At that time, only one section of the city was safe while the river overleaved. This was South Pueblo, situated on a mesa, but frequently the flood water would come almost to the level of this section. Along the river are flats known as the "pepper sauce bottoms" where the poor population lives. Many Mexicans live in these bottoms in adobe houses. The first flood is the first Pueblo has suffered since the construction of the levee. There is no levee to check the waters of the Fountain and floods caused by that river have led to many disasters. The famous Eden wreck on the Rio Grande several years ago was caused by one of its floods. The railroad bridge was washed away and an entire train plunged into the flooding river. Passengers who were not drowned were burned to death. Terrific electric storms are frequent in this section and in the past have been responsible for the floods.

DESOLATION AND DEATH STALKED

off from succor from the outside territory. On the trip down, we counted seventeen bridges swept away by the storm. "Judging from the condition of the road as disclosed from my plane, the worst result of the flood will be the inability of help to reach the city. "Through the eye of the observer, it seems impossible that the wreckage can be moved, that homes can be provided for the homeless or that the suffering can be alleviated for many days. "The greatest need of the stricken city when I left was fuel and water. Shelter, I believe, can be provided for most of the homeless in the large area of the residence section on the higher ground to the south, which escaped serious damage."

125 SQUARE MILES OF TERRITORY FLOODED

Denver, Colo., June 4.—An area of 125 square miles of territory in eastern Colorado is swept tonight by the raging torrents of over-flowing streams and broken dams. The district forty-five miles long between Denver and Boulder is inundated for a width of several miles. Property damaged outside Pueblo, which lies in the heart of the flooded territory, is estimated at more than \$2,500,000. Seven lives have been reported lost outside Pueblo. Growing crops have been destroyed throughout the flooded area with rich farm lands completely covered by the floods. Hundreds of cattle were swept to death with particularly heavy loss in Logan county. The greatest property damage probably has been done to the coal and copper mines of northern Colorado. Meager reports coming from the mining centers stated the mines had been flooded to depths of several feet. All work was abandoned. GOVERNOR UNABLE TO REACH FLOODED CITY. Colorado Springs, June 4.—Governor Shoup was forced to return to Denver late tonight after making two unsuccessful attempts to reach Pueblo. Flood waters drove the Governor and his party back. Trucks carrying food and supplies kept edging toward the city, although they were unable to make much progress, due to roadbeds being swept away. RED CROSS SENDS \$50,000. Washington, June 4.—Relief work of the Red Cross in Pueblo will be directed by the southwestern division

WAR DEPARTMENT TO HELP.

Washington, June 4.—The War Department will co-operate in every way possible in giving aid to the stricken of the Pueblo disaster. Secretary Weeks announced tonight. The nearest military post to Pueblo is at Fort Logan, Denver, and Secretary Weeks stated that the commanding officer is empowered to turn over any supplies, if they are needed.

DR. WORK NOT WORRIED.

Washington, June 4.—The family of Dr. Herbert T. Work, first assistant Postmaster General, is in Pueblo. Although Dr. Work has not heard directly from them since reports of the disaster assumed such proportions, he expressed confidence tonight that they are safe. Dr. Work said it was unbelievable to him that 2,000 persons could have been killed in the manner which press reports from Boston, expressing confidence that his family is safe.

FLOOD WARNINGS ISSUED.

Washington, June 4.—Flood warnings have been issued for the Arkansas river, the Weather Bureau announced tonight in view of "indications that the highest stages in recent years will be reached and passed from headwaters to the Kansas line." Reports to the Weather Bureau indicated that the rainfall in portions of eastern Colorado had been excessive during the past 24 hours. It was also stated that rapidly rising stages are indicated on the Pecos river in New Mexico in the next two days due to the heavy rains.

GOVERNOR (Continued From Page One)

ernor's reply Saturday night, he seemed surprised that his suggestion, should be interpreted as containing a request for the use of troops to assist in the maintenance of order. Quiet prevailed in cotton mill country where strikers are in effect through Saturday and Saturday night. The occurrence to attract notice being the dispersing of a crowd of between 200 and 200 men at the Savona mill on Saturday morning. The Savona Mill, which is the plant where workers are on strike, is attempting to run. The mill were not troubled when they left on Saturday night. The company's property, according to reports received at police headquarters. Chief Walter B. Orr said Saturday night that he would have a detachment of men at the Savona mill Monday morning to insure that no employes enter the plant without the permission of strikers. Any crowd congregates about the company property will be again dispersed, the chief said. Chief Orr expressed confidence that he and his men are capable of handling any troublesome situation which may take place in the city in connection with the strike. The city will render what assistance they can to the county authorities in maintaining law and order in the county outside of the city limits. Cochran has two deputy sheriffs and two rural policemen as his force in maintaining law and order in the county frequently have gone to the assistance of the county authorities in enforcing the law. No intimations of trouble in connection with the strike have reached the ears of officers of the law. What steps have been taken have been merely as a precaution; the official feeling is that "a stitch in time will save nine" so to speak. The communication to the sheriff by the governor was merely to execute the situation here so should trouble by any change in the governor would be familiar conditions.

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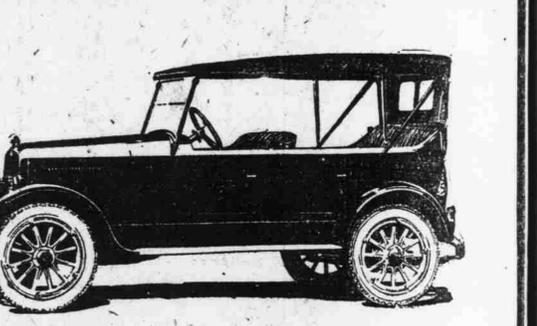
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