

Hundreds of Workers Still Seek Bodies Among Debris Left By Devastating Storm

Communication Gradually Being Restored in Tornado-Swept District and Real Story of Havoc and Suffering Reaches Outside World—National Guard Patrols Cities to Stop Pillaging and to Aid in Relief—Chicago Dispatches Medical Regiment of 300 Men, 22 Carloads Supplies to Survivors.

Chicago, March 19.—After the light of a full day had cast its searching rays in the debris left by Wednesday's tornado, and relief work had been organized to gather the dead, heal the hurt and aid the homeless, the toll of destruction of life and property tonight still remained the greatest ever recorded in similar catastrophes, with 848 reported killed and 2,909 injured in the five states affected.

While the casualty lists had been reduced from first estimates in some instances, word came from hitherto unreported places to keep the total casualties, almost as high as indicated in first messages from the devastated towns and hamlets. After a night of terror, dawn revealed that some small towns virtually had been obliterated, while whole blocks of larger places had been leveled and fire had added to the horrors of the wind.

Tornado Eccentric

The fires for the most part were kept from buildings that escaped the fury of the twister. Outside help arrived from many places during the day and by noon relief was well organized.

Where there had been happiness, prosperity and future, the tornado blasted all in a few cities. To others it showed a fiendish eccentricity by leveling and blackening portions while sparing the rest.

Nearly half of Princeton, Ind. was smitten. A sister city, Griffin, virtually was carried away. Desota, Ill. with 500 people, lost its existence. A neighbor, Gorham, of 300 population, was wiped out. Murphysboro, Ill., lost nearly three square miles of its business and residential sections.

Darkness still hampers rescuers tonight in a few towns, as lighting systems have not been repaired. Automobile light, candles and flashlights are substituting for power plants. Pullman cars have arrived to house refugees in one or two sections, villages of tents are being used elsewhere.

Those in charge speak in millions when asked to estimate the material losses. The brief dispatches read: "\$100,000 in southwestern Kentucky;" "\$2,000,000 at Princeton;" "\$6,000,000 in southern Illinois;" "\$100,000 in Missouri."

Covers 300 Miles

The tornado took its toll over a territory of 300 miles in five hours and within the same period of time outside aid was covering that distance to carry help and comfort to survivors. The Red Cross rushed supplies from St. Louis. Chicago offered \$500,000. The Illinois legislature, appropriated a like amount, the Missouri legislature \$25,000 and the southern Illinois American legion \$6,000. Other contributions are expected to reach \$100,000.

From the Associated Press casualty list tonight it appears that more than 100 children and infants were victims. Every available dwelling was a morgue in the zone of visitation. Serious operations are performing virtually outdoors. Columns of persons three and four deep, several blocks long, still waited in the darkness tonight to claim their kin and friends.

Apparently arising in the Missouri Ozark hills, the tornado jumped and zig-zagged. Its path was about a mile wide in some localities; in others it could be measured by feet. It was more merciful at its start, unloading its fury in Illinois and Indiana. It swept into Kentucky and Tennessee, more fancifully, it appeared.

Worked in Twinkling

A brakeman on an Illinois Central train, who witnessed the Desota tragedy, succinctly described the tornado as a crash of thunder preceded by two blinding flashes of lightning after which there was nothing left.

A former war chaplain said it could be likened to the war zone in France; there was no other comparison.

Human bodies in most every form of cremation and butchered or crushed were being removed from the debris.

Only a comparative few have been found intact. Bodies pierced with splinters of wind driven wood are frequent.

The little hamlet of Desota probably suffered the heaviest single catastrophe inflicted by the tornado, for it was here that 118 men, women and children died, many of them in the schoolhouse which was razed in the twinkling of an eye.

Nine bodies were found huddled about a coal stove in a Griffin restaurant, partly cremated. In one Illinois town the fire engine itself was burned into uselessness. Murphysboro, Ill., had to improvise a pumping plant on the ruins of its water-works before the fires could be extinguished. At Annapolis a quick thinking station agent used his cash drawer successfully as a bucket to extinguish fire.

Locomotives Overturned

So tremendous was the force of wind that in Murphysboro 11 locomotives were reported wrecked, six of them of the heavy type. Heavy objects were found several miles from their original positions, and papers were carried 50 miles.

Preckish dips of the twister left the usual safe spots in the path of the storm. A mine clerk saved himself by crawling into his office safe which protected him from fire and falling walls. One family crept under their motor car when the house fell and tumbled over the machine.

One of the 75 girls employed in a Heinz plant at Princeton, Ind., was killed when the plant was destroyed. The town's \$200,000 Chicago and Eastern Illinois railroad yards was wrecked. The Mobile and Ohio shops were a total loss at Murphysboro, as well as a new \$657,000 addition to its high school and an \$85,000 Baptist church. A school house near Cape Girardeau, Mo., was carried away a short time after its pupils had been discharged. Fate was not so kind in other places where schools were demolished. Another strange freak of storm was reported from Princeton where four miners en route to their home from a mine were lifted bodily by the wind from the small automobile in which they were riding and deposited unhurt at the roadside. Their car was swept away.

A 17-year-old Princeton boy was credited with saving the lives of his mother and two brothers, whom he huddled on the floor of their home and covered with a rug. The rug was strewn with broken glass and debris, when the roof was blown away.

A letter bearing a Poseyville postmark was picked up near Bloomfield, more than 100 miles away.

Rowan County Dogs May Not Run at Large

Salisbury, March, 19.—Dogs that are allowed to run at large in Salisbury and Rowan county are to have a hard time keeping alive from now on. The county board of health which is supreme in such matters has decreed that all dogs running at large and unmuzzled shall be killed and all officers of the county and towns are directed to shoot to kill. This drastic ruling was brought about on account of the recent damage done by several dogs afflicted with rabies. A number of people and much stock was bitten by the mad dogs.

Drinks Pint of Liquor On a Bet; Dies in Yard

Yonkers, N. Y., March 23.—After winning a bet that he could drink a pint of whiskey without stopping, Barney Williams was found dead in the yard of his home here today. Harold Powers, a store-keeper, who alleged to have given Williams the whiskey, and Mrs. Williams were held as material witnesses. Police said she told them that when her husband came home she supposed he was only drunk and she permitted him to remain outdoors.

About one out of every thousand fox puppies is born hairless, and, though healthy, remains hairless throughout life.

LOSS IS \$18,000,000 IN STORM AREA

First Check Shows Illinois Damage About \$12,000,000—Order Reigns Again

Chicago, March 25.—Warm, sunny weather today prevailed over the area in southern Illinois and Indiana devastated by tornadoes last Wednesday, and relief work progressed rapidly along with the burial of the dead and the housing of the homeless. Rebuilding tools glinted in the sunshine, while doctors and nurses worked hard to save the lives of the injured.

Rechecking of the casualty list with additional deaths from wounds raised the total dead in some places and reduced the figure in others, leaving the toll tonight at 810, without including a score supposed to have been burned to death in Murphysboro, where 150 blocks were blown down and the debris partly buried.

Red Cross workers also announced that the 2,939 listed as hurt probably did not include hundreds of persons who had been injured, but who had failed to report the fact owing to the excitement and necessity of aiding others more severely injured.

Loss is \$18,000,000

The total property loss has not been compiled, but likely will be more than \$12,000,000 in Illinois alone. With some \$3,000,000 in Indiana and about a million each in Missouri, Tennessee and Kentucky, the property loss is likely to exceed \$18,000,000. This figure is more serious than its mere size indicates, for most of the loss was sustained by families of moderate circumstances and meant the wiping out of all tangible possessions.

Relief work not only proceeded with celerity in the affected zones but collection of funds to aid the sufferers went on at an amazing pace.

Thousands of dollars rolled in to swell the funds raised by many newspapers, radio stations and fraternal orders and churches.

With the arrival of more nurses in the storm area today, it was learned that many persons were probably fatally hurt. Several died of wounds today. Danger of epidemics has been probably avoided, doctors said, by prompt use of antitetanus serum, sent by airplane, chlorination of water supplies and other measures.

Many of the injured have been taken during the last 48 hours to larger cities, where they could receive better treatment. A few died on the way to hospitals, however, but it is reported that most of the others have fair chances of recovering.

NEW HALF-CENT STAMPS TO BE ISSUED AT ONCE

Department Will Require for Third Class Mail Matter After April 15

The postoffice department will issue a one-half cent postage stamp, which will be necessary for weights in third class mail matter after April 15. This will be the first half-cent stamp ever distributed in the United States.

New postal rates, incident to increases in salaries for postal employees, become effective the middle of next month. At that time the rate on all third class mail matter will be one and one-half cents for each ounce or fraction thereof up to and including eight ounces.

When the new rates become effective two cents will be required to transmit post cards.

Government postal cards will remain one cent.

Carroll People Pleased With Road Progress

Hillsville Journal, March 18.—The first layer of crushed stone has been placed on one mile of road in the southern part of town, preparatory to making a hard surfaced road. This is one more mile on the old North Carolina-Fancy Gap and Tazewell Turnpike, that is now known as the Great Lakes to Florida Highway. We expect to see work being done on a large scale in a few months. The state will spend some money doing preliminary work, and they have accepted \$150,000 from the county under the Robertson act to commence work about the first of July. This section and a few miles in Bland county when completed, will connect up the Lakes to Florida Highway thru this state. The City of Bluefield has contracted to build the road from that city to the Virginia line. Bland county has loaned the State \$150,000 to help complete the road in that county. Consequently we expect to see this highway completed thru the Appalachian and Blue Ridge country, some time within the year 1925.

PRESIDENT SELECTS NEW ATTORNEY-GENERAL

Controversy Between Coolidge and Senate Ends Abruptly as President Submits Name of Vermont Man To Take Office.

Washington, March 17.—The controversy between President Coolidge and the senate over the attorney generalship ended abruptly today with the nomination of John G. Sargent, of Vermont, for the post and his prompt confirmation by the senate.

Mr. Sargent, a former attorney general of Vermont and a close personal friend of the President, was selected after Charles B. Warren, of Michigan, whose nomination was twice rejected by the senate, had declined to accept an offer of a recess appointment.

At the moment that Mr. Sargent's name was transmitted to the senate, the white house made public an exchange of correspondence between the executive and Mr. Warren which disclosed that the offer of such an appointment had been tendered yesterday after the senate had acted unfavorably upon his name.

Would End Controversy

Mr. Warren wrote the President that he was unwilling to prolong a political controversy which might lessen Mr. Coolidge's "opportunity for full usefulness to the nation, and possibly interfere with your making wholly effective your policies.

Announcement of the selection of Mr. Sargent, who lives in the little village of Ludlow near the President's birthplace, was made after Mr. Coolidge had conferred with the republican and democratic floor leaders in the senate. He was unwilling to submit the name until he had been assured that his old friend would not be subjected to the hazard of such an attack as was made on Mr. Warren.

Immediately upon receipt of the nomination, the senate moved swiftly to dispose of it. Chairman Cummins of the judiciary committee, took the unusual course of laying the appointment before the body in open session, and then called a meeting of his committee to act upon it. There was little discussion in the committee. Senator Dale, republican, Vermont, appearing on behalf of Mr. Sargent, explained that he would bury "political differences" with the nominee because the issue was "above political controversy."

Action Unanimous

An hour and a half later, the nomination was reported to the senate in executive session and was approved in open session by unanimous consent, just four hours after it had been received. The committee discussed it only a little more than half an hour and the senate debated it not at all.

Mr. Sargent's name first came into prominence in connection with the attorney generalship last Saturday when senators received a report that he would be nominated after the second rejection of Mr. Warren's name. It was the publication of this report that led to the white house announcement that the President would offer Mr. Warren a recess appointment.

GREATER CROP ACREAGE DISCOURAGED BY BUREAU

Agricultural Department Sees Big Expansion Impending and Warns Against It.

Washington, March 19.—A tendency toward expansion of farm crop acreages in 1925 was shown today in an intention to plant report issued by the department of agriculture. If the intentions are carried out, the department said, and the weather during the season is such as to bring forth average yields production in many lines will be greater than in 1924.

"It seems doubtful," the department said, "if the general expansion of production contemplated by farmers would be to their best interests. The outlook indicated that any marked expansion in most lines would tend to lower prices and results in less satisfactory returns to the farmers."

1,000 Grape Myrtles Planted at Elkin

Elkin, March 19.—The campaign launched several months ago by the Woman's club, to make Elkin the "Town Beautiful," has been highly successful to date. The town beautiful committee of the club has sold and delivered to the people of Elkin 1,000 grape myrtles, most of which have been set out this week.

The myrtle selected for Elkin is a dwarf variety, and the effect of such a profusion of watermelon pink bloom will give to the town a most attractive appearance.

Darky Waiting Reward For Fidelity in Civil War Test

Shelby Negro Brought Master's Body Back, Then Went Again, Serving 4 Years

Shelby, March 21.—Up to Shelby postoffice in the evenings of recent weeks there trudges a relic of Civil war days. On his shoulder is an ax, one foot is dragged along and the other leg is brought up with a jerk. Under the tattered conakin cap is the face of an old-time darky wrinkled with age and kinky hair that is being invaded by "the snow that never melts." It's "Uncle Phillip" Roseboro, bearing the name of an old and prominent South Carolina family, and he's looking for the pension he expects to get for fighting "dem Yankees along wif Captain John and Captin Jim". Otherwise he is just an old negro with an unusual memory and a remarkable record of service behind him, and life story that from the point of human interest is exceeded by few.

Pension Promised

"Stry on his feet" for one of his age time is gradually telling, although the hands that once made coffee for Stonewall Jackson still cut two cords of wood a day. It's a hard tussle for the old fellow to drag around the leg wounded at Seven Pines while making breastworks for the Confederate troops and earn a livelihood, but he is and without complaining. Told that his name had been brought up, approved and sent off for a pension a tear crept down the old wrinkled face as his eyes flitted back over time and his loyal service in his reply: "Well sah! Ah'll swan! Yasah, ah wuz shot in de laig at Seven Pines atter Captain John wuz killed an' den ah fit wid Captain Jim and wuz captured by dem Yankees at Vicksburg, whuh dey had de canals. Atter de end at Appomattox—an ah wuz right dere—ah cum back home and stayed wid de Old Missus till she died. Yasah, guess ah desuive sumpin, but ah wuk right on an'll sho be proud ter get it."

And the story he covered in one breath is one of the proud bits of old Southern history for it tells of the loyalty and faithful service of the old-time negro and is interspersed with politeness.

The Roseboro plantation is—or rather was—about eight miles from York, S. C., and when the Civil war broke out there was only one in the proud old family of fighting age—the son John, 23 years of age. His mother, the "Missus" to Phillip, was of the historic Key family of Mississippi and naturally she urged her son on to the front. With him went the young negro Phillip as a body servant. And in the harking back to his boyhood days the former slave tells of Atlanta when it was only a small town; of slave days and of the kind treatment he received from his masters.

Brought Back Master's Body

Young John Roseboro won rapid promotion and was soon commissioned a captain. At his first big battle at Seven Pines he was killed in repulsing an attack. Reaching this far in his story, old Phillip's eyes become misty and in them comes a longing for old times and the young master in shells gone by as he tells how the shell snuffed out his life. No longer does one wonder why he did not take the freedom the Civil war brought—he loved the Roseboros and today proudly terms himself the last of the family. Phillip himself was wounded in the leg at Seven Pines, but despite his wound he and a white soldier brought the body of the young captain back across the states to the Roseboro plantation. Here again his reminiscences bring a touch of sympathy as he relates the anguish of the "Missus" when the body of the beloved young son she sent away only a few months previous was brought back by his servant.

When the funeral was over Mrs. Roseboro sent for Phillip to come to the "big house" and there made another sacrifice by sending him back to Jackson's army as a body servant to a son-in-law, Capt. James Williamson, "Captain Jim." Phillip terms him, Captain Williamson was killed at Drewry's Bluff, but by that time his body servant was a favorite with all the officers of the division and Phillip remained. At Vicksburg Phillip was captured with a number of Confederate troops and remained a prisoner from April until July, but "dem Yankees had no use for a triffin' nig-

ger and dey turned me loose" he says. Memory Recalls It All

Unable to read or write the old negro has a more than remarkable memory. With nothing to touch up his memory and nothing to help recall events he can relate vividly practically everything that took place around him during the conflict and he served four years, being at Appomattox and eye-witness to the meeting between Lee and Grant. Someone has told him about the Stone Mountain memorial and the big desire of his few remaining years is to visit the mountain and see the face of "Mass Robert" and as he terms the hero he made coffee for, "Mass Genul Jackson."

Three weeks it took the body servant to walk his way back home—back to what he thought would be the old plantation, the "Missus an all the folks" and the 100 or more other slaves. And his arrival there was one of the big disappointments of the war and its aftermath. Gone were the slaves to their newly found freedom. No one remained except the sad old "Missus" and a daughter. Turning his back on the proffered freedom, Phillip in the years that followed doubly earned the pension he expects to get, or rather what his white friends have promised him. Soon the daughter died, but on the ruined plantation Phillip struggled to make enough for "Miss Nellie" and in between the struggles reminded her of the bravery of the heroic young captain. Then the old "missus" died and Phillip, his service over, was cast out into the world, lame and bending with age and toil. His wife had died and his eleven children were scattered. After some wandering he came to this county and has since remained. The farmers and lumbermen of the county know him as the best chopper in the county despite his age, and second to his "wah record," Phillip boasts of the two cords of wood he still cuts a day.

The old form with its little jerky bow of greeting is well known on the streets of Shelby and with him hundreds of his white friends will rejoice when his pension starts. To hear his story is to know that he deserves it along with the immortal soldiers he served so well.

COOLIDGE VOTE NOT SO LARGE

Senator Simmons Puts Skids Under That 7,000,000 Claim

Washington, March 19.—Senator Simmons thinks that the republicans and the large daily papers of the country are creating a wrong impression about the popularity of the President. He said today that the oft-repeated claim that he got an approximate majority of seven millions at the polls is incorrect.

"Mr. Coolidge did not get any such majority," said he. "In saying majority the people who use the word mean plurality, and there is a big difference. The Coolidge plurality was approximately six million, but his majority 2,231,163.

"Republicans are constantly claiming the largest majority ever recorded. If Senator La Follette had not run last year we would have made a much better showing. We lost a lot of our own people who would have supported the Davis-Bryan ticket in an open fight between republicans and democrats. Mr. Coolidge may not be as popular as his friends assert that he is."

Here is the final vote: Coolidge, 15,749,032; Davis, 8,760,557 and La-Follette, 4,667,812.

During the debate in the senate over the Charles Beecher Warren nomination for attorney general republicans referred to the "tremendous majority" of the President. They used this in a futile effort to whip their own men in line, and to get democrats to break away from their leaders.

Mr. Simmons was struck with the erroneous assertions, so generally used, that Mr. Coolidge had won by six or seven millions "majority."

The average of marriage in Germany is 28 for the man and 25 for the woman; in Denmark 27 for the man and 25 for the woman; in France, 28 and 25 respectively; in England, 28 and 26; and in Italy, the man is 28 and the woman 24 years at the average age of marriages.