

AID FOR SUFFERING IS GIVEN LIBERALLY TODAY

\$10,000 Fund Was Raised Here In Few Minutes Local Relief Work For Victims Now In Full Progress

OVER 700 HOUSES IN ASHES

Terrific Toll of Yesterday's Fire Is Just Beginning To Be Realized.

AID RELIEF WORK Trucks Are At Work Removing Furniture From the Open Into Warehouses.

Although still impossible to accurately estimate the horrible toll exacted by yesterday's great fire, Mayor Edward Clark and other city officials stated this afternoon that in their opinion between 700 and 1000 homes and business buildings had been destroyed, that approximately 3000 white and colored citizens had been rendered homeless and that the financial loss would be well in excess of two million dollars.

Work of supplying food and shelter for the sufferers was undertaken this morning.

A score or more trucks manned by volunteers, were engaged in removing furniture and household goods from various places in the city to warehouses and store-rooms that had been provided.

A drizzling rain, starting in shortly after one o'clock caused the workers to increase their efforts in order to save the furniture from ruin. In spite of all they could do however, much of the furniture was still out in the open as the rain began to fall.

Telephone workers have been reinforced by a score of more men from neighboring towns and engaged in re-installing wires and poles. The city light and water department also has commenced repairing damage.

Many families, which moved out yesterday when threatened by fire, returned to their homes this morning. In the majority of instances they had to leave most of their furniture outside.

MISS STONE TRIED TO TAKE HER LIFE

NEW YORK, Dec. 2.—Miss Olivia M. Stone, acquitted slayer of Ellis Guy Kinkhead, former corporation counsel of Cincinnati, who tried to end her life last night by swallowing poison, was somewhat improved today, but her condition was still regarded as critical.

She told hospital physicians her act was prompted by her failure to recover her license as a trained nurse and because she brooded over the killing of "the only person I had to live for."

She insisted she was not sorry she had killed Kinkhead, and said she would do it again if she had to.



NEW BERN, NORTH CAROLINA, SATURDAY AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 2, 1922. PRICE: FIVE CENTS

PITIFUL SCENES OBSERVED AT THE BIG FIRE YESTERDAY

Hundreds of homeless citizens, dependent upon the mercy of their neighbors, are wandering the streets of the city today, uncertain which way to turn and not knowing where their next meal is coming from.

The devastated area seems to be a magnet that has drawn them there in spite of themselves. It was a pathetic sight this morning to see fathers and mothers, leading their little ones by the hand, staring at the ashes of what yesterday morning were their comfortable homes. Many broke down completely and wept openly.

"What can I do? What can I do?" headed one old colored woman of bystanders, as she stood before the

ruins of her home, while three small children tugged at her skirts. "I lost everything. My husband is dead and I took it washing for a living. I'm going to starve. I know I am. And these poor children—"

She sat down upon what had been one of the brick pillars of the house, moaning and sobbing. Efforts were made to sympathize with her, but this seemed futile.

Many similar instances occurred throughout the morning. The partial destruction of the Roper Mill throws two hundred men out of employment. Others employed in stores and warehouses have had their source of revenue cut off.

"I had two hundred dollars in my house," cried another woman. "It was my savings of three years. Everything is lost."

A crippled man, unable to move, was moved from the path of the fire as the rear of his home was burning. Passers-by saw his frantic signal for aid and went to the rescue.

Awoman, who became a mother three days ago, was carried to the home of neighbors. Three children, left by their mother in the cemetery while she rushed back to her burning house in the efforts to save some of her possessions, were found with their clothing afire from burning grass.

They suffered painful burns.

Everything possible is being done in the way of temporary relief. Scores were fed this morning in private homes. Old clothing, shoes and bedding are being distributed freely by citizens. The entire city—those left untouched by the fire,—are banded together to do everything in their power to help.

A motion at this morning's mass meeting by T. G. Hyman to refrain from giving Christmas presents this year and turn the money over to the relief of distress on the part of the thousands of homeless, was carried with a roar of approval.

RELATIVES IN DISTANT STATES WIRE FOR NEWS

Telegraph messages from all sections of the country and hundreds of telephone messages from as far North as Baltimore and as far South as Atlanta, began pouring into New Bern late yesterday afternoon and have completely swamped both the telegraph and telephone wires.

Late yesterday afternoon telegraphic communication was cut off for several hours, preventing the Western Union and Postal from either sending or receiving any messages. This placed the entire burden upon the telephone.

Long distance and local operators rendered valiant service. Hundreds of excited citizens pressed them to get their calls through as rapidly as possible. Conversations over the long dis-

tance wires were restricted to five minutes.

This morning the telegraph operators were kept constantly at their keys. Messages poured in from almost everywhere, being the requests of relatives and friends for information regarding the extent of the disaster.

In addition, local citizens hurried to relieve the distress of those who were not in touch with the scope of the fire. Never before in any one day, have so many telephone or telegraph messages been received or sent out from here. The employees of both the telegraph and telephone companies deserve unqualified praise for their efforts.

The rush continues and shows no sign of abating.

NEWS BROADCASTED RAPIDLY

By 12 o'clock, noon, yesterday, the Associated Press through its correspondent here, had been advised that a disaster of terrific extent was threatening New Bern.

"Send us all the particulars you can," were the last requests received. "The entire country is waiting for the news."

By four o'clock yesterday afternoon practically every state in the union had heard of the great fire. Refraining from exaggerations and confining themselves strictly to facts, the great news-gathering associations, of which the Sun-Journal is a part, sent to thousands of papers the details of the fire, giving as nearly as possible an accurate estimate

of the loss.

The demand for facts, however, continued insistent.

"Send full details. Papers everywhere are crying for the news," came a second message.

At intervals of one hour, dispatches were filed from here, telling of the increasing loss being inflicted by the flames. At midnight the news was given to the country, announcing that the fire was practically out and that the area of destruction would not be increased.

Today, the Associated Press office at Raleigh, the distributing point, is receiving congratulations from all parts of the nation, complimenting it upon the splendid service it gave in connection with the disaster.

CITIZENS STRIVE TO OUTDO EACH OTHER IN EXTENDING HELP

Mass Meeting Was Held This Morning And Was Unprecedented Demonstration of True Community Spirit.

FUND WAS RAISED IN HAND AN HOUR

Secretary Recorded Donations As Rapidly As He Could Write. More Is Available If Found Necessary

Those of New Bern's citizens who were so fortunate as to have escaped loss in yesterday's \$2,000,000 fire, met in a mass meeting at the court house at 10 o'clock this morning and literally shouted their offerings of aid in service and financial contributions.

No such exhibition of loyalty, patriotism and unselfishness has ever before been seen in a community. Chairman Harry M. Jacobs had to cry at the top of his voice to check the tumult and permit Secretary W. W. Griffin to record the various contributions that were being made.

"I'll give five hundred dollars," came the cry from one end of the court-room.

"Put me down for another five hundred!" responded a voice from elsewhere.

"I'll give \$200!" shouted a third. And so they came thick and fast. All the way down to five and ten dollars. There were tears in the eyes of many as they witnessed the demonstration of open-heartedness and quick sympathy on the part of their fellow-citizens.

Within half an hour, a fund approximating ten thousand dollars had been raised. One man shouted: "If you need any more, call us together again and we'll double our donations!"

"You're right!" came the roar of approval from a dozen or more throats.

AID OFFERED FIRE VICTIMS

Rev. W. A. Ayers offers the use of the First Baptist Church for housing those of the city's population who are homeless today.

Gus Slatone, of the Expert Shoe Repairing Company, says he has a number of boys' and girls' shoes that he will be glad to offer free to the victims of the fire.

Anyone willing to help make sandwiches and serve at the West Street Graded School will please get a communication with Mrs. M. M. Marks between the hours of 9 and 11 o'clock Sunday and Monday mornings.

C. H. Sith and John R. Taylor, members of the firm of Griffin, Taylor & Sith, beg to offer their personal services to all persons whose property was destroyed or damaged by fire. They will be in their office through Sunday after church to assist in any possible way in the prompt adjustment and settlement of all policies. They especially urge all persons holding policies with them to report their losses as quickly as possible.

Both the Athens Show Shop and the Masonic theatres are closed today. They will have no night performances tonight.

Persons with suggestions relative to relieving individual cases of distress are urged to communicate with any member of the central relief committee, whose names will be found elsewhere in today's paper.

WATER IS O. K. NOW.

City officials announced late this afternoon that the water mains have been thoroughly flushed and that the water is again pure and free from contamination.

INFORMATION ABOUT LOCAL RELIEF WORK

Colored persons, in destitute circumstances, are requested to report at the West Street Graded Schools for relief.

The needs of white persons will be supplied at the Chamber of Commerce.

Chamber of Commerce will be open until 12 o'clock, midnight: Sundays from 8 a. m. to 10 p. m.

All persons, desiring to contribute to the relief fund, are requested to send in their subscriptions to R. N. Scott, treasurer of the relief committee, Citizens Savings Bank & Trust Company.

Location of the various information bureaus is as follows:
General Headquarters, Chamber of Commerce.
Station No. 1, Farmers Warehouse: Miss Margaret Bryant, chairman, Mrs. E. A. Uzzell, Mrs. E. B. Mariner, Mrs. L. J. Kerr, Miss Mary Uzzell, Mrs. J. deW. Stevenson, Mrs. T. B. Whitehurst, Mrs. R. B. Nixon, Mrs. Numa Nunn.
Station No. 2, Bell's store, North Pasture: Mrs. S. L. Dill, chairman, Mrs. Charles H. Hall, Mrs. C. P. Elliott, Mrs. Charles Bufort, Miss Anna Hann, Mrs. J. C. P. Davis, Mrs. J. R. Ball.
Station No. 3, Cemetery Gate, Queen street: Mrs. C. D. Bradham, chairman, Mrs. O. H. Gulon, Mrs. J. D. Whitford, Mrs. Albert Hubbard, Mrs. Oscar A. Kaffer, Miss Nannie Frazell, Miss Betty Windley.
Station No. 4—Harrison's store, Frog Pond, Miss Sarah Stewart, chairman, Mrs. H. C. Waldrop, Mrs. J. M. Anderson, Mrs. R. E. Whitehurst, Mrs. E. F. Richardson, Mrs. I. B. Wadsworth, Mrs. J. C. Bagg, Mrs. E. Station No. 5, Corner Cedar street and Brown alley: Mrs. R. B. Williams, chairman, Mrs. J. P. Rhem, Mrs. E. K. Bishop, Mrs. Mrs. R. L. Daniels, Mrs. S. Spennell, Mrs. S. H. Fowler, Mrs. H. C. Armstrong, Mrs. Raymond Pollock.
Mrs. Lead Stevens is appointed chairman of a committee to look after the receiving of clothing and the distribution of clothing to those who are in need.

The Methodist Church on Middle street will be prepared to serve the military company with meals in the basement after 4 o'clock.

T. G. Hyman is chairman of the automobile truck brigade. Anyone wanting help in moving furniture will please call on Mr. Hyman. He can be reached by calling his number at the Hyman Supply Company or at the Chamber of Commerce.

Servants are instructed to return to their work and find provisions at their respective places of employment and not to apply for relief or food.

Any person—white or colored—found in an intoxicated condition, will be arrested at once by order of the mayor. Mr. Clark has announced that order must be maintained at all cost and that drunkenness will not be tolerated.

There will be no begging allowed. Those who want relief or help must see the proper authorities. Ask for information at the information bureau.

OTHER TOWNS OFFERING AID

More than a ton of clothing and shoes, gathered up by the women's organizations, is on the way to New Bern, according to information received from that city today.

The women of Wilmington are planning to have a huge box of clothing sent here not later than Monday.

A score or more women of Washington have been at work during the morning, collecting clothes to be sent to New Bern. It is expected that their contributions will be received here tomorrow.

(By Associated Press)
FAYETTEVILLE, N. C., Dec. 2.—A special train, carrying food, cots, tents and other supplies for relief of the persons rendered homeless by the fire left here this morning for New Bern. An officer and about 25 men were in charge of the train.

Carter Taylor, field director of the 7th division of the American Red Cross, stationed at Camp Bragg, was ordered to New Bern to take charge of relief work late last night. He left early today, traveling by automobile.

(By Associated Press)
RALEIGH, N. C., Dec. 2.—Governor Morrison today called Mayor Edward Clark of New Bern by long distance telephone and offered every assistance in his power for the relief of the persons made homeless by New Bern by the fire. Mayor Clark told the Governor that New Bern would try to handle the relief work alone but if he found that outside aid was necessary, he would accept the Governor's offer.

(By Associated Press)
RALEIGH, N. C., Dec. 2.—In response to an appeal from the Secretary of the New Bern Chamber of Commerce, Adjutant General J. Van Metts this afternoon is sending a large number of cots and other equipment for the use of persons made homeless by the fire at New Bern.

(By Associated Press)
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Court Room Was Crowded

The court room was crowded with men and women, including a number of colored. Harry M. Jacobs called the meeting to order and suggested that a permanent chairman be appointed to take charge of relief work.

"We can't find a better man than Mr. Jacobs," spoke up W. W. Griffin. "I move that we elect him permanent chairman." The motion was quickly seconded and passed. R. N. Scott was elected permanent secretary and W. W. Griffin was appointed secretary.

"Good people," said Mr. Jacobs, in a brief preliminary address, "New Bern has suffered the most disastrous blow in its history. But I am confident that New Bern is going to meet the emergency and meet it as loyal and unselfish citizens. It was an inspiring sight during the conflagration yesterday to see both white and colored abandon their business and other duties and devote their whole attention and effort to help those who were being rendered homeless. It was a sight which should make every citizen of our city glad and proud that he lives in this community."

Mr. Jacobs added that the relief work was not a one-man project. Neither, he said, could it be done by a half-dozen men. The co-operation of all was needed. As his assistants he appointed W. W. Griffin, Albert Hibbard, Albert T. Willis, T. G. Hyman, Ed Meadows, J. A. Vache, O. W. Lane and C. A. Seifert. He also appointed the chairmen of the various organizations to help in the work: Mrs. Spencer, as head of the women's clubs; Mrs. Stevens, in charge of the welfare committee; Clyde Eby, president of the Rotarians; Dr. W. L. Hand, president of the Kiwanians.

Rev. W. A. Ayers, chairman of city charity work, and others, would arrive today with supplies from Camp Bragg and Camp Glenn.

Mayor Clark Delivers Address

Mayor Ed. Clark spoke feelingly of the pledges of assistance which had come from neighboring cities. He said that he was in communication last night with General Metts and that the general had assured him of cots, blankets and other supplies. A special train, he added, would arrive today with supplies from Camp Bragg and Camp Glenn.

Other Chairmen Appointed

John Holland was appointed chairman of the food and supply purchasing committee. Mrs. Wade Meadows was made chairman of the committee which will have in charge the preparation of food. Captain Fisher was placed in command of the housing situation.

No one declined to serve. Everyone seemed only too anxious to be of help in every way possible.

It was announced that soup would be served at the Methodist church at 11 o'clock. Chairmen or presidents of the Daughters of the Confederacy, Daughters of the American Revolution, the American Legion Auxiliary, the Eastern Star and various church organizations, pledged the assistance of their members in any branch of the work.

Charles L. Ives announced that he would offer one of the warehouses at the New Bern Cotton Oil and Fertilizer Mills for the storage of furniture.

John Duffy and Fred A. B. B. Company, from the Elm City Lumber Company, would set up trucks at work in this connection.

Wholesale Houses Closed

Mr. Hyman offered the suggestion that the wholesale houses close at noon today and that all trucks in the city be turned over to moving furniture, as the weather gave indications of rain within a few hours. He was appointed chairman of a committee to see that this should be done.

L. G. Daniels offered two places for the storage of furniture.

Mr. Hyman rose again.

"Mr. Chairman," he stated, "one of our citizens in the audience has just made an excellent suggestion. He suggests that those of us who were so avowed as to have escaped loss in yesterday's fire, refrain from giving Christmas presents this year and give this money for relief work."

A roar of approval greeted the suggestion.

A spirit of restlessness, however, seemed to prevail on the part of many who sat in the audience. They seemed to be waiting for something. The spark was touched off when T. D. Warren rose and said Mr. Bennett, of the Mungler-Bennett Lumber Company, had instructed him to announce that the company would donate \$500 for relief work.

Many Donations Received

And that's where the fireworks started. Dozens of persons started to their feet simultaneously. Mayor Clark announced that the city would give one thousand dollars. A yell of applause greeted the announcement.

"The county commissioners donate one thousand dollars!" shouted Mr. Jacobs.

Another lusty cheer.

"Sudan Temple gives one thousand dollars!" called out Dr. Rhem, recollecting the Temple.

That they came thick and fast was impossible to tell. The Sun-Journal tried to record all the gifts, but here is a partial list:

City of New Bern, \$10,000.

(Continued on page six)