

TORNADO CAUSES PROPERTY LOSS OF MANY MILLIONS OF DOLLARS

WORST STORM OF YEARS SWEEPS SECTIONS OF GEORGIA AND ALABAMA

List of Dead in Atlanta Section Reaches 36 and Estimated Total Running to 60 - La Grange and West Point Hardest Hit - Whereabouts of Train No. 36 Was Unknown For Hours Last Night - Atlanta Red Cross Goes to Rescue.

(By The Associated Press.) ATLANTA, Ga., March 29. - With thirty six known dead and with estimated dead reaching a total of seventy, with hundreds injured and property loss running into the hundreds of thousands, the worst storm of many years swept over sections of Georgia and Alabama early last night. La Grange, Ga., and West Point, Ga., were the hardest hit points, the former place reporting probably fifty killed and 21 bodies recovered, while West Point's death list reached 16. Five are reported dead at Agricola, Ala., 25 miles from Opelika. Hundreds are injured at all these points, while property damage is reported from Macon, Washington and Warren, Ga., and Deatsville, Ala., and other points. Greatest damage at La Grange centered in what is known as the Hillside mill section, where it is estimated that 300 small residences were either destroyed or severely damaged. Fire broke out in the wake of the high winds and many of the frame buildings were burnt. Help was rushed to the stricken town from the Atlanta chapter of the red cross, a train of army motor trucks having reached there at an early hour this morning. Until after midnight it was impossible to dispatch a relief train, as the telegraph wires were down and the whereabouts of train No. 36, on the Atlanta & West Point railroad, was unknown for many hours. Every hospital in La Grange was filled with the injured and the churches and courthouses were transformed into temporary hospitals, likewise filled to overflowing. Three hundred army tents are being sent from Atlanta by the military authorities here. At West Point the damage is reported to have been confined to the business section of the town, which was practically wiped out. Less than six months ago this town suffered heavily from floods and was just recovering from losses sustained at that time. A temporary pontoon bridge, thrown across the Chattahoochee river at that time, was swept away last night and army engineers left Atlanta last night to replace it. Five white persons and five negroes are known to be dead at West Point. Damage in other Georgia towns is considered to property loss which was reported as severe at Macon, where plate glass windows were nearly all shattered and the roofs torn from several buildings. Word was brought from Agricola,

Ala., by train, of the loss of life there, but further details are still lacking. Telegraph and telephone communication was badly impaired on many lines and details of the disaster are, in many cases, meagre. MUCH DAMAGE AT MACON. (By The Associated Press.) MACON, Ga., March 29. - At least one person was killed, several were injured and property damage to the extent of several hundred thousand dollars was inflicted by the terrific rain and hail storm which passed over Macon early last night. The only death reported this morning was that of a negro woman who was struck by lightning, but it is expected that the death list will be increased when communication with outlying parts of the county is restored. Between 300 and 500 telephones were put out of commission in the city by the storm, which left the streets scattered with debris. Many houses were partly unroofed, show windows were smashed, poles and trees blown down, cellars flooded and negro houses blown away. The wind attained a velocity of more than fifty miles an hour. Telegraph service is badly crippled as result, only one long distance line into this city not having been put out of commission. The Acmege river this morning was out of its banks. Torrents poured over the levee at Central City park at several places, flooding the premises but the dike held. The big tent of the circus wintering there was badly damaged, and a barn at the park, where race horses have been wintering, was unroofed but none of the animals were injured. Damaged estimated at \$200,000 was done at Washington, Ga., according to a telephone report from that place. A number of houses were unroofed and communication badly affected, but no one is known to have been injured. 50 DEAD AT LA GRANGE. (By The Associated Press.) LA GRANGE, Ga., March 29. - Casualties resulting from the storm which swept this section late yesterday were placed today at about 50 dead and 100 to 125 injured. Approximately 100 homes were destroyed and the property damage is estimated at \$500,000. At a special session this morning the city council voted \$1,000 for the work of caring for the immediate needs of storm sufferers. The sub-station of the Columbus Power Company here was partially wrecked and efforts are being made today to get the old city water plant in working order.

GARDNER FOR GOVERNOR CLUB IS ORGANIZED

Gaston County Supporters of O. Max Gardner Form Five Working Organization to Back Cleveland Man. At a meeting held Saturday night, a "Gardner for Governor" club was organized in Gaston county with the following officers: C. B. Armstrong, president; S. N. Boyce, vice-president; A. E. Woltz, secretary and A. G. Myers, treasurer. A campaign committee as follows was appointed: A. M. Dixon, J. Holland Morrow, Gastonia; J. C. Howe, Crowders Creek; J. H. Wilkins, Bessemer City; B. Grady Rankin, Mack Armstrong, D. F. Ware, Gastonia; J. C. Ballard, M. A. Stroup, Cherryville, W. R. Rutledge, Stanley, C. E. Hutchison, Mt. Holly; Arthur Young, Mayworth; H. B. Gaston, W. A. Duke, Ed Featherstone, Belmont; Dr. S. A. Wilkins, Dallas; W. E. Roberts, McAdenville, G. V. Patterson, Spencer Mountain; Sam Lanier, J. B. Connor, Baulo; Julius Kimbro, Maurice Lay, Lowell; W. B. Carpenter, Capenter, and D. F. Short, Lory.

BADLY BEATEN UP BY REVENUE AGENTS

Charles Vicenti, of Baltimore, President of the Triaca Company, Has Harrowing Experience on British Island - Is at Liberty Under \$20,000 Bond. BALTIMORE, Md., March 29. - Charles Vicenti, president of the Triaca Company, of this city, charged with conspiracy to violate the war time prohibition law, was at his home here today attended by two physicians and at liberty under \$20,000 bail. Vicenti, with his clothes spattered with blood and a severe cut in his scalp, inflicted, according to his attorneys, by United States internal revenue agents, was brought to Baltimore yesterday from Bimini. His lawyers say he virtually was shanghaied from the British island. Because of his reported condition Vicenti has denied himself to all callers. His attorneys, however, told the story of his reported experiences at the hands of revenue agents. Vincent Demareo, police magistrate, one of his lawyers, said: "Mr. Vicenti obtained permission from British Customs Inspector Palsey, Bimini, to erect a warehouse and agreed to present the warehouse to the British government when he ceased to use it. Shortly before sundown Thursday, the sea launch from Miami, manned by five men, approached the beach, where he was at work. One of them went ashore and asked Mr. Vicenti to step aboard the launch to ascertain the cargo capacity of the launch. "While Mr. Vicenti was in the hold of the launch he was struck on the head with a blunt instrument, knocked unconscious, gagged and bound. He lay in the bottom of the launch for several hours, bleeding from a wound on his head. "Revenue Agent Arthur Johnson was in the party and it was he who informed officially Mr. Vicenti of his arrest. Mr. Vicenti's shirt was soaked in blood, so he was given a change of shirts by Johnson. "Friends of Vicenti set out to overtake the launch. Captain Charles Thompson, master of the ocean speed boat New Yorker, and a party of friends got under way soon after the revenue boat headed for Miami. Twelve miles out they overtook the revenue boat, inquiries were made by megaphone and Captain Thompson was informed that Vicenti was in the hands of United States officers. That was enough for those aboard the New Yorker. They returned to Bimini. "When the revenue agents reached Miami after midnight they transferred the prisoner to an automobile and left the city immediately. The arrest of Vicenti caused a sensation among his friends in Miami and when no trace could be found of the party Friday morning, a captain and detective were pressed into service in an effort to locate them. Joseph A. Trombetta, an official of the Di Giorgio Fruit Company, telegraphed his arrival at Miami, informing him that he was bleeding from wounds when he was placed in the automobile. "Revenue Inspector Person, who had handled the investigation of the Triaca conspiracy case, declared he had no information to sustain the charges of violence made by Vicenti's counsel. He said, however, that Inspector Johnson would be obliged to make a detailed report of the arrest and subsequent happenings to the internal revenue bureau at Washington.

SOUTH CAROLINA FARMER KILLS 3, WOUNDS ANOTHER

Charles Corbett Comes to Columbia and Gives Himself Up After Wholesale Slaughter. (By The Associated Press.) COLUMBIA, S. C., March 29. - Hugh Fanning, Bryan Salley and Julian Cooper are dead and John Salley is in a hospital here probably fatally wounded as the result of an altercation late Saturday night with Charles Corbett, a farmer, near Salley, S. C. Corbett, who is charged with the shooting by the coroner's jury, came to Columbia yesterday and surrendered at the state penitentiary. The three men who were killed, Louis Salley, 18, and the wounded man, left Salley in an automobile Saturday night to go to the home of Cooper. On the way they passed Corbett's home and according to John Salley, the car was stalled and a backfire from the motor set fire to some pumpice owned by Corbett. Corbett claims the men fired the pumpice with matches. When the party returned, it was said, Cooper met the car in front of his home and after a few words began shooting. KRUPP PLANT NOT MAKING MUNITION FOR INSURGENTS. (By The Associated Press.) COPENHAGEN, March 29. - Many of the majority socialists who have been in the ranks of the rebellious workmen in the Ruhr district of Germany have quit the fighting front and are now being followed in their action by the independent socialists, according to a telegram from Muenster today. The manager of the Krupp plant at Essen has issued a denial that the plant is manufacturing munitions for the insurgents. The executive council of the Essen workmen has withdrawn its order permitting the seizure of food in private houses, the message adds, because the privilege had been made a pretext for the plundering of the better class houses for valuables. 2.30 INCHES RAIN. (By The Associated Press.) ANDERSON, S. C., March 29. - In 22 hours ending at 2 o'clock this morning 2.30 inches of rain fell here. An almost continuous electrical disturbance during that period is the severest on record for the time of year, according to the weather observer. Total rainfall for the month already is 8.49 inches, the heaviest recorded since 1912. Farming operations, he states, are already 30 days behind, many planters not having turned a furrow.

HOKE COTTON MILLS CO. ORGANIZATION MEETING.

Raefer Mill to Manufacture Tire Fabric Yarns When Present Contracts Are Filled. Charlotte Observer. The officers and directors of the Hoke Cotton Mills company, which is to take over the cotton mill of the Raefer Manufacturing company, were elected at the organization meeting of the company, held in this city yesterday. The officers are as follows: John C. Rankin, of Lowell, president; Sloan M. Robinson, of Lowell, vice president, and M. M. Tuttle, who will move from Charlotte to Raefer, secretary and treasurer. These officers are also directors, the other directors being M. W. McRae, president of the Bank of Rockingham, and W. P. Covington, cashier of the Bank of Hoke, Raefer. Combined in the directorate pre experienced and successful cotton manufacturers in the Piedmont section and some of the leading financiers of eastern North Carolina. As soon as the present orders are completed the output of the mill will be changed to tire fabric yarns which are in great demand at this time, it is announced. The Raefer cotton mill has 10,488 spindles, of which 5,000 were installed in an addition built in 1917.

REGULAR GERMAN ARMY TROOPS ENTER RUHR DISTRICT.

PARIS, March 28. - Absolute confirmation of the entrance of regular German army troops into the Ruhr district, on the edge of the allied zone of occupation, without any permission from the allies, has been received by the French foreign office, it was declared today. The subject, it was stated, will probably come up before the supreme council in London. The French say they find no excuse whatever for the sending of troops into this section.

3.10 INCHES IN GREENWOOD.

GREENWOOD, S. C., March 29. - The weather observer here reports 3.10 inches of rainfall in the 24 hours ending at 7 o'clock this morning, 2.50 inches having fallen between 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon and 11 o'clock last night. No damage has been reported from the severe electric storm which raged more than an hour last night.

MANY CITIES IN OHIO AND MICHIGAN CUT OFF FROM REST OF WORLD FOR DAYS

Know Death List of 64 Is Being Increased - 29 Deaths in Chicago District - Four Million Dollars Damage in Elgin, Illinois - Martial Law Proclaimed and Former Service Men Preserve Order.

(By The Associated Press.) CHICAGO, March 29. - Material augmentation of the known death list of 64, hundreds injured and property damage estimated of many millions of dollars loomed today when restoration of wire communication would permit compilation of accurate reports from the six central west states hit yesterday by a series of tornadoes. The most foreboding rumors early today were from the southern Michigan peninsula and the rural districts of Indiana and Ohio. In those states wires were prostrated in every direction and it was said it might be days before some of the communities were heard from. The Chicago district, with 29 deaths, was the heaviest sufferer, according to reports early today. The remainder of the known death list follows: West Liberty, Ind., 7; Fenton, Mich., 7; Zulu, Ind., Nashville, O., 4; Geneva, Ind., 3; and one each at Monroeville, Ind., Townley, Ind., Hart, Michigan, East Troy, Wis., and St. Louis, Mo. Thousands of persons were made homeless by destruction of dwellings and outside relief was necessary for a number of places. Elgin, Ill., 30 miles west of Chicago, where 8 persons were killed, suffered approximately \$4,000,000 damage, when the tornado wrecked a large portion of the business quarter and part of the residence section. Military law was declared in Elgin and former service men volunteered to preserve order and prevent looting. From Elgin the tornado swept north-eastward around Chicago, smashing through Melrose Park, Evanston, Wilmette, and other suburbs with a trail of wreckage and deaths. In Melrose park and Wilmette fire further added to the havoc. Soldiers of a national guard regiment which was called out when the extent of the damage became known, also assumed control at Melrose Park and Wilmette. The twisters which swept through Michigan and Ohio and Indiana apparently were distinct from the Illinois storm. In each instance, however, it was the same tale - wrecked houses, prostration of wire communication and a death list. A dozen or more Michigan cities were cut off from the rest of the world and it was reported they were in the path of the twister which swept northeastward across the state from Lake Michigan. The storm was said to have been particularly severe in the vicinities of Kalamazoo, Battle Creek, Lansing, Bay City and Saginaw. In Ohio and Indiana, however, the tornado's fury apparently was wrecked on rural districts. None of the large cities was hit, according to reports. In the open country and semi-isolated districts it is believed a number of persons were killed and much property damaged. 20 KILLED IN TOLEDO. TOLEDO, O., March 29. - Casualties in the storm which swept Toledo and district yesterday afternoon and late last night numbered 20 killed and hundreds injured as far as could be learned today with communication to surrounding points badly impeded by fallen wires. 7 DEAD IN LIMA. LIMA, O., March 29. - Seven persons dead and immense property damage was the toll of last night's wind storm over this section of the state. Interurban traffic has been suspended, and wire communication is seriously impaired. ELGIN CUT OFF FROM WORLD. ELGIN, Ill., March 29. - Elgin today began digging itself out from the wreckage of yesterday's disastrous tornado which claimed eight lives, injured more than 100 persons and did damage to property estimated at \$4,000,000. Merchants and professional men joined hundreds of laborers in clearing the streets today. Many guardmen laid aside their rifles at dawn and with picks and shovels attacked the heaps of brick, timbers and shattered glass. Several business blocks, where the damage was greatest, remain roped off this morning, while workmen prepare to raise the tottering wrecks which sway in the wind in momentary danger of falling into the streets. The electric light plant was wrecked and all factories without their own power are shut down. No newspapers can be printed here today. Elgin remains cut off from surrounding towns and roads rendered impassable by yesterday's torrential downpour make it impossible to determine the damage in the outlying districts. The few persons who have been able to reach Elgin report farm houses and dairy barns blown down with heavy loss to cattle. ENERGETIC MEASURES TO BE TAKEN. (By The Associated Press.) BERLIN, March 28. - Energetic measures to restore order and to protect the German people from "illegal acts" will be taken by the government against communist forces operating in the Ruhr district, said a manifesto issued by the government today, if leaders of the communists fail by March 30 to give adequate guarantees to General von Watter, commander of government troops in that district. The following stipulations are laid down as conditions upon which the government will refrain from taking drastic steps to punish those who have opposed its authority: Unconditional recognition of constitutional state authority. Restoration of official civilian and police services, providing they have not been implicated in the movement supporting the reactionary regime set up by Dr. Wolfgang Kapp on March 13. Immediate release of prisoners. If these conditions are accepted the government will not intervene, but if they are not, General von Watter will receive full powers to proceed. The manifesto declares the Bischoff agreement has not been kept, an attack on Weasel are continuing and that "numerous complaints from all strata of the populace against the crimes of the extremists" have been received by government.

DECLARES 18th AMENDMENT REVOLUTIONARY IN CHARACTER

(By The Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, March 29. - The eighteenth amendment to the constitution known as the prohibition amendment, is legislative in nature and revolutionary in character, according to Attorney General Thomas F. McCrean, of New Jersey, in opening his argument before the United States supreme court in New Jersey's suit to have the amendment declared void and the Volstead act unconstitutional. Eight points were raised and discussed in the argument. Attorney General McCrean's brief declared that the eighteenth amendment was not constitutionally proposed; that the proposal is subject to judicial review; that congress did not by two thirds in number of both houses affirmatively vote for the proposal of the resolution; that three fourths of the states have not ratified in the constitutional sense. The brief also declared that the national prohibition act is not appropriate legislation; that there is no right in congress to legislate outside the words of the amendment; that the words "beverage purposes" sufficiently describe the limit within which congress will legislate and that the term "intoxicating liquors" is in its own definition; that the Volstead law fixing the standard is oppressive and unconstitutional; that the Volstead act is unconstitutional; that it at-

tempts to interfere with the right of physicians and druggists to furnish liquor; that the institutions owned and conducted by the state of New Jersey are hampered by the arbitrary act of congress. The history of New Jersey and its relation to the federal government, both before and since the adoption of the amendment was discussed in the brief while the rights which the states surrendered for the purpose of forming a more perfect union are detailed at length. The brief also stated that the 17 amendments to the constitution prior to the eighteenth, (prohibition amendment) are subjects relating to the structure and form of the government and are not amendments revolutionary in character and which deprive the states of their sovereign powers. In a supplemental brief filed by New Jersey's attorney general an entirely novel point is made that "the right to amend the constitution is a right of the people of the United States as distinguished from the people of a particular state; that the people of the United States have only national powers; the police power being reserved to the states, and the right of internal police being a right of the people of New Jersey over which the people of the United States have no control. This right may not be taken from them without their consent."