

AN EIGHT INCH RAIN

Heaviest Downpour in History of Crawford County.

BOYER BREAKS ALL RECORDS

People Awake at Midnight to Find Homes Flooded—Property Damage Amounts to Thousands of Dollars.—City Water Supply Injured.

Wednesday August, 28th, 1907 was the date of the "Big Flood."

The old settlers may talk as they please tomorrow, but the young settlers have seen the highest water ever known in the East Boyer Valley.

The flood was the result of a downpour of rain amounting to a cloud burst.

According to the government rain gauge the rain-fall during the few hours of Wednesday night was 7.75 inches. The rain fall during the day had been 4 1/2 inches, so that in all more than eight inches of rain fell. This tremendous downpour was accompanied by a severe electrical storm. For two hours there was a brisk cannonading of thunder accompanied by blinding flashes as the bolts went hurtling home.

The residences of S. M. Thew and Wm. Freed were struck and considerable damage done at both places. South of town several grain stacks were destroyed and north of Denison a barn belonging to Emil Nissen was struck. Mr. Nissen was in the barn at the time and was rendered momentarily unconscious, regaining consciousness he rescued some of his stock, but the barn and its contents together with three head of horses were destroyed.

According to the accounts given us by those living in the flooded district the waters rose very suddenly. What appeared at first to be nothing of a very serious nature developed suddenly into a raging torrent. The water was held back by the Luney dam for some time but about midnight the dam was swept away and with a rush the waters came pell-mell down the valley.

Through the efforts of Fred Morse, night operator at the Northwestern, and a brakeman who waded to his neck through the flood to get to the

power house to give the alarm, the news of the flood was telephoned to the Mayor. He soon had the fire alarm sounded and in a brief time hundreds of people were on the scene.

Two boats were produced, one of which under the oarsmanship of Townsend Pearson and Geo. McHenry did efficient work, while the other proved too unwieldy to make headway against the current. The firemen strung rope between trees and the telephone poles and by this means succeeded in getting a number out of the flooded homes and carrying encouragement and help to the victims.

The people worked like troopers, but as soon as it was learned that there was no immediate danger to life, it was thought best not to attempt to get people from their homes until the waters subsided with the morning.

Rescuers Get Wetting. The men who plunged into the swirling waters carrying ropes to aid in the rescue work and who assisted in saving a great deal of stock, really received a worse ducking than the flood victims, and it is a wonder that there is not an epidemic of pneumonia.

The firemen and the other volunteers did the best they could however, and the fact that so large a section of the city was flood swept, in the dead of night without the loss of a single life, speaks well for the cool-headedness and the bravery of the people.

Railroad A Victim. All night and all the following day hundreds of spectators crowded the depot platform and inspected the scene of desolation. Traffic on the Northwestern was delayed about twelve hours and three east bound passenger trains were held until Thursday noon. A meat train which arrived during the storm was side tracked and the track was washed out from under the heavy train in many places. Fortunately the railroad bridge just west of the station held though it was battered by big timbers during the night and was thought to be in danger. The tracks of the "Y" were moved from twenty-five to thirty feet from the roadbed.

A hundred workmen and a train load of gravel brought from Missouri Valley placed the main line in condition for travel by noon and the tired passengers then proceeded on their journey.

It was at first impossible to gain

an accurate idea of the damage done by the flood. Above the Luney mill and north of the railroad considerable damage was done to side walks, and sheds while numerous chickens were drowned. The heaviest loss north of the track however, was to the city in the flooding of the city wells. These were filled with mud and dirty water, making it necessary to pump the wells out and scrub the walls. The water committee acted promptly however and the people were inconvenienced much less than it seemed possible would be the case. One lesson learned however was that these wells must be much better protected.

South of the Tracks. With the dam above, the hills on the south and the railroad embankment on the north the residents of the district south of the Northwestern found themselves in a veritable trap. The dam broke, the waters from the hills poured down, but there was no outlet for the flood save through the low iron bridge west of the station or over the tracks. South Denison was soon converted into a lake from one to six feet deep.

The little home of John Olson was the first in the path of the flood. Three feet of water rushed through his house destroying all household goods and clothing. Mr. Olson lost five dozen chickens. In proportion to his means his loss was about the heaviest.

The Orlando Olson home was also desolated. Mr. Olson was awakened by the sound of waters and was astounded at the sudden rise of the flood. Mrs. Olson bravely aided in the rescue of her own family and then tried to carry the word to those living beyond the bridge. She plunged into the cold water but the swift current forced her to turn back. The Olson's lost several dozen chickens and their household goods were destroyed. Some one started the absurd story that Mrs. Olson left her home leaving two of her children in the house. The story is, of course, untrue. Mrs. Olson carried her little ones from the threatened home in her own arms. It would seem as if the family had enough to bear, in the loss of their little all, without this grotesque lie being circulated to grieve the mother almost to a frenzy.

The home of Robert Hird suffered damage. The cellar was flooded, carpets ruined and the poultry loss amounted to quite a bit. Mr. Hird,

while attempting to rescue his cattle almost lost his own life but he was brought back safely.

Menagh a Heavy Loser. Two warehouses belonging to Geo. Menagh were in the path of the flood. While the ware houses stand high above the ground there was over a foot of water in each. The warehouses were filled with grain, ground feed, flour, sugar, and merchandise. Mr. Menagh is not prepared to give figures as to his loss but it is probable that the loss here equalled the total of the other losses. The loss on the grain and on a car-load of sugar were the heaviest.

Losses Fifty Hogs. P. W. Weberg was, next to Mr. Menagh, the heaviest loser. He lost

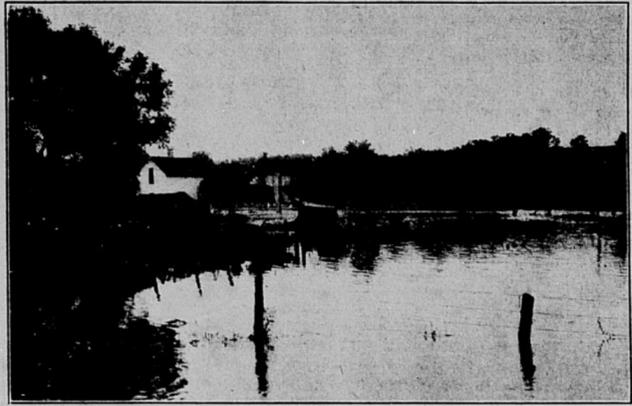
Three feet of water filled the home of Wm. Schiernbeck next door. Furniture and clothing were ruined and a two inch deposit of mud left on the floor. Mrs. Schiernbeck showed the reporter a new bonnet and a brand new dress, both ruined. The Schiernbeck's took refuge in the Weberg home although Mrs. Schiernbeck could not be induced to leave until her dog and her feather bed were saved.

Among the heavy losers was J. W. Baker the oil man. Mr. Baker had a queer experience. As the pasture was being flooded he went out to get his horses into the barn. He succeeded in doing this, he remained in the barn caring for the horses, for a few minutes. When he went to leave, the water had risen so rapidly that it was

to wade up to their shoulders. They found one of the Jensen ponies tied so that his head was under water and they came just in time to save him.

The A. H. Bowen home was damaged about \$75.00. There was 16 inches of water in their house. They lost 16 chickens. Mrs. Bowen and Mildred were carried out in scant attire by Joe Smith and a large part of their clothing was ruined by water.

Chris Heersen lost, 2 tons of hay, 24 ducks, and 150 chickens. While making an effort to save the hogs, Mr. Heersen was struck on the back of the head by a floating log and had a narrow escape from drowning. There was three feet of water in his house. He estimates his damage at \$70.



High Tide on the East Boyer. Wednesday Night, August 28th, 1907.

fifty head of hogs, 47 tons of hay, 300 bushels of corn, 150 bushels shelled corn, 25 bushels wheat, five cords of wood and 150 chickens.

Mr. Weberg's hog and chicken pen, a building 100 feet long, was moved 30 feet by the flood. Mr. Weberg made a gallant fight to save his hogs and succeeded in driving all but 50 into the barn. His family was forced to the second story of their house and this was also the refuge of the neighbors. The south foundation of the Weberg home were washed out. Mr. Weberg's loss will amount to several hundreds of dollars.

over his head and he was forced to spend the night in the hay loft. Mrs. Baker, whose little son was less than two weeks old was able to crawl upstairs on her hands and knees. Mr. Baker's loss was at least \$200. Two hundred chickens were drowned, about \$30 worth of oil was destroyed and the flood moved oil house, fences, hog houses and carried one oil wagon into the tall timber.

T. A. Miller was high enough up not to have much water in his house, but he lost fifty chickens and came near losing one of the Jensen ponies. When Mr. and Mrs. Miller went to the barn to rescue the horses they had

Fritz Heiden was damaged to the extent of \$100. He lost 150 bushels of corn, 30 ducks, his carpets were ruined, canned fruit spoiled and his garden a wreck. It took Mr. Heiden 48 hours to pump the water out of his cellar. There was a foot of water in his house.

L. Schmusser reports 3 feet of water in his house and estimates his loss at \$75.00. He lost 75 chickens, 20 bushels of corn and 2 tons of hay.

W. J. Welsh, conductor, living just south of the Northwestern station was one of the heavy losers. The lower

(Continued on last page)

Wizard Flour?

Try a Sack
\$1.35 per sack

Our Stocks are larger and more complete than ever before. The styles are right Up-to-Date and in all of the newest colors of the season.

McCall Patterns

October numbers in the
are in. Get a new fashion plate and glance at the beautiful styles that will be found in the late patterns.

Dress Goods, Silks, Fringes

We have a large assortment of dress goods, voiles, joblins, muslins, brillantines, panamas and worsteds. Nothing has been overlooked in buying our lines for this season and our prices are always the lowest. Our line of all wool and worsted dress goods at 50c per yard, contains new patterns in brown, blue and red.

Silks!	Silks!	Silks!
Black taffeta silk worsted, 36 inches wide, per yard.....		\$1.25
Plaid silk waisting, per yard.....		\$1.10
Brown and black plaid silk waisting with satin stripe, per yard.....		\$1.50

SEE OUR LINE BEFORE YOU BUY

Trimmings! Trimmings!

Silk braid in dozens of patterns, per yard from 5c to.....	35c
Buttons of all kinds.	



Shoes

Have you seen our line of \$3 and \$4 dress shoes. It contains many of the same styles that others ask \$5 for.

Try us for Shoes that wear

Pacific draperies, a dozen patterns, per yard.....	9c
Fancy denims, same pattern on both sides, per yard.....	15c
Cretannes, very pretty designs, per yard.....	15c

Cloaks! Cloaks! Cloaks! STOVES!



We are, at the opening of this season, offering some of the greatest values in cloaks that have been given the people of Denison. The above cut on the left shows one of our leaders. This cloak is made of an extra quality black kersey. It is beautifully trimmed with imported soutache, braid and black velvet. Half satin lined. It is made with the new sleeve and trimmed cuffs. We also carry this same style made of black broad cloth, gray or black satin lined throughout. Others get \$16.50 for this same garment. Our price

\$12.50

The cut on the right is one of the new garments of the season—made up in brown and blue kersey and are trimmed with braid and velvet. This garment is very reasonable at \$12.50. Our line of ladies, misses and children's Cloaks is complete. We have anything you want from \$5.00 up to \$30.00 each.

How about that new stove? Would you not rather pick it out now and let us hold it for you than wait till our line is broken and have to make your selection then. We have anything you want now in heaters, ranges and cook stoves.

The "Palace" Peninsular is the best base burner on the market. It takes less fuel to heat the same amount of space with this stove than it does with any other heater. Not that other heaters are not made of just as good material nor just as good workmen make them, but it is the principals and patents upon which this heater is built.

We can save you money if you need a new stove and if you should happen to have an old one to trade in will give you the full worth of it. Call and look over our line.

HARNESSES -- Main St.

Will you need a new work harness this fall? We make all of our hand-sewed harness. We use nothing but Star Oak leather in our harness and stand back of every one we put out.

Our prices on the same grade of goods is always cheaper than anywhere else. Ask to see our special work harness, 14 inch, at.....

38.00

TOWELING.

All Linen Toweling, brown, per yd.....	10c
All Linen Toweling, bleached, per yd.....	10c
Huck Toweling, per yd.....	15
Good grade Toweling, 17 inches wide, per yd.....	05c
Fancy Toweling, Inland pattern, per yd.....	20c

Geo. Menagh & Co.

We Pay Cash for Butter & Eggs
Broadway and Main -- Denison Iowa