

# THE DEMOCRAT-SENTINEL.

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## FLOOD AND DESTRUCTION LAY WASTE THE HOCKING VALLEY

### Never in History Were the Waters As High in This Valley.

## CLOUD BURST NEAR LANCASTER INUNDATES THE LOW LANDS.

### The Flood of '84 Exceeded by at Least Two Feet--Rockbridge, Logan, Nelsonville and Athens Suffers as Never Before by the High Waters of the Hocking.

All the towns in the Hocking Valley have experienced in the last few days the most destructive flood in our history. The Hocking river spread from hill to hill and the destruction of life and property was most horrible.

In one instance to get the readers to grasp the extent of the awful flood, we recite that in 1884 the water was but three inches on the floor of the Hocking Valley depot in Logan. Wednesday night it was two feet, four inches deep in the same depot.

The water on the paved street of Gallagher avenue would swim a horse at the McLaughlin boarding house. Men worked in the water to their arm-pits, on the side-walks of the paved street, rescuing the people from their homes. The water was five feet deep in the residence of Engineer Frank Johnson on Front street.

Wednesday night at midnight the crowds of men and anxious friends could not get farther than the Kessler Factory on Gallagher avenue, where the Mayor and police department were stationed until two o'clock in the night directing men on horse back and in high bed wagons and boats to the rescue of women and children. It was indeed pitiable to see mothers and babes being brought to safety on horses, the mother to the rear on the horse clinging to the stalwart horseman, and he with the little babe in one arm, directing his noble steed with the other, and all the time in a deluge of pouring rain. As soon as they were let down from the horses, the Mayor would ascertain where they hoped to go among friends and sent them in rigs to comfortable homes. At midnight little babes snatched from their beds by hands of strange men, rushed through the doors into the street amid the roar of angry waters, put upon bare-back horses all but swimming, and let off in the street in a down pour of rain and hustled to homes warm and comfortable. That was the scene for three hours Wednesday night on Gallagher avenue. God bless the strong men that climbed upon the bare-back of horses and dared to swim a horse if necessary to rescue a mother with babe in arms. Many people in Riverdale live in cottages, with no chance to go into the up-stairs, and with two feet of water in their homes creeping up to five feet they must needs get out to save their lives.

During the awful rush and roar of the night, in the midst of increasing flood, and the destruction of homes and rescue of little ones, the mournful whistle of the pumping station of the water system for our town, gave off a long and doleful blast, that to the knowing ones meant that water had filled the engine rooms and water supply to the town was cut off, and following but an hour or so, the electric light plant shut down and all lights went out leaving the town in utter darkness, and to add to the distress of many, the Federal Gas Co. lines broke, and the supply from that company ceased. The wind became high and cold, many of the sufferers and rescuers had no light or heat in the homes and hearts of the thinking men, that the town, if fired by the strange and improvised ways of making homes comfortable, that though surrounded by water, there would be no system to fight fire. Fortunately there was no blaze started.

The printing offices were put out of business by the water-system suspending and thus the delay in publication.

The R. F. D. Carriers have not been out for two days and it is doubtful if they can resume this week their full routes.

The Railroad company are probably the heaviest losers, though our manufacturers are suffering greatly. The railroad bridge above the Logan depot is washed out and 300 feet of the track west of it. South of Logan near old town target the track is all washed out and it will take a week to get it passable. In the yards near the depot the water carried acres of logs and brush and debris on the tracks and washed out much of the balast under the ties.

The wagon road bridge at the old Floyd farm has gone down, and the many other destructions will cost the county thousands of dollars.

The village council with the mayor, this Thursday afternoon went the rounds of the town and put men to work to repairing the destroyed streets and bridges. It will be an expenditure of hundreds of dollars in Logan to repair streets and bridges.

As we go to press the flooded districts present a deplorable condition. The water has receded from most houses and the occupants are trying to clean them of the mud and filth carried in by the waters. Half way up on the walls of the first story in hundreds of houses is the common sight of the marks where the water has been. Great drift logs and out buildings from up the river are piled upon front porches of dozens of houses in Gallagher addition, and in "Tartown," that portion of Logan near the railroad in east Logan, the water came up to the roofs of the cottages, and floated two homes from the foundations and bunched them against the others. The water came up so rapidly that the inhabitants had to gather up their clothes and flee for their lives. Forty persons are harbored in the old Price Factory building and in the Woolen mill building, and are being cared for by the town authorities.

No trains are running in or out of Logan and the telegraph is all out of commission. Phone communication is had with Athens and Nelsonville. The health officer of Logan, Dr. Cherrington, has issued circulars advising all persons to boil hydrant or well water before using, thus to prevent disease, and the doctor is taking every sanitary measure possible.

Rockbridge.—News comes from Rockbridge, by overland carriers that that town was flooded to two feet in the stores in town.

Nelsonville.—Our sister city south of Logan has suffered greatly. The water was two feet deep on the public square in the city and 18 inches on the dining room floor of the Dew House.

Athens.—In that city there was probably more lives lost than in any other now reported in the valley. A half dozen people were drowned, among them Lucius Turner and wife of Logan.

THURSDAY MORNING OBSERVATIONS.  
The railroad shops, the Logan Clay Product company, the Kessler & Sons and Snider Mfg. company the water works pumping plant and the Citizen's Electric Light plant, were put out of business by the highest waters and biggest flood within the history of the Hocking Valley.

The Snider Mfg. company is a heavy loser from damaged furniture and lumber being carried away by the flood.

Gas Helms the butcher, had 17 head of fine stock cattle drowned at his slaughter house between the railroad and the river on south Mulberry street. Twelve fine hogs were saved

by putting them in the second story of the building.  
All communication with the outside world was cut off early last night, both telegraph and the two telephone long distance lines being out of commission.

Three passenger trains were water bound at the Logan terminal. The P. V. train No. 137 arrived in Logan at eight o'clock just before the tracks went out between this city and Oldtown. No. 37 the Athens train, was detained from going north. The Nelsonville train leaving Logan at 5:40 o'clock was also detained as the branch tracks went out in the lower yards about 7:30 o'clock. Two trains well filled with passengers, many of whom slept in the coaches during the night, the water being four inches above the lower coach steps. The trains were parked on the main tracks.

A K. & M. passenger train departed north via the P. V. yesterday afternoon, proceeded as far as Enterprise where it was stopped by the flood and the passengers spent an anxious night in the cars. The train was in charge of Conductor Switzer. The water extinguished the fires in the engine and the train could not move in either direction. The last train north was No. 35 at 12:50 o'clock. No. 34 was turned back at Sugar Grove last night.

Operator Abe Blosser and George Martin section foreman on the Logan-Haydenville stretch had an experience last night which they will always remember with a shudder. Blosser is the Oldtown block operator and Martin was watching track and bridges and stopped at the telegraph office a short time when the sudden rise caught them half a mile from safety. Both men walked toward town on the track hip deep in water until they had almost reached the "Y" where a channel had cut, through which the water was rushing at a frightful speed. No man could have breathed that current and lived during the darkness. After groping in the dark a small tree three or four inches in thickness was found which both men climbed in that perilous position these two men spent the night and were only rescued providentially by a boat which had escaped from above coming so near that Mr. Martin corralled it and in it both men came to land in safety.

These two men spent from eight to nine hours in that position and were almost frozen when they escaped. Their calls for help during the night were heart rendering and awakened many people in the east end, but nothing could be done to rescue them. The previous night, Operator Blosser was severely stunned by lightning entering his office, all switchboards and instruments being torn from their fastenings.

The iron bridge crossing the run at Eliz's on the Logan and Lancaster road went down, carrying the gas line of the Federal company depriving their Logan patrons of fuel and light.

The old wooden bridge across the Hocking river at Enterprise, among the last relics of wooden bridge building in the county, went out early last night. There is no sorrow from the traveling public.

Andy Fee, a brakeman, faced a perilous situation last night while attempting to return home from the roundhouse. He attempted to breast the rapid current across Gallagher avenue and was carried with the tide, luckily catching and alighting on a hen coop below, from which he was rescued later.

About sixty traveling men, most of whom are from Columbus, are stranded in this city and are doing what they can to relieve the situation. They have organized an impromptu relief committee and will give advance in I. O. O. F. Hall tonight for the benefit of the flood sufferers. The Logan Orchestra has volunteered its services and the use of the hall is donated. An admission of \$1.00 will be charged for gentlemen; ladies admitted free.

### New Instrument.

Mr. F. S. Case has installed one of the latest instruments for testing the eyes. In addition to testing them, this instrument records the defects, and is absolutely correct. There is no need of going to the city for having the eyes scientifically tested, as the instrument in the hands of Mr. Weaver the optician will tell you exactly what is the matter with your eyes, and you can be fitted with the proper glasses right at home.  
March 14, 6-w.

## BALLOTTED ONE HOUR

### But Could Not Select a Street Commissioner.

### SALARY FIXED AT \$500.

### Many Citizens Before Council Asking Street Repair.

Tuesday night's session of the Village Council was fraught with much interest because of the probable election of a Street Commissioner. The Mayor presented eight names, but the council after one hour of balloting failed to confirm either of the names proposed and finally adjourned without electing a Street Commissioner. The applicants were J. M. Mount, Charles Taylor, Frank Kitts Miller, G. W. Casto, John Savy, Charles Barns, William Fields and George Benadum. An ordinance was passed fixing the salary of Street Commissioner at \$500 per year, or \$41.66 per month. The field is still open for applicants for this position, and the man that can get four votes of the six councilmen, can land the plum.

The other business of the council meeting was transacted expeditiously. Many citizens of East Street were present with Mart Hartman as spokesman, asking repairs on that street. The matter was referred to the Street Committee to investigate the matter and report.

The Treasurer's report showed \$4,067.74 in the General Fund; \$2,884.74 Safety; \$4,099.62 Service; \$336.76 Health; \$2,047.61 Water, and \$483.45 Library; in all \$13,919.92. The Clerk's report tallied.

The Cemetery Trustees report showed receipts \$161.43 and expenditures \$54.34; balance on hand \$107.09. The report was signed by Miss Blanche Moe, clerk, and Amos Parker, B. C. McManigal and J. H. Porone, Trustees. The reports of the Village offices were accepted and approved.

There was present at the council meeting H. G. Hansel, H. R. Harrington and Lewis Hartman, Trustees of the Public Library, asking for sanitary appliances to be installed in the city building. Mr. Hansel addressed the council as did Mr. Harrington. The matter was spoken favorably of by the council, and referred to the Public Property committee for investigation.

The Ways and Means committee reported favorably on bills amounting to \$860.78, and the council voted the report approved and the Clerk to draw his order for the several amounts.

"The old 'Bill' Fields trouble was taken up and the judgement and costs against the village of \$74.48 was ordered paid to the clerk of court. This was the disputed account of long standing. Fields was sanitary policeman and was to receive 50c per, for burying dogs and cats. He had a bill of \$17.50 allowed by the old Board of Health. The council refused to pass the bill. Fields, through Attorney H. M. Whitcraft, sued the town and recovered a judgement. After much legal sparring, the fight was declared a draw and the village settled at \$74.48 all told.

The matter of opening West Church street was reported by the committee, reciting the cost at \$600, and additional the village would be compelled to move the house standing in the center of the proposed extension. No farther action was taken by the council.

Millinery is advancing in price rapidly and it would be well for the ladies contemplating new head dress to go now to the Millinery Opening of Mrs. Lulu Wright, while stock is complete and prices right.

## Rev. C. C. Hart is Dead.

News came to Mr. Tom Rochester, Sunday, of the death of an old time citizen of Logan, Rev. C. C. Hart. He died at his home in Webster Grove, Mo., and had attained the remarkable age of 87 years.

Mr. Hart was for many years one of the active men of Logan. Was the beloved pastor of the Presbyterian Church here, and left a wide circle of friends when he moved to his western home, and the announcement of his death brings back many recollections of the olden times in Logan.

Mr. Walter Doebele, who has been seriously sick for some days is slightly improved. He was stricken with threatened stoppage of the bowels, and Dr. Will Hamilton of Columbus came here prepared to operate, but desisted in the hope of recovery without such drastic measures being necessary. Dr. Aplin is the local physician in the case.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Barwell arrived Tuesday evening from Europe. Jack is looking well and recites a very harrowing experience in a terrible storm at sea.

Mr. John M. White of Laurelville, was in Logan Saturday and Sunday. He was in attendance at the funeral of Mr. Ed. Pleukharp. Mr. White was formerly in business with Mr. Pleukharp.

A series of most excellent sermons were preached by Rev. Fr. Doyle at the St. John's Catholic church each evening last week. The attendance was splendid, the church being crowded to standing room almost every night.

Mrs. G. W. Brehm received a \$40.00 bond from Smith & Nixon Piano Co., Cincinnati, for her most correct guessing in a contest. Mrs. Wm. Walker was also the recipient of \$60.00 from the same company.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Fitzgerald, who were visiting in Elk Fork last week were called home by the sudden and serious sickness of Mrs. Fitzgerald father, Henry Ruble. However, Mr. Ruble is improving at this time.

Mrs. John Selb and Mrs. James Shaw, formerly Nill sisters, have sold their Main street property to R. B. Longstreth at \$8,000.00 and bought the old Rochester homestead on Second street for \$2700.00, now occupied by Jim and Josie Rochester and families.

## GUN USER IS DEAD.

Ed. Grover, who shot Conductor Frank McBride and brakeman Harry Green on Christmas eve, two years ago, was brought to Bidwell, Gallia county, for burial last week having been killed in a mine disaster near Logan, W. Va. It is a pity if the fellow had to die young, that that important event did not come to the relief of the community before he so dangerously wounded two of Logan's good railroad men, who were discharging their duties in protecting the public against such brutes as he. A co-instance is that McBride and Green had charge of the body of their former assailant, and Harry picked up the shipping tag from the rough box as a "souvenir."

## SCHOOL BOARD ORGANIZES.

The School Board met Monday night and organized by electing S. H. Bright, President and John R. Rempel, Secretary. Dr. G. W. Pullen is treasurer, ex-officio. No other business of importance was transacted except the payments of bills.

## IF THE PEOPLE PAY UP.

### Railroad Ready for the Land to Start Work.

### SLOW COLLECTIONS

### Makes Delay in Building the H. V. Ry Shops.

It does not need an expert accountant to figure out the fact that land to be deeded to the H. V. Ry. Co., for shops and receiving yards will cost money, and that it takes that money, cash immediately in the hands of the Board of Trade Committee to purchase that land. If you can go now and pay the amount you subscribed for this purpose, to the committee, they will certainly appreciate it. They have been around collecting, but it is very hard work owing to business men being out when they call and then they must call again. Go into Strentz-Lappens store and pay the amount subscribed or part of it to Mr. Will Strentz. Don't wait to be asked for the money. The committee must raise this money in the next few days and it behooves every man who subscribed to this fund to go at once and make arrangements with the committee to pay.

All things are now ready for the transfer of the deeds, and work will begin, with more than one hundred laborers employed. Attorney Powell, for the land owners was here Monday making an abstract of the title, and said to the writer that there is no reason on their part why the H. V. Co. should not be unloading building material on the grounds by first of next week.

Now lets get a hustle on ourselves and come up with our part of the proposition. Also, every farmer that sells his produce in Logan should drop in and see Mr. Strentz and give him one or two dollars to help along with this proposition. We must raise the money, now. The time is here. Let every citizen make an effort to help the committee to make these collections, and get any new subscription that is possible to get.

The H. V. Ry. shops will be building and the tracks being laid next week; all will be hustle and push and work in a few days if we come up with our deed for the land. Everybody push. Now, altogether, one good strong pull, and the land will be bought and paid for, and the work started in next few days.

J. C. Lewis and his famous "Si Plunkard" Company will be the attraction at the Local Theatre April 1st. Mr. Lewis and his company used to be a regular visitor to our city, but during the past three seasons has played other territory. This season he has gathered about him a company of high class comedians and also improved his show in other respects, this will be his twelfth appearance in Logan and has never failed to please a Logan audience.

## DYNAMITE CAP EXPLODES

### Goldie Shull Meets With Painful Accident.

On Saturday, Goldie Shull, young girl living at her grandfather, Dave Wolfe's, was investigating the hidden wonders of a dynamite cap by picking it with a hat pin, when the thing exploded, lacerating her two fingers and thumb most painfully. At this time she is getting along nicely and the wounds are healing.

The M. E. Church entertainment for Friday night has been postponed until Friday evening, March the 22, on account of the flood. All tickets sold will be good for that night.