

HAVOC DONE EXPLOSION ON WATER FRONT

Millions of Dollars in Property Lost in New York Harbor Disaster.

MUNITIONS LADEN BOATS BLOW UP

District For Miles Bombarded by Ex- ploding Shrapnel—Several Lives Lost, Many Injured and Score or More Missing—Investigation Under Way to Determine if Fire Was Incendiary— Boat and Pier Officials Under Arrest.

WHAT EXPLOSION DID.

Property loss estimated at \$50,000,000.
Thirteen huge warehouses of National Storage Company, containing merchandise worth between \$12,000,000 and \$15,000,000, destroyed.
Great quantities of shrapnel, small arm munitions and explosives for allies destroyed.
Barges containing shrapnel and small steamers loaded with explosive catch fire and are out of use in bay, menacing lives and harbor shipping.
Detonations felt in five states and caused panic in Manhattan and Brooklyn.
Principal business street of Jersey City almost completely wrecked.
All of lower Broadway filled with broken glass, great financial houses of Wall street being principal sufferers. Police reserves called out to guard jewelry stores in Maiden Lane district.
Door leading to Statue of Liberty demolished as shrapnel falls in showers on Bedloe's Island.

New York, July 31.—Two men are under arrest today on warrants, charged with manslaughter in the death of one of the victims of the explosion on Black Tom pier yesterday morning. Estimates of the casualties early today placed the number of dead at four, with three others mortally injured, thirty-five suffering from lesser injuries and eleven to twenty missing. Estimates of the property loss ranged from \$25,000,000 to \$45,000,000. In some quarters it was believed the total number of dead would reach twelve.

Those under arrest are Alfred D. Dickman, agent of the Lehigh Valley railroad, stationed at Black Tom pier, and Alexander Davidson, superintendent of the warehouses of the National Storage Company. A warrant was issued for the arrest of Theodore B. Johnson, president of a lighting company, one of whose barges loaded with ammunition is alleged to have been moored at the pier.

Blame One of Three Firms.
Frank Hague, commissioner of public safety of Jersey City, charged the blame of the explosion lay either with the Lehigh Valley railroad, the storage company or the lighterage company, and that one of them had violated the laws of New Jersey by permitting barges loaded with ammunition to lay at the pier over night.

Several investigations were commenced today to discover the origin of the fire which caused the explosion that destroyed \$5,000,000 worth of ammunition, eighty-five freight cars, and set blazing barges adrift to bombard the statue of Liberty and the Ellis Island immigration station with shrapnel and shells. One of the investigations is conducted by Col. B. W. Dunn, chief inspector of the bureau of explosives of the American Railway Association and the Interstate commerce commission.

May Have Been Incendiary.
It is understood that agents of the department of justice are making inquiries to learn if the explosion was the work of incendiaries. Lehigh Valley officials assert that an interloping barge loaded with ammunition was moored at their pier in defiance of their orders and that the first explosion took place on board that vessel. The commissioner of public safety says that four barges were at or near the pier and it is feared their crews perished.

The big pier today is a mass of smoking ruins, with the debris piled hundreds of feet high in places and with the fire still burning.
Damage on Ellis Island.
The work of repairing the damage to buildings on Bedloe's and Ellis islands and in New York and Jersey City began today. The Ellis Island immigration station had every appearance of a war-racked village. Every window was shattered, the roof of the hospital was caved in, the main executive rooms were wrecked, while the island was strewn with bits of shrapnel, broken glass and three-inch shells thrown ashore from drifting barges. The damage was estimated at \$75,000.

Heavy Loss on Bedloe's Island.
The buildings on Bedloe's island, with doors blown in and windows shattered showed the marks of an eight-hour bombardment of shrapnel, iron bolts and pieces of steel, while the homes of army officers are stripped of chimneys. The loss there is estimated at \$100,000. The statue of Liberty virtually is undamaged, but the doors to the pedestal are blown in. Stories told by those who narrowly escaped death refer to the miraculous. One man was blown off a lighter and swam to Bedloe's island, but had to swim back again to the Jersey shore.

The air seemed to be full of flames and I thought the end of the world had come," said another survivor. "A third was blown fifty feet from the top of a freight car.
Felt in Five States.
The detonations, which were felt in five states, began with a continuous rapid fire of small shells, the blowing up of great quantities of dynamite, nitro-cellulose and other high explosives, followed by the bursting of thousands of shrapnel shells which literally showered surrounding land and water for many miles around.
Black Tom island is an area of reclaimed land, which projects into New York bay from the Jersey shore, immediately behind the statue of Liberty. Six Lehigh Valley railroad piers and the National Storage houses comprising thirty-four three-story brick buildings about a hundred feet deep, were the principal sufferers.
Warehouses Are Destroyed.
Between \$25,000,000 and \$30,000,000 worth of property belonging to these two companies was hurled into the air by the force of the explosions. Thirteen storage warehouses and their entire contents were burned, a dozen barges and their contents burned or blown up and probably three tug boats sunk.
Three tug boats, with an aggregate total of thirty-four men, are listed as missing. These boats are the Geneva, Bridgeton and Thetaka. When last seen the little vessels were bravely forcing their way into the blazing barges in effort to remove them. Then occurred the big explosion. It is feared they were torn to pieces and lost with their crews.
Countless Homes Damaged.
About a million dollars worth of damage was done on Bedloe's island and Ellis Island suffered severely. Countless homes and business places running up into the hundreds of thousands were more or less damaged in Jersey City, Hoboken, Manhattan, Bronx, Queens, Brooklyn, Bayonne, Staten Island and adjacent cities and towns. Smashed glass windows were the principal loss suffered. A conservative estimate of this loss is \$1,500,000.
The origin of the blaze which caused ruin and death has not yet been established. This fire, as nearly as can be ascertained from eye witnesses, began either in a freight car on the "explosive pier," or on a barge moored to the pier, about ten minutes after midnight.
The Lehigh Valley Railroad Company, in an official statement, lays the blame on a barge owned by an independent towing company which, against orders, had moored to the pier. The railroad charges the fire began on the barge. Some eyewitnesses assert the conflagration started on a freight car.
Like a Cannonade.
Many of the shells shot toward the open bay. There was a wonderful sight the early morning watchers beheld as the shells plopped along the surface of the water. How the onlookers who swarmed the bay front escaped injury cannot be explained.
About 5 o'clock one would have imagined that the blazing barges were in charge of trained gunners. Several hundred shells exploded almost simultaneously.
It was apparent that the explosion did the greatest damage in the area occupied by the freight cars. It is said eighty-seven of them stood on the rocks upon this stretch, which was once a small island, but is now a vast pond. It was among these freight cars at this point that Cornelius J. Leyden, chief of the Lehigh Valley police, was standing when last seen alive. With him were several other men. The floating barges and the territory surrounding the crater were strewn with exploded shells of various sizes.
Status of Liberty Damaged.
Damage to the statue of Liberty has been variously estimated at from \$100,000 to \$1,000,000. The latter is the guess of Captain Clinton, in charge of Liberty island. The exact injury can not be ascertained until experts have made a careful examination of the pedestal and base of the statue. Bedloe island, most on a direct line with Black Tom, bore the brunt of the shock. A warehouse recently completed there is practically in ruins.
The first thought of the officers and men who comprise the little army post was for "Miss Liberty." Thru an avalanche of dirt and pieces of flying shrapnel a detail of three men with a noncommissioned officer ran to the statue after the first blast. They found it badly damaged.
The light on the statue, however, burned steadily, not even flickering when the successive blasts rattled the monument to its foundation. The main door, a heavy iron affair, weighing nearly a ton, was blown completely off its hinges.
Thirteen Warehouses Wrecked.
At least \$10,000,000, probably \$15,000,000, damage was caused by destruction of thirteen of the eighteen warehouses of the National Storage Company in Jersey City. Edmund L. Mackenzie stated today. This loss is amply covered by insurance.
The damaged goods included 30,000 tons of raw sugar, valued at \$3,000,000, and 24,000 bales of tobacco.
On consignments of munitions and other supplies going to France, loss will fall on insurance companies, owing to the fact the policies on French shipments begin from the pier delivery. British shipments are insured only at "waterside."

HAIG'S FORCES ADVANCE LINES

Combined Attack of British and French Gains on Six Mile Front.

FRENCH ON EDGE OF TOWN OF MAUREPAS

Great Russian Drive on Eastern Front Continues With Undiminished Force —Tentons Pushed Back to Graberki and Sereth Rivers—Arabian Forces Capture Turkish Town and Fort of Yembo—Second Air Raid in Week.

Further advances for General Haig's forces on the Somme front in northern France, where a combined attack of the British and French gained ground on a six mile front yesterday, are reported by London today.
To the south of this sector where the French had advanced toward Combes and reached the outskirts of Maurepas, the Germans again launched heavy counter attacks. They achieved no lasting success.
The great drive on the eastern front is continuing in undiminished force in some sectors. In north-eastern Galicia, in the vicinity of Brody, which was captured last week, the Russians are keeping up their pursuit of the Teutons, who have been pushed back to the Graberki and Sereth rivers, Petrograd announces.
Despatches from Cairo announce that the Arabs who are fighting against Turkish rule in Arabia, have captured the Turkish town and fort of Yembo, on the Red Sea.

HUGHES ON HAND TO BE NOTIFIED

Party Leaders Reach New York to Attend Official Notification Ceremonies —Harding and Nominee Only Ones to Be Heard.

New York, July 31.—Governors of three states, many United States senators and about 100 representatives in congress, many delegates to the republican and national conventions and chairmen of state committees of both parties are here today on their way to witness the notification tonight of Charles E. Hughes that he has been nominated to the presidency.
Senator Warren Harding, of Ohio, who presided at the Chicago convention, will preside at the meeting at Carnegie hall, and will deliver the notification speech. Mr. Hughes will be the only other speaker. His family and friends will be present. Colonel and Mrs. Roosevelt will also attend the meeting.
Charles E. Hughes came here this morning from his summer home in Bridgehampton preparatory to the ceremony tonight in Carnegie hall at which he will be notified of his nomination for the presidency.
Mr. Hughes spent the day in consultation with party leaders, including Senator Warren Harding, of Ohio, National Chairman Wilcox, of the campaign committee, and others.
Mr. Hughes will return to Bridgehampton on Wednesday. The Hughes headquarters in the Astor Hotel passed the business day since was opened. It was announced that more than 7,000 persons had applied for tickets for the notification ceremonies. The hall seats only 3,200.
Theodore Roosevelt will attend the ceremonies, accompanied by his wife. Mr. President Taft telegraphed today from Canada that he would be unable to reach the city.

ARABS CAPTURE TURKISH TOWN

London, July 31.—An Arab force dispatched to the Hejaz coast of the Red sea, after the fall of Jeddah, has occupied the Turkish town and fort of Yembo, says a dispatch from Cairo to Reuters' Telegram Company. The troops in the Turkish garrison were made prisoners.
British Advance Lines.
London, July 31.—As the result of local encounters in the Somme region British troops last night advanced their posts to the north of the town of Bazentin le Petit, it was officially announced this afternoon.
Russ Pursue Teuton Armies.
Petrograd, July 31.—In the Caucasia region, on the Volynia and Galician frontier, Russian troops are pursuing the German and Austrian armies, it was officially announced today, and have reached the Sereth and Graberki rivers.
Acquiesce in British Reply.
Washington, July 31.—Ambassador Sharpe today cabled the state department that France acquiesced in the recent note of Great Britain, offering to permit the shipment of American relief supplies to Poland, on condition that the occupying armies would not seize native food products.
Report No Gain by Allies.
Berlin, July 31.—Anglo-French troops Sunday, in the region of the river Somme, did not gain a foot of ground, according to the German official report.
Dutch Steamer Struck Mine.
London, July 31.—The Dutch steamship Koenig Willem was struck a mine near the North Hinder lightship, says a dispatch from The Hague. The passengers left the vessel in the lifeboats and made for the lightship.
Restrict Entry or Departure.
Washington, July 31.—All persons entering or leaving Germany after tomorrow must obtain special permission from the German government, according to a message to the state department from Ambassador Gerard. Such permission will be granted only in cases of "inevitable necessity."

MAY PROTECT DEUTSCHLAND

Fleet of Boats Carrying Newspaper Men May Be Halted.

Washington, July 31.—Altho the United States government has declined formally to order extraordinary protection for the Deutschland lightship, department officials indicated today that if the submarine was endangered by a large number of craft attempting to follow her down the bay from Baltimore, a coast guard cutter probably would interfere.
It is understood Captain Koenig fears he will be greatly handicapped if he is followed by a fleet of boats carrying newspaper correspondents and picture men.

DEUTSCHLAND STILL AT PIER

No Plans Made For Sailing Before Tuesday—Allied Cruiser on Watch.

Baltimore, Md., July 31.—Beyond an intimation from one in authority at the pier of the Eastern Forwarding Company, where the German submarine

U. S. TROOPS KILL RAIDERS

Mexican Bandits Cross Rio Grande River and Enter Texas.

EXTERMINATED IN RUNNING FIGHT

Regular Troops, Aided by Massachusetts Militiamen, Prevent Raid by Mexican Horse Thieves—Two Americans Killed and One Wounded—Colonel Slocum Exonerated From Blame For Villa Raid on Columbus, N. M.

El Paso, July 31.—Two Americans were killed and one was wounded in a clash with Mexican bandits who had crossed the Rio Grande river five miles below Fort Hancock, Tex., early this morning. There were five bandits in the party.
Private John Tomwey, troop F, Eighth United States cavalry, and Robert Woods, a United States inspector, were killed. Sergeant Lewis Thompson, troop F, Eighth cavalry, was seriously wounded.
More than two hundred shots were fired during the engagement, it is reported. The Mexicans, it is believed, had crossed the line in an attempt to steal horses.
Mexicans Forced to Fight.
Their presence was discovered by American outposts. The Mexicans were surprised and attacked by the cavalry patrol.
The Mexicans, mounted on good horses, attempted to flee. They were intercepted and forced to fight.
Reports to General George Bell, commanding the El Paso military district, indicated the bandits had been killed.
American patrols had reported that a small detachment of Mexicans had crossed the Rio Grande and apparently were making their way toward an isolated section about fifty-five miles down the river.
It was believed they were either smugglers or stock thieves.
A small detachment of troop F, Eighth cavalry, was sent in pursuit. The Mexicans were surprised and it is believed that none escaped.
Capt. H. D. Cushing, commanding C company, Eighth Massachusetts infantry, at Fort Hancock, reported such details as he was able to obtain to General Bell, but said he was hampered on obtaining information owing to poor wire communication.
Detailed reports received here by customs authorities said that Customs Inspector Wood, assigned to Harris Spur, the first station east of Fort Hancock, received the first news of this presence of the bandits on this side of the river at 4 o'clock. Wood had just been appointed to this post, in the inspection of ore crossing the border from the San Juan mine on the Mexican side.
Colonel Slocum Exonerated.
Washington, July 31.—Extracts from the final report of the inspector general's department on the Villa raid in Mexico, show that Col. Herbert Slocum, of the Thirteenth cavalry, has been exonerated from blame from the surprise attack on his headquarters and the town. It was this raid that brought the Mexican situation to a crisis and led to the punitive expedition into Mexico.
The report is based upon voluminous testimony heard from officers and men of the Thirteenth, civilians of Columbus and many others who could be found with information on the subject.
Part of the testimony was made public. It shows there are unexpected developments in the report probably marks the closing of the Columbus incident.
South Dakota Guards to Border.
Redfield, S. D., July 31.—The fourth regiment, South Dakota National Guard, will be enroute to the Mexican border by tonight, orders having been received for the regiment to join forces with the North Dakota and Minnesota troops in the Mercedes valley near San Benito, Tex. A total of 997 men and officers comprised the South Dakota unit.

REBELS CAPTURE HANKOW

Revolutionaries Take City and Mob Destroys Much Property.

San Francisco, July 31.—Hankow, China, today was in the hands of a revolutionary mob and great quantities of property were being burned, according to cable advice received here by the Robert Dollar Steamship Company from its Hankow office. No details were received.
The Dollar company's advice said the premises adjoining its shipping yards were in flames but their property was not in danger. This was taken to mean that the German concessions and a portion of the native residential section were burning as they adjoined the Dollar property.
Many Natives Are Killed.
Peking, July 31.—In a revolutionary outbreak in Hankow last night a large district was burned and looted. Many natives were killed and some Russian women injured.
The revolution was directed by the Kuo-Ming-tung, the radical revolutionary party of China, against the military governor, Tsuchun Wang. The rioters started from the Japanese concession.
The demonstration apparently was planned to frighten the Peking government at the meeting of parliament.

FOUR NEW CASES OF PARALYSIS IN IOWA

Two Reported From Rockwell City, One From Griswold and One From Iowa City—Twenty-nine Cases in Iowa to Date.

Des Moines, July 31.—Four additional cases of infantile paralysis were reported to the state department of health, bringing the total number of cases in Iowa to twenty-nine. More than half the cases, it was said, had developed during the last week. The cases reported today included one at Griswold, two at Rockwell City, and one at Iowa City.
It was said today that the hot weather is not believed to have any effect on the epidemic, except insofar as the victim's vitality is impaired by the heat.
Cooler at Cedar Rapids.
Cedar Rapids, July 31.—Some slight relief was afforded this city today after a day and night of sweltering heat. The weather was clear with increasing breeze. The thermometer registered 92 degrees at noon today.

WILL RESUME SERVICE

New York Traction Company Announces It Will Fight Strike.

New York, July 31.—Officials of the Third Avenue Railway Company, operation of whose lines was suspended yesterday afternoon after a strike of 2,500 employes, promised to resume service today.
Edward Maher, general manager of the company, says he will fight the strike to a finish. "I. W. Mahon, president of the International Association of Street Railway Men, says the union will continue its fight until the employes of every traction company in the city are organized.

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STRATTON AGAIN ESCAPES PRISON

Noted Convict and Two Others Effect Escape From Joliet Penitentiary— Sixth Time That Stratton Has Found Way to Liberty.

Chicago, July 31.—Clyde Stratton, noted convict, and two other prisoners, escaped from the state penitentiary at Joliet yesterday, according to a telegram received here. It was the sixth time Stratton had broken out of some prison in a comparatively short criminal career.
W. A. Hart and William McGlade, the other two to escape, were serving life sentences for murder. The fact that the men were gone was not discovered until last night, when the guards checked up the prisoners who have been allowed the freedom of the corridors in the cell house during the hot weather.
Stratton is the convict who escaped from the Leavenworth prison by crawling thru a mile of sewer. This time he was serving a fourteen-year sentence for the murder of a banker at Sylvia, Ill.
He was arrested in richly furnished apartments here soon after the Loeb murder, several years ago, and turned over to federal authorities for a post office robbery. Previous to his Leavenworth escape, Stratton twice got out of the Ohio penitentiary.

FOREST FIRES SUBDUED

Several Canadian Towns Wiped Out, With Loss of Life.

Toronto, July 31.—A message received by the department of mines and forests to the department of buildings states the fires in northern Ontario have been entirely quenched by heavy rains. All fires are out.
Several small towns have been wiped out by the flames that have been raging for forty-eight hours. Reports thus far received show that fifty-seven per cent of the houses in a French Canadian settlement, and thirty-four at Matheson, Cochrane has eighteen dead and thirty-four injured. Irequois Falls fifteen dead and many injured, and Ramore fifteen dead. The number killed at Porcupine Junction is not known, but the entire town was destroyed except the railroad station.
FOUR AUTOISTS KILLED.
Fast Train Strikes Car Near Starwood,
Causing Tragedy.
Muscatine, July 31.—Four persons were killed at Stanwood on Sunday, when a fast train struck an automobile.
The Best Place.
In the course of a lesson on the subject of domestic economy and hygiene a mistress got a singularly smart and apt answer from a little girl. Speaking of milk and its importance as a food, the lady said:
"What is the best place wherein to keep the milk perfectly nice and fresh during, say, a hot summer day?"
And one girl—evidently thinking it was an easy one—promptly answered: "Please, teacher, in the cow."—Tit-Bits.

NEWS OF THE DAY

T-R BULLETIN.

The Weather.
Sun rises Aug. 1 at 4:57, sets at 7:16. Iowa—Generally fair tonight and Tuesday; slightly cooler.
PAGE ONE.
Telegraphic News:
Torrid Wave Broken.
Cooler Weather Prevailing.
Corn Damaged by Drouth.
Explosion on New York Water Front.
Millions of Dollars of Damage Done.
Several Dead, Many Missing.
Hundreds Dead in Forest Fire.
Haig's Forces Advance Lines.
U. S. Troopers Kill Mexican Raiders.
PAGES TWO, THREE AND FIVE.
Iowa News:
Iowa People Heavily Insured.
I. W. W. Battle Independent.
Ex-Slave Dead, Aged 108.
Triple Drowning at Dayton.
Heat Affects Crops.
Eldora Man Crushed to Death.
PAGE FOUR.
Editorial:
Politicians and Preachers.
Get Them All.
Last Week's Business.
Topics of the Times.
Iowa Opinion and Notes.
PAGE SEVEN.
Novellets:
The Verdict of Faro Mountain.
PAGES SIX, EIGHT, NINE.
City News:
Motorists Have Close Calls.
State Center Party Goes Into Ditch
Near Nevada.
Dr. J. R. Bullard and Family Escape
Lucky.
Marietta-Albion Graveled Road Project
About Completed.
Shamrocks Win Erratic Game.
Marshalltown Twenty-Five Years
Ago.
General and Brief City News.
PAGE TEN.
Markets and General:
Break in Hot Wave Lowers Wheat.
Drouth in Corn Belt Continues.
Cattle Turn Weak.
Hogs Decline Lower.
Vengeance Demanded For Fryatt
Death.

HUNDREDS DEAD

Indefinite Reports Place Fatalities in Bush Fires at 200.

HALF DOZEN ONTARIO TOWNS WIPED OUT

Rains Aid Fire Fighters and Flames Are Believed to Be Under Control— Paper Mills at Irequois Falls Are Saved—Nushka, Matheson and Ramore Entirely Burned Over—Cochrane Practically Wiped Out.

Englehart, Ont., July 31.—Definite figures regarding the loss of life in northern Ontario, thru the wiping out of half a dozen towns by bush fires were still lacking today. Figures on hand indicate that at least 200 persons are dead. The known dead are:
At Nushka, fifty-seven.
Cochrane, eighteen.
Matheson, thirty-four.
Irequois Falls, fifteen.
Ramore, fifteen.
Tokki, 12.
It is learned that there has been loss of life also at Porcupine Junction, where only the railroad station escaped the flames.
Outlying places are expected to swell the list materially when rescue parties return.
Paper Mills Are Saved.
Irequois Falls, where great paper mills are located, was not entirely burned, as reported last night. It was reported today that the paper mills and one store were saved.
Nushka, Matheson and Ramore were entirely burned over, and Cochrane nearly so.
Late reports say fires continue in many directions, but it is said the worst is over. Some rain fell during the night and helped the fire fighters.

RELIEF ONLY IN SPOTS

Washington, July 31.—After breaking several heat records in the upper lake region, the hot weather today had spread to the middle and Atlantic states. High pressure moving from Canada caused a perceptible fall in temperature in the lake region and the middle west. Cooler weather was predicted for Tuesday in the lake region and eastern New York, but elsewhere in the east and in the Ohio valley and the south the heat wave will maintain torrid temperatures. FIVE DEATHS AT DUBUQUE. Victims of Heat Succumb Altho Weather Is Slightly Cooler. Dubuque, July 31.—The thermometer yesterday registered but 100, the same as it had for four days previously, there were numerous prostrations, and five deaths occurred last night of persons prostrated during the day. The dead are: William Hall, aged 45, laborer; a stranger; John Spradley, aged 45, a teamster; Ernest Wilson, aged 55, a laborer; John Cummings, aged 50, of Milwaukee, a railroad machinist, and Thomas McCauley, aged 50, a teamster. Today there is a cool breeze and occasional clouds, so the situation is greatly relieved. Clouds Fail to Spill. Waterloo, July 31.—Promising clouds backed the horizon for several hours today but failed to deliver the goods. Saturday afternoon established a new mercurial record of 104. Sunday's registration was 102, but relief came with the setting of the sun and today the record showed 91. The last rain here fell ten days ago. Another ten days drouth of equal intensity will make corn husking less arduous this fall.

BACKBONE OF TORRID WAVE IS BROKEN

Middle West Gets Relief From Increase Heat of Last Month.

LOCAL SHOWERS FALL UPON IOWA

Drouth Broken in Scattered Spots and Crops Obtain Temporary Relief— Rains Not General and Corn Crop Is Already Greatly Damaged—Heated Wave Moving Southward and East- ward—Lower Temperatures Prevail

Chicago, July 31.—The end of one of the worst periods of hot weather Chicago ever experienced came today on the wings of an eighteen-mile wind from the north. The drop of twenty-two degrees in temperature from 102, the highest reached yesterday, was recorded at 9 o'clock this morning, when the government thermometer registered 81. The wind sprang up at 4 o'clock.
The hot spell began on July 1, since which time the temperature was constantly above normal. There is no indication of a return of the heat for days, according to the weather bureau.
Latest figures show 284 persons died in Chicago, directly or indirectly, from the effects of the heat. Cooler in West.
Relief from the torrid temperature was felt today over the country west of Chicago, as far as the Rocky mountains and north of a line thru central Iowa. The cool wave gradually moved south today and is expected to reach central Illinois this afternoon or tomorrow. The period of extreme heat in the plains states reigned about one month.
Des Moines, July 31.—Local showers were reported from a number of Iowa towns today, which gives rise to the belief that the backbone of the hot wave, which has continued for a month in this state, had been broken.
Local showers were reported general over the north-east section of the state and rains were reported at Burlington, Keokuk and Davenport. Conditions, it was said, had changed in many portions of the state since 7 a. m., upon which the forecast for the twenty-four hours was based.
Still Hot in South Iowa.
Threatening weather was reported from the central portion of the state, while fair, hot weather continued in the southern tier of counties.
Director Chappel, of the weather bureau, said the showers reported could not be considered a general rain, but said they "probably would save for the present the corn crop in the localities visited."
Corn Already Damaged.
At the beginning today of Iowa's fifth week of extreme heat, conditions thruout the state faced a crop loss of alarming proportions, according to a statement issued earlier in the day by Dr. Chappel, director of the local weather bureau.
Dr. Chappel said that the dry, hot weather already has caused great damage to the corn crop. He reported that at this time might get a long way toward assuring a huge yield.
Reports this morning showed that .22 of an inch had fallen in Sioux City over Sunday and that a trace of precipitation had been recorded at Charles City.
Showers were reported here at noon at Marshalltown, Fort Dodge and Boone.
Crop conditions in all sections where rain fell were reported excellent.
Iowa City was one of the hottest points in the state yesterday, the mercury reaching 101. Today it has fallen to 92.

Weather For Iowa

Generally Fair;
Slightly Cooler

Weather For Iowa

Generally Fair;
Slightly Cooler