

FLOODS AND FIRE IN TOPEKA

OVER 200 PEOPLE DROWNED,
8000 WITHOUT HOMES.

Property Losses Will Amount to More Than Five Million Dollars—City Water Works Useless—Provisions Are Short—Water Was 6 to 15 Feet Deep Over North Topeka.

Topeka, Kan., June 1.—Briefly state, the present condition of the flood is this: One hundred and seventy to 200 people drowned; 8000 people without homes; \$4,000,000 loss of property destroyed; identified dead, five; floating bodies seen, 20; people missing, 200; houses burned, as a result of fire in lumber yards from slacking lime, probably 200; banks collapsed, 2; wholesale grocery stores flooded, 2; big business blocks almost ready to crumble, 50; wholesale commission houses deserted, 6; Rock Island trains containing 150 passengers held here by high water; city water works plant useless.

The known drowned: Carl Rupp, Orville Rupp, two Rupp girls, G. H. Garrett and 5 year old son, 20 unidentified bodies.

Leading men have made a careful examination of the flood and all its conditions and as a result of their investigation they give 250 as the probable number of lives lost. A more conservative estimate places the number of dead at 175. The higher number is as likely to be correct as the lower. The number of dead is merely an estimate. Twenty members of rescuing parties tell of how they saw people drop from houses to be swept away by the flood, and others tell of men, who, terrified at the approach of the fire, dropped into the water, where they sank and did not reappear.

This estimated number of dead does not include the large number classed as missing, who can not otherwise be accounted for. Neither does it include the number who are supposed to have lost their lives in the fire. In the latter class there is absolutely no means of arriving at even an approximate number of victims. The water is so high and the current so strong that all can be done now is to rescue those in the buildings surrounded by water. There is ground for hope that the worst has passed.

Waters Receding.

City Engineer McCable has issued a bulletin giving out the cheering intelligence that the waters had subsided to the extent of exactly seven and a half inches. It may be a few hours before another drop will be noticed. With 175 or 200 lives lost, millions of dollars worth of property destroyed; hundreds of pistol shots as signals of distress, blended with the agonizing cries of unwilling inhabitants in tree-tops and roofs of houses, and the waters creeping upward and then slowly subsiding and alternately changing from hope to despair, the capital city has passed the most memorable Sabbath day of its existence. To this uncomfortable condition of affairs was added a cold and dismal rain. The ardor of the rescue work of the heroic rescuers was not abated in the least by the conditions which confronted them.

For long dreary hours, knee deep in water and sometimes in water up to their necks, they worked with might and main. Tonight they can proudly point to 800 or more rescued ones who otherwise might have been swept away in the current. Large contributions have already been received for the benefit of the sufferers. The amount given by Topeka citizens alone will aggregate \$100,000. To this is to be added an immense quantity of clothing, provisions and general supplies. Outside towns have generously offered aid, among which is Galveston, Tex.

Offers of Aid.

Among the other messages was one from the Galveston Tribune reading: "If we can do anything at all in the aid of your city please feel free to call upon us."

Other messages from Kansas towns authorize the commission here to draw upon individuals for stated sums, and as soon as the mails arrive a great number of contributions from outside towns are expected to materialize.

Topeka is doing nobly by her sufferers. The wealthiest city in Kansas is proud to acknowledge that no calls on outside help need to be made. It will be necessary to raise a great fund for relief work. Weeks must elapse before order can be restored from the present chaos. Hundreds of houses will have to be rebuilt entirely.

The half mile from Second street to the Melan bridge was covered by water six to 12 feet deep, through which a mad current was flowing. On the other side of the pontoon bridge were business buildings, 63 in number, completely ruined by high water. The loss in this respect in money will aggregate half a million dollars. This

is the district in which all the wholesale commission houses were located and immense amounts have been lost by the commission men. All this is on the south side of the river.

A reporter ventured out into the stream in a boat as far as the current would allow and there it was ascertained that previous reports regarding the burning buildings were somewhat overdrawn. The whole northern part of the city seemed to be aflame. Closer investigation, however, showed the fact that only about one third of the buildings on the North Side were burned. Fully half the remaining buildings are so damaged by the water that they are absolutely useless. There is not a house in the entire northern part of the town that has not been seriously damaged.

Property Loss Enormous.

When the value of the stocks of merchandise destroyed is considered, the loss in a financial way assumes enormous proportions. The railway companies have abandoned all efforts to keep their tracks in shape. The water washed away the sandbags as fast as they sank them. It is simply a waste of funds to continue the work. As soon as the water goes down so that the tracks can be reached hundreds of men will be placed at work repairing the damage. For the convenience of the public and the flood sufferers, the public buildings were open all day. All the grocery stores, meat markets and dry goods stores also kept open to furnish supplies.

Provisions Scarce.

Wichita and other cities which can be reached will be called on for provisions. Already there is a scarcity of meat and vegetables, and staple groceries are getting low. Boats sent from Emporia, Ottawa, Kansas City and St. Joseph are all doing good service. They are hauled two miles above town, filled with provisions and then run across to the stricken section. The supplies are distributed among the sufferers on the buildings, and people are picked out of the trees and given shelter in some houses. When the boats get down so far that they can not be pulled up stream sufferers are picked up and brought to this side of the river a mile or so below town. Then the boats are hauled to town and again sent on a similar trip.

Buildings in the submerged district continue to collapse. Notwithstanding their precarious condition many of the sufferers held religious services in the buildings where they were confined.

Fifty or more of the flood sufferers are living in passenger coaches on the Rock Island tracks. Water surrounds the cars, but there is no danger.

Reply to Offer of Aid. To all offers of aid from outside the county the Commercial club is sending the following reply:

"Situation is very grave and it is impossible at this time to estimate the loss of life or property. We thank you sincerely for your offer of assistance, but we are not willing to accept aid from the outside unless it seems an absolute necessity. The city and county and our own citizens will provide for the present needs."

"JOHN E. FROST, President Commercial Club." Floating Bodies Seen.

At 5 o'clock the first sight of floating bodies was seen. Fourteen bodies were seen passing by the North Topeka fire station.

Topeka, Kan., June 3.—The flood situation in Topeka can be briefly summarized thus:

Known dead, 48; river falls three feet and is now receding at the rate of two inches an hour; distress will be great among the refugees; Governor Bailey issued a proclamation calling for help for flood sufferers of the state; 50 deputy sheriffs, armed with Winchester, go to North Topeka to protect property, with orders to shoot looters whenever they are caught stealing; Governor Bailey's proclamation calling for outside aid was decided upon at a mass meeting today, when the governor was requested to issue the call. It was decided to make this a general appeal for the people all along the flooded districts of the state, as well as those in Topeka. This plan is to make Topeka the headquarters and to distribute them from here to other parts of the state. There will be made an appeal to the fraternal organizations and other appeals through various sources.

Postmasters' Pay Increased. Washington, June 3.—Under the annual readjustment of salaries of presidential postmasters these changes in Washington became effective July 1: Increase of \$200 at Ballard, Goldendale, Sedro-Wooley and Sprague. Increase of \$100 at Aberdeen, Anacortes, Arlington, Blaine, Buckley, Centralia, Chehalis, Cheney, Colfax, Davenport, Elma Everett, Hoquiam, Mount Vernon, North Yakima, Pomeroy, Port Townsend, Puyallup, Ritzville, Snohomish, Spokane, Watsburg, Wenatchee and Wilbur. Decrease of \$100 at Colville.

Nearly 11,000 tubercular patients are now in sanatoria in Germany.

ONE OF THE FAMILY.

Pig that Really Won the Regard of a Traveler.

Among the curious ideas of the Persians is the belief that the presence of a pig in the stable is good for the horses' health. Doctor Willis, the author of the book entitled "In the Land of the Lion and Sun," writes that as soon as he arrived at Shiraz his groom asked permission to buy a little pig.

These wild pigs are strangely thin, and as active as a terrier. They are very affectionate, and show their affection strongly to the horse or groom. They all answer to the name of "Marjahn." When the horses leave the yard they are accompanied by the pig, which is inconsolable if left alone in the stable, and shows his grief by piercing squeals, and by attempting to scratch his way out. As long as even one horse is in the stable piggy is perfectly happy.

When we all camped out on account of cholera, I marched some twenty-eight miles. Marjahn never left the heels of my horse, and was able to keep up when I galloped, but anything over half a mile was too much for him; he was not, of course, in such high training as his wild relatives, and when distressed he would commence to squeal, and would look up in a most appealing manner.

He remained with us in camp, never leaving my horses, with which he was on the best of terms. I used often to put the horse to speed when out for rides, and on Marjahn's beginning to squeal, the horse would look round to slacken his pace, and shrill shrill and attempt to slacken his pace, and Marjahn, if really left behind, would show great distress.

The pig would bathe in the river and show delight in wallowing and swimming. As he got bigger he used to charge strange dogs that chased him, and was always more than a match for them, generally turning aggressor, and obstinately pursuing them with many grunts and shrieks.

Marjahn, when a fine young boar of three years, was following my horse one day as I raced him against a friend, forgetting in the excitement the distress of the pig. Our gallop being over, I saw a black spot far away on the plain. It was poor Marjahn, who had burst a blood-vessel in his attempt to keep up with us. When we reached him he was quite dead. I never cared to keep another pig, and the groom's grief was very great.

GIRL AN ADEPT LASSO THROWER.

One of the prettiest girls in the Oklahoma Territory is Miss Agnes Mulhall, 21, daughter of Zack Mulhall, general live stock agent of the Frisco, and leading cattle man. She and her sister Jessie lead the society of the town of Mulhall, which was named after their father. Both girls are typ-



MISS AGNES MULHALL.

ical products of the West, and can ride and throw the lasso in expert style. Miss Agnes is the recognized champion horsewoman of the Territory, and won first prizes at tournaments at Oklahoma City and Memphis, Tenn. Although her father has a palatial home at St. Louis, Mo., Miss Mulhall spends much of her time on the ranch.

The Season Opens.



Employer—No, you can't go to your grandmother's funeral, but about 4 o'clock you can go out and look at the baseball scores and come back and tell me who won.

The Use of Coffee.

The 1,000,000,000 pounds of coffee imported, which gives each adult person in the United States two pounds a month, is 80 per cent Brazilian and but 2-15 per cent Java.

Scrofula

Has come down to us through the ages, like the pyramids and the sphinxes.

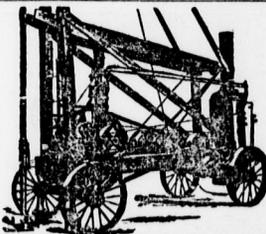
It makes its presence known by many signs—glandular tumors, bunches in the neck, cutaneous eruptions, inflamed eyelids, sore ears, rickets, catarrh, wasting and general debility. Sufferers should take

Hood's Sarsaparilla

The great specific for scrofula, effecting the most wonderful, radical and permanent cures. Be sure to get Hood's.

Riley's Body Found.

Butte, Mont., June 4.—The remains of Patrick Riley have been discovered in the Yellowstone river near Greycliff this morning. Riley disappeared from Livingston about a week ago under very suspicious circumstances. At the time he disappeared Riley had \$30 on his person. The money was missing from the corpse when found, and it is believed Riley was murdered, robbed and his body dumped into the river.



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A volcanic eruption is reported from the Lochoo group, which has caused a panic among the islanders, and the provincial governor has applied to the Japanese government to rescue the islanders, fearing disaster.

A bad husband beats a good wife.

GOOD BLOOD SPEAKS FOR ITSELF



You know when rich, red blood is coursing through the veins, for it shows in the brightness of the eye, the beauty and clearness of the complexion, the smooth, fair skin, and robust, healthy constitution. It is good blood that imparts strength and energy to the body and keeps it in a state of healthfulness and vigor. Good blood is the foundation of good health, and to be physically and mentally sound it must be kept pure and untainted.

I was in wretched health; my blood was in bad order; my gums being very much ulcerated. I began the use of S. S. S., and in a remarkably short time was sound and well. My appetite increased wonderfully and my food agreed with me. I think it is a fine family medicine.

MRS. M. L. DAVIDSON.

Rockmart, Ga.

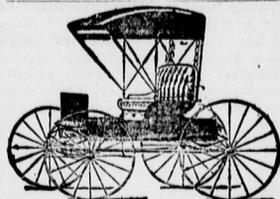
When the blood is diseased the skin loses its healthy appearance, and the complexion, its freshness and beauty and becomes red and rough and full of pimples and spots. Itching, scaly eruptions, blackheads, boils and rashes break out upon the body when the blood is too poor or too thin and acid, and is not supplying proper nourishment to the system. Debility, poor appetite, bad digestion, restless sleep and nervousness more often come from sluggish, impure blood than any other cause. To build up the blood, restore its lost properties and make it rich and nutritious again is the only rational treatment, and the proper way to get rid of skin troubles. There is no remedy like S. S. S. to accomplish this and it does it promptly and thoroughly.

S. S. S. antitoxins and removes from the blood all poisons and humors, and restores it to a normal, healthy condition, and invigorates and tones up the general health. When rich, red blood is again flowing through your veins all skin eruptions disappear, the appetite improves, the complexion clears and you get rid of those miserable depressing feelings and nervousness, and enjoy once more the blessings of good health. S. S. S. is nature's remedy for all blood and skin diseases. It contains no minerals whatever, but is guaranteed purely vegetable. Write for free book. No charge for medical advice or other information desired.

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