

## 200 LIVES LOST AND 150 BUILDINGS WRECKED IN OMAHA, NEB.

### FIRST STEP TOWARD CITY OWNED WATER

Mayor Steeves and L. S. Barnes Selected to Interview the Water Company.

### IT MUST FIX A PRICE

Sentiment of Committee Is in Favor of Gravity System, and May Ignore Present Company.

What is believed to be the first definite action taken toward determining the cost of the Salem water plant, and placing the matter of municipal ownership before the people again, was taken last Saturday night, when L. S. Barnes and Mayor Steeves, acting as sub-committees for the special water committee, were selected to interview the officials of the Salem Water Co., for the purpose of obtaining quotations on the plant. The committee will call on the water officials this afternoon, and put the question point blank.

It was the consensus of opinion of the water committee that unless the Salem water plant can be purchased for a fair and equitable sum, that the city proceed to issue bonds and lay its own distribution system, and tap the mountain streams for water on the gravity system.

Committee Now Complete. With the appointment of E. P. McCormack, the special water committee is now complete. Mayor Steeves is acting chairman, and E. B. Hendricks was appointed secretary Saturday night.

"What we want to do first is to ascertain whether or not the people of Salem desire to own their water plant," said Mr. Barnes, when requested to express his opinion on the subject. "If the people say they approve of municipal owned water systems, and favor the purchasing of the Salem water plant, then we should get busy and take the present system over or construct an entirely new one. I believe that this matter is entirely for the people to judge, and that they should be given every opportunity to express their opinion before any definite action is taken to either rebuild or acquire the present system."

"But we must first set a price on the plant before the people can decide whether or not they want to own it," said Mr. Hendricks.

"Yes, I know," said Mr. Barnes, "but if it costs three or four hundred dollars to determine the price, and then the people don't want to purchase, why that is just so much money spent which could be utilized in determining another more feasible means for betterment of the present water supply in Salem."

Mr. Rigdon here stated that Mr. Parks, an official of the water company flatly refused to give your former investigating engineer, Mr. Thompson, any consideration whatever, after the president of the firm had shown him over the property. What assurance have we that another effort along the investigating line will be acceptable to Mr. Parks? What we should do, is to find out for ourselves what the Salem Water company wants for its system.

Plant Inadequate, Says Barnes. Mr. Barnes declared to the committee that he believed the present plant absolutely inadequate for the future use of Salem; that the present source of water supply is practically a sewer for the Willamette valley, and that to filter the water will necessitate the expenditure of vast sums of money which would aid materially in installing a gravity system from the North Fork of the Santiam river.

"Has the Salem Water company made \$200,000 worth of improvements and extensions to its plant in the past two or three years?" inquired Mr. Barnes of the older residential members of the committee. No one offered to answer, and Mr. Barnes continued, "I believe I still have articles in my possession showing that this water plant could have been purchased for \$180,000 less than four years ago, and I understand now that the company has turned down an offer of \$375,000, made by the city of Salem recently. The plant, in the first place, is not worth this amount, and in the second place, as I said before, Salem will need a

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### To Make Coast Dry.

Seattle, Wash., March 24.—That liquor is not a necessary evil and that the country cannot remain much longer "half dry and half wet," were the arguments put up by Mayor George F. Cotterill in a lecture before the local Y. M. C. A. in which he advocated the celebration of the opening of the Panama canal "by presenting a dry Pacific coast in 1914." "There is a great tide," said the mayor, "arising against the liquor traffic, a tide of business, science, religion, and social reform."

### HEAVY SNOWS MAY CAUSE A BIG FLOOD

Rivermen Expect Unusually High Water if the Usual Spring Weather Shows Up.

Experienced rivermen in this city are fearful of some unusual high water in the event a chinook blows up from the south, or the natural spring weather sets in at the present time. They declare that the foothills and mountains in the southeastern portion of the valley are covered with three or four feet of snow, while up at Black Rock, a logging station above Falls City, snow has fallen to a depth of one foot.

These conditions are extremely dangerous to both lumber dealers and those transacting business on the water fronts between this city and Eugene, say those long acquainted with the Willamette river, and, if weather conditions prevail, as stated above, the old Willamette will play hob with business situated along its shores.

The Spaulding Logging Company has been unable to secure sufficient logs to operate its mill for the past week on account of low water, which is also unusual for this time of the year, but in view of the sudden raise, the big mills at Salem will be set in motion again tomorrow.

### Took Pistol Route.

[UNITED PRESS LEASED WIRE.] San Francisco, March 24.—After kissing his sister good-bye with the declaration that he was going back to his home in Sacramento, James Alfred Hall, aged 19, retired into another room in his apartments here and put a bullet through his heart, dying almost instantly. The body was shipped to Sacramento for interment today. Hall had been subject to epileptic fits since childhood.



C. D. BABCOCK, Appointed by Governor West a Member of the Industrial Accident Commission.

## NEARBY TOWNS ARE WRECKED AND FIRE FOLLOWS CYCLONE

### 96 BODIES RECOVERED IN OMAHA AND AT LEAST 25 STILL IN THE RUINS— NEIGHBORING TOWNS WIPED OUT AND TOTAL DEATH LIST WILL BE APPALLING—TERRE HAUTE INDIANA ALSO HIT BY TORNADO AND 30 KILLED

Omaha, Neb., March 24.—With 80 known dead in Omaha alone and scores of outlying towns cut off from all wire communication, it seemed certain at noon today that the fatalities in the tornado-swept districts would reach at least 200. Hundreds are injured, and the death list undoubtedly will be swelled by later reports.

One hundred and sixty-nine buildings were razed in Omaha, divided as follows: Houses, 150; churches, 11, and schools, 8. More than 25 other houses were badly damaged.

At a special meeting this afternoon Mayor Dahlman and the city commissioners appropriated \$25,000 for the relief of the sufferers.

A thorough investigation this morning confirmed the report that the property damage here would reach \$10,000,000. The storm area here was six blocks wide and nearly every house in its path was razed or badly damaged.

Many Freak Accidents. Bodies of victims were found today hundreds of yards from where the wind struck. The cries of injured persons drew rescuers to many different points simultaneously.

The cyclone caused many freak accidents. Some houses were unscathed, while others adjoining were crumpled like eggshells. In one section of the city the lower story of a house was demolished, the upper part settling in its place. Trees were wrenched up by the roots and driven through brick buildings.

After the storm throngs of people stood on the streets and wept as they watched firemen and the police bearing out corpses of relatives from the debris. In one part of the city four members of one family were buried in burning wreckage, but all were saved by the firemen.

A heavy rain which followed the cyclone saved many buildings threatened with destruction by fire.

Eighty Bodies Recovered. At noon 80 bodies had been recovered

from wrecked buildings and other debris. It is impossible at this time to estimate the damage done by fire following the storm. The Idewild Club building at 24th and Lake streets was wrecked by the cyclone and then burned. The auditorium and the Y. M. C. A. buildings were opened to refugees this afternoon.

The bodies of four members of the Daniels family have been recovered. A dog held four men away from his master's body for half an hour. It lay upon his mangled form and snapped and growled at approaching rescuers.

### List of the Dead.

- Following is a list of the known dead here as a result of the cyclone which struck the city last night: Mabel McBride. Nels Larsen. Walter Peterson. Sam Dengler. T. B. Norris. Henry Cooper, lineman. Chauffeur for Thomas Flynn. Mrs. F. E. Fitzgerald. Mrs. Bigelow and her sister. Mrs. Henrietta Grieb. Clarence Cady, aged 14. Jean B. Brooks, real estate dealer. Jessie Jepson, aged 10. Fred Henz. Mrs. A. Hinzman. Mrs. F. G. Goodnaught. John Doyle. A. Hanson. Mrs. J. P. Hogg. Mrs. E. A. Sawyer. Jason L. Garrison. George Givot. John Greener. Two infant children. Morris Christianson. Mrs. Frank Davis. Mrs. Sullivan. A. J. Peck. Archer. Unknown man killed by flying timber. Mrs. Ida Newman. Miss Frieda Hulting. Sam Riley. Thelma, baby at child-saving institute.

- Cynthia, baby blown out of child-saving institute. Mrs. R. R. Van Devan. Unknown woman. Six unidentified men taken from ruins at 22d and Lake streets. George Duncan, advertising solicitor. Clifford Daniels, wife and two small daughters. Helen Downs. Mrs. B. Davis. C. F. Cobley. J. B. Nichols. William Fisher. Bert H. Fields. A. B. Stanley. Andrew Hendrickson. Henry B. Leavelt. Miss Haas. Mrs. Morris, aged 20. Unidentified woman, died at drug store. Ferguson. J. G. Hanson and wife. Unidentified man at grading camp. Two unidentified bodies taken from ruins of a house in William street. Four unidentified negroes. P. J. Barnes. C. B. Wieson. D. I. Fields. Marie Booker. — Hodges, found in drug store. Mrs. Holm and baby. Mary Hanson. — Jimpeon. — Kelley, grader. Rose Gray. Missing. Aaron Abbott and son, Raymond, and daughter, Mattie. Rudolph Reiger, aged 13.

Six children of Walter Peterson. Fourteen negroes employed in Idlewild club. Unknown number, approximately 30, in Diamond moving picture theatre. Johnny Ryan, aged 11. Mrs. LePage. Killed at Balston, Neb. J. M. McDonald. Mr. and Mrs. Said. Miss Marie Moran. George Hammer.

The First News. Lincoln, Neb., March 23.—Mayor Dahlman, of Omaha, has asked the governor to call out the militia to prevent looting.

Kansas City, Mo., March 23.—Half of the city of Omaha was swept by a tornado early tonight, according to information gained by long-distance telephone. All railroad and commercial telegraph lines into Omaha are out of commission.

Iola, a small town near Omaha, damaged by the storm, is said to be on fire. The storm is said to be headed east.

Town of Yucatan Destroyed. At the Union Pacific station here it was reported from the Beatrice office of the road that the town of Yucatan, Neb., had been destroyed by a tornado tonight, and the town was burning. Fifteen persons were dead and 50 injured, it was said.

Another rumor reaching here through Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad officers says that Ashland, Neb., had been destroyed by a tornado. Details were lacking. Yucatan and Ashland are 20 miles apart, and about 40 miles west of Omaha.

Fire Sweeps Stricken Town. Late reports at the Union Pacific offices here said to have come from Valley, a town within 20 miles of Yucatan, were that the destruction of the town was complete from the tornado and the fire that afterward swept it. Surgeons were sent in motor cars to the relief of the injured from Wahoo. An unconfirmed report from Mar-

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### May Deport Gomen.

Portland, Or., March 24.—As a result of the recent tong activities in Portland in which two Chinese were shot and killed it is probable that the deportation provisions of the federal immigration code will be invoked. This provision is that all undesirable Chinese, including professional gun-fighters may be deported. J. H. Harbour, inspector in charge of the federal immigration service, will leave for Washington in a few days and will lay the Chinese situation on the coast before his superiors.

### REV. ERRETT LEAVES SALEM PASTORATE

Hands in Resignation to Take Effect May 1—Will Accept Pulpit in Boise, Idaho.

After a successful pastorate of nine and one-half years in the First Christian church of Salem, Rev. Davis Errett surprised his congregation at the service yesterday morning by announcing his resignation. Mr. Errett will remain in the pulpit here until May 1, when he will remove to Boise, Idaho, where he has accepted a call to the pastorate of the First Christian church of that city. His successor has not yet been chosen.

Mr. Errett came to the Salem church in October, 1903. The period of his ministry here has been one of development in the Christian church. When he came to Salem the congregation, which numbered 175 people, as was found by a revision of the books, occupied a small brick church at High and Center streets, where the present building now stands. Mr. Errett at once began to work up sentiment in favor of a new church. The construction of the present building began in 1904, and in 1906 the church was dedicated. In the nine and one-half years of Mr. Errett's pastorate the membership has grown from 175 to an approximate total of 300. Mr. Errett explains that about 150 of this membership are absent members, or persons who have moved away from the city, without taking their membership from the church. There are between 750 and 800 resident members.

Last Year the Best. Along with the growth of the congregation of the church there has been an increase in the number of organizations connected with the church, and in the working number of members of these

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### TERRE HAUTE HIT BY FIERCE TORNADO

Electric Lights Put Out of Commission and Darkness Adds to Its Terrors.

### AT LEAST THIRTY KILLED

Many Buildings Wrecked and Damage Is Serious—Surrounding Country Hard Hit.

[UNITED PRESS LEASED WIRE.] Terre Haute, Ind., March 22.—Up to noon today 20 bodies had been removed from the wreckage wrought by yesterday's tornado, and it is now estimated that the total dead will reach 30.

The cyclone took a northeasterly course across Terre Haute, razing buildings and putting the electric light plant out of commission. The city was in darkness after the storm last night, but very little looting was reported. Hundreds of citizens volunteered to aid the police in patrolling the streets, and their offers were accepted. All the public schools have been turned into hospitals.

Reports received today say that many were killed by storms in Heath, Vigo county. While it was reported there had been no fatalities in Perth, later advices say no one was killed.

At noon the city fed 1000 homeless people in two school houses. There are 18 corpses in the morgue and 75 injured in the hospitals. Rescuers are dining in the ruins of many houses, and expect to find more dead.

One insane refugee fought his rescuers. A mother was found standing in the rain beside her two children, and asked the rescuers not to wake the baby. Unknown to her, one of her children had been disemboweled by falling timbers, and the other was suffering from fatal wounds in his head.

Florida Has a Taste. Jacksonville, Fla., March 24.—Three persons were killed and 22 injured in a cyclone which swept Bonifay, Fla., last night, according to reports received here today.

Alabama was also swept by the cyclone. Most of the wires in that state are down, and details have not been received.

Weather Predictions. Oregon—Probably fair tonight and Tuesday. Winds mostly westerly.

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### This Store Believes in Value

Style as well as quality. In clothing we feature the

## Bishop's Ready-Tailored Clothes

It is the chosen line for men who make it a point to be well dressed. Let us show you the new spring styles.

### Salem Woolen Mills Store



Rev. Davis Errett, Pastor First Christian Church, Salem, Oregon Who Resigns his Pastorate May 1st.