

## EXCITEMENT IS OVER.

Positive Facts About the Living and Dead Are Beginning to Appear.

## DESTITUTION VERY GREAT.

The Calamity in Some Phases Surpasses the Horror of the Johnstown Flood.

## LATEST LIST OF DEAD.

Hinckley 200 Sandstone 62  
Miller 12 Skunk L. 12  
Pokegama 28 Elsewhere 50  
Total known to be dead at present, 364.

## THE LATEST FROM HINCKLEY.

PINE CITY, Minn., Sept. 5.—The curious apathy which had marked almost every movement at Hinckley Monday gave way to bustling activity Tuesday.

During the night an open shack was up for a cook house and in the early morning an enclosed room was added to it for the storage of the commissary supplies.

People who remained over night were quartered in tents.

Volunteers were more numerous as affairs assumed a more settled aspect.

Early trains brought up men who came to work and did not abandon themselves to the gratification of a morbid curiosity as did so many who were brought up at first, which was perhaps not unnatural, but under the circumstances, entirely inexcusable.

## About 300 Dead at Hinckley.

There is a prospect now that the number of dead which have been or will be brought into Hinckley, and which has hitherto been conservatively estimated at about 200, will pass that figure.

The number of bodies now unaccounted for reaches about that total, and of necessity others will be brought in or buried in the vicinity.

It is probable that the number will pass 225 and may reach 250.

From Brook Park, as the station on the Eastern at Pokegama lake has recently been christened, eight miles southeast of Hinckley, come reports that the fatality there was worse than had been supposed.

J. D. Markham of Rush City, who owned the townsite, knows that there were 113 settlers at or near that point. Latest report puts the number of dead at between 50 and 60.

At an early hour a force of men was started out to the cemetery to complete the work of interment that had been left above the ground Monday night.

## Relief Work Is Very Heavy.

At Pine City every branch of the local relief moved along smoothly. There was an abundance of provisions and shelter, including the 50 national guard tents.

The supply of bedding was ample, and there was no lack of medicine and medical attendance. J. F. Jackson, secretary of the Associated Charities at St. Paul arrived during the forenoon, sent by citizens of St. Paul.

Mr. Shannon of Duluth, of the relief commission appointed by Governor Nelson, was also among the arrivals.

H. H. Hart and Bishop Gilbert carried on the work of registration of the needy refugees, representing in all probably 400 people.

## Some Desire to Leave the Place.

Many ask only for transportation and enough money to carry them to their friends. This includes the class that had no real property interests at Hinckley and whose personal property has been entirely destroyed.

It is simply a question of beginning life over again, and many prefer to do it elsewhere than at the point necessarily associated with such terrible memories.

## Methodical and Careful Relief.

Assistant General Manager Miller of the Duluth road is here and is rendering the local committee every assistance in his power in the matter of transportation.

Many of the refugees have already gone back to Hinckley and to other points, so that the high-water mark in the number Pine City is caring for has been, or will soon be, reached.

There remains, however, an immense amount of labor in caring for those who remain and starting them again in life, but it is in the hands of efficient men, and the cities and the authorities are heartily co-operating, so that there is every prospect that the work of relief will be carried through to the end along the same methodical and systematic lines in which it is now being pursued.

The needs are great, but they promise to be amply met.

## Don't Like the New Schedule.

PORTLAND, Or., Sept. 5.—The employees of the Oregon Railway and Navigation company have united in a petition to United States District Judge Ballinger to restrain Receiver McNeill from putting into effect his revised schedule of wages.

## POSITIVE FACTS BEGIN TO APPEAR.

Fear, Confusion, and Excitement Are Passing Away at Hinckley.

PINE CITY, Minn., Sept. 5.—Excitement, fear and confusion caused by the calamity at Hinckley have almost disappeared and positive facts about the living and dead begin to appear.

There were 1,000 people in Hinckley; 400 survivors have been brought to Pine City, 350 taken to Duluth and Superior, and 250 are dead.

The railroad companies brought out most of the survivors.

At Sandstone 350 people are entirely destitute.

At Brook Park, seven miles east of Hinckley, there are 125 people in need of immediate help.

People have been freely provided with food, but the destitution is so great that provisions, clothing and building material must be given in large quantities for some time to come.

## People Lost Reason and Stampeded.

Rev. P. Knudson, the Presbyterian minister at Hinckley, was one of the fortunate people who sought the gravel pit at Hinckley. He said that over 200 of those who were burned would have been rescued had they heeded advice and kept away from the river.

"The fact is," he said, "they lost their reason and stampeded like a lot of frightened cattle, headlong to destruction. Some tried to escape by teams, and they were found dead in a heap afterwards."

The track of the fire cyclone is about six miles wide and extends from Mission Creek to Hinckley and beyond.

Many of the dead are now under ground, buried in the dreary cemetery a mile away, but at one time there were over 90 bodies in the heap, some of them in the most shocking condition.

## The Calamity Has Had But One Equal.

The situation all along the line has never had but one equal, and that was the Johnstown flood, which, however, lacked the extent and some of the phases of horror. Families are not only homeless, but the land is in no condition to be utilized, the season is so far advanced. The little stores of every kind, together with clothing and the bare necessities, have been swept away by the devouring element.

Never was devastation more perfect; never was there a more golden opportunity for the display of that brotherly and sisterly kindness, which is the truest expression of Christianity.

## Hospitals at Pine City.

The skating rink has been set aside for the hospital use of those who were burned slightly, while Pythian hall has been devoted to the use of those who are in the worst shape.

All these unfortunates are being tenderly cared for to the best of the ability of those in attendance, but the number is small and the demands are great. It is not expected that deaths will ensue, although there are two or three extreme cases. The main trouble is with the eyes, which, in almost every case, were seriously damaged by smoke and heat.

The latest investigation at Sandstone Junction brought the list of dead up to 62, and 21 missing.

The list of dead at all points is increasing.

## TRAFFIC RESUMED.

Burned Bridges Being Rebuilt and Train Service Restored.

ST. PAUL, Sept. 5.—Train service on all lines between St. Paul and Duluth has been restored except on the Eastern Minnesota, and the restoration of the traffic on that line is only a matter of a day or so.

At some points transfers are made across burnt bridges, but the bridges will be rebuilt by another day at the latest.

Sunday, Monday and Tuesday were very busy days for all the roads. Bridge crews were working all along the lines in the burnt district and trackmen were replacing the warped rails with new steel.

The first train to arrive here from Duluth was No. 63 on the Omaha, which left the head of the lake Sunday evening. The passengers reported the towns of Baronette, Granite, Bashaw and Comstock completely destroyed.

At Shell Lake about 58 houses had been burned.

Duluth is taking care of about 1,000 refugees and sending supplies to the front as fast as the citizens can collect them.

The Omaha road is now in operation, except that part of the line between Mason and Ashland.

One bridge was burned at Benoit and two north of Ashland.

All St. Paul and Duluth trains are now running on schedule time.

## New Revenue Stamps.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 5.—Two million of the new playing card stamps, made necessary by the new tariff bill, have been printed by the bureau of printing and engraving in the last two weeks.

This playing card tax is a revival of the old war tax, and is a feature of the new revenue act which is making much work for the officials. Every pack of playing cards offered for sale, whether at the manufacturers, the wholesale dealers or the retailers, must have a stamp affixed, under a penalty of heavy fine for selling unstamped cards.

## AIDING THE SURVIVORS

Destitute Sufferers Made Comfortable by the Arrival of Food and Clothing.

## MANY CITIES GIVE FREELY.

Governor Nelson Urged to Contribute State Funds—Good Management.

ST. PAUL, Sept. 5.—Relief work for the destitute at Hinckley and vicinity is well started, and is being well managed. But relief must be prolonged and of a substantial nature.

Winter, so near at hand, means greater and continued care for these people.

Contributions already made by St. Paul and other cities and the towns along the line of the St. Paul and Duluth apply only to immediate necessities, and relieve the situation with regard to food and clothing just now.

For the present, there is no lack of food. All the towns along the line have taken official cognizance of the distress and have dispatched quantities of flour, meats, bread, milk and potatoes.

## The Kind of Relief Most Needed.

Three things are needed—money, medical attendance and clothing—and there cannot be too much of any one. Provisions are plentiful; doctors would find a world of good to be done; clothing must be had, and bedding is on imperative necessity.

The St. Paul committee has raised almost \$5,000 in money.

Stillwater has given over \$1,000 in cash, besides large stores of supplies.

Minneapolis and Duluth have raised large cash funds, and additional donations of money and supplies will be made.

Next Sunday there will be special church collections in many Northwestern towns.

## Relief Work at Pine City.

As the days go by they find the relief work in better shape at Pine City, which is the headquarters for the mass of 300 or 400 refugees who fled southward from the flames. The demands upon the people were almost overwhelming at first, so that there was little or no system, but since then all that has changed. General Bunker, representing the governor, aided the citizens' relief committee in getting into shape.

## Generous Relief From Two Harbors.

Citizens of Two Harbors, Minn., north of Duluth, have raised \$400 for the fire relief fund, and that amount will be considerably increased at once. The town has adopted a resolution urging Governor Nelson to give state funds to all needy towns.

## Searching For Bodies.

A systematic search is to be made for the bodies. Three parties are out from Pine City, consisting of four men each, all experienced wood men. They will search the woods thoroughly for dead bodies and will take along picks and spades, so as to be able to bury the bodies where they find them, as the remains will in all probability be badly decomposed, or in shape that they cannot be removed. The graves, of course, will be properly marked where identification is complete.

## INCENDIARISM AT WASHBURN.

They Add to the Terror of the Situation There.

ASHLAND, Wis., Sept. 5.—The smoke and dirt begrimed settlers of the forest have been struggling into Ashland all the forenoon with tales of losses of homes and everything on their farms. They are taken into the homes of the people here and everything possible is done for their comfort and relief.

To add to the excitement at Washburn incendiaries got out and commenced starting fires in different portions of the city. Five have been arrested, three of them caught in the act. When first arrested, rumors of lynching were prevalent. Large numbers of deputies were sworn in and placed on guard in different parts of the city, with instructions to guard the docks in particular.

## DAMAGE IN PENNSYLVANIA.

Forest Fires Raging at Different Points in the State.

BRADFORD, Pa., Sept. 5.—Forest fires are raging all along the line of the Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburgh railroad. Reports from all points on the narrow gauge roads state that the woods are on fire for miles, and the damage will be heavy unless rain should fall. The woods along the pike to Corydon are on fire for miles, and all the property in the vicinity of the west branch is threatened. Should the fire spread to the oil fields, serious consequences would result. The woods along the Bradford, Bordell and Kinzner railroad between here and Smithport are reported on fire, and valuable property is in danger of being destroyed.

## Rain in Michigan.

DETROIT, Mich., Sept. 5.—A special to The Free Press from Iron Mountain, Mich., says: There has been a heavy downfall of rain throughout the fire belt during the afternoon and evening. Trainsmen arriving from the north report the fires under control and that the danger to the town is past.

## NELSON'S PROCLAMATION.

Minnesota's Chief Executive Issues a Call for Aid.

ST. PAUL, Sept. 5.—Governor Nelson has arrived in the city from Alexandria, where he had gone Saturday to be with his family over Sunday, and at once issued the following relief proclamation concerning the great calamity at Hinckley and other Minnesota localities:

To the People of Minnesota: Information of an official character has reached me that the villages of Hinckley, Sandstone, Mission Creek and the neighboring towns and farms have been destroyed by forest fires; that hundreds of lives have been sacrificed, and suffering and destitution are on every hand; that the survivors of this terrible devastation are in immediate need of food, clothing, shelter and everything that makes existence possible.

This appalling disaster appeals to every heart of generous impulses and the case is one that demands the immediate and liberal assistance of all good citizens of this state.

Now, therefore, I, Knute Nelson, governor of the state of Minnesota, in view of this awful calamity which has befallen our people, and by virtue of the authority in me vested, do hereby appeal to all liberal and public spirited citizens, to all municipalities and to all religious and benevolent institutions of this state, to take immediate action towards securing contributions for the relief of the prevailing distress.

I hereby appoint the following state commission authorized to receive contributions of money and supplies, and to expend and disburse the same: C. A. Pillsbury of Minneapolis, Kenneth H. Clark of St. Paul, Charles H. Graves of Duluth, Matthew C. Norton of Winona, Hastings H. Hart of St. Paul.

KNUTE NELSON.

## ALONG THE SOUTH SHORE ROAD.

One Hundred and Fifty Million Feet of Lumber Destroyed.

MARQUETTE, Mich., Sept. 5.—The South Shore road got its Saturday night train through from Duluth during the morning, 14 hours late. Trains are going around by Ashland and Saxony on account of the burned trestles at Bibon and Marengo. Reports from all towns along the South Shore to the Wisconsin state line say that they are all safe, though there are literally hundreds of fires in the vast belt of timber.

The dense pall of smoke which has overhung the city for two days has largely disappeared before a brisk south wind. There have been no great calamities in the region, but scores, if not hundreds, of homesteaders have lost all they possessed, and the

Damage to Timber Has Been Enormous.

Competent and conservative men estimate the standing pine over which the fire has run at not less than 150,000,000 feet. Of this about two-thirds belonged to the Diamond Match company and about one-sixth to the Nestor estate. This timber is not all destroyed, but the rest will have to be cut this year to save it from worms. This fact has already operated to raise wages of experienced loggers about one-fourth, and will make this season a very active one in the woods.

Advises just received from Nestoria report heavy rains there and westward. This will materially check the forest fires and in general put the whole district out of danger.

## AT RAILROAD HEADQUARTERS.

Chicago Officials Much Worried Over the Outlook.

CHICAGO, Sept. 5.—Reports from the forest fires as they came into the Northwestern and Wisconsin Central railway headquarters were meager, but showed fearful loss of life and destruction of property. The Northwestern received word at 10 o'clock that a heavily loaded freight train had been abandoned on a burning bridge, but that the crew had escaped. The Wisconsin Central service was badly demoralized and none of the reports received gave any definite information regarding the loss of life.

The superintendent of the Ashland division of the Northwestern wired that the fires were smoldering, but would probably die out if no wind arose. A high wind, he said,

## Would Result in Fearful Havoc.

Wisconsin Central railway officials were unable to get satisfactory reports from the burnt district. The train service was demoralized and telegraph wires were down or working badly. Agents at various points reported heavy loss of life and property, but were unable to give figures or estimates. The reports showed that the fires were smoldering and grave fears were expressed that fearful damage would ensue if the region should be visited by a high wind. The rain, the reports said, was not heavy enough to extinguish the flames which might break out at any time.

## Oil Wells Burning.

RUSSELL CITY, Pa., Sept. 5.—Word was received here at 7:30 p. m. to the effect that the forest fires have reached the Watson farm in Forest county, and several oil wells are now burning. The loss will be heavy as there are a large number of wells on this farm, and it is feared the fire will spread to adjoining oil property. There are no indications of rain, and should the wind rise it would sweep the entire field.

## Navigation Dangerous.

CHICAGO, Sept. 5.—Smoke from forest fires is now making navigation dangerous on all the Great lakes except Ontario. From Duluth to Buffalo come reports of smoke so thick that one could not see on the lake for more than a few hundred feet.

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