

# OMAHA'S STORY OF DESTRUCTION HERE

W. H. Early, Petaluma Attorney, Who Saw Cyclone  
Wreck City, Gives  
Description

W. H. Early, an attorney of Petaluma, arrived here yesterday direct from Omaha. He was an eyewitness to the cyclone that struck that city and caused great loss of life and damage to property. He had it hit the business section of the city it would have created untold loss of life.

"I arrived at Omaha Sunday afternoon and went to a downtown hotel. The day was as balmy as a California winter afternoon and there was a breath of air stirring. After an automobile ride, a train acquaintance and myself returned to the hotel and a few minutes later a fire alarm sounded. This was shortly before 6 o'clock. We walked down the main street in the direction of the city hall while the wind was gaining headway. We hurried forward and then came the strange and fatal happenings of the night.

"The calm atmosphere suddenly seemed to become surcharged with electricity. A few black clouds gathered. There was a queer feeling of depression and the air seemed to suck toward the scene of the conflagration—I can not describe the feeling. I never felt anything like it before and hope never to again.

**SEEN APPROACH OF TORNADO**  
"My companion and I walked to the top of a hill and he suddenly turned to me in a startled way and exclaimed, 'Look!'

"What appeared to be a spiral cloud was reaching toward the city. It was bouncing up and down like a boy's diving kite and when it struck the ground there was a tremendous volume of sound, crashing and awful noise like the grinding of innumerable timbers that were being crushed by a mighty hand.

"Both of us were very much frightened but our curiosity made us forget the terrible danger that we were in. I stood with my eyes fastened on the frightful spectacle and the while the windlike wind seemed to keep drawing us by unseen power toward the storm center where lives by scores were being blotted out.

"Windows in the neighborhood were being reached from their sashes as cleanly as if they had been cut with a glass cutter. It was an uncanny experience. We realized that the fire was in great danger, but that great, angry twisting, turning, bounding cloud held us to it with a strange power. I realized that we were helpless and that we might just as well submit to our fate as to run. No one could tell where that vicious thing was going to strike.

**HITS RESIDENCE SECTION**

"The cloud swung down on the residence section of the city and the building crash was terrible. It was impossible to make oneself heard above the roar of the storm. Fires started everywhere. Wires were snapped and ground. Death seemed at every hand, and houses were being picked up and tossed about like chips.

"After the cyclone had moved on toward Council Bluffs we heard the wail of the wounded. People were beneath timbers, under piles of bricks and lying stripped of every particle of clothing except their shoes in the middle of the streets and among the debris.

"We found two men under a mass of telegraph poles, and after working desperately we managed to pull them out. He was not badly hurt and he arose to his feet, looked at us with the look of a frightened and pursued animal and ran down the street as hard as he could go. The other poor fellow was dead.

**CYCLONE'S STRANGE PRANKS**

"The cyclone had played strange tricks. The stone residences that withstood it were cleaned of every particle of their contents. Chairs, carpets, bookcases, everything was stripped out of houses and sent through doors and windows as if they had been thrown out by human hands. Some houses were cut off as clean as a whistle from the second floor to roof. An orphan asylum had one side of it paired as if it were a human hand. The wind had already taken from them all they possessed of worldly goods and scattered the fragments in a thousand different directions.

**COUNTED 65 DEAD BODIES**

"I counted 65 dead bodies in my wanderings and the wounded were numerous. The police and emergency services worked with valour and precision, and help was given to all individuals. The stricken district was quickly patrolled and assistance given the homeless.

"In the city the following day, there being no particular delay to west-bound trains, and as we drew away we could see evidence of destruction at every hand. The telegraph poles lay flat and wrecked buildings were in evidence. I was glad to get back to dear old California, and the memory of that wide path of desolate wreck and the center of a once prosperous city will never leave me."

**PROFESSOR BACON**

**DECEASED BY RECELEY**

**Distinguished Faculty Member of University Passes to Rest**

(Special Dispatch to The Call)

BERKELEY, March 26.—Thomas Rutherford Bacon, professor of modern European history at the University of California and one of the most distinguished men of letters in the United States, died at 7:30 o'clock tonight at the age of 53 years at his residence in Bushnell place after a long illness from heart disease.

Professor Bacon had been in failing health for more than a year. His death

was not unexpected, as he had been unconscious for 36 hours preceding his demise. He had been a member of the faculty of the University of California for 25 years and was noted as an authority in modern European history, both as a writer and a lecturer. Having lost to ill health he had been on leave from the university for a year or more.

Doctor Bacon was a native of New Haven, Conn., where he was born in 1859. He came from one of the distinguished New England families, and was a direct descendant of Roger Bacon, founder of Rhode Island.

Professor Bacon's father, Rev. Leonard Bacon, was for many years pastor of the famous First Congregational church of New Haven.

Professor Bacon was graduated from the University of California in 1882. He entered the Congregational ministry and for a time was pastor of a church at Terre Haute. He came to California in the early '80s, and was pastor of the First Congregational church at Berkeley until 1888, when he resigned to enter the University of California as a lecturer in history. In 1890 he was made professor of modern European history,

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Contributors Take Notice

Listen to Doctor Farrell

CHICAGO, March 26.—A warning to persons contributing to the relief of sufferers was issued here tonight by Dr. P. J. Farrell, former surgeon general of the army of the Philippines. Doctor Farrell cited his experience at the San Francisco disaster, where he was in charge of the emergency hospital.

"Send nothing but perfectly clean clothing, and see that shoes are tied firmly together in pairs," are Doctor Farrell's instructions. "Unless clothing is new or perfectly clean when shipped, it frequently will be found infected with vermin by the time it reaches the hands of the sufferers. The San Francisco we burned carloads of clothing simply because it was soiled or covered with vermin."

A simple oversight on the part of the contributors in not tying together each pair of shoes resulted in 10,000 being destroyed, he says.

"I don't want to have anything more to do with cyclones. I was within a fraction of a mile of the Omaha cyclone and was looking right at it when it struck the town. Had it hit the business section of the city it would have created untold loss of life."

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# MANY STORIES RELATED OF PRIVATE LIFE

Unhappy Victims in Two States  
Suffer Acute Discomforts

Continued From Page 2

In response to the national appeal of President Wilson.

**Mayor Harrison Also**

CHICAGO, March 26.—Mayor Harrison today issued a proclamation appealing for funds for the relief of the Indiana and Ohio flood sufferers.

**Detroit Sends Relief**

DETROIT, Mich., March 26.—Relief work for the Ohio flood sufferers is well under way in Michigan. Governor Ferry has ordered all national guard tents and equipment sent to Dayton.

**Other Relief Measures**

Other relief measures were adopted as follows: Philadelphia, 20 cars of supplies, including 11,000 cots. Washington, tents, supplies and rations. Toledo, supplies, five cars.

**St. Clair Flats Flooded**

DETROIT, Mich., March 26.—Grave fears are felt here that lives have been lost in floods which have surged inland at St. Clair. Floods of a summer resort across Lake St. Clair from this city. It was rumored that 10 persons were drowned.

**Many People Homeless**

YOUNGSTOWN, O., March 26.—Great damage was done to manufacturing plants and railroads here by the floods. Railroad and streetcar service is suspended. Three bridges have been swept out. Many people are homeless.

**FUGITIVE SHOOT WOMAN**

CHICAGO, March 26.—Mrs. Anna Flensterbach, 42 years old, was shot and probably fatally wounded in her home on the north side today by Edward Elliott, who, pursued by detectives as a burglar, took refuge in the home and fired a shot at his pursuers. Elliott then shot himself, dying soon.

**Marriage Licenses**

SAN FRANCISCO

The following marriage licenses were issued Wednesday, March 26, 1913:

BAKER—BOLAND—Scott Baker, 31, Fort Meade, and Helene G. Boland, 24, 11 West Clay.

BEILING—BAXTER—Otto F. Beiling, 25, and Lillian B. Baxter, 24, 11 West Clay.

BIANCHINI—FABRI—Attilio Bianchini, 32, 1781 Filbert street, and Orsoline Fabri, 25, 1781 Filbert street.

BROVELLI—MEHLA—Guido Brovelli, 28, and Isabella Mehl, 24, 11 West Clay.

CHAPMAN—KOPMAN—William T. Chapman, 28, 2063 Golden Gate avenue, and Grace A. Kopman, 28, Fulton street.

EGGERT—SANDERS—Ernest H. Eggert, 21, Grand Island, and Frieda C. Sanders, 21, Grand Island.

HARJINE—HASHIMOTO—Senzo Harjine, 42, and Kail Hashimoto, 24, 11 West Clay.

HARRIS—GOLDMAN—Abel Harris, 21, 1624 Buchanan street, and Rosa Goldman, 18, 2639 Buchanan street.

HONMA—INAGAKI—Kiyoshi Honma, 37, and Yoko Inagaki, 24, 11 West Clay.

JOHNSON—DELAWARE—John Johnson, 21, 380 Fifth street, and Clara B. Delaware, 21, 380 Fifth street.

JONES—RICH—Thomas H. Jones, 41, Vanocci street, and Gladys Riche, 33, 140 Mason street.

KEEFE—BROWN—James Keefe, 35, 3501 Twenty-second street, and Ellen Brown, 28, 10034 Church street.

MCGHEE—MCGHEE—George J. McGhee, 32, 2201 California street, and Katherine M. McGhee, 38, 148 Sixth avenue.

McKENNA—McKENNA—John McKenna, 31, and Helen McKenna, 24, 11 West Clay.

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