

CHICAGO AND SUBURBS

HIT BY CYCLONE

Telegraph Lines Are Smashed—Death List Growing—Telephone Wires Cut, Churches, Stores and Other Buildings Demolished

TRAIN SERVICE BLOCKED

Elgin, Illinois, Placed Under Martial Law Following Disaster.

Chicago, March 28.—A score of persons were killed and a hundred or more injured today by a tornado that swept the country and a number of towns north and west of Chicago and razed some of the city's northwestern suburbs. The property damage ran into millions of dollars, including the demolition of many buildings and the razing of telegraph and telephone lines. Communication with rural regions was for a time cut off.

Six persons were killed and a score injured when the tornado swept through the center of Elgin, Ill., about thirty miles west of Chicago, causing \$4,000,000 damage to property. Melrose Park, a suburb of Chicago, re-

ported six dead, and Dunning another suburb, and Wilmette, a north shore town, each reported two dead.

Buildings Demolished

From Elgin the storm passed on to the northeast. Half a dozen business dwellings, two churches and twenty residences were demolished in Elgin. Meager reports brought in by farmers indicated local damage in a widespread rural region. Falling telegraph and telephone poles cut off communication and many trees, uprooted by the twisting wind, so tangled the wires that restoration of communication presented a difficult problem.

The Elgin company of the state militia was placed on duty to guard property laid open to the public by the unroofing and upsetting of stores.

At Melrose Park on the western edge of Chicago sixty houses were destroyed the devastated area covering four blocks. The tornado followed in the wake of a severe hail storm.

Six Dead Identified.

Tonight six dead had been identified at Melrose Park and it was predicted the fatality list would reach twelve. Scores were injured.

Fires followed the collapse of buildings and the fire department of sev-

eral suburbs were summoned.

A score of houses in Evanston, a northern suburb, were demolished and a number of persons injured, but no fatalities were reported. Roofs were carried from houses and trees were uprooted and carried a half-block in some instances.

The damage in Wilmette, another north shore suburb was estimated at \$500,000. Many buildings in the business quarter were damaged, along with the town hall and the Episcopal Church. The storm tore a path 200 yards wide through the main part of Wilmette.

Mrs. H. Hansen and Edward Jameson were killed, several hundred injured and 1,000 made homeless at Dunning, a northwest suburb. More than 150 houses, mostly frame structures, were destroyed there.

Buried in Debris.

Mrs. Hansen and four children were in their home when the building was blown over by the wind. The children were uninjured. Jameson was buried in the debris of his cottage.

The Chicago State Hospital at Dunning was not damaged, but several smaller buildings on the hospital's farm were destroyed. The injured were

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taken to the hospital, which also was converted into a barracks for the homeless.

At Plainfield, a small town west of Chicago, two persons were injured, probably fatally, when their home was blown down. Twelve other persons were less seriously hurt and damage estimated at \$25,000 done in the town. One of the injured was Mrs. John Devore, of Joliet, whose automobile was turned upside down by the wind. More than a score of barns in the neighborhood of Plainfield were demolished.

Among nearby towns damaged by the storm, according to reports, were Wauconda, Mechanic, Woodstock, Algonquin and Marengo. Dundee was reported to have been passed over by the storm, but damage in the surrounding farming country was heavy.

Eight Persons Killed

Elgin, Ill., Mar. 28.—At least 8 persons were killed and property damage estimated \$4,000,000 caused by tornado that struck this city shortly after noon today. A large part of the business quarter and a portion of the residential section was in ruins tonight and it was feared more bodies were under the wreckage. Military law was declared at 5 o'clock and the streets were cleared by troops to prevent looting.

Elgin was in darkness tonight. More than 100 persons were injured in this city. Light wires and trolley wires were down. Street car service was suspended. Trains were blocked by uprooted trees and for a time only one telegraph and telephone wire connected the city with the outside.

On proclaiming military law Mayor Price called out Company D, Tenth Illinois National Guard, to patrol the wrecked area. He also asked for volunteers and more than 100 former service men in uniform and scores of Boy Scouts responded.

UNION SAFE ROBBED

Union, Mar. 28.—The safe of the Cooper Furniture company was robbed some time during last night the loss being \$800 in money and \$400 in checks. The entry to the safe was made by the combination. It is believed that whoever committed robbery entered the store before closing time and hid, thus being locked up in the room. A former employee has been put under arrest.

CONDEMNED MAN DIES

Dublin, Ga., March 28.—Herbert Cummins, negro, sentenced to be hanged for the murder of Raymond Cannon, overseas veteran, died early today in the Laurens county jail after an illness of several weeks.

The killing of Cannon occurred last fall and was followed by a series of racial disturbances which continued for two months after the crime.

DIAMONDS ON PORCH

Dublin, Ga., March 28.—With a writ request attached that they be returned to the owners, two of three diamonds recently stolen here were found on the porch of a local newspaper man today.

The theft of the three diamonds, valued at \$5,000, was discovered last Thursday at the home of Mrs. W. H. Phillips here. The third stone has not yet been recovered, but police officials state they are expecting to make arrests within the next few hours.

MISSING PLANE IS FOUND

Arcadia, Fla., March 28.—Word reaching here stated that the plane of Lieut. Omar Niergarth had been found, abandoned thirty-two miles south of Deep Lake. It is believed Niergarth wandered away into the

Everglades. The search for him being continued and the hope is expressed that Indians will rescue him. Information received here was very brief, due to wire trouble. Niergarth has been missing from Carlstrom Flying Field since Tuesday and other planes have been scouring the section for him.

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