

HEAVY DAMAGE IN RECORD 8.98-INCH RAIN; 2 MISSING; 400 MAROONED ON EAST SIDE



Firemen looking for the bodies of two boys who were seen to disappear near a sewer at William place and Ashland avenue in waters that flooded the streets yesterday.

BOYS BELIEVED LOST IN SEWER; MANY DRIVEN OUT OF THEIR HOMES

Belleville Virtually Inland—Attempts Made to Drop Life Rafts to Washington Park Residents.

Another torrential downpour of rain—the second within 24 hours—deluged the St. Louis area last night and early today, aggravating the already serious flood conditions in many sections. Total rainfall from 7 a.m. yesterday to 10 a.m. today, when the downpour ended, amounted to 8.98 inches, and since then Monday night's rain has added another 1.17 inches.

The Weather Bureau predicted additional showers through today and tonight. All rainfall records in the 10-year history of the Weather Bureau already have been broken.

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DIDN'T DO THING FOR COMMISSION ON SURPLUS DEAL

Fields Associate Hazy on Whether He Got It 75 Pct. of Buyers at Sale, Misrepresented Seives.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 16 (AP)—John H. Fields, former associate of Benjamin H. Franklin, told the House Select Committee today that he did nothing to help a commission set up to deal with surplus government property.

Fields, whose transactions to supply government property are under investigation, testified that Franklin is the "John Doe" of whom a commission of 1945 was set up.

'PUSH BUTTON WAS HERE, BUT WE'VE ONLY GOT BUTTON'

WASHINGTON, Aug. 16 (AP)—The push-button was in here, but we've got nothing but the button, Vice Adm. H. G. Bowen made this statement in testimony at the hearings on the investigation of the Office of Naval Research which will begin today at the United States senate.



DELL HERRIN and JAMES MURPHY.

ROMAN DEPARTS ON 18-DAY CRUISE TO SPEND TIME ALONG NEW ENGLAND COAST

WASHINGTON, Aug. 16 (AP)—President Truman said aboard the yacht Wilmington today that he will sail back to his Presidential estate soon, he took off for 18 months ago.

Accompanied by a few aides and other persons, the President will spend most of the time between now and Sept. 2 off the coast of New England. There will be no public appearances, although Truman will give advice as needed.

The White House said he planned to keep in contact with his office here by radio-telephone and will receive a daily report of news from the White House.

Fairgrounds Park Lake Floods; Neighbors Catch Fish on Lawns

(Office on Page 2-A) Residents on Fair avenue of the west end of Fairgrounds Park were catching fish on lawns of their homes today, according to reports from several neighbors.

Many of the fish, which were mostly catfish and carp, washed down the street and into lawns and yards.

1 TO 2 CTS. ADDED TO TAVERN BEER PRICES BY OPA

Retail Stores Not Included in Rise—Case Line Up Half-Cent at Most Stations.

St. Louis beer drinkers, who have been drinking the same amount of beer as they did last year, are paying 1 to 2 cents more for their beer.

The Office of Price Administration said today that it had raised the price of beer from 10 cents to 11 to 12 cents.

The new ruling is based on the price which the nation's distillers paid for grain in 1945.

The weekly OPA ruling for beer and wine is effective July 26, 2 cents on a 12-ounce bottle and 2 cents on a quart.

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Heavy Damage in Record Rain; Two Missing

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back to higher ground today to avoid inundation by high water.

An Coast Guard launch launched rescue craft in the area. A C-47 cargo plane from Scott Field dropped an inflatable raft for use as an ailing stranded resident. The pilot reported the inflatable raft was not used.

Four men were rescued from the jackets as the rafted person was not sufficiently deep to require use of the raft.

Three companies of Illinois militia were called to the area, and roads leading to the stricken community were patrolled by military police from Scott Field. It was reported there were no reports from flooded areas for a week.

Red Cross relief headquarters were established in Marmion school on the highest point of ground in Washington Park, but water in the building already was six inches above the first floor level. Radio contact was being maintained with Scott Park.

More than 100 persons were stranded in boats in the St. Louis fire Department from the flooded area. Some of the boats were trapped in flooded homes, water in the building already was six inches above the first floor level. Radio contact was being maintained with Scott Park.

Emergency food was rushed to Belleville by Food Center Inc., of St. Louis after appeals from community leaders. From 200 to 300 of their homes were full and housed approximately 100 persons in St. Louis headquarters. Trucks carrying bread and domestic were able to get to the edge of Belleville by a circuitous route, from which point the food had to be carried into the city across a railroad trestle.

A Belleville fire truck skidded on mud-covered pavement while on the way to a fire this morning and overturned, resulting in serious injuries to the driver, James J. Hildebrand.

The roof of a three-story building at 823 South Broadway, owned by seven families and the fire, was blown off last night by strong winds. Mrs. Hildebrand, who lived in one of the apartments, told the Post-Dispatch the entire roof of the building was soaked by rain which fell after the roof was blown off.

Mr. Hildebrand said nine children in the building, including his own, were taken to the hospital, and one of the occupants, told the Post-Dispatch the entire roof of the building was soaked by rain which fell after the roof was blown off.

Frederick A. Hildebrand, 718 North second street, East St. Louis, called early today with a report of a miniature lake at Twenty-first and State streets in East St. Louis. He was taken to St. Mary's Hospital, and the report was confirmed.

Two men in Belleville were struck by lightning. They were James Hildebrand, 1400 North Thirty-ninth street, struck while walking on Thirty-ninth street, and Mrs. Hildebrand, 1012 North Park street, who was in her home.

High water in serious condition at Christian Warfare Hospital.

A stone retaining wall in front of Park Home, 1438 East Broadway, collapsed this morning after being weakened by rain. Police said it was 150 feet long and ranged in height to six feet.

At 3120 Linn avenue, a 20 by 30-foot section of wall of a two-story house collapsed into the yard.

Airline service at Lambert-St. Louis Field was resumed shortly after this is the same price differential that prevailed before the war. Production of white side wall ceilings was resumed recently.

OPA raised manufacturers' ceiling on newspaper book and printing paper. It is 18 cents and will estimate the retail increase.

Winding up for the moment, OPA removed price ceilings on rubber bands and on 12 special type trailers, including automobile transport trailers, oil well drilling equipment trailers, and boat trailers.



Two boys with fish they found today in the 2600 block of Park avenue where they were carried by overflow water from a lake in Fairgrounds Park. From left, **PAUL HAYES**, 6712 School avenue, **WILLIAM**, and **LESLIE HOWELL**, 4124 Leno avenue. (Additional pictures on Emergency Magazine.)

before noon after being closed at half of 100 men when the plan was unable to operate because of a power failure. Water was five feet deep in the tank.

The McDonnell Aircraft plant at the small training planes of the Army Air Corps at Lambert Field were damaged about 100,000 dollars from their hangars, by high winds last night. Clyde Hildebrand, head of the service reported. Two of the planes were overturned, and the others received damage only by the wing tips.

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Most Camps Flooded

Most of St. Louis county roads were closed at various times and overflows. On Highway 66, water was in the ditch between the two points of Robertson was as much as six feet deep. Flooded areas were in many sections of the county.

Many residents of the New Town section of Valley Park were forced to spend the night with neighbors when their homes were flooded from high ground.

St. Louis was stranded in four and one-half feet of water at Harney station and Big Bend roads in Valley Park. The passengers of electric power failure. Southwestern Bell Telephone Co. employees spent much of the night mopping up water from telephone line conductors.

The Greene Coal Co., Heavin Harveys and Green Park roads, Lenoxy, reported \$5000 damage when coal was washed away and houses and cars collapsed. At the Blue Birch Co. on Blueberry road, Lenoxy, 220,000 bricks which had been prepared for laying were a soggy mass of clay today. The Portland Cement Co. in Lenoxy was making feet and legs when they get home tonight.

Some employees in the upper floor offices passed up lunch rather than walk down and up the long flights of stairs. The two elevators that remained in operation were handling capacity.

SIX OF ELEVATORS IDLE IN BUILDING 22 STORES HIGH

Many office workers in the 22-story Missouri Pacific Building at Thirtieth and Olive streets will miss today the fact that they get home tonight.

Some employees in the upper floor offices passed up lunch rather than walk down and up the long flights of stairs. The two elevators that remained in operation were handling capacity.

ESTATE OF FRANK J. RIEFLING

The estate of Frank J. Riefling, president of the Riefling Automobile Co., was valued at \$1,000,000 in an inventory filed in the St. Louis court today. All of the estate was in corporate stocks, with \$100,000 in cash. The automobile company, at 227 South Jefferson avenue, will sell the entire estate.

was carried by the bridge, broke several hours after the span fell. Several industries shut down as a result of the rain.

Without water today because of a storm, a water meter in the basement of a house on 1500 Lenoxy and 400 employees.

Four boats AHHH on River.

Two calls were received of vessels breaking loose on the river. Four vessels were reported as being in the area of the river at the United States Exposition at the time of the annual street. They grounded themselves down stream.

Buildings were reported hit by lightning last night. 4012-4124 Harford street, 4000 Washington boulevard, 2284 Page boulevard and 2002 University street. The top two floors were demolished from the first floor.

Four-story building on a five-story building at 1069-13 Lenoxy avenue, and fell into an alley.

A Delmar street car on route to the car shops at Delmar street and Delalibere avenue was struck at Delmar and Lenoxy avenue. A resulting fire which caused damage estimated at \$250 was extinguished by the St. Louis and University City fire departments.

From where on Delalibere street and the motorman, George Hildebrand, was not injured.

The Union Electric Co. reported damage general over the entire area, but most of it is on a small scale. No major damage was reported.

In a number of neighborhoods lights were out for about periods of time on the East Hill and West Hill.

Several houses in the area were damaged in getting at the power lines. The power lines were repaired and service was out in their places for longer periods of time.

Other homes in the city struck by lightning included the three-story brick residence of James C. McHenry, 27 Ringway street, between 203 and 204 Hill boulevard; two-story brick flat at 2077 National boulevard, and a two-story brick flat at 2030-21 factory street.

No one was in the McHenry home when it was struck. The family had just gone on vacation for the summer.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray White, 2400 North Broadway, were injured when they were struck by lightning while they were sleeping last night. The fire was quickly extinguished. White, whose left arm was torn, was seriously injured. His wife, who was in the front yard, knocked two holes in the roof which and split the shingles on the porch.

Damage to the roof of the building was caused by the rain. The roof was washed away in places. The top soil from farms last in St. Louis county. From last in St. Louis county. From last in St. Louis county.

St. Howard milk. He estimated that the loss of the crop alone would be more than \$100,000. While Riefling, who has farms in the Harford area, said he lost part of his crop was a total loss.

CONSTRUCTION HALTED.

Construction projects through out the area were not only halted by the severe rain, but some considerable damage was caused. Hundreds of basement excavations were flooded, and lumber and building materials were washed away from building sites. In some instances where site preparation was in progress, work was forced to be abandoned.

The five consecutive days of rain caused rivers in the area to rise sharply. The Mississippi here rose 12 feet in the last 24 hours to 124 feet, still far from the 20-foot flood stage.

The Missouri river at its Chatham point, 4.2 feet in 24 hours to 23.3 feet, 3 of a foot above flood stage. Above 2.5 inches of rain fell at St. Charles in the 24 hours to 7.8 in.

The Meramec river showed only a slight rise in Valley Park, where only 2 inches of rain were recorded since yesterday. Union more rain falls in the Meramec basin, the river is expected to fall.

A pipe line of the Mississippi River Fuel Co., supplying the area, was reported to be in serious condition. It was reported to be in serious condition. It was reported to be in serious condition.

LADIES' EXPANSION Watch Bands

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