25 DIE IN FLOOD; $2,000,000 DAMAGE

Funeral Services are Held for 25

Six From One Family
Buried Friday

Mass Funeral Services Held

Hundreds Made Homeless by Cloudburst Wednesday Morn

From The Collection Of:
Dr. Jack D. Ellis
552 W. Sun St.
Morehead, KY 40351
606-784-7473

Morehead Independent
"ONE OF KENTUCKY'S GREATER WEEKLIES"
MOREHEAD, KENTUCKY, THURSDAY, JULY 6, 1939
Number 27.

25 Die in Flood; $2,000,000 Damage

Death and destruction came to Rowan county early Wednesday morning when a smashing, irresistible wall of water snuffed out the lives of 25 persons, made hundreds homeless and destroyed 2 million dollars worth of property.

Since no other persons have been reported as missing in the county, it is being assumed that the reported number of dead is complete.

In Breathitt county, which was flooded at the same time, scores were swept into the Kentucky river and the number drowned was still unknown Friday.

The flash flood, caused by a cloud burst near the Carter county line, came down the valley about 1:15 a.m. sweeping people, trees, livestock and human beings in its wake.

Many were caught in their crumbling houses like rats in a trap, others took to the trees. A few were able to swim to safety. Families were separated.

The roar of the torrent, the screams of the doomed and the terror stricken victims from the darkness will be forever remembered by those who witnessed the scene.

Wednesday morning Morehead was cut off from the outside world. The only road open was the Flemingsburg highway. A single telegraph wire to Ashland was the only means of communication.

But as soon as the news reached neighboring communities, help from Legionnaires, private citizens, Boy Scouts, Red Cross, funeral directors and many other organizations began to pour in.

Searching Parties Sent Out

Rehabilitation Work Started; Various Agencies Will Help

Rehabilitation work in the flood area here is going forward quickly.

The American National Red Cross was made the official relief agency in Morehead today by Mayor Warren Lappin's proclamation. Headquarters are temporarily at the city hall.

Miss Helen Moses, Miss Alice Richard and Maurice Reddy, representatives of the American Red Cross, were in Morehead Wednesday.

Disaster Loan Corporation representative E. W. Crutcher was in Morehead Wednesday to start work on the federal disaster loan program.

The loan program was approved by Congress Friday. The amount has not been announced.

Disaster Loan Corporation workers have been in Breathitt County since Monday.

Mass funeral services were held Thursday afternoons at the old Masonic temple, the Masonic lodge and the county courthouse.

Funeral services for 25 persons drowned in the flood were held Thursday afternoon.

Burial Friday

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Porter were taken to Redwine, Morgan county, for burial.

Mrs. Lula Collins, and daughter, were taken to Redwine, Morgan county, for burial.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Porter were taken to Redwine, Morgan county, for burial.

Bates To Introduce Appropriation Bill For Flood Refugees

Eighth District Congressman Joe B. Bates plans to introduce in the House of Representatives today, if possible, a bill appropriating money for immediate use in the mountain flood districts, according to a telephone conversation with residents here.

Congressman Bates said that all that was needed of the bill was to get an approximate figure as to the amount of money that will be needed in the area, of which Bessemer, Engineer, Berea.

This Issue Written For Saturday Morning

Although the date line on this
MOREHEAD RUINED TO EXTENT OF MORE THAN 5 HUNDRED THOUSAND

An estimate of two million dollars has been placed on the damage to Rowan county by the flash-flood. Other firms less severely damaged include: W. S. Allen, beer distributor, $1,500; Carr-Perry, $5,000; Morehead Independent, $6,000; J. A. Allen Grocery, $3,000; Eagles Nest, $1,500; IGA, $1,500; Wooly's Service Stations, $1,000; Citizens Bank, $250; Cottage Cafe, $1,500; Standard Oil Co., $5,000; Kennard Hardware, $4,000 and the following unestimated: Calvert's Garage, Model Laundry, Myrtle's Tea Room, Imperial Cleaners, Peoples Hotel, McCray's Drugs, Calvert's Garage, and several others.

The Big Store Furniture Company, $10,000; The Economy Store, $15,000; Lee Clay Products, unestimated.

The Big Store, $3,000; The Big Store Furniture Company, $15,000; C & O, unestimated; City of Morehead, $10,000; Flam-Wheeler, $15,000.

PARTIAL LIST OF HOMELESS PERSONS IS COMPILED--PATRICK

About 350 homeless and distressed persons are being taken care of by the Red Cross, in the Morehead public school building, court house and the college. Approximately one thousand meals a day are being served to the refugees.

A partial list of homeless Rowan county persons, compiled by Miss Carol Patrick, has been made to acquaint their relatives and friends and the general public with their dire needs. The list is incomplete because the records were not completely filled out.

Among the homeless are the following:

Charlie Rose, Lucy Littleton, Robert Honker, Bud Rose, Boyd McClure, D. Johnson, Frank Eden, G. Crashe, Chas. Holman, Rosie Holman, Ralph Holman, Velma Holman, Billy Holman, William Tackett, Howard Cloos, Ray Brown, Leonard Alfrey, Mary Al...

Professor Speaks Here

Dr. A. L. Crabbe, professor of higher education at George Peabody, Nashville, Tennessee, spoke at convolution Friday morning.

Water Service Resumed

They were dug out of mud, trees and wrecked homes. The dead were taken to the funeral homes and identified by tearful relatives.

By the afternoon state troopers dispatched by Governor Chandler the CCC boys were policing the district and turning back the hundreds of sightseers.

Thursday, funeral services were held for the four Sparkman children. Merchants, home owners who still had homes, and farmers began the difficult work of cleaning up the ugly mess left by the flood.

Funeral Services Held Friday

Friday the majority of the funeral were held and rehabilitation work was being started.

The Red Cross set up headquarters in the city hall with Mrs. Renee Wells, as head, until the arrival of national representatives from Washington who arrived Thursday. Delivery of mail from the outside was resumed Thursday. The George Washington at six o'clock Thursday night was the first passenger train to get through after the flood.

MAYOR LAPPIN'S PROCLAMATION

Appeal to the People of Morehead

The flood of July 5th was the greatest tragedy ever experienced by this community. The losses sustained in both life and property have aroused the sympathy of all.

However, sympathy is not enough. We have a problem of relief to meet. A large number of people are being fed, clothed and sheltered temporarily, but much remains to be done.

We are fortunate in having on hand the American Red Cross, an experienced relief agency with a trained staff of workers who are in position to apply our individual contributions for relief to the best possible use.

Therefore, with the idea in mind of coordinating all relief work, I hereby declare the American Red Cross to be the official relief agency to deal with the problems of the individual sufferer. I ask all agencies and individuals to give it their complete support.

Furthermore, I appeal to all citizens of the community to be liberal as possible with their donations to the relief fund which the Red Cross is authorized to raise. All funds so raised will be spent to alleviate suffering caused by this disaster and in restoring conditions to normal.

Signed:

Warren C. Lappin, Mayor

(Continued on Page 4)
The Morehead Independent
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WILLIAM J. SAMPLE, Editor and Publisher
STANLEY K. IVerson, Associate Editor

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
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Six Months in Kentucky $.75
One Year Out of State $2.00

ALL Subscriptions Must Be Paid In Advance

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The Louisville Times

Newspaper Accuracy

"The newspapers always get things wrong," is a remark frequently made. Perhaps those who say that have just read 50 items in a newspaper, and have discovered an error in one of them. They overlook the 49 that were right, and are amused or disgusted by the one that was wrong.

Every error the newspaper makes is spread before the public for ridicule and censure. People usually see it, and it forms a subject of public conversation. If some merchant or clerk with whom you are dealing makes an error, no one knows about it except he and you. But, if your newspaper makes an error, everyone knows about it. The merchant or clerk with whom you are dealing is not affected by the information. Everyone knows about it except him and you.

Newspaper people constantly travel over all town and tramp weary miles to verify doubtful items and avoid errors. Newspaper work is done hurriedly. Few newspapers have forces of editors and reporters so large that every item can be verified with the utmost care. If a reporter has a dozen assignments to cover in a morning, he has to do some rushing from one to another. Perhaps he did not take pains enough in one instance, but very likely he was worrying for fear that someone else he needed to interview would leave his shop or home before he could be seen.

Many errors are caused by the carelessness of people who give the information. They told the wrong name, or accepted an unfilled rumor as fact, and passed it on to the reporter.

The good newspaper man's ideal is strict accuracy, and he makes many sacrifices to attain it. Young folk who are beginning newspaper work should strive for accuracy above all else.

BAPTIST CHURCH
TO HOLD VACATION
BIBLE SCHOOL HERE

Minister Kazee,
Leeper, Martin Will
Direct Activities

The Morehead Baptist Church will conduct its first Vacation Bi-
EYE-WITNESS ACCOUNT RELATED OF FLOOD'S DESCENT BY REPORTER

By STANLEY K. IVerson
Morehead Independent Reporter

"Wake up, Stanley, Railroad street's flooded and people are drowning. They're crying for help!"

It was my landlady, Mrs. Sue Fugate, awakening me at 1:45 o'clock this morning, to a helpless, striking scene.

I got up and quickly dressed in the dark. The lights were out. I thought it was raining but when I looked out the window I realized the sound I heard was a raging torrent, rushing madly down the valley.

Running outside I could hear the screams of men and women crying for help, four and five blocks away. It sounded like the end of the world.

I went back down to the water's edge men cried, "Get a boat. We need help!" I ran to the telephone but Dr. L. Garrod's boat was gone. Professor Haggan had left his in Farmers, the Hudgins boy's boat was already on the way.

I asked the operator for Lexington. All lines out of town were down, Goldie Hayes said.

At the water's edge men cried, "Get a boat. We need help!" I ran to the telephone but Dr. L. Garrod's boat was gone. Professor Haggan had left his in Farmers, the Hudgins boy's boat was already on the way.

I asked the operator for Lexington. All lines out of town were down, Goldie Hayes said.

I went back down to the water-front on Carey avenue. Jesse Johnson, the barber, said he had been awakened just a few minutes before by a loud noise. Looking out of the window he saw a big wave of water. Calling for his wife and children, he led them through knee-deep water to safety.

Cries for help across the creek could be heard plainly, again and again. Why weren't there more boats? Why was everybody standing around? Then I found out— the current was too swift.

One boat fought the onrush of the waters for 10 minutes trying to cross the street to save Mrs. E. Jayne and daughter, Nora, who were up to their necks in water.

In front of Bishop's drug store, Billie Caudill, wearing only a pair of shorts, dripping blood from mouth and thigh, cried, "Iverson, so you want some news, eh? Well, look at this, I just swam two miles from Clearfield to get here. And I'm going back to help."

As far as is known, there has never been such a school conducted in Morehead. Pastor B. H. Kaze and Missionary L. E. Leeper of Haldeman conducted one at Elliottville and one at Haldeman this summer. It is reported that their efforts in this work have met with great success.

For some weeks the Baptist church has been planning the
25 DIE IN FLOOD; 2 MILLION DAMAGE

(Cont. from Page 1)

at Jackson, Ky., on the North Fork of the Kentucky river, where 3,737
inches fell.

Gov. J. B. Chandler at Frank-
fort, ordered state patrolmen and
state highway emergency crews started, outflttmg the unfor-
tunate victims. To strike Morehead
were reported washed away.

There was no loss of life at
Olive Hill.

The Southern States Shows, a
carnival appearing here July 4,
had all concessions and rides flood-
ed and firesmen worked until 3
o'clock Tuesday morning moving
their trailers and trucks. A school
and church at nearby Gregoryville
were reported washed away. Con-
siderable water damage was re-
ported at Grayson, the county seat
of Carter county.

Farmers several miles west of
here were completely cut off and
Clearfield was feared to have suf-
fered heavily. Recuers were un-
able to cross the swift current to
reach the community.

Water 10 Feet Deep

Water on Railroad street varied
head's main thoroughfare, varied in
depth from four to ten feet at the
peak of the flood. Bill Mc-
Clain, fireman at the State
Teachers' College, estimated the
water rose 10 to 15 feet in less
than 30 minutes.

As soon as it was possible em-
ployees of the Kentucky Power
and Light Company came into
Morehead to help in the flood dis-
aster.

Joe Lecke with his construction
crew, truck and equipment were
here at 7:30 Wednesday morning.
An immediate survey was made to
the necessary stops to take to
restore electric service as quickly
as possible which was shut off at
12:30 A. M. E. C. Laurie with his
crew to and equipment brought
into Morehead substitution trans-
formers at 3:30 P. M. With the
help of Bruce Irwin, Pat Patte-

RED CROSS WORKER DESCRIBES
DISTRESS OF FLOOD VICTIMS

By CAROL PATRICK,
Red Cross Worker

The Red Cross headquarters at
the city hall has been as busy as
a beehive since the rescue
work started, outfitting the unfor-
tunate mothers and sisters who were
caught in the flood. Mrs. M. J. Le-
nee, secretary of the Red Cross
chapter, was on the phone almost
continually and was very help-
ful to all who called her.

Every person of every age was
found and directed where to
sleep and eat.

Persons of every age and size
had climbed the stairs to find at
least a dress or a shirt to wear.
Some were in borrowed clothing.
One man crept in clothed only in
overalls which he had found
shifted on. Several have walked
far in heavy coats clutched
tightly around their bare bodies.

Barefoot are common, and
stockings are definitely not on
the list for "what the well-dressed
refugee" wears, I know of several
persons who had nothing to wear
to creep out of their hiding place.

One woman had to hurry back
to take clothes to her husband who
was hiding in a tree until she re-
turned. Even the necessary under-
garments are worn by very few.

Men and children, especially
boys, are in dire need of cloth-
ing. Even the first change of

The American Red Cross order-
ded Mrs. Sheridan Connally, field
representative, from Lexington,
Ky., into the flooded town to set
up relief offices.

Fellows Fire

The flood was the second calam-
ity to strike Morehead within 24
hours. Early Tuesday morning fire
of undetermined origin swept the

PARTIAL LIST OF
HOMELESS VICTIMS

(Cont. from Page 1)

Betty Lou and Esty Groeger; Estel,
Owen, Laura, Donald Groeger; Mrs.
Ann, Denver, Evan and Margaret
Duff; Mrs. Sarah Ann and C. Day;
James, Lucy, Stella Mae, Albert and
Robert Dorton, Lena Earlley, Frank
Eden, Beatrice Gastineau, Ed Hall,
Alice Hamm, Willie Hamm, Lee Ham-
B; Minnie Swinford, Clara Lan-
caster, Irene Hall, Hannah Hall;
Ad daughter, Oscar Hamm.

Emma, Margaret, Clifford, Jay,
Willie, Charles, and Torone
France; Charles and Jay Harman,
Denny Howard, Halie Howard, Tho-
Clouse Howard, Ruth Howard, Car-
Howard Johnson, Clyde
Kenton, Nellie Kenton, Clet
to Chester Kenton, Wallace
Kent, Holly, Edna, Peggy Ann
and Jimmy Kissinger, Newt and
Martha Kissinger, W. B. Lee, Matt
Lee, Ruth Rose Lee, A. J. Lewis,
Opal Lewis, Esty Lewis,
O. A. Maxey, Liley, Olap, John
and Rex Mays, Olive, Lorene
and Homer McClain, Hazel, Juan-
ita and Pauline McKenzie; Hey-
ward, Jewell, Shirley, Bobby and
Margaret, Ora, Ola, Billy
Marie, Bobby and Mary Jan
Ramey, Ridio Bob, Billie and Hue
Ramey, William, Martha, Hue
and Billy Ramey, Taylor, Maggie
and Tostie Ramey; Paul Re-

NOW A BRAND NEW 1939 6-FOOT WESTINGHOUSE

COSTS YOU LESS THAN EVER BEFORE

THE NEW WESTINGHOUSE SPECIAL "ECONOMY SIX" De Luxe Equipped

With Two-tone Frister Door ... Beautiful Wash-
inghouse Delphium Blue Refrigerator Set, All
Matching Pieces, includes: Butter Dish, Two Food
Saver Dishes of Vitrified China Ovenware, Handy
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Operating cost is as low as 7 1/2 cent per day. Yet
you can always be sure your food will stay fresh and
wholesome no matter how high the outside temperature
because the weather never gets too hot for a
WESTINGHOUSE.

It gives you 68 big ice cubes or 6 pounds of ice at
a time and ejects them at the flip of a lever. It makes
Mes. dishes with amazing speed. It has generous
Former Leader Of Legion Auxiliary To Head NCTC Drive

Mrs. Melville Mucklestone of Chicago, former national president of the American Legion Auxiliary, has been elected president of the National Consumers Tax Commission, it was announced today at the organization's headquarters in Chicago.

Aren't you glad you're a Kentuckian?

Of course you've experienced the thrill, when you visit outside the State, of having people "look up to you" because you're from Kentucky!...And of course you're proud to be "from Kentucky"!...But do you know as much as you should about the things and places and people that have made Kentucky famous?...This summer, see Kentucky! If by any chance you come to Louisville, we'll be proud to welcome you at "The Brown". But Louisville or no Louisville—see Kentucky!

THE BROWN HOTEL. LOUISVILLE

HAROLD E. HARTER, Manager
FIRE DESTROYS CASKEY BUILDING;
DAMAGE ESTIMATED $75,000

Fire roared through the City hotel building, located in the heart of the business district, early Tuesday morning, leveling the three-story brick structure and causing property loss exceeding $50,000.

Volunteer fire fighters of the Morehead and Olive Hill fire departments fought the blaze for two hours before finally bringing it under control.

During the height of the fire, the entire central section of the business district was threatened and Fire Chief Lionel Fanning said that furnishings in his early Tuesday morning, leveling Caskey estimated that the loss to the Board of Health authorities and numerous volunteer agencies are rendering invaluable service. The citizens, on the whole, have cooperated wonderfully and have realized that they must be patient. The city administration asks for your continued cooperation and hopes that all citizens will realize that it will take time to bring about anything like complete restoration.

The attention fall is directed toward the danger of typhoid fever during a period such as this. The health authorities are inoculating everyone desiring it without charge. This work is being done at the public school building.

Mayor W. C. Lappin

CRACKERBARREL COMMENTS ...

By Woody Hinton

Thru tears dimmed eyes I will try and write this column.
I can't express the horrors and the living Hell we have been thru in the past few days.

As a rule I have always tried to have a smile in this column, but if you are looking for a smile this week you will be disappointed.

We are all foot-sore and weary, but we are getting thru. We are going to have a bigger and better Morehead. It will take time and patience, and plenty of hard work but we have it and we are coming thru.

I have seen people cry, men past middle age that have never cried, and could not cry. In just a short few hours they had lost all that they had struggled for in life. I had one man help me rescue folks, forgetting his own place of business and after we have saved the folks he said,

"Woody, there it is. I have slain twenty years, but I will never have it now. See there is my life's savings of forty-five thousand dollars gone. I am not a drinking man but for goodness sake get me a drink. All I have left is my friends and thank God I still have friends."

I would like water to my place of business with the water under my arms and I came out crying, but when I saw what happened to my friends, like Roscoe Hutchinson, Curt, Frank Havens, Noah Hall, Harvey Allen, Sam Allen and numerous others, besides the people that were drowned, I was only glad to take my loss and do what I could to help the others.

I want to thank the folks who are helping us from Maysville, Flemingsburg, Owingsville, Ashland, Greenup and all the others.

May God bless them, and we pray that we never have to experience anything like this again, or that we may never have to go thru anything like this. To the friends and relatives of the drowned and missing you have my sympathy from the bottom of my heart. I want to thank you all that are helping to feed and clothe the unfortunate.

PERSONALS

Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Caudill and son, Charles Dudley, Mr. and Mrs. Everett Randall spent Sunday at Stanton with Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Caudill.

Miss Amy Irene Moore, Miss Rebecca Thompson, Mr. Sam Bradley, and Mrs. Carl Coseley were guests of Miss Edna Neal at her home in Wilmore for the week-end.

Miss Annette Lee Sandman from Cincinnati is visiting her niece, Mrs. Robert Braden.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Anderson and children, Nellie and Albert, from Charleston, Illinois, are guests of Mrs. Otto Carr. Mr. and Mrs. Otto Carr, Mabel and Walter Carr, and their guests, Mrs. Tom Denriere of Dan, Kentucky, on Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Wheeler visited Mr. Joe Wheeler Sunday at Grayson.

Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Ledford of Mt. Sterling were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Young on the Fourth. Mrs. Ledford remained for a week's visit.

Guests of Mr. and Mrs. Eward Steiner on the Fourth were unannounced.

Dr. G. C. Nickell was taken to St. Joseph's hospital, Lexington, Thursday for an appendix operation.

Alpha Phi Omega, national fraternity, has donated a stone fire-place to the University of Wichi-
Notice

We request all persons who have safety deposit boxes to come to the bank immediately to see about them. All ledgers and records were saved.

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ANY YEAR, MAKE or MODEL
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Trail Theatre

SATURDAY
Double Feature
“GUNS IN THE DARK”
and
“THREE OF A KIND”
Serial and Comedy

SUNDAY AND MONDAY
KAY FRANCIS
in
“My Bill”
Selected Shorts

TUESDAY
KEN MAYNARD
in
“Smoking Guns”
Serial and Comedy

WEDNESDAY
“Secret Service of the Air”
starring
RONALD REGAN and ILA RHODES

THURSDAY AND FRIDAY
“Little Miss Thoroughbred”
Janet Chapman, Ann Sheridan and John Litel