

36 LIVES LOST IS STORM TOLL OVER FLORIDA

Unconfirmed Reports Add 100 Names To Death List.

38 KNOWN INJURED ARE IN HOSPITALS

Refugees Relate Stirring Stories Of Escape and Hardship.

MIAMI on Sept. 2, 5, 11 and 12.
Thirty-six persons are known to have lost their lives in the tropical hurricane which still is pursuing its destructive course over the Florida peninsula. Unconfirmed reports add at least 100 names to the death list. Only seven victims have been identified.

Last night American Red Cross officials and other relief workers had learned the identity of 38 injured persons, but this number is not believed to nearly approach the total, estimations reaching about 300.

The death toll is believed heaviest in the vicinity of Lake Okechobee, lashed by the storm early yesterday after the gale had swept in off the Atlantic coast, striking the lower East Coast between Pompano on the south and Kelsey City on the north with its full fury.

At Belle Glade, settlement on the southeastern shore of Lake Okechobee, 29 residents are known to have died, most of them by drowning in the flood waters of the lake. Word of the loss of life here was brought late last night by Homer Dixon and W. E. Meeker, members of a relief expedition.

One man is known to have been killed at Okechobee and others are believed to have lost their lives there. Meeker reports which seeped into Miami last night told of the lake region's conversion into an inland sea, with the waters of the lake raised high above normal level by the storm.

Injured persons at Belle Glade numbered at least 30. Dixon and Meeker told officials at Lake Worth. The water which flooded the lake shore town was reported rising rapidly. The town has a normal population of 500.

Dixon and Meeker, accompanied by Dr. J. T. Nelson and nurses, and O. M. Willis left Lake Worth for Belle Glade at 10 o'clock last night. They carried a first aid unit and other medical supplies.

From Miami W. H. Combs and L. Spach went to Hollywood where they joined the Hollywood American Legion Post commander. The party, piloting four light automobile trucks, left at once for Belle Glade to care for dead and injured.

Representatives from the undertaking establishments of Miami were in the party, including W. H. Combs, Jack Combs, J. P. Ulmer and Harold Johnson. Others were enroute in case of further call. Dr. J. A. B. Shuller went as medical aide. The committee believes more aid will be needed if conditions are as bad as reported in the towns of the lake district.

An additional rescue party will be mobilized at the Gulf Stream Hotel, Lake Worth, it was announced, and will proceed to the scene of the disaster as soon as possible.

From Pahokee, on the eastern shore of Lake Okechobee some distance north of Belle Glade, came reports that 10 white persons and 75 negroes had drowned when flood waters from the lake swirled over the settlement of 1,500 inhabitants, carrying away many houses and other structures in their strong currents. They were reported injured there.

This information was brought to Miami last night by James U. Grant, of 55 S. W. Twenty-first avenue, who was in Pahokee when the hurricane struck the town. Mr. Grant escaped uninjured and reached his Miami home after a perilous journey over flooded and debris filled highways.

At least 100 bodies of persons who lost their lives in the flood had been recovered at 4 o'clock yesterday. At noon, Mr. Grant said, the country side for miles on either side is inundated with the swirling waters from the lake.

Among those known to have died at Pahokee was Mrs. Andrew Smith, who is believed to have a son, Ernest Smith, residing in Miami. Mrs. Smith, Mr. Grant said, was torn from her husband's grasp as they attempted to make their way from their flooded home to a place of safety. She drowned in a deep culvert.

The storm, added Mr. Grant, struck the settlement late Sunday and raged for five hours. Then followed a lull for an hour, after which the gale was renewed with increased fury.

The water in Pelican bay, pushed away from the town during the first half of the storm, was swept back in increased volume when the second phase of the gale hit, blowing off the lake from the southeast.

Seventy-five per cent of the houses in the town were destroyed by the water or wind, Mr. Grant estimated. The Park View Hotel, in which he witnessed the first phase of the storm, was destroyed. It was a new frame building.

Mr. Grant and 19 companions, all with one exception, women and children sought shelter in a house which, during the second blow broke from its foundation and floated in the flood waters of Pelican river. Water in the room came up to Mr. Grant's chest. A bed was supported on chairs and the women placed on the bed. A hole was cut in the ceiling and small children were thrust through to save them.

The school house was being used yesterday to house refugees and to care for injured. A physician arrived in the town yesterday afternoon. Mr. Grant estimated at least 500 persons quartered in the school building, and thousands of negroes destitute.

Canal Point, three and a half miles north of Pahokee, is isolated. Mr. Grant said, and meager reports coming from that city indicate a repetition of the Moore Haven disaster of 1926. The Canal Point highway from its junction with the Conners highway is under water.

Mr. Grant was able to leave the devastated town when his son Vincent and Seth Perkins, both of Miami, forced their way through water which came over the running board of their motor car.

Immediate relief measures by the American Red Cross or some other agency was urged by Mr. Grant, who said residents were sadly in need of assistance.

So far as had been determined last night, the dead list in the section of the East Coast which felt the storm's wrath apparently will not be high. Sixteen persons were known to be dead in the vicinity of West Palm Beach, Red Cross officials stated positively.

Of these one woman was killed at Delray Beach, an infant boy at Kelsey City, a white man at West Palm Beach, a negro and his wife at Delray Beach and a negro boy at Deerfield. Five persons died at Jupiter and five more at Pahokee.

Howard W. Selby, chairman of the Red Cross chapter in West Palm Beach, said he believed others had lost their lives in the vicinity. It has been impossible to search all wreckage in the brief hours which have elapsed since the storm left the district in tatters.

A special unit was preparing to leave Miami this morning to effect the removal of injured persons and refugees in Canal Point, Pahokee and Belle Glade. Refugees from the Lake Okechobee district already are trickling into Lake Worth, where relief headquarters faces the problem of congestion.

The entire Everglades region in the vicinity of Belle Glade, Pahokee, Canal Point and the other towns on the lower shores of Lake Okechobee is one vast sheet of water from four to six feet deep and the settlers there are walking toward West Palm Beach, more than 50 miles away, destitute, hungry, almost too tired to walk and with no pure water to drink. Many were drowned in their homes when the hurricane struck that vicinity about 9 p. m. Sunday.

This is the tale brought to Miami last night by Robert D. Stevens, 690 N. W. Forty-fourth street, who drove his motor car within two miles of Belle Glade yesterday in search of his son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Alex C. Stevens.

The refugees from the lake vicinity struggling toward West Palm Beach, where they hoped to find food, water, shelter and clothing, pleaded with Mr. Stevens to give them a lift, but his motor car was already filled with the first ones he encountered.

Pahokee was badly hit by the hurricane, said Mr. Stevens, but Canal Point was more fortunate, while at Belle Glade only two houses remain standing, he was told. The town normally has a population of 500, said Mr. Stevens. Many are believed to have drowned or were injured.

Mr. Stevens estimated the number of refugees fleeing from the lower lake region toward West Palm Beach at 500, and said he has never seen a more pitiful sight than they presented as they trudged hopelessly through the downpour, their only possessions on their backs.

In driving from the edge of the Everglades, about 33 miles from West Palm Beach, Mr. Stevens at times encountered water 18 inches deep over the highway. His son and Mrs. Stevens succeeded in reaching Okechobee, which Mr. Stevens said was not badly damaged by the wind or water. Other employes of the R. C. Huffman Company, road contractor, succeeded in making their escape.

Mr. Stevens said he did not hear from Moore Haven or Clewiston or other towns on the southwest shore of the lake.

The hurricane is believed to have swept across the north or north-central part of Lake Okechobee. Terrific northeast or north winds would have driven a great body of water down on the Everglades at the lower edge of the lake and on far into what is known as the Lower Everglades, said Mr. Stevens.

The fate of many settlers of the Everglades is not known to their neighbors, Mr. Stevens said, as each person was forced to take care of himself and his family.

Records of the relief committee in West Palm Beach show that nearly 300 persons were treated in two emergency hospitals there up until last night. In Delray Beach a total of 100 injured persons were treated and at Boynton, 15, Miami Herald staff representatives learned during a comprehensive survey of the storm area.

Reports of the West Palm Beach relief committee had verified 20 deaths in West Palm Beach, five in Jupiter, one in Kelsey City, five in Pahokee and one in Deerfield. The Delray Beach police reported three persons killed there.

At the same time hundreds of homeless families were being taken care of in refugees homes both in West Palm Beach, Lake Worth, Boynton and Delray. Hotels, apartment houses, schools, churches and courthouses were thrown open for this purpose.

The hurricane, the intensity of which was estimated at more than 125 miles an hour at its height in West Palm Beach and of greater intensity in Delray Beach and vicinity, caused serious property damage along the coast towns from Stuart as far south as Pompano. Towns for many miles north of Stuart and south of Pompano were affected by the blow and reported lesser property damage.

In Palm Beach, famous winter resort, the storm raised havoc with hundreds of coconut and royal palms and caused a heavy property loss. The roofs on the wings of the new Breakers Hotel, off the Atlantic ocean, were tipped off and carried for several hundred feet by the wind.

Nearly a dozen cottages in the rear of the Poinciana Hotel were leveled and the main hotel building, of frame construction, also was damaged. Palm Beach police were informed that the east wing was badly shaken by the blow. The Alta Hotel on the northern point of the beach suffered severe water damage.

Many palatial homes were damaged to the extent of broken windows and doors. Most of them were unoccupied. Coconut trees were strewn across the many beautiful streets and many of those that defied the wind were stripped of their foliage. The wooden bridge from West Palm Beach to the beach was damaged only to the extent of shattered guards.

Hardly a residence or a business building in West Palm Beach escaped damage. Damage of thousands of dollars was caused to the Pennsylvania Hotel by water. Part of the roof of the Central Farmers Trust Company, West Palm Beach's one and only bank, was torn off and the interior of the institution drenched in water.

The tower of the old city hall, now the fire station, crumbled under the force of the wind but the fire bell rode out the blow and remained protruding out of the tower. The second floor of The Palm Beach Times building was demolished and the plant of The Palm Beach Post was badly damaged by water.

So complete was the destruction in the downtown stores that only a few had been able to open for business last night. A grocery store with its front blown out, opened for business as usual yesterday. Nearly all the

streets early yesterday following the storm had been moved yesterday to facilitate movement of traffic but there was still tons and tons of debris to be moved. The Crane building, on the bay front, was unroofed and practically all store fronts in the business district were demolished.

At Lake Worth the damage was similar. It was estimated that 50 per cent of the homes were damaged or blown down and that 75 per cent of the business district was damaged. Places for refugees were established in the Gulf Stream apartments, Florida East Coast Railway depot, the schools and at police headquarters.

Boynton shared the fate of Delray Beach by being in the center of the storm. Second stories of business houses were demolished and fully 75 per cent of the business buildings were destroyed. It was at Boynton that 15 persons, mostly children, were injured during the height of the storm when the roof of the high school auditorium fell in. The refugees were in the basement of the building and many of them were buried in tons of cement when the roof caused the floor of the auditorium to collapse. None were seriously injured.

Delray Beach is believed to have been the center of the storm. The Methodist, Episcopal and Lutheran churches were demolished and the First Baptist Church was badly damaged by water. The roof on the wings of the Alta Repp Hotel, the leading hostelry in the city, was ripped off. The ice plant, power plant, laundry and water plant also were damaged. At the beach the roof of the Seacrest Hotel was carried away and a garage blown down.

Despite the fact it was probably the hardest hit of the cities along the coast, residents were first to restore water service partially and electric light and power service yesterday. The downtown section was given water service yesterday afternoon and by nightfall last night electric light was supplied the Alta Repp Hotel, where more than 35 homeless families are being cared for.

Windows were shattered and the roof damaged on the Cloister Inn at Boca Raton. An adjoining frame building occupied as a restaurant and store was leveled. On the F. E. C. tracks directly across from the Cloister 22 freight cars of a train were thrown from their trucks into the ditch. One of the cars was a heavy steel flat car. A short way up the track a warehouse was demolished, exposing hundreds of tons of lime and cement.

At Deerfield several citizens estimated that more than 50 per cent of the homes were wrecked. With them went the town's post office, depot and an entire business block. Several stores withstood the blow and opened for business as usual yesterday.

The Florida East Coast railway was a heavy loser all along the path of the storm. The Florando station buckled under the strain, the roof of the Pompano station blew off and at Lanlana it was leveled.

Above West Palm Beach the storm damage was heaviest at Jupiter. The new state highway became impassable after the storm when a fill south of the bridge over the Earman river was damaged. Approximately 30 feet of fill was washed away. Cars were deloured over the old highway, where they encountered water a foot deep at places. Telegraph poles were all down for a distance of eight miles between West Palm Beach and Jupiter.

At Jupiter, where the West Palm Beach relief committee reported five deaths, six houses and several small shacks were leveled and three stores unroofed. Olympia suffered similar damage.

The intensity of the storm was not so great at Stuart. Several houses were unroofed and three garages leveled. Looting in West Palm Beach caused six arrests yesterday, Police Chief F. H. Matthews reported. As the result of the looting the police chief ordered all downtown streets cleared after

shutdown. Only persons armed with passes from the relief headquarters were permitted on the streets.

National Guard unit Company C volunteered their services early yesterday and by daybreak nearly a score of guardsmen in uniform and armed with rifles were at downtown street corners directing traffic.

Hundreds of Miamians and citizens of other cities outside of the storm area visited West Palm Beach yesterday and as a result the streets were jammed with traffic. The constant stream of automobiles, interrupted frequently by an ambulance or police patrol wagon sounding a shrill siren, gave an air of uncertainty to the streets.

Drinking water, which has been at a premium since the storm, was about to be restored yesterday afternoon, but service was delayed when a water main burst. A second attempt to restore service was made later and this time an automatic fire sprinkler went off in one of the downtown arcades, wrecked by the storm.

Restoration of electric light and power service will probably take two weeks.

The Miami relief train, bearing Col. G. M. Duncan, as the special representative of the City of Miami to ascertain the needs of and offer assistance to West Palm Beach and Palm Beach, arrived in West Palm Beach at 8 a. m., but did not pass that city until 10:30 because of the debris which had to be cleared from the tracks by the work train sent up from Miami at 5 p. m. Sunday. Colonel Duncan's train, caught the work train at Pompano at 12:30 a. m. and from that point on proceeded slowly in its wake.

Arriving at Deerfield, Colonel Duncan found nearly all the small frame houses there smashed. P. L. Hinson, farmer, was badly injured when his house blew away while he was in it. J. E. Groover said that he received a fracture of a rib when thrown among debris of his house. A box car was hurled down the track and almost a whole train of empty freight cars blown off their tracks and into the ditch beside the tracks. The trucks were left on the rails.

At Boca Raton freight cars were blown off the tracks and at Yamata the railroad station was leveled to the ground. All houses in Delray Beach and Lanlana, including the railroad stations, were reported badly damaged.

The Lake Worth Lumber yard and the Gulf Stream and Warner City furniture storage warehouse were wrecked and their contents hurled into a huge pile of debris.

J. H. Short, section foreman at Boynton, received an injury to his leg while placing railroad signals during the storm and lay for an hour under a box car before he could move, he said. He and Mrs. Short and their three adopted children, Emily, 12; Harry, 9, and Grady, 6, with their esquinio spitz dog abandoned their home as it was giving way to the wind and crawled into a box car.

At the outskirts of Lake Worth huge trees were twisted and newly set telegraph poles felled across the railroad tracks knotting their twisted and broken wires around pieces of debris from wrecked homes which covered the ground on both sides of the right-of-way. Large pieces of tin with knife-like edges were imbedded in the tops of poles and trees. Refugees crowded into the railroad station reported no dead but more than 100 injured.

Buildings were taken into the air, turned upside down and then smashed onto the roofs of other houses. Planks torn from some homes were hurled with such force against the sides of others that walls were punctured like cardboard. The stucco building of the Long Distance Bottling Works at South Palm Beach was taken off its foundation and crushed. Large sections of roofs sailed for distances of more than 200 feet through the air. Telegraph poles were broken off like match sticks.

Then the train pulled into the center of the storm damage, West Palm Beach. Smashed automobiles

Continued on Page 2.

MIAMI PROMPT TO GIVE AID IN STRICKEN AREA

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OBSERVERS TELL EXTENT OF LOSS

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Hundreds of loaves of bread, gallons of milk, pounds of coffee and sugar, blankets, coats and medical supplies were rushed into the damaged area yesterday and last night as fast as authentic reports were brought to relief headquarters in the office of H. H. Arnold, director of public safety.

James H. Gilman, chairman, who called the first meeting of citizens Sunday afternoon as soon as definite information was received that the storm would strike the coast, left yesterday morning with C. H. Reeder, and John C. Knight, city commissioners and Guy Stom, to make a detailed survey of the stricken area.

Alexander Orr, vice chairman, took charge of the relief work in the absence of Mr. Gilman.

Details of members of Harvey Seeds Post, American Legion and Miami police rode into the teeth of the storm Sunday night, fighting their way as far north as West Palm Beach to ascertain the extent of the damage and to determine the help necessary. Their reports to the central committee were the basis of the relief work.

The first unit of the organization left Miami yesterday morning when a special train, including two private cars of Senator Joe T. Robinson, Democratic nominee for vice president, departed for West Palm Beach. Medical supplies and food, doctors, nurses and members of the American Legion formed the expedition under direction of Dr. A. W. Ziebold, general manager of the Miami Chamber of Commerce.

After a tour of the area, Dr. Ziebold last night had established headquarters at Lake Worth, which city with Delray Beach, seemed to have suffered more than any of the smaller cities.

Boca Raton suffered damage to two garages and several houses were demolished. Ten freight cars and a flat car were turned over on the Florida East Coast railway. A Mrs. Butler, according to the report, fed 100 persons, yesterday morning and asked for food relief as her supply was exhausted. Food and clothing were needed.

Delray Beach, according to Mr. Combs, was demolished and the condition there characterized as "serious." Lieut. Col. L. E. Goodrich, a member of the Miami relief expedition, was reported sending 35 children to Miami last night to be cared for until arrangements could be made in Delray Beach.

At least 100 persons will be brought to Miami from this town alone, Mr. Combs said.

Three persons were reported killed there and it was impossible to determine the number injured. Food and clothing are badly needed.

A mother with several small children are in a hotel in Delray with no clothing except their night clothes, Mr. Combs reported, emphasizing the situation there.

At Boynton, six were reported injured, and the homeless are being cared for at the Woman's club. The town suffered high property damage.

Relief work has been fairly well organized at West Palm Beach, relief headquarters reported last night, but it was impossible to obtain much information. The property damage was heavy. Three were reported dead and many injured. The hospital there was damaged by the storm and the Pennsylvania Hotel is being used as a temporary hospital.

Dr. W. A. Claxton, chief of the

THE DEAD

Mrs. Julia White, 76, Delray Beach, killed by a falling fireplace and chimney.

Infant Nelma, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Nelma, Kelsey City. Killed when he was torn from his father's arms by the wind. His body was not found until yesterday noon.

John Anderson Blaylock, 46, a native of Cumberland county, Tenn. Killed at Westgate when he was struck by a part of a roof.

Will Jones, negro, Delray Beach, killed when his house collapsed on him.
Ellin Jones, wife of Will Jones, met the same fate as her husband.
Westbrooks, 8-year-old negro boy, drowned in a ditch south of Deerfield, when he and his mother and infant brother attempted to seek refuge.
Five persons in Jupiter, unidentified.
Five persons in Pahokee, unidentified.

THE INJURED

G. Mehel, Lake Worth, both hips fractured.

John D. Stelle, Lake Worth, compound fractured right ankle.

Mrs. Edna Williams, Lake Worth, fractured left ankle.

Ward Cone, Lake Worth, fractured right arm.

Robert W. Boyce, Lake Worth, slight lacerations of head.

Mrs. Ertha Boyce, Lake Worth, serious lacerations to face, shock.

Virginia Jones, 7, Lake Worth, fractured right shoulder.

Mrs. Emma Hawkins, Lake Worth, injuries and shock.

Archie McKenzie, negro, Lake Worth, injury to left hip.

Mrs. J. Welmen, West Palm Beach, lacerated leg.

Mrs. James Blaylock, West Palm Beach, lacerations about head and body.

Charles Weingardner, Boynton, injured foot.

Mrs. Nellie Weingardner, Boynton, lacerated scalp and minor injuries.

Fred Nelma, Kelsey City, bruises and lacerations.

E. R. Farrell, West Palm Beach, bruises.

Dr. W. S. Moore, Palm Beach, fractured arm.

W. J. Mayfield, Kelsey City, lacerations.

Mrs. Mary True, West Palm Beach, right hand lacerated.

W. B. Covar and Mrs. D. Covar, West Gate, fractured legs.

W. F. Guidding, West Palm Beach, injury of legs.

P. H. Lazira, West Palm Beach, injury of foot.

A. M. Hunter, Riviera, dislocation of shoulder, lacerations of left side.

Mrs. S. W. Wright, West Palm Beach, laceration of head.

J. B. Foster, West Palm Beach, cut in chest.

C. H. Allen, West Palm Beach, lacerated hand.

J. B. Smith, West Palm Beach, lacerations.

L. E. Prather, West Palm Beach, lacerated hands and knees.

Mrs. F. L. Porter, West Palm Beach, fractures of both legs and head lacerations.

Clinton Brandt, West Palm Beach, lacerated arm.

SOUTH FLORIDA LOSS IN STORM IS \$25,000,000

Tropical Disturbance Recurves Eastward In Direction of Jacksonville.

WIND HESITATES ON BRINK OF GULF

Erratic Course Northeastward Is Reported Early This Morning.

Damage approaching \$25,000,000 in south Florida alone was left in the wake of the tropical storm which for a week has been curving its destructive path from a point in the Caribbean Sea, southeast of Porto Rico to the peninsula of Florida.

Estimates of the property loss in central and northern Florida, most recently visited by the hurricane, were impossible last night.

Early today the storm menaced Jacksonville, north Florida's leading seaport and artery of commerce, after spending yesterday in twisting and turning its way from the southern peninsula westward, northward and then northeastward.

Weather reports indicated that the gale, after threatening to lash itself into the Gulf of Mexico near Tampa, remained almost stationary for several hours many miles east of the West Coast city. Then it resumed its journey, heading northward through the central part of the state.

As it proceeded it curved to the northeast and at 8 o'clock last night was reported to be central at a point between Cedar Keys and Jacksonville, but nearer the latter. It was expected to reach the vicinity of Savannah, Ga., some time this morning.

Central Florida, north of Okechobee, is a rich citrus and truck belt, and damage to the fruit and crops in the area affected by the gale is expected to be heavy. The Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company reported that its wires to Jacksonville went down early last night. Delayed by radio it was hours before Miami learned that Jacksonville reported a 60-mile wind during the evening.

Howard W. Selby, chairman of the American Red Cross chapter at West Palm Beach last night estimated that the property loss in the city would total \$10,000,000 and that the damage in Palm Beach county outside of the city would total \$10,000,000 also.

Loss is confined largely to buildings, most of them dwellings, although many small business structures in the towns struck by the storm either were leveled or partially damaged. Trees and shrubbery were badly hit.

No large buildings were reported destroyed but many of them, especially those in West Palm Beach which was near the storm center, were severely damaged.

Lake Worth was in a serious condition, Mr. Combs said. The property loss there was high and it was impossible to get an estimate of the number injured. No deaths were reported. Hundreds are homeless and clothing and food, together with medical supplies are needed at once. Stores in Lake Worth have been supplying persons there, but have reported that they fear they will be in need within 24 hours. Ambulance service has been established and sick and injured are being cared for.

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Miamians Asked to Aid

An appeal to Miamians for cash donations, which will be used entirely to purchase food and medical supplies for sufferers in the storm-stricken area, was issued early this morning by James H. Gilman, chairman of the citizens' relief committee, on his return from a survey of the storm district.

The financial situation is acute in the area and inability of the local relief organizations to communicate with Red Cross headquarters in Washington is working a hardship, he said. "Immediate funds are needed. All labor and transportation needs are being taken care of, and none of the contributions received will be used for administrative purposes."

Checks should be sent to James H. Gilman, chairman of the Miami Red Cross citizens' relief committee.