

TWO KILLED AT BUFFALO HART BY TORNADO THAT HIT CORNLAND

Additional News Taken From Other Newspaper Clippings

Some clippings from various newspapers have this to say about 1927 tornado that killed 6 in this area and two at Buffalo Hart:

Unseen Hand

A Kind Providence seemed to guide persons here or there so that their lives were saved. Henry Ford stepped out to close the south door of his store, and saw the walls give way. He stepped into a cellarway near him. He was saved though Frank McCue was killed and Clark Gaffney seriously injured as they were pinned under the wreckage and had to be chopped out.

Chas. Davis, barber, was out of his shop at the time and probably escaped death. Curt Arney and Bob Bryson were standing in the door of the garage and found refuge quickly in the battery room of the light plant. Mrs. D. W. Lanham says something seemed to tell her to walk across to another corner of the room, and as she did, a large stove fell over where she had been standing. John Smith brought Mrs. Smith from the kitchen and then shoved her on the porch. Being on the porch probably saved their lives.

Freaks of the Storm

There were some other remarkable incidents that showed up. On a farm east of Cornland, a board was driven through a tree. One of the tiles from the State Bank of Cornland passed through the house of Mrs. Mary C. Lanham and dropped into the basement. A cockle burr was driven into the bark of a tree in another place.

At the home of C. F. Lanham, a barn and corn crib were picked up and carried away but a new Chevrolet car was left standing practically undamaged. At Lanham's a feather quill was driven into a beam. At the Miss Anna Brachear home the brush end of a broom was driven into the house and couldn't be pulled out. Miss Lulu Lanham's cat, "Smok-ey Nose", was blown into the top of a tree and caught under a limb.

Children Scattered in Field

After leaving Cornland where the tornado spread death and desolation, it leveled a dozen farm residences while the pupils in the Oakland school south of Lake Fork escaped serious injury. 27 of the pupils were scattered by the wind into adjoining fields but only three had minor injuries.

Among the farm homes that were destroyed in the Lake Fork area were those of Bill Bryson, Jr., Bill Hardin, Hugh Flynn, Bill Holmes, and A. C. Buckles.

KILL TWO AT BUFFALO HART

The storm also struck Buffalo Hart about the same time it hit Cornland. Here Charles Crabtree, county road employe, and Harold Lewis Hardy, 5, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Hardy, were killed. Every house in the town was wrecked, the huge grain elevator turned over, two box cars turned on their side and many trees blown down.

Special Relief Train

Under the direction of Adj. Gen. Carlos E. Black, a special relief train was run over the Illinois Central from Springfield to Buffalo Hart and Cornland. The special loaded with a corps of doctors and nurses from St. John's hospital, left the city at 6 o'clock for a speedy run to the stricken towns.

Those on the special train included Nurses Imning, Pilgrim, Cook, Caulser, Kramer, Hartman, Copp, Doyle, Obcamp, Jansen, Melhick, Keck and Wirt; and the Doctors M. G. Owen, Robert Woodruff, Southwick, H. McNamara, Flentje, Henry Aschauer, and R. C. Cook, of the state board of health.

MANY HOSPITALIZED

Those in serious condition at the St. John's hospital were: Mrs. Jennie Hardy, 43, Buffalo

Hart, injured back and right leg. Mrs. Caroline Nelson, 41, Buffalo Hart, injured right hip and severe scalp injury.

Everett Eugene Hardy, 6 weeks old, Buffalo Hart, internal injuries and about head.

Clark Gaffney, 40, Williamsville, crushed chest.

Others taken to hospital: Lewis Ramthum, 22 Cornland, lacerated scalp.

Mrs. Belle McWhorter, 35, Buffalo Hart, injured right eye and left leg.

Eli Nelson, 51, Buffalo Hart, bruised shoulder and scalp laceration.

George McWhorter, 45, Buffalo Hart, right shoulder fractured.

Elizabeth Anderson, 16, Chestnut, laceration of scalp.

Mrs. Zepha McIntyre, 36, Cornland, bruised abdomen.

Orval McIntyre, 4, cut, bruised.

Lewis Hardy, 47, Buffalo Hart, fractured left ankle.

Clarence Leroy Hardy, 2, Buffalo Hart, bruises and cuts.

Willard McWhorter, 16, Buffalo Hart, fractured left arm.

Margaret Erlenbush, 10, Lake Fork, injured right leg.

Lawrence French, 12, Mount Pulaski, injured leg.

James McWhorter, 4, Buffalo Hart, head and shoulder injury.

Three persons were taken to the Springfield hospital:

Francis McVicker, 15, Chestnut, lacerated scalp.

Phyllis Lakin, 16, Chestnut, right leg injured.

Lauren Emery, 18, Maroa, had bruised right knee.

TORNADO OF 1883 PLAYED HAVOC WITH HOMES IN LAKE FORK AREA

One Family Carried By Wind, Deposited In Top of Tree

In April, May and June, of 1883, there were a number of lines of tornadoes developed in different sections of the West. One of these lines passed thru Logan county. Southeastern Logan county was in the track of one of the storms, which in its severity and resulting damage and loss of life, was the most disastrous storm that Logan county ever experienced in its history. Near Lake Fork, the storm struck the house of Thomas Chandler, completely wrecking it and hurling its inmates out into the fury of the storm. Mrs. Chandler, who was an invalid, died the same night from the effects of the storm. An infant child was carried three miles away from the house, where it was subsequently found dead.

The house of Ben Keck was also destroyed, being carried entirely away, Miss Anna Lanham having her skull fractured.

Hamilton Copeland's house was unroofed and the cornice of the building carried a distance of five miles. John D. Copeland's barn was wrecked and 5 vehicles demolished and blown away.

The Muldoon bridge at Lake Fork was destroyed, the fury of the storm being evidenced by the fact that the mudsills of the bridge, which were three feet underground, were pulled up with the rest of the structure.

The house of Peter Shaver, across the Lake Fork and near the Illiopolis bridge, was absolutely destroyed, not a timber being left. Mr. and Mrs. Shaver and infant child were carried into the air and deposited unhurt, in the branches of a tree.

Isaac Joslyn's house was also destroyed, Mrs. Joslyn being seriously injured. In this vicinity, orchards were mowed down like weeds, and many buildings were leveled, livestock killed and vehicles and implements blown to pieces and the fragments scattered about the country.

From Lake Fork, the storm moved up to the section of the county near Latham, where an incalculable amount of damage was done, but no lives lost. The residence of D. Gordon was blown to atoms. Tenant houses belong-

Five Killed In Car Crash At Riedle Corner

(Aug. 24, 1950)

Death failed to take a holiday Friday morning about 9 o'clock when it took the lives of five persons bound for the Illinois State Fair in Springfield. The holiday ended for two men, a woman, a boy, and a girl, at the Riedle corner, when the Mercury car they were traveling in, crashed into the rear of a farm stock trucks belonging to Claude Litterly, residing southwest of Mt. Pulaski.

Killed instantly were: Bary Franklin, 65, of Clay City, and his son Wendell, 36, of Deland, driver of the car. Joyce Rita Weidner, 14, of Clay City, niece of the elder Franklin, and Mrs. Margaret Ellen Back, 23, of Deland, formerly of Olney, both died enroute to a Lincoln hospital in the Schahl ambulance. Keith Franklin, 13, son of Wendell Franklin, lived until 4:45 that afternoon, when he died of injuries, at the St. Clara's hospital.

Roscoe Ealey, 46, driver of the Litterly truck, escaped uninjured, but the two horses he was transporting, were so badly injured that one of them died shortly after the accident and other had to be killed.

In Africa, some of the native tribes practice the strange custom of beating the ground with clubs and uttering wild, blood-curdling yells. Anthropologists call this a form of primitive self-expression. In America, we call it GOLF.

"More Storm Disaster Pictures In Cornland Tornado of 1927



POORDO SCHOOL (later Oakland school), also destroyed in Cornland tornado in 1927.



HUGH FLYNN COUNTRY HOME southeast of Cornland which was wrecked by the devastating Cornland tornado in 1927.



BILLY HOLMES FARM HOME which was destroyed in Cornland tornado of 1927, southwest of here.

CRILAND HOME IN CORNLAND WRECKED BY TORNADO



HEAVY DAMAGE was done to the Carl Criland home in the northwest part of Cornland in the 1927 tornado that took six lives in Logan County and two lives at Buffalo Hart in Sangamon.