

RED 'LEVELLING OFF'

Valley Floods Critical

Red river valley floods continued in a critical state Sunday.

A valley survey by the Free Press and an official statement by a government spokesman left no doubt of this.

"Continued rise of the Red river at Emerson in the past 24 hours... (makes it)... impossible to predict when the crest of the river would hit Winnipeg because of the continued rise to the south."

On-the-spot observers stated the flood levels rose at Letellier, Morris, St. Jean Baptiste.

As soon as there is a drop at Emerson, Mr. Stephens said, the engineers will be able to give a "fair idea" of when the crest will pass north to Winnipeg.

As it does, each of the flooded towns in its way will be seeing the beginning of the end of their troubles.

Two Dangers

The deputy minister named two "great dangers" of the next two weeks that applied to the valley towns as well as the provincial capital.

1. Heavy rains and wind. 2. A danger period following the passing of the final crest.

Last week's rain was responsible for the four-foot rise in the river—even with good weather and no sudden rise, the situation would remain critical for some time but there was a fair chance the river might be contained, he added.

After the crest there would be a levelling-off and perhaps a slight drop. This was a "second danger" point as there would be tendency to relax work on dikes at the "very time it would most be needed."

Dikes Important

The deputy minister said that even with a drop in the river there was a danger of heavy dikes sinking and settling below their present levels.

At the same time, a survey that extended from Winnipeg to the Duck Mountains in north-western Manitoba, indicated, but did not prove, that as yet the Assiniboine has no plans to invade the Red with further flood waters.

Heavy run-offs had been predicted that would swell the Souris and Assiniboine and also the already bursting Red.

But reports from reserve officials, engineers and others cast an eye on the mountain snowfall and Assiniboine levels hardly bore these out.

Complicating a definite forecast were recorded increases

See RURAL FLOOD Page 3

Claxton Sees For Himself; Lauds Effort

Hon. Brooke Claxton, minister of national defence, Sunday inspected flooded areas of Greater Winnipeg before holding a conference with Canada's army, navy and air force chiefs.

"Discussed at the parley were further steps which might be taken by the services in combatting the floods.

Mr. Claxton explained he was not here at the request of the provincial government or to formulate federal aid measures, but merely to see the situation first-hand and to express my personal appreciation for the work being done by service personnel."

The minister said he was "greatly impressed" by his incoming flight over the flood scene. "One has to see it in this way to appreciate the miracle of human effort, being put into it."

The R.C.A.F. North Star carrying Mr. Claxton and his party flew in along the Minnesota-Manitoba boundary to Emerson and up the Red river to Lake Winnipeg before setting down at Stevenson field Saturday.

Members Of Party

With him was Lt.-Gen. Charles G. Foulkes, chief of the general staff; Maj.-Gen. F. F. Worthington, co-ordinator of civil defence; and David Mansur, president of Central Mortgage and Housing corporation.

On his arrival Mr. Claxton met with Brig. R. E. A. Morton, director of flood control, Hon. Stuart Garson, minister of justice, and flood officials.

Sunday, with the arrival of Air Marshal W. A. Curtis, chief of air staff, Mr. Claxton held a top-level conference of the three services.

Also participating was Gen. Foulkes and Vice-Admiral H. T. W. Grant, chief of naval staff, who has been here several days.

Mr. Claxton will return to Ottawa tonight.



Flood waters of the Red river scored a major victory early Saturday when they forced the civilian volunteer and army workers shown here, to give up their battle to re-open Norwood bridge, a key link between Winnipeg and St. Boniface. This picture of the flood-fighters knee deep in water plugging the dike was taken shortly before Brigadier O. M. M. Kay announced that the uneven struggle at this point was being given up.

Alexander In Winnipeg; To Inspect Flood Area

Informally was the order of the day when Viscount Alexander of Tunis, governor-general of Canada, arrived at the Canadian Pacific railway station Sunday, for a one-day inspection tour of the city.

Wearing civies — a grey pin-striped suit, and brown fedora—Viscount Alexander returned the salute of Group Captain G. H. Sellers, as he stepped off the train.

Aide For Trip

Group-Captain Sellers will be his aide on the trip through the flood area. Travelling with Viscount Alexander was Flight Lieutenant A. A. Sherlock, Toronto.

The governor-general spent some minutes on the platform, chatting with former councillor J. H. Graham and his brother, J. M. Graham, whom he knew in North

Brandon. Asks For More—'We're Ready'

BRANDON, May 14 (Special)—Colonel Sid McLennan, officer commanding the 26th Field Regiment here, has a beef.

"We've only had 400-odd sent out here from the flood-stricken capital so far, and we have more than 1,000 additional beds set up and arrangements completed to handle many more," Col. McLennan told the Free Press.

"Brandon residents have offered their cottages at Clear Lake for use of evacuees, and have even gone up personally to prepare them for the influx," Col. McLennan said.

Exodus Disappointing; Officials Urge Haste

Flood control authorities expressed disappointment Sunday over the number of people who have moved out of Winnipeg since the order for partial evacuation was issued. They urged that the exodus be stepped up.

During Friday and Saturday 28,000 persons left the city according to estimates made by flood control headquarters. On Friday 14,920 travelled out of Winnipeg by rail, air, bus and private car. Saturday the total was 13,072.

"The figures are disappointing and we would like to see more move away from the city," Brig. R. E. A. Morton, director of flood control and relief told a press conference Sunday morning.

The authorities declined to estimate the total number who have been moved out of their homes by the flood and who are now living in temporary accommodations in other parts of Manitoba and other provinces. Best guess is that the total exceeds 70,000 persons for the past week. It may reach one-third the city's population by early next week.

Appeal By Officials

Both Premier D. L. Campbell and Brig. Morton have urged that there be "no let-up in the exodus." The mass movement was continuing Sunday with railway depots, bus terminals and the airfield crowded

with people waiting to join the trek out of Winnipeg.

The trains leaving Winnipeg for east and west had extra coaches of evacuees. Most of the regular trains had two sections.

The airlift carrying refugees to other parts of Canada, in many cases hospital patients and elderly people, continued to operate Sunday. However the airlift carrying supplies to the city had slowed down as stockpiles of sandbags grew steadily larger.

Premier Campbell in a radio broadcast Saturday night said the authorities were glad so many people had responded to the request that women, children and elderly people voluntarily evacuate the city. But he stressed that they wanted many more to go.

"It takes courage to leave a home on short notice and under such conditions," he said. "The women of our province are showing that theirs is of the strongest."

The picture in Greater Winnipeg was as follows:

St. Vital's entire population of approximately 20,000 people has been moved out.

Fort Garry has seen more than 5,000 moved out. This includes the Wildwood district. Fort Garry's population is approximately 7,000. Only men and a small number of women and children remain.

Continued rise of the Red river forced the authorities to order the evacuation of residents in the Norwood bridge area. More than 1,000 persons were affected in the 30 blocks. The majority had already made plans to move or had moved out of their homes.

By Saturday another 2,000 residents had left their homes in the St. Boniface and Norwood districts. Sunday rescue parties had almost completed the task of evacuating families in the outlying districts along the Seine river.

St. Boniface has had more than 10,000 persons flee from the advancing waters. It was estimated by E. A. Hansford, C.C.F. member of the legislature for St. Boniface, in West Kildonan several hundred.

See EXODUS Page 3

Might Not Go Above 31 Feet Says Hurst

Flood experts Sunday expressed optimism over the slow rise of the Red river in the past 24 hours. At 11 a.m. Sunday the level had stood at 30.2 feet above datum for 14 hours. D. M. Stephens, provincial deputy minister of mines and natural resources said Sunday at a press conference that the Red river was "levelling off" in the Greater Winnipeg area. "But, we are not saying it has reached its crest," he added.

Traffic Arteries

LATEST REPORTS

ELM PARK—Closed, barricaded, condemned and weighted with ballast.

LOUISE—Open to trucks and emergency vehicles only; diking in progress between bridge and subway on Higgins avenue.

MAIN—Closed and barricaded.

MARION-SEINE—Ramped; open to all traffic; under military control.

MARYLAND—Open to all traffic; water on south approach; diking and pumping in progress.

NORWOOD—Closed to all but amphibious vehicles.

OSBORNE—Open to all traffic; diking and pumping at south approach.

PROVENCHEUR—Gravelled ramp nearing completion; opening to traffic Sunday.

PROVENCHEUR-SEINE—Closed.

REDWOOD—Open to all traffic.

ST. JAMES—Open to all traffic.

ELLICE AVENUE (Omand's creek)—Open to all traffic.

Subways

ANNABELLA—Closed and barricaded.

ARLINGTON—Open to all traffic, but rough.

BERGEN OUT-OF—By-pass open to essential traffic; military checking all vehicles.

ELGIN—High water; impassable to cars; trucks may get through.

HIGGINS-LOUISE—Open to emergency traffic; water down slightly.

MCPHILLIPS—Closed and barricaded.

MAIN-HIGGINS—Open to all traffic; two or three inches of water; pumping.

OSBORNE—Closed and barricaded; detours possible.

PEMBINA—Closed and barricaded; by-pass open to two-way traffic.

ROSS—High water; impassable to cars; trucks may get through.

ST. JAMES—Open to emergency traffic; holes in east lane; pumps holding water level.

SHERBROOK—Closed and barricaded.

TECUMSEH—High water; impassable to cars; trucks may get through.

Streets and Avenues

ARCHIBALD—Open to all traffic; water again at Mission.

ASSINIBOINE—Flooded between Fort and Kennedy.

BALMOHAL—Flooded from Whitehall to Broadway.

BELL—Flooded from Main to Wood.

BROADWAY—Flooded between Osborne and Colony; diked at Osborne.

EASTGATE—Flooded.

DUNSMUIR—Flooded from Mayfair to River avenue.

HARKNESS—Flooded from Mayfair to Steadbrook; closed.

HUGO—Flooded between Corydon and Wellington crescent.

JESSIE—Flooded at Osborne intersection.

JURILEE—Flooded from Riverside to Daly; passable.

MAYFAIR—Flooded from Main to Harkness; closed.

MIDDLEGATE—Flooded.

OSBORNE—Flooded but passable between Broadway and point halfway to Whitehall.

PALMERSTON—Flooded from Woiseley to Home.

PARKER—Rough but passable from Pembina highway to Cambridge.

RIVER AVENUE—Flooded from Main to Wood; barricaded.

District Highways

NORTH WINNIPEG—Area bounded by Red river on east, St. Cross on west, city limits on north and Atlantic on south flooded; water extends along many streets intersecting St. Cross and west of that street; area barricaded.

POINT DOUGLAS—Area bounded by Canadian Pacific railway tracks on south, Higgins on east, Red river on north and Grove on west flooded; Sutherland open from Main to Euclid; ramp at Winnipeg Electric company gas works.

RIVERVIEW—Area bounded by Red river on north, south and east, and generally in line with Hay street on west flooded.

WOLESELEY AREA—Edmonton and Woiseley flooded from east and Red river on west barricaded and closed to all but emergency traffic and residents not yet evacuated; Harrison from Kelvin to Glenwood crescent closed to all but emergency and resident traffic.

BUSINESS AND WHOLESALE—Area bounded by and including Water, Victoria, Bannatyne and Red river, including Mill street, flooded; flooding along Notre Dame east, Portage east, Lombard; McDermott barricaded between Roric and Main; pumping.

Canora to Evanson; Woiseley flooded from Newman to Raglan road; some intersecting streets partly flooded.

ARMSTRONG'S POINT—All streets flooded.

Public Service

At the request of flood control authorities, the Winnipeg Press will carry the publishing this special Sunday flood edition to assist the public in information regarding flood conditions.

This special edition is being distributed free of charge in the Greater Winnipeg district only.

Flood Finance Talks Take Place Tonight

First steps toward untangling of flood finances will be taken Sunday evening when city representatives meet with Premier D. L. Campbell and Hon. Stuart Garson, federal minister of justice.

The cost of flood defences, most of which has been born by the city of Winnipeg, has been reported as "running into millions."

"We hope we can get this straightened out tonight," declared Alderman E. C. Simonite, the city's finance committee chairman, Sunday.

SEEPAGE WATER DANGEROUS

Several reports have reached flood control headquarters that numerous children are paddling in seepage water in the Elmwood district. Both army and civilian medical authorities strongly warn against such practices. There is every danger of disease in seepage water.

Win Best Drama Plaque

CALGARY, May 14 (CP)—The Dominion Drama festival plaque for the best French play went to Le Cercle Moliere from St. Boniface. The group presented the Moliere comedy L'Avare.

Temperatures

Temperature readings during the 24-hour period ending at 6:30 a.m. Sunday

Table with 4 columns: Location, Min., Max., Precip. Rows include Vancouver, Calgary, Regina, Swift Current, Saskatoon, Winnipeg, Brandon, St. James, Churchill, Fort William, Toronto, Montreal, and Halifax.

Legend

TODAY'S LEVEL 48 PEAK 23'4 FLOOD LEVEL

One of the biggest initial problems during the rehabilitation, the committee was told, will be the clearing of blocked sewers.

Other rehabilitation jobs will include the pumping-out and washing-down of residential basements.

It was pointed out at the meeting that some form of police control will have to be organized to prevent people from returning too early to their homes.

Here are the other highlights of the flood control meeting:

1. The power situation was described as being completely under control.

"We are down to the simple process of controlling and sealing dikes. We have got to the point where we can almost forget the power situation," declared both E. V. Caton, chief engineer for the Winnipeg Electric, and J. W. Sanger, city hydro manager.

Mr. Sanger added that his only problem was with local cable breaks, particularly in the Main street to Donald street, Portage avenue to York avenue area.

2. Dr. M. S. Lougheed, medical officer, reported that some 70,000 citizens have received inoculations for typhoid up to Saturday night.

Dr. Lougheed emphasized that there was "not much prospect of typhoid here."

He also reported that 500 aged and infirm people, most of them stretcher cases, have been evacuated from the city by special trains and planes.

The flood control committee, at Dr. Lougheed's suggestion, ordered several trucks released from hauling duties for garbage collection purposes.

3. It was agreed that the morale of Winnipeggers would be greatly improved if the theatres were allowed to be open. The flood control committee decided to take the necessary action.

4. Mayor Garnet Coulter, at the authorization of the committee, flew over the province's flooded areas on a reconnaissance tour.

5. Priority traffic will be allowed on the Provencheur bridge by Sunday night. A. J. Taunton, deputy city engineer, informed the committee.

6. Military authorities will be urged by the city flood control committee to take steps to evacuate the area bounded by Brazier, Kelvin, Johnson, and Midwinter in Elmwood.

7. The city at large "will have

See CITY FLOOD Page 3