

Clean-Up Work at Oelwein Under Way

(Continued from Page 1.) Mayor Sam Mazzotti, 49, to discuss the town's needs.

After surveying the town both from a helicopter and from a car, Hughes said, "I was really relieved that the damage wasn't more extensive than it was. This will require a total community effort to recover from a shock like this." However, he added, "I have confidence in Oelwein as I do in other communities."

The governor told officials that he had declared Oelwein and Maynard disaster areas making them eligible for "some help, but not enough" from the federal government. He pledged all state help available, including such things as equipment and personnel from the highway and conservation commissions.

Mazzotti told the governor that he estimated the damage at \$14 million.

Many Houses He estimated that half of Oelwein's 2,600 houses were damaged and "hundreds of them were destroyed". He said most of the town's 350 business places were damaged or destroyed. Oelwein's population is 8,252.

But Mazzotti said, "This town will come back." He has called a meeting of all business owners to discuss ways of reopening damaged stores and he has asked for state and federal aid.

"I'm going to urge all business men to rebuild," he said.

Curfew Until further notice Mazzotti has ordered a curfew from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. daily. People who must move around town during the daytime are asked to get passes from members of the highway patrol.

Most people are staying close to home without being told to. Mazzotti said, "The people of Oelwein are still in shock today."

Volunteer help and equipment poured into Oelwein Wednesday evening. But Mazzotti said Thursday that trucks and power saws are still needed.

Volunteers Volunteers were put to work at first using heavy machinery to open streets to Mercy hospital. About the same time a house-to-house search party was organized to check all buildings for dead or injured.

The workers then turned to cleaning up downtown streets and other main arteries. One resident commented Thursday, "This place looks clean compared to last night."

The scene after the tornado passed was one of upset cars, uprooted trees, bricks and broken glass.

The help included 50 highway patrolmen directed by Lt. Col. J. R. Machholz, Des Moines, assistant highway patrol director; members of an Oelwein fire station; students from the University of Northern Iowa and Upper Iowa colleges;

ambulances and medical personnel from surrounding towns. One duty of the guard was keeping sightseers out of the area.

The Oelwein city hall and fire station were among buildings heavily damaged. The mayor, other city officials and the highway patrol set up headquarters in the nearby office of the Northwest Bell Telephone Co. Among people manning desks to assign equipment and manpower Thursday morning was Ken Hartung, president of the Oelwein Chamber of Commerce.

Utilities Work continued Thursday on restoration of utility services to Oelwein.

Mazzotti said that by mid-morning an auxiliary pump was in operation and one of the town's two wells and another auxiliary unit was working at the sewage treatment plant.

Electricity was to be restored to the hospital and the water system by noon Thursday. The hospital has been operating on an emergency generator.

A spokesman for the Interstate Power Co. at Dubuque said the basic problem was that a 69,000-volt transmission line was destroyed both north and south of Oelwein. He said that 20 crews from Clinton, Dubuque, West Union and Mason City were in Oelwein attempting to restore service to the town by noon.

He said that service to individual buildings might take longer because there was severe pole damage. Between 300 and 400 35-foot poles are being sent to Oelwein.

Electric service was restored to Maynard by mid-morning and work continued on restoration of individual services.

Eight poles of an Interstate transmission line between Cresco and Riceville were down and an undetermined number of poles were down in the Yellow River forest area.

The problem was also complicated by the fact that portions of the Minneapolis to Chicago and Minneapolis to St. Louis lines were damaged. From 5 to 10 p.m. Interstate Power operated a maximum generating capacity to feed power to other parts of the Midwest.

Phones Out Bob Link, manager of the telephone company at Oelwein, estimated that 75 percent of the 5,200 phones in Oelwein were out of order due to the storm.

He said he expected to have about 150 men from Cedar Rapids, Davenport and Burlington in Oelwein Thursday afternoon. He said it appeared that a major replacement job would be necessary on cables and lines in and around the city.

All types of buildings were damaged in Oelwein.

Most of the north wall of the First United Presbyterian church on East Charles collapsed onto the sidewalk.

Kuhn's blacksmith shop across the street from the church collapsed as did the Cross printing shop on First avenue. The principal guard unit, student shop is next to the city hall and fire station.

Some of the heaviest damage

List of Dead and Injured At Least 5,000 Believed Homeless at Charles City

Iowa News
At least 16 persons were killed in tornadoes which ravaged the Oelwein, Maynard and Charles City areas Wednesday afternoon.
Four from Oelwein and Maynard were listed dead:
Mrs. Donald Damon of Oelwein.
Albert E. Heaton, 89, of 116 Fifth street NE, Oelwein.
Mrs. Louis Ponsor of Maynard.
Glenda Kelly, infant daughter of Gordon and Geraldine Kelly of Maynard.
Identified among the 12 dead at Charles City were:
Murray Loomer, Harry Hall, Arthur Jacobs, Mrs. Ray Chambers, August Martin, Mrs. Carl Wolf, Mrs. James Gaul, Mrs. LeLan Leach, Marie Greenless and Tom Brown, 16.
Admitted to Mercy hospital, Oelwein, were:
Kathryn Beaman
Emalie Carlson
Mrs. Dorothy Flaucher
James Ingels
Mrs. Hazel Jones
Gertrude Kraft
Mrs. Goldie Michael
Mrs. Leslie Ohl
Ben Proctor

Michael Nichols
Alex Ricchio
Frank Schepple
Julie Trotter
Marjorie Trotter
Mrs. Viola Zacharias
* * *
Transferred to other hospitals from Oelwein:
Connie Francis, to Independence
Mrs. Geraldine Kelly, to Waterloo in critical condition
Mrs. Carmen Major, transferred to Waterloo, serious
Luke Major, to Independence
Julie McKoon, to Allen Memorial Waterloo
Mrs. Oma Nefzger, to Independence
Mrs. Anna Steege, to Independence
Loulette Taylor, to Independence
William Walker, to Independence
Henry Warnke, to Independence
LaVerne Wartham, to Independence
* * *
Treated and released at Mercy hospital, Oelwein:
Elizabeth Eencke
Lois Bilyew
Daniel Bilyew
Sister Mary Benjamin
Susan Cude
Mrs. Charles Dixon
Althea Dixon
Madeline Dawson
John Eikenberry
Mary Eikenberry
Mary Jane Fitzpatrick

Jason Francis
Jennifer Gates
Pat Harleck
Jessie Houser
Robert Houser
Paul Hutter
Steven Hutter
Jean Ingels
Mrs. Fred Ingels
Earl Johnson
Jane Kamper
Nancy Kamper
Essie Kauffman
Donald Keegan
Steve Kringling
Krafton
LeRoy Lattian
Andrea Liehe (baby daughter of James)
Mrs. Robert Liebert (Diane)
Mrs. Ben Lowe
Benita McGregor
Genevieve McNamara
Joseph Miller
Mrs. Charles Morgan
Marion Moyle
Jerry Mundt
Dick Muchmore
Billy Murray
Mary Ohlrigschlager
Lucy Osterman
Russel Phillips
Celia Pond
Jens Nielsen
Sharon Shea
Hannah Sexton
Aaron Schlegel
Dale Smith
Dale Strittmatter
Darwin Strempeke
John Teuffel
Mildred Vargason
Wardell
Leona Wise
Emilia Wolfe

through the debris of a demolished nursing home found the body of Marie Greenless Thursday morning, bringing that community's toll to 12, with three still unidentified.
Insurance Adjuster Hal Lubert of Mason City estimated Charles City damage at \$18 million.

Looting
Looting was a problem at Charles City until authorities sealed off the downtown area. Not more than 20 minutes after the twister hit, "the thieves were at it," Sheriff L. L. Lane said.
(See story on page 8 about help coming to Charles City.)

The tornado came swiftly — apparently out of the south — catching most of Charles City residents without warning.
"Now I know how a rabbit feels with a dog running behind it," was the way one Charles City resident put it.
"I saw it a mile away," Cecil Kreger, 61, a maintenance contractor, said. He said he was driving south toward Charles City from the north on a county backstop road.
"I didn't know it was coming until I saw it. I turned down a side road to the east and went about 50 on a rough road and I outran it," he said.
Ronald Nelms, 37, Charles City, said he was having a tooth filled by a local dentist when the tornado struck the north-central Iowa community of about 10,000.
He said the only warning came from a nurse.
"She said there was a tornado coming and we headed for the basement," Nelms said. "The back door was ripped off the building just as we hit the bottom of the stairs."

Demolished
John Gordon, Charles City's chief of police, said, "the city is demolished and the entire length of main street, about 18 blocks north of the Cedar river, and a lot of damage south of the city."
He said, "I stood in my office in city hall and the tornado was only 100 feet away. It was ripping up the city two-blocks wide and I could not get the door open to get to the basement."
"The windows started popping out all over," the police chief said. "My house was only one of two houses left standing in a two-block area on Missouri avenue in the north end of town."
Charles City was a ravaged

Aid to Oelwein Sent from C.R.
The St. Vincent De Paul Society of Cedar Rapids has sent a shipment of summer clothing to Oelwein for distribution to residents of the community who lost their belongings in Wednesday's tornado.
The 20 barrels of clothing were taken to Oelwein from Cedar Rapids at 3 p.m. Thursday. Distribution will be handled through the distribution center at Sacred Heart Catholic church on South Frederick avenue in Oelwein.

IE Crews Assigned To Work in Oelwein
Iowa Electric Light and Power Co. has sent 35 gas service men and supervisors to tornado-stricken Oelwein to shut off gas service in damaged buildings.
The men are from Muscatine and Marshalltown, which receive gas service from the utility.
Iowa Electric also has released six crews of its contractor, L. E. Meyers Co., to aid Interstate Power Co. of Dubuque in restoring electrical service in Oelwein.

Archbishop James J. Byrne of Dubuque has authorized a special collection to be taken at all masses on Sunday in the 291 parishes of the archdiocese to aid the victims of Wednesday's tornado disaster.

A Red Cross caravan of four cars and a panel truck loaded to the hilt with men's clothing left Cedar Rapids destined for disaster stricken Oelwein Thursday afternoon.
The caravan left from the First Presbyterian church where the clothes were deposited Thursday for that purpose. One official termed the response to pleas for clothing as "Remarkable."

was just east of North Frederick in the area of First avenue SE. At First avenue and First street, Myer-Lincoln hardware store collapsed. A block east little was left of the Earl Moore Buick-Pontiac Co. Twenty new cars and a number of used cars were destroyed.
Frank Gates, parts manager for Earl Moore, said he was among a half dozen people who crouched under the parts counter when they saw the storm approaching. The counter happened to be next to the only wall that was left standing. Gates' home at 801 Second avenue NE was also destroyed.
Bud Fischer, deputy fire chief, was working in the basement of his home on Second street SE when the lights went out. He came upstairs and looked out the window just as a tree landed on the roof of the neighboring house.

Woman Hurt
Looking out in the other direction he saw another neighbor, Mary Ohlrigschlager, standing in the door holding her bleeding head. He drove her to the hospital. The roof had been ripped off her house.
Fischer has lived in Oelwein for 22 years and he said, "This is the first tornado we've ever had."

Two schools, Central elementary and the junior high, both on Third avenue SE, had heavy damage. The wall around the junior high auditorium was smashed.

The frame Episcopal church was damaged.
Lambert Chevrolet Co. was smashed. Some 60 cars were damaged, including many new cars.
Reports of damage continued to come in as clean-up work continued.

Some of the persons left homeless by the storm sought shelter Wednesday night with friends, relatives or in a center set up in the basement of the Sacred Heart church.

Winneshiek Chairman For Robert Ray Named
DECORAH — Darrell L. Pierce, assistant in the Decorah District of Interstate Power Co., has been named Winneshiek county chairman for the campaign of Robert D. Ray, candidate for the Republican nomination for governor.
Pierce, a life-long resident of Decorah, is president of the Jaycees, vice-president of the Nordic Festival committee, Republican committeeman in the first ward and a member of the Elks lodge and Chamber of Commerce.
Ray is a former Republican state chairman and a businessman-attorney.

New York Buses Will Have 2-Way Radios
NEW YORK (AP) — A two-way radio network is being installed that will eventually link the New York City Transit Authority with its 4,200 buses. The authority said the \$6-million system would improve operations in snowstorms and other emergencies.

Plan of Grading Tires Proposed

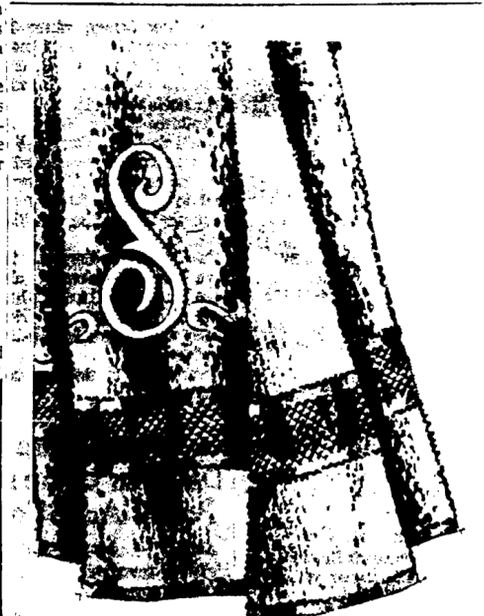
WASHINGTON (AP) — The government Thursday announced a proposed quality grading system for passenger car tires.
Federal Highway Administrator Lowell Bridwell said the regulation would require that each tire made after Aug. 31, 1969, be labeled on its sidewall with the quality grade.
Dr. William Haddon, director of the National Highway Safety Bureau, said characteristics that may be included include traction, tread wear, carcass durability, high-speed endurance and overload endurance.
Interested parties have until June 15 to submit comments. Final regulations will be issued afterward.

Many Homeless
Floyd County Sheriff Lane said half the residential area was wiped out, leaving about 5,000 persons homeless. He said they put up in churches and junior and senior high schools, which apparently were not seriously damaged.
Jack Heinsel, 42, owner of an auto alignment shop, said he was just pulling a door down when the tornado struck. "It hit — and God did it hit. When they say it sounds like a freight train coming they ain't kidding."

He said, "My wife and kids were at the shop and I shouted to them to lie on the floor. It's a horrible sensation to have your wife and kids lying on the floor and you're on top of them."
"You sure feel helpless," Heinsel said.

Search Ruins
Volunteers continued to search the rubble in Charles City Thursday, fearing that more dead may be found.
A shopping center was one of the buildings leveled by the storm. A discount store ended up in a heap in the street.

James Johnson, administrator of Floyd County hospital in Charles City, said 200 to 300 persons were treated at the hospital, which has a capacity of 89. Only 39 of the hospital's beds were empty when the twister struck and Johnson said the 39 most seriously injured persons were using them.
All power in Charles City was knocked out by the storm. Except for light supplied with power from a few emergency generators at the hospital and city hall, the night was lit up only by headlights of cars and the eerie flashing of red lights on emergency vehicles.



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