

## DEATH STALKS ON LEE STREET

(Continued From Page One)

ened women and children screaming—something I'll never forget. The first two persons that Mr. Current and I pulled from the wreckage were two children. They lived, I think."

All available ambulance units in the city were rushed to the tornado stricken areas immediately after reports came in from those places. Fire trucks rushed their assistance to the places.

**Officers Go Into Action.**

Chief of Police Mike D. Caffey summoned all city officers to the affected areas, while Sheriff Joe S. Phipps dispatched his force and Maj. Ralph L. Lewis' battalion of national guardsmen took charge of the damaged section to keep back the thousands of curious and anxious spectators. Headquarters company of the national guard, under the command of Capt. E. K. Patterson was the first to reach the Correll street scene and to establish a semblance of order. Battery "C" under the command of Capt. L. O. Wrenn, Battery "D" under Capt. E. L. Faulconer and the medical detachment under Capt. Norman A. Fox were rushed to the scene. The guardsmen were called out by order of Gov. J. C. B. Ehringhaus after Major Lewis had telephoned Raleigh.

Close on the heels of relieving agencies were the Greensboro Boy Scouts, under the leadership of Frank Dix, council executive. The Boy Scouts were instrumental in establishing order and picketing the stricken areas, blocking them to all traffic other than that in an official capacity.



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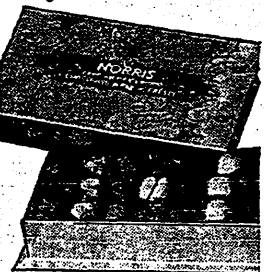
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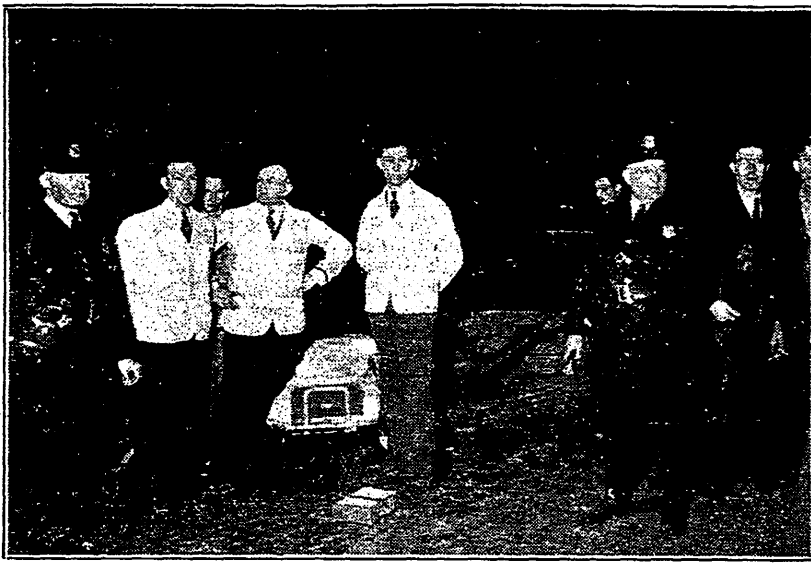
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## Waiting For the Dead and Injured



Above is shown a group of rescue workers awaiting the arrival of more of the injured in the tornado here last night.

ing order and picketing the stricken areas, blocking them to all traffic other than that in an official capacity.

### Red Cross Busy.

The Greensboro Red Cross chapter rushed assistance to the areas and set up a clearing house for the purpose of providing rooms for the hundreds of homeless persons.

The Salvation Army also rushed assistance to the scenes. Little did the people of Greensboro ever suspect that a tornado would strike here. Inky black cloud formations could be seen in the western skies before 7 o'clock Thursday evening. The formations grew into one big mass. Toward the southwest the formation took on a peculiar aspect—it began looking as though a funnel would form.

### It All Comes First.

A bit of hail descended just a few minutes after 7 o'clock. A noise similar to approaching freight train was heard coming from the west. Still nothing could be seen from the major business portion of the city. Then slowly—at first—then with seemingly growing speed a twister could be seen coming from a westerly direction. From a distance of one-half mile it appeared to be several hundred yards wide at a point just above the ground.

Persons who were still on the streets still did not know the meaning of the ominous funnel-shaped thing that was coming nearer at express-train speed. The roar became louder. Housetops, large planks, signboards, masses of paper, huge strips of tin were among the things that could be seen lifted from the West Lee and Correll street scenes—seen even from a distance of one-half mile.

Just as the time the tornado struck the Correll street section, there appeared in the southern heavens a sustained flash of scarlet flame that seemed to illuminate the area. It lasted for possibly five seconds, a thing beautiful in its intensity. The tornado rolled through Correll street and out past the county home out of the city—leaving dead and injured in twisted houses, business establishments and other places.

While the twister was fading out, taking probably three minutes from the time it came in the 1700 block of West Lee street until it disappeared after leaving a state of desolation on Correll street, a violet hue appeared in the south—then faded swiftly.

Hail and rain descended then for several minutes. The skies overhead cleared in several minutes and the moon shone coldly.

### News Breaks.

The first indication to the general populace of the city that a major disaster had struck came when repeated trips by ambulance, fire and police units kept rushing to the southern part of the city. The first fire search for dead bodies. A disaster was here, shrieked down West Market street, probably five minutes after the twister had disappeared. Then an ambulance followed. Traffic was virtually stopped in the city while help was rushed to the affected areas.

Among the first to get to the scene were state highway patrolmen under the direction of division commander, Lieut. Arthur E. Moore. They assisted in keeping highways cleared for emergency outfits.

Active rescue work continued throughout the night and into Friday. A continued search is being made today for bodies that may be crushed in tumbled frame and brick buildings which utterly collapsed. Tractors and workmen were being used to tear apart masses of debris in various sections.

National guardsmen today are patrolling all streets in which damage was done and denying admittance to persons other than those present in official capacities.

Contributions Asked.

Contributions for the relief of sufferers, injured and homeless, are being asked by the local Red Cross chapter. Such contributions are receivable at chapter headquarters in old federal building.

Persons who were in the path of the tornado described the thing as "something ghastly." All emphasized that all colors of the spectrum could be seen in the twisting fury.

Arnold Matthews, of 113 East Lee street, was in a nearby pharmacy when the storm struck. Barely on the edge of the whirling death he witnessed a picture that he declared he would never forget. He described it as a mass of individual clouds that seemed to form again near Correll street after its initial intensity had struck far out West Lee street then skipped in haphazard abandon through Five Points and South Elm street. He saw house-tops, porches and huge timbers fly through the air, houses turned upside down and smashed into each other, automobiles picked up and turned over as though they were children's playthings lifted by a giant hand. Young Matthews, 16

years old, then rushed over to Correll street and assisted ambulance drivers carry tornado victims to hospitals in the city.

### Find Haven In House.

Robert Withers, of 519 Bennett street, negro janitor at the News-Record plant, was on his way to work—walking down Correll street—when the twister descended. Accompanied by his nephew he rushed into a house of a friend. They locked and bolted the door, crouched under a stairway while the roof was lifted from the house and all windows broken. The people in the house were not injured.

Another person reported that he was making a monthly report for his company. The first indication that a storm was approaching came when his house top was lifted from his residence.

Immediately after the people of the city were aware of the disaster they at once were their assistance to police officials and others in helping relieve suffering. Particular praise was given negro citizens who contributed back—breaking work, along with many other persons in lifting timbers and searching for victims.

**Families Separated.**

Along with persons offering assistance at city and county police headquarters came hundreds of others anxiously awaiting word of relatives who were known to be in the stricken areas. Children separated from parents and parents separated from children, all with the universal fear that the missing persons were killed, appeared at agencies. Telephone and telegraph communication was strained to meet the demand for information.

Adding to the confusion of the night, gas lines were broken and electricity turned off, the latter precaution to prevent electrocutions from live wires strewn on the streets. One person met death from contacting one of those wires and several others were burned before the voltage could be shut off.

### Emergency Work.

While the light of several burning residences on McAdoo avenue, just off Correll street, illuminated the scene, emergency units heroically worked to establish order and to save life and relieve suffering. At 8 o'clock rapid progress was being made in searching the wreckage for victims. A woman pinned under the timbers of a frame house on Correll street, in the tragic

400 block, screamed pitifully as workers sought to extricate her.

Six negroes were in the basement of one of the burning homes. Five were rescued.

A negro barber shop on Lewis street was in utter ruins. Eight men were said to have been inside when the tornado struck. Five are known to have reached safety. The fate of the other three was unascertained early today.

The gigantic cone of the tornado seemed to play a game of leap-frog in its elongated path. Striking first around the 1700 block of West Lee it would rise and fall in gyrations of destruction, leaving in some cases entire blocks on West Lee street in desolation and then skipping a block, or sometimes a house, and then striking again. The section from the 300 block of West Lee street through Five Points and to the Lee Street intersection of South Elm street bore the brunt of the property loss, just as Correll street and McAdoo avenue suffered the greater loss of life.

The picture presented this morning, just as the rays of the sun broke over the horizon, was one of tragedy. In addition to the loss of life there was untold suffering, people homeless, their earthly possessions taken from them in one burst of nature's fury.

A scene not to be described in words was found several times, families looking at what once were their homes and their property.

In addition to the thousands of Greensboro people who flocked to the scene last night, more thousands were present this morning to view the catastrophe.

Police and national guardsmen reported this morning that few acts of vandalism were committed during the night of disorder, that people generally were well behaved and were impelled mainly by their curiosity to see the scenes—and had offered little resistance to orders to stay clear of the restricted areas.

The frame houses struck by the tornado were either overturned, generally, or smashed into an adjoining structure, while the brick establishments when struck with the full force of nature's wrath generally collapsed on their foundations. Two and three-story brick buildings were reduced to piles of debris hardly higher than the head of an average man, so great was the destruction.

No estimate could be made today of the exact amount of property dam-

## KNOWN DEATHS IN STORM HERE

(Continued From Page One)

street, suffering with shock.

C. H. Walker, 900 Dillard street, fracture of right leg and abrasions.

Mrs. Elizabeth Dunlap, injuries to head and chest; Irene Dunlap, 12 years old, cuts and bruises; Milford Dunlap, 15, cuts and bruises; Ola Dunlap, 26, cuts and bruises; all of 1028 West Lee street.

Edna Reddick, 10, of 414 Correll street, injuries to right arm.

Rudolph Johnson, 406 Correll street, entire body scratched and bruised, condition not critical at present.

Chester Martin, age 49, 21st street, of White Oak, chest injuries, condition critical.

Miller R. Langley, 1028 West Lee street, injuries to head, right hand and shoulder.

Paul H. Foust, of Roanoke, Va., fracture to right knee. Twenty persons whose names were not recorded

age. In the West Lee, South Elm, Lewis and Correll street areas it is thought the damage will run into several millions of dollars.

Rescue work is going steadily forward this afternoon, with all available agencies contributing their services in the search for bodies and bending every effort in a struggle to clear Greensboro of the effects of its first tornado.

given treatment Thursday night.

Sr. Leo's.

Four of the nine persons received at St. Leo's remain there, as follows:

Garland Jones, nine, 204 Hendley street, skull fractured and other severe injuries received when automobile in which he was riding was crushed. Unconscious, condition grave, not expected to live through day.

Mrs. J. N. Outen, 75, of 443 Correll street, lacerations, suffering from shock.

E. C. White, 1000 Julian street, bad cut on hand, possible severe back injury, condition serious.

J. E. Morrison, 1001 North Eugene street, broken leg, injury received when he fell while viewing destruction of the tornado.

Treated at St. Leo's Thursday night and dismissed:

James G. Jones, 59, grandfather of Garland, of 204 Hendley street, lacerations of hand, received when automobile was struck by the wind.

A. W. Sharpe, 56, Bessemer, route 1, worker at airport, lacerations of hand, requiring several stitches.

A. N. Townsend and wife, Mrs. Maggie Townsend, residence off Franklin boulevard, shock.

Mrs. W. E. McCormick, 1301 West Lee street, while not injured when the tornado did damage to her home, was removed to St. Leo's hospital and is a patient there now, because of illness for which she was already being treated.

Wesley Long.

Six injured received Thursday night at Wesley Long hospital and now being treated there are:

Mrs. Minnie Paschal, 51, of 1111

West Lee street, bruises; not serious.

John Paschal, 15, of 1111 West Lee street, possibly a fractured back.

Mary Ann Paschal, 19, of 1111 West Lee street, injuries to back and elsewhere.

R. A. Ervin, 75, of 446 Correll street, lacerations; not serious.

J. W. Sparrow, of 409 McAdoo avenue, lacerations and bruises.

Mrs. J. W. Sparrow, of 409 McAdoo avenue, possibly several fractured ribs.

X-rays had been made of these patients early in the day but a report on the pictures was not yet available.

L. Richardson Memorial hospital, negro, received 11 injured, most of them seriously, who remain there today, as follows:

Elijah Owens, 1211 Orchard street, lacerations of the leg.

James Allen, 511 Best street, breast and back injuries.

Addie Graham, 622 Ashe street, back injuries.

Edward Young, 1531 McConnell road, injuries to back.

Chester Marsh, 807½ Correll street, fracture of right leg and head lacerations.

George Gunter, 1207 Sloan street, head injury.

Howard Higgins, 625 East Lee street, suspected fracture of thigh.

Helen Mitchell, 16 Ireland street, injuries to back.

Walter Wilmore, 2316 Charlotte street, body injuries.

Ernest Hill, 211 Lewis street, body injuries and cuts.

John Hanes, worker at 13 Scott apartments, Asheboro street, body injuries.

When other negroes received first aid treatment at Richardson hos-

pital and were dismissed Thursday night.

**Other Known Injured.**

Three firemen received injuries in line of duty, but none of them of serious nature. Lieutenants M. E. Coe and R. C. Fortune were overcome by gas, and Charles H. Henderson was treated for torn ligaments of the leg.

Two police officers, patrolling Dillard street when the fury of the tornado struck, received lacerations from broken glass when debris crushed the top of the patrol car. They are Officers J. R. Murphy and Z. T. Sherrill.

Miss Beulah Lawrence, of 828 South Elm street, picked up by force of wind and carried two blocks through screen door of apartment building, escaped with minor bruises and lacerations.

George Williamson, negro, 712 Law street, helper at Smoot Funeral parlor, bruised when thrown against telephone pole while on way home.

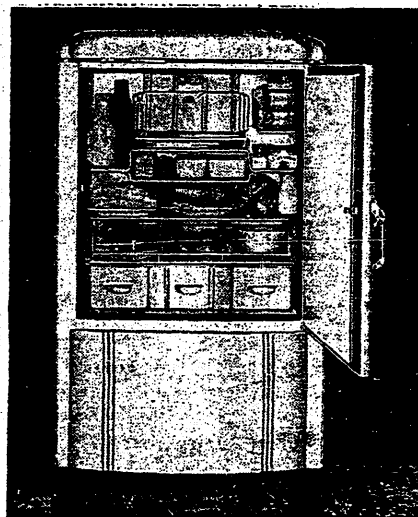
## Will Consider Work On State Fairground

RALEIGH, April 3.—(AP)—The state board of agriculture has decided to meet here late this month to canvass proposals for construction of a wing on the main exhibition building at the state fair grounds here.

The board also has applied a Japanese beetle quarantine to Winston-Salem, Greensboro, Salisbury, and Spencer, prohibiting movements of plants and soil from the four municipalities except under restrictions imposed by the United States department of agriculture.

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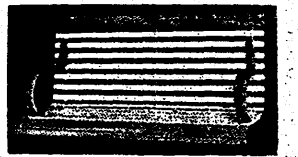
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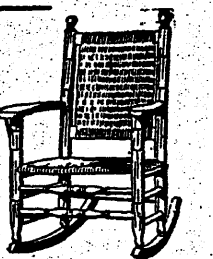
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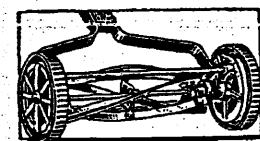
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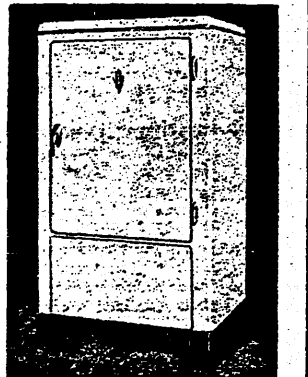
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