

## Hurricane Agnes Clobbers the County

Agnes, the first hurricane of 1972, today produced flooding never before equalled in Lancaster County, forcing evacuation of hundreds of residents, and isolating many others.

Hurricane Hazel, in 1954, left far greater property damage in its wake, but countians said that places were flooded today that never were before—not only in overflows of streams, but also in tilled fields where crops were ruined by water accumulations.

**Agnes was not only the first of the season—it was also far earlier than hurricanes usually occur. "Hurricane season" is normally thought to be sometime in late August.**

Agnes also disproved an old saying, which holds that when a hurricane hits land, it loses its power. Agnes hit land in Pensacola, Fla., raged northward through coastal states and miles inland, leaving death and destruction in its wake.

Rainfall was heavy overnight—more than the county often receives in a full month.

Manheim was possibly hardest hit, since at least 200 persons had to be evacuated from their homes. Raybestos-Manhattan was hit by absences, since employes in the Manheim area couldn't get to the factory.

Lititz was also hard hit, as was Mount Joy.

**Mercantile business was brought to a virtual standstill, since customers stayed off the highways rather than venture into the winds and heavy rains.**

Agnes showed the wallop the weather can have. The pileup of effects was a challenge to man, to meet emergency situations, help his fellow man, and see it through. From all reports, Lancaster County's public and private agencies set up for such purposes were meeting the challenge with distinction.

Clipped By:



mickaylamiller  
Wed, Oct 2, 2019