

Lillian D. Foster dust storm scrapbook

Section 2, Pages 31 - 55

This scrapbook contains postcards, photos, newspaper clippings, and handwritten notes about the dust storm experiences in the Ness City, Kansas, area and other parts of western Kansas.

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Date: February 1935-May 1935

Callnumber: Misc. Foster, Lillian "Sally"

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 220829

Item Identifier: 220829

www.kansasmemory.org/item/220829



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SIX DIE DURING WEEK IN DIRT BLOWN AREAS

Red Cross Officials Report
Pneumonia Conditions
Growing Worse

HOSPITALS SET UP

Garden City Officials Unable
To Learn Of Anyone
Leaving Country

Liberal, April 27.—(P)—Deaths of six persons this week were attributed to dust storms by Red Cross officials tonight as headquarters here pushed relief work in the nation's 18,000,000 acre "dust bowl."

Three deaths today at Beaver, Okla., were added to one earlier this week at Walsh, Col., and two in Seward county, Kas.

All were victims of pneumonia which Red Cross nurses said was aggravated by the dust. Some physicians call the condition "dust pneumonia." Few, however, have publicly expressed belief the storms have been more than merely a contributing cause in deaths.

At Beaver, where Mrs. L. Fickel, Oklahoma club woman, Leah Isaac, 7, and Mrs. Frank Ridgeway, 43, died, a hospital was reported filled to capacity with other pneumonia sufferers.

Beaver is in the northwestern Oklahoma Panhandle, one of five sections comprising the so-called dust belt. The others are the Texas Panhandle, northeastern New Mexico, southeastern Colorado and extreme western Kansas.

As dust continued to blow in the affected Colorado and New Mexico sectors today, emergency relief activities were in full swing.

Dr. Earle G. Brown, secretary of the Kansas board of health, said, "there's no doubt about the dust storms aggravating such diseases as influenza and pneumonia."

Emergency hospitals are in operation at Walsh and Springfield, Col., and Dr. William DeKleine, national Red Cross medical director, said others will be set up as fast as they are needed.

Red Cross officials plan to meet in Liberal Monday with health representatives of Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas to discuss a health program.

Kansans Are Victims of the Recent Storms.

(By The Star's Own Service.)

FRANKFORT, KAS., April 25.—Recent dust storms are believed to have caused serious illness of pneumonia patients here. Three victims died here last week from the disease. They were: Mrs. R. A. Smith, 63; William Kittel, 64, and Herbert Shearer, 48.

Red Cross 'Invades' Dust Area

Dodge City, Kan., April 24.—(A. P.)—An extensive five-state program to combat disease and safeguard health in the Southwest's dust belt was devised by American Red Cross officials here today.

Dr. William DeKleine of Washington, national Red Cross medical director, said that "dust masks will be made by volunteer workers in large cities and will be shipped into this sector by the thousands — enough for every home."

"Pneumonia cases, aggravated by the dust, are on the increase," he announced, after conferring with relief and health representatives of Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas.

Red Cross headquarters, devoted to problems created by blinding, choking dust clouds which have rolled recently over an 18,000,000-acre sector, have been set up at Liberal, Kan.

The reports of health menaces created by the blowing silt were disputed by private physicians in the territory, who said a chemical analysis of the dust disclosed no harmful germs. They also disputed the need for outside assistance, asserting local facilities were adequate.

Dr. DeKleine said that the making of the masks, using finely meshed muslin, was part of a four-point program.

Other points include setting up emergency hospitals, a house-to-house campaign to make homes secure against dust infiltration, and a war on measles.

Mayor Nichols of Walsh, Colo., asked for expansion of the emergency hospital there, saying the 30 pneumonia cases were utilizing all available beds. Another emergency hospital is at Springfield, Colo. Twenty-one nurses have been allocated to the dust belt.

"We are going to set up these hospitals wherever they are needed," Dr. DeKleine announced. "We are going to see that all cases of pneumonia aggravated by dust are brought to them from town and farm. Many respiratory diseases also are being reported."

The house-to-house campaign will be to fill cracks in the windows and fix faulty doors.

Regarding the war on measles, he said Dr. Earl Brown, Kansas state health officer, termed the situation in Kansas "the worst in history."

"We are going to take steps to curb the spread of measles," Dr. DeKleine stated. "We will encourage the closing of schools if necessary. So many cases of measles are developing pneumonia in the sections where the dust is blowing. That is because measles always render the throat and bronchial tubes sore."

Dr. DeKleine will remain in the territory for a few days to get the work started. Albert Evans of the St. Louis Red Cross offices is in charge of the headquarters at Liberal.

DUST AREA DEATHS TO NINE.

They Occur Within a Week—Health Conference Into Situation.

(By the Associated Press.)

LIBERAL, KAS., April 29.—Nine deaths within a week, 6,000 cases of measles and 200 "dust cases" helped form a dark picture etched here today at a 5-state health conference on conditions in the nation's dust storm sector.

Health representatives of Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas and Kansas decided to concentrate work for the present in seven Southwestern Kansas counties—Grant, Haskell, Gray, Stanton, Morton, Stevens and Seward—and one, Baca, in South-eastern Colorado.

Two of the nine deaths, all attributed to pneumonia aggravated by dust, occurred today. Albert Evans, in charge of dust storm Red Cross headquarters in Liberal, said the 6,000 cases of measles had been reported in the eight counties since the dust storms started blowing this year and that there were 1,500 active cases at present.

Red Cross officials said their twenty-one nurses assigned in the eight counties have attended approximately 200 "dust cases."

Evans said that four emergency hospitals, two of which began operating today, have cared for approximately fifty patients.

WICHITA, KAS., April 29.—Seventy Wichita women, working in the sewing rooms of the First Presbyterian church and Sedgwick house today made 1,500 cheese cloth masks for use in the Southwest's "dust bowl." Twice that number of women will be at work tomorrow. Materials are on hand for more than 5,000 masks. They cost about 1 cent each.

DUST FATAL TO THREE

Utica Reports On Health Conditions In Ness County

Utica, Kas., April 5.—Three persons have died in this section of Ness county from the effects of the continued dust storms within the last few weeks, according to John L. Todd, publisher of the Utica Star-Courier.

In March Mrs. C. N. Gregg, 63, and Loretta George, 5 died. Dora George died April 1.

COUNTY ATTORNEY IS ILL

Dust-Pneumonia for Prosecutor in Lavoo Murder Case.

Tribune, Kan., April 11.—(A. P.)—Testimony concerning the bank account of Chris C. Lavoo, slain railroad conductor for whose murder Miles Ware is being tried here, was given today as the trial was resumed, proceedings having been interrupted yesterday by the dust storm.

Charles M. Thompson, Pueblo bank employe testified Lavoo withdrew \$500 on July 23, 1932. It is a prosecution contention Ware and others sought to rob Lavoo the night of December 9, 1932, and that Lavoo was killed resisting. D. R. Beckstrom, county attorney, is seriously ill with pneumonia, aggravated by the dust.

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SNOW AND DUST MIX.

A "Black Blizzard" Results in the Area Around Goodland.

(By the Associated Press.)

GOODLAND, KAS., April 10.—Snow mixed with dust formed a "black blizzard" driven in on a high north wind here today.

One of the worst storms of its kind recalled in this section, it followed a night of similarly freakish weather in which rain tried to fall through a pall of dust and succeeded only in bringing down a rain of mud that plastered houses.

Activity of all kinds virtually was suspended. No progress could be made in the campaign to plow blowing fields, for there was too much dust to permit anyone to work outdoors. Highway travel came to a halt and operation of trains was hampered seriously.

At Norton, Kas., there was a similar mixture of rain and dust overhead, but little local soil was moving due to an inch of moisture falling in the last few days.

Motorists slipped and slithered through muddy roads and on wet pavement while stifled at the same time by the dust in the air.

Salina—Members of the fire department, often called to hoist cats from trees and help absent-minded residents into the house when they forget their keys, have assumed a new task here. The city fathers have put them to clearing the dust from the streets after the storms pending arrival of a new street sprinkler.

TAKE A MAP AND PENCIL AND FIND AREA HARDEST HIT BY DUST OUTBREAKS

Kansas City, April 11.—(A. P.)—Just where do these dust storms originate and what is the area immediately affected?

Take a map of the United States and a compass, setting the point near Garden City or Dodge City, Kan.

Speed the pencil around, describing a circuit that is irregular in contour, taking in the eastern part of Colorado from 100 to 150 miles west of the border. Include the southeastern corner of Wyoming, and a portion of southwestern Nebraska. Take in the western third of Kansas to the Colorado line. Pick up that long Oklahoma Panhandle and dip eastward into Oklahoma to catch Alva and Clinton. Then take in the northern two-thirds of the Texas Panhandle and the northeastern corner of New Mexico. There you have it.

DUST DAYS COME BACK

Swirls Again in Southwest Kansas After 5 Days' Calm.

Garden City, Kan., May 8.—(A. P.)—A five-day dustless period ended today when a brisk north wind stirred up the fine silt in the dust bowl area and sent it skyward. Visibility here was reduced to a block. Similar conditions were reported from Dighton, northeast of here, to Ulysses, to the southwest. The five dustless days was the longest period the air here has been free from soil particles since early March.

Southwest Sidelights

La Crosse—A new type of toy cap pistol for children in which an explosion is made by rubber caps and is said to be entirely harmless has been patented by Roy Baker and George North of La Crosse.

Great Bend—A shipment of dust masks has been received by the Kansas Power Co. for use of linemen and other workers who have to be out in the dust. The masks fit over the nose and mouth, have filters on the sides for taking air in and outlets in the front much like nostrils.

Garden City—Caney Stillwell, a farmer northwest of Garden City, did have a garden pond. But now it is just a big mud puddle. Recent dust storms passing over the pond dropped in so much dust that the pond is filled to the brim with mud.

Wayside Glimpses

Those hoarse noises heard in the early hours of yesterday morning following the rain, it must be explained for the benefit of the youngsters, were croakings emanating from the throats of frogs. One early morning worker, however, expressed the opinion that the noises sounded just a wee bit as if Mr. Froggie might have been suffering from dust pneumonia.

Out-of-practice note: The Herald weather editor reports the office rain gauge was caught by surprise Wednesday night and was so frustrated by the downpour it failed to measure all the precipitation.

There's this much to be said about business. If the vacuum sweeper industry doesn't have the best year in its history in 1935 it has no one to blame.

This department saw a lawyer in a truly tough spot the other day. The attorney was cross examining a woman witness who was one of the best to appear in district court here in months. The witness more than matched wits with opposing counsel and she did it with the utmost of politeness and court attaches marveled at her. We have a sneaking suspicion the lawyer was glad when she left the stand. Which brings up the question, why do some attorneys make poor witnesses while persons never associated with a court are experts at testifying? . . . A. E. D.

It happened in a downtown office yesterday. A young woman who doesn't give a hang about dignity and says so—a bravo from this corner—seated herself on the edge of a desk and was quite alluringly at ease. It was not until she arose that she remembered the dust storm and their effect on furniture. She left a perfect—if not permanent—impression on the dusty desk top. . . A.E.D.

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A Particle of Dust Engages The Big Minds of Scientists

If the Storm Deposit From Western Kansas Were Hauled Back
it Would Be a Year's Job With 96 Trucks, Kansas State
College Extension Agent Says.

(By the Associated Press.)

MANHATTAN, KAS., March 22.—In case you like statistics:

A. F. Turner, Kansas State college extension specialist, estimated today a 96-mile line of 1½-ton trucks, hauling ten loads daily for a year, would be required to move back to Western Kansas the dirt brought into the eastern half of the state by winds in the last week.

Turner's estimate was of a uniform deposit one-fifteenth of an inch deep. The deposit would amount to 46½ million truck loads of one-and-one-half yards each, he said.

WICHITA, March 22.—(A. P.)—The dust storms which have been sweeping Kansas will one day—millions of years hence perhaps—make of this state a great oil producing field, said a theory advanced today at the twentieth convention of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists.

The ostracod, one of the minutest of organisms, is believed by geologists to be one of the constituents of petroleum. And it is this little fellow, geologists said today, that causes the irritating sensation in the nostrils when a dust storm is raging. The ostracod comes from the mountain states along with volcanic ash and other red substances. Wherever it falls, the geologists explain, a potential oil well is in the making.

PITTSBURGH, March 22.—(A. P.)—Science looked out the window when the Midwest's dust storm billowed over Pittsburgh and this is what was learned:

That the dust particles casting a pall of darkness over a dozen states were about the size of one micron—about one twenty-five thousandth of an inch or less.

The man who reported this is H. P. Meller of the Mellon Institute, an expert on air pollution. He said: "It might take a lot of these to be noticeable but they can cause a lot of trouble."

The movement of the dust storm was recorded on an experimental ultra-violet ray set at Pittsburgh's city hall yesterday.

The device is a photo-electric cell hitched to an electric recorder. It provided a measure of the obstruction of ultra-violet light by the pollutants in the air.

The effect, Meller said, was to reduce the ultra-violet one-half. Today the ultra-violet was normal. The storm was gone.

CHICAGO, March 22.—(A. P.)—Housewives were warned today by W. P. Day, weather observer, that a "mud storm" may be expected tonight.

"A shift in the wind to the southwest," Day said, "will probably bring some dust."

This dust, inconjunction with expected showers, will make the "mud storm."

A BENEFIT FROM DUST.

Recent Blowing of Soil Has Prevented Evaporation.

(By The Star's Own Service.)

OBERLIN, KAS., April 10.—The deposit of dust left on the average wheat fields of Western Kansas is not a damage but a benefit, many farmers of this section say. Except where there is blown land, and the dust is deep enough to smother the wheat, the dust acts as a mulch and prevents evaporation of what moisture there is in the soil.

For many years the Campbell dry farming system was urged. The theory of the method was a constant but shallow stirring of the soil, keeping the fine dust so packed that evaporation could not ensue. It proved to be a good thing, and was practiced extensively, and still is used to some extent.

The summer fallow method is perhaps more extensively used now. Summer fallow does not mean that the surface should be thoroughly worked at all times. Left rough it gathers the rain and snow fall. Then the harrow is used during dry periods

when the soil would otherwise be sapped of moisture, and the dust mulch comes in to hold the moisture.

So now, sifting down tightly about the wheat, the fine silt seals the pores through which evaporation could take place, and the wheat has the full benefit of whatever moisture there is, in addition to the enrichment of the soil, whatever that may be, from the blown dust.

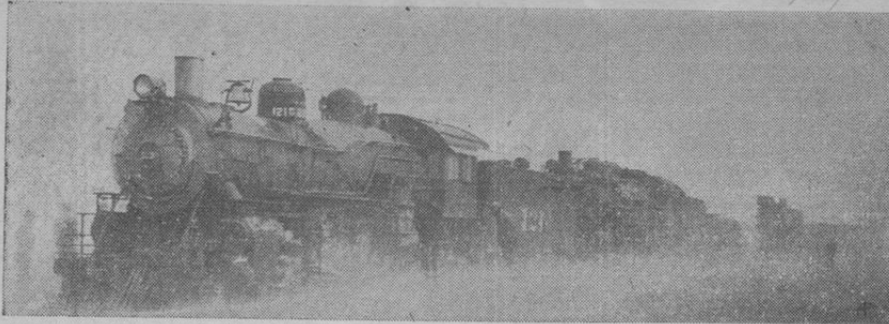
An investigation of wheat fields near Oberlin shows that very few fields are suffering for lack of moisture, and that the dust-blanket is having its good effects as well as bad.



WHAT WITH THE WEATHER WE'RE HAVING—

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RAILROADS BATTLE STORM-DEPOSITED DUST. 4/12/35



TRAIN HALTED BY DUST—
Near Dodge City in Western Kansas the wind-blown dust holds a train in idleness while other locomotives, dimly to be seen in background in that dust enshrouded environment, stand by with assistance. Two trains were derailed near Dodge City yesterday.

CLEARING RIGHT OF WAY
—Section crew removing dust from railway tracks near Syracuse, Kas., in the far western part of the state near the Colorado border.

Cleaning Up the Dust.

Carthage, Mo.—*To The Star:* I submit the following for what it is worth. When I lived in Western Kansas I tried to keep house as I did in Missouri. It can't be done. Since we are having a Kansas dust storm we must combat it with Kansas methods.

Begin from the outside working in. Turn hose on all porches and walks; it is better than sweeping first as the soil is gritty, and may injure the paint. Inside, raise all windows, shake curtains, and, if too clean to launder, just give them a stiff brushing with a whisk broom. Wipe the walls, run the vacuum cleaner. Take soft cloths and wipe floors—a dustless mop will only take up the top layer. Kansas soil seems to have an oily texture that sticks and smears, especially in the corners. Wash your windows, and you are ready to resume life in the normal way. Thank your lucky stars it is once in a lifetime and not a weekly occurrence.

MARIE ESHLEMAN,
1175 South Main street.

One-fourth Pound of Dust to 25 Square Feet.

(By The Star's Own Service.)

MAPLE HILL, KAS., March 20.—A curious housewife, Mrs. John Turnbull, gauged the blanket of red dust which descended on this small town west of Topeka today and found a quarter of a pound of dirt to every twenty-five square feet. That was this afternoon, and tonight the dirt was still coming down, with very little wind behind it.

Mrs. Turnbull, who said she could not see across the street at mid-day, swept a space five feet square on her front porch clear of dust, took the accumulation to a scale and weighed it. Other front porches here are just as deep in dust.

Tonight, visibility had improved somewhat.

DUST DERAILS TWO TRAINS.

Santa Fe Branch Line Bows to Dirt Covering Tracks.

(By The Star's Own Service.)

DODGE CITY, KAS., April 11.—Two trains on the Santa Fe branch line from Great Bend were derailed this afternoon because of dust on the tracks. The engine of the eastbound train went off a half mile west of Beeler. The westbound train was off the tracks three miles east of Ness City. No one was injured. Trainmen said the trains would be righted by night.

DIRT RETURNS TO KANSAS.

A Vermont Man Sends Back Storm Reminder.

(By The Star's Own Service.)

EMPORIA, KAS., April 11.—Maybe a bad penny doesn't always return, but some Kansas dust, about which no one is able to say any good, came back. Mrs. J. W. Johnson of Emporia this week received from Ernest Keenan, Barnett, Vt., maple sugar producer, a letter filled with dirt which he said he took from the cover on one of his maple syrup buckets after a recent Kansas dust storm had hit New England.

Garden City—The first call the Santa Fe wrecker at Dodge City has had in several months came recently. The engine on the train on the Scott City branch was derailed because of sand which had blown across the track. The line was tied up three hours.

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'BLACK DAY' IN THE DUST

KANSAS STORM MAKES THE DAY AS
THE DEAD OF NIGHT.

Lights Go On, and Almost Every-
one Stays Indoors as Business
and Travel Stop Until Visi-
bility Improves.

(Copyright, 1935, by International News
Service.)

GARDEN CITY, KAS., April 10.—It was
black as night here today. One of the
worst dust storms in the history of
Western Kansas was raging.

Traffic was at a standstill, work on
farms was stopped, railroad and bus
line schedules were disrupted, air-
planes were grounded, business in
towns in the region was handicapped.
The wind whipped along the streets
of this town and over the countryside
sending dirt particles high into the
sky. In the streets of Garden City
it was impossible to see more than
fifty feet ahead.

WAITING IN THE LOBBY.

In a hotel at Garden City, the bus
line stop, nearly forty men and wom-
en congregated in the lobby gazing
out at the swirling black particles and
wondering what would take place.
Because of the severity of conditions,
passenger busses have been held up.
It was nearly noon, but if one did
not know the time, he would figure it
to be about 11 o'clock at night. The
lights in the city business houses
were on full tilt. It was so dark
outside, and conditions were so un-
comfortable that few persons could be
seen flitting along the streets, protect-
ing their faces from the flying dirt.

Many persons wore white nose
masks to protect their lungs from the
dirt. Messenger boys went to and
from the telegraph office, their faces
and clothing covered with dirt.

Telephone lines are in bad condi-
tion. They are so heavy with static
it is difficult to make calls of any
great distance and clearly hear the
parties at the other end of the line.

THE DIRT SWIRLS IN.

All last night the storm raged. One
hotel occupant, having left the win-
dow of his hotel room slightly open
during the night, found his room
covered with dust and dirt early to-
day. The bed sheets were black.
There was a thick coating of dust on
the furniture.

In the hotel lobby today groups of
men and women peered out into the
blackness of the day. Now and then
someone would enter and when the
door opened there would be a swish
of wind and a whirl of dirt.

The hotel druggist was kept busy
making nose and mouth masks, upon
which he put a solution which allevi-
ates the aggravated conditions of
the lungs of persons who have been
breathing dirt for hours.

Now and then a motor car, head-
lights gleaming, moved slowly along
the main street. Cars proceeded at a
pace of about five miles an hour. Few
cars ventured on the highways because
of danger of getting lost.

BLACK BLIZZARD GREET'S LANDON AND HIS PARTY

Choking Dust Clouds En-
gulf Governor and U. S.
Asst. Sec. of Agr. as They
Reach Colby.

VISIT SOIL LISTING PROJECTS

Experts From Kansas State
College Accompany Offi-
cials Into Worst of Dust-
Eroded Districts.

Colby, Kan., April 15.—(A. P.)
—Arriving in a dust storm, Gov.
Alf M. Landon said tonight he
found the silt-blowing zone of
western Kansas in urgent need of
government funds and an expanded
listing program. M. L. Wilson, as-
sistant secretary of agriculture,
was in the inspection party which
got a taste of what the choking
clouds are like.

"We were impressed with the
need for even more vigorous ac-
tion," Governor Landon said.

"Apparently it will be necessary
to list not only a great many more
acres but the appropriation per
acre must be much heavier because
of the financial condition of many
farmers in the area that is blow-
ing. They are unable to work at
soil control with an appropriation
of only 10 cents per acre."

The purpose of the listing pro-
gram is to set up furrows which
will break up the scooping winds.

Dean H. Umberger, Professors
R. I. Throckmartin and W. E.
Grimes, all of Kansas State col-
lege, said they noted that where
listing has been done the soil
drifting had stopped. They ex-
pressed more confidence than ever
that a contemplated listing pro-
gram in all the states affected by
the dust storms would solve the
problem.

KANSAS GAINS BY DUST.

New Real Estate Is Added by the
Storm.

(By The Star's Own Service.)

McPHERSON, KAS., March 22.—It is
estimated an average of 720 pounds
of dust an acre settled over this city
this week during the dust storm. On
this basis the city has received 691
tons of dust over its three square
miles of area.

S. P. Crumpacker swept off his
sidewalk and the dust was weighed.
From a space twelve feet long and
thirty inches wide he obtained half
a pound of dust.



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ANCHORS IN DUST STORM

J. W. ADMIRE RECALLS SIEGES OF
THE '80S AND EARLY '90S.

Living on a Farm Near Stratton,
Neb., Then, Council Grove Man
Tells How Wind Carried
Off Loose Objects.

Council Grove, Kas.—*To The Star*: Such storms as have been ravaging the country all through the western part of Kansas, Oklahoma, Colorado and the Texas Panhandle, bring back to me the conditions that prevailed back in the late '80s and early '90s.

At that time, I lived near Stratton, Neb., on the Republican River. Every year it was the same way in the spring. I recall particularly the spring of 1893. We lived on a farm one and one-half miles east of Stratton. One-quarter of a mile east was a timber claim, with a fair stand of ash, cottonwood and boxelder trees, most of which were six or seven inches through at the bottom, and probably ten feet tall, sort of bushy and short.

We had been having our almost daily sand and dust storm. One morning the sun came up through a gray haze, and about 9:30 o'clock the dust and wind came from the southwest. The storm grew in intensity until by noon it was impossible to see more than ten or fifteen feet. We had been having so much of that kind of weather, the farmers had got into the habit of staking down everything that might blow away, such as wagons and any light implements. Chicken coops, boxes, barrels, and the like either had to be kept inside or staked fast to the ground.

A 3-DAY STORM.

The storm raged for three days and nights. When it was over, we hitched up our team and wagon, and drove over to the timber claim, which somehow had been set out just right to get the full benefit of the storms. It was one-quarter mile long east and west, and about 200 yards wide.

As the storm came in from the southwest, we found it literally full of all kinds of things that would or could be moved by wind.

I don't remember how many loads of things we hauled out. Among them were fence boards from a couple feet long, up to nearly a full grown board of a fence, ten feet or more in length, shingles enough to shingle half a county, it seemed like; barrels, boxes, tubs, pieces of gutter, batts off some good farmer's barn. In fact, we found most everything except a sod shanty, and I think there was one or two of them, but they were scattered so badly we could not find them. We had an old-fashioned bay window on the south side of our house, and I remember that the sand blowing on the glass cut and ground it till it was difficult to see through it.

At noon of the second day, my oldest brother and myself went to the barn to feed and water the stock. We had our lumber wagon staked to the ground about half way between the barn and the house. As we passed the wagon on the way to the barn a gust of wind picked me up and threw me into the wagon, and I lodged between the spokes on the hind wheel.

HIS BROTHER PULLS HIM OUT.

It was hung clear of the ground and my brother had to help me to get loose. Every time we went out of doors in this storm, it was necessary to wear rags of some kind over our faces to keep the sand from literally cutting the skin off of our bodies.

We tried staying another year, but when our crops were all burned up about the first of July, we, with thousands of others, got out the best we could. But if we had had the courage and finances to have stuck, we would have come through with flying colors, for when they do get the moisture, it is the greatest country in the world.

Oh, yes, there have been worse storms in Western Kansas.

In those days, the breaks of the Republican River to the south of Stratton were just bare white sand, and that whole western country was pretty much of a desert. But as time went on and the rains came more frequently, the country all sodded over, and when I visited the old home town about five years ago, the country was as green as the Garden of Eden. The timber along the Republican had grown till now they have some lovely shade trees, and when you get on a high point, and look down the river, it makes a beautiful sight as the ribbon of timber winds its way through the green carpeted hill country.

Yes, the rains will come again.

J. W. ADMIRE.

CONTINUE HOPEFUL

Garden City, April 27—Another seven days of continuous dust have brought not an emigration from southwest Kansas but an increasing amazement at how these westerners can "take it."

Business goes on without shutting up shop. There are no vacant buildings. The house shortage here is almost alarming especially since large crews arrived recently to drill two oil wells. There is no indication of more than a few scattered farmers leaving the country.

Local schools have not missed a session in two weeks although only two days were free of dust and janitors sometimes worked nearly all night preparing for next day.

Delay in spring farming work so late is serious but hope was still the chief attitude heard here today.

By early afternoon dirt which had blown blindingly in many rural districts had abated but clouds lingered.

Reports that great numbers of dust masks will be furnished this region by the Red Cross are not taken seriously here. Most citizens say they have grown accustomed to making the best of conditions and would not wear masks if they had them.

One of the encouraging things in Garden City this week was the report of heavy snows in the Rocky Mountains. This will insure more water for irrigation, both in the Arkansas river and in the underflow.

APRIL WIND SETS A RECORD

And 5 Days in the Month
Are Recorded As
Dustless

You may not remember them now, but there were five days in April, just past, on which there were not dust storms.

There were fourteen days on which dust storms were of such intensity that visibility was under 1,000 feet and eleven days on which there were dust storms but visibility was not that low.

April was the windiest month ever recorded at the United States weather bureau here, with an average velocity of 16.2 miles an hour for the month as compared with an average velocity of 15.5 miles an hour recorded in April, 1877, the previous high month. The winds did not blow so hard in April, however, as they have done in many years. The highest velocity recorded was 38 miles an hour on April 10, but just hammering away at it, day after day, gave the month its high record.

It was the second driest April ever recorded, with .03 of an inch of rain. In 1909, the low April on record, showed only .02 of an inch of moisture. April also was colder than normal. The average temperature for the month was 51.8 degrees and normal for the month is 53.6 degrees. The highest temperature was 84 degrees on April 14 and the lowest was 26 degrees on April 7. The greatest daily range of temperatures was 43 degrees on April 14, the day of the Sunday black blizzard. The least daily range was 12 degrees on April 17, when it went from 48 to 60 degrees on a cloudy day and recorded a trace of moisture.

AS PEGGY OF THE FLINT HILLS SEES IT

(By Zula
Bennington
Greene)

There are a lot of good stories coming out of the dust storms, but most of them are too dirty to tell.

A Garden City housewife can't decide whether to clean the back porch or plant the garden there.

The government will not need to retire that submarginal land out in western Kansas. It has blown away. . . . It is said that a friend of Frank Carlson got a letter from him saying he was pretty homesick since he smelled some of the dirt from his farm as it passed over Washington.

Judge Hungate doubts that the tree-belt will stop the dust. He is of the opinion that we shall all be dust before the trees get a good footing.

Lillian D. Foster dust storm scrapbook

FROM DUST TO ...



4/3/35



These roads near Horton, Kas., were deep in dust from the dust storms. A 1/2-inch rain fell Saturday. The dust stopped blowing and before night cars were stuck in the mud. For once, miring down was a pleasure for many.

HOW'S THIS FOR VARIETY MUD ONE SIDE OF LAMP POSTS, SNOW ON OTHER

Oberlin, Kan., April 11.—(Special)—If variety is the spice of life, Kansas has it all over the sunny seashores. In the last 24 hours here it has rained rain, rained mud, the dirt has blown and it has snowed. The rain and mud came last night from one direction. Today the wind changed. It got colder. It snowed. The lamp posts on the streets are covered with mud on one side and caked with snow on the other.

The Midwest Dusty While Washington Soaks.

(By the Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, April 12.—While midwestern states are suffering from drought and dust, the nation's capital has been irritated by too much rain.

For this is the cherry-blossom season, when the capital is supposed to be bright and smiling. And in almost half of the month of April, Washington has scarcely seen the sun.

DUST STORM AT SEA, TOO.

German Ship Reports Cloud Fifty Miles Off Texas Coast.

(By the Associated Press.)

BEAUMONT, Tex., April 12.—The crew of the S. S. Vogesen, German steamship which docked here today, reported the dust storm which covered all Texas yesterday enveloped their craft fifty miles at sea.

DUST DRIFTS ON ROADS.

Kansas Has Difficulty in Keeping Highways Open.

(By The Star's Own Service.)

CONCORDIA, Kas., March 22—

Lillian D. Foster dust storm scrapbook

IF YOU ASK ME—

By ELM

A CONFERENCE

Chairman—We, the League of Nations of the Western Plains, are assembled here today to determine the origin of the dust which is now circulating in our cities, our homes, our radios and our noses.

In fact, the destiny of this nation depends upon our placing the responsibility for the dirtiness which is being distributed.

If the dirt was dirty stories we would know that Mae West was responsible. But this is nice dirt, some of our cleanest dirt.

First, we shall have a slogan. I welcome suggestions.

Gentleman from Kansas—Mr. Chairman, I believe there could be nothing finer, not even the dust, than my proposed slogan which is "Excuse my dust."

Gentleman from Nebraska—Mr. Chairman, I don't like to be obstinate but I believe I have a better slogan which is "Dust thou art to dust returneth."

Chairman—The ayes—if they're not too full of dirt—have it. The Kansas slogan wins.

And now we come to the more serious question: Just who is raising all this dust?

The Texas and Oklahoma Panhandles claim it's coming from Kansas. Kansas blames Nebraska when the wind's from the north and Oklahoma when the wind's from the south. Eastern Colorado puts the responsibility on Wyoming and Nebraska says it's Eastern Colorado. The Wyoming precincts have not been heard from but I am assured that the vote will be favorable, either way.

Gentleman from Colorado—Without wishing to become too personal I wish to move the chair—and if it's not moved it'll begin to collect dirt—that Kansas assume responsibility for this dirt.

Kansas has broad shoulders. For years it has done nothing but assume responsibility for the radical actions of the world.

The state has done nothing but stir up dirt and such for the last sixty years. The only stir which created a greater amount of interest was by that great Kansan and civic patriot, Dr. John R. Brinkley.

Any state which can face the world without blushes when the name of Brinkley is mentioned should find it easy to shoulder such a small whirlwind as a 12-day dust storm and the wrath of the housewives of the nation. I thank you.

Gentleman from Oklahoma—I second the proposal of the Gentleman from Colorado. I wish to point out another fact regarding Kansas.

It is known as the driest state in the union. It has been dry since its earliest days. It has never known wetness. It openly boasts of its perfect aridity—which, incidentally, its attorney general is now trying to make more perfect.

If the state is that dry there can be no question that it is furnishing this dust.

Chairman—How dust thou wish to vote. All in favor say, "Here's mud in your aye," all opposed, "Here's dirt in your nose."

The ayes have it.

Describing conditions in dust-blown western Kansas as "heart rending," Gov. Alf M. Landon, on his return from an inspection tour of the region, declared the soil erosion and drouth problem there must be treated as any other national catastrophe.

"No one can give any idea of conditions in parts of Kansas, Oklahoma, Colorado, Texas and New Mexico by description," he said. "You must experience it personally to have any understanding of the situation."

"It can be compared with a devastating flood, only this is sand instead of water."

The Kansas governor said the property and health of 413,000 persons living in the affected area are being damaged and endangered.

Progressive Towns.

"This area is dotted with progressive towns, fine school houses and businesses and homes that surprise the stranger. It is inhabited by courageous, hardy folk of great faith and hope."

Listing of the blowing soil appears, the governor said, to be the only immediate method of combatting the winds. However, the \$250,000 recently allotted to Kansas for listing of western Kansas land is "totally inadequate," he said. More funds will be needed.

When the listing program was first drawn up last month, soil experts estimated that 2,500,000 acres of western Kansas land were blowing. That acreage has increased, the governor said, to more than 8,000,000. He said soil experts of the five affected states estimate the total Great Plains area now being denuded of top soil at 22,000,000 acres.

The chief executive took issue with those who contend the region should be returned to desert from which they contend it came.

A National Record.

"It never was a desert," he declared. "The larger portion of this area, insofar as Kansas is concerned, has been producing for 40 years, without the aid of fertilizers or nitrates, a record not duplicated anywhere else in the country."

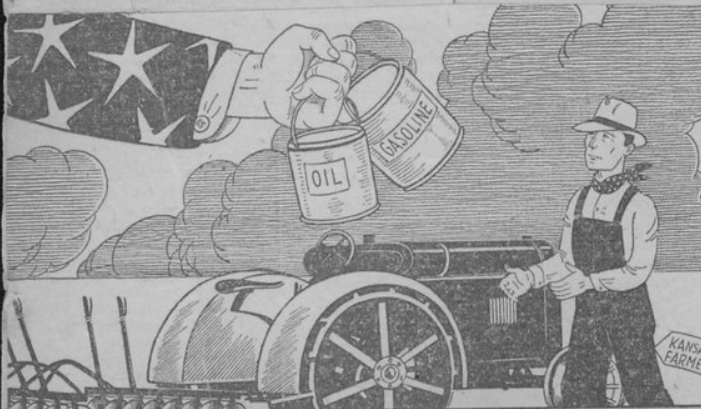
Stating that some people had the idea that farm land prices must be declining in the dust area, the governor said that his investigations and personal experience showed this not to be the case.

"Farm land prices have increased from 25 to 50 per cent the last six months thruout the affected area," he said. "There is an increasing demand for farms and ranches. I know this to be true."

Stiff Upper Lip.

The governor said that the farmers are "holding a stiff upper lip," and hoping for rain. Good rains would make it possible, farmers explain, to put in summer crops. Virtually all the winter wheat crop has been killed either by the long drouth or the dust storms.

Recounting personal experiences of his tour, the governor said "it was the hardest trip I ever made. I have fought blizzards, snow, mud and rain, and driven thru the Osage nation 20 years ago when the roads were cowpaths. But never a day like last Tuesday. And Tuesday was one of the 11 of the last 15 days to those courageous people out there."



HERE'S A QUARTER MILLION DOLLARS—NOW TRY TO
STOP THE DUST.

Centennial Old Settlers' Reunion Program Thursday, Friday, Saturday — June 12, 13, 14

REGISTRATION

June 5, 1980—5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
June 7, 1980—10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
June 9 through June 14, 1980—9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Each day at Ness City Chamber of Commerce Office

THURSDAY, JUNE 12

- 9:30 a.m. Call to Order—Chester Barrows, President of Ness County Old Settlers' Reunion Association
Invocation—Rev. J. C. Stork, First Baptist Church
Star Spangled Banner—Laura Lee Reddig
Welcome—Boyd Beutler, Mayor of Ness City
Response—Bill Bowden, Los Angeles, Calif.
Welcome—Duane Stutz, Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners
Introduction of Guests—Basil C. Marhofer, Vice President of Ness County Old Settlers' Reunion Assn.
Vocal Solo—Bryon French, Ithaca, New York
10:05 a.m. Address—Hon. John Carlin, Governor of Kansas—introduced by Janice Tittel
~ 10:30 a.m. Parade—Chester Barrows, Parade Marshall
Glen Pember, Parade Chairman
Rod Barrows and Jim Clouston, Assistants
Address—Hon. Kalo Hineman, State Representative (Introduced by Paul Shramek)
Address—Hon. Bob Stephen, Attorney General
Address—Hon. Jack Brier, Secretary of State
1:30 p.m. Southwest Ness County Program—Legion Building
2:30 p.m. Concert by First Infantry Division Band, Fort Riley, Kansas—Reviewing Stand
3:00 p.m. Recognition of Old Settlers—Basil C. Marhofer presiding (all who resided in Ness County before 1900 are requested to be present for recognition at reviewing stand)
3:30 p.m. Beard Judging—Terry Keenan in charge—Reviewing Stand
Music by Dixie Land Band—Jim Frank, Director
4:00 p.m. Style Review—"Let's Play It By Era"—Reviewing Stand
(Sponsored by Ladies Choice, Ness City)
Music by Wileta Pember
4:30 p.m. Cow Chip Throwing Contest—Lot north of Mr. A.G. Food Store (Sponsored by Eileen "Casey" Eilts)
8:00 p.m. Square Dancing (Verlyn Witthuhn, Caller)—Legion Building
(Luncheon Stands sponsored by F.F.A., B.P.W., Alpha Theta of ESA and Delta Omicron of ESA)

FRIDAY, JUNE 13

- 7:30 a.m. "Run for Fun" mini-marathon, Kent Schaub in charge
Participants meet at 7:00 a.m., at Recreation Commission Office
9:00 a.m. to
9:30 a.m. Finish of mini-marathon at First State Bank corner
10:30 a.m. Invocation—Rev. Chester Ross, United Methodist Church—Reviewing Stand
10:35 a.m. Bazine Musical Talent—Michelle Filbert in charge—Reviewing Stand

- ~ 11:00 a.m. Miss Ness City Kitty and Her Gang—Dee Eibert in charge—Reviewing Stand
11:00 a.m. Free time for viewing Quilt Display (Sponsored by Ness County EHU)
11:15 a.m. Arrival of Pony Express mail at Reviewing Stand
~ 11:30 a.m. Free barbeque held at Cheyenne Oil Service Building
~ 2:00 p.m. Prairie Bells from Ransom—Legion Building
2:30 p.m. Gospel Group from Beeler—Legion Building
~ 3:00 p.m. Pioneer Recollections—Lois Norrell, San Diego, Calif.—Legion Building
3:00 p.m. Judging of Pies in Best Pie Baker Contest—Larry's IGA Store (Sponsored by Larry's IGA Store)
3:15 p.m. Play by Thespian Troupe 742, Ness City—Legion Building (E. Maria Herron, Director)
4:00 p.m. Dedication of Marker at site of Time Capsule at Historical Society Building—Lydia Clouston in charge
6:45 p.m. Indian Hill Saddle Club Drill Team—Fairgrounds
7:30 p.m. Talent Show—Fairgrounds—Admission \$3.00 each (Wileta Pember and E. Maria Herron, Directors)
(Jim Hearing—Master of Ceremonies)
9:30 p.m. Dance (Flatland Band)—Legion Building

SATURDAY, JUNE 14

- 10:45 a.m. Invocation—Father Dennis L. Reed, Sacred Heart Catholic Church—Fairgrounds
11:00 a.m. Indian Hill Saddle Club Show—Fairgrounds (Entries close at 10:00 a.m.)
1:00 p.m. Black Powder Shoot—Gene Delaney in charge at Robert Schniepp farm
~ 1:30 p.m. Kansas Old Time Fiddlers, Pickers and Singers—Legion Building
2:00 p.m. Winners of Reunion Prizes to be announced at Saddle Club Show.
2:00 p.m. Bazine High School Alumni Reception—Bazine High Auditorium—Pat O'Brien, Master of Ceremonies
7:30 p.m. Utica High School Alumni Reception—Grade School Auditorium
~ 8:00 p.m. Ness City High School Alumni Reception at Ness City High School Auditorium—Ila Fritzler, President of Ness City High School Alumni in Charge—Music furnished by Jim Frank
9:00 p.m. Dance (Bluenotes)—Legion Building
(Program is subject to change)

- * Quilt Display will be open all three days from 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., at Jenny's Fabric Store.
 - * Historical Society Building will be open each afternoon.
 - * Please VOTE for your favorite Old Settlers' King and Queen (sponsored by EHU)
 - * Wheat weaving display and demonstration all three days at The Shoe Shack and Keenan Gambles.
 - * Please VOTE for your favorite Little Mr. and Miss Ness County Centennial. (Sponsored by Terri Rebel, Marita Fritzler, Lynette Stieben, Connie Williams and Bonnie Rebel)
Cast your vote at Jenny's Fabric Store for your favorite Little Mr. and Miss.
 - * The Ottawa Amusement Company Carnival will be on Main Street all three days of the Reunion.
- Ness County Old Settlers' Reunion Association Program Committee:
Glen Pember, Chairman; Wileta Pember; Alvera Davison;
Jim Frank; E. Maria Herron

Lillian D. Foster dust storm scrapbook

A SUB-FREEZING DAWN

MR. HAMRICK EXPECTS TEMPERATURE OF 30 DEGREES.

The Mercury Will Rise to Middle 40s Today and Return to Normal April Levels Tomorrow, He Forecasts.

The dust storm that swept into Kansas City yesterday afternoon started a drop in temperature which Mr. Hamrick expected to reach 30 degrees by dawn this morning.

The mercury would rise in the day but not above the middle 40s, the forecaster said. The cold is expected to be of short duration with normal April weather returning tomorrow.

A high pressure area moved in swiftly from the northwest yesterday afternoon, causing a strong wind from the North that whipped up dust in seven states. In some sections of Western Kansas and the Panhandle country of Oklahoma and Texas, already dust-stricken, the storm was reported as "the worst yet."

The dust was not thick here. With a change in the wind to the north, the dust passed on rapidly, leaving in its wake cloudy skies and lower temperatures.

AN 18-DEGREE DROP.

It was 82 degrees at 3:45 o'clock yesterday afternoon and at 5 o'clock the mercury had fallen to 64 degrees.

The dust was first noticed here shortly after noon on the horizon to the northwest. It was not thick as it moved in but the sun was obscured. The clouds it left behind are expected to break away this morning, leaving a clear sky and cold weather.

The dust covered Kansas, all of Missouri but the southeastern corner, most of Nebraska, Texas and Oklahoma, Iowa and Colorado, the Associated Press reported.

Mid-afternoon darkness prevailed in Dodge City and Liberal, Kas. At Springfield, Col., traffic was stopped by sand and silt that lowered visibility to only a few feet.

LIBERAL'S DUST "THE WORSE YET."

Liberal's storm was described as "the worst in history." The storm swirled in suddenly from the southwest and the weather turned colder. Thirty minutes before the arrival of the storm the weather was described as "delightful."

"Another dust storm, worse than its many predecessors," was the report of Arkansas City. There the storm moved in quickly, reducing visibility to less than two blocks in forty-five minutes. The sun was completely obscured.

Other cities reporting the storm were Newton, Hutchinson, Clay Center, Smith Center, Hays, Wichita, Abilene and Great Bend.

At Smith Center it was said that wheat has been given up as lost and no start had been made to put out other crops.

Garden City residents just had seated themselves at the dinner table when the storm arrived, blotting out the sun. Dirt sifted into buildings and houses and was so dense that breathing was difficult. Last night it was doubtful if schools would open today. Garden City had two bright days between the preceding dust storm and yesterday's.

83 DEGREES AT WICHITA.

At Wichita when the dust storm struck the mercury was 83 degrees but by nightfall a 25-degree drop had occurred. It was the fourth major dust storm of the year there.

As a 40-mile northwest wind blew across Nebraska dust filled the air, and one death in a motor car collision was attributed to it.

The dust threw the entire Texas Panhandle into darkness. Billowing black clouds rolled over the plains country, carried by a powerful north wind.

"EVEN A RAIN WON'T HELP."

Dean Call Reports to Governor on Dust Situation.

TOPEKA BUREAU
THE KANSAS CITY STAR

(By a Member of The Star's Staff.)

TOPEKA, March 22.—Governor Landon will go to Washington tonight for conferences with government officials on the plans to stop soil drifting. The governor had a meeting here today with L. E. Call of the Kansas State college, and John Stutz, executive director of the Kansas emergency relief committee. Dean Call came to Topeka from a trip through the worst of the dust area in Kansas. He advised the governor that a rain would not help the worst areas as the dust coating is so fine and so deep that rain will not penetrate it. The only way to stop the blowing is for deep listing that will turn up heavy clods and moist earth and put the fine dust under it.

For wheat fields which are blowing only slightly and for those fields which may not be blowing but are now covered with dust the college is recommending strip listing, one or two furrows every two or three rods. These furrows would catch the dust as it is blown off the wheat stalks. The furrows may be leveled later and before harvest.

Governor Landon sent this telegram today to Senator Capper:

"It should be emphasized that this is not a Western Kansas problem alone. It involves an area embracing at least parts of the following states: Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, New Mexico and Colorado. We would still have dust menacing health conditions over central western United States even though we check our wind erosion in Kansas unless this problem is solved as a whole. It is too big for the individual county or one state alone to solve without assistance and the co-operation which can be obtained only through the federal government as the agency which steps in when you have an interstate problem. Even if we had a good general rain it would not solve the problem. It will assist of course and make the work that must be done easier. The immediate emergency can be met only by listing and the planting of row crops. Again, let me emphasize that this is not the problem of a single state."

Basing his conclusion on past history that a woman is at the foot of all trouble, W. M. H. would like to get his hands on the gal kicking up that dust out in Kansas.

A GLEAM IN DUST HAZE

THE FAITH OF WESTERN KANSAS IS EXPRESSED BY H. L. HARTSHORN

May 6th

A Farmer Forty Years, He Says
That Kansas, Given One Good
Rain, Would Blossom
Like a Rose.

"One good rain and Western Kansas would bloom like a rose."

H. L. Hartshorn, who has been a farmer in Western Kansas more than forty years, spoke with the eloquence born of conviction. In his room at the Hotel Baltimore yesterday, he gave his version of the country wherein he cultivates some 3,200 acres of land near Syracuse.

"The reports you have heard from the dust basin are not exaggerated," he said. "I could tell you of many things that would show the seriousness of the situation. What I desire to express above all else, is that our future is bright if we will just hold on a little longer."

"It may take two years to build the dust area back to normal. But it will come back. With a rain right now, we would have Russian thistle growing within two weeks. Thistle is good summer pasture, and is fine for fat producing cattle."

TILLED LAND WITH PONIES.

Mr. Hartshorn's hair has turned almost white, his face is lined, but his eyes are clear and confident. He has been an active farmer since he was 18, when he tilled eighty acres with a team of ponies and a walking plow. Always a farmer on a large scale, he still has remained close to the land he loves.

"My parents went to Barton County in 1870," he said, "and built the first shack on the ground that was later to be called Great Bend. Four men were there ahead of my parents living in a dugout. The first child born there was my sister, Mrs. A. G. Frey of Ford, Kas. I was born there, and I have been living in or near that country ever since."

Many Western Kansas farmers are discouraged almost beyond endurance. They are ready to abandon their farms. But they are for the most part young men, who are having their first bad experience with adverse weather.

"I have lived through too many years of crop failures, not to be sure that the land will come back. I know what Kansas can be at its worst and at its best. I am ready to gamble all I have on its future."

COSTLY TO LEVEL LAND.

Mr. Hartshorn said silt had formed dunes on some farms, and that it would be an expensive operation to level this land for farming again. Other land, he said, was in a good condition for the planting of crops, with only an inch or two of silt on top of the soil.

"The wind is not the cause of our dust storms," he said. "When the wind is blowing no more than it is today in Kansas City, we still have the storms. The silt is so fine that a light breeze will send it swirling."

Lillian D. Foster dust storm scrapbook

FLEE HOMES IN STORM

APRIL 10

DUST DRIVES 100 FAMILIES OUT OF NORTHWESTERN OKLAHOMA.

Hardships Too Great to Endure, They Say in Explanation—Western Kansas Wheat Crop Believed Beyond Aid.

Grimy wagons and motor cars carried scores of families out of Northwestern Oklahoma last night in full flight from an 8-state dust storm—among the most severe of a devastating series.

Crop and livestock damages, already piled high in uncounted millions, increased rapidly, principally in Kansas, Oklahoma and Colorado. Parts of New Mexico, Iowa, Nebraska, Texas and Missouri also were hit.

The swirling clouds which late yesterday reached Kansas City, were viewed by R. I. Throckmorton, head of the Kansas State college agronomy department, as spelling doom for the big wheat acreage in Western Kansas. He said not even rain now would check devastation in the drought-ridden sector, a major source of the nation's wheat.

A TOWN CLOSES ITS STORES.

Many schools and stores were closed in Colorado and Kansas. The business district at Scott City, Kas., was shut down for the third consecutive day.

More than 100 families had deserted Cimarron and Texas counties in the Northwestern Oklahoma Panhandle, the Associated Press reported. Chester Lamar, an FERA administrator, said that 100 "normally self-sustaining" families have left Texas County alone within the last thirty days.

The Oklahoma refugees told graphically of their distress. "I'm trying to get some place where my children can at least live," said Mrs. Lydia Dower of Hardesty today as she drove away by truck with her three children for Colorado. Atop the truck was the family goat.

"I had no chance to raise a crop here," explained Roy Woods of Texhoma, as he set out for Utah.

LEAVES FARM AFTER 28 YEARS.

"This farm 's the fruit of my labor ever since my wife and I married twenty-eight years ago," said T. A. Foster of Texhoma, "but we are going to leave it. Fortunately, I inherited a farm in Linn County, Kansas, where we can go."

Floyd Hudson, member of the corn-hog committee in Cimarron County, said the dust had driven out all but three of the forty families who once lived in the six townships south of Boise City, Ok.

Attributing conditions to the dust, Mrs. Mabel Lathrop, relief worker at Guymon, said 4,000 of the 5,500 families in six northwestern Oklahoma counties are on relief rolls.

"We're heading east," was all many of the occupants of thirty-six truck-loads of furniture sighted today between Guymon and Boise City would say.

Lacy Rankin, of Hardesty, Ok., set out for California with his wife and children, saying:

"We feared for the family's health if we stayed here. We couldn't make it go here, anyway, and we couldn't be worse off anywhere else."

Tom Blake of Hardesty, lamented that "my family almost smothered to death every time there is a storm."

FIFTH DAY IN COLORADO.

But the Colorado to which Blake is going also reported more dust today. The fifth dust storm in five days swirled over Lamar, Col., causing the dismissal of schools and the closing of stores at noon.

Every school in Baca County, Colorado, was closed. One hundred and eighty school children and passengers on busses prepared to spend their second night at Pritchett, Col., in a school building and nearby homes.

Springfield, Col., stores exhausted their supplies of sponges, sought as "dust masks." Trains in the region were compelled to stop frequently. One arrived twelve hours late. A truck driver required five and one-half hours to drive fifty miles to Lamar.

Kansas, where dust has been spinning in low-hanging clouds for more than a month, virtually was blanketed by yesterday's storm.

Crop statisticians presented a picture of gloom. L. C. Aicher, superintendent of the Fort Hays, Kas., agricultural experiment station, said little wheat survived in the Northwest and even if rain should come it would be of doubtful value.

"Very poor" was the federal official word on crop conditions in Western Kansas where a large part of the country's wheat is grown.

A TRIAL IS ADJOURNED.

The trial of Miles (Steamboat) Ware at Tribune, Kas., on a charge of slaying a railroad conductor was ordered adjourned indefinitely until the dust storm had abated. Judge Fred J. Evans wore goggles at yesterday's brief session.

Two small children of D. B. Weeden, tying themselves together with a rope to avoid becoming separated in the storm, were found near Vanceville, Kas., after wandering all night in the blinding dust. The searching parties exceeded 100.

Here is how yesterday's dust storm affected widely separated Oklahoma points, according to an Associated Press survey:

Okemah—Visibility decreased rapidly throughout the day, the sun was blotted out and darkness came early.

Tulsa—Dust became rapidly worse late in the day when the wind switched from south to west. Visibility less than a mile.

Duncan—Storm blown in from northwest by high wind. Dust which obscured the sun reduced visibility.

Chickasha—Strong northwest wind brought worst dust of the season. Visibility reduced to less than three blocks. Temperature dropped fifteen degrees in two hours from a maximum of 71.

Ponca City—Worst dust storm of the season. Visibility a block and a half, strong northwest wind getting colder.

Muskogee—Slight dust storm.

Nowata—Heavy dust storm. Visibility quarter of a mile, northwest wind increasing.

Miami—Weather clear. No dust storm reported early in the night.

Ardmore—Dust storm increasing in intensity.

Clinton—Worst sand storm of the season blowing all day. At noon motorists traveled with their lights on.

Frederick—Hard wind blew sand from the south and west. Wind changed to the north before noon. Visibility low.

Pauls Valley—Severe dust storm most of the day.

McAlester—Weather clear.

Durant—Light dust.

Shawnee—Worst storm of the season blowing in from the northwest on a high wind.

Okmulgee—Light dust in the air.

Holdenville—Oats fields and gardens damaged by severe dust storm.

Storm reports from Kansas:

Meade, Kas.—Schools closed. Little wheat left. Visibility fifty feet.

Garden City, Kas.—Stores closed. Tourists compelled to stop. Trains being time.

Wellington, Kas.—"It's the year's worst."

Emporia, Kas.—Storm wiped out all trace of an early morning rain.

Dighton, Kas.—Haven't seen the sun since dust storm set in Monday morning and the dust is growing worse.

Manhattan, Kas.—All Kansas State college athletic practice called off.

Topeka, Kas.—Pain followed dust and covered all with mud. Frank Stone of the highway patrol, checked to determine if any state roads should be closed in the interest of safety.

Scott City, Kas.—A man who promised his wife, visiting in Eastern Nebraska, that he would come at once when their baby arrived, received the news this morning but was unable to keep his promise because of the dust.

Arkansas City—Motor car lights turned on by mid-afternoon in worst dust storm in history.

Wichita—The worst of the season.

Longton—The worst ever to strike vicinity.

El Dorado—Although an inch of rain fell in the last few days, dust storm is one of most severe of the season.

Liberal—Third successive day and night of blinding dust. Schools dismissed and some business houses closed.

Neodesha—Visibility reduced to less than a block.

Eastern Colorado farmers near the stricken Oklahoma Panhandle were reported determined to "stick it out."

Fort Dodge, Ia., reported dust so intense that motorists had to turn on headlights.

In Nebraska, Lincoln, Omaha and York were affected in varying degree.

In New Mexico, the storm appeared to be subsiding. At Amarillo, Tex., Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt, jr., was compelled to abandon her motor car in favor of the train in order to meet her husband at Albuquerque, N. M.

In Western Kansas, work in listing soil—to prevent dust storms—was halted because the atmosphere was too suffocating to permit outside activity.

DUST DRIVES THEM OUT

RESIDENTS IN COLORADO AREA START AN EXODUS.

Twelfth Consecutive Day of Gale-Driven Dirt Creates a Serious Menace to Existence in Counties.

(By the Associated Press.)

SPRINGFIELD, COL., March 24.—Mountainous columns of powdered soil still smothered Southeastern Colorado and nearby portions of Kansas and Oklahoma today, burying wheat fields and pasture lands, fences and farm machinery.

It was the twelfth consecutive day of howling gales and blinding dust for residents of Baca and Prowers counties in Colorado.

No longer do they find the storm a phenomenon. It has become a roaring menace to their existence, rapidly erasing the slight means of subsistence they had salvaged from four successive years of extreme drought.

QUIT STRICKEN AREA.

An exodus of residents of the stricken farm areas has been started. Reports to this effect were confirmed today by Kenneth Welch, Baca County relief administrator.

Lillian D. Foster dust storm scrapbook

DUST FARMERS HOLD ON

DROUGHT IS NOT A NEW DIFFICULTY FOR THEM.

Always a Region of Sparse Rainfall, the Small Area Around Southeastern Colorado Does Not Awe Residents.

(By the Associated Press.)

GUYMON, Ok., April 15.—(A. P.)—Three little words—familiar on a western farmer's tongue—rule life out here today:

"If it rains . . ."

If it rains . . . some farmers will get a wheat crop.

If it rains . . . fresh row crops may flourish.

If it rains . . . pasture and range for livestock may be restored.

If it rains . . . fields quickly listed into wind-resisting clods may stop the dust.

If it rains . . . it always has!

A RESTRICTED AREA.

The Southwest is big, and the dust area is only a small chunk of it. Roughly, it takes in a slice of Western Kansas, Southeastern Colorado, the Oklahoma Panhandle, the northern two-thirds of the Texas Panhandle, and Northeastern New Mexico.

It always has been a region of sparse rainfall. The last three years have been years of drought, with this spring's field-eroding dust storms their climax. However, dust storms are nothing new in the Southwest. Forty years ago—decades before the wheat farmers came with their combines—a dust storm of such violence swept Western Kansas that it stopped trains, just as they were stopped last week.

"This is a tough, hardy country," its farmers say, "it will come back overnight."

FARMERS HOLD ON.

Despite the hardship, and a generally unencouraging prospect, not a single one of more than 100 farmers interviewed by this correspondent was leaving the country. Each one had hope of getting a crop.

Take Charles Hitch, an elderly rancher-farmer, living south of Guymon, who came here in 1886.

"For the first time since I have been on Coldwater Creek—and I was the first settler—we are thinking of shipping cattle to greener pastures," he said.

"Recent dust storms are not much more severe than others in former years," Hitch said, "but the drought is worse. My ranges have supported as many as 10,000 head, but I have only 300 head now and they can't find sufficient feed. We have to feed them cottonseed cake. However, cattle prices are on the upgrade, and I am not discouraged. We even will get a wheat crop if rain comes."

HOPES FOR A HALF CROP.

A. L. Thoreson lives over the line in Texas, and is a big wheat producer. He grew 90,000 bushels in 1931, got only 25 cents a bushel for it. The best he can hope for, he thinks, is a half-crop.

"We are not suffering acutely," he added. "The government is paying better than a dollar an acre to us in wheat benefit payments, and in addition we can sell what wheat we raise. That will keep the farmers go-

ing. The federal wheat program is O. K., and if it wasn't for that the farmers would be in an awful hole. They can hold on indefinitely with wheat payments."

And then there is I. R. Bryan, farmer, northwest of Guymon, who could have left ten years ago after thirty years of farming in the Panhandle "with \$35,000 in my pockets."

"I made it in row crops and lost it in wheat."

"I could have left here wealthy, and I'll be damned if I am going to walk out of here broke now."

CHINS UP THROUGH DUST

LONDON PRAISES THE SPIRIT OF WESTERN KANSAS.

"They're Not Discouraged," the Governor Says After Trip of Inspection—Still Hope in Spring Rains.

TOPEKA BUREAU

THE KANSAS CITY STAR

(By a Member of The Star's Staff.)

TOPEKA, April 18.—Governor Landon returned to Topeka today after two days' inspection of the dust erosion area in Western Kansas. He came back with ardent admiration for the citizens in Western Kansas who have been forced to undergo the almost continual duststorms for five or six weeks.

"It was fine to see the way they keep their chins up in the face of conditions," the governor said. "They are not discouraged. A rain will give them relief and they can get spring crops planted, and have a fine chance for great quantities of feed and grain. Where listing has been done the soil erosion has been checked materially."

"The area in Kansas alone has been increased from 2½ million acres to nearly 9 million acres in the last six weeks."

"I have been through oil drilling operations in the days when there were few roads and in the Osage country there were mostly cow paths. I have fought mud and snow and rain and sleet and hail in oil operations. I am frank to say that I never spent as bad a day as Tuesday, driving from Colby to Garden City. You cannot appreciate the conditions through which those people have gone unless you have been through it as we were."

"But there is great hope among the people. The agricultural experts and farmers themselves say the land has not been hurt. Breaking it up with the listers not only stops the dust, but will let the rain get down into the soil and then there is ample reason to expect good row crops. The spring season is hardly started."

DUST BOWL STILL IS DRY

RAIN FALLS IN TEN STATES, BUT MISSES AREA IN GREATEST NEED.

Scattered Showers a Possibility in Kansas City Today, According to Mr. Hamrick, Who Forecasts Unsettled Conditions.

Ten middle western states reported precipitation last night, but there still was little hope of rain in the so-called "dust bowl." That is the section where the boundaries of Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, and the Oklahoma and Texas Panhandle meet and where the dust storms have been most severe.

Unsettled conditions are forecast for Kansas City today by Mr. Hamrick. There is the possibility of scattered showers. Not much change in temperature is expected. Yesterday's maximum was 76 degrees at 4:15 o'clock.

The rain area, Mr. Hamrick said, seemed to be moving northward and slightly eastward. Rain fell last night in the Dakotas, Northern Nebraska, Minnesota and Iowa. Snow fell at Denver and Cheyenne.

THE DUST STILL CARRIES ON.

More dust swirled late yesterday over the Enid section of Oklahoma, in Baca County, Colorado, and Hutchinson, Kas.

Persons were marooned by snow in the Rocky Mountain region, the Associated Press reported.

In Oklahoma, flood waters in creeks and rivers were receding but a thirsty ground had drunk its fill of refreshing moisture.

Heavy rains in Nebraska washed away bridges and railroad tracks, but farmers were pleased because of the drenching given their fields. In Minnesota and the Dakotas smiles replaced despair.

KANSAS CROPS LOOK UP.

Farm crop prospects in the Chanute, Kas., area, were described as the best in four years last night by Lester Shepard, county agricultural agent. Wheat, he said, was recovering from an early setback. He predicted a satisfactory yield. He said pastures were in excellent condition and the outlook for corn and oats was "extremely bright."

T. A. Kiesselbach, a professor at the University of Nebraska agricultural college, said yesterday's rains were sufficient to meet moisture needs of the state for several weeks.

In the Dakotas and Minnesota the crop statisticians counted in the millions of dollars benefits from the rains in territories dust blown a year ago. They were agreed that crop prospects were the best in years as additional rains fell in some sections last night.

Lillian D. Foster dust storm scrapbook

THE DUST IS SWIRLING.

Several Cities in Kansas Report a New Cloud of Silt.

(By the Associated Press.)

SALINA, KAS., April 10.—A pall of dust, kicked up by high winds over the plains area yesterday, enveloped Central and Western Kansas today. Rainfall was almost negligible in these sections the last twenty-four hours.

At Dodge City, in the southwest, a duststorm that began Monday continued today. Visibility was less than a block. There was no wind last night, but the breeze was rising today. Great Bend was in the midst of a fog of dust, blown by a light wind.

Visibility here was limited to a block or two by the dust, which moved in from the west during the night. The wind was blowing mildly this morning.

Reports from more western points indicated light showers accompanied or preceded the dust.

The dust struck Hays at 4 o'clock this morning, lightening later. A trace of rain fell through the dust last night, spattering objects with mud. During the last twenty-four hours rain totaled .07 inch, sending the total precipitation since October 1 to 1.91 inches. At Colby, in the northwest, the wind had switched to the northwest.

Abilene residents awoke today to find their city under a dust cloud with visibility limited. There was no wind. Herington also experienced a duststorm following a light fall of rain.

Emporia and Topeka, in the eastern part of the state, reported it was misting this morning. Skies were cloudy over much of the state.

Tribune reported conditions there as "worst yet." The murder trial of Miles Ware was delayed when the lights went off and on from time to time, plunging the courtroom into darkness. The judge wore goggles to protect his eyes from the dust.

It was "as bad as ever" at Garden City and Dighton. As the hazy fringe of the advancing silt reached the rain area it was carried down in the form

of mud. Homes and motor cars were spattered with the reddish-brown substance.

DUST DRIVING OUT RAIN APRIL 10

KANSAS CITY'S HOPE FOR SHOWERS DIMMED BY SILT STORMS.

With Clouds of Dust Headed This Way, Moisture Is Likely to Be Pushed Away—To Be Colder Tomorrow.

When Mr. Hamrick figured out his weather forecast for Kansas City early today he had hopes of rain tonight and probably tomorrow, with colder weather.

This afternoon, with reports coming in of dust storms in Kansas, he found it necessary to alter the forecast to read: "Showers probably late today or early tonight; partly cloudy tomorrow; colder."

A brief flurry of rain early this afternoon soon faded and by 3 o'clock the sun was shining through a thin layer of dusty haze.

MUST FALL BY EARLY TONIGHT.

Whatever rain Kansas City receives will have to fall by early tonight, because a dust area extending from Wichita this afternoon to as far north as Concordia, Kas., and as far east as Topeka was getting closer and should envelop Kansas City sometime tonight. With the dust, hopes for rain will vanish for the time being, he said.

That dust storm was only a part of a new swirling mass that extended over Central and Western Kansas today, and some communities, even those calloused to the blinding, choking silt, reported the storms were the "worst yet."

Except for the extreme northwestern part of Kansas, the western dust-deluged section of that state has lost its opportunity for moisture. Mr. Hamrick said today. The "low" that was looked upon to bring rain has moved so far east that the winds over that area are from the dry areas of New Mexico and Texas, and today the whole section was in the grip of another dust storm.

BRIGHT IN EASTERN THIRD.

Nebraska, Northern Kansas and Northern Missouri have received rains, and Mr. Hamrick said the outlook for the eastern third of Kansas, say from Manhattan east, was most favorable.

Dust has been pretty well settled in Nebraska by snow and rain, according to the early morning reports. Thirteen Nebraska stations, widely scattered, reported rains and snow ranging as high as .94 inch.

Some rain had fallen in Missouri and much more was forecast by the Kansas City weather office. St. Joseph reported .18 inch, Chillicothe .38, Kidder .20, Lexington .12 and Maryville .22.

The dust storm, severe as those that have preceded it, was reported swirling today at Dresden, Garden City, Dodge City, Hays, Hutchinson, Larned, Liberal and Tribune. In some instances the wind was from the northwest and in others from the southwest, but it apparently made no difference in the severity of the storm.

Manhattan was gripped by a dust storm that was reported growing in intensity. Visibility was limited to two blocks.

FIRE IN EVERGLADES OF FLORIDA IS WORSE THAN DUST STORM IN KANSAS

Hutchinson, Kan., April 17.—(A. P.)—When dust storms became too bothersome, Mrs. W. N. Kelly fled to Florida for a breath of fresh air. Several days later her husband received a letter asserting the smoke from an everglades fire had done a better job obscuring the sun than Kansas dust, and that a friend had been forced to drive two hours to escape the smoke. The fire had been burning several days.

SMOOTH OUT DUST ROW

TROUBLE IS BELIEVED IRONED OUT IN ELLIS COUNTY.

Farmers to Be Given Opportunity to Apply for Fuel Benefits Next Week—General Acceptance Forecast.

(By a Member of The Star's Staff.)

HAYS, KAS., April 4.—Dissatisfaction with terms of the dust barrier contract offered farmers by the KERC was believed smoothed over late today when it was decided the Ellis County drought relief committee would hold a series of meetings in the various townships next week at which farmers would have an opportunity to make application for the 10 cents an acre fuel benefit.

Principal protest at the county-wide meeting of township committees here today, at which it was expected to start the sign-up campaign, was at the wording of the contract in which the farmer was required to swear that he was unable to obtain money for fuel from any other source. It also was objected that the type of tractor fuel specified, oil at not more than 5 cents a gallon and third grade gasoline, were not of sufficient quality.

Several other counties in this section, first to get the forms for the project, which seeks the construction of dust furrows on 2½ million acres in Western Kansas, also reported some farmers dissatisfied with the requirement to swear financial inability, but the county agents believe that the forms generally will be accepted.

Most of the protests, it was said, came from farmers who had misunderstood the plan for the campaign, believing that the government intended to pay wages as well as fuel costs.

A survey of the territory indicated that general construction of barriers probably could not start before next week. The project must be concluded by April 20. Meanwhile the wind, which had swirled up a fog of dust through the day, had died down tonight, although the horizon still was murky with suspended soil.

IT MIGHT BE WORSE

What if This Was Next Week, Ask Lindsborg Folks.

Lindsborg, Kan., April 10.—(Special)—The dust storm here is bad, but Lindsborg folks say it would be even worse to have it next week when many visitors will be here, having made this town a music Mecca for the week from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday for half a century. The week before always has been a week of preparation, cleaning, scrubbing and baking, so the gray clouds of dust that swept in today made housewives apprehensive of what might follow and fearful for the famed hospitality of Lindsborg homes with the many visitors and concert artists. Merchants, housewives and festival officials have united in a hope for rain to restore the freshness of spring to greet the big crowds expected.

Lillian D. Foster dust storm scrapbook

When Fire Fiend Joined The Dust Blizzard In Its Terror

Guymon, Okla.—This country has had dust blizzards in the past—and sometimes even more terrible than any of this memorable year.

Take the one of March, 1902, for instance, which Mrs. Anna Lee Williamson, county clerk of Texas county, recalls vividly.

It was the more terrible, because coupled with it was fierce prairie fire which swept the county.

It was on March 2, thirty-three years ago. Mrs. Williamson and her husband were living then on their ranch on the Hackberry creek in the southeastern part of Texas county.

Mrs. Williamson relates that the day was a beautiful one, but that the ranchmen early in the morning had noticed a prairie fire spreading across the horizon from them. In those days the plains were covered with a bounteous supply of buffalo grass and in the valleys the blue stem was growing waist high, and when the tall grass was reached by a blaze there was good reason for terror.

It was then the custom of the ranchmen and cowboys when a prairie fire was sighted to all turn out with barrels of water in wagons and bags and blankets to whip out the fire, and on this occasion all the men had left their homes on such a mission, to save as much of the range as possible by stopping the fire before it endangered the ranch buildings and properties.

It was under these conditions that the sudden dust storm came up, and with the boiling dust that mounted in variegated colors hundreds of yards in the air tinged with the lights of the prairie fire, swept down their way. Williamson, who had lost one of his limbs when a boy, had mounted a horse and was headed toward the fire when he met this great dust cloud, and was enveloped in darkness. The electrical currents were so strong that it snapped from ear to ear on his broncho, and the cow chips ignited by the fire would roll hundreds of yards kindling the grass as they rolled and burned. The broncho reared and reared until it exhausted itself, and he finally subdued the animal which insisted on going a different direction from which he tried to guide it. When

Rev. Father J. B. Vornholt, for thirty years priest at New Amelo Catholic church in Norton county writes: "Yesterday we had dust from the south. Today we had dust from the north. Often it blows so hard that I cannot see the children in the playgrounds. We have had dust now since the 20th of February. Many roads are nearly impassable. You can find piles of dust 4 or 5 feet high. But we are not discouraged yet."

U. G. Vanderwork, of Guymon, recalls a storm that was equal in blackness to the recent Palm Sunday duster. It happened 63 years ago. But it was an ash storm rather than a duster. "We were stopped near Wichita, in 1872 by a black rolling cloud of burned ashes, blown from off the prairies, after a prairie fire," he explained. "It was as black as the blackest night for hours in the afternoon."

the first faint rays of light penetrated the dust so he could get his bearings. Williamson realized why the horse had been so stubborn, as he had tried to drive it away from instead of toward his home.

Fortunately for the Williamsons, as the storm ceased, the wind veered, and the fire was driven from their properties. Great stacks of feed and buildings were burned on the Westmoreland ranch and at other ranches in the valley.

D. E. Hemphill, Rock Island trainman, had an unusual view of that Palm Sunday dirt mountain as

it rolled across the plains between Liberal and Dalhart. He had an unobstructed view of it from his train. "I could count a dozen or more white whirlwinds at a time," he said. "In the cloud you could trace three distinct colors, owing to the different types of soil and it glistened in the sunlight as it was approaching."

C. V. Wood, truck driver for the Atlantic Oil Producing Co. reports that a farmer was bringing a 1450

pound mule in a trailer to the sales pavilion in Ness City last week when the storm got so bad he was afraid to go farther, so stopped, unloaded his mule and tied it to a telephone post, then turned around and got back home as best he could. "Next morning he came back for his mule and found that the wind had blown the dust from under the animal until the mule had hung itself," declares Woods. 4/26/35



WAR ON DUST—Will Charlet, with federal aid of ten pounds of corn and ten pounds of hay an acre for his three teams, is listing ridges to catch dust and check soil erosion on his farm near Kinsley, Kas. He is shown with one of his teams.

As Midwestern farmers and government agencies laid heroic plans to combat the dust menace, the weather changed its tactics and dished up snow, rain and freezing temperatures to a wide area, although four states continued to suffer under dust storms.

In Kansas, where the state and government plan to begin a giant furrowing scheme to control drifting soil soon, there was snow, forecast of rain and frost and a dust storm described as "the season's worst."

SNOW OVER WIDE AREA.

Snow fell all over the Northwest plains states and rain fell to the south of Kansas City, but Kansas, Oklahoma, New Mexico and Texas suffered again yesterday under the lash of another dust storm.

In St. Louis, Roscoe Nunn, state meteorologist, announced that spring had come to Missouri three weeks earlier than usual and that fruit and wheat had advanced to the mid-April stage. In Kansas City A. M. Hamrick predicted rain, snow and a killing frost.

Western Kansas received snow yesterday, mingled with great billows of dust stirred up by what was described as the worst storm of this season. The Northern Texas panhandle was under a dust pall which so discouraged grain men that they reduced their estimate of the Panhandle wheat crop to less than 12 million bushels. Normal production for the area is about 30 million bushels.

J. F. Jarrell, a railroad crop statistician, announced yesterday that despite the month's record dust storms, farm work is well advanced in the eastern two-thirds of Kansas. At the same time, S. D. Flora, federal meteorologist for Kansas, warned that temperatures would be below freezing over most of the state today.

COLD GRIPS COLORADO.

Sioux Falls, S. D., reported that a snow blanket varying from one to four inches in depth covered the state with temperatures as low as 10 above at Rapid City. Snow also fell in Wyoming, Montana, Iowa and Nebraska. Colorado was in the grip of a cold wave that had, as yet, brought very little snow.

One death, attributed to dust storms was reported from Lincoln, Neb., where Paul W. Jones, traveling salesman, died of "dust pneumonia" contracted when he was caught in a Western Nebraska dust storm last week.

The continued attack of dust has unnerved virtually an entire CCC camp near Dodge City and the boys, contending that their health was endangered, asked transfer to a dustless area. The camp is scheduled for transfer tomorrow.

(By the Associated Press.)

LIBERAL, KAS., April 27.—Deaths of six persons this week were attributed to dust storms by Red Cross officials tonight as headquarters here pushed relief work in the nation's 18-million-acre "dust bowl."

Three deaths today at Beaver, Ok., were added to one earlier this week at Walsh, Col., and two in Seward County, Kansas.

Lillian D. Foster dust storm scrapbook

STATIC ELECTRICITY IS BLAMED FOR LIFTING OF DUST PARTICLES INTO AIR

Kingman, Kan., April 18.—(A. P.)—Static electricity which tends to lift fine dry vegetable particles into the air is blamed by Wallace E. Emmons, Kingman newspaper man, for much of the dust which plagues the Middle West. Emmons said he had collected dust which settled after dust storms and that an analysis showed fully half of it to be vegetable matter and very sensitive to static electricity.

It is his opinion, Emmons said, that dust clouds are due to lack of moisture in the high plains which prevented the decaying vegetation from entering the soil and that the dust clouds rise high because of action of static electricity. Dust coating on telegraph lines flame like balls of fire, he said. The whirling currents of air swirl the dust upwards, Emmons said, and static electricity keep it moving higher.

Western Kansas farmers long have held the theory that high winds cause static electricity which kills their wheat. This theory is smiled at, however, by scientists.

Simon Fishman, Greeley county wheat king, maintains he has lost more wheat being killed by electricity than by dry weather. He leans to the theory flying particles of dust generate electricity from friction.

WORST IN HALF CENTURY

Ashland, Kan., April 10.—(Special)—All dust storms of the last 50 years are eclipsed by the one raging here since a strong west wind sprung up this morning. All outside work stopped and traffic ceased with the visibility less than 100 feet.

WICHITA SEES DIMLY

Wichita, Kan., April 10.—(A. P.)—Visibility had been reduced to less than two blocks here early this afternoon as the dust storm which struck this morning increased in intensity.

Longton, Kan., April 10.—(Special)—The worst dust storm ever to strike this vicinity was raging tonight driven by a high west wind. Lights were turned on early in homes and business houses and auto drivers used lights. It was impossible to see even a block.

Eureka, Kan., April 10.—(Special)—Another bad dust storm here this afternoon reducing visibility to about 200 feet.

El Dorado, Kan., April 10.—(Special)—Altho an inch of rain has fallen here the last few days, one of the most severe dust storms of the season prevails. Visibility was reduced to a block.

HER DUTIES ARE DOUBLED

Garden City, Kan., April 11.—(A. P.)—Consider the plight of the housewife on dusty days like these. She must wash dishes six times a day. In addition to the customary three washings after meals, she must clean each dish before each meal. The same applies to cooking utensils. The food itself must be placed carefully where the silt is least likely to penetrate.

School Children Pray for Rain



—Associated Press Photo.

School children of Guymon, Okla., under leadership of the Rev. H. L. Wells, Methodist minister, offered prayers for rain to deliver their community from the "black blizzards" which have covered the countryside with dust for weeks.

GUYMON, OK., ASKS GOD TO RELIEVE ITS DISTRESS.

Air Clears, But Clouds Fail to Bring the Needed Rain—Conditions far From Desperate.

DUST AGAIN HITS PANHANDLE.

(By the Associated Press.)

GUYMON, Ok., April 14.—Another dust storm, even more severe than those which enveloped the Oklahoma Panhandle last week, turned daylight suddenly into darkness here late this afternoon. Motorists who had taken advantage of a clear, pretty day to drive into the countryside were believed trapped in the deluge of silt, which rolled and boiled like the smoke from a gigantic oil fire. In the worst of the onslaught, lights could not be seen through the dirt-filled air.

(By the Associated Press.)

GUYMON, Ok., April 14.—Worshippers thronged the Methodist church here today to seek divine deliverance from a plague of dryness that has withered crops and brought choking dust storms to the high Southwest plains.

As overalled farmers, neatly clad business men, children and aged men

and women knelt together in prayer for rain, moisture laden clouds replaced the sullen, yellow fog that had hung in the air for weeks. The clouds departed later, however, without leaving rain.

"It's a beautiful day," friends called to one another before church this morning, referring to the clouds.

Optimism rose above despair even in the area worst affected. Officials and farmers insisted damage to wind-eroded acres was not permanent. Public physicians declined the offer of the American Red Cross to send nurses to care for ill inhabitants, declaring stories of illness caused by the "black blizzards" have been exaggerated.

THREE WEEKS OF GRACE.

"Three weeks will tell the story out here," the Rev. R. L. Wells told a crowded congregation at the Methodist church here. "Farmers are in a desperate condition as far as crops are concerned. Unless we have rain within three weeks, the harvest will be seriously reduced. Good rains within three weeks mean a harvest. God rules all and our last resort is prayer."

Clean air replaced a dust-infiltrated atmosphere in the Oklahoma Panhandle today, although silt clouds raised from a relatively small area of the plateau spotted other sections of the Midwest, traveling nearly to the Pacific Coast. Damaged areas include only small sectors of the states involved.

Lillian D. Foster dust storm scrapbook

WESTERN KANSAS FACES FRONT.

Harry F. Lutz in Western Times, Sharon Springs, Kas.
Elmer Epperson, editor of the Scott City News-Chronicle, hits the nail on the head when he says, "We are not denying the facts, it is darn dry and it is darn dusty, and discouraging, but it always has rained and it will again, and when it does everything will be all right. We will match our country, for the money invested, with anybody. It won't be long until we have waving fields of corn, sorghums and wheat to grace the landscape of Western Kansas."

It is doubtful if very many would actually move away if the facts were known. We have dust and more dust but I believe the majority would prefer this to being flooded out, caught in earthquakes or tornadoes. It is never so bad but what it could be worse. The only sensible outlook is to have faith and grit, face the future with a little more determination and profit by mistakes in the past.

Every farmer should be on his toes and be prepared to take advantage of the first break that comes. Implements should be put in order and everything in readiness to be able to go right to work when the first rains do arrive. These dust storms have shown the extent of careless farming. But it will be easier to profit by the mistakes and help prevent such occurrences as much as possible in the future. Planting of trees, building of lakes, resodding of some land, listing of the soil and other work are a few of the things that will help to make things better in the future. Have faith and those who stay on will be rewarded with rich harvests in due time.

Winds

(Whirlers and Dusters)

ED BLAIR

S AID Old Man Stayer as he took
His goggles off 'nd spit,
"I'm still a stayin' where I wuz,
I'll be a winner yit!
Some folks may holler if they please
O' dust 'n' winds that spin,
But I'm not sore nor laggin' yit,
Won onc't! I kin agin!
Winds played some tricks this last time tho,
Remarkable at least,
The garden that I planted hyar
Is comin' up—back East!
'Nd where I sowed my oats, by jing,
I've got a field o' flax
Sowed somewheres south or west o' me,
By jing, I'm tellin' fax!
My oats lit in Nebraska where
It's growin' in a field
Where spring wheat hed been planted, too,
'Twill make a whoppin' yield.
'N' that spring wheat that feller sowed
Wuz switched to I-o-way,
'N' saved a feller buyin' seed,
Hits growin' fine they say.
A feller movin' here 'n' there
To dodge this thing or that,
'Il find out at the windup, he's
No place to hang his hat!
A cyclone may come whirlin'
'N' whisk me to my grave,
But then hits got to ketch me first
'Fore I git to the cave."

SOME KANSAS RAIN

With It the State Gets Snow, Sun-
shine, Icy Winds, Clouds
and Dust Storms.

BREAK IN THE DROUGHT

Eastern, Northern and Southern
Sections Receive Moisture
That Is Continuing.

A BIG AID TO SPRING CROPS

Wheat, Oats and Pastures Had
Been Lagging, Due to
the Dry Soil.

RAINING HERE.

A slow, steady rain was falling
in Kansas City last night.

(By the Associated Press.)

TOPEKA, April 6.—The weather man
"threw the book" at Kansas today.

Welcome rains fell on thirsty soil
in northern and central areas; the
dry southwest had to be content with
just more dust; snow fell in the
northwest, and to complete the pic-
ture, eastern areas had early morn-
ing sunshine, although clouds moved
in later.

Although light, measuring generally
less than one-half inch, steady driz-
zles brought joy to farmers in north-
ern and central areas, as moisture
was needed over the entire state for
spring crops and plowing.

Second in Three Days.

Rain over the Wichita area
added .29 of an inch to the .93 inches
received Thursday night. Wheat
has been aided immensely and farm
lands now are in good condition for
corn planting. Alfalfa has taken on
new life and pastures are greening
up. Rainfall at Wichita for 1935 is
normal now.

The second rain that has fallen
at El Dorado in the last three days
measured an inch and still was fall-
ing tonight.

The prolonged drought was broken
in Northern Kansas by the best rain
in months, a steady downpour, be-
ginning at noon and continuing the
remainder of the day. The much
needed moisture will be of great bene-
fit to the growing wheat, oats, other
spring crops and pastures, which have
been backward because of lack of
rainfall.

At Beatrice, Neb., a steady rain be-
gan falling tonight.

Colby, in Northwestern Kansas, had
rain and then snow, the precipitation
amounting to .25 inch.

ICY WIND AT GREAT BEND.

At Great Bend an icy wind blew
from the north after one-fourth of an
inch of rain fell during the day.

Drought-ridden southwestern coun-
ties were passed up by everything
except wind and dust. Dodge City

had a sprinkle and almost immedi-
ately a dust storm began.

Tribune and Scott City reported
blinding dust on the heels of north-
west winds, and visibility was limited
to half a block. The winds carried
dust into Garden City before noon.
Syracuse also reported dust, as did
Holly and Lamar across the line in
Colorado.

Another dense dust storm from the
north struck Ashland in mid-after-
noon, accompanied by a steady drop
in temperature. A paving crew en-
dured it an hour and a half, then
quit work.

At Marysville a slow rain began
falling at noon. It totaled .25 of
an inch at 5 o'clock and still was
falling. Farmers rejoiced, saying it
was needed badly for wheat, oats and
alfalfa.

HALF AN INCH AT NORTON.

More than half an inch of moisture
fell at Norton, elating farmers who
had seen only 3.66 inches of rain the
last six months. S. J. Sykes, county
agent, said the rain would not halt
the dust barrier listing campaign, as
the dust menace would be worse as
soon as the fine topsoil had dried.

The rain moved southeast across
the state and S. D. Flora, meteorolo-
gist here, forecast showers for East-
ern Kansas tonight or tomorrow but
said there was little hope for addi-
tional rain in the dry west, badly in
need of heavy precipitation.

Points reporting rain: Arkansas
City, .15 inch; Goodland, .01; Dres-
den, .04; Anthony, Hays, Phillipsburg,
sprinkles; Great Bend, light rain;
Wellington, .15; Salina, .35; Emporia,
Oakley, LaCrosse, Osborne, light rain;
Colby, rain and snow, .25; Clay Cen-
ter, half an inch.

The precipitation at Osborne was
the first since late in February; that
at Great Bend was the first since
March 7 and boosted wheat prospects.



Fields Are Soaked and Stock Ponds, Long Dry, Are Beginning to Fill.

THE CLOUDS TO HOLD ON

Mr. Hamrick's Forecast Calls for Cooler Weather in This Territory.

DUST AREA IS DISAPPOINTED

Dark Clouds Roll Up, Thunder Sounds and Lightning Flashes, but Moisture Is Slight.

IT'S A RAIN TO HIM.

(By the Associated Press.)

LIBERAL, Kas., May 2.—The weather observer here said today, with wry humor, "Nine drops of rain fell here, but I can't find anybody else who saw them."

Good rains, ranging as high as two inches, fell over Southeastern Kansas and Missouri last night and early today. Added to the precipitation earlier in the week, it gave all that section a big boost toward a productive season.

Small streams that were dry last summer and were trickles early this spring were asserting themselves. Ponds thrown up through the drought period to provide stock water in event of another drought were filling. In many sections fields have been too wet for farm work. In the large favored area the countryside has all the appearance of a normal spring.

Heavier in Some Parts.

Kansas City received 40 inch of rain at the weather bureau, but citizens of many sections were confident that it rained much more than that in their localities. Mr. Hamrick admitted that might easily be true, because there were showery conditions. The forecast calls for continued cloudy skies tonight and tomorrow with slightly cooler weather tomorrow.

The dust area to the southwest was disappointed badly last night. Clouds rolled in from the northwest, there were thunder and lightning, and even some sprinkles. One of the worst spots in the area, Springfield, Col., even received a shower.

Associated Press dispatches tell of residents running out into the storm to feel again the rain upon their heads and faces.

But when it was all over, the dust still was there and stiff northwest winds were whipping it into clouds at Hays, Ellis, Wakeeney, Dodge City, Quinter and Oakley in Kansas, and Guymon and Boise City, Ok.

Dust Storm Rolls In.

An all-night dust storm at Dodge City left it with a visibility of less than two blocks today. At Guymon, Ok., there is a pioneer day celebration in progress despite the dust and preparations were made for 40,000 visitors from over a wide area. After a quarter of an inch of rain at Altus, Ok., a heavy dust storm rolled in early today.

FLOODS RISE NEAR PARCHED DUST SECTIONS

Rain and Snow Cut Heavily Into Tomain of Dust Area in 5 States of Southwest.

BEYOND WORST STRICKEN

Weather-beaten Residents of Drouth Area Temporarily Confident That Rain Is Near.

Amarillo, Tex., May 5.—(A. P.)—Dust and floods paradoxically vied for attention in the Southwest today.

Rain and snow cut heavily into the domain of drouth.

Of the five-state area involved, only western Kansas failed to receive a generous fall and sprinkles at Dodge City and Liberal, Kan., gave promise there of surcease from silt storms which have raged at intervals since late February.

Gully Washers.

Gully-washers which would have made crops in the heart of the dust bowl fell 500 miles or so Southwest, swelling streams, destroying corn and cotton in the lowlands and washing out several bridges.

Weather-beaten residents of the drouth area, however, were temporarily content with lesser moisture—snow, sleet and rain to revive dormant vegetation and still the blowing soil which destroyed wheat, smothered pastures, killed cattle and was charged by physicians with contributing to respiratory infections which caused the death of more than 80 persons.

Three Fourths at Gymon.

Boise City, in the Oklahoma panhandle, had three inches of snow.

Guymon had $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch of rain. Snow fell for five hours in the region of Amarillo. Other moisture was welcomed in eastern Colorado and New Mexico.

Sleet and rain came down at Dalhart, Tex., scene of cloud-bombing by Tex Thornton, Amarillo explosive expert.

To the southeast, heavy rains in southeastern Oklahoma and north and east central Texas flooded the Red river and several creeks. Several highways were inundated.

Washouts tied up a St. Louis-San Francisco railroad line temporarily and three bridges were carried away at Sherman.

THE DUST BACKS DOWN

SNOW AND RAIN HIT EDGES OF THE DROUGHT AREA.

May 6th

Western Kansans Get Their First Whiff of Moist, Fresh Air in Many Weeks—Clean Shirts Again.

The air was clean in the dust bowl yesterday. Rain and snow did it.

The fog of silt had been washed away by generous rains in all the five states of the dust bowl except Western Kansas, where light showers fell Saturday night. A man could walk to church and arrive with his shirt still clean for the first time in many a Sunday.

A LITTLE GREEN ONCE AGAIN.

Farmers looked at fields where a sprig of green gleamed occasionally on the carpet of tan earth. Men in towns gazed across the street and saw the features of their fellow citizens. Women washed clothing and hung the garments out on clothes lines heretofore unused for many weeks. Motor cars moved quietly again, free from the dust cough in carburetors. Roosters crowed as they did before their throats were earth-lined.

Light and refreshing breezes were blowing. They did not carry the fragrance of growing wheat, but at the same time, the farmers observed, they did not carry the stifling, throat-filling particles of dust.

It was the third day of comparatively clean air—the longest stretch free from the billowing storms in several weeks. In Western Kansas, laconic telegrams were dispatched mentioning the light rains. In Syracuse, a correspondent telegraphed:

"No dust storms here since Wednesday. One-third inch rain Thursday morning effectually laid dust in spite of wind. We hope that rain in other sections means the worst of the storms are over. Not enough rain to benefit crops or pastures."

A HOPE FOR MORE RAIN.

From Liberal, the heart of the dust bowl, came the message:

"One-fifth inch rain here last night. Rain general throughout this territory but not heavy. Was greatly beneficial. Gives hope will be some wheat and prospects for row crops, but conditions not normal. Farmers generally feel we cannot have much wheat. This shower helped more. Hopes for more rain high. Dust has subsided."

From Wakeeney, a correspondent wrote:

"This section has had no relief from drought except scattered showers a week ago. Past three days free from dust. Temperature 68. Good looking clouds. Grass has not started. Feeding of stock most serious problem. Farmers generally signed up for listing program but too dry to comply."

From Great Bend, these words:

"Only .27 inch fell in April, and 1.85 inches since first of year. This deficiency has resulted in poor wheat outlook. Business conditions, however, have been better than year ago."

From Dodge City:

"Southwest Kansas dust subsided today, result of showers last night ranging from .12 inch in Dodge City to heavier at Liberal and Hugoton."

Lillian D. Foster dust storm scrapbook

HOORAY!
I got wet
(I don't care) —
A good rain
is so rare! RUSTICUS.



THE WEATHER

The news everyone is most interested in just now seems to be "How much did it rain?" We have answered the telephone at least 500 times in the past week to give this very information, and after totalling the precipitation find that 5.86 inches of moisture has fallen since Friday, May 10.

Just as we suspected, folks were beginning to complain and wish for some sunshine, and Tuesday the order was filled. Farmers are anxious to get into the fields and plant spring crop and gardeners are busy with spade, rake and hoe.

Pastures are greening up remarkably and all indications point to the fact that our drouth is permanently broken.

Lillian D. Foster dust storm scrapbook

¶ A farmer's wife, 28 years in Oklahoma,
writes to a friend in the East

Letters from the Dust Bowl

Condensed from The Atlantic Monthly

Caroline A. Henderson

EVA, OKLAHOMA
June 30, 1935

My dear Evelyn:

In the dust-covered desolation of our No Man's Land here, wearing our shade hats, with handkerchiefs tied over our faces and vaseline in our nostrils, we have been trying to rescue our home from the wind-blown dust which penetrates wherever air can go. It is an almost hopeless task, for there is rarely a day when at some time the dust clouds do not roll over. "Visibility" approaches zero and everything is covered again with a silt-like deposit which may vary in depth from a film to actual ripples on the kitchen floor. I keep oiled cloths on the window sills and between the upper and lower sashes. Some seal the windows with the gummed-paper strips used in wrapping parcels, but no method is fully effective.

On a 60-mile trip yesterday to procure tractor repairs we saw many pitiful reminders of broken hopes. Little abandoned homes where people had drilled deep

+ wells for the precious water, had set trees and vines, built reservoirs, and fenced in gardens — with everything now walled in or half buried by banks of drifted soil — told a painful story. I grieved especially over one lonely plum thicket buried to the tips of the twigs, and a garden with a fence closely built of boards for wind protection, now enclosing only a hillock of dust covered with the blue-flowered bull nettles which no sands discourage.

Early in May, with no more grass or even weeds on our 640 acres than on your kitchen floor, and even the scanty remnants of dried grasses from last year cut off and blown away, we decided to ship our cattle to grass in the central part of the state. We sent 27 head.

The next day, the long drouth was temporarily broken by the first effective moisture in many months — about one and one-quarter inches in two or three gentle rains. But all hope of a wheat crop had already been abandoned, and the helpful effects of the rains have been largely

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(The Atlantic Monthly, May, '36)

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THE READER'S DIGEST

July

destroyed by the drifting soil from abandoned lands about us. It fills the air and our eyes and noses and throats, and worst of all, our furrows, where tender shoots are coming to the surface only to be buried by the smothering silt from the fields of rugged individualists who persist in their right to do nothing.

A fairly promising piece of barley has been destroyed for us by the merciless drift. Large spaces in our pastures are entirely bare in spite of the rains. Most of the green color, where there is any grazing, is due to the pestilent Russian thistles rather than to grass. Our little locust grove which we cherished for so many years has become a small pile of fence posts. You can't imagine how I miss that little green shaded spot in the desert glare.

Naturally you will wonder why we stay here where conditions are so disheartening. Why not pick up and leave as so many others have done? Yet I cannot act or think as if the experiences of our 27 years of life had never been. To break all the closely knit ties of our continued and united efforts for the sake of a possibly greater comfort elsewhere seems like defaulting on our task. We may *have* to leave. We can't hold out indefinitely without some income, however small. But if we can keep the taxes paid, we can work and hope for a better day. We long for

the garden and little chickens, the trees and birds and wild flowers of the years gone by. Perhaps if we do our part these good things may return some day, for others if not for ourselves.

A great reddish-brown dust cloud is rising now from the southeast, so we must get out and do our night work before it arrives. Our thoughts go with you.

August 11, 1935

My dear Evelyn:

We spent the better part of a night during this blistering week trying to save two of the best young cows from the effects of the prussic acid which develops in the stunted sorghum. We thought for a time they would die.

We have had *no* rain for over a month. All hope of an adequate forage crop has now followed into oblivion the earlier hope of wheat and maize production. The cattle stay alive thus far on weeds, but the pastures are destitute of grass. The heat is intense, and the drying winds are practically continuous, with a real "duster" occurring every few days to keep us humble.

A recently established Oklahoma law permits the County Commissioners to require the working of land that is being allowed to blow to the detriment of other farms, and this is being done in our county. Everything now depends on whether a definite

Lillian D. Foster dust storm scrapbook

1936

LETTERS FROM THE DUST BOWL

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change of moisture conditions occurs in time for people to sow wheat for 1936.

January 28, 1936

Dear Evelyn:

As yet there is no clear light on our way. Thanks to a late summer shower we had scanty crops of sorghum cane and Sudan grass, and a few loads of maize fodder from spots here and there. These have little market value, but are indispensable for wintering cattle. The old, nutritious native grasses which used to provide winter pasturage are forever gone. Some 20 tons of fodder from 200 acres is expensive feed when regarded as the outcome of a year's work.

Perhaps books on pioneer life with the usual successful outcome have helped to a wrong impression that country people live on game and fish and fruits and in general on the free bounty of heaven. Many people have no idea of the cash expense of operating a farm today. This year we are keeping a separate account of expenses for car, truck and tractor, all of which are old and frequently in need of repair. I fear we shall be discouraged by the close of the year.

I think I told you of shipping our cattle to pasture. It proved to be a mistake. The source of trouble was our impression that grass is grass, and that our cattle would gain if they could have ample pasturage. Evidently other

factors of acclimatization must be considered. Our experience was duplicated in that of most of our neighbors who found their cattle in far worse condition in the fall than in the spring. Most of our efforts and resources since November have been devoted to trying to bring our cattle back to normal.

March 8, 1936

Dear Evelyn:

Since I wrote you, we have had several bad days of wind and dust. Old sheets, stretched over door and window openings, and sprayed with kerosene, quickly became black. Nothing that you hear or read will be likely to exaggerate the physical discomfort or material losses due to these storms. Less emphasis is usually given to the mental effect, the confusion resulting from the overthrow of all plans for normal farm work. To give just one example: the paint has been literally scoured from our buildings by the storms, but who knows when we might safely undertake to repaint, to "save the surface"? The pleasantest morning may be a prelude to an afternoon when the "dust devils" unite in hideous onslaught. The combination of fresh paint with a real dust storm is not pleasing to contemplate.

There has been no moisture of any kind since the light snow of early January. Still, there seems no doubt that improved methods



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THE READER'S DIGEST

of tillage, encouraged by the Soil Erosion Control Service, are already yielding some results in reduction of wind erosion. But rain must come soon to encourage growth even on the best fields if there is to be any wheat harvest. Interspersed with the more hopeful areas are other tracts apparently abandoned to their fate. A field dotted thickly with shoulder-high hummocks of sand and soil bound together by the inevitable Russian thistles presents little encouragement to the most ardent conservationist. Such fields are a menace to all the cultivated land or pasture ground around them.

We have had only slight contact with the Rehabilitation Service. The man in charge stopped the other morning to see whether we really meant it when we promised the use of our tractor and other equipment to a young neighbor who is trying to make a new start for himself and wife and daughter through a rehabilitation loan. In spite of adverse conditions, this agent spoke of a surprising general spirit of optimism. I suppose there is something of the gambler in all of us. We instinctively feel that the longer we travel on a straight road, the nearer we must be coming to a turn. People here can't quite believe yet in a hopeless climatic change which would deprive them permanently of the gift of rain.

To me the most interesting

government undertaking in the dust bowl centers about the group of erosion control experiments scattered over a wide area. The work includes such activities as surveying contour lines, laying up terraces, cleaning out fence rows piled high with drifted soil, filling gullies to prevent washing in that longed-for time of heavy rainfall, cutting down dead trees and brush, resetting trees in favorable locations, testing the adaptability of different types of grass to the difficult task of re-seeding wind-blown spaces, and so on. Altogether it is just such work as a provident farmer would like to do if he had the means.

March 13

We *must* try to get this mailed tomorrow. It has been a terrible week, with one day of almost complete obscurity, and others when only a part of the sun's rays struggled through the gloom with a strange bluish luminance. On such days each little wave of troubled water in the stock tank glitters with a blue phosphorescent light. When I dip out a pail of water to carry to the hen-house, it looks almost as if it were covered with a film of oil. On days like this we can't help questioning whether the traits we would rather think of as courage and perseverance are not actually recklessness and inertia. Who shall say?

Lillian D. Foster dust storm scrapbook

Ad in NESS CITY NEWS Jan. 10 - 1938

Dust Prevention News

Horace Greeley once said, "Go west, young man and blow up with the country." But little did Horace dream that in order to protect our health out here, it would be necessary to seal up the cracks around the windows with our genuine scotch masking tape, which costs about 10/12 of a cent per foot, figuratively speaking, but it is worth that just to keep the neighbor's muskmelon patch from sifting in and settling on the overstuffed settee. It is easy to apply and remove, and doesn't leave a mark even on the finest woodwork. There is no muss, no cuss, no fuss, and no duss.

We are all partners in grime unless we do take steps to keep all the dirt possible out of our homes. When Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "Grime Never Pays", it was not idle chatter, so be prepared for the next whing-ding by sealing your windows with Scotch Masking Tape.

Dust thou have your dust mask and goggles? Well, we have, and they're only a quarter a pair, plus tax. (Slightly higher west of the Rockies.) Practically everything carries tax these days, including the dust storms. So to prevent one from penetrating your eyeball and impairing your vision, we suggest you spend 25c now for some goggles. While they are cheap, yet the lens will not break if hit by a turnip, winter onion, or some other bulbous vegetable, which the strong gale has uprooted and is wafting thru the air as easily as a tail feather from an accredited flock of white leghorn roosters.

Our Willson Number 2 Respirator, being very flexible and resilient, fits most any type and size face so closely, that only clean, filtered ozone is breathed into your lung chamber. While it completely covers the nasal appendage and oral cavity, it still allows freedom of speech, making it truly American, as well as enhancing its value considerably among the ladies. Special sizes for long faces.

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