

Hiskey Jail Escape Stopped by Guards

By Bob Lee
Murder suspect Charles L. Hiskey and suspected bank robber Ronald Leslie Hopwood attempted to escape from the Oklahoma County jail Tuesday, but were foiled by alert jailers.

The pair, both 24, got no farther than the "walk-around" outside their seventh floor cell.

Jailer R. J. Green grappled with the two men and jailer R. E. Shelden sounded the alarm, alerting city,

Bethany, Nichols Hills, Warr Acres, Midwest City and Village police.

The pair cut through a 1/4 inch chain and inserted a home-made key in the lock.

Jailers Green and Shelden heard the chain fall to the floor. Green went to investigate.

"The chain was in place around the door," said Green. "But the lights in the cell and in the hallway were out."

Green, who has been a jailer 3 1/2 years, said he got

Pictures, Page 10

as far as the cell door when Hiskey "threw it open and grabbed me."

Green said he wrestled Hiskey and Hopwood into the corridor and shouted for Shelden's assistance.

Alarm Sounded

Shelden punched the alarm button that sounded in the dispatcher's office on the first floor.

Dispatcher Hansen Cargill sent out the call to city and neighboring city police.

Deputies Richard Mack and Wayne Osburn were in Bethany on an investigation at the time. But when police arrived at the jail, Green and Shelden had Hiskey and Hopwood subdued.

Green said one of the accused men shouted at jailer Shelden as Green scuffled with them.

Life Threatened

"Let us out or we'll kill him (Green)."

But Shelden had already sounded the alarm, and then poked his pistol through the bars, ordering the two suspects to stand away from Green.

Shelden was forced to order the pair to stand away from Green three times.

Finally, Hiskey and Hopwood stepped back. The jailers ordered them to take off their clothes and sit down in the corridor.

Razor Blade Used

"As much as we can tell now," said Green, "they used a razor blade to cut the key from an aluminum plate, and then used razor blades to cut through the chain—although we don't yet

Council Calls Tax Hearing; Election Eyed

By Jim Standard

A public hearing on various earnings tax proposals will be at 8 p.m. Thursday by the city council of Oklahoma City.

The council also scheduled another meeting at 11 a.m. Friday, at which time councilmen indicated an election date may be set on one of the tax proposals.

Meanwhile, City Manager Robert M. Tinstman tossed another revenue proposal into the suggestion box.

The city manager said he believes the city government can be operated successfully if an earnings tax of one-half of one percent is voted by the people.

\$4 Million Plan

Tinstman said the tax would raise approximately \$4 million a year.

Earlier earnings tax proposals have called for a one percent levy, with an anticipated yield of \$8 million.

Tinstman's new proposal would contain no exemptions.

The city manager said ordinances calling elections on both earning tax proposals have been prepared and will be available to the public prior to a Thursday night's meeting.

Sites Selected

Councilmen agreed to meet informally at 4 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday afternoons to discuss the proposed ordinances with interested citizens.

Handleys Will Face Jury Quiz

By Sandy Montgomery
(Times Staff Writer)

EL RENO—The owners of a Canadian County club involved in a gambling raid by state crime bureau agents in July probably will appear Friday before a grand jury, it was learned Tuesday.

Hugh Collum, assistant attorney general, said Charles and Fletcher Handley are tentatively scheduled for questioning that day.

The Handley brothers have not been subpoenaed, but Collum said he has been assured by their attorney, Jim Hugh Rinehart, that they will appear.

Agents Quizzed

If they do, they will become the first witnesses called before the grand jury other than those who petitioned for it and those who

OKLAHOMA CITY TIMES

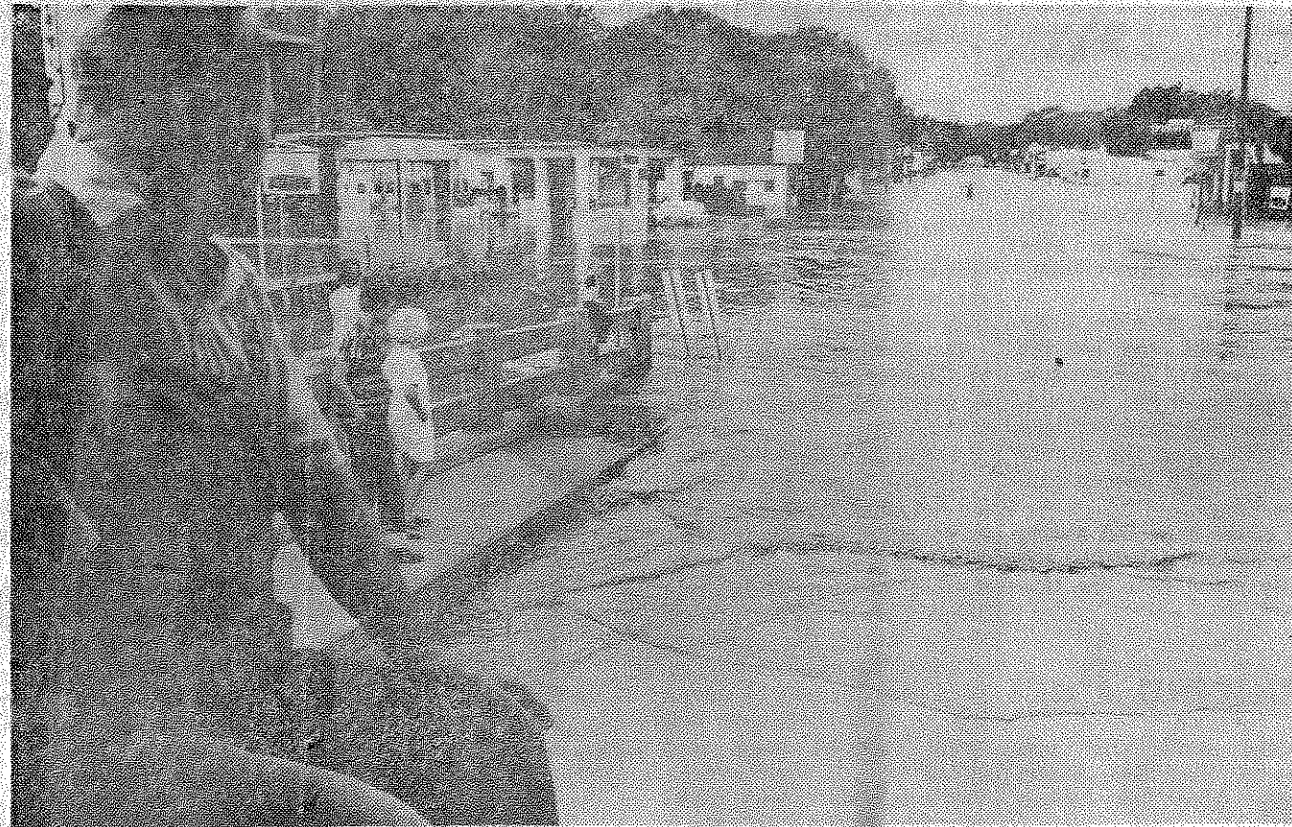
VOL. LXXIV, NO. 183

22 PAGES—500 N BROADWAY, OKLAHOMA CITY, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1963

FINAL HOME

Square Mile Covered by Water

300 Flee Their Homes As Flood Hits Guthrie



The swirling, muddy waters of Cottonwood Creek flooded almost a square mile in Guthrie Tuesday, covering S. H. 33 from Fourth St. in the foreground to almost Tenth St. (Staff photo by Frank Garner)

Shelters Set Up In School

By the State Staff

GUTHRIE — Almost a square mile of the west side of Guthrie was under water along both sides of S. H. 33 Tuesday morning.

Floodwaters from rampaging Cottonwood Creek covered an area five blocks wide and 15 blocks long. The creek reportedly went out of its banks about 2 a.m. Tuesday.

75 Homes Evacuated

Police and civil defense workers said about 75 homes have been evacuated in the affected area, with 300 persons forced to seek shelter elsewhere. Officials said 25 business houses also were hit by the flood. Water was reported in about 35 houses.

Shelters have been set up in Banner School, where the Red Cross has supplied beds and food for about 75 people. Other victims of the flood have been housed in churches and with friends and relatives.

Troops Alert

A joint operation between the city, Red Cross and Civil Defense, assisted by city employees and volunteers

Some Flee In Night Clothing

By Wayne Mackey
(Times Staff Writer)

3 Councilmen Cleared Of Pressure Charges

The city council of Oklahoma City in effect Tuesday cleared three of its members of accusations against Councilmen William C. Kessler, Ward L. Williams and William F. Ware which did business with firms holding city contracts. However, the committee

called before the grand jury other than those who petitioned for it and those who participated in the raid on the Canadian Country Club July 7.

The jury will recess Wednesday and Thursday. The development came as the grand jury questioned the last of the state crime bureau members who took part in the raid.

Earl Goerke, bureau director, and F. M. Cole, agent, appeared voluntarily.

Newsman Questioned

The other bureau agents who participated in the July 7 raid, Lyle Smith and Fred Graves, were called in Monday with Goerke, but the jury recessed before talking to Graves and the director.

Four persons were arrested in the raid but felony charges against them were reduced to misdemeanor counts by Canadian County Attorney John V. Whelan jr.

Richard P. James, Yukon, who initiated the petition for the grand jury, did not list specific items to be investigated but he said later he wanted an investigation of Whelan's office.

Ben Bella Hailed

ALGIERS (AP)—Ahmed Ben Bella has received a message from President Kennedy congratulating him on his election as president of Algiers Sunday.

proposed ordinances with interested citizens.

The afternoon meetings will be in Mayor Wilkes' office in city hall. The Thursday night session will be in the city council chambers.

The city manager said his new earnings tax proposal follows additional study of the city's financial problems by his staff.

Needs Answered

"With \$4 million, I feel we will be able to answer many of the community's needs," Tinstman said.

He said he believes the city could provide adequate police and fire protection and pay adequate wages to city employes with the additional money.

The estimated \$4 million yield from the proposal would fall about \$1 million short of city's estimated budget deficits in coming years.

More Possible

"I realize we are talking about less money than studies indicate our budget deficit will be," the city manager said, "but I feel that \$4 million will accomplish a great deal."

Ward 1 Councilman F. M. Petree said the city may find that a one-half of one percent earnings tax will raise more than \$4 million.

"I am inclined to look favorably on the city manager's suggestion," he said.

blade, and then used a saw to cut through the chain—although we don't yet know how."

This was the first serious bid for freedom by men accused of major crimes in the past several years.

The last escape attempt ended in capture of the prisoners either in the courthouse or outside near the courthouse.

Housed Together

Hiskey is accused of the murder of 17-year-old Vickie Jean Hill, Midwest City student and housewife. Hopwood is accused of the robbery of an Oklahoma City bank. Hopwood is a federal prisoner.

The men were housed together, awaiting trial, in a seventh floor cell next to the hospital ward.

Green said the cell is often used to house men accused of major crimes "because we can watch them, and the cell is easily accessible."

Deputies said it would have taken Hiskey and Hopwood "some time" to cut through the chain.

"The sound of the chain hitting the floor is what alerted us," said Green.

Oklahoma City police dispatcher Bob Pierce said police units converged on the courthouse simultaneously.

"We certainly had the cooperation of everyone," said Osburn. "They came in a hurry."

By Wayne Mackey (Times Staff Writer)

GUTHRIE — The brown water slapped heavily at the civil defense truck as it inched slowly through five blocks of flooded streets toward residents marooned on the west side of Cottonwood Creek.

Seated in the back, dressed only in the flannel pajamas and houseshoes she was wearing when she fled in the night, was Mrs. Shirley Young, a mother in her mid-20s.

She was returning across the flood waters to the west side, where she had left her three small children on high ground with a friend.

Fatigue Shows

She had gone to the east side of Guthrie to find a place for them to stay.

Fatigue showed plainly as she looked across the flood waters to where she had left the children in a car.

A friend, Mrs. Joyce Graham, 18, had remained with the children while Mrs. Young made the trip across the water in the truck.

Truck Used

Complicating Mrs. Graham's situation were children of her own, the youngest 5 months old.

In addition to carrying for her own flock, she kept watch over Mrs. Young's children, 3, 5 and 7.

The civil defense truck, a huge white-painted army surplus vehicle with its tailpipe curved high above the water, finally pulled out of the flooded area.

Mrs. Young anxiously urged the driver not to start a return trip until she could collect Mrs. Graham and all the children, who were a block away.

As she went for them, the truck filled rapidly and the driver started to pull out again.

Damage Unknown

By this time, Mrs. Young had reached the others and they dashed down the street, some barefooted and some in pajamas, catching the truck before it left.

Neither Mrs. Young nor Mrs. Graham knew how badly their homes were flooded.

"I've never been through this before," Mrs. Young said. "When we woke up

(See FLOOD—Page 2)

homa City in effect Tuesday cleared three of its members of accusations that they violated the city charter by exerting pressure on former City Manager Robert T. Luttrell.

An investigating committee made up of three councilmen recommended that no further action be taken on

accusations against Councilmen William C. Kessler, Ward 1; William E. Ware, Ward 2, and Harold Johnson, Ward 4.

The committee also recommended that no action be taken against Johnson in regard to another allegation that he violated the charter while working for an Oklahoma City engineering firm

Hurricane Hits Coast, Declines

PORT ARTHUR, Texas (UPI) — Hurricane Cindy collapsed as it struck the gulf coast Tuesday and slowly pushed northward with heavy rains and dying winds.

There were no dead and no storm injuries. Damage was light.

Refugees from low points along the coast by the thousands, started trickling back

Picture on Page 3

home. A low-lying 300-mile arc had been ordered evacuated.

The New Orleans weather bureau, in its final advisory at noon, said Cindy's maximum winds were 50 miles an hour near the center, 25 miles an hour under hurricane strength.

The eye was about 5 miles west of Port Arthur. Five to ten inch rains were forecast for east Texas and west and north Louisiana.

This was the situation along the Texas-Louisiana

What's Inside

Amusements	4
Bridge	9
Business	15
Comics	12
Classified Section ..	17-21
National Affairs	2
Oil Reports	17
Our World Today	3
Sports	13, 14
Tell Me Why!	14
TV Time	16
Vital Statistics	17
Women's Pages	8, 9

coast, starting at Cameron, La., and going west:

CAMERON — Five thousand of Cameron parish's 7,000 residents, remembering hurricane Audrey and the 500 drowned in June, 1957, had fled to higher ground. They now started back home. The highest winds in the town of Cameron were 40 miles an hour. Tides failed to reach the top of the seawall.

PORT ARTHUR—Highest winds reported were 55 miles an hour. The wind tore limbs from trees and broke some plate glass windows and power lines. The Jefferson Parish Civil Defense Council closed shelters in which 2,000 persons from along the coast had spent the night.

HIGH ISLAND — Little damage reported at High Island, halfway between Port Arthur and Galveston, where Cindy's eye crossed the coast. All 200 residents went inland Monday night. They were returning.

GALVESTON — Winds reached 74 miles an hour as Cindy crossed the coast. They soon subsided. Some plate glass windows broken, along with power lines. Shingles ripped from roofs, but damage was generally light.

The coast guard said it had located all boats reported in distress in the gulf.

Two Sulphur, La., teenagers, unreported overnight on a ship channel in a 16-foot boat, spent the night tied to the barge Seahaven, 17 miles from Sulphur.

which did business with firms holding city contracts. However, the committee said it will continue its investigation into several general allegations made by County Attorney James H. Harrod.

In a letter to the council, Harrod said he feels the council should investigate the alleged use of city equipment and personnel to make improvements on private property owned by Ware.

Frank C. Love, Ward 3, a member of the committee, said the group hopes to make a report on the latter charge by next week.

Interference OK

Ward 1 Councilman F. M. Petree and Mayor Wilkes serve with Love on the committee, which was named to investigate allegations by the county attorney and the recent Oklahoma County grand jury.

In clearing the three councilmen on charges of applying pressure on Luttrell, the committee in effect held that a councilman may interfere with personnel matters providing his intent is for the betterment of the city.

"Every city councilman thus has a vital interest in the service provided by all the operating departments (of the city)," the committee's statement reads.

No Violation Seen

"And it is not inappropriate or a violation of the charter for a councilman who honestly feels that good service is not being provided in a particular department to say, in substance, to a city manager that unless such service is provided a change may have to be made in the office of city manager."

"And under such circumstances a councilman making such a statement could not be said to have exceeded the powers of his office or to have done other than that which the responsibilities which he had assumed would require."

The committee statement narrowed the question down to this premise:

If the councilmen had requested the ouster of a city department head with the intent of naming a replacement themselves, they would have been in violation of the city charter.

A statement that a department

city, Red Cross and Civil Defense, assisted by city employes and volunteers, has directed evacuation of stricken families.

National Guard troops commanded by Capt. Bob Murray were alerted to a possible call to assist Tuesday afternoon. Capt. Murray said 20 guardsmen already are doing volunteer work.

City Manager Helps

Rescue and relief efforts Tuesday morning were being directed by City Manager Lee Burton, Fire Chief Melvin Daniels and Civil Defense director Ed Richards.

Richards said he has requested national guard assistance for Tuesday afternoon.

Floodwaters were reported to be 3½ to 4 feet deep Tuesday morning across S.H. 33. Water started rising about 9:30 p.m. Monday, when the first alert was sounded.

No Casualties

As of 8 a.m. Tuesday, water had receded four to five inches, Guthrie policeman Bill McCoy reported.

There were no reported casualties.

A Civil Defense unit evacuated residents of the low areas with a truck, and was still ferrying flood victims back and forth across the flooded area Tuesday morning. The hospital is west of the stricken area, and the main part of Guthrie is to the east.

Cottonwood Creek last flooded in June, 1962. Records show at least 12 floods in the same area of the city in the past 25 years.

Guthrie has had little more than a half-inch of rain in the

(See GUTHRIE—Page 2)



Partly cloudy through Wednesday with no important temperature changes. Low, 68, High Wednesday, 83. (Details, Page 17)

HOURLY TEMPERATURE			
7:00 p.m.	74	4:00 a.m.	69
8:00 p.m.	73	5:00 a.m.	69
9:00 p.m.	71	6:00 a.m.	69
10:00 p.m.	70	7:00 a.m.	69
11:00 p.m.	70	8:00 a.m.	70
12:00 noon	69	9:00 a.m.	71
1:00 a.m.	68	10:00 a.m.	71
2:00 a.m.	68	11:00 a.m.	74
3:00 a.m.	69	12:00 noon	74



Jailers R. E. Shelden, left, and R. J. Green prevented escape Tuesday morning.

Guthrie Flood Routs 300

(Continued From Page 1)

past 24 hours, but rains to the west of town on the Chisholm and Deer Creek watersheds as far west as Kingfisher placed Cottonwood Creek on the rampage.

Officials said they do not expect floodwaters to recede before late Tuesday night, if then.

Schools Closed

All public schools in the city were closed Tuesday, and the city's biggest industry, the Oklahoma Furniture Manufacturing Co., shut down for the day.

The Red Cross set up a canteen at 9 a.m. Tuesday at a viaduct on the east side of the stricken area.

While Guthrie got the brunt of flooding from the Cottonwood, the same creek

also overflowed S. H. 33 south of Crescent. Only one-way traffic was allowed on the bridge at that point.

More Rain Due

No more rain of consequence was reported anywhere in the state during the night, the weather bureau said, after downpours of up to 5 inches in west-central Oklahoma Monday.

But moist air continued flowing up from the Gulf of Mexico. The weather bureau said most of this was diverted into the eastern part of the state Tuesday.

Locally heavy rain — caused by Hurricane Cindy moving toward Texas and Louisiana — is likely in southeast Oklahoma Tuesday night and Wednesday, the weather bureau said.

Pact Outlaws Debtors' Prisons

STRASBOURG, France (AP) — Nine European countries have agreed to outlaw debtors' prisons.

A protocol to the European convention on human rights agreeing not to send anyone to prison for inability to fulfill a contractual obligation was signed by Austria, Belgium, Denmark, West Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom. There was no indication which—if any—of the countries will have to change their laws to comply.

Invitation Endorsed

WASHINGTON (UPI) — President Kennedy has signed into law a congressional resolution endorsing Detroit's invitation to the international Olympic committee to stage the summer Olympics in that city in 1968.

OUTDATED CLOTHES RESTYLED

Wide Legged Pants made to the new Slim Styles — \$6.50 up
Pant Pleats Removed — \$12.50
Wide Lapels Restyled to New Modern Lapels — reg. \$25.00
NOW — \$17.50

DOES YOUR SUIT FIT?
OVER 75% DON'T

SEE THE TAILOR
BILL HILL Leonhart Building

General Electric Range BARGAINS!



- ★ 30 Inch. Fully Automatic Range
- ★ Lift Off Door for Easy Cleaning.

\$168⁸⁸
ONLY **168⁸⁸** W/T

MODEL J311X

SEE TOM STUVER, BILL PHIPP'S GRANT SQUARE STORE MANAGER AND LET HIM SHOW YOU THE MANY FINE FEATURES OF THIS RANGE.

BILL "NEVER UNDERSOLD" PHIPPS
APPLIANCE CENTERS

OPEN MON. & THURS. 'TIL 8:30
4532 S. PENN.
Phone MU 1-4601

OPEN EVERY NITE 'TIL 8:30
2901 NORTH MAY
Phone WI 3-3371



MAROONED BY THE FLOOD and separated from her children, a young mother, Mrs. Shirley Young, waits

at left to board the civil defense truck ferrying workers and others across the flooded area of Guthrie.

Flood Victims Flee in Night

(Continued From Page 1)

and saw the water was coming over the curb, we just took off."

The Young family moved to Guthrie only two weeks ago, coming here from Oklahoma City.

Number Uncertain

Monday night, the Youngs did not think their home was in danger. But fearing the Graham family might be flooded because it is in a much lower spot, Mrs. Young asked the Grahams to spend the night with her. Then they all had to flee.

It is difficult to tell how many families have been forced out of their homes. Two schools and several churches on the west side of the creek were opened to refugees during the night.

Many families, however, escaped from their homes in autos and spent the night in them parked on higher ground.

Refugees Fed

Key school in the care of the refugees is Banner School. Approximately 14 adults and 20 children spent the night there.

Other refugees joined them after dawn and approximately 75 were fed a breakfast of bacon, eggs, coffee, bread, butter, milk and cereal.

One of these was Mrs. Mary Jacobs, who moved to Guthrie last March and is caring for five children by herself while her husband is in University Hospital in Oklahoma City and an older son, 12, is in a Bethany hospital.

Her five children at home are 10, 9, 8, 7 and 6.

Her eyes rimmed from lack of sleep, Mrs. Jacobs talked on the steps of Banner School while she combed the hair of one of her daughters and kept watch over the other children.

"I didn't know what to expect," she said. "The first siren sounded some time last night, maybe around 9 o'clock, and I just loaded the kids in the car and drove to the park. We spent the night there in the car."

Everyone Calm

She said she and the children went to Banner School about 6:30 a.m.

Guthrie is accustomed to floods because Cottonwood Creek often goes out of its banks.

The calmness was evident everywhere Tuesday. Credit quite likely goes to the American Red Cross, which has a large corps of volunteers trained to whip into action without pay, and to the Civil Defense corps.

In addition to supplying the food and other things required for care of the refugees, the Red Cross and Civil Defense are supervising.

Even police officers say, "You'd better see the Red Cross," when asked for details of what has been done.

The volunteers perhaps are the most respected.

Ted Wille, Guthrie tire dealer who lives on the west side of the creek, is one of these. He was in complete

charge of the Banner School operation.

The Red Cross notified Wille during the night that he would be needed. Mrs. Wille went to the school at 3 a.m. to get the breakfast started.

Wille, who is known throughout the area as the overseer of numerous big luncheons for civic groups, joined her at 5 a.m.

Together they rounded up other volunteers and manned the small kitchen of the school, turning out breakfast for the 75 persons and having the kitchen cleaned up by 8 a.m.

Food Planes

No sooner were the dishes done than Wille started planning for the noon meal.

"It'll be sandwiches, potato chips and pork and beans," he said. "I don't

think the people will be out of their homes too long. Normally we make up big batches of hot stew, but that's when it looks like they'll be with us three or four days."

First indication that the high water had started to recede was when police officer Billy E. McCoy checked a stick he had stuck in the ground a little earlier at the water's edge.

Water Drops

A notch he had cut in the stick showed where the water had risen when he placed the stick in the ground.

"It's dropped two inches in the last hour," McCoy said, pointing to the stick.

Water in the flooded areas is not a mere backwater. It rushes swiftly among the houses.

Library Is Integrated

ANNISTON, Ala. (AP) — The Anniston public library has been desegregated by two Negro ministers, one of whom was beaten by a mob of white persons in an earlier integration attempt.

Three city officials Monday accompanied the clergymen, Revs. G. E. Smitherman and W. B. McClain.

Mr. McClain and Rev. Quintus Reynolds were attacked Sunday when they tried to enter the previously white library. Police said about 100 white persons were in the crowd. At least one of the attackers struck the men with a length of chain, police said.

Many Share Nurses' Time

LOS ANGELES (AP) — How do nurses spend their working hours?

A six-month survey of 30 southern California hospitals breaks it down this way:

Walking, 11 percent; communications, 18 percent; clerical duties, 26 percent; enforced waiting, 2 percent; personal matters, 5 percent.

And the remaining 38 percent? It goes to the patients.

The commission for administrative services in hospitals said the survey was made to help cut hospital costs and to develop better methods to serve patients.

Council Rejects Ouster Claims

(Continued From Page 1)

ment head should be fired for the good of the city would not violate the charter, the committee concluded.

Complaints Noted

Following the report, all three councilmen admitted asking Luttrell to remove from office former city garbage Supt. C. E. Douglas and Building Supt. Bill Burkes.

held contracts with Oklahoma City.

'Long Summer'

The investigations committee, however, said its inquiry indicates none of the work done by Forer involved work contracted by the city.

The committee concluded that a councilman may do business with a firm that contracts for city work providing the councilman is no way connected with the

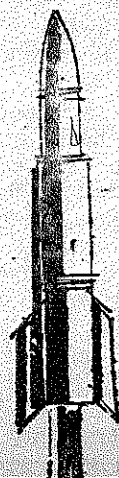
Actresses Aid Bomb Victims

HOLLYWOOD (AP) — Actresses Judy Garland, June Allyson and Carolyn Jones announced that they are forming the Birmingham children's fund of Beverly Hills.

The aim is to collect money for hospital bills and burial expenses of victims of Sunday's church bombing in Birmingham.

Motion Denied

DENVER (AP) — A defense



SAFEWAY

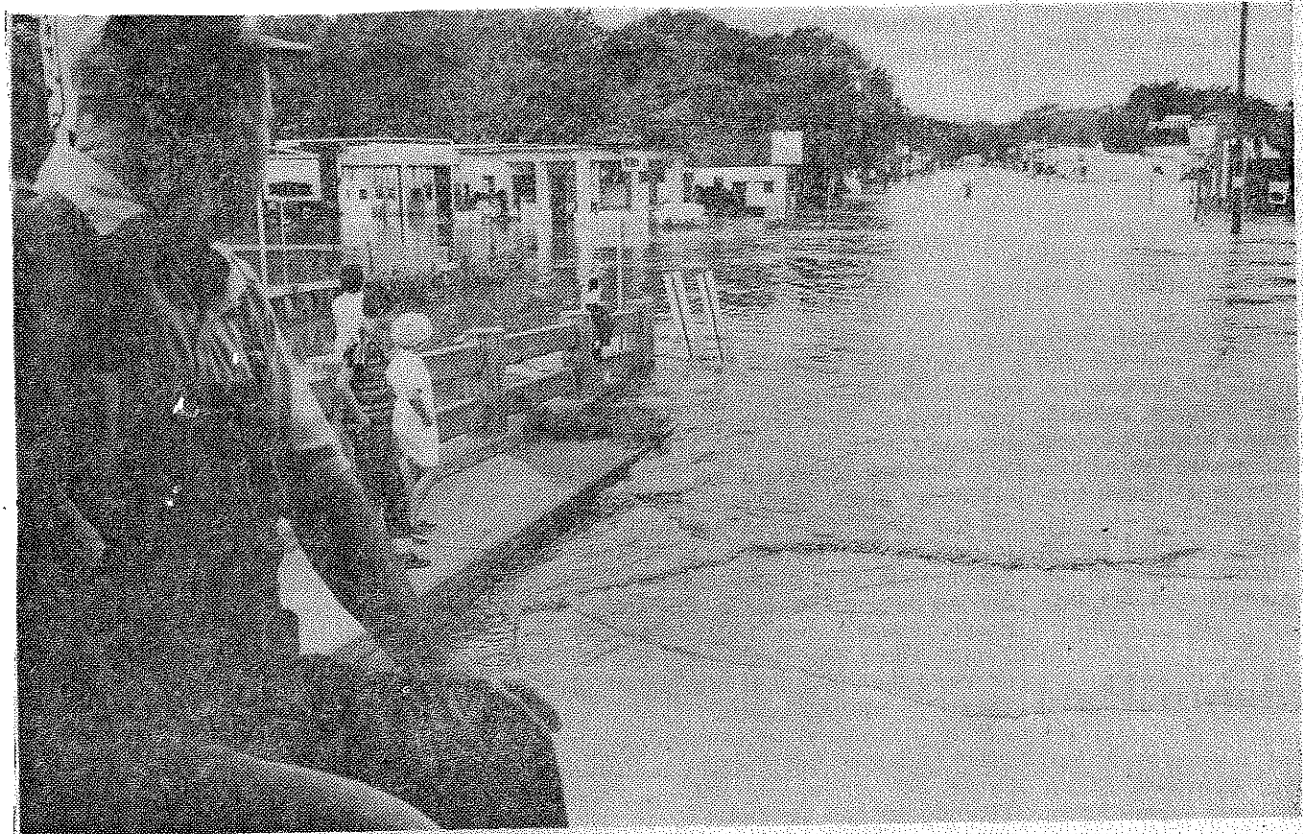
has \$1⁰⁰ gate price

STATE FAIR



A WATERY HIGHWAY stretches behind a Civil Defense truck making its way along flooded S. H. 33 in

Guthrie. You're looking east. (Times Staff Photo by Frank Garner)



The swirling, muddy waters of Cottonwood Creek flooded almost a square mile in Guthrie Tuesday,

covering S. H. 33 from Fourth St. in the foreground to almost Tenth St. (Staff photo by Frank Garner)

OKLAHOMA PRESS
CLIPPING BUREAU
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

News-Press
Stillwater, Okla.

DATE: 9 17-63



—UPI Telephoto

SPECTATORS—Curious Guthrie townspeople turn out to observe streets of town flooded from rising Cottonwood Creek. The creek crested at 6 a.m., forcing some 150 families from their

homes. This scene was along State Highway 33 through Guthrie.

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA., Sept. 17 (UPI)—

Guthrie Residents Flee High Floodwaters Today

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hundreds of persons living in low areas on Guthrie's west side evacuated homes Monday night and early today as floodwaters from Cottonwood Creek spilled over the area.

All public schools were closed for the day and the city's biggest industry, the Oklahoma Furniture Manufacturing Co., shut down.

Sirens sounded Monday night, warning residents on the west side to go to higher ground.

The Red Cross and Civil Defense officials estimated that 300 persons were evacuated from homes over about a 50 block area. About 5 homes are involved. Authorities said floodwaters seeped into about 9 homes and the others were evacuated as a precaution.

Evacuees were sheltered in schools, churches and other buildings. Some persons simply drove their cars to high ground and stayed in them.

A converted Army truck used by Civil Defense officials took some residents out of the flood area.

By mid-morning the swirling muddy waters began receding.

Floodwaters halted traffic this morning on Oklahoma 33 which runs through Guthrie and on part of Oklahoma 74 west of Guthrie. But 74 was reopened to all traffic at mid-morning. Water was reported as much as 4 feet deep across parts of Oklahoma 33.

Guthrie residents were alerted to flood dangers about 9:30 p.m. Monday. And, at 2 a.m. today sirens were sounded to alert residents to evacuate on the west side.

Records show that Cottonwood Creek has flooded at least 12 times in the same area of Guthrie the past 25 years, the last time in June 1962.

The Tulsa River Center said Cottonwood Creek was cresting at 24.5 feet, two feet above flood stage, and should be falling by late afternoon. The center said runoff from the creek basin and adjacent areas would cause a rise on the Cimarron River during the next two days but that the Cimarron should get only to about two-thirds of bankful.

The creek climbed rapidly following heavy rains Monday.

There was a threat of more locally heavy rains in southeastern Oklahoma tonight and Wednesday as a result of Hurricane Cindy that is pushing its way into Texas from the Gulf of Mexico.

Moisture is being pushed northward into the state but forecasters say most of it will be diverted in-

to eastern Oklahoma later in the day.

Rains which measured up to five inches Monday flooded several highways, including Oklahoma 74 west of Guthrie. It was re-opened to one way traffic Monday night as the crest moved downstream on Cottonwood Creek but was closed again today.

The Cottonwood runs north through Guthrie, emptying into the Cimarron River.

Weathermen say skies would be mostly cloudy in the east to partly cloudy in western Oklahoma through Wednesday, with widely scattered thunderstorms in the southeast.

There was some light drizzle early this morning in the southeast.

Low temperatures this morning ranged from 67 at Clinton Sherman Air Force Base, Guymon and Gage to 70 at McAlester.

This afternoon the mercury should climb to 76 to 86 degrees and tonight's lows should be from 60 to 70 degrees.



AMPHIBIAN—Flooding Cottonwood Creek inundated parts of Guthrie several feet deep in places today, but the waters didn't deter this

pickup truck and its three occupants. They are plowing through the waters along State Highway 33 in Guthrie.