



WHAT NEXT?—Cora Hickman and Mrs. Mildred Conover (on cot) were two of the displaced persons still in the Banner school, a Guthrie aid station, late Friday. Water still stood in their homes.

WATER REFUGEES—These eight Guthrie residents could not go home Friday are, left to right: Mrs. Norval Anderson and her son, Bobbie, 2, sleeping; the Margaret, 4; Jimmie, 8; Cora Faye, 10, holding Garry, 1½; Mrs. Cora Clymer, rear with Norma Jean, 13.

Daily Okla. 5-21-49

Guthrie Begins To Dry in Worst Flood Since '97

By Chan Guffey
(Daily Oklahoman Staff Writer)

GUTHRIE, May 20—The city's worst flood since 1897 was receding Friday.

No casualties were reported. But a Red Cross survey revealed 817 homes were flooded. On that basis, Ray Jessup, county chairman, estimated more than 2,500 persons were affected.

Some 500 persons had to be rescued by boat late Thursday night and early Friday.

Red Mud Everywhere

Off-hand estimates placed property damage at more than \$500,000.

At nightfall, the Cottonwood river that poured swirling water into the city was still out of its banks. But it was at least six feet below its peak and was still falling.

An expected rise on the Cimarron river (which backs up in the cottonwood) did not materialize during the afternoon. But forecasts of more rain in the Cimarron basin to the west did nothing to relieve anxious families.

Red mud was everywhere as the displaced persons in 105 blocks left four relief centers to begin cleanup work.

Water still blocked more than a dozen streets west and south of the river but truck traffic on SH 33 was allowed to move through water pouring over the road.

Besides the 817 homes, Jessup said 66 business places, seven commercial plants and 606 other buildings were in the flooded area.

The Oklahoma Furniture Manufacturing Co., on the north east of Guthrie and almost on the banks of the Cottonwood, was completely inundated.

500 Persons Fed

Jessup, who is manager of a dry goods store, said he expects about 600 persons to register for Red Cross aid.

Relief stations are being maintained in the Banner grade school almost on the edge of the flooded area and in the Methodist and First Christian churches. The city hall was turned into a relief center for Negroes.

Mrs. O. H. Chadwell, vice-chairman of the disaster organization for west Guthrie, said 500 persons were fed in the Banner school during the day.

Fred L. Wenner, city treasurer who came to Guthrie as a newspaperman in the run of '89, said it was the worst flood since 1897.

"One person drowned in that one," he said. "It happened on April 27. It just came down all at once. A 10-foot wall of water rolled down the valley about 7 a. m. There was only one boat in the town and it was tied below the water. A man had to dive to get it."

Back to Cleaning

This flood had some of the same characteristics.

A weary, white-haired woman at Banner school testified to that. Mrs. M. A. Anderson, 73-year-old pioneer who settled in Guthrie in 1890, said, "When I left my home, water was at the top of my dining room table."

"When I moved into this house three years ago, I asked them if there was any danger from a flood."

"Well, they said it comes only up to the curb sometimes. At noon yesterday, the water got up to the curb. It didn't look bad so I went back to my cleaning."

"Then, I heard someone yelling and looked out the door. A woman was going down the street yelling. The water started coming up quickly. It

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Five Killed as Plane Crashes in Kansas

BURE OAK, Kan., May 20—(AP)—

Two Persons Die As Twisters Skip

Two persons were killed Friday night in tornadoes which hopped and skipped over the northwest section of the state. The two were killed in storms at Catsby, Ellis county, and Yewed, Alfalfa county.

Dead are Mrs. Kathryn Haight, about 43, Catsby, and Charlie Sykes, 55, Yewed.

Sykes was asleep in the tile structure, part of a grain elevator, when the twister swept through at 9:10 p. m. His body was pulled from the wreckage.

The tornado struck the farm home of Edward Haight near Catsby about 7:30 p. m. He and his wife, Kathryn, were in the house. The farm home was destroyed. Neighbors took the man and his wife from the wreckage and took him to Laverne where he was treated in a doctor's office and sent on to Woodward hospital. Neighbors who brought him to Laverne said his wife is dead.

Haight received four broken ribs, head, arm and body lacerations and was reported in serious condition by the Laverne physician.

Storms hit Beaver, Gage, Shattuck, Carmen, Mooreland, Cherokee, Woodward, Catsby, Butler and Sitka, Kan.

The highway patrol reported slight damage in the town of Carmen, Alfalfa county, from a storm there. The farm home of John Cox, two miles west of Carmen, was damaged and two other buildings on the farm destroyed.

G. R. Brown, state highway trooper, said there were no major injuries in

the tornado at Cherokee, but that several persons were hurt from flying glass and debris. Brown reported heavy property damage in Cherokee.

The storm left Cherokee in darkness and early Saturday a portable power unit was being rushed there from Alva.

The twister dipped down in Woods county at 9 p. m. at an isolated area about eight miles east of Waynoka, the highway patrol reported. It apparently caused no damage. Waynoka itself got heavy winds, rain and hail.

The highway patrol reported a twister at Fargo, Ellis county, but the extent of damage there could not be learned early Saturday. Roads bogged with mud made the storm area inaccessible. No injuries were reported from Fargo.

At Gage a twister struck at the airport, wrecking the radio towers, a hangar and six planes and the administration building. A house near the airport was destroyed and a laundry in the city wrecked.

The first twister reported was at Balco, a rural community 15 miles

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Toll Road Wins Another Round

Gov. Turner's bill to extend the Oklahoma turnpike authority for two more years was approved for early house consideration Friday by unanimous vote of the house rules committee.

After listening to Leon Shipp, the governor's attorney, explain the bill, the committee adopted a motion by Joe Smalley, floor leader, recommending that the house accept the bill as passed by the senate.

The proposed extension came to the house Thursday in the form of a "shucked" bill from the state senate.

The current law provides that construction on the Oklahoma City-Tulsa toll road must be started by August 1. Shipp said the new bill would extend the authority two years from passage of the act. The bill also authorizes 40-year revenue bonds instead of the 35-year bonds in the present law.

The third change would eliminate the clause requiring toll rates to be approved by the corporation commission.

Shipp explained the commission would have no authority to change rates as bond buyers would insist on rates adequate to retire the bond issue.

"The provision that rates must have to be approved by the corporation commission might result in unnecessary delay," he said.

Kerr to Address State Convention Of Junior Chamber

MIAMI, Okla., May 20—(AP)—A three-day State Junior Chamber of Commerce convention, featuring an address Saturday by Sen. Robert S. Kerr, began registrations Friday. Approximately 500 delegates are expected. The program includes an elec-

Burglars Loot Old Ames Home

For the second time in a week, burglars Friday had carried valuable loot from one of the state-ville homes in the 400 block NW 14.

This time it was the C. B. Ames home—a two-story stone structure at 401 NW 14. Antique glass and furniture, two oil paintings and an oriental rug were missing from the unoccupied residence when it was opened Friday by Fisher Ames, 821 NW 38.

The house belonged to his father—the late C. B. Ames, once chairman of the board of Texas Co.

"I don't have any way to estimate the loss at this time," young Ames, a city attorney, said Friday night. "The value of these articles will run into the thousands of dollars but I can't put a tag on the loss until I've talked with art dealers."

B. G. Cravatt and George Hawks, police detectives attached to the stolen goods detail, could find no means of forcible entry to the house. The officers said their first job will be to locate an employee of the Ames estate who has a key to the property.

The Ames house is located only a few doors from the residence of Mrs. Mickey Harrell, 439 NW 14. Burglars broke into her home last week, stealing furs valued at \$2,500.

Flood Waters Lapping Near Texas Levee Tops

ROSSER, Texas, May 20—(AP)—Mighty flood waters lapped Friday night near the tops of Trinity river levees protecting some of the most lucrative crop lands in all Texas.

Planters and sharecroppers alike, with thousands of lush acres of cotton, grain, grass and onions at stake, are by no means giving up. Men are on the levees, constantly patrolling, piling sand bags here, plugging up gopher holes and weakened spots there.

Flood Hot Spots Are Cimarron And Washita

Danger and devastation spread to new areas in the state Friday as flash flood waters raced down the Washita and Cimarron rivers. Added threats came with more thunderstorms and heavy rains in the northwest portion of the state.

The rising Washita climbed into Lindsay's backyard Friday afternoon, driving families from 36 homes, and edged its way to the south end of the town's main street.

On the Cimarron, the water was rising at Coyle, which was just getting clear of the waters of a flash flood.

Drumright was the victim of a flash flood that roared down Tiger creek, putting four feet of water across the town's main street.

Yale was recovering somewhat from the high waters that flooded the south part of town. Six families were run out of their homes.

At Kingfisher, where 35 blocks were inundated, the water had receded back into Kingfisher creek. However, 120 people were still in temporary housing.

Low Homes at Lindsay Suffer

In the low south edge of Lindsay water had climbed halfway up the walls of rooms in some houses. Along the south end of Main street it was lapping at the curbs. The ground gradually rises on the north side where the city's water supply is located.

The Washita at Lindsay was still rising Friday night and observers had no idea how high it would go.

The rise was from waters rushing down the river from flash floods at Fort Cobb, Carnegie, Anadarko, Mountain View and Gracemont.

Conditions at all of these places Friday were reported much improved.

Alex Homes Inundated

But Lindsay, and Alex, just to the north, Bradley and other towns along the river were inundated. All the buildings and houses in Alex were reported surrounded by water.

The rising waters were continuing on toward Mavsville and Pauls Valley. However, Pauls Valley reported the river still in its banks there and no real threat of flooding.

At Chickasha five blocks in the north part of town were still under water Friday night, but the waters were receding. In some places it got as much as two and one-half feet deep.

At least 100 people had to move out of their homes and stay in temporary facilities prepared for them in the county fair ground barns.

Vinco Stores Flooded

The water supply, the power facilities and telephone circuits at Chickasha were all intact.

Perkins, on the Cimarron, is high and dry, but the nearby town of Vinco, across the river was reported three-fourths flooded. Four feet of water was standing in downtown stores. Most of the homes there have water 18 inches to four feet deep.

Vinco is catching the water from the Guthrie and Coyle runoff.

At Coyle, all of the water from the flash flood had receded, but the Cimarron was rising to give a new threat. All the furniture in 25 homes flooded was damaged beyond recognition.

The Cimarron at Coyle was covering lowlands for a fourth of a mile on each side of the banks.

A total of 871 homes, 66 business houses, seven commercial establishments and 808 other buildings were damaged at Guthrie by the flood. Damage was estimated at more than

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Molotov's Daughter, Stalin's Son to Wed

City It's

Crowds of stores Friday cost bargains.

A check of stocking up "loss leaders."

Because of grocery prices last chance at

Monday, many new pri the cost of th

Five and 1 week. Cigare go up to \$2.00

You'd be w a big meal or cents for a o

will be 3 for reflect the ne rent price of 12 cents.

Crisco also cents for a 3- a 9ic price is

Sugar and and Great We for 79 cents v

priced now a will go up to

Gold Meda for the 5- an

Collaps In Ford

DETROIT Peace talks t Motor Co. and Workers (CIO old Ford stri verge of colla

Threatening t day the federu mediator on the dispute over sta tations on a m replace the one July 15.

The company. tion workers id strike, refused talks urging the before June 1.

The union d agree to begin t Monday. Other Walter Reuther union negotiat strike talks.

Further, Reu would file an charges against doesn't open on Monday.

Approximatey at the company Mercury plants. s, charging that the speed of ass triment of work The company d

After more t cussion Friday. recess until Sa There was no st as the meeting

In the livel rect peace negt ago, each side possible break- at the other.

Private H Wins Sen

State Highway Patrol Reports Closed Roads

The state highway department Friday afternoon reported waters receding in most places, but listed roads and highways closed in 20 areas.

Closed were:

- SH 27—southeast of Hinton.
- U. S. 82—east of Chickasha at Washita river.
- SH 18—three miles west of its junction with SH 33 (northwest corner of Adair county) where bridge is washed out.
- SH 54—west of Okmulgee at Deep Fork creek where bottom lands are flooded.
- SH 76—two miles south of Blanchard where bridge is washed out; also one mile south of Lindsay at Washita river.
- SH 74—two miles north of Maysville where bridge approach is out.
- SH 98—six miles south of Seminole at Little river.
- SH 54—north of Sasakwa at Little river.

The farm-to-market road between Dustin and Weleetka is still out.

- SH 74B—five miles west of its junction with SH 74, south of Blanchard where 100-foot timber bridge washed out over Walnut creek.
- SH 39—three miles west of Asher where bridge is out.
- SH 9A—north of Harjo where roadbed is out.
- SH 18—north of Cushing at Cimarron river.
- SH 40—south of Perkins at Cimarron river.
- SH 4—north of Yukon at North Canadian river.
- SH 33—west end of Guthrie.
- SH 54—six miles north of Gotebo.
- SH 8—Railroad underpass west of Mountain View.
- SH 5—four miles west of Tipton, where bridge approach is out. To be closed indefinitely.
- SH 8—between Carmen and Cleo Springs; also north of Burlington.
- SH 11—four miles east of Cherokee.
- U. S. 281—north of Anadarko at the Washita river bridge where north approach is out; also at White Bread creek near Gracemont where a 300-foot timber bridge is out.
- SH 19—At Bradley.
- U. S. 275—south of Owassa and south of Sapulpa.
- SH 20—West of Pryor where culvert is washed out.
- SH 33 and SH 99—between Drumright and Oilton where concrete bridge abutment is out; closed indefinitely.
- U. S. 64—at Leonard.
- U. S. 169—south of Red Fork.
- SH 33—No trucks allowed between Keystons and Manford.
- SH 92—south of Amber.

Two Killed As Twisters Skip Again

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southwest of Beaver. Damage there was unknown.

Balko sent warning to Beaver where residents sought refuge underground. Damage at Beaver was apparently confined to a few buildings in the southeast section of the city and uprooted trees in the northeast section. None was injured.

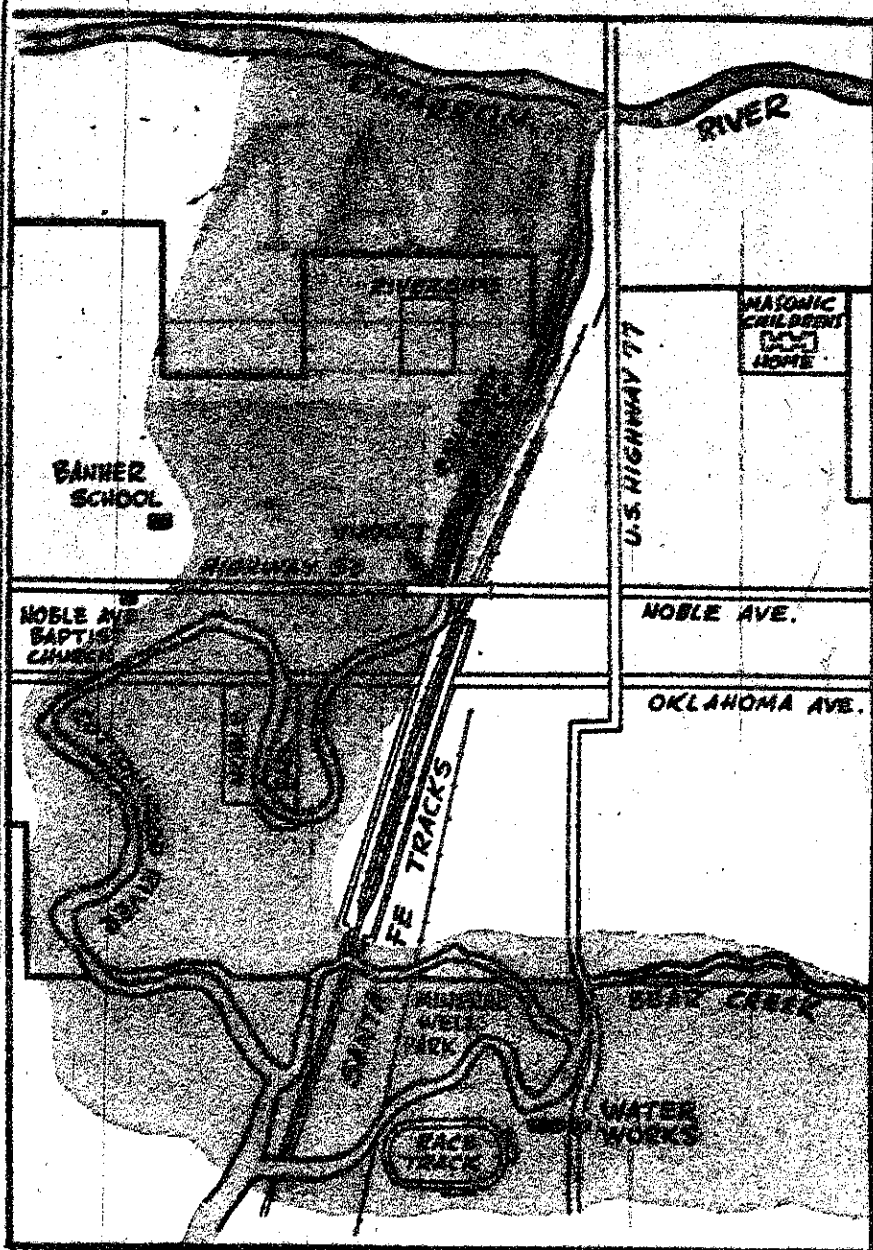
Two other twisters were reported in the area northeast of Beaver, but were believed to have damaged only crops.

The tornadoes were in each place accompanied by heavy hail and strong winds. Heavy damage from the hail was reported at Woodward, with windows broken, windshields cracked, and considerable damage to crops.

Woodward Airport Hit

Residents of Woodward—scene of Oklahoma's most disastrous tornado in history in 1947—saw the tornado cloud forming south of the city. Only a few minutes after the whole town took to shelter the twister hit the airbase about six miles northwest.

Damage at the Woodward airport was estimated at from \$60,000 to \$100,000. Planes and 11 buildings were damaged. The highway patrol reported the Woodward estimate.



The Guthrie flood . . . shaded area is high-water mark.

Flood at Guthrie Is Worst In 50 Years; Boats Save 500

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sounded just like the breakers on the seashore.

She said her neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Sullivan and their four children, came over and asked if they could stay overnight since she had a second story.

"I WAS happy to have them," she said. "But when the water got to the table top we began to be afraid. Mr. Sullivan yelled at a motor boat and we were rescued."

There were plenty of human interest stories being told as men shoveled mud out of houses and women hung up muddy clothing to dry.

Mr. and Mrs. V. D. Payne suffered a double disaster—their home burned while it had three feet of water in it. The fire started in the Shreffler Electric shop next door. Payne, 22-year-old laborer, told the story while he, his wife and three sons, rested on cots at an aid station.

"I tried to fight the fire," he said. "But water was four feet deep in the yard. I had to swim out back to get a hose. I wet down the roof but couldn't save it."

HE had little insurance. His only relative is his mother and her home was also in the flooded area.

His only consolation was found in a white rat named Suzy. The rat was believed to have either burned or drowned. But Friday morning Payne found the rat in the ruins.

"I guess she hid in the stove and saved herself," he said as the rat crawled slowly over his hand. The rat has been a family pet since it was brought from Phoenix, Ariz., a year ago.

A sleepy police officer told of the rescue work. Lieut. Edgar G. Freeman, Friday afternoon, had been able to get only five hours' sleep in the last three days.

With two other officers, the 25-year-old lieutenant worked throughout the night to rescue "at least 200 persons. He estimated a dozen boats were used to rescue a total of 500 persons during the night.

THE boats took persons from roof tops and trees. M. H. Ream, 68, was one of the persons who spent several hours on a roof. He said he was on the roof until 10:30 p. m. before a boat took him off. Friday, he was bare-foot and attired in a pair of shorts as he went about his cleanup tasks.

Lieut. Freeman said, "It's a miracle no one was drowned."

Despite his fatigue Freeman was worried about looting. He said several instances had been reported. He was trying to find extra guards. The nation guard unit at Guthrie had been used, he said, but "they have worked 48 hours straight and are worn out."

Freeman recalled the flood warning. "My mother woke me up when the fire whistle sounded the alarm. I had just gotten to sleep. I put on a pair of red trunks—come to think of it, that's the only thing I have left that I started with. I gave away all my pants, including a new pair, to guys who really needed them."

"Delbert Gann and his brother, Lefty, brought three boats and helped me with the rescue work. They could have saved a lot of the material at the mill but instead they helped with the work."

The officer said their boat almost capsized once when it struck a submerged telegraph pole.

"We had to start bailing out water, but made it. We started taking five persons each trip, but then cut it down to three. We figured that if anything happened each of the Gann brothers and I could grab a person and swim to safety."

County Water Damage 'Light'

Oklahoma county—so far—has suffered little from high water, but even so the damage to county roads and bridges will top \$60,000.

Man in Red Wig Pulls No Strings To Get Around FBI

NEW YORK, May 20—(U.P.)—A small passenger put on a red wig and top hat and ran swiftly aboard the liner Queen Mary at pier 90, North river, Friday as FBI agents in unprecedented numbers circulated among the more than 2,000 persons boarding the

Flood Hot Spots Are Cimarron And Washita

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\$600,000. Red mud covered everything. Six hundred people had registered for Red Cross aid.

Many at Guthrie were still living in the temporary quarters set up in the school building and churches.

Pipeline Station Washed Out

Drumright's flash flood Wednesday night resulted from a three-inch rainfall in less than three hours. Water washed out 200 bridges in the western third of Creek county.

The Sinclair Pipeline Co. station a mile north of Drumright will be out of commission a week because of the flood. It is on the main line from Texas to Chicago and St. Louis.

Seventeen families were evacuated from the banks of Tiger creek, which winds through the city of Drumright. The Red Cross sent field representatives to direct rescue operations.

The Home Supply store there, a hardware and furniture store, estimated damage at \$10,000.

K. D. Tyree, a highway department workman, said that Drumright was a scene of devastation.

Drumright Kinda Pitiful

"There was three feet of water in some of the houses. When I came through there Friday afternoon it was kinda pitiful. The people had all their clothing out on the lines to dry.

"It washed away three bridges across the little creek and took away nearly all the county bridges."

Tyree also reported Euchee creek west of Cushing had traffic tied up. Traffic was stopped over the highway between Oilton and Tulsa for a while Friday, but the river went down.

Oilton, Tyree reported, was in good condition. The flood waters had not affected the city.

Crops Washed Away.

However, the lowlands all along the Cimarron river, from Guthrie to where it empties into the Arkansas just above Tulsa, were covered with water that had ruined crops.

Cotton, wheat, corn, oats all were washed away where the flood waters hit. However, the crops on the higher ground were not seriously damaged by the heavy rains.

The safety of Seminole's water supply still remained in question Friday night as the state health department analyzed it after a 300,000-gallon reservoir was flooded Tuesday night during a lashing rain.

The reservoir was treated with a heavy dose of chlorine, but residents were warned to boil the water before using it.

Insurance Probe Is Ruled Illegal

The special house committee named to investigate insurance rates in Oklahoma after adjournment of the legislature has no authority to function, the attorney general's office held Friday.

The house by a simple resolution authorized the committee to continue its work between sessions and appropriated \$7,500 to pay costs of the investigation. Roger Phelps, state budget officer, Friday said he had been notified by the attorney general that the appropriation is void.

"When a committee is created by simple resolution of either house, it is dissolved at the end of the session under the opinion," Phelps said.

The committee, headed by Ed Langley, Muskogee, investigated rates during the session and returned a report criticizing insurance company practices. The committee asked for authority to continue its investigation.

We are



lion and a half dollars.

TURNING toward Washington again, he would find that a million and a half dollars is such a small amount to the politicians that it is considered too trifling to worry about. The politicians—many of whom are accustomed to dealing in hundreds or thousands in their own private affairs—grandiosely refuse to talk in terms of less than scores or hundreds of millions, or billions.

A million and a half dollars is such a small item that it would take only a letter to a congressman to get a federal appropriation. So the man from Mars would say:

"Why not finance this like other social welfare is financed—just get a government handout?"

Ah! The man from Mars doesn't know earthly human nature!

The fact is that the voluntary contribution to social welfare, including churches and character-building institutions, is the very foundation of the social system of a free democracy.

It is really a most precious privilege—the right to act by your own conscience to supply the social needs of the community. If the time ever comes when such a privilege withers and fades because the state takes over all such functions, our free democracy will have disappeared.

They don't have YMCA or YWCA drives in Russia. They don't have any kind of voluntary contribution to social welfare or religion or character-building. You pay for such things out of your taxes—or else.

That is why every citizen of a free nation should cling desperately and vehemently to the institutions that depend for the voluntary operations of social welfare, motivated by conscience and not by bayonets or banishment to the salt mines.

Without Representation

IN the recent congressional battle over the repeal of the Taft-Hartley act and the substitution therefor of the Lesinski bill, Dixie Gilmer, who was ill in a hospital at the time, was paired against the Lesinski bill. If he had been able to be present and vote, he would have voted against the Lesinski measure.

There is no way of knowing how many citizens of Oklahoma favor the retention of the Taft-Hartley law and therefore oppose the enactment of the Lesinski bill, but undoubtedly the number will run into the tens of thousands. But with the exception of Dixie Gilmer's pair against the proposed change those tens of thousands of citizens had no one in congress to represent their views. The seven representatives who were present and voting cast their votes unanimously in favor of the Lesinski measure and for the repeal of the Taft-Hartley law.

In recent years there has been a considerable demand for proportional representation. Considerable force is given to the argument in favor of this change by the vote of the Oklahoma representatives on the repeal of the Taft-Hartley act. Only one element of Oklahoma's population had any representation at all except the moral support and good wishes of the congressman from Tulsa, who happened to be too ill to vote.

Hardly Consistent

WHEN a senate coalition of Republicans and Democrats returned a \$2,400,000,000 appropriation bill to committee with instructions to reduce the amount by \$11 millions, the result was advertised as a sharp administration defeat. The Republicans were reproved for trying to embarrass the administration and the Democrats were denounced for betraying the administration.

But while the senate was taking this short step towards economy Mr. Truman was announcing that depreciated prices have made it possible and perhaps advisable to trim by \$157 millions the amount of money voted for European relief. He proposed a saving more than 14 times as great as the saving ordered by the senate.

There may be no positive conflict between the respective attitudes of the White House and the congressional majority, but there does seem to be a pronounced lack of consistency. The congressional left hand does not seem to be fully aware of what the executive right hand is trying to do.

They admit that Oklahoma City is bursting at the seams. They admit that the population density is about twice that of Dallas and more than three times of Fort Worth, so far as city limits are concerned. They admit that the tax structure is all out of joint and whopper-jawed because a large part of the real city is outside the city limits. Yet they maintain that the city ought to be kept within its present limits.

When asked what alternative they have, they don't say. They can't think of a single thing that can be done to remedy the situation except to annex more territory. But they are against it. Why? If you know the answer, you might win a prize consisting of a formula for making four plus five equal six.

Elmer T. Peterson

Flood of Washita Provides a Test

THE extremely bad floods in the Washita valley, in southwest and west Oklahoma, furnish the first severe tests of the Washita Valley Flood Control Project of the U. S. Soil Conservation Service, which is not to be confused with the big dam program, Fort Cobb, Anadarko, Mountain View, Carnegie, Gracemont and other localities have suffered severely, with precipitation in a single storm amounting to as much as 8.5 inches in some places.

This is a drastic test for any kind of flood control, but what is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander. If it tests one, it tests the others, so let's analyze any facts and statistics that are available at this writing.

First, remember that the Denison dam didn't control these floods. This, of course, is absurdly simple, since no dam can control floods that occur above it, on the watershed. USDA statistics show that 80 percent of all agricultural flood damage occurs before the flood water ever reaches the reservoir.

Let's go farther upstream. (Information is incomplete at this writing, as most state and federal officials who could furnish information are not in their offices.)

NATURALLY you will want to know what happened on the Cloud creek watershed, a Washita tributary about 12 miles up the river from the worst flood area. You remember that a big dedication ceremony was held there last July, 10,000 people being present.

The soil conservation work on this sub-watershed was practically completed. This is only a small beginning, however. Less than half a dozen sub-watersheds out of a total of about 1,000 in the Washita valley are thus treated.

During the downpour in question 4½ inches of rain fell in three hours—a cloudburst. Yet there was no water coming down Cloud creek below the small detention reservoir which acts as a safety-valve in case the conservation treatment doesn't do a 100 percent flood prevention job. The main detention reservoir lacked four feet of being full enough to discharge its load.

The flood control engineer on the job said that this same Cloud creek watershed, previous to this soil conservation treatment, couldn't have taken one inch of rainfall in the same period without causing the creek to pour its surplus water into the main Washita river channel, to aggravate flood conditions.

NOW suppose the big 11,000-acre Mountain View dam, now proposed, had been built. How would it have performed?

The three main sources of flood-water were Rainy mountain, Sugar and Cobb creeks. Without their torrents there would have been no disaster. They have had very little conservation treatment. They empty into the river below Mountain View damsite. That's a starter.

Statistics as to total capacity of the proposed reservoir and the portion reserved for a flood control allocation of capacity are not available, but, judging by comparable reservoirs, such as Lugert, Canton and Salt Plains (for which statistics are at hand), the full capacity of the proposed Mountain View reservoir would not be more than 300,000 acre feet of which probably no more than 100,000 acre feet would be allocated for the flood control pool (capacity). Only 21,450 acre feet of the Lugert reservoir are allocated to flood control. After that is filled, the water starts coming over the dam.

About one-third of the total Washita watershed would feed this reservoir. An 8-inch rain would theoretically produce at least a million acre feet of water, assuming all the water would run off and no conservation policies were used anywhere. That would be at least three times the total reservoir capacity and probably 10 times the flood control pool. A 6-inch rain would theoretically produce at least eight times the flood control pool, and a 4-inch rain about five times the pool capacity.

These figures, though theoretical and tentative, subject to correction up or down, are enough to show that the big dam doesn't necessarily control big floods. Vanport, Oregon and Grand lake, Oklahoma, furnish concrete examples.

had found an outlet for their troublesome impulses by setting fire to a house or to a building without being aware of any connection between their distraught emotions and committing a crime.

Not so many years ago it was assumed generally fires were started criminally by a desire for revenge. This assumption as we know today does not dispose of the matter. For although revenge may be the motive in an arson case here and there, the majority of offenders when asked, "Why did you start that fire?" answer simply, "I don't know." And probably they don't.

ONE offender explained his act by saying, "Oh, I just enjoy watching a fire." Another declared that life had been too dull and that he set the fire in order to break the monotony of it. A third explained that the men who man the fire departments have too much leisure and that he wanted to see them "at work like the rest of us." Most arsonists, so it seems, are not impelled to commit other crimes. However, they are regarded, according to criminologists, with supreme contempt by murderers, thieves, embezzlers and such men and women as in other ways break the law.

Some time ago this writer, while visiting a prison, passed through a room where juvenile delinquents and young criminals were received. To the height of a man's reach the walls of that room were fairly covered with words and symbols. Two of the words written on them most frequently were "red" and "fire." Obviously, the boys and young men detained in that room were still infantile in their thought and feeling. They had played and continued to "play with fire" in more ways than one.

Fire, like the elements of wind and water has power-possibilities that add not a little to its fascination. Because it can be used to destroy life and property it may have a powerful appeal to persons, young or old, whose aggressive impulses get the better of them.

A MAN who in his youth was tormented by a desire to start fires declares that "it was a miracle that I did not cause a catastrophe. I was crazy about building big brush fires on the banks of a little stream that ran through my father's farm, and at the time I was well aware of the danger of those brush fires setting some big trees growing alongside the creek aflame. Flame always has held a mysterious charm for me. A fire seems to me as if it were something alive."

Among the evidences of growing out of childhood into adulthood is the development of a capacity to manage one's emotional life, to divert those aggressive impulses which are basic in us—without them we would be good for nothing—into constructive rather than destructive channels. It is when human emotions remain on an infantile level or when they are permitted to run amok that they find expression in arson, and any number of other anti-social acts.

Leonard Lyons

Slips D

MAXIM'S, the famed Paris restaurant, will have a four-city celebration of its fiftieth anniversary month. The proprietors, who New York to prepare for the occasion, said that Maxim's is 50 years old—but they're discounting four years Paris was occupied by Germans. . . . Eleanor Roosevelt will participate in the Carnegie luncheon to dedicate the new radio station, WFDR, next month. Woolley will return to Broadway season, as a director of a play. Pauley hasn't forgotten his bid for senate confirmation, and is featured in a front-page story.

The mayor, police commissioner and district attorney of New York have named the name of the firm which

Victor Riesel

Red Squabbles Boils in Sh

THERE'S something about the CIO lobbies and the CIO headquarters where some of the nation's most powerful labor organizations of their lieutenants are based which recalls those western melodramas when two gun stalks deserted streets ready to

There has never been so much name-calling, so much subdued labor of frigidly furious a Phil Murray war between the state of mind of communists and anti-communists.

For days now top CIO leaders have been sending Murray letters in grams of support in reply to that he and his union use and worked with the Ku Klux Klan against southern communists.

For days energetic CIO headquarters organizers have been contacting unions from coast to coast alerting them to dispatch delegates to showdown sessions in the ballroom whose windows overlook Blair House yards.

Meanwhile, the communist leaders met in New York conferred on tactics until just a few minutes before the last planes left for Washington.

SOME of them took time out to other defy CIO by meeting Henry Wallace and joining

Getting a Little Desert Experience

