

11-Inch Cloudburst Triggers Floods in Five Cities

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MIAMI, Okla.—Scores of homes and businesses were flooded, lives were threatened and railroad tracks were washed out Saturday as torrential rains of up to 7 inches fell in northeastern Oklahoma and an unofficial 11 inches in the bordering areas of Missouri.

Wyandotte in Oklahoma, and Seneca, Mo. were hardest hit by the cloudbursts that triggered the flooding. Picher and Miami, Okla., and Neosho, Mo., also were struck by flood waters.

More than 150 homes and all businesses in town except one grocery store were reported flooded at Seneca and at least 50 persons had to be evacuated.

An 80-year-old woman and her 16-year-old niece almost drowned near

Wyandotte when surging waters from Sycamore Creek washed their frame home from its foundation and whirled it more than 100 yards downstream.

The Frisco Railroad tracks were washed out east of Wyandotte and a freight train was held up most of the day. A Wyandotte resident reported the town was cut off except for one road to the west and said, "All you can see is water."

A 10-block area in Picher was reported under a foot of water at one time with about 20 businesses and 12 homes flooded. A fireman said the water got four feet deep in some downtown sections but no evacuations were necessary.

Flooding in Miami was mostly along Grand River and in the city park area. Some water seeped into the post office and business places.

At Neosho, Mo., a nursing home

had to be evacuated due to flooding from a creek and several homes had water in them. Some rescue operations using boats were reported.

Mrs. F. B. Lewis, wife of the mayor of Seneca, said the floor waters rose so fast from Big and Little Lost Creeks that many residents had to flee to protect themselves. She said few were able to move any of their household goods or other belongings

and water damage was expected to run high.

Mrs. Lewis said water rose to more than three feet in most business places and stock damage was extensive. She said folks were working Saturday night at trying to salvage their belongings and clean away the mud and trash where water had receded. The Red Cross had set up a relief shelter there and civil

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A truck stalled by flood waters gets push from volunteers in Commerce. More pictures Page 14-A. (Aerial Photo by Frank Garner)

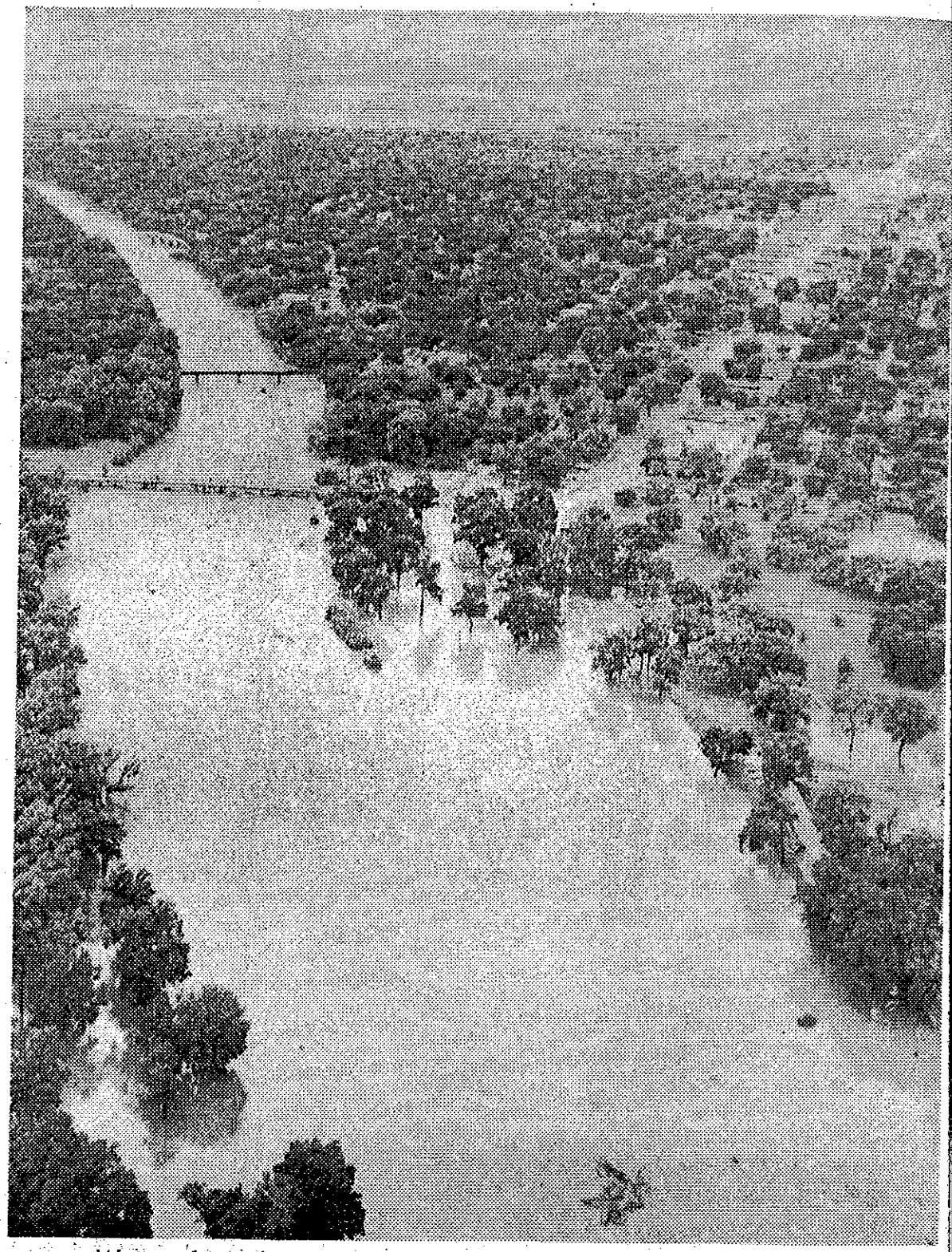
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File: FLOOD OTTAWA Co.



Flood waters stand around homes in Seneca, Mo., where more than 50 persons had to be evacuated when rains of up to 11 inches fell Saturday.

Water, Water Everywhere



Waters from this stream swollen by torrential rains in the area caused flooding of some streets and buildings Saturday in Miami, Okla. Story, Page 1-A.

FILE: FLOOD INFO OTTAWA CO.