

the search continues. Following is the

LIST OF THE DEAD

as far as ascertained: John Quinn, mail carrier, wife and two children; Jacob Bergencammer and three children, Mrs. M. McKenzie, John McFadden and sisters, Mrs. Campbell and two children, Mr. Coppi, Fred Reid, butcher, wife and children, John O'Mara and wife, two Yeugle boys, and four more, names unknown, Mrs. C. P. Casperson.

When the flood was at its height, the Acme refinery was struck by lightning, and fire added terror to the scene and five blocks were laid waste. Water began to recede about noon and is now going down rapidly. Great damage is reported from Correy, Pa., and other towns in that region.

At a late hour tonight the loss of life here by a conservative estimate is thirty-five. This is entirely within the city, while the news from tributary towns show a proportionate loss. Fully a third of the business and residence portion of the city is a mass of charred embers, over which the waters rush with unabated fury. The streets are filled with crowds of wet, hungry, homeless, despairing men, women and children. It is simply impossible to give the reader an idea of

THE TERRIBLE SCENES ENACTED.

Men with boats and ropes battled manfully against the current and hundreds of people captives in their homes on account of surrounding waters were rescued. Fully fifty people as yet are unaccounted for, and it is impossible at present to correctly state the number actually drowned or burned.

Five persons who were grasping a piece of timber were near the oil tank when it exploded. In a moment the men were enveloped in flames, and death came speedily. A mother with her babe clasped to her breast and clinging to a plank drifted toward the depot, around which the water was rushing furiously. As both reached the point the current was so great that it drew them down and they disappeared from view. Scores of cases of the like are reported.

Almost constant rains last month caused the earth to be so thoroughly soaked that it could hold no more and the heavy down-pours of Saturday and Saturday night caused the small streams to overflow their banks.

About midnight Oil creek began to rise rapidly and the flood was in before the residents were aware of their danger, and not more than half of them managed to reach high land. The suddenness of the rise was later explained by the intelligence that the mill dam at Spartansburg had burst.

It was at 2 a. m. that

THE HORRORS OF FIRE

added to the misery of the people. A dull explosion was heard at that hour and flames fully 200 feet high pierced the inky darkness and threw a glaring light over the vast expanse of angry waters. It was the Crescent Oil Refinery on fire and never before did fire seem to spread with such rapidity. Pandemonium broke loose among the people and panic reigned supreme. Thousands of people rushed pell mell through the streets tumbling and

knocking each other in an aimless endeavor to escape from what they imagined the crack of doom. The fierce light thrown on the surroundings revealed an appalling sight. On the eaves of houses and the windows of upper stories of houses in the wooden district appeared men, women and children scantily clad and piteously appealing for aid. Clinging to driftwood they were borne onward, and terror-stricken faces, desperate struggles and plaintive cries for aid combining great impressions never to be forgotten or effaced from the memory of the beholders. The story of the destruction by flames has been already told. Tonight the undertaking firms of the city are turned into temporary morgues. With the exception of seven Hebrews and two children, all the bodies recovered were taken there. Many bodies bear evidence of having met death from burning oil, some of them burned beyond recognition and several in such a terrible manner as to leave them without the least semblance of human form.

At 2 a. m. forty-six bodies have been recovered in Oil City, but it is impossible to give an accurate estimate of the total loss of life. There has been no communication between this city and Titusville since 6 p. m. The loss of life there is said to exceed 100. The tank owned by the Pennsylvania Refining company is in danger of exploding at the time of writing. It contains 25,000 barrels of oil, and if it catches fire it will wipe out the entire upper section of the town.

The citizens tonight issued an appeal to the public reciting the terrible destitution and great loss of life and destruction of property by floods and fire.

AT OIL CITY.

OIL CITY, Pa. June 5.—Never before in the history of Oil City and the oil country has such disaster, excitement and turmoil been seen as the city is now witnessing. At 11:45 this morning the city and country for miles around were startled by two explosions occurring almost simultaneously. Oil creek became a raging torrent and fully a thousand people were watching the waters. A cloud had burst up the creek.

About 11:30 a green fluid was noticed on the water. This increased in quantity and finally colored almost the entire water of the creek. The smell of gas and oil was perceptible and the danger of fire was commented upon. The word had hardly been uttered when 200 yards up the stream a mass of flames shot heavenward.

People stampeded like cattle and started for the hills. Hardly had they started when more explosions rent the air and the entire creek for hundreds of feet seemed one seething mass of flame and smoke. The panic-stricken crowd shrieked madly in their efforts to escape. Women and children were trampled under foot and some were severely bruised.

An engine on the Western New York & Pennsylvania railroad passed a tank of gasoline standing on a siding. The tank was leaking and as the engine passed a mass of flame shot into the air and the earth seemed to shake with the awful tremor. It is supposed that the engineer and fireman were killed by the force of the explosion. In an in-

stant the flames swept madly over the entire upper part of the city which was flooded by the oily waters of the creek, and men, and children who were moving from their homes were caught by the deadly flames, and if not burned to death outright, were drowned in the raging flood.

At this writing forty-six ghastly bodies have been taken from the flood and are lying on the railroad track.

THE DEAD:

William Shafer, John Reinbold, Charles Miller, Miss Minnie Russell, Daniel Sullivan, James Holmes, Mrs. William Briggs and three daughters, Mr. and Mrs. Hawkes and daughter, Matthew Lyons, wife and two children, John O'Leary and mother, Frank Plank, James Rogers, James Haskins, William White, John Steck, John Rambo, Humphrey Stewart, William Stewart, Harry Holmes, William Malone, Frank Watson, W. L. Daugherty, Edward Mills and four children, Mrs. Copeland and baby, Mrs. Levi Fitters. There are fifteen bodies at the undertaking rooms of Britting, McCracken & Co., twenty-five at the city hall, and a number taken to their homes.

SERIOUSLY INJURED:

William Morgan, Oil City; Edward Keating, Mr. Terwilliger, Mr. Baker, Sheridan Wick, John Rough and son, Mr. Eakin and two sons, Dr. Hasenfriz's two sons, Louis Hasenfriz, badly burned and cannot live; five children, badly burned, two will die; Mrs. Teeney and six children badly burned.

Nine tanks of the Imperial Refinery company on Oil Creek are now burning.

It is reported that Sam Yeader of Rouseville saved about twenty-five people located down the creek. He used a boat during the high flood, and great praise is due him.

Nothing can be heard from Titusville here as yet. The burning material can be seen down the river a mile below town.

It is impossible to give an estimate of the lives lost. For miles up the creek on both sides everything is in ruins and hundreds of families are rendered homeless. Very little of any property has been saved, and the sky for miles around is black with smoke from

THE BURNING DWELLINGS

and oil tanks. When the explosions occurred people were knocked down by the force of the shocks, and every window within a radius of two squares was broken. The panic during the heat of the excitement was something fearful, and it is remarkable that none were killed by horses and the frantic mob.

The water in Oil Creek is falling slowly now, and it is hoped that the worst is over. In the upper part of the town about a hundred dwellings were destroyed by fire, and, owing to the depth of the water the fire department is helpless. This part of the city is blockaded with lumber sheds and roofs of houses which floated down. The sight from the hilltops above the town is awful. The loss of property is estimated at from \$775,000 to \$2,000,000.

AT CORREY.

CORREY, Penn., June 5.—The most destructive rainstorm that ever visited this locality began yesterday, and by 9 o'clock business streets in the eastern portion of the city were under water and by 11 o'clock Center street was a