

Planting of corn and beans, the staff of life of most of the people, had been put off in the hope of rain, which is usually adequate for planting before the onset of the rainy season proper about July 1.

Then came a three-day rain, described as being, for that region, "most extraordinary." It was estimated that more than an inch fell, enough to practically assure successful planting—but enough also to damage the wheat crop to some extent in parts of Chihuahua.

Newspaper clippings indicate that this downpour was followed in southern Mexico on the 6th and 7th of June by wind and rain storms which in Mexico City caused the collapse of many houses in the poorer districts, and which in the Isthmus of Tehuantepec brought serious floods. In the latter region more than 100 lives were reported lost. Several small villages were wiped out. The cities of Juchitlan and Tehuantepec were reported "almost submerged." Damage to railroad property was extreme; the track of the Tehuantepec Railway for many kilometers was destroyed; a freight train was swept "four miles from its track" by the rush of waters. Telegraphic communication was suspended.

One favorable result of the rains was the extinguishing of fires in the turpentine forests near Nexaca.—*B. M. V.*

TORNADOES IN IOWA DURING JUNE, 1925

The following table is taken from a detailed report submitted by Mr. Arthur H. Christensen, Weather Bureau office, Des Moines, Iowa.

Iowa Tornadoes during June, 1925

Nearest towns	Date	Time	Direction of movement	Length of path	Persons killed	Persons injured	Estimated damage
I. Milford.....	1	P. m.....	SW. to NE.	Short.....	0	0	-----
II. Glenwood and Silver City.	2	4 p. m. to 5 p. m.	SW. to NE.	45 miles....	0	4	\$50,000
III. Onawa, Monona County, to Cushing, Woodbury County.	2	4 p. m. to 5 p. m.	SW. to NE.	46 miles....	0	4	480,000
IV. Red Oak, Montgomery County.	2	6:10 p. m.	SW. to NE.	11 miles....	0	5	100,000
V. Adair, Adair County.	2	8:30 p. m.	SW. to NE.	20 miles....	3	3	100,000
VI. Northwest part of Iowa County.	2	10:15 p. m.	SW. to NE.	Short.....	0	0	-----
VII. Neola, Pottawattamie County.	3	5:30 p. m.	SW. to NE.	5 miles....	0	0	} 750,000
VIII. Neola and Persia.	3	6 p. m.....	S. to N....	10 miles....	1	21	
IX. Jefferson, Greene County.	3	9 p. m.....	SW. to NE.	15 miles....	0	1	10,000
X. Alexander, Franklin County.	11	4 p. m. to 4:45 p. m.	SW. to NE.	15 miles....	1	18	350,000
XI. Dumont, Butler County.	11	4:30 p. m.	SW. to NE.	1 mile.....	0	0	} 150,000
XII. Greene, Butler County.	11	5 p. m.....	SW. to NE.	2 miles....	0	0	
XIII. Carrville, Floyd County.	11	6:30 p. m.	SW. to NE.	¼ mile....	0	0	
XIV. Nashua, Chickasaw County.	11	6:30 p. m.	SW. to NE.	Short.....	0	0	} 10,000
XV. Tabor, Fremont County.	28	2 a. m.....	NW. to SE.	6 miles....	0	0	
Total.....				170 miles..	5	56	2,000,000

INTENSE RAINSTORM OF JULY 3, 1925, DUBUQUE, IOWA

Mr. H. Merrill Wills, in charge of the Weather Bureau station at Dubuque, reports that during the evening of July 3, 1925, the city was visited by a rainstorm of unusual intensity, the second of the sort within 19 days

following nine consecutive months of deficient precipitation. The total rainfall of this second storm was 3.47 inches (3.19 inches having been recorded in the first, during the night of June 14-15). The greatest falls within limited periods were: 5 minutes, 0.46 inch; 10 minutes, 0.81 inch; 15 minutes, 1.12 inches; 30 minutes, 1.86 inches; 1 hour, 2.29 inches; 2 hours, 3.22 inches.

Including the two storms just passed, 25 have brought precipitation exceeding 3 inches in 24 hours at Dubuque since 1874, or an average of one every two years.

The depressions along the wind-shift lines of which the two recent storms took place were of no unusual intensity. On July 3, occurred a maximum temperature of 96° at 2:30 p. m., the wind having been previous to that time SW., but shifting then to NW. and W., whence at about 5 p. m. it returned to SW. with the beginning of the rain, and so continued through most of the storm, reaching a maximum velocity of 37 miles per hour. The temperature dropped from 94° at 4:50 p. m. to 69° at 6 p. m.

Typical accompaniments of a severe thunderstorm are noted in the report: In this case the killing of two persons and injury of another; extensive damage to trees, gardens, telephone and other wire systems; flooding of sewers, streets, and basements. The estimate of total property damage is \$50,000.

[With reference to the maximum recorded wind velocity, the question may be raised as to whether the Weather Bureau anemometer was located in the path of greatest wind force in this storm. In another part of the city a portion of the roof of a wagon factory was blown off and a side wall blown in; this, together with the destruction of large trees, indicates a degree of damage incommensurate with a wind velocity of only 37 miles per hour. This velocity is that of a "high wind," force 7, on the Beaufort scale, for which the specification is: "Whole trees in motion; inconvenience felt when walking against wind." For the specification which seems to describe this storm, namely, "trees uprooted; considerable structural damage occurs," the wind is a whole gale, force 10, velocity 55-63 miles per hour.]—*B. M. V.*

INCIPIENT TORNADO IN IDAHO

F. P. HOLT

Mr. Fred P. Holt, a former employee of the United State Weather Bureau, supplies us with the following particulars of a phenomenon observed by him in southeastern Idaho on July 4, 1925. It was evidently a tornado in the making; its failure to develop into a destructive whirl must be ascribed to the unfavorable atmospheric conditions near the surface of the ground:

About noon I observed a typical tornado which did not reach destructive proportions. A thunderstorm was approaching from the south, following the Portneuf River Valley, and a horizontal stratum of cloud at an estimated elevation of about 1,500 feet was accompanying the approaching storm. My attention was attracted to a small suspended mass of cloud which quickly assumed the form of an inverted cone. This cone rapidly became longer and more slender and the lower extremity swung irregularly from side to side from the vertical. As the storm approached, the rapid rotary spiral motion was distinctly observed with a very rapid vertical motion.

At its maximum development, I estimate the column to have been 500 to 800 feet long. At no time did it extend more than halfway from the cloud stratum to the valley floor.

From the maximum development above described, the swaying trunk gradually became shorter and shorter and my last observation was of a small agitation on the under surface of the cloud stratum. * * *