

RIVERS AND FLOODS

By RICHMOND T. ZOCH

[River and Flood Division, Montrose W. Hayes in charge]

The most noteworthy flood of August, 1932, was in the Cimarron River in Oklahoma. It was caused by rains of 7 to 12 inches in the vicinity of Enid, Okla., and moderately heavy amounts throughout the Cimarron Basin. Nineteen bridges were washed out in Woods County and 18 in Logan County. Two boys were drowned at Oilton. In addition to the losses tabulated below there was a very large unestimated loss to land fertility by soil erosion. Over 150 square miles were under water in a cultivated region, and much of the surface soil was washed away. The damage from erosion was perhaps greater than all the other losses combined.

Minor floods occurred in South Carolina, Missouri, Tennessee, and Colorado.

STATEMENT OF FLOOD LOSSES

MISSISSIPPI SYSTEM

MISSOURI BASIN

Grand River in Missouri:	
Suspension of business, including wages of employees.....	\$500
Cimarron River in Oklahoma:	
Tangible property totally or partially destroyed.....	471,300
Matured crops.....	136,150
Prospective crops.....	23,700
Livestock and other movable property.....	83,650
Suspension of business, including wages of employees.....	5,000

Also, there were the following losses caused by floods in the creeks west and south of Omaha, Nebr., where no flood warning service is maintained:

Tangible property totally or partially destroyed.....	\$26,300
Matured crops.....	10,600
Prospective crops.....	4,100
Livestock and other movable property.....	1,350
Suspension of business, including wages of employees.....	600

ESTIMATED VALUE OF PROPERTY SAVED BY WARNINGS

Cimarron River in Oklahoma..... \$3,150

Table of flood stages in August, 1932

[All dated in August unless otherwise indicated]

River and station	Flood stage	Above flood stages—dates		Crest	
		From—	To—	Stage	Date
ATLANTIC SLOPE DRAINAGE					
Saluda: Pelzer, S. C.....	Feet 7	1	1	Feet 7.0	1
Santee:					
Rimini, S. C.....	12	21	27	12.4	22
Ferguson, S. C.....	12	10	13	12.3	13
		28	28	12.0	26-28
Savannah: Ellenton, S. C.....	14	4	11	18.4	9
MISSISSIPPI SYSTEM					
Missouri Basin					
Grand: Chillicothe, Mo.....	18	16	20	20.6	19
Ohio Basin					
Elk: Fayetteville, Tenn.....	14	19	19	14.2	19
Arkansas Basin					
Fountain: Fountain, Colo.....	8	14	14	10.0	14
Cimarron: Perkins, Okla.....	11	18	18	14.6	18
PACIFIC SLOPE DRAINAGE					
Columbia Basin					
Columbia: Marcus, Wash.....	24	May 7	2	35.0	June 18, 19, 26, 27.

WEATHER OF THE ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC OCEANS

The Marine Division, W. F. McDonald in charge

NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN

By F. A. YOUNG

Atmospheric pressure.—High pressure with slight gradients prevailed over the greater part of the ocean during nearly the entire month of August, although on the 13th and 14th there was an extensive low over the waters adjacent to the Canadian maritime Provinces, and there were a few days when other sections of the main steamer lanes were dominated by moderate low pressure conditions. The North Atlantic high was best developed between the 1st and 4th, 12th to 19th, and on the last two days of the month. The Icelandic low was strongest on the 8th and 31st.

TABLE 1.—Averages, departures, and extremes of atmospheric pressure (sea level) at selected stations for the North Atlantic Ocean and its shores, August, 1932

Stations	Average pressure	Departure from normal	Highest	Date	Lowest	Date
Julianehaab, Greenland.....	Inches 29.82	Inch -----	Inches 30.28	17	Inches 29.45	30
Reykjavik, Iceland.....	29.72	-0.09	30.23	20, 23	29.16	31
Lerwick, Shetland Islands.....	29.99	+0.19	30.38	24, 25	29.61	13
Valencia, Ireland.....	30.07	+0.15	30.28	5	29.73	13
Lisbon, Portugal.....	30.05	+0.03	30.20	23	29.90	11
Madeira.....	30.04	+0.01	30.19	25	29.86	6
Horta, Azores.....	30.23	+0.03	30.48	2	29.99	21
Belle Isle, Newfoundland.....	29.95	+0.06	30.28	20	29.62	13
Halifax, Nova Scotia.....	29.98	-0.03	30.30	24	29.60	12
Nantucket.....	29.99	0.00	30.31	24	29.68	11
Hatteras.....	30.02	+0.02	30.21	24	29.83	11
Bermuda.....	30.04	-0.10	30.18	20, 27	29.84	31
Turks Island.....	29.97	-0.07	30.08	8	29.84	15
Key West.....	29.94	-0.04	30.06	7	29.62	30
New Orleans.....	29.95	-0.03	30.10	15	29.68	31
Cape Gracias, Nicaragua.....	29.86	-0.03	29.92	1	29.82	12, 21, 30

NOTE.—All data based on a. m. observations only, with departures compiled from best available normals related to time of observations, except Hatteras, Key West, Nantucket, and New Orleans, which are 24-hour corrected means.