

SEVERE LOCAL STORMS FOR JANUARY 1948

[The table hereunder contains such data as have been received concerning severe local storms that occurred during the month. A revised list will appear in the United States Meteorological Yearbook]

| Place | Date | Time | Width of path, yards | Loss of life | Value of property destroyed | Character of storm | Remarks |
|--|----------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|--|---|
| Iowa, southeastern portion | Dec. 31-Jan. 1 | Night of Dec. 31-morning of Jan. 1. | | | | Ice and snow storm | Storm piled 6 to 10 inches of snow on sheet of ice; communications and transportation facilities crippled in 12 counties. Freezing rain began on night of Dec. 31, accompanied by winds up to 40 m. p. h. Power and telephone lines and tree limbs broken by weight of ice and snow. About 50 towns cut off from telephone service; damage to lines estimated in excess of \$350,000. Communications partially revived via short wave radio in Burlington, Fort Madison, Clinton, and Keokuk. Several communities without power. Train and plane services disrupted. Highways hazardous for several days. At least 1 death attributed indirectly to storm, as well as numerous accidents. |
| North Union to Mantee, Miss. | 1 | 2-3:30 a. m. | | 1 | \$50,000 | Tornado | North of Kosciusko, storm moved northeastward over generally wooded areas of Attala County to town of Mantee, where 1 person was killed and 1 injured. Approximately 10 homes destroyed, and several out-buildings and barns. |
| Salem, Ind. | 1 | 11:30 a. m. | 100 | 0 | 20,000 | do | Path southwest to northeast; 2 miles long. |
| Pendleton County, Ky. | 1 | 3 p. m. | 100 | 0 | 100,000 | Small tornado | Damage mostly to buildings, woodlots, and corn still in shock. |
| Clermont, Clinton, and Fayette Counties, Ohio. | 1 | 4 p. m. | 67 | 0 | 100,000 | Tornado | Damage reported in scattered areas from near Newtonsville in Clermont County, northeastward across Clinton County, to Washington Courthouse in Fayette County. Damage evidently caused by a tornado, which dipped to ground here and there, or to a series of smaller tornadoes. One factory building and a number of houses unroofed; several barns and smaller farm buildings destroyed; trees twisted off; power and telephone lines damaged; corn in shock scattered. |
| Ohio, northwestern counties. | 1 | All day | | 6 | 100,000 | Glaze | Telephone and power lines and poles down, due to coating of ice; number of communities without electric and telephone service for about 12 hours; trees damaged; 6 persons killed in traffic accidents. |
| Indiana, northern portion | 1 | | | | | do | Worst storm in years. Severe damage. Many poles and wires down, due to ice and wind. |
| Wisconsin, southeastern portion. | 1 | | | | | Heavy snow and high winds. | 10- to 15-inch snowfall, Milwaukee and Waukesha Counties and southern portions Washington and Ozaukee Counties; 4 to 6 inches elsewhere in area. Drifts to 5 feet. Trains late, some canceled; inter-city bus service discontinued. Milwaukee City transportation halted several hours. Many people stranded overnight. Traffic mostly resumed on 2d. |
| Calhoun, Doddridge, Harrison, Marshall, Pleasants, Ritchie, Taylor, Tyler, Wetzel, Wirt, and Wood Counties, W. Va. | 1-2 | Most of 1st and a. m. of 2d. | | | | Heavy rains | Small streams overflowed locally, blocking highways, as result of high water and landslides. |
| Pennsylvania, southeastern portion of. | 1-2 | | | | | Glaze | Much damage to trees and power and telephone lines. Service disrupted in towns of Center Valley, Fredericksburg, and New Tripoli on 1st. Electricity restored by 7th in New Tripoli, but no telephone service through end of January. Many homes in towns of Grantville, Mauch Chunk, Palmerton, Pine Grove, and West Chester without light, heat, or telephone service. |
| Dadeville, Ala. | 2 | 2 a. m. | | | 5,000 | Thundersquall | Three miles south of town. Blew down several flimsy barns and out-houses; unroofed 1 residence; blocked highway with fallen trees; blew down power line, causing electrocution of some cattle. |
| Montgomery, Ala. | 2 | 2 a. m. | | | 1,500 | do | About 100 old telephone poles blown down north of city. Several spans of power line blown down west of city. |
| Maine (southern and eastern portions), Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut. | 2 | | | | | Snow, sleet, and rain. | Snowfall varying from 5 to 12 inches, fell on hard-packed, frozen surfaces, causing extremely hazardous conditions on streets, highways, and sidewalks. |
| South Dakota, eastern portion. | 15 | Daytime | | | | Wind | High winds, accompanied by blowing light snow and rapidly falling temperatures, hampered transportation and delayed or cancelled bus, plane, and rail schedules. Some schools closed. |
| Massachusetts, central and eastern portions; Maine, southern portion. | 21-22 | | | | | Snow, rain, and sleet. | Conditions practically a repetition of those that existed during and after the storm of Jan. 2. In eastern portion of area, especially coastal sections, moderately heavy rain during the afternoon of 21st collected in city streets due to clogged catch basins, and crippled transportation. |
| Charleston, W. Va., near Entire State of W. Va. | 22-24 | Late afternoon | | | | Electrical | Transmitting tower of Radio Station WKNA struck by lightning. |
| Baltimore, Md. | 24 | 7:30 a. m.-midnight. | | | | Freezing rains changing to moderate to heavy snows | Roads blocked temporarily, principally in mountains. |
| Montezuma, near, Colo. | 24 | P. m. | | 1 | | Snow and sleet | Heavy snow, totaling 5 inches, caused tie-up in traffic; minor accidents, and falls on slippery streets. |
| Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut | 24-25 | | | | | Snow slide | Between Shoe Basin mine and Montezuma; 2 other persons injured. |
| Northern South Carolina | 24-31 | At intervals | | 2 | | Moderate to heavy snow and strong northeast winds | Accumulation of snow in this storm brought the amount remaining on the ground to all-time record at Providence, R. I., and Hartford, Conn.; it was within 1 inch of the record at Boston, Mass. |
| Loveland Pass, Colo. | 25 | 4 p. m. | | 2 | | Freezing rain, sleet, snow, and glaze | Falls of solid precipitation and glaze at frequent intervals, most generally on the 24th, 28th, and 31st. Icy roads responsible for traffic delays and many wrecks, most of them of minor nature. The heaviest snow and sleet falls occurred in Piedmont area. Of the 2 recorded fatalities, 1 was due to motor accident, the other, to exposure. |
| Most of W. Va., except extreme northwest portion | 31-Feb. 1 | | | | | Snow slide | Slide crossed Switchback Trail on eastern slope of Loveland Pass, striking a ski party. |
| | | | | | | Heavy snows | Many roads blocked, causing suspension of bus services and making all automobile travel extremely hazardous. |

LATE STORM REPORTS FOR OCTOBER AND DECEMBER 1947

[The table hereunder contains such data as were received concerning severe local storms that occurred during these months. A revised list will appear in the United States] Meteorological Yearbook]

| Place | Date | Time | Width of path, yards | Loss of life | Value of property destroyed | Character of storm | Remarks |
|------------------------------|----------------------|---------------|----------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Jefferson County, Mo.----- | <i>October</i> 17 | About 4 p. m. | 1 | | \$4,000 | Heavy hail..... | Storm at De Soto damaged composition shingle roofs, greenhouse glass, and late gardens. Hailstones mostly $\frac{3}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter, with a few as large as golf balls. North half of town hardest hit. Heavy rain accompanied hail which lasted about 30 minutes. |
| Erath County, Tex.----- | <i>December</i> 3 | 7 p. m. | 440 | | 1,000 | Wind..... | Principal damage to buildings in Thurber. |
| Honolulu and vicinity, T. H. | 18-19 | | | | | High winds..... | Few roofs, some trees damaged; utility services interrupted short period in some areas by falling tree limbs. |
| Bell County, Tex.----- | 31 | 2:55 p. m. | 1,760 | | 50,200 | Hail and wind..... | Storm at Temple demolished 1 house, unroofed several others, and blew in several large windows; 3 or 4 automobiles struck by trees or falling objects. One flock of chickens killed. Heavy black cloud with orange hue. Wind estimated to reach 60 m. p. h. |
| McLennan County, Tex.----- | 31 | 3 p. m. | 880 | 0 | 2,000 | Tornado, hail, and wind. | Two automobiles blown over on highway; small grain, peas, and clover leveled at Ross. |
| Waco, Tex.----- | 31 | 3:10 p. m. | | | 6,450 | Wind..... | Damage to 2 airplanes, \$500; several others damaged slightly; roofing off hangar, \$700; damage to other buildings on field, \$5,250. Sharp rise in barometer from 28.98 to 29.18 inches and fall to 29.10 inches in about one minute of time. Reaction of persons in building similar to a drop of 200 feet in an airplane. |
| Blanco County, Tex.----- | 31 | 3:30 p. m. | 112 | | | Hail and wind..... | Shingles blown from some roofs at Blanco. |
| Bell County, Tex.----- | 31 | 4 p. m. | 200 | 0 | 50,000 | Tornado, hail, and wind. | Buildings unroofed and small trees blown down at Belton. |

¹ Miles instead of yards.