

A Science Service Feature

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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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Authority on Meteorology

A TORNADO CASUALTY LIST

On September 13 last year Sioux City, Iowa, had a narrow escape when four tornadoes developed within a radius of 80 miles of that town and claimed a toll of eight lives, with a property loss of over a million dollars. One of the storm tracks ended five miles from the border of Sioux City.

Writing of this disaster, S. D. Flora, of the U. S. Weather Bureau, remarks that the report of the Red Cross officials who investigated the damage "reads like the casualty list of a battle." Here are some of the items:

Dead, 6; injured 61; families homeless, 51; number of persons registered by the Red Cross in its relief work, 943; horses killed, 87; cattle killed, 136; hogs killed, 1,619; poultry killed, 11,690; schools destroyed, 3; dwellings destroyed, 66; farm buildings destroyed or damaged, 547; acres of corn destroyed, 5,914; acres of other crops destroyed, 24,641.

This list, says Mr. Flora, "is in a general way typical of damage by a group of Mid-West tornadoes that cross only rural regions of the country."

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