

FOUR LOSE LIVES AS FREAK STORM STRIKES BEAR CREEK; TWO MISSING

Swirling Flood Waters Sweep Over Highway



This picture shows a part of the highway above Morrison where a cloudburst sent Bear Creek temporarily out of its banks yesterday. It also shows piles of halistones which showered down for a short time following the heavy rain.

Panic Blamed for Death of Two Who Flee Car When Stream Rises Suddenly and Seek to Climb Canon Wall

TWO ROADS INTO MOUNTAINS TO BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC SHORT TIME

Mount Vernon Highway Suffers Most; Mr. and Mrs. John Husband Among Victims; Two Bodies Unidentified

Freak storms over the watersheds of Bear Creek and Mount Vernon Canons sent an unusual flow of water thru Idledale and Morrison yesterday, taking four lives and damaging two highways. Two other persons are missing—a woman and her 14-year-old son.

The freakish hail and rain storm descended suddenly and passed quickly, to be followed by a rain such as would bring untold rejoicing in the drought-stricken areas of less favored parts of the country.

Aside from a washout on the lower section of Mount Vernon highway and some debris over the old section of Bear Creek highway, around Idledale, damage from the storms was listed last night as slight.

The fact there was any loss of life was difficult to explain, as residents of the area generally had ample warning of the approach of the flood waters.

Two of the persons killed apparently became panic-stricken and abandoned their car in an attempt to brave the water to reach higher ground. Three other persons riding with them reached safety.

The other two are believed to have been riding in a car directly behind this first machine when the water caught them.

The dead are John Husband, 56, of 650 S. Logan st. His body was recovered a short distance from Idledale, near the spot where the waters caught him.

Two Roads Closed Temporarily

Mrs. John Husband, his wife, whose body was found near the main bridge in Morrison, just above the town.

A boy, about 12, tentatively identified as the son of Mrs. J. H. Dieken of Detroit, Mich. His body was found on Kendal View Ranch, about four miles down Bear Creek from Morrison.

A man, whose body was taken from a pile of brush about 300 yards west of the new Morrison bridge. He has been tentatively identified as M. Juhnke of Englewood, who was hired to drive Mrs. Dieken and her two sons up Bear Creek Canon. Coroner A. O. Saunders of Jefferson County expressed the belief early this morning that Mrs. Dieken and her other son perished in the flood.

Bear Creek and Mount Vernon highways were both closed to traffic last night, but highway engineers indicated repairs would not require much time.

Aside from that, when the Colorado sun gets its chance at the storm areas today, little trace of yesterday's storm will remain.

Brunt of the rain and hail was just above Idledale, in the vicinity of which several normally-dry gulches carried a heavy flow of water to converge in Bear Creek and sweep on down thru Morrison.

Rains also caused a heavy flow thru Mount Vernon and some of the water from this territory flowed into Bear Creek thru Morrison from the north.

Heavy rains raised Cherry Creek in the Parker-Sullivan district several feet.

Thousands of curious Denverites lined Cherry Creek and the Platte River when word of the flood waters reached here.

(Continued on Page 8, Column 1)

Rescuer Tells of Racing Bodies Down Bear Creek

Retrieves One Battered Mass of Human Flesh From Pounding Waves of Flood

Forest Hoover, 35, of Idledale, was with his wife, John Husband of 456 S. Logan st., swept away by flood waters in Bear Creek Canon yesterday, and made a desperate effort to rescue them. His account of the flood and the rescue follows—Editor.

BY FOREST HOOVER. Every person in Idledale was forewarned of the storm. I was sitting on the porch of my house watching for the high water. The day was black up the canon. The water rose visibly before the onrushing flood. The husband machine rounded the corner on the way down the canon, and the water was over the top. Apparently the occupants decided to desert the auto and try to make higher ground. I saw all of them all five—apart out on the road. They took a few steps. As they tried to run it looked to me like a slow-motion picture. I took time for them to lift their feet and get them down again a foot or so above the high bank by the road. The water was on them in a trice.

DILL DEFEATED IN COURT FIGHT

Former Financier's Final Hope for Probation Dashed

The final hope of E. B. Dill, former vice president of the defunct Associated Industries, Inc., to escape four to 10 years in Canon City penitentiary was swept away yesterday when District Attorney Earl Wetzel announced he would not approve Dill's application for probation.

Dill was convicted on charges of cheating and swindling in the sale of more than \$2,000,000 worth of stock in Crown Hill Cemetery. Sentence was passed in West Side court in April, 1932, and for more than two years he has waged a losing battle to escape sentence.

Appeals to the state supreme court and the U. S. supreme court failed. His application for probation was filed in West Side court July 15 in order for probation to be granted the district attorney and the court must consent.

Wetzel said he would make a formal announcement of this disappointing Monday when the regular court docket is presented. Orders for his transfer to the penitentiary are expected to be issued by the court immediately thereafter.

SIX KILLED AS TRAIN DEMOLISHES AUTO

Three Others Injured; Four of Victims Children; Residents of Memphis, Tenn.

Associated Press, Tenn., Aug. 9.—Six persons were killed and three others were injured this afternoon when a Louisville & Nashville passenger train from Cincinnati and Louisville struck an automobile on the outskirts of Memphis. The automobile was demolished and bodies were strewn about the street. Two of the dead were tentatively identified as Austin Dodson, 26, and Steve Thompson, 35, both of Memphis. The other dead were children.

Silver Nationalized by U. S. And Price Put at 50 Cents

New Currency Will Be Issued Against 200,000,000 Ounces of Metal Expected to Be Acquired

BY ARTHUR F. DEGREVE (United Press Staff Correspondent) WASHINGTON, Aug. 9.—The federal government today nationalized silver and announced that new currency would be issued against upwards of 200,000,000 ounces of the metal expected to be acquired. The executive order and proclamation.

BEAR CREEK ROAD TO BE FIXED SOON

Will Be Used Again Within Next Two Days

The Bear Creek Canon road probably can be made ready for use again within the next two days, officials of the Rocky Mountain Motorists said last night following a survey of the flood damage.

Early reports of damage to the new road were much exaggerated, it was said. The new road escaped almost unscathed, while damage to the old section of the highway was greatest at O'Brien Gulch and near Idledale.

As had been predicted by engineers, the surface of the new road was well above flood danger. Due to the fact that the new highway has not had time to settle, the shoulder fill was cut into by the torrent in one or two places, but this can easily be repaired.

The worst destruction done was in Mount Vernon Canon, where large sections of the road were washed away. Virtually all the cribbing and rip-rapping done by the city last spring was destroyed and washed downstream in the flood. This road probably will be closed for some time.

Heavy rains also were reported near Idaho Springs and Central City, but no road damage was reported at these places.

GAMBLING LID ON—OH, YEAH?

Police Just Can't Seem to Find Any Violators in City

Altho the gambling "lid" officially was clamped down on Denver Wednesday, according to announcements by Manager of Safety Carl S. Milliken and Police Chief Albert T. Clark, not one arrest for gambling or operation of slot machines or punchboards was made in the 26 hours after 8 p. m. Wednesday.

At 7:51 p. m. Thursday Patrolmen Howard Fayram and Jack Watson, members of the chief's vice squad, ordered four restaurant men and one filling station man into police court for operating money slot machines.

The "relemp" apparently ended with these five cases. Those on the outside were speculating yesterday on whether this front for the gambling crusade by the police department was going to be considered sufficient.

There were, of course, those who insisted all the gambling joints were closed and all the money slot machines collected by their owners or hidden so the officers could not find any violators.

And, of course, there were those who grinned and answered, "Oh, yeah?"

It is true the traffic problem and the high water in Bear Creek Canon took up considerable time of high police officials yesterday. But it is equally true that all members of the force were not engaged in duties connected with these two problems.

Clark and Milliken declared they were going to hold captains and sergeants responsible for any gambling or slot machines or punchboards discovered in their district, and patrolmen equally responsible for conditions on their beats.

Outsiders admitted they are curious as to the record of arrests for gambling which will be made in the 24 hours from 10 p. m. yesterday.

"FINIS" IS MISNAMED. ROCK, RAPIDS, Iowa, Aug. 9.—When a 14th child was born a year ago to Mrs. Roy Bowen, the husband named the baby daughter "Finis." This week the 14th child arrived at the Bowen home.

Will Rogers

Says Scrubbing and Painting Is Main Job of Sailors Nowadays

A BOARD EMPRESS OF CANADA, Aug. 9.—I have lost all idea of days or time on

Broken Near Dionne Homestead Hospital to Care for Quintuplets

Two of the dead were tentatively identified as Austin Dodson, 26, and Steve Thompson, 35, both of Memphis. The other dead were children.

Rocky Mountain News

August 10, 1934

Page 1

-OH, YEAH?

st Can't Seem to Violators in City

gambling "lid" officially ed down on Denver according to announce- manager of Safety Carl S. Police Chief Albert T. the arrest for gambling of slot machines or was made in the 26 p. m. Wednesday. m. Thursday Patrolmen ram and Jack Watson, the chief's vice squad, restaurant men and tation man into police rating money slot ma-

ntly" apparently ended ve cases. the outside were specu- rday on whether this he gambling crusade by partment was going to sufficient. e, of course, those who he gambling joints were ll the money slot ma- ted by their owners or the officers could not lators. ouse, there were those l and answered, "Oh,

th affic problem and waters in Bear Creek up considerable time of officials yesterday. But true that all members were not engaged in ected with these two

Milliken declared they to hold captains and sponsible for any gam- slot machines or punch- vered in their district, en equally responsible s on their beats. admitted they are cur- he record of arrests for ich will be made in the a 10 p. m. yesterday.

IS MISNAMED

PIDS, Iowa, Aug. 9.— child was born a year oy Bowen, the husband baby daughter "Finis." e 15th child arrived at omie.

ct Prefers and Chain

A, Ga., Aug. 9.—J. L. smiled when he was o a Georgia chain gang s on burglary charges. rld, was because. He not to be sent. Oklahoma, where he year ago while serving rder. "If they took me lahoma, I'd be steril-

the waters caught him.

Two Roads Closed Temporarily

Mrs. John Husband, his wife, whose body was found near the main bridge in Morrison, just above the town.

A boy, about 12, tentatively identified as the son of Mrs. J. H. Dieken of Detroit, Mich. His body was found on Kendel View Ranch, about four miles down Bear Creek from Morrison.

A man, whose body was taken from a pile of brush about 300 yards west of the new Morrison bridge. He has been tentatively identified as M. Juhnke of Englewood, who was hired to drive Mrs. Dieken and her two sons up Bear Creek Canon.

Coroner A. O. Saunders of Jefferson County expressed the belief early this morning that Mrs. Dieken and her other son perished in the flood.

Bear Creek and Mount Vernon highways were both closed to traffic last night, but highway engineers indicated repairs would not require much time.

Aside from that, when the Colorado sun gets its chance at the storm areas today, little trace of yesterday's storm will remain.

Brunt of the rain and hail was just above Idledale, in the vicinity of which several normally-dry gulches carried a heavy flow of water to converge in Bear Creek and sweep on down thru Morrison.

Rains also caused a heavy flow thru Mount Vernon and some of the water from this territory flowed into Bear Creek thru Morrison from the north.

Heavy rains raised Cherry Creek in the Parker-Sullivan district several feet.

Thousands of curious Denverites lined Cherry Creek and the Platte River when word of the flood waters reached here,

(Continued on Page 8, Column 1)

Rescuer Tells of Racing Bodies Down Bear Creek

Retrieves One Battered Mass of Human Flesh From Pounding Waves of Flood

Forest Hoover, 38, of Idledale, saw Mr. and Mrs. John Husband of 650 S. Logan st. swept away by flood waters in Bear Creek Canon yesterday, and made a desperate effort to rescue them. His own account of the flood and the rescue follows.—Editor.

BY FOREST HOOVER Every person in Idledale was forewarned of the storm.

I was sitting on the porch of my house watching for the high water.

The sky was black up the canon. You could see the cloudburst clearly. It looked simply like a concentrated flood, pouring out of a single open space in the black clouds. The water itself stood out like a small white Niagara against the darkness of the sky and of the tree-covered mountainside.

Cars continued all this time to pass one another on the road, below my house.

Hears Flood Above Storm I kept thinking they ought to hurry out of there and get to higher ground.

Above the howling of the storm, I suddenly heard the flood coming. The rocks in the creek ground against one another. Logs crashed.

The water rose visibly before the onrushing flood.

The Husband machine rounded the corner on the way down the canon as the water varied nearer.

Apparently the occupants decided to desert the auto and try to make higher ground. I saw all of them—all five—spill out into the road.

They took a few steps. As they tried to run it looked to me like a slow-motion picture. It took forever for them to lift their feet and set them down again a foot or so nearer the high bank by the road.

The water was on them in a trice.

Clutches at Shrub Three people, a man and two women, stood safe at the edge of the water.

Husband clutched madly at a shrub. He stretched an arm behind him to the woman who was on his heels. Both were swept away.

Things happened too fast for me to keep very good track of them.

I'm sure I saw three heads bobbing in the boiling black mass.

By this time I was out by the edge of the rushing water with a bob of wire in my hands which I had snatched from the porch.

Shouting to the people in the flood.

(Continued on Page 8, Column 1)

Rocky Mountain News August 10, 1934 PG 1

FREAK STORM KILLS 4 PERSONS ON CANON ROAD

Bear Creek and Mount Vernon Highways Damaged but Property Loss Other- wise Is Negligible

(Continued From Page One)

but neither stream encountered any difficulty in carrying off the excess flow.

None of the hundreds of residents and visitors in the Morrison, Idledale and Mount Vernon districts reported any inconvenience as a result of the storms.

A few campers and picnickers along Bear Creek clambered to safety on high ground at the first warning of the flood waters.

The first warning of the flood waters came about 1:30 p. m., when the unusual hail and rainstorm began sending water flowing thru the mountain gulches.

Stronghurst and O'Brien Gulches sent the heaviest flows. Maurice C. Peter, Idledale postmaster, heard the roar of the water and immediately sent warnings down the canon.

Mrs. Charles C. Gates, wife of a prominent Denver manufacturer, whose beautiful home is a short distance above this point, notified Morrison of the heavy flow in the stream. Mrs. Gates also assisted several persons who sought shelter, including three survivors from the Husband auto.

Morrison Street Flooded

At the height of the brief flood, water rose over the main street in Morrison and flooded structures on the south side, nearest Bear Creek.

At one time water stood four feet up on the walls of the Morrison dance hall. Some water entered structures in the lower part of the street on the north side of the street.

Water from the north flooded two or three homes in Morrison, but there was no loss of life from this source and damage was estimated last night as small.

The Morrison water plant was not severely damaged, tho there was a break in one main, supplying business houses on the north side of the principal street.

The new \$300,000 Bear Creek highway, pride of engineers, escaped with very little damage. Considerable debris was strewn on old portions of the highway in the Idledale vicinity and the roads suffered some damage in this section.

The new part of the highway escaped almost entirely. W. G. Duvall, county commissioner of Jefferson County, reported that approximately a mile of highway just above the filling station near the foot of Mount Vernon Canon had been washed out.

C. D. Vail, state highway engineer, said that little difficulty will be encountered in repairing damage to the Bear Creek road, but said that the Mount Vernon highway needs about \$50,000 in repair work.

Abandon Car and Flee

The Husband car was near the head of the flood area when the water caught them.

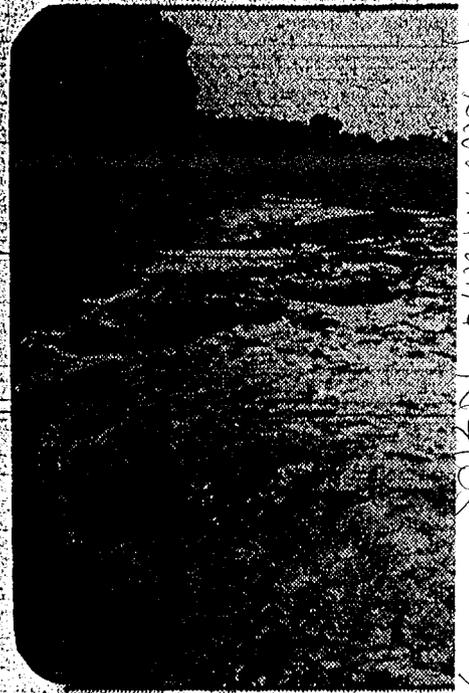
Riding with them were Police Chief and Mrs. Thomas Shields of Florence and their daughter, Margaret Bell Frew, visitors at the Husband home.

Husband had been having some difficulty with his car, and a passing motorist had stopped to give them aid, Shields said.

When the flood waters came, the two families in the Husband car abandoned the machine in an effort to reach higher ground. Mr. and Mrs. Shields and their daughter escaped the water, but the Husbunds were caught.

The Husbunds were pioneer residents of Fremont County.

In Wake of



Top: Scene just below Morrison as the swollen waters of Bear Creek were receding into the river channel. At the height of the flood the waters submerged the section of the road at the left and were three feet up the bank.

Bottom: Patrolmen Henry Ebert (left) and A. C. Morton take time out from directing traffic to get cooled off. The officers are holding handfuls of hail which fell to cover the ground like snow. Several inches of hail remained in some parts of the canon hours after the storm.

Baby Prattles of Muddy Water In Race for Life

Mother Drives Desperately to
to Get Out of Flood-
Swept Cañon

Circle:
John Hus
who was k
he had ab
one and
the C. C. I

Rocky Mountain News August 10, 1934

PG 8

cully will be encountered in repairing damage to the Bear Creek road, but said that the Mount Vernon highway needs about \$50,000 in repair work.

Abandon Car and Flee

The Husband car was near the head of the flood area when the water caught them.

Riding with them were Police Chief and Mrs. Thomas Shields of Florence and their daughter, Margaret Bell Frew, visitors at the Husband home.

Husband had been having some difficulty with his car, and a passing motorist had stopped to give them aid, Shields said.

When the flood waters came, the two families in the Husband car abandoned the machine in an effort to reach higher ground. Mr. and Mrs. Shields and their daughter escaped the water, but the Husbards were caught.

The Husbards were pioneer residents of Fremont County. Mr. Husband had lived in Florence nearly 50 years and was engaged in the blacksmithing business there. Mrs. Husband was born 52 years ago in Fremont County. They had lived in Denver 10 years.

Mr. Husband had engaged in blacksmithing here, but had recently retired from active business.

Mr. Husband is survived by three brothers, Richard of Erie, Colo., Will of Longmont and Arthur of Golden, and two sisters, Mrs. Bartha Calmett of Golden and Mrs. Olive Becker of Canon City.

Mrs. Husband is survived by a brother, Charles S. Cowan of Denver.

Sees Heads of Three in Stream

Forest Hoover, 38, of Idledale, rescued Husband's body from the water a few moments after he had been carried away in the stream.

He told Sheriff James Biggins Jr., Deputy Sheriff Leigh Merriman and Coroner A. O. Saunders that he had seen three heads in the water.

With the aid of a wire, he sought to reach them, but succeeded only in retrieving Mr. Husband's body.

Mrs. Husband's body was found near Morrison a short time later and those of the two unidentified persons were located within about two hours.

All were taken by Coroner Saunders to the county morgue in Golden, where relatives last night definitely identified Mr. and Mrs. Husband.

Two suitcases found in the creek and believed to have fallen from an automobile which was swept into the stream also were taken to Golden.

Authorities believe these suitcases may have been in the car which was behind the Husband machine. It is the occupants of this auto whom Sheriff Biggins is attempting to locate.

The wrecked machine in which they were riding was a Graham-Paige, 1929 model. It had gray leather seats and the flywheel casing bears the serial number E-67969.

On one suitcase were the initials "J. D." Inside one of the suitcases was a receipt made out to Mrs. J. Deehan or Dunhan, 10364 Cedar Lawn, Detroit, Mich.

Clothing Torn From Bodies

Also found in one of the suitcases was a bankbook from the Peoples Wayne County Bank of Detroit. Pasted inside is a slip bearing the name of Margaret Munnon or Minion of 136 S. Humphrey ave., Oak Park, Ill.

A short distance from the spot where the unidentified man's body was found was a brown felt hat bearing the initials "J. F. M."

Most of the clothing had been torn from the bodies of Mrs. Husband and of the 12-year-old boy by the action of the water.

Many persons were in Bear Creek Canon when the flood waters came thru.

Robert Bement, 16, of 3345 W. 33d ave., was driving up the canon with his dog to see his mother.

Abandoning his car, with his dog in his arms, Bement succeeded in reaching a safe spot on the side of a hill before the water struck his machine.

Six boys who had been camping in the canon raced the flood to reach a safe spot.

The six—Morris Brown, 13, of 1015 24th st.; his brother, Myron, nine; Philip Armatas, 13, of 2415 Curtis st.; Rufus Mays, eight, of 2418 Curtis st.; George Manatis, 11,

Ebert (left) and A. C. Morrison take time out from directing traffic to get cooled off. The officers are holding handfuls of hail which fell to cover the ground like snow. Several inches of hail remained in some parts of the canon hours after the storm.

Baby Prattles of Muddy Water In Race for Life

Mother Drives Desperately to Get Out of Flood-Swept Canon

"Oh mama, muddy water." And it was muddy water—lots of muddy water—that tow-headed Norman Lavon Mefford, two years old, was talking about in his childish manner as his mother desperately sought to drive a picnic party out of the swirling waters yesterday in Bear Creek Canon.

Mrs. Margaret Mefford, 160 W. Bayaud ave., sat in her home late yesterday afternoon and reviewed her harrowing experience in the flood-swept region of Bear Creek.

Mrs. Mefford, accompanied by Charline Mastalka, 1272 Pennsylvania st., Florence Spellman, visitor of Fort Scott, Kan., and Elinor Wilkins, 150 W. Colfax ave., were enjoying an outing far up Bear Creek.

"Mean looking clouds began to gather over us and it began getting dark all around us," Mrs. Mefford said. "I recalled the flood in Bear Creek a year ago and decided right then and there we had better get out of the canon.

"It began to rain 'cats and dogs,' just as we started for home and then hail started to pepper down all around us," she added.

"Excited? Of course. I was so scared I thought we were going to be swept away any minute. A man came along and backed our car up on a mountain until the water subsided a bit, then I decided to get out of it all and here we are, thank God. Maybe that fellow saved our lives. I didn't learn his name."

of 2409 Curtis st., and Walter Girardin, 14, of 2148 Apache st.—sought to save their tent when the storm broke.

As the water roared down the creek, however, they abandoned camp and outraced the flood to reach higher ground.

Several feet of water swept thru the home of Mrs. J. D. Styron, but Mrs. Styron and her six children, two to 13, had been taken to the home of Mrs. Nellie Denbow, on higher ground, when the storm broke.

Police Chief Albert T. Clark, Manager of Parks Walter B. Lowry and other Denver officials went to Morrison to offer assistance in handling traffic.

Red Cross officials of Jefferson County also offered assistance, but it was indicated last night that there is little to be done. The officials on hand were I. J. Schnauss, district chairman, Rev. Garret S. Tammanga, county representative, and Clark B. Carpenter, county disaster chairman.

They, as well as Sheriff Biggins and Deputy Sheriff Merriman, made a survey of the entire district shortly after the storm.

Shortly after the height of the Bear Creek storm, reports were telephoned from Sullivan that a cloudburst at Parker had raised Cherry Creek about three feet.

Warning was sent to Denver police, but the water caused no damage and was carried off easily in the normal creek channel.

There was considerable rain over a large area, hailed as of much benefit to the entire district.

E. G. Plowman, executive secretary of the Denver water board, reported a heavy rain on the upper watershed of the South Platte above Cheesman Dam.

Heavy rain which began at 11 a. m., between Kassler and Littleton, lasted for about an hour and a half.

Circle: Recovering the body of John Husband of 650 Logan st., who was killed by the flood after he had abandoned his car about one and one-half miles below the C. C. Gates home. His body was found about one mile above Idledale.

PHONE MANAGER PROVES HEROINE

Miss Leona Smith and Staff Give Flood Warnings

Miss Leona Smith, manager of the Morrison telephone exchange, is the heroine of two floods.

Yesterday she issued flood warnings up and down Bear Creek, preparing all places for the wall of water that came tearing down the canon.

In the 1933 flood she performed similar duties and with her small staff worked hour after hour in giving perfect telephone service.

From the flood experience of last year she had a premonition yesterday that danger was impending.

She called Idledale and requested an immediate report if a flood appeared imminent. When the call did come, she was prepared to sound the warning to everyone who might be in the path of the flood.

In addition, Miss Smith and her staff of three operators handled thousands of calls made by anxious relatives and friends of parties supposed to be in the canon.



A part of the Bear Creek toll battered and Johnson ranch, joining the wreck porter.

VETERINARIAN United Press. MASON, Mich., edged the oldest veterinarian in the United C. Moody decided his official post a veterinarian. He birthday last Jun

August 10, 1934



Having a go to check the to right they are

Rocky Mountain News

August 10, 1934

pg 8

Cloudburst Pouring Down Bear Creek



Top: Over-running its banks, Bear Creek battered this garage in Morrison with heavy driftwood, caving in the door and walls. Pieces of debris, left by the receding water, are shown at the foot of the garage wall.

Left: A wooden bridge at Idledale which caught the full force of the angry waters. One end of the bridge was washed away.

5 SMALL BOYS SAVED IN FLOOD

Lads, Who Camped in Bear Creek, Now Heroes

Five small boys were the heroes of the neighborhood around 24th and Curtis sts. last night after being snatched from the very teeth of the flood which snarled down Bear Creek Canon yesterday afternoon.

Long after their narrow escape, the five lads, between eight and 13 years of age, were still touring up and down the canon near the scene of their late camp, goggle-eyed with excitement and anxious to make it known that nobody pulled them out of the flood—they saved themselves, if you please.

Hear Storm Howl

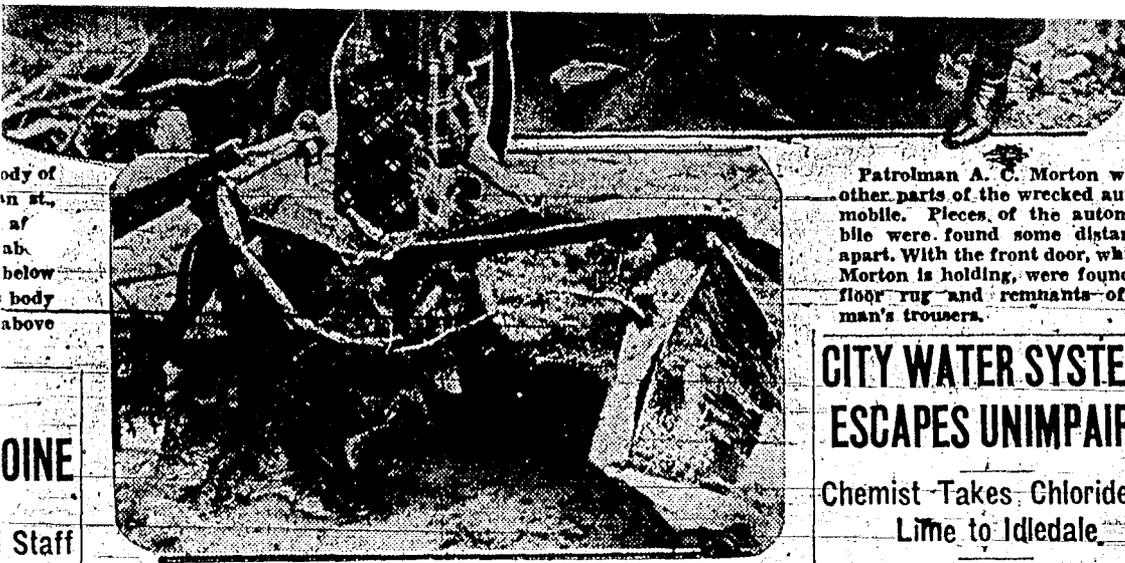
The boys are Morris Brown, 13, and his brother, Byron, nine, of 1015 24th st.; Phillip Amatas, 13, of 2415 Curtis st.; Rufus May, eight, of 2418 Curtis st.; and George Manatis, 11, of 2409 Curtis st.

They had gone on a camping trip Sunday with an older boy, Walter Girardin, 14, of 2143 Arapahoe st.,

Rocky Mountain News

August 10, 1934

pg 8



Patrolman A. C. Morton with other parts of the wrecked automobile. Pieces of the automobile were found some distance apart. With the front door, which Morton is holding, were found a floor rug and remnants of a man's trousers.

CITY WATER SYSTEM ESCAPES UNIMPAIRED

Chemist Takes Chloride of Lime to Idledale

The Denver water system suffered no ill effects from yesterday's flood, E. G. Plowman, executive secretary of the water board, reported last night.

There were no breaks in the system and the quality of water was not impaired by heavy rain.

George Turre, chemist for the water board, took 300 pounds of chloride of lime to Idledale last night for purifying purposes in wells and in the sections where the water covered the highway.

Employees of the board reported that the crest of the flood at the Harriman ditch intake, near Morrison, was within three inches of the mark set by the flood last year.

11 of 2469 Curtis st.
They had gone on a camping trip Sunday with an older boy, Walter Girardin, 14, of 2143 Arapahoe st., who was the leader of the little expedition.

Inside the tent yesterday afternoon they heard the howl of the coming storm.

The wind, after a few minutes, got so bad the boys were afraid it might blow the tent away.

"We got outside and battered down the stakes a little better," Byron Brown explained excitedly.

The Girardin youth, in the midst of this ant-like activity to make camp ship-shape before the storm broke, turned around to see "a wall of water 'bout 20 feet high, just a-tearin' around the curve."

Hit for High Ground

"I herded the kids ahead of me, yelling to them to hit for high ground." But do you know what, every last one of 'em swarmed around that tent and helped me yank out the stakes so we could save the tent, anyway.

"We stumbled up onto high ground, with the tent safe, just as the flood roared by."

Last night the boys were none the worse for the excitement nor for having been wet to the skin in the storm.

Walter Girardin's "big brother and sister," Leonard and Margaret, were summoned hastily to Starbuck to pick up the expedition.

Three high school girls, whose names were not learned, claimed to have helped the five boys to safety.

This matter was denied with vehemence by all five, who declared they saved themselves without aid.

A part of the wreckage of an automobile that was caught in the Bear Creek torrents. The battered framework of the automobile, battered and torn apart against the rocks, was found on the Johnson ranch, above Idledale, after the storm had subsided. Examining the wreckage is Miss Alberta Pike, Rocky Mountain News reporter.

VETERINARIAN RETIRES AT 90

United Press.
MASON, Mich., Aug. 9.—Acknowledged the oldest practicing veterinarian in the United States, Dr. George C. Moody decided today to give up his official post as Ingram County's veterinarian. He celebrated his 90th birthday last June.

BARROOM BALLADS BARRED

United Press.
HARTFORD, Conn., Aug. 9.—There will be no more barroom ballads sung in Connecticut beer taverns. The liquor commissioner ruled out all forms of entertainment, vocal or instrumental, and limited listening to radio programs to baseball scores and weather reports.

Had Narrow Escape as Flood Roared Past



Having a great time camping in Bear Creek Canon, five boys thought it was a big lark yesterday when they had to climb up to high ground to escape the high water. That was the most excitement they ever had in our lives, the boys said, as they told of their experience. From left to right they are: Morris Brown, Phillip Armatas, Rufus Mays, Byron Brown and George Marratta.

Rocky Mountain News

August 10, 1934

pg 8

Rocky Mountain News
August 10, 1934

VICTIMS OF BEAR CREEK FLOOD

Rescuer Tells of Racing Bodies Down Bear Creek



Mr. and Mrs. John Husband, of 650 S. Logan st., who were struck by the wall of water that swept down Bear Creek Canon yesterday. Their bodies have been recovered.

(Continued From Page One)

I threw the wire far out—as far as I could—but it fell short.

Doubts If They Heard

I doubt if Husband, his wife or anyone else—if there was anyone else in the water—ever heard me.

I ran on down beside the stream, keeping up as well as I could with the bounding bodies.

Driftwood rushed past me with the speed of an express train. I lost sight of the heads every now and then, but kept on, hoping the water would carry them near enough to shore so I could grab something.

Legs Mashed Like Jelly

Just as I reached a deep curve in the road, Husband's body was thrown clear up on a pile of stones and washed-out roots. Before another wave could strike the little buttress I had the body fast on the shore.

Not a stitch of clothing remained on the body. The head was badly battered and the legs apparently broken—as mashed as if they had been jelly. The entire body was battered black and blue.

After seeing that the body was safe on the shore I tried again to catch a glimpse of the other body. It must have been far down the canon by that time.

I think that if the Husband party had remained in the car they would have been safe. The car itself was slewed about some, but never awash.

I wish I might have been able to save those who were swept away.



Forest Hoover

USE FOR OLD RAZORS FOUND!
REGINA, Saskatchewan, Aug. 9.—

At last they've found a use for old razor blades—and Wascana Lake has had its first shave. Hundreds of old blades were strung on wires, weighted to hold them to the lake bottom, and the weeds were "shaved" off.



On All **Shoe Repairing** Your



0619

...Helver... department... of that gum... ed as quickly.

Ralph A... well by col... ck taxes, or... is quota."... day for Salt... returning to... our of

...and the... copper bre... in India.

g
urces

Sunday and Springs, and Montrose.

FFEE

Fresh... ON THE... ER TO YOU

Our Famous... MOROVIT

and 34c

all Aroma, 1 lb., 29c

...lb., 21c

...lb., 20c

ON'S

TA. 3201

ARES

- 51.80
- 108.35
- 105.95
- 79.80
- 62.85
- 69.35
- 65.40
- 57.20
- 88.15
- 59.25
- 93.55
- 102.05
- 66.70
- 96.85
- 76.75
- 37.05

istocrat.

Fair

er...

ize, start on... "Ticket... "Overland... er within 14

id

E

OUR

ver on the... t. 1 and 15... accommodations

al Agent... Denver

o Alaska... ma Canal.



The moment after flood waters had subsided in Bear Creek Canon, highway men were on the job to repair dangerous spots. The top picture shows a barricade erected around a weak shoulder on a curve. Arrows indicate the cracked roadway. The water is shown as having a normal run. A crew of surveyors are shown at work in the bottom picture. The location is the first big curve on the new highway out of Morrison.

NEWS URGING SAFE ROAD PAST IDLEDALE

Continued From Page One

...the federal bureau of public roads and the relief administration. Denver, slated to receive only \$120,000 out of the huge federal road grant, is entitled to have a substantial portion of this co-operative fund spent on the Bear Creek Canon road.

Jobs for Unemployed

Persons on the relief rolls in Denver could be given jobs on the project.

The federal bureau of public roads and the relief administration will favor the plan, it is said on good authority. Governor Johnson, the state highway department and the state-highway advisory board, who have done little enough for Denver—even to transferring a large part of the municipal road fund to the secondary road fund, out of the city's reach—should fall in line and put the project thru.

Because of the normal concentration of relief cases in Denver, the start of such a large project in this vicinity would be of enormous benefit to the relief administration.

A large part of the co-operative road fund already has been allocated to various projects under the proposed budget submitted to Elliott by Governor Johnson yesterday.

Recall and Change Budget

The News believes that this budget should be recalled, and a reallocation made to include the Bear Creek Canon work.

Rebuilding of the upper portion of the Bear Creek road, because of the physical nature of the canon, will be much less expensive than on the lower section, where it was necessary

to chisel the roadbed almost thru solid rock.

Most of the stretch of road from Idledale to Kittredge would require only fill work to place it up out of flood danger. James Maloney, assistant state highway engineer, estimated yesterday that this could be done at a cost of \$40,000 a mile, or perhaps less.

Survey Being Made

A. K. Vickery, city engineer, said a party from his department is running a survey for the new road at the present time, in the hope money soon will be made available, and that it will be possible to compute the exact cost when this work is done.

The new section of the Bear Creek Canon highway lived up to all expectations during Thursday's flood, and provided a convincing argument for rebuilding of the upper part above Idledale.

High above the flood waters, it was damaged in only a few spots where water cut into the shoulders of the fills.

Mount Vernon Road Damaged

The only real damage done by the flood was in Mount Vernon Canon, where the road was badly washed. State highway crews were at work there yesterday, attempting to put the highway in shape to permit some traffic.

The federal government has set aside a \$10,000,000 fund for reconstruction of damaged roads, and it was agreed upon at a conference between Governor Johnson and Vail yesterday to ask for a part of this fund to repair the Mount Vernon road. Total cost of these repairs is expected to reach \$50,000.

NEW YORK FAMILY CAUGHT IN STORM

E. C. Duren, New York City business man, his wife and a maid had a narrow escape in the Bear Creek Canon cloudburst when they were forced to leave their automobile and climb to higher ground near Starbuck.

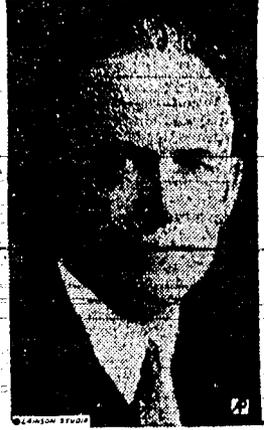
Duren said they were driving thru Denver and as they left Evergreen ran into a heavy rain storm. "We thought it was impossible to make Morrison, so decided to return to Evergreen," Duren said.

Shortly after they headed back up the canon the high water struck their automobile and they barely had time to scramble up the side of the canon when the water submerged the automobile.

Duren points out that the Bear Creek route into the mountain parks is a beautiful highway but makes the suggestion that the entire road should be brought above the flood line.

"The stretch of highway near Starbuck is too low," Duren said. "And as long as you people out here have such a fine scenic road you should make it safe for your own people and for tourists."

BACKS NEWS PROGRAM



J. A. Elliott, district engineer for the U. S. bureau of public roads, who favors The Rocky Mountain News plan for improvement of the upper Bear Creek road to eliminate flood hazard.

Bear Creek Is Calm Again With Debris Cleaned Up

Mountain calm settled over Bear Creek yesterday.

With five persons dead and one boy known missing, the mountain towns west of Denver settled down to the business of digging out. The dead are:

Mrs. J. H. Dieken of Detroit, a Colorado visitor for the summer.

Gordon Dieken, 12, her son.

Charles M. Juhnke, 58, of 2935 S. Santa Fe dr., operator of a tourist car and driver of Mrs. Dieken's car.

Mr. and Mrs. John Husband, 650 S. Logan st.

Missing is Mrs. Dieken's oldest son, Wendell, 15.

Mrs. Dieken's husband, chief clerk of the Grand Trunk Western Railroad in Detroit, left that city last night for Denver.

Mud Cleared Away

The chaos of Thursday's freak storm was almost forgotten along Bear Creek lake yesterday as business men of Mount Morrison and Idledale accepted the flood as a matter of fate and cleared mud away for "business as usual."

A survey of the canon where the wall of water swept down early Thursday afternoon showed normal conditions, with the new highway already open.

Surveyors were on the job at the first big curve on the new road above Morrison, where the high waters ripped a "pocket" in under the roadbed.

This part of the road eventually will be safeguarded with a cement base as a precaution against possible high water in the future.

Drive Up Canon

Visitors to Colorado from other parts of the country drove up the canon as tho the storm had never hit. Every foot of road where the edge was soft was guarded by warning signs.

The only evidence of the flood damage in the canon consisted of muddy stretches on the creek side and portions of the wrecked Dieken machine. The twisted frame was about a mile above the rear wheels, axle and part of the transmission.

Four bodies were found Thursday. The body of Mrs. Dieken was discovered yesterday three miles downstream from Morrison. It was located by Deputy Sheriff Fred Loyd of Jefferson County, while 50 men were searching the creek bed.

The only bodies found below Morrison were those of Mrs. Dieken and her son.

Auto Is Stalled

The body of Mrs. Husband was wedged against a wire fence near the Denver highway department shops at Morrison. Juhnke's body was found where the stream crosses a picnic ground three-quarters of a mile above Morrison.

Husband's body was discovered below Idledale.

All of the deaths were caused by an act of "highway courtesy."

The Husband car, containing Mr. and Mrs. Husband and J. H. Shields and his wife of Florence, Colo., with their daughter, Mrs. Margaret B.

Frew, stalled on a stretch of road which is only a few feet above the bed of the stream.

The occupants of the machine climbed to safety. At that moment Juhnke drove up and offered aid. Husband and his wife returned to the car as the wall of water, logs and rocks swept down.

The Husbands were washed downstream like a pair of twigs. Juhnke tried to climb out a window of his car. The Diekens had no chance to move when the water enveloped the machine.

Highway workers were on the job a short time after the flood swept down the canon. Morrison's main street was made passable within two hours. Scrapers were put into operation up and down the canon late Thursday and yesterday the road was back to its "boardwalk" condition for motorists.

Forest Hover and Lawrence (Kayo) Chambers of Idledale, who discovered Husband's body soon after the flood caught the occupants of the two cars, were on the job again yesterday. They made a search of the canon below Idledale but were unable to discover the body of the other Dieken boy.

Unfounded Rumors

There were persistent rumors in the canon that a third automobile was caught in the flood, but these apparently were unfounded.

The courage of the men and women who live in Bear Creek Canon the year around and whose hopes are bound up in small businesses cannot be exaggerated.

Water is no joking matter with them, but without exception they went to work with a will and asked The Rocky Mountain News to "tell the folks down in Denver to come up and see us right soon."

Rain fell for almost an hour in the canon yesterday but it was not sufficient to increase the flow of the stream, which was only a trickle below Morrison.

The flood makes no difference to the towns of Kittredge and Idledale. They will observe the opening of the new highway with a two-day celebration today and tomorrow. Kittredge will stage a wild west celebration and Idledale will celebrate with dancing tonight at the Minnekada Club.

SWIMMING POPULAR

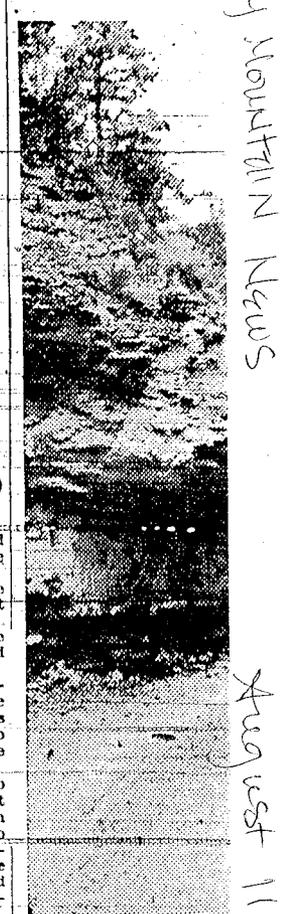
Mayor Reports 2,559 Bathers at Morey Junior Pool

Popularity of the swimming pool at Morey Junior High School was revealed by Mayor Begole yesterday when he reported that in 10 days 2,559 boys and girls had enjoyed the plunge. The report shows that of this number, 1,399 were boys and 1,160 were girls. The 10-day period was from July 30 to Aug. 9.

Nine hundred eighty communities expended a total of \$39,518,104 for recreation in the United States and Canada in 1930.

...to the... of \$871,000 now available for pallies.

When informed of the Governor Johnson told... of the mayor and business... it was too late for the... anything about it because he



The Tele Ahe

No matter what the weather, or the folks a minute away, keeping in enjoyment in many cases you're coming to

The Mo

Rocky Mountain News August 11, 1934