

Sunday's Tornado the First to Visit Central New York

Proves That They May Occur in Any Locality— Terrible Things Might Have Happened if Storm Had Passed Through City.

Any intelligent Syracusean, told on Sunday by a dinner guest from the Nebraska prairies that the air felt like a tornado, and that "out home on a day like this we watch the western horizon pretty carefully, would have sniffled and entered the most solemn of children.

Tornadoes, to Syracuse, were things which didn't happen, just like earthquakes and avalanches. The oldest man in Central New York cannot recall one, though down in Broome county, a few years ago, they had a storm which blew up trees and tossed over barns in its riotous course some what as a feeble tornado might do.

Indeed, if there has been a tornado in the State since white men began keeping weather records, the fact does not appear in any literature available.

Hurricanes in the East.

An old book on historic storms describes several "hurricanes" in Massachusetts, Connecticut and New Hampshire which undoubtedly were tornadoes. The accounts all mention a whirling black cloud sweeping a comparatively short and narrow pathway with great violence. The earliest of which there is a record dismayed the good folk of Pepperell, Mass., on July 28th, 1748. In 1759 Leicester, Mass., experienced a tornado. On August 14th, 1773, two very destructive "hurricanes," which seem to have been twin tornado funnels, swept the valley of the Merrimack river. Another visited the same region in 1782.

A typical tornado struck Southbridge, Mass., on August 23d, 1784. There is record of a terrific whirlwind in southern New Hampshire in 1814 and the New Hampshire Massachusetts boundary was the path of a tornado on September 8th, 1821. What seems to have been a tornado tore through Wallingford, Conn., in 1878.

New York Has Been Exempt.

But New York State has been exempt. Just why, nobody knows, for the origin of tornadoes is not fully understood. New York State residents have always taken exemption for granted, and any meteorologist would have agreed with them that the occurrence of tornadoes in the hilly regions up State, at least, was highly improbable. Nevertheless, such a tornado has occurred, and Morgan R. Sanford of the government's local weather station, after going through the stories of witnesses and looking over the path of the storm for himself, says that its character was unmistakable. Onondaga county was visited by the same whirlwind terror which has driven the farmers of Kansas and Nebraska to digging "cyclone" cellars.

Flat country, very exceptional humidity and the conflict of warm and cold winds are the conditions which seem necessary for the origin of tornadoes. The cold wind is usually general and extends across the whole of the country it strikes the warm and humid air current at an oblique angle. Out of this collision, perhaps because of some favorable contour feature in the region, perhaps because of electric conditions not well understood, comes the whirl of the tornado, which travels northward in almost every case. Just what gives the upward rush of air its first rotary tendency is the problem over which meteorologists have labored. Once established, this tendency rapidly becomes an irresistible force.

Possible in All Sections.

The joint existence of all the conditions which start a tornado on its mad career occurs so rarely that the chances are against the visitation of any particular spot once in ten centuries, even in regions where the tornado is relatively common. But nobody

who has ever read an account of such a storm cares to take the chance in Kansas and Nebraska they do special cellars for safety. It is exceedingly improbable that Central New York will see another tornado within several hundred years. But we have been taught that the thing is possible. Speculations as to what the tornado might have done if its path had crossed the city are not pleasant to follow out. Because the force of a tornado is not only a push, but an upward pull on every object in its path, and because that pulls stronger than most other natural violence, the strongest buildings go down when the storm passes through.

The roofs and walls of steel frame buildings like the University bank would probably have been cast into the streets. The fate of structures less substantial, including all dwellings, was easily to be imagined. Even in a city where the population is planned for special strength rarely provide against the possibility of a force which would pull their buildings up by the foundations.

What Might Have Happened.

The Johnston flood, the Asch fire, and the Triand disaster put together are less horrible than the thing which would have been Syracuse's if Sunday's tornado had passed two miles further south. Only San Francisco can give an idea of it, and in San Francisco the loss of life was comparatively slight, because the interval between the earthquake shocks and the fire gave people time to escape.

However, as there is almost no little danger of another tornado coming our way as of a volcano crater opening in Clinton square, we may go about our business with composure and be thankful that the storm took the course it did.

TAFT NOT IN DOUBT CONCERNING VICTORY

Depends Upon the Conservative Business Men to Pull Him Through This Fall.

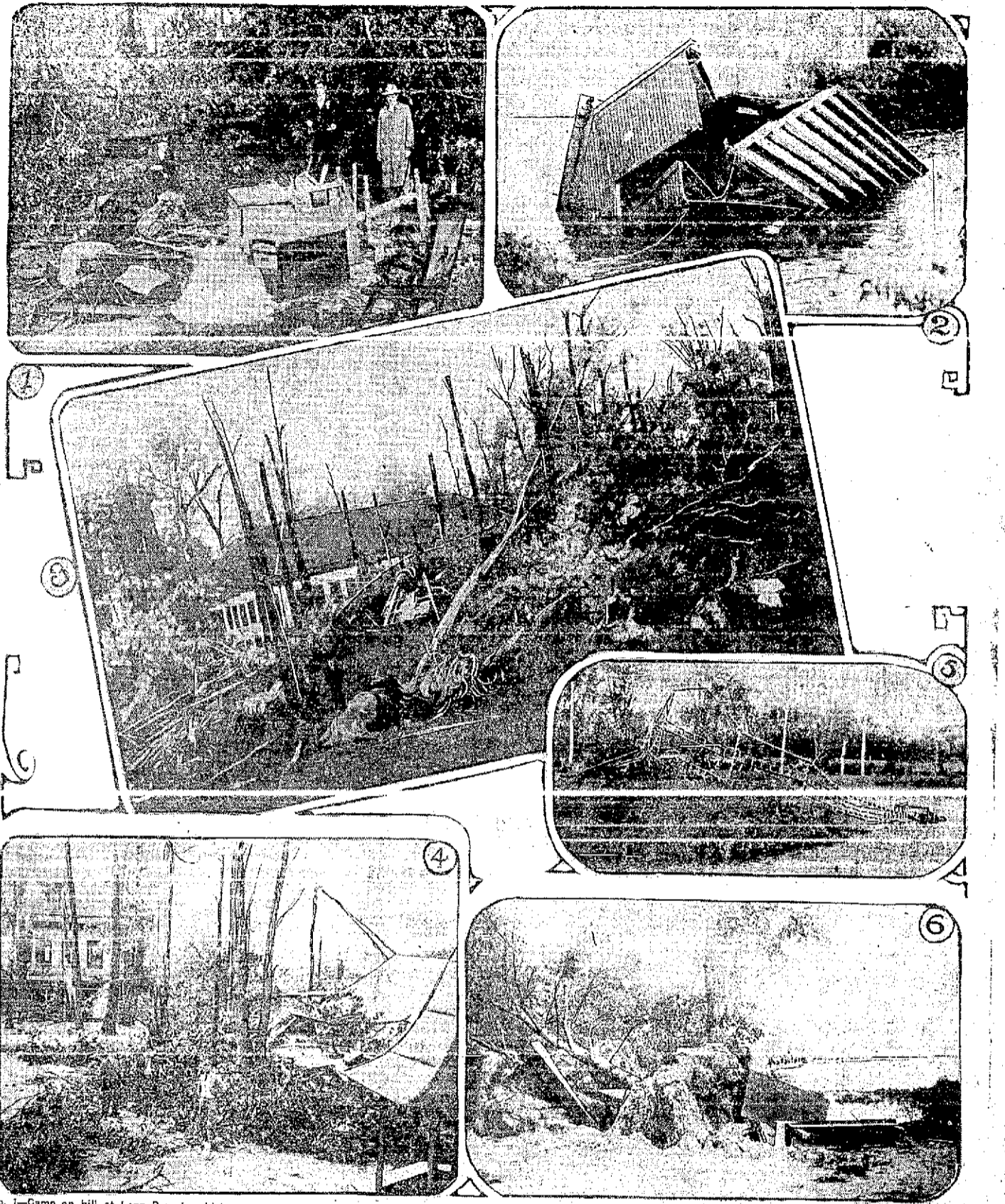
In an interview that is remarkable when it is considered that interviews with the President of the United States are rare, especially during a national campaign, voiced his ideas to-day on many phases of the country's problems. Referring to the candidates of the other parties and the other leaders of the Democratic and Progressive, the President said: "They know where we stand. We can only guess where they stand."

Then the President was asked: "Mr. President, do you expect success for the regular Republican organization at the polls in November?" "I am not in doubt," he said, "but I think we'll have a quiet vote of the conservative business interests and thinking laboring men on election day which will surprise them. Not the vote that is proclaimed itself noisily or in stilted votes in the newspapers, but the quiet vote of the conservative business interests which prove the continuing benefits of a tried administration to the untold, indefinite promises of those who clamor for a change."

There are indications that Roosevelt will draw as large a vote from Democrats as from Republicans in many localities. This is the vote of those with Socialist tendencies, which would go to Wilson if it did not go to Roosevelt.

Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Ball have closed their cottage at Fayetteville and returned to their home in Delaware street. This is the thirtieth season they have spent on the St. Lawrence river.

SOME OF THE FREAK PERFORMANCES OF THE TORNADO WHICH SWEEPED NORTHERN SECTION OF COUNTY SUNDAY



No. 1—Camp on hill at Long Branch, which was wrecked by the tornado. No. 2—Bathhouse at Willow Point, which was moved across the outlet and dropped into the water. No. 3—View taken in the rear of the pavilion at Long Branch, showing effects of the tornado at that point. No. 4—Shows effect of the storm both on the new and old pavilions at Long Branch. No. 5—Electric tower near artificial lake at Long Branch. The tower was thrown to the ground, a tangled mass of steel and wires. No. 6—View shows damage done at Willow Point, where trees were uprooted and broken and stumps of trees were driven into the ground and stuck in the uprooted trees.

Be Ready for Fall House Cleaning

Check up the needed things you are likely to require in the list below and phone your order for immediate auto delivery.

- Carpet Beaters, 10c**
- Step Ladders, \$1.20**
With shelf to hold pail. Convertible style—chair and stepladder in one, \$1.50. Above step for washing windows, etc.
- Mop Wringers, \$1.35**
Another style attached to pail with handle, \$1.75.
- Chair Seats, 25c**
Put on yourself with tacks. Cut to size with shears.
- For Hardwood Floors**
Old English Floor Wax
Liquid Floor Brightener
Weighted Floor Brushes
Mrs. Mary Dale Mop—Dry mop for hardwood floor, 45c.
- For Floor Finishes**
Paint—Use LOWE BROS. Hard Drying Floor Paint.
Varnish—Use "Kyanize," the hardest known floor Varnish.
- Hill Clothes Dryer**
Stays for Lawn, Balcony and Roof. Can be taken down and put up immediately. With 125 feet of line, \$6.50.
- Wash Boilers, \$1.50**
Copper Wash Boilers, \$2.25.
- Clothes Wringers, \$3 For Bathtubs**
RIPOLIN is the finest white enamel in the world.
- For Walls and Ceilings**
Use "MELLOPHONE" Flat Colors—better and cheaper than wall paper.
- Aluminum Paints**
Gold and silver tints for Radiators, Gas Fittings and Metal Surfaces.
- Sweepers, \$2**
Ash Can
Garbage Pail. The one you should buy. Lasts a long time as long as ordinary kinds.

Alex. Grant's Sons
132-134 East Genesee and Arcade through to 119 East Washington

Seventy-eight Buildings Were Damaged by the Tornado

Just such a great house and barn raising as brought villages into existence throughout New England in the early days will be seen during the next few weeks along the tornado's pathway. Seventy-eight buildings were damaged by the storm, and of these, forty are utterly ruined and must be replaced. Most of them were farm buildings. With the houses, west barns, silos, sheds, henneries, and stock and agricultural implements representing most, if not all, of the worldly possessions of the farmers. But those who escaped with their lives and gathered their families around them face the struggle for re-establishment undaunted.

They will help each other, because in times like this co-operation is not only generous and neighborly, but good business as well. Two days spent in aiding John Smith put up a new frame on his foundation will be time well invested by Thomas Jones from the adjoining farm. Thomas Jones has building of his own to do, and what with the cost of lumber and new stock and a new harrow and a harvester to buy (not to speak of new shoes and furniture, and winter clothes for the wife and several little Joneses) Thomas doesn't want to deplete his savings for hired building help if he can avoid it. But economy is not the chief reason for this planning for the common

had time to take inventory of their belongings and to search for articles which the wind blew away. A tornado is treacherous beyond all other disasters. The pier glass from the home of Charles Chapman, one of the storm's victims, is perhaps the most striking instance of its caprice. The long mirror was shot through a window and it sailed nearly forty yards from the house, landing safe and sound in some stable.

Damaged Area is Large.

On the other hand, the area of damage appears to be more extensive than first reports indicated. The tornado whirled across the northern end of the county from Cross lake to Onondaga, and though its greatest violence was felt at Long Branch and points eastward, the vortex extended far and wide. The autumn crops are almost a total loss from this cause, and their value has not been figured in by the estimators. One figure given is \$500,000, which is probably erroneous on the conservative side. The loss of lives and through injuries and loss of time which rebuilding will entail cannot be estimated.

An unfortunate feature of the disaster, but one which might have been foreseen and to a great extent prevented, is the activity of "loophole hunters" and like vandals who have visited the scene. Any object in piles of debris that looked valuable was pounced upon and carried away. The fields and gardens of farmers near the zone of devastation were plundered of edible produce.

Trolley Service Resumed.
The Lake Shore and South Bay electric railroads had men at work all night clearing the tracks in order to resume service this morning. A half-mile gap in the power line, north of Long Branch had been spanned at 7 o'clock last night. The Phoenix, Fulton and Oswego stations were "dead" for twenty-four hours, but "feared" no

MISSING GIRLS REPORTED SAFE AT HOME

Mrs. Rhody Ryan, mother of Miss Ryan, 1301 South State street, and Miss Lucy Haumann, 17, of No. 621 West Brighton avenue, who have been missing since the tornado struck Long Branch on Sunday evening, were heard from by their parents this morning, when a farmer from near Stop 7 in the South Bay road reported at Cahill's bakery in Shonnard street, where the girls are employed, with a message from the girls, saying they were safe and would arrive in Syracuse this afternoon.

Mrs. Rhody Ryan, mother of Miss Ryan, was prostrated by the report of the accident and from not hearing of her daughter's safety. She has been in bed since the evening of the accident and was overjoyed when she received word of her daughter's safety. The girls left home Sunday and were untraced whether they would go to Long Branch or to Cicero, Yestday William Ryan, Miss Ryan's brother, with several friends, made a searching party and went over the tornado district about Long Branch in an automobile. They were unable to discover any trace of the girls. It was hoped that they had gone to Cicero and William Ryan left early for that town this morning, where he intended to inquire of local relatives by the name of Lewis of the girls' whereabouts. Not long after the brother arrived the farmer brought the news of the girls' safety. They had stopped at the Lewis home and were unable to communicate with Syracuse. They were not injured and not in the storm's path, according to the farmer's report. He stated that he was the first to pass the Lewis home on his way through to Syracuse and gladly brought the message.