

The Clarinda, Iowa, Herald Journal, Thursday, April 16, 1964

There'll always be a Yorktown

It is understandable that the stricken folks of Yorktown despaired of ever rebuilding either homes or business places, after a moment's storm left so little of it standing. Who wouldn't lose heart after such a blow? Their little town had been there through generations. It was home for families some of whom had long ago grown up and gone. Some had gone away to other places, some to the Great Beyond. And those now living there are sad, discouraged.

Right after the storm the wreckage looked so hopeless. Why rebuild or straighten things out when it could happen again?

But memories linger and hearts yearn to hold place in the community, and with the united assistance of so many friends and neighbors helping put the broken pieces together, the citizens no doubt find encouragement and take a better view of the future.

This little Page County town was established in 1882, according to the history of the county. It first took the name of its postmistress and for two years was known as Loy. When the railroad went through the Burlington company asked for a different name for some reason, and it became Yorktown on the rail maps but retained Loy for postal service until the postal department could catch up with the change.

During railroad days it was a thriving livestock loading station, and developed a typical small town business section. During recent years the trend of most of the smaller towns has been as residential communities and their business sections are mainly the essential services that any community must have near at hand. Many of the residents drive daily to the nearest large towns to work. They are commuters, and the older folks live there in comfortable and economical retirement.

Conversely, some enterprising persons can and do establish good specialties that may draw patronage from outside by the same token that autos and good roads make it feasible. There is room in such communities for continued good living while having convenient contact with the facilities of larger centers.

So there still is a reason for Yorktown and it will always be there.—CCC

Community Fund at work

We've certainly seen our Community Fund at work this week in the Yorktown area.

Without asking any questions of "How much did you give?" the Salvation Army and Red Cross moved in immediately with aid to those hit by the storm and service to those helping with the clean-up.

The Army was on the scene with hot lunches, coffee, sandwiches and donuts around the clock from the first night. They will be there as long as needed. The Red Cross workers have been covering the town on foot with coffee pot in one hand and rolls, cookies and sandwiches in the other to serve the workers. After the clean-up is completed the Red Cross will be silently working with the residents to get them resettled in their present homes.

Mobile units of the two agencies will move out soon and some of us many never see them again. But we can be assured that they are constantly at work giving urgently needed relief where needed.

Their help cannot be measured in dollars and cents. But talk to the residents and workers and they will place a high value on the volunteer efforts.

And we can be assured that whenever needed they will be back—as long as all of us do our fair share to keep them going.

Letters

... from our readers

The tragedy that has happened so near to home — makes me feel that folks will see the necessity of our Community Fund drive.

We are lagging far from our goal.

What happened to Yorktown could happen to Clarinda.

The Salvation Army was in Yorktown and had its mobile canteen set up soon after the tornado struck. They have been serving night and day to the many people who are helping to remove the debris. Clarinda is supplying some of the food. There are citizens who are giving generously now for food. These are folks who already sent in their contributions to the Community Fund.

Our allotment was \$600. So far we have just \$400. The Salvation Army is most grateful for this help.

It isn't too late to send in your contribution for the Community Fund Drive.

Sincerely,
Dorothy (Mrs Vern) Lisle,
(Chr.)

Blockton women hold shower for burned-out Bedford family

Ladies of the Blockton Community will hold a miscellaneous shower Sunday, April 19 at 2 p.m. at the Blockton Auxiliary hall for the Max Haldslak family.

The garage and farm home nine miles southeast of Bedford were destroyed by fire shortly after midnight April 9 according to the Bedford Times Press.

Mr. and Mrs. Haldslak and their eight children escaped without injury, able to save only furniture and personal belongings from the ground floor of the house.

GLASSES BROKEN
About 665 panes of glass at the Creston Greenhouse and Floral Co greenhouses, 406 south Birch street, were broken by the hail Sunday.

Church in fair shape

Fear that St John's Lutheran church might have to be condemned were dispelled Tuesday morning as Mr Lezring said inspection shows most of the damage to be to the roof.

"I was sitting by our picture window on the south and noticed a white sheet of rain in the distance," Rev Theo Letzring, pastor of St Paul's Lutheran parish at Yorktown, tells. "Then I went upstairs to get a better look. By then a solid black cloud was all I could see. I called to my wife to look, but she thought we should go to the basement. We just made it before we heard the noise of the wind and breaking glass."

They remained in the basement for 2 or 3 minutes before Mr Letzring ran up the road north, to help Mrs Eichhorst, who later died at Municipal hospital.

The parsonage is still standing, although the wind created havoc inside and most of the shingles are gone from the roof. The parish school to the south lost part of the roof, with workmen hoping to repair the roof before another rain. Most of the desks were moved into a room with roof intact before the damaging rains Sunday night. The piano is in splinters, having been slammed against the opposite side of the room during the tornado. Richard Ulmer and Miss Marilyn Jedlicka, teachers in the parochial school, are helping with the clean up, and hope to begin classes again by next Monday.

There are 10 important points to consider before buying a monument. Let us, as your Rock of Ages Authorized Dealer, show you how to make your selection.

Clarinda Monument
North 16th
Clarinda

Whirlbirds fly

Two helicopters and a jet were among the many planes circling Yorktown this week as inspections and photographs were made of the area.

The national guard helicopter landed twice — behind the Eichhorst store — first with the adjutant general and later with the governor.

Another helicopter flying over the area about the same time was apparently from SAC in Omaha as was a jet which circled the town that same morning.

Three national guard planes were on the Clarinda airport field Tuesday when state and guard officials made the official inspection of the storm area.

Adj Gen Junior Miller came early Tuesday, conferring with Maj Rasmussen, who had mapped the entire storm area while he was organizing Co C for active patrol duty in 26 spots over the territory. He made a preliminary flight over the devastation prior to arrival of Gov Harold Hughes, briefing the governor with suggested route.

Gov Hughes arrived at 10:30 a.m. in his official plane, accompanied by Col Milford Juhl, 2nd Lt Joe Prieskorn (governor's aide), S Sgt L Baird, Chad Skaggs of Associated Press and John Heatherston of United Press International.

Col H J Finley was pilot of the helicopter, taking off from the Clarinda field for the several flights of inspection.

Pump pulled up

Mrs Olinda Wiles wants to repair her badly damaged home if it can be done. Someone had suggested that she put a trailer house on her lot. "But that wouldn't be home to me," she said.

A pump south of her house was pulled from the well and the pipes broken during the storm.

'House for sale'

"Want to buy a house?" was remark of Marion Burroughs Tuesday, as he continued to salvage some of their possessions. Mr Burroughs, his wife and young son are moving to a house in Clarinda, as there isn't enough of their Yorktown home to salvage.

Credits trees

Among the half dozen families still living at Yorktown are Mr and Mrs J Elsaacson, whose home received minor damages in comparison to those around them. "I think our large trees helped to save us," explained Mrs Isaacson. "The house was nearly buried in tree limbs Monday."

Both porches of their home were demolished. Mrs John Braden and her son were visiting at the Isaacson home at the time of the storm, while the Rev Braden was attending a youth meeting at Red Oak. "Mrs Braden, her son, and I were in the basement, and Mr Isaacson was holding an upstairs door shut when the storm hit," she tells.

Wanted to leave it

The Joe Steeves were in Manning Sunday and didn't arrive home until after the storm. Mrs Steeve thought something was amiss before she actually saw any damage, first arriving at the demolished home of Mrs Dorothy Sump, a farm where the Steeves had once lived. "My first thought after seeing our house, was to just leave it," she remarked, "and I can't say that I blame people who do. A storm like this makes us realize that 'all is vanity.'" The Steeve home was one of the few with telephone services Tuesday.

Destroyed buildings must be reported to assessor by May 20

Buildings destroyed in the disaster area should be reported to the courthouse office of County Assessor, according to L E Barr. The report should be made not later than May 20 which is the final day when the county board of review will be acting on such matters for the coming year.

A printed form is available through the office, which gives such details as type of building, description and school district.

The front porch of the Tom Whitney home is temporary post office at Yorktown, their house just across the street from where McElhiney's store was flattened. The Whitneys lost their garage, breezeway and back porch, built about a year ago. The house raised up enough that it broke a 2-inch gas pipe under the flooring.

106 S. 15th
Phone 542-2814
Clarinda

Leg Fractured

Clean-up at the Walter and Lloyd Muller farm is complicated by an accident Wednesday which put Lloyd in the Municipal hospital with leg fracture.

While going to the field with a green-broke horse, Lloyd was brushed against the post of an electric fence. He did not receive serious cuts, but is out of the picture of cleaning up the rubble about the farm during this crucial time.

Guard released

Seventy-nine of the men in the National Guard were sent home at 10 p.m. Wednesday after more than 72 hours of duty around the clock, guarding the Yorktown area. Major Orville Rasmussen of Council Bluffs was in charge of the group that patrolled the streets, with a patrol also touring the countryside and a patrol on duty at the two entrances to the town.

Yorktown was sealed off on Monday afternoon when the guard came on duty at 3 p.m. with only workers and their families allowed in town. By Tuesday night it was considered that danger from looting was past and the sentries were released.

Tuesday night 26 of the men were released and all 47 of those remaining were on duty during the funeral services of Mrs Eichhorst Wednesday afternoon. Four men remain on duty this Thursday to check the inventory at the armory.

Restaurants of Clarinda chipped in cartons of cigarettes which were distributed throughout the night and early Tuesday morning for those guarding and on duty.

School is back into the Glenn Miller armory this Thursday after two days of vacation. Company C had to take over their quarters for feeding their men and furnishing sleeping quarters while the guardsmen were on active duty from Monday afternoon until late Wednesday night. The two days missed will be recognized as an emergency and will not be made up by the classes.

Jim Shums, east of Clarinda, had damage in an area that did not generally suffer in Sunday's storm. Their brooder house and another small building were blown apart.

Storm Freaks

Sunday's storm was full of freaks in the Yorktown area. Little of the Otto Goecker home has been found, possibly blown for miles. Mrs Goecker had taken her diamond ring off her finger during the afternoon, hoping someone may find it in the miles of fields.

Insulation from electrical wires was stripped off, showing brightly colored wires that residents had never seen.

The door from garage at the Methodist parsonage was blown more than five blocks to the northwest.

Walls fell in all directions and houses were moved both east and west. But aerial observation by Adj Gen Miller tells that boards are laid north and south like "someone had planned it that way."

The Clarinda school bus (15,000 pounds) was carried 50 feet to the west and slammed onto its top.

Among those helping with clean up: Leroy Miller of IH Implement in Shenandoah and eight men and truck worked all day Monday.

Towns represented were Essex, Shenandoah, College Springs, Red Oak, New Market, Shambaugh, Clearmont, Imogene, Mt Ayr.

Grant Whitney and some of the Clarinda teachers worked at Yorktown Monday instead of attending the teachers meeting.

Temporary Post Office

The front porch of the Tom Whitney home is temporary post office at Yorktown, their house just across the street from where McElhiney's store was flattened. The Whitneys lost their garage, breezeway and back porch, built about a year ago. The house raised up enough that it broke a 2-inch gas pipe under the flooring.

MOTHER'S DAY OPPORTUNITY
TOWN AND COUNTRY SALON OF BEAUTY
Phone 542-2814
Clarinda

Special fund exceeds

\$1450 by Thursday a.m.

Fast-aid is an objective of the cash fund started by the Herald Journal which has already gathered momentum. It is earmarked specifically for use in the Yorktown area as a gift from the people of this vicinity, and designated through the Red Cross because that is an organized and efficient unit for effective distribution of it.

There are some who may prefer to designate that their donations be administered by another unit, such as the Salvation Army, which also has been in evidence and very helpful in the Yorktown area.

The Herald Journal will list names of donors, but not the individual amounts. Thus any who want to donate but can't afford a big sum will not need to stay out of it fearing to be embarrassed. Even one institution in Clarinda that has donated a very large amount has asked that it remain anonymous.

Many are turning in checks, cash, clothing and other things to help in the big task for rehabilitation for the stricken of Yorktown. Some who are putting in hard physical effort in the disaster area are also adding cash, and others who cannot give the physical help are rallying to the supporting fund.

As long as the money gifts keep coming the Herald Journal will publish names of the donors, without listing individual amounts.

As of record up to 9:00 a.m. on press day the following are listed with total \$1,175.00:

Citizens State Bank
Page County State Bank
Loranz & Co
J Y Biggs
Helen Wyckoff
Sally Ann Bakery
George Mathes
Mrs Mabel Stipe
O H Steeve
W G Dunn
Willis and Emma Bates
J Dale Foster
E A Carlson
Fred A Meyer
Herald Journal
Glen Davison
Mildred Swanson
Emmet Zollars
E C Hirschler
Rev & Mrs T Fessler
P E O Chapter AE
Golden Rule Club
Alvin Sunderman
Helicopter pilot
Mr and Mrs Chas Sinn
Page Co Savings & Loan
Clarinda Coal & Concrete
Mr and Mrs Clyde Ustick
Page County Abstract Co
Oehler Drug Company
Ernie Thompson
Mr and Mrs Floyd Kelley
Bernadine Bassett
Mrs Gwendolyn Bunker
Mrs Edna M Skow
Marjorie Swisher
Marvin Hanson
Helen Harlan
(Little Grocery)
Odd Fellows Lodge
Dr & Mrs George Prieditis
Clarinda Chamber
of Commerce

Bradyville WSCS
Mr and Mrs Earl Blume
Corning
Miss Nellie Orme

hog houses, 7 grain bins, \$2,000.
Glenn Stambaugh: upset crib, roof off, another crib, \$500.

Leonard Vogel: silo fell on 2 wagons, small out buildings lost.

Ray Polsley: sheds upset, shingles from house.
George Stevens: minor damage.

Lyle Stieffing: moved barn from foundation, two steel bins, roof from hay barn, hay barn total, machine shed, quarter set building, \$23,500.

Bob Olenius: machine shed complete, 2 barns partial, extensive damage all out buildings.

Robert Meek: complete loss on whole farm except house, including 2 barns, granary, cattle shed, implement shed, walk-in feeder.

Harry Northwehr: complete loss except house, 35 hogs, barn destroyed, other barn off foundation.

Max Huseman: all out buildings complete loss, including hay barn, corn crib and house.

Neil Snyder: lost barn, crib roof, other buildings.
Clark Herzberg: hog houses out buildings damaged.

Calvin Luther elected treasurer of Royal Arch Masons grand lodge

Calvin Luther of Clarinda was elected grand treasurer of the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Iowa at the meeting in Marshalltown last week end.

Mr and Mrs Luther were among the 250 persons attending the three-day meeting. Also going from this area were Mr and Mrs Clarence (Bud) Coykendall of Red Oak and Mr and Mrs Paul Morris of Bedford.

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W G Dunn
Willis and Emma Bates
J Dale Foster
E A Carlson
Fred A Meyer
Herald Journal
Glen Davison
Mildred Swanson
Emmet Zollars
E C Hirschler
Rev & Mrs T Fessler
P E O Chapter AE
Golden Rule Club
Alvin Sunderman
Helicopter pilot
Mr and Mrs Chas Sinn
Page Co Savings & Loan
Clarinda Coal & Concrete
Mr and Mrs Clyde Ustick
Page County Abstract Co
Oehler Drug Company
Ernie Thompson
Mr and Mrs Floyd Kelley
Bernadine Bassett
Mrs Gwendolyn Bunker
Mrs Edna M Skow
Marjorie Swisher
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Missionaries on furlough are team which speaks two nights at three U Missionary Churches

Four speakers are being featured at the two-day missionary conference at the Clarinda, New Market and Shambaugh United Missionary churches, the same speakers alternating between the churches Friday and Sunday.

Clarinda will have Rev and Mrs Auburn Witt Friday at 7:30 p.m., Rev Eldon Boettger Sunday at 10:45 a.m., the Rev Paul Mast Sunday at 7:30 p.m.

New Market has Rev and Mrs Auburn Witt Sunday at 9 a.m.

Shambaugh has both Rev Paul Mast and Rev Eldon Boettger Friday at 8 p.m., Rev and Mrs Auburn Witt at Sunday at 11 a.m. and Rev and Mrs John Gamble Sunday at 7:30 p.m.

The team represents mission fields in three continents, South America, Africa and Asia. They bring a combined period of service to the church of more than 50 years, their reports being supplemented with films of several kinds during the conference.

Rev Paul Mast and his wife served in Brazil, helping to build a Bible school at Maringa, a town which has grown to more than 60,000 in ten years.

Rev Eldon Boettger served 15 years in Nigeria, seeing the vast changes in that former British protectorate. With headquarters at Igbetti, they enrolled more than 60,000 in Bible correspondence courses. He served as early as 1949 in the northern bush country, accessible only by river.

Rev and Mrs Auburn Witt have been in service from have been in service from Alaska to Africa. He has been since 1954 in Nigeria. Rev Witt was principal of a theological college in Ilorin. Mrs Witt, a registered nurse, is daughter of missionaries to Nigeria.

Rev and Mrs John Gamble were in West Bengal, India, visiting over 1,100 villages with a team of Indian evangelists.

KIWANIS SEE THE