

CLAIM 10 NAZI DIVISIONS ROUTED

TORRENTS FLOOD WINNIPEG

Lakes Block Traffic While Cellars Fill

Winnipeg was blitzed Friday afternoon... by the worst rainstorm within the recollection of the majority of Winnipeggers—a storm which flooded basements, disrupted communications, broke wires and stranded motorists in all parts of Greater Winnipeg.

Striking suddenly from a sky which two hours earlier had been filled with sunshine, the rain fell in torrents, rendering traffic movement impossible, and bringing into use all sorts and conditions of utensils as residents worked feverishly to stem the steadily increasing water levels in their homes.

After the storm the meteorological bureau reported that 2.56 inches of water had fallen, most of it within a 2-hour period. This was an increase of 1.17 inches over the reading of Aug. 16, 1939, when the last severe rainfall was recorded here.

Restricted to Winnipeg and suburban districts, the rain fell heaviest in the centre and west end of the city, and in the municipality of St. James. Hundreds of basements were flooded, thousands of dollars worth of goods were ruined as shopkeepers

were unable to divert the streams of water which rolled into their establishments in waves. City streets resembled the sea shore with the tide coming in.

Street car traffic was suspended. Operators, unable to proceed, opened all doors to give as many pedestrians as possible shelter from the fury of the storm.

The full force of the storm was felt shortly before 4 p.m., when the rain suddenly lashed the city with a wild onerage which within a brief period flooded city streets, and choked the sewage system. The downpour continued for over two hours before finally subsiding in the evening. A light sprinkling of rain continued for several hours more.

W. P. Brereton, city engineer, reported that the sewers functioned well considering the conditions. He added that he did not know of any city which had its sewage system built to accommodate rain storms of the variety reaching Win-

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Grandpappy Rain Cuts Queer Antics

The grandpappy of all the thunder showers did a lot of things to a lot of people Friday, but what it did to the schedules of the Winnipeg Electric company just shouldn't happen. So demoralized did the service become that it took us two

hours of unsuppressed hilarity. Winnipeggers did the strangest things. There were the hundreds who tied their shoes around their necks and walked home in their bare feet; there was the girl in the white dress whose dress began to sink and shrink and shrink; there was the lady who was offered a seat in the street car and was so drenched she couldn't sit down; there were the kids who took off

their shirts and tried to wring them dry; there was the laddie who sat in a puddle on Donald street and vainly read his paper, or at least that's what he seemed to be doing; there was the conductor who ran out of transfers, there were the scores who slipped and fell in puddles.

On Again, Off Again

The first street car we caught and we were on half a dozen going in all directions, was a Stafford. The brakes on this car went on the blink so the motorman had to drive with the doors open and he got rained on. When car reached Portage and Main several general experts fiddled with switches for

RAIN ANTICS

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New Laurels Won By Fire Fighters

Glowing tribute to the work of Fire Chief D. A. Boulden and members of the fire department for their work in combating Friday's rainstorm, which threatened to ruin thousands of dollars worth of merchandise in the workshop of the Manitoba branch of the Red Cross in the civic auditorium, was paid Saturday by H. W. Manning, president of the Manitoba branch.

Realizing that these articles, some complete and others in the course of manufacture, would be completely destroyed as the flood waters seeped into the auditorium basement and gradually rose higher and higher, officials sent an SOS

to the fire department. A few minutes later crews and pumps under the personal command of the chief arrived and promptly got to work. For three hours they fought against the rising water, and were so successful in their efforts that very little damage was done and the women of the Red Cross were able to return to work Saturday morning.

As Chief Boulden and his men manned the pumps, David Finckelstein, a director of the Red Cross, arrived with a crew from the Tuxedo golf course, who removed merchandise from the immediate danger zone to safer quarters.

18 New Cases in Past 24 Hours

Infantile Paralysis Total Is Now 224

Manitoba's total of infantile paralysis cases climbed to 224 Saturday. New cases during the past 24 hours number 18, eight from Winnipeg and 10 from points outside the city.

The Winnipeg cases, which brought the total in the city for the week to 31 and the total since the epidemic started to 95, were made up of five definitely new cases and three others which had been under observation.

Outside points reporting cases were: St. Vital, two; Tuxedo, Frank-lyn, Old Kildonan, East St. Paul, Tache, St. Boniface, Emerson and Portage la Prairie, one apiece.

Other communicable diseases reported in Winnipeg during the week were: Chickenpox, ten; diphtheria, one; diphtheria-carrier, one; erysipelas, one; measles, one; mumps, six; scarlet fever, two; tuberculosis, five; and whooping cough, two.

Holiday Schedule For Free Press

Monday being Civic Holiday, the Free Press will be printed on Saturday schedule and deliveries should be complete by 3 p.m.

The Free Press business office will be open from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. The circulation department will be manned from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. If your paper isn't delivered by 3 p.m., telephone the circulation department, 845 843.



Water, Water Everywhere... No, this isn't a scene from a lake resort, with a big summer hotel looming in the background. It's a glimpse of the corner of Broadway avenue and Osborne street

just after Friday's deluge, and it's the legislative building in the rear. The two young ladies wading through the flood don't seem to mind it much.



This Tree Couldn't Take It Unable to withstand the force of the strong wind which accompanied Friday's torrential rainstorm, this tree, which was growing on River avenue in front of the Victoria hospital, took a tumble. Other trees in various sections of the city shared a similar fate. Other storm pictures on Page 3.

Russians Say Foe's Forces Badly Mauled

London, Aug. 2 (BUP)—Russian quarters in London received reports today that 10 German armored divisions, numbering 110,000 men, 4,500 tanks and 30,000 other vehicles had been badly mauled and disorganized or actually destroyed in the 42 days of fighting on the eastern front.

Informants asserted that the German were hurriedly collecting tanks from other European regions to fit out new armored formations, and that in order to maintain the number of armored divisions necessary, the allotment of tanks to each was being reduced.

Four Divisions Wiped Out Moscow, Aug. 2 (AP)—The Red army, fully mobilized after six weeks of war, now is delivering consecutive counter-attacks which are throwing the Germans back from their positions at a number of places, and in doing so has just wiped out four German divisions, totalling 60,000 men, one of them in the Smolensk area, Soviet reports said today.

Leningrad was reported to be in no danger as being reduced. The Communist party organ, Pravda, warned, however, that the treacherous enemy, despite his great losses in manpower and material, is attempting to expand the territory seized and is trying

by all means to reach the life centres of the Soviet Union. The Soviet command said crack Red army units were driving wedges into weak spots of the Nazi forward wall, in an application of Nazi tactics, to create opportunities for flank attacks. The division reported crushed at Smolensk was the 137th, an infantry formation.

A Moscow communique said fighting continued overnight near Smolensk, Nevel and Zhitomir—scenes of hotly-contested action for days—but that no major engagements took place.

That report pictured the Russian lines holding firmly and the force of German thrusts weakening as the sixth week of the war drew to a close.

The communique said the 137th division was rushed to the Smolensk front.

MOSCOW

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Huge New Battle Claimed by Nazis

Berlin, Aug. 2.—The German high command claimed today that a great new annihilation battle is being waged by German troops, deep in the Ukraine, 150 miles south of Kiev. Nazi sources said the Russian retreat from the Smolensk sector has been cut off by German forces astride the main Smolensk-Moscow highway.

The high command asserted that Soviet divisions, described as trapped, to the east of Smolensk are being still further crushed together. The Luftwaffe was reported to have carried out effective bombing attacks during the night upon supply depots and other military objectives in Moscow and upon railroad junctions in the upper Volga and southern Ukraine regions.

Nazi said that on the Bessarabian front, German forces were now swarming rapidly forward through the Ukraine below Kiev to align themselves with forces which had crossed the Dnieper river to the north.

Informants generally described the action as one in which a beaten enemy was being pursued or rear guard actions were being fought. In a crossing of the southern Dniester, it was claimed the Germans were able to bring their artillery almost within range of Odessa.

Nazis asserted that Russian spearheads were now 800 kilometers (500 miles) inside Russian territory. German troops 500 miles inside Russia might be past Leningrad and Moscow and as far as the Don river in the Ukraine. However, if the line were started from the westernmost part of Russian-occupied Poland, west of Bialystok, a 500-mile advance would put the Germans in the Vyazma area, 135 miles west of Moscow, where the Nazis long ago reported fighting, but where no fighting has been reported recently.

Intimating that the Germans were everywhere "pursuing beaten Russian forces after breaking all Soviet

BERLIN

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U.S. Seeks Soviet Bases, Say Japs

Tokyo, Aug. 2. (BUP)—News-papers warned the government today to watch closely for signs of Russian-American co-operation because it might lead to a military alliance encircling Japan.

They charged that the United States in return for supplies sent to Russia, sought bases on the Kamchatka peninsula, opposite Alaska, in order to contact Alaska for transportation of armed forces by way of the Aleutian islands. It was asserted that the United States was licensing "considerable oil exports to Russia and that plans to ship this oil through the Pacific to Vladivostok meant the United States no longer considered Japan's "feelings" toward its alliance with Germany.

Government spokesmen withheld comment on the United States em-

bargo on aviation gasoline to Japan pending official reports. Newspapers generally interpreted the embargo as "intensifying anti-Japanese pressure."

They said they were not surprised because the move had been expected after the freezing of Japanese funds, and Japan had made preparations to offset it.

Say Reports Unfounded A government spokesman said reports that Japan had demanded military bases in Thailand were entirely unfounded. He saw ground for suspicion in the fact that the reports originated in London.

The foreign office-subsidized newspaper, Japan Times and Advertiser, criticized Acting Secretary of State Sumner Welles for using "savage words" in a statement that

JAPAN

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Duke of Kent to Arrive Sunday

McWilliams Back For Royal Visitor

Cutting short his vacation in eastern Canada in order to be present in Winnipeg to meet His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, Sunday, Hon. R. F. McWilliams, lieutenant-governor, returned to the city Friday evening.

He reached the city just at the end of the record-breaking rain-storm to find the basement of Government House, like many other basements, half full of water. An emergency crew from the maintenance squad of the department of public works quickly cleared away the flood.

The Duke of Kent, who is inspecting air training centres in the dominion, will arrive at Stevenson field at 7:45 p.m., and will spend the night at Government House

before continuing his journey westward.

The royal party will leave No. 3 repair depot at Stevenson field and proceed to government House by way of Ellice avenue, Bery street, Portage avenue, Memorial boulevard, Broadway avenue and Kennedy street.

TEMPERATURE READINGS

Table with 2 columns: Time and Temperature. 6.30 a.m., Aug. 2 +65; 10.00 a.m., Aug. 2 +75; 11.00 a.m., Aug. 2 +74