

QUEBEC CENTRAL
RAILWAY
DIARY

THE 1917
CHAUDIERE
RIVER
FLOOD

SERIOUS WASHOUTS AND DAMAGE TO RAILWAY PROPERTY BY STORM; MANY BRIDGES CARRIED AWAY

Torrential Storms in Eastern Section Play Havoc With Q.C.R. Property. Big Washout on C.P.R. Near Magantic. Train of Empty Coaches Ditched. Halifax Trains Held up Indefinitely. Telephone and Telegraph Services Disorganized. Semi-Panic at Chautauqua in City Last Night.

BRIDGE WASHED AWAY

The latest report is that the bridge at Valley Junction was carried away at 12.15 p.m.

Sherbrooke was visited last night by one of the worst electrical storms known in this district for many years. It had the effect of causing a semi-pend at the Chautauqua tent, where the last performance was being given by Palmer's Kaffir Singing Boys. The entertainment started soon after eight o'clock and had proceeded about half an hour when the rain began to fall on the tent. About fifteen minutes later the storm burst, the wind grew violent and almost blew the tent in. But for the strong supports and excellent workmanship, there is no doubt that the several hundred

SOME INCIDENTS OF THE STORM AT CHAUTAUQUA TENT.

Among the articles handed to the manager of the Chautauqua to be called for identification after the storm were six purses, twelve hats, four slippers and three handbags.

One lady who had her little daughter with her became separated from the child. The little girl was found under an automobile, outside the tent, where she had run for safety.

Manager Whiteside states that

the storm was the worst he has experienced in his Chautauqua

experience.

The Kaffir boys evidently thought the jungles were falling. They made a rush towards the stage door but the auto room was filled with water. Their travelling clothes were drenched and their manager made a sub-

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and Mr. Palmer, with commendable pluck and coolness, assured the crowd that there was no danger. These statements had the effect of restoring a normal condition of things after an interruption of about half an hour, and the entertainment was resumed minus about one-fourth of the original audience, whose experience was enough for one night and who went home. Many ladies in their hurried exit left hats, bags and other articles behind them.

TREES BLOWN DOWN. LIGHTS OUT

Scores of trees in different parts of the city were uprooted by the storm, and a few electric wires were down down. Beyond this, no damage appears to have occurred in the city, at least favorable reports are being received from other points. Some of the Shefford houses were deprived of their electric lights.

DISRUPTION OF TELEPHONE SERVICE

The telephone system is completely disorganized. The Bell Co. states it was one of the worst storms known for years and has seriously affected their service. Over half numbers taken down in the city, accounts of which are long distance connections are cut off, and it is impossible to get through with the Montreal circuit.

TELEGRAPH SERVICE CUT OFF

The telegraph service is equally as bad, it being impossible to send or receive messages either east or west of Montreal.

WASHOUT NEAR MEGANTIC

Some of the railways have suffered considerably with an accompanying suspension of trains in certain districts. A bad washout has occurred

at Angus and the fire was soon extinguished later on, but the tent was illuminated during the height of the storm.

To add to the excitement a live wire was blown onto Queen street in front of the tent. This burned and created quite a spectacular feature to the storm excitement.

Scores of people fled from the tent to their homes, through the terrible roar of wind and rain.

They were as drenched as though they had been out bathing at the beach.

Considering the circumstances and the real danger the visitors

the people kept their heads in remarkably well and a serious panic was consequently avoided.

shard from other points. Some of the Sherbrooke houses were deprived of their electric lights.

DESCRIPTION OF TELEPHONE SERVICE

The telephone system is completely disorganized. The last six weeks it was one of the worst storms known for years and has seriously affected their service. Over a hundred telephones in the city are out of order. All long distance connections are cut off and it is impossible to get into touch with the Montreal circuit.

TELEGRAPH SERVICE CUT OFF.

The telegraph service is equally affected, it being impossible to send or receive messages either east or west of Montreal.

WASHOUT NEAR MEGANTIC.

Some of the railways have suffered considerably with an accompanying suspension of trains in certain districts. A bad washout has occurred in the C.P.R. east of Lake Megantic which will take some time to repair.

TRAIN WENT INTO DITCH.

It is reported that a train of empty

coaches was buried into the ditch, but at the time it can be ascertained no lives were lost. The Halifax service is tied up and will be until the damage is repaired. Trains however are running again as usual between Sherbrooke and Montreal and from Sherbrooke to Megantic.

BEAUCE DISTRICT SUFFERED HEAVILY.

There were torrential storms in the Beauce section yesterday. All highways and railway tracks were also initially washed out. From latest reports it appears that every hedge on the Chaudiere river has been carried away, including the magnificient stone hedge 500 feet in length at Valley Junction belonging to the Quebec Central Railway Co. but it is impossible to get definite confirmation of this report until such time as telegraphic or telephonic communication has been restored. The last message received was about 9 p.m. last night, and during the conversation the telephone wires broke.

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SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES OF MONDAY'S CYCLONE IN BEAUC DISTRICT. HEAVY LOSSES

Mill Houses and Buildings Washed Away. Thousands of Cords of Pulpwood Lost. Power House at Chaudiere Curve Wrecked. Levis Deprived of Power for Street Cars and Light. Quebec Central Track Inundated and Train Service Stopped. All Bridges on Chaudiere River Destroyed. Washout Near Megantic on C.P.R. Suspends Halifax Train Service.

With a partial resumption of travel between Megantic and Greenville Junction is the Township's service is the Townships particular care has been received. The Montreal-Halifax express last night did not go further than Sherbrooke and returned to Montreal at 4:15 this morning. This train, however, may possibly go through to Halifax tonight. The local trains between Sherbrooke and Megantic are running as usual.

OTHER INCIDENTS OF STORM.

Many cases of damage are reported between Sherbrooke and Stanstead. Part of the tin roof of a church at East Hatley was taken off. In another place a barn was blown down and numerous trees were uprooted along the highway, many of them of good size.

RESUMPTION OF TELEPHONE SERVICE.

The Bell Telephone Co. stated this morning that all damage caused by the storm in the city and throughout the Township has now been repaired.

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R day. The Chaudiere river is fifteen feet higher than any previous high water mark. Wrecked houses, buildings and barns are going down the river and it is impossible to form any estimate of the extent of the damage which must run into many hundreds of thousands of dollars.

ED The Valley Junction bridge on the Quebec Central Ry was carried away by the pressure of fallen buildings and pulpwood. This in itself is a heavy loss to the company, besides the consequent break in the ordinary train service. Between Valley Junction and St. Joseph the water was still rising this morning.

A large quantity of pulpwood is blocked on the middle pier of the bridge. At Tring Junction it is possible that the bridge may be in such a position in the river that it may be recovered when the water goes down. Mr. J. H. Walsh, general manager of the Q. C. R. Co., went to Valley Junction this morning to investigate the catastrophe and view the situation, as any telegraphic or telephone communication with the place was impossible.

The track between Tring Junction and Valley Junction is in a very bad state condition as nearly every culvert from went out. At Old St. Frederic tree crossing there is a washout under the track for 150 feet and in some places six feet high. The big culvert north of Tring Junction is in very great danger. Piers have moved three feet since yesterday morning. At between Leeds and East Broughton re 70 feet of the Q.C.R. main line is washed out.

The Industrial Co.'s mill at Beauvois was washed away by the terrific storm with 100,000 cords of pulpwood. The power house at the Chaudiere curve was wrecked and in consequence the town of Lévis is without power for running the street railway or for lighting purposes. All the bridges on the Chaudiere river have been washed away.

NO LIVES LOST.

EN So far as is known no loss of human life has occurred in the Beauce district, although scores of farms have disappeared and larger numbers

RESUMPTION OF TELEPHONE SERVICE.

The Bell Telephone Co. stated this morning that all damage caused by the storm in the city and throughout the Townships has now been repaired and everything is in good order. All telephones are working well. The employees of the company worked late Monday and Tuesday night in order to restore the service to its normal condition at the earliest moment and subject their subscribers to as little inconvenience as possible.

MANY TREES BLOWN DOWN.

RANGEBORG, August 1.—(Special)—A very severe electric storm accompanied by wind and rain passed over the country during the night, causing a short period, but causing much damage, to shade trees, and sugar beards and putting some of the telephones out of working order.

CYCLONE AT MILAN.

MILAN, Aug. 1.—(Special) — A severe cyclone broke over this place on Monday. The wind took the roof off the Hampden Church, the Goldmine and barns. All the horse sheds, St. Laurent's barns, Donald Smith's house and barn were damaged while his two sisters were injured. The wires were out of order and they could not get the doctor.

STORM VIOLENT AROUND THE FORD MINES.

THETFORD MINES, August 1.—(Special)—A thunder storm of almost tropical violence passed over this section on Monday, causing considerable damage, especially in Beause County. The rain fell in torrents nearly all day along the height of land between the St. Francis and Chaudiere valleys, resulting in a bad washout on the Quebec Central Railway between Leeds Station and East Broughton. The Q. C. R. train to Quebec Monday evening was held up all night besides several freight trains. The Chaudiere River was higher than in the spring floods and much damage was caused to property along the river.

The lightning was very violent nearly all day, and a man named

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as a continuation as nearly every curtain was torn out. At Old St. Frederic tree crossing there is a washout under the track for 200 feet and in some places six feet high. The big cut west north of Tring Junction is in very great danger. Plans have moved three feet since yesterday morning. Between Leeds and East Broughton 75 feet of the Q.C.R. main line is washed out.

The Industrial Co.'s mill at Beausejour was washed away in the terrible storm with 100,000 cords of pine wood. The power house at the Chambers curve was wrecked and in consequence the town of Lévis is without power for running the street railway or for lighting purposes. All the bridges on the Chambers river have been washed away.

NO LIVES LOST

So far as is known no loss of human life has occurred in the Beausejour district, although scores of farms have disappeared and large numbers of horses, cattle and other livestock drowned. In many of the villages the streets present the appearance of turbulent rivers and many families are cut off from outside communication.

TRAIN SERVICE SUSPENDED

All train service on the Chaudière and Magantic subdivisions of the Quebec Central Ry. Co., is necessarily suspended for the present.

WASHOUT NEAR MEGANTIC HOLDS UP C.P.R. HALIFAX SERVICE

The serious washout which was reported yesterday near Megantic, oc-

house and barn were damaged while his two sisters were injured. The wires were out of order and they could not get the doctor.

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The lightning was very violent nearly all day and a man named Trudeau living at St. Pierre de Brough was struck and badly injured.

SLIGHT DAMAGE AT BRISSETTE CORNER

BRISSETTE CORNER, NORTH HATLEY, Aug. 1.—(Special)—A severe electric storm, accompanied by high wind, passed over here on Monday. As yet no damage has been reported except the breaking down of fruit and shade trees by the wind.

WORST STORM IN YEARS AT BESTON

ASBESTOS, Aug. 1.—(Special)—A severe thunderstorm broke over this place on Monday afternoon, ac-

(Continued on page 4.)

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DAMAGE CAUSED BY STORM IN BEAUCÉ DISTRICT NOW ESTIMATED AT \$4,000,000

Descriptive Account of Correspondent's Visit to Scene of Disaster. Brown Corporation and Breakey Co. Lost Everything. Booms, Dams, Buildings and Immense Quantities of Logs and Pulpwood Carried Away. Work of Reconstruction of Valley Junction Bridge to be Commenced at Once. Pile Bridge Will Be Used Temporarily.

(Special to the Daily Record.)
A representative of the Daily Record visited the scene of the recent disastrous flood in the Chaudière valley of Beauce yesterday and returned to Sherbrooke this morning. He reports conditions of things there as being beyond description.

CHAUDIÈRE RIVER ROSE ONE INCH PER MINUTE.

From 1 o'clock in the afternoon until late at night on Monday there was a continuation of heavy electric storms and cloudbursts. In one and a half hours between nine and twelve inches of rain fell. All the brooks became raging torrents flowing into the Chaudière, and that river rose one inch a minute until late in the evening, when it had risen over twelve feet higher than the highest

the warehouses and stores and dry goods and groceries, etc., which were stocked in these stores and now covered by seven to fifteen feet of water. One merchant lost \$8,000 pounds of maple sugar.

DETAILS OF LOSSES.

It is estimated that the loss will amount to at least four million dollars, made up as follows:

Brown Corporation.....	\$1,750,000
Breakey Co.	1,250,000
Loss to farmers.....	100,000
Loss to merchants.....	500,000
Highway bridges, public roads ruined and miscellaneou losses.....	500,000
Railway Company's loss.....	220,000

INTERVIEW WITH Q. C. EY. MAN.
AGED.

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inches of rain fell. All the brooks became raging torrents flowing into the Chaudiere, and that river rose one inch a minute until late in the evening, when it had risen over twelve feet higher than the highest water point ever known.

DISTRICT TOTALLY SUBMERGED

Baieville, St. Joseph, Valley Junction and St. Mary were completely submerged in water. Buildings, barns and bridges were carried down the river. The Brown Corporation, who had some 16,000 cords of pulpwood at St. Mary, lost everything. The Braskey Co., located at Breakawayville, at the lower section of the Chaudiere, were completely washed out, losing some \$4 million feet of logs and immense quantities of pulpwood. All the lumber and pulpwood piled on the upper meadows of the Chaudiere, Memphrémagog and De Loup rivers were carried away, and houses and dams established by the timber operators in that section during the last half century have all been lost.

VALLEY JUNCTION BRIDGE CARRIED 100 FEET.

The actual cause of the Quebec Central Railway steel bridge at Valley Junction being carried away was the blocking of bridges, buildings, lumber, pulpwood, etc., against the bridge and pier, and it would appear as if the four heavy trusses of 125 feet each of solid steel were simply lifted off their bearings and carried down the stream 100 to 150 feet.

OTHER BRIDGES DESTROYED.

The railroad dump on the south side of the bridge was carried away. St. Mary steel highway bridge, Scott steel highway bridge and two small highway bridges at Valley Junction were also carried away.

LIVE STOCK, HAY AND CROPS LOST.

Live stock, farming implements, hay that was being harvested, and everything within the limits of the high water has been lost.

GOODS OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS FLOATING IN WATER.

Railroad losses 100,000
Railway Company's loss 250,000

INTERVIEW WITH Q. C. RY. MANAGER.

Mr. J. H. Walsh, general manager of the Quebec Central Railway Co., and officials were at Valley Junction yesterday. Large gangs of men are at work repairing the damage and putting the line in condition for operation as far as it is possible to do so.

Mr. Walsh made the following statement in an interview: "It is expected that by Saturday next the regular train service will be in operation between Sherbrooke and the south side of Valley Junction bridge, also over the Magantic division between Tring Junction and Magantic. The regular train service will also be in operation between Lévis and the north side of Valley Junction bridge. It will take a fortnight or two weeks to repair the damage done to the Chaudiere Valley line between Valley Junction and St. George, but the section between St. George and English Lake, which is on the high land, has not been damaged. Telegraphic and telephonic services throughout the whole district has been destroyed. This is being rapidly put in order. The railway company has today connected up its telegraphic services between Sherbrooke and Quebec and on the Magantic subdivision.

"Large gangs of men are now at work clearing away and removing the immense quantities of debris that are piled around the concrete piers of the bridge, and the work of reconstruction will be commenced immediately. A pile bridge will be placed across the gap, on which train can be operated if it is hopped within 12 to 15 days, and the steel bridge reconstructed immediately."

Great satisfaction is expressed by the public throughout that section for the care and caution exercised by the railway operating staff in holding up trains and thus preventing any wrecks.

FLOOD NOW ABATING.
QUEBEC, Aug. 1 — (Special) —

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SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 1917.

DAMAGE CAUSED BY STORM

(Continued from Page 1)

The flood which swept through the Chambers Valley as the result of the torrents of rain which fell Monday is now abating, the fall being about the rate of a foot every two hours as against the rise of a foot every hour, but the effect of it will be felt for months yet.

BAD STORM AT BRAMPTON.
Bramptonville, Aug. 2.—(Special)—A heavy storm visited this place about 4:30 yesterday afternoon. There was a heavy downpour of rain, accompanied by miles of thunder and vivid lightning flashes. This was followed by a severe hailstorm, some of the hailstones being an inch and a half thick. The storm lasted barely half an hour, but did considerable damage in the shape of broken windows. A large tree was blown down in front of Tobin's store.

MUCH DAMAGE IN MILAN DISTRICT.

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THE DISASTER AT BEAUCE

Q. C. Ry. Co. Will Complete
Erection of Temporary
Bridge at Valley Junc-
tion Next Week.

On enquiry at the Quebec Central Railway offices this morning the Record elicited the information that their line in the Beauce district is rapidly being put into condition for operation. Mr. J. H. Walsh, general manager, states that the construction of the temporary bridge at Valley Junction will be commenced on Monday morning and that gangs of men will work day and night from both ends.

It is expected that the temporary bridge will be completed in four or five days and that through traffic will be resumed before the end of next week.

It may be taken for granted that the Q. C. Ry. Co. will spare no ex-
penditure of time, labor or money,
in order to resume traffic as early
as possible.

CHIEF ENGINEER'S VISIT TO
SCENE OF DISASTER.

Mr. J. T. Morkill, chief engineer

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as Possible.
CHIEF ENGINEER'S VISIT TO
SCENE OF DISASTER.

Mr. J. T. Merkell, chief engineer of the Quebec Central, was in town yesterday from Valley Junction, and the region along the line devastated by the terrible flood.

He states that the scene is absolutely indescribable, and the ruin complete. The rise of the Chandries, always a rushing turbulent stream was phenomenal, and the pretty little villages, which a week ago were prosperous, and smiling in the sun, are desolate—farms, crops, houses, swept away by the wall of water.

The financial loss of the great corporations, the railroad and the district generally, is scarcely to be estimated as yet, but possibly the deepest sympathy is felt for the residents in the hamlets, and the farmers who have lost their all, and from comparative prosperity and comfort are literally beggars.

HALIFAX TRAIN SERVICE MAY
BE RESUMED ON SUNDAY.

It is expected that the C. P. R. train service to Halifax, which has been suspended since Monday through the washout on the east side of Magog, will be resumed on Sunday. In the meantime passengers and mail between Montreal and Halifax are being conveyed via the Intercolonial Railway.

The local trains between Sherbrooke and Magog are running as usual, and at they have been running since the storm.

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**OPENED SWITCH,
TRAIN DITCHED**

**Act of Small Boy at Thetford
Mines Caused Damage
to Q.C.R.**

THETFORD MINES, Aug. 7 (Special).—A term of the Criminal Court was held here yesterday by Judge Mulcahy when several cases were dealt with.

James Bergeron vs. Alfred Malheut. The accused was sentenced to pay a fine of five dollars and costs or 15 days in Sherbrooke jail for being drunk and disorderly and creating a disturbance at the Q.C.R. station at Thetford Mines.

OPENED RAILWAY SWITCH.

Alfred Malheut, a juvenile, aged 13, was charged with opening a switch in the Q.C.R. yard just after it had been closed by a conductor, while a train was shunting, thereby causing the company heavy loss by ditching the train.

After hearing the evidence the accused was found guilty, but released on suspended sentence upon a bond being signed by his father, Joseph Malheut for \$100, for his future good behavior.

CHARGE OF THREATS DISMISSED.

Pierre Lawrence dit Ouellette.

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QCR train
ditched
Thetford Mines

SHERROCK'S DAILY NEWS

FEVER FOLLOWS IN TRAIL
OF BEAUCÉ FLOODS

Several Cases of Typhoid Reported and Health Authorities Take Action.

QUEBEC, Aug. 11.—As a result of the recent destructive floods in the Beaucé district, the population, it is announced, is threatened with an epidemic of typhoid fever, as several cases are already reported and the inhabitants are greatly alarmed.

The Provincial Health Bureau has sent Dr. Edgar Caillard, Provincial Health Inspector, to the scene, and he, together with Dr. Tancrède Fortier, Dr. Diomme and Dr. Jacques, of Beauverville, are conferring on the measures to be taken to avert the threatened epidemic.

There is not a parish in the district that has not suffered, but those hardest hit are Beauverville, Ste. Marie and Scott. Estimates of the extent of the damage done have been given, but none are accurate, according to Mr. Rossini Beauchemin, advocate, of St. Joseph de Beauce. The damage, however, Mr. Beauchemin states, is rapidly being repaired, and in a few months the population will have forgotten the disaster, as the inhabitants are

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**INCREDULOUS GIVE REASONS
FOR FLOOD.**

Now that all danger has passed many are the reasons given for the flood by the incredulous farmers. One apologist attributes the disaster to the low cut pows of the Beauce aristocracy, stating that it is a punishment from God for wearing low-necked dresses. Others have expressed the opinion that it is the beginning of the end of the world, and so on.

The rain that caused the flooding of the country fell continuously for twelve hours to a depth of 3 1/2 inches, according to the report of the Beaucerille Observatory, which overflowed the rivers and streams into the low-lying lands of the Chaudière Valley, which in many parts are very much below the river beds.

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**TRAFFIC AGAIN
RESUMED ON
Q.C. RAILWAY**

Temporary Bridge of 570 Feet
Over the Chaudiere River
Completed.

Traffic on the main and branch lines of the Quebec Central Railway was resumed today after a partial hold-up for fourteen days as a result of the storm of the first of the month, which caused such destruction in the Beauce district. The temporary bridge over the Chaudiere River was completed yesterday, the work being accomplished in remarkably short time. The new structure, 570 feet in length, is solidly built on piles, and was made safe for traffic in less than six days' actual work. It took eight days to get started as the track on either side which was so badly damaged.

The magnitude of the work may be gathered from the fact that over 800 men were engaged from daylight to dark.

The different sections of the system have been repaired, and the company spared no expense to remove the molasses under which a section of the Prairies district suffered since the storm.

The permanent work on the Chaudiere Bridge is now in the hands of the Dominion Bridge Company.

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QCR opened