

# BOSTON GLOBE

PICTORIAL

# FLOOD SOUVENIR



I. N. S.

**32**  
**PAGES**

Price 10 cents



# Reservoir Breaks Over Arlington



MILL LANE in Arlington swamped by flood from swollen reservoir.  
Globe photo, Paul Maguire.



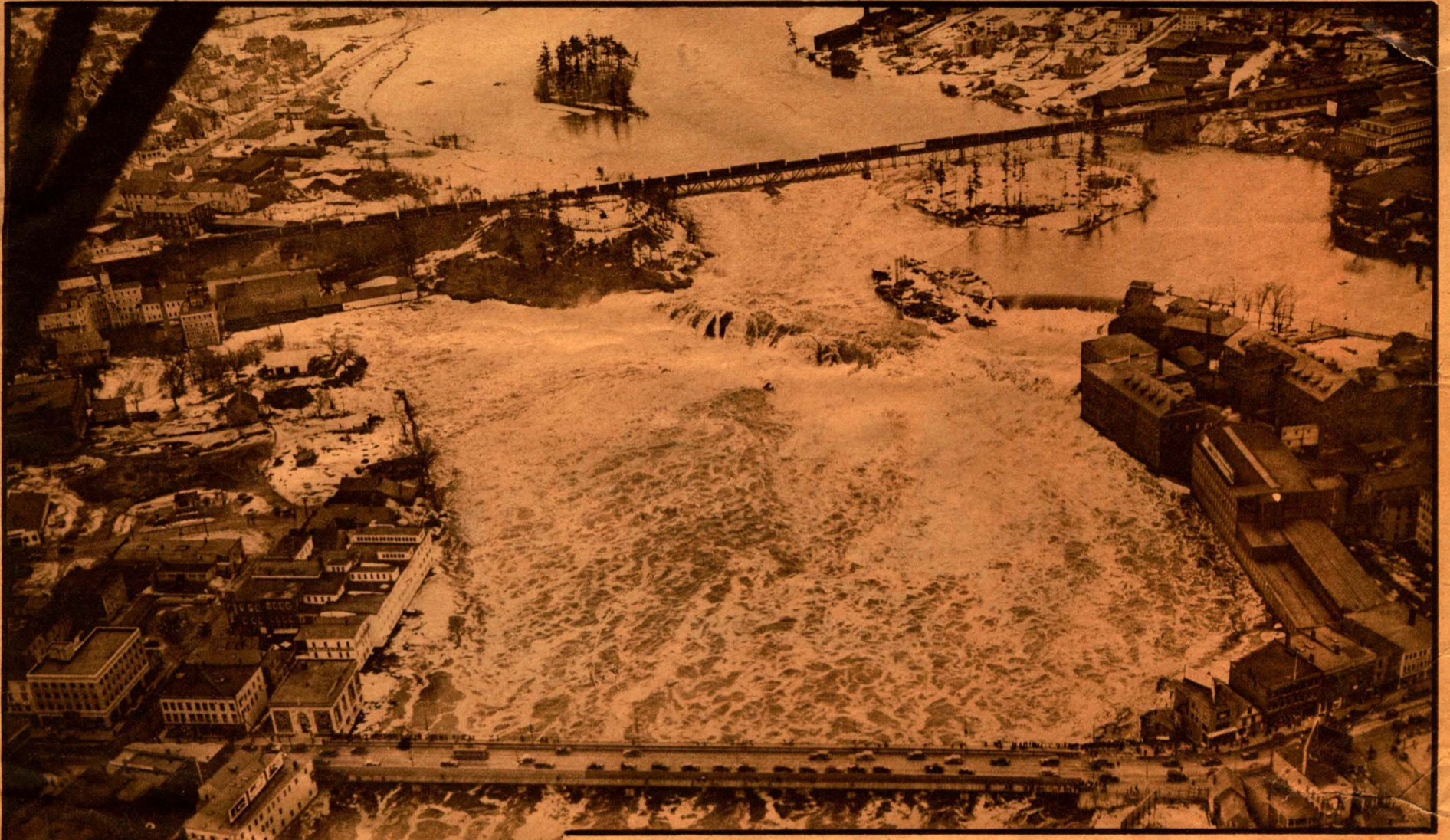
WRECKING CREW rebuilds the Boston and Maine through Arlington after flood washout.  
Globe photo, Paul Maguire.



"I JUST dropped in for tea." Mrs Helen Triestadter is helped to her Locke st, Arlington, home after being trapped by flood at the residence of Mrs Charles A. Woodman.  
Globe photo, Paul Maguire.



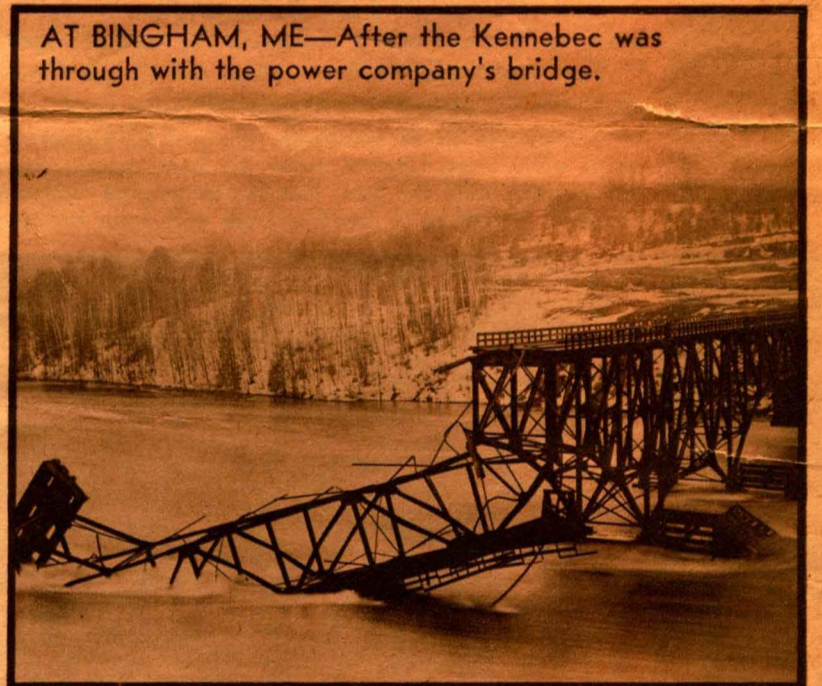
# • • Where Maine Bridges Took It • •



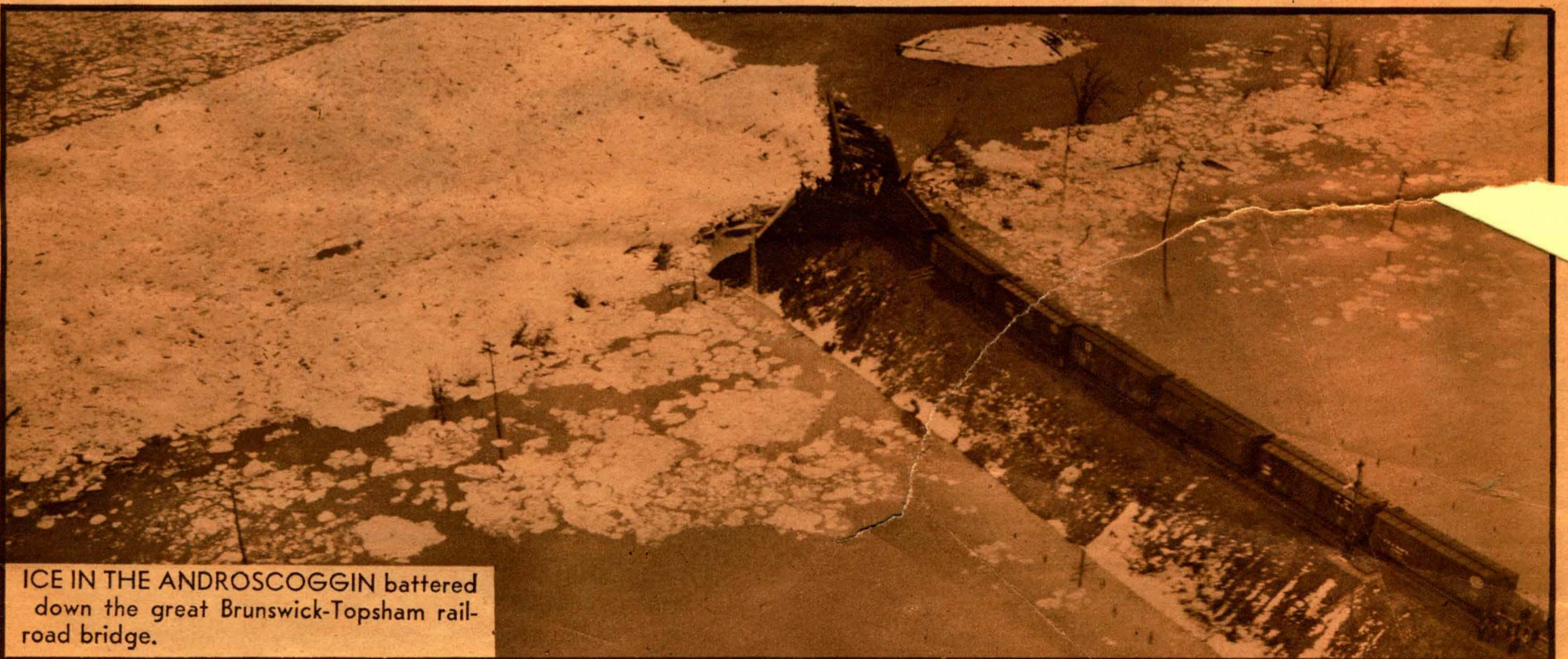
HOLDING THE BRIDGE DOWN with loaded freight cars at Lewiston-Auburn. The Maine-Central needed this bridge after its only other main line bridge was swept away at Brunswick.



THEY TRAINED FOR THIS on log booms. Span of Richmond-Dresden bridge adrift on the Kennebec.



AT BINGHAM, ME—After the Kennebec was through with the power company's bridge.



ICE IN THE ANDROSCOGGIN battered down the great Brunswick-Topsham railroad bridge.



# Where 347 Head of Cattle Drowned



IN THESE BARNs, at the time the photo was taken at the height of the flood were 347 head of dead cattle. The cattle have since been removed and buried or burned. The herd belonged to Charles H. Tenney of Northfield Farms, Mass., and his loss, \$44,000 in cattle alone, was the greatest loss of livestock in the flood.

Mr Tenney and his 25 farmhands removed 5000 chickens from their coops which were located below the barns nearer the river. They had no idea, until too late, that the rampaging Connecticut would endanger the barns, a good quarter mile from the river. A mark

three inches from the foundation on the building nearest the river showed the high water mark reached on the Tenney Farm by the flood of 1927. When it was finally realized that the swiftly advancing water was going far above that mark frantic efforts were made to remove the cattle from the barn but the frightened animals refused to move.

Tenney and his employees themselves fled only at the last moment and from the vantage of high ground the farmer saw his farm become a lake and realized that in a few minutes he had lost everything.

Globe photo by Paul Maguire



THIS STREET IN NORTHFIELD, Mass., turned so swiftly into a river that the bus stalled just after it passed over the bridge which spans what is usually a tiny brook. Northfield's famous elm-shaded Main st and the section to the east

of the highway, being on high ground, escaped the flood, but the fertile farmlands along the bank of the Connecticut River were submerged, and the Northfield farms section—along the road toward Millers Falls—was submerged.

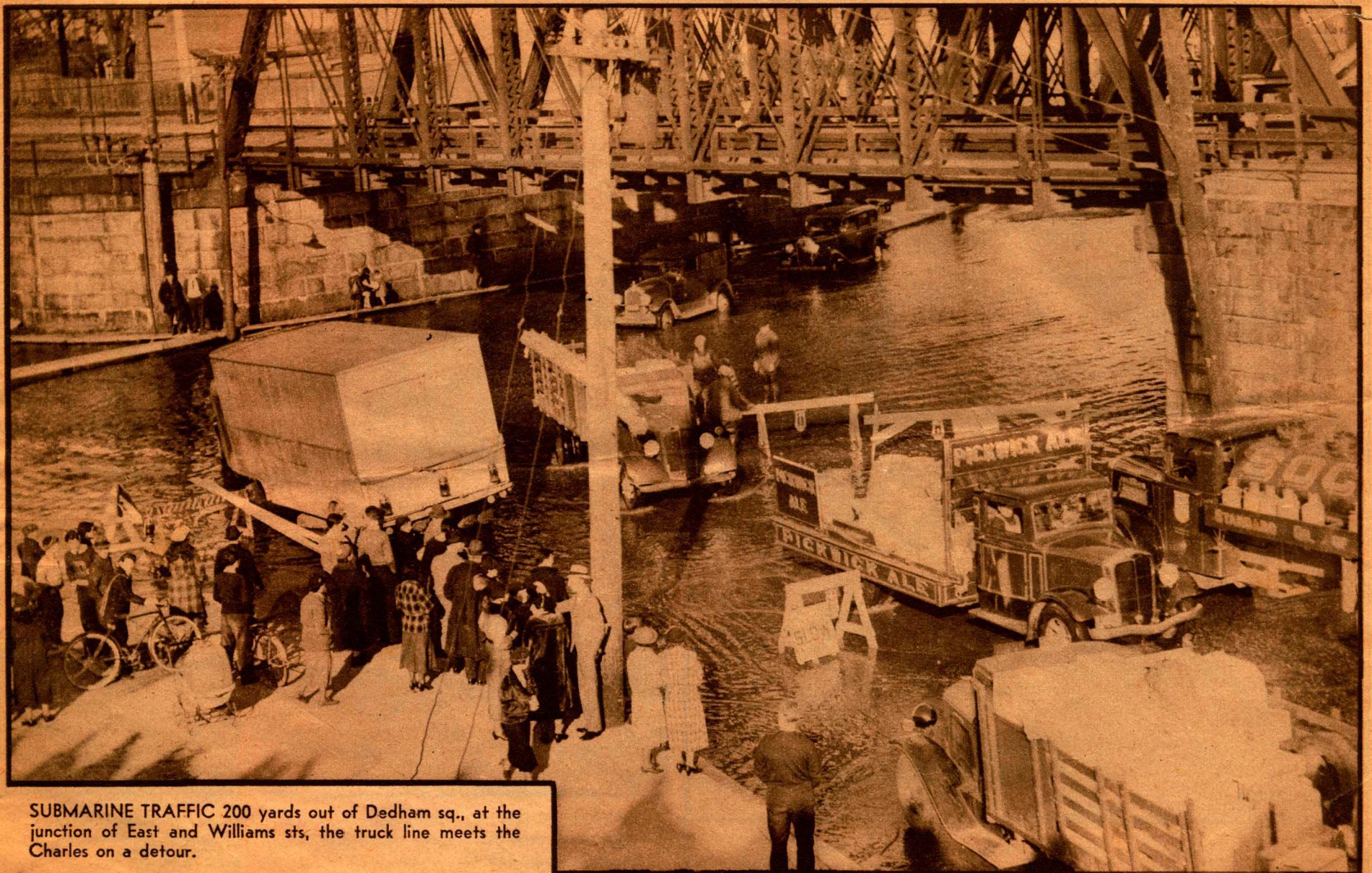
Globe photo by John Landers



# Charles River Rages Through Dedham



IF BILLY GOATS could sing it would be "River, Stay 'Way From My Door." William E. Burke of Dedham ferries his livestock to safety after the river flowed through his barn door.  
*Globe photo, Callahan*



SUBMARINE TRAFFIC 200 yards out of Dedham sq., at the junction of East and Williams sts, the truck line meets the Charles on a detour.

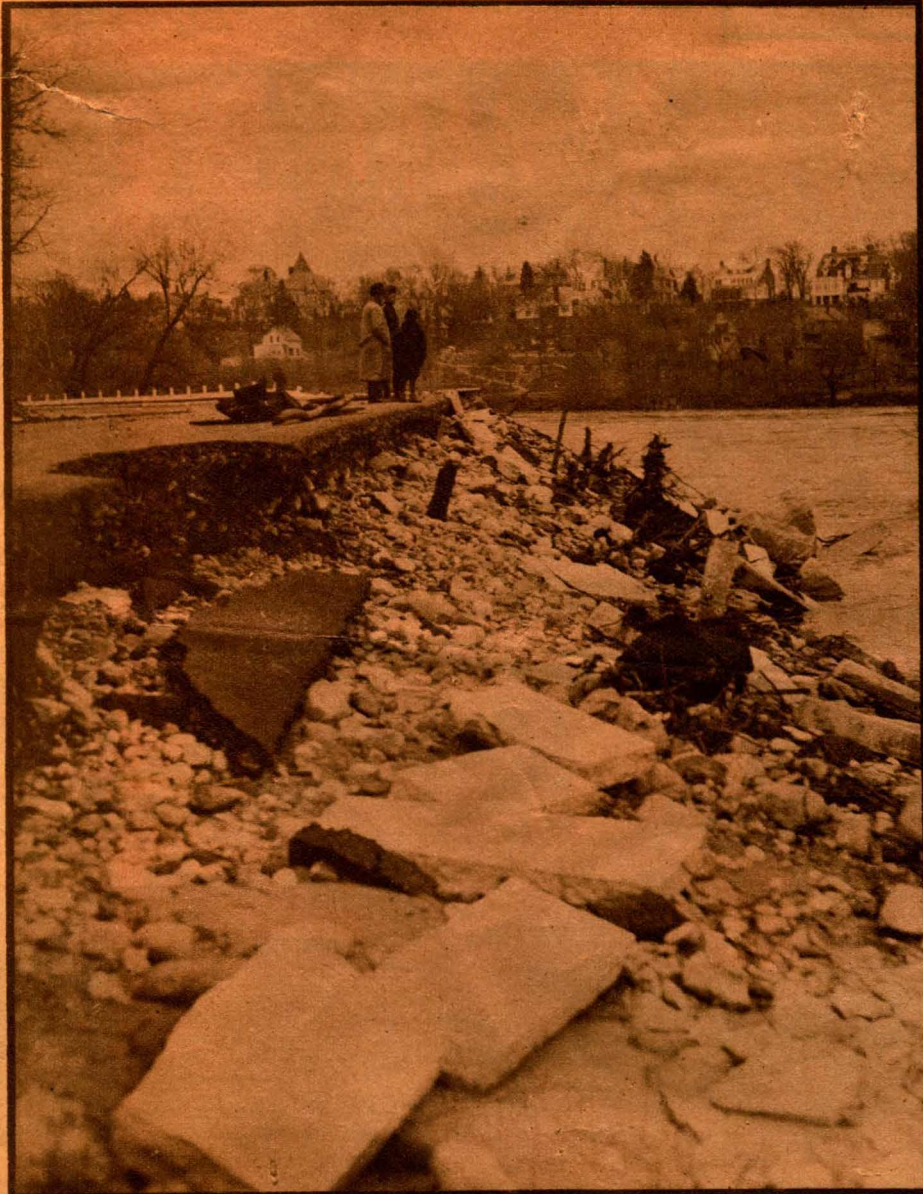


# Mad Merrimac Roars Across Lowell



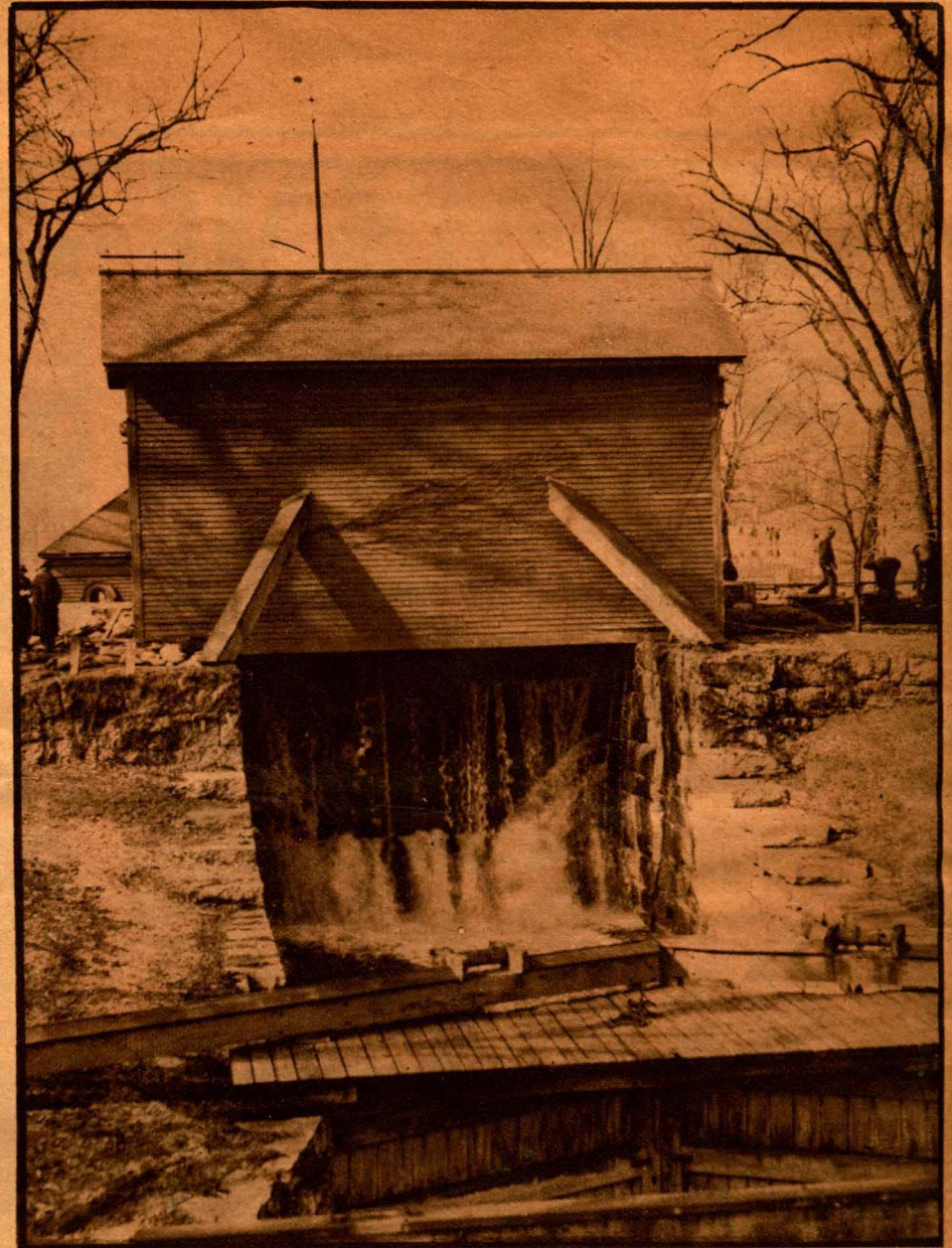
TORRENTS of the Merrimac rushing to the sea through Lowell after disgorging the ice floes down through the New Hampshire valley.

Globe photo by Louis Russo.



THIS was a boulevard on the banks of the Merrimac in Lowell.

Globe photo by Thomas O'Connor.



"FRANCIS' FOLLY." Flood gate built nearly three quarters of a century ago vindicated its builder by saving the city of Lowell from complete inundation by the Merrimac.

Globe photo by Thomas O'Connor.



# Death in New Hampshire Avalanche



OUT of the mountain torrents and landslides came the floods to sweep away New Hampshire's bridges as these at Suncook on the Merrimac were lost. Globe photo by Edmund Bond



FIRST DEATH of the 1936 floods occurred in this house at Lower Bartlett in the foothills of North Moat Mountain, N. H. Eugene Hill was killed as an avalanche of snow and a torrent of water roared down to signal the beginnings of a flood that was to sweep to the sea. Belcher photo

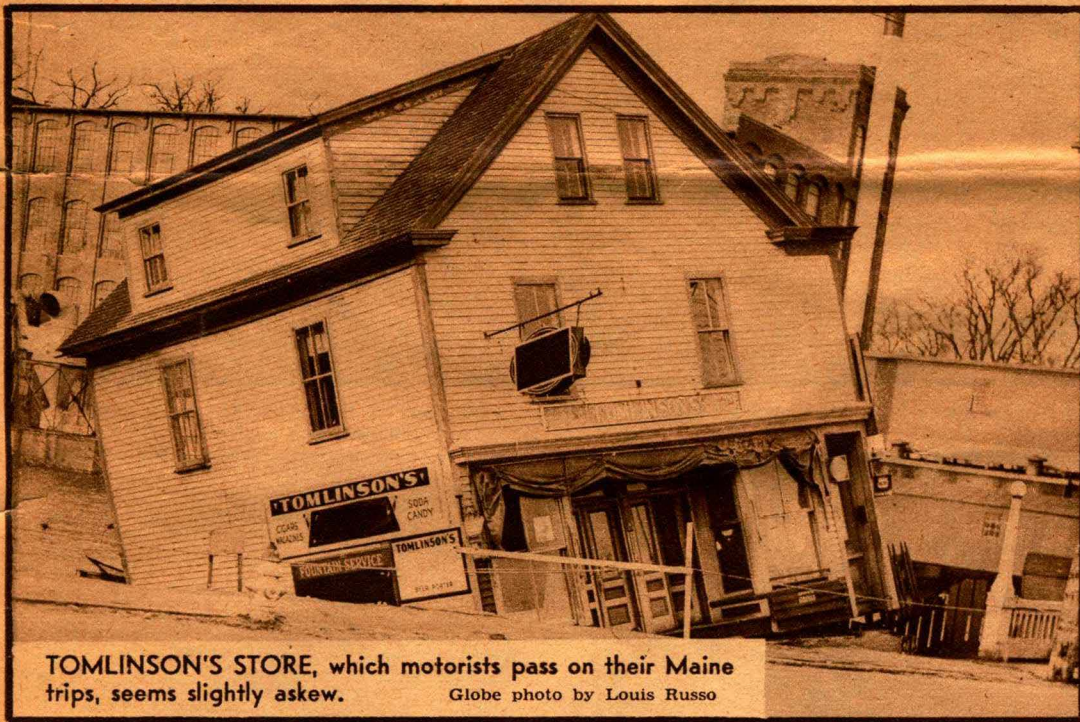


# Maine Is Noted For Its Water Power



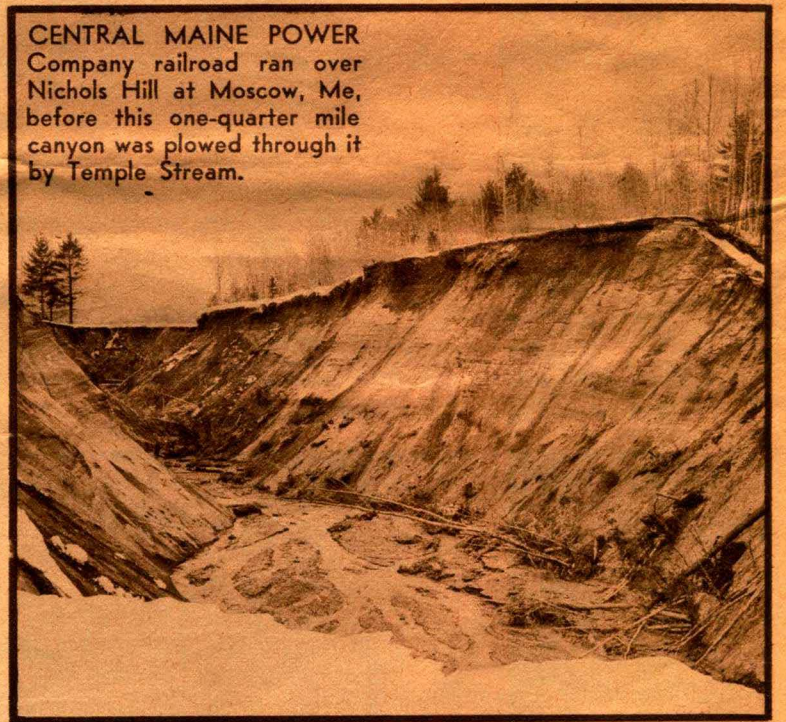
RAGING WATERS of the Androscoggin River, which left hundreds homeless and out of work, are pouring through the windows of this mill at Topsham.

I. N. S.



TOMLINSON'S STORE, which motorists pass on their Maine trips, seems slightly askew.

Globe photo by Louis Russo



CENTRAL MAINE POWER Company railroad ran over Nichols Hill at Moscow, Me, before this one-quarter mile canyon was plowed through it by Temple Stream.



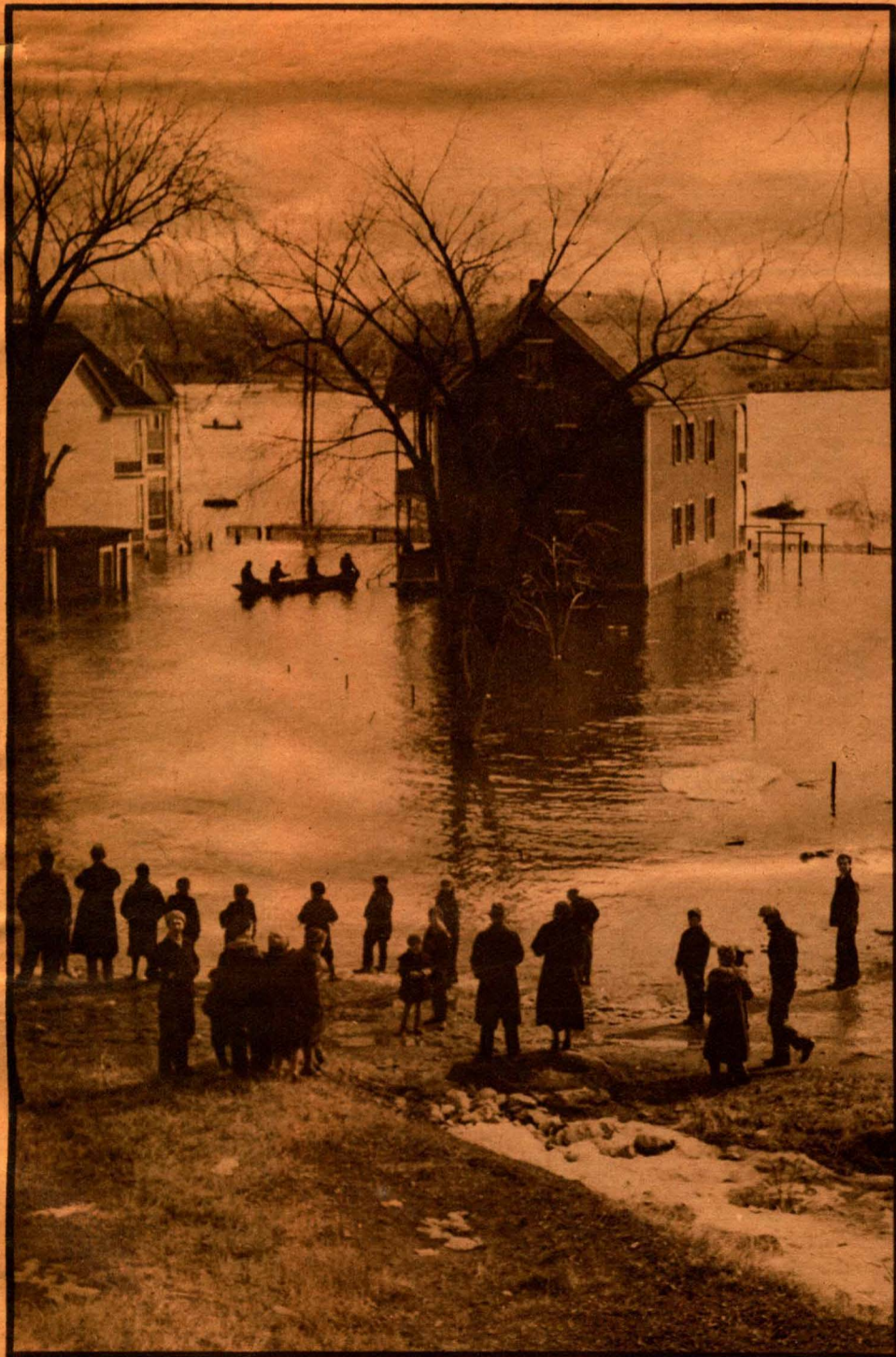
"NEXT STATION, GARDINER," says the Maine Central conductor.



# Rosemont Section of Lowell Submerged



LOWELL LOWLANDS in the Rosemont section saw 2000 flee their homes as the Merrimac rose about their houses.  
Globe photo by Callahan



LOWELL REFUGEES watch the last of the marooned being removed in a boat from isolated homes.  
Globe photo by Louis Russo



ALL THE WAY from the Grand Banks. Gloucester men to the rescue, inland, bring a dory to ferry the trapped residents of Lowell from the Merrimac overflow.  
Globe photo by Thomas O'Connor



THE BABY is safe. Lowell's police boat brings out a father and child from a home rapidly disappearing under the waters.



# Thousands Homeless in Lowell Flood



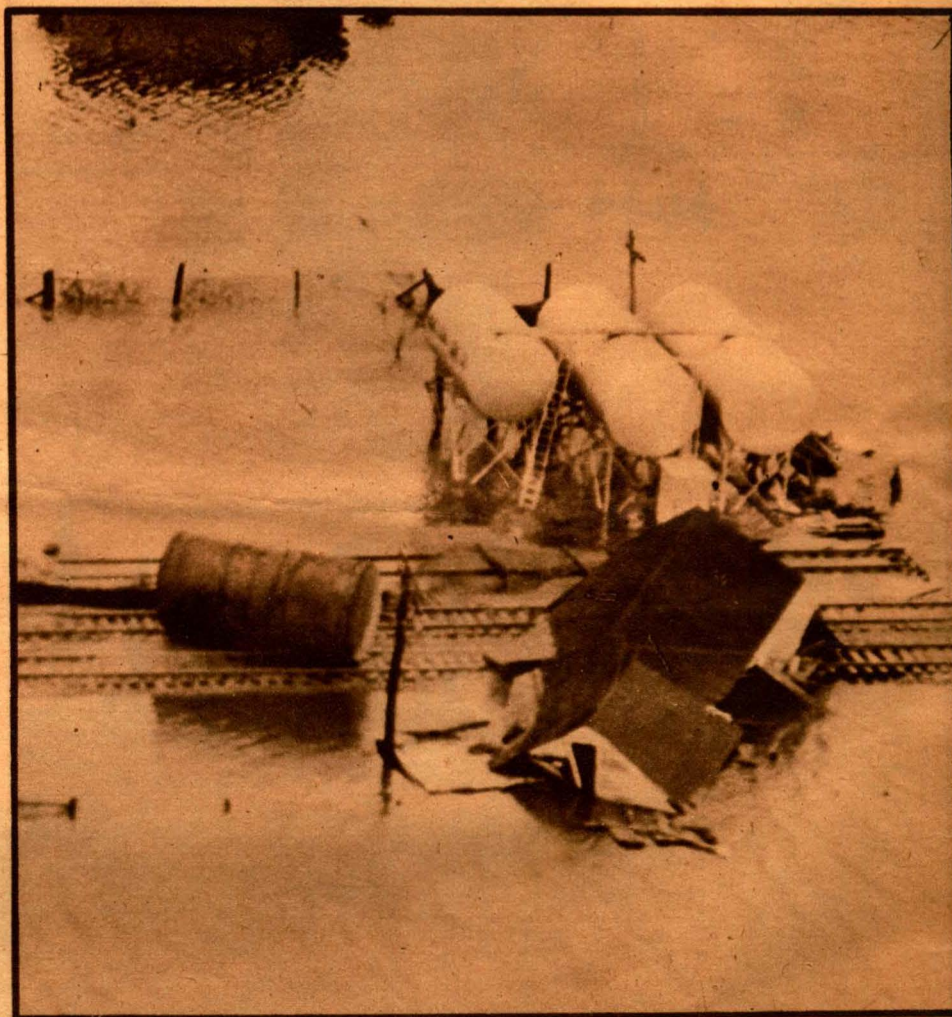
TAXI SERVICE in the center of a thriving textile city. Lowell goes down to the sea for ships and dories, and Gloucester fishermen for transportation in the week of disaster.

Globe photo by Thomas O'Connor



MOTHERING THE HOMELESS—The Red Cross steps in to devastated Lowell to care for the little ones driven from their homes and parents by the floods.

Globe photo by Thomas O'Connor



THIS WAS somebody's home—carried down the Merrimac in the cruel surge, a house was dumped upon the Boston & Maine railroad tracks at Lowell. Beside it, a gasoline tank uprooted in the washouts.

Globe photo by Paul Maguire

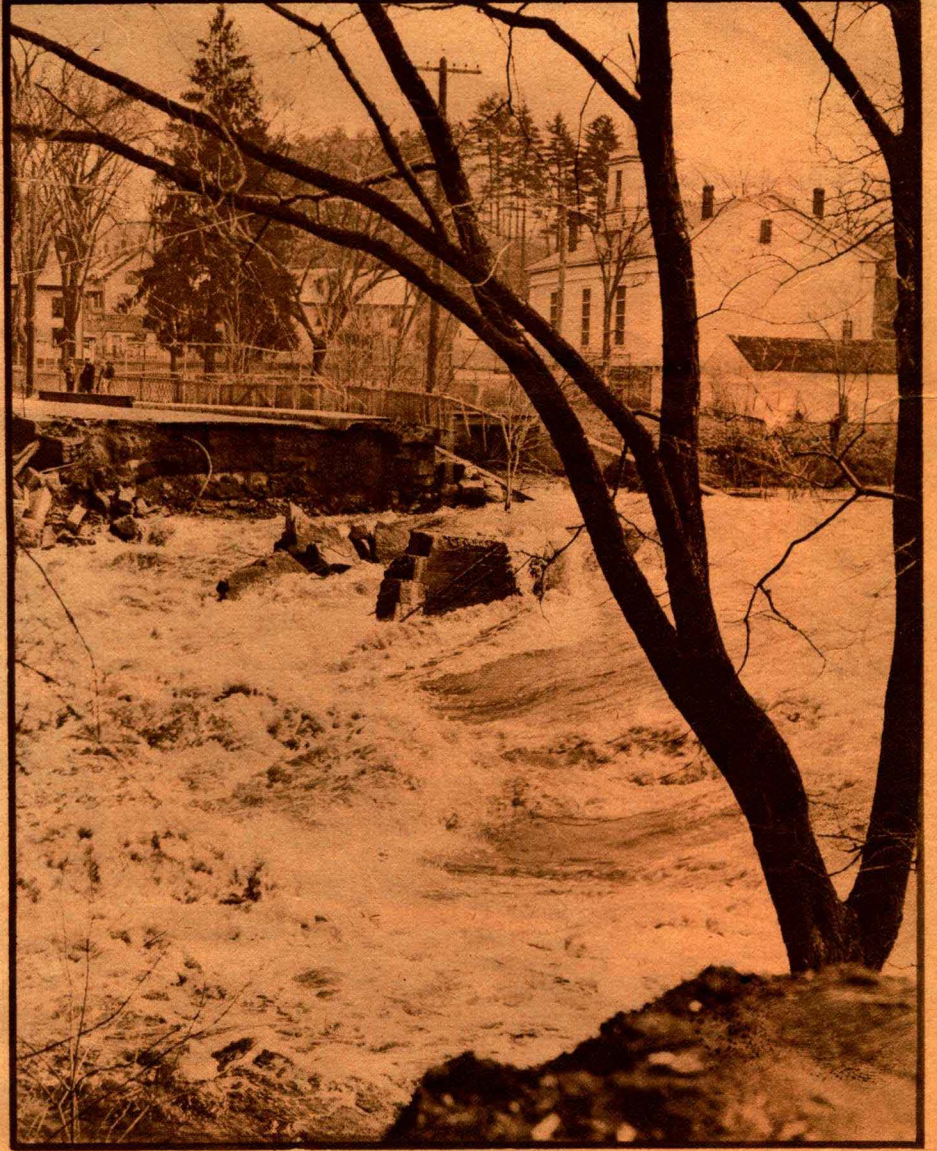


# Major Havoc From Minor Streams



THE BLACKSTONE RIVER smashing through to the valley of Southern Massachusetts and into Rhode Island carried out four floors of this mill in the Cherry Valley section of Worcester.

I. N. S.



THE WARE RIVER, stream of rapids and scenic cascades, went on the rampage in Thorndike to take this bridge down stream.

Globe photo by Callahan



WESTFIELD RIVER, swollen by the break in Plunkett's Dam, isolates the home of Ex-Gov Ely for three days.

Globe photo by Callahan



STREET SCENE in the Blackstone Valley at Uxbridge as the river found new channels in highways and yards.

Globe photo by Louis Russo

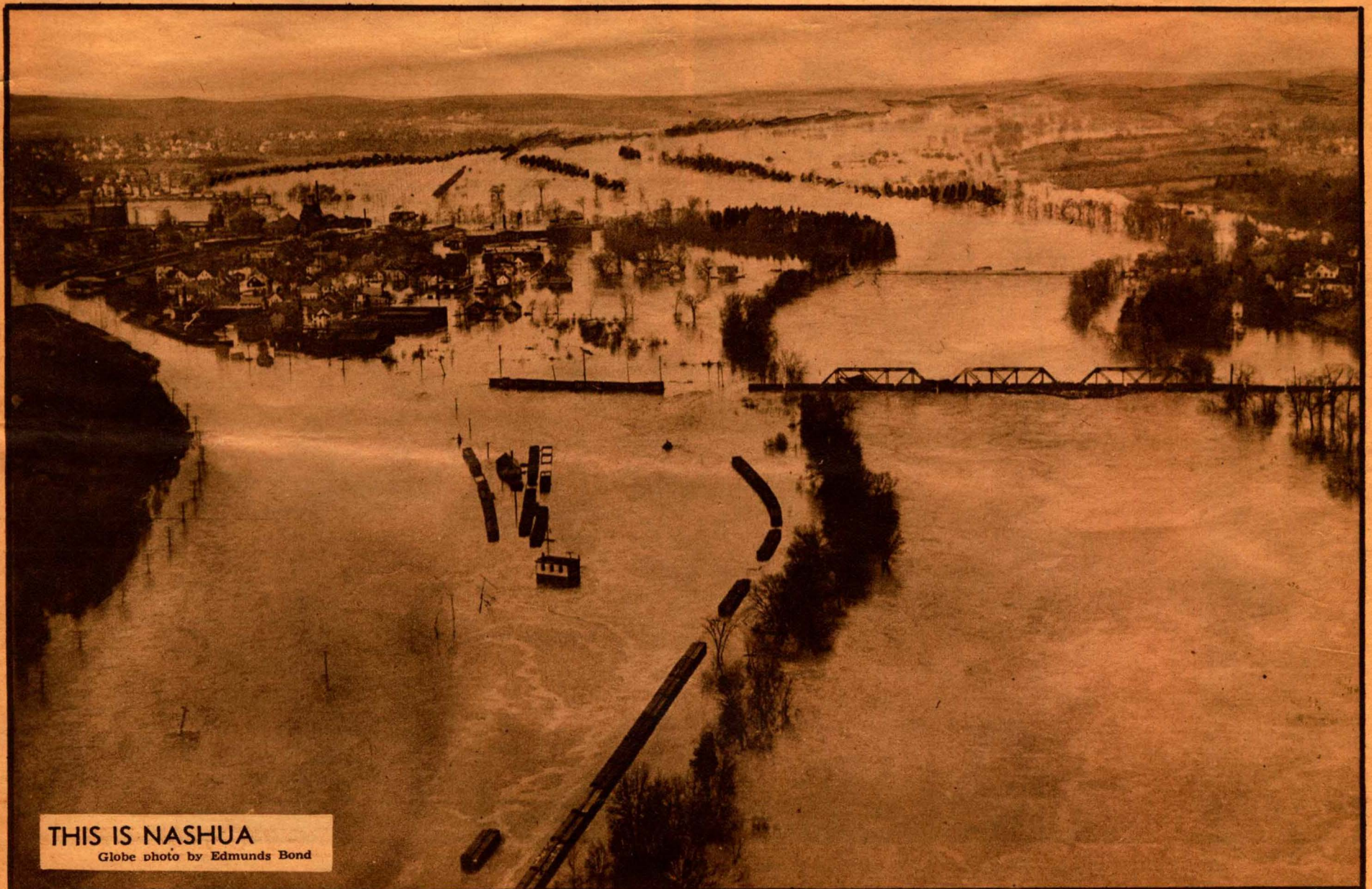


# Southern New Hampshire Cities Swamped



THE AMOSKEAG DAM at Manchester, scene of feverish activity as crews bolster the bulwarks with sandbags. The dam held.

Moore photo



THIS IS NASHUA  
Globe photo by Edmunds Bond



# Fire Followed Flood at Warren, Mass



(Ohio Carpet Co. plant, burned March 20)  
A. P. photo



ATHOL



MAIN ST, HUDSON

● STARRETT TOOL works after the mill dam broke.  
Int. News photo



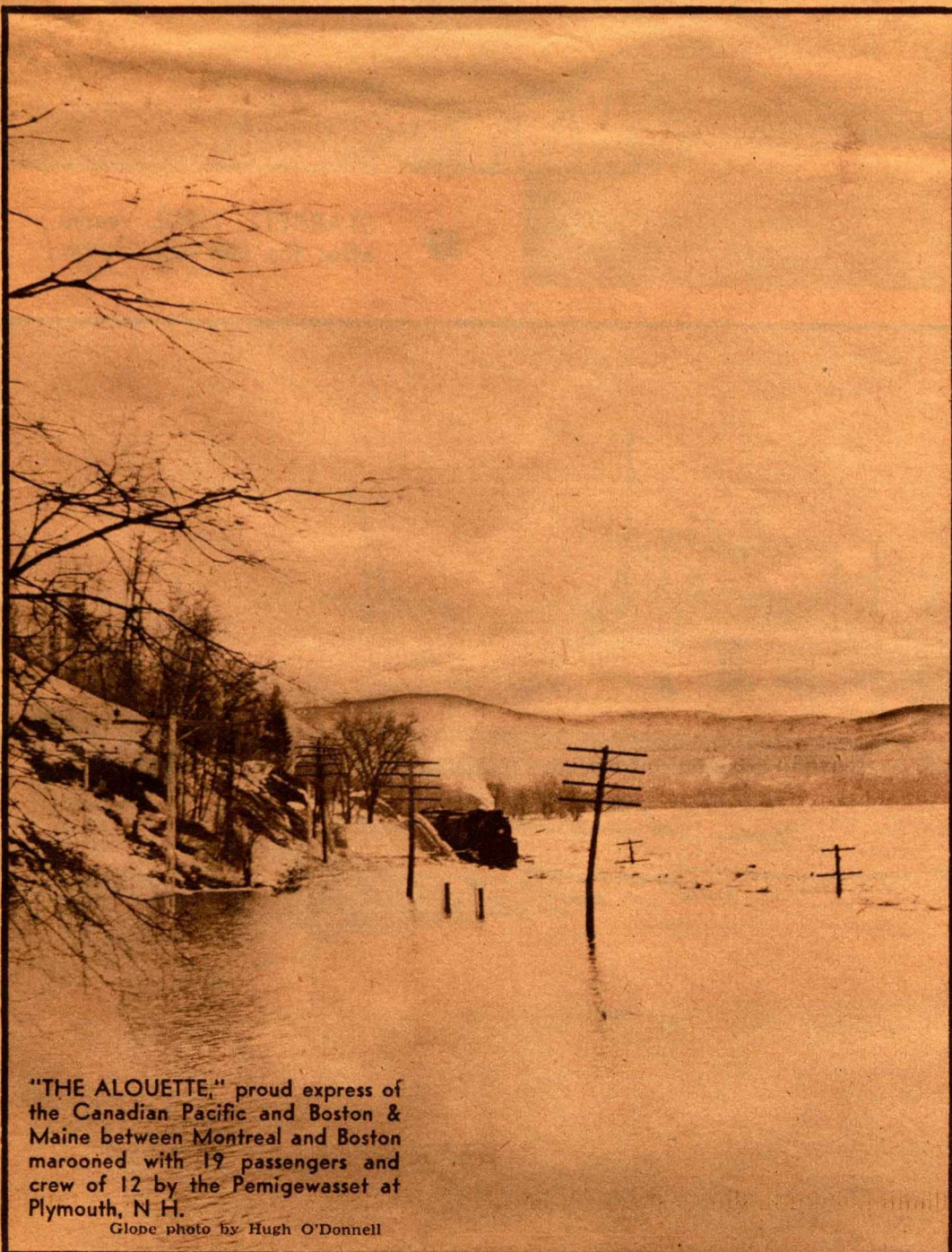
FITCHBURG  
Oak Hill Road Bridge washed out by  
Nashua River.  
Globe photo



# Railroads Crippled by Washouts

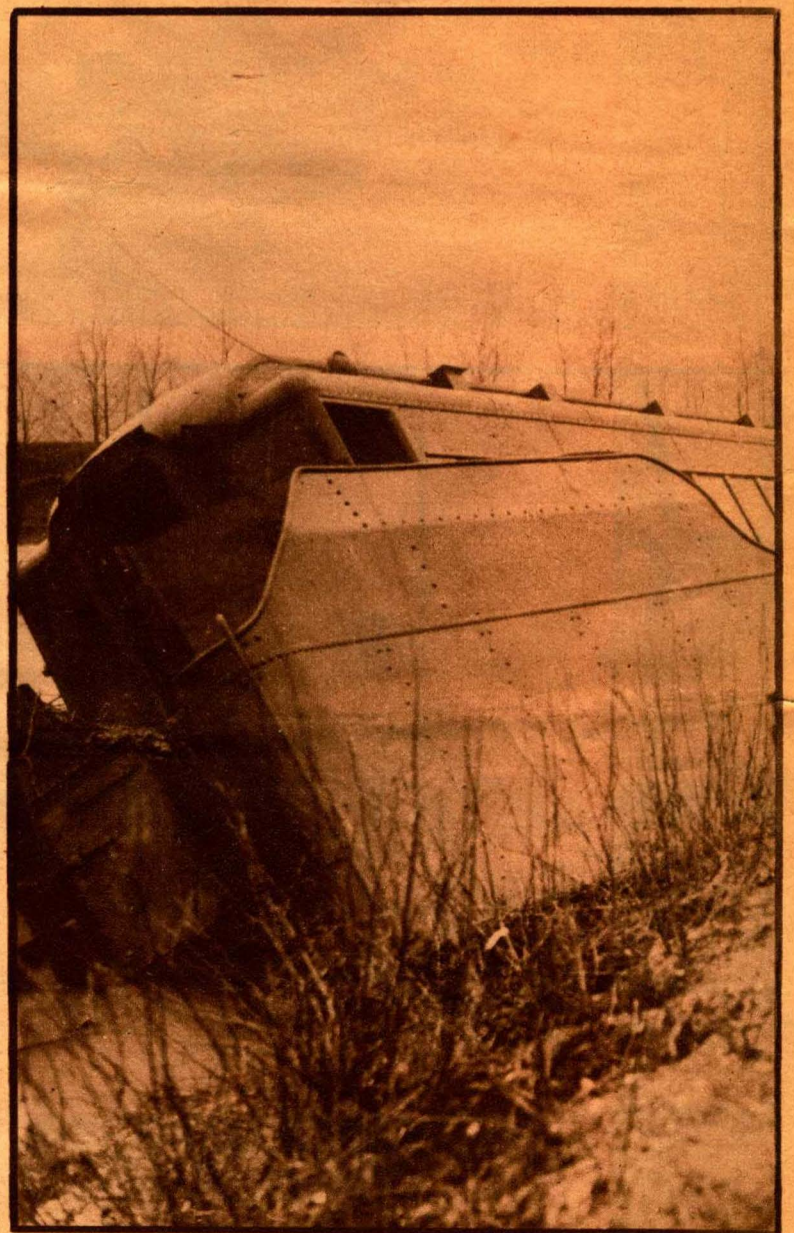


FLOODS make a picket fence of a railroad at Manchester, N H.



"THE ALOUETTE," proud express of the Canadian Pacific and Boston & Maine between Montreal and Boston marooned with 19 passengers and crew of 12 by the Pemigewasset at Plymouth, N H.

Globe photo by Hugh O'Donnell



NONE KILLED, eight injured as the Pittsfield-New York Express of the New Haven Road was wrecked on a washout at Great Barrington on the Green River.

I. N. S.



# Lawrence Under Wreckage Goes On



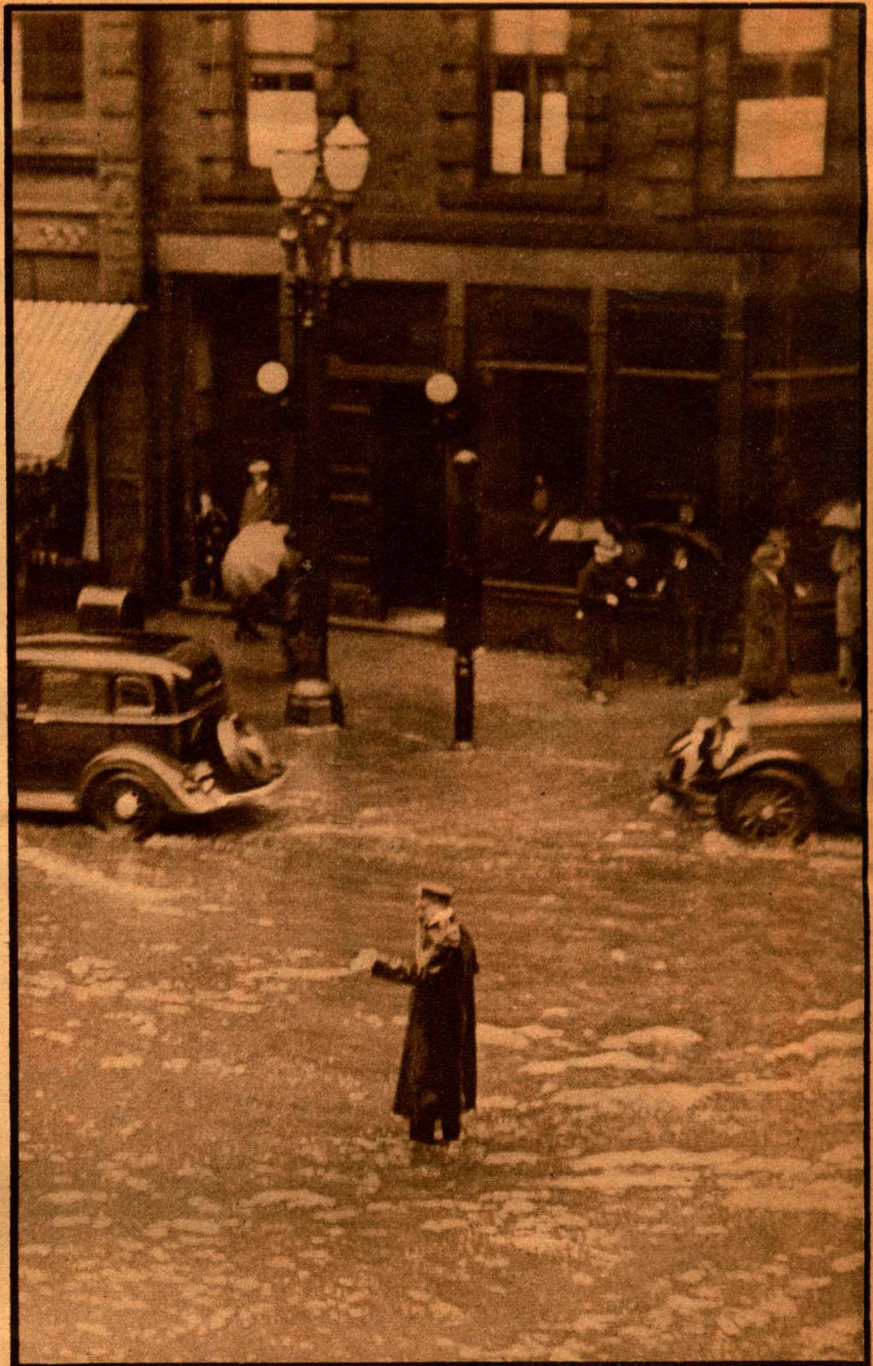
STREET SCENE—Debris from the headwaters in the New Hampshire foothills strewn over Merrimac st in Lawrence as the water receded.

I. N. S. photo.



THE 5:15 (ferry) heads down a Lawrence thoroughfare. Homes with garage and anchorage favored in South Lawrence.

Globe photo by McCormick.



"WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?" Lawrence traffic officer wets his whistle and his feet to keep the flow of vehicles and the Merrimac running over the detour.

Globe photo by Edmunds Bond.



# Silence Over Lawrence as Power Houses Shut Down and Thousands Are Forced From Firesides and Looms

Globe photo by Edmunds Bond.



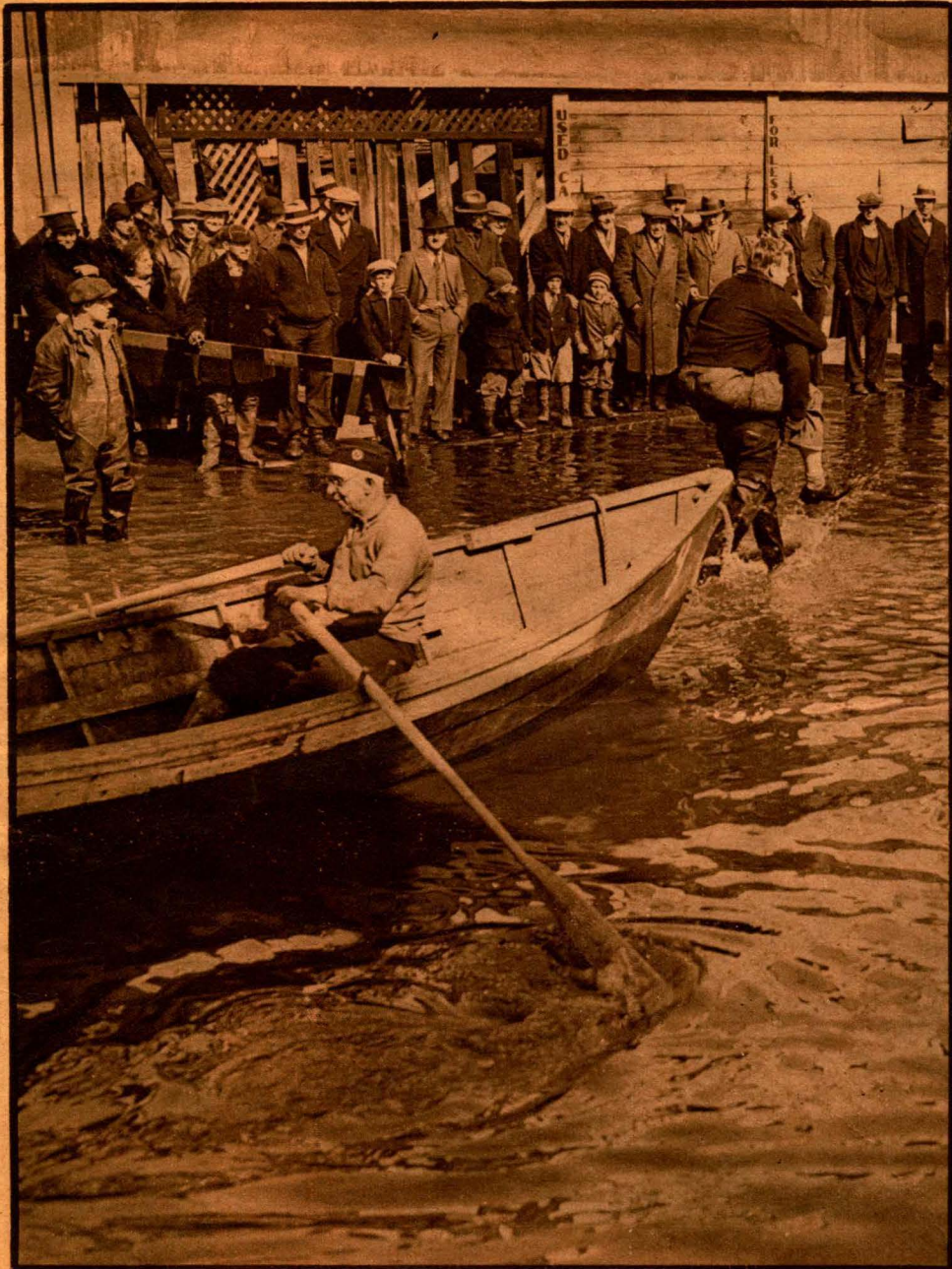
BOSTON GLOBE 1936 FLOOD SOUVENIR



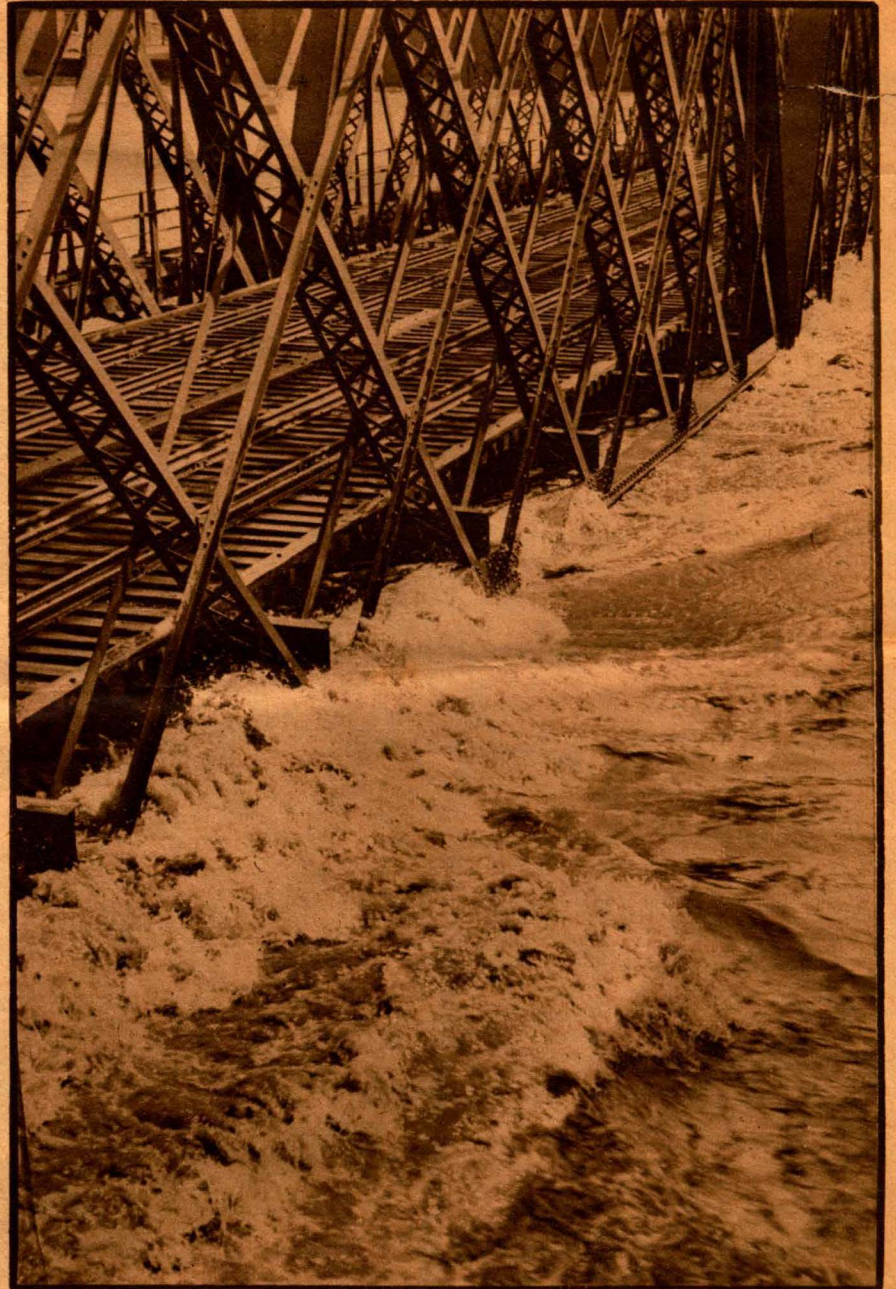
# The River Rides High in Lawrence



"SHOW ME THE WAY TO GO HOME." Yesterday a bridge and a dam, today a city severed by the Merrimac. This was Lawrence on the first day of Spring in '36.



PIGGY-BACK on appropriately named Water st in Lawrence. The Legion took the residents for a ride. Globe photo by McCormick



THE BRIDGE HELD. Battered for days by the Merrimac the old railroad bridge near the depot withstood the hammering of the river. Globe photo by McCormick

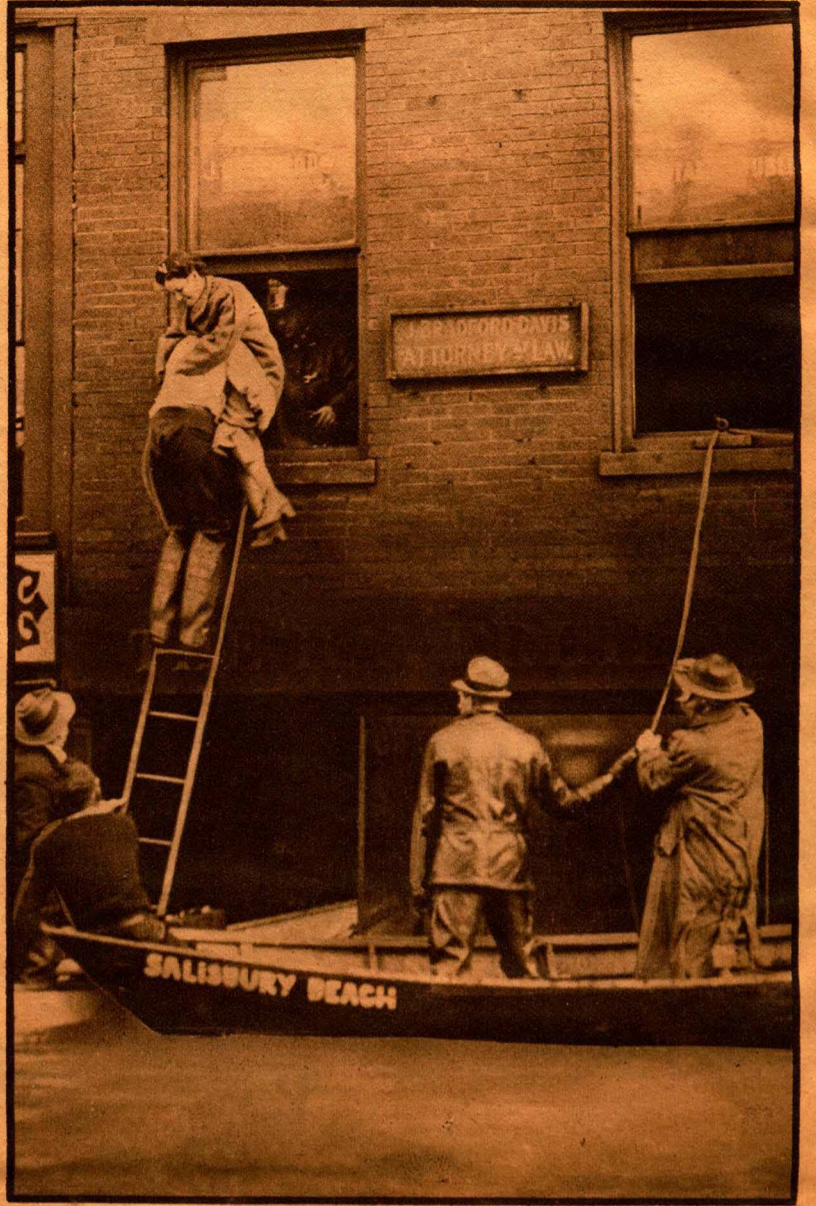


# The Lake That Was Haverhill



LADDERS AND BOATS were the means by which many in Haverhill were rescued when the streets turned swiftly into rivers.

Globe photo by John J. Landers.



EXPERIENCING something of the thrill which comes to the shipwrecked mariner when the rescue boat pulls alongside, this woman is being taken from a second story window in a Haverhill office building to the safety of the lifeboat.

Globe photo by John J. Landers.



CONVERTED into a Bay State Venice, with water five to seven feet deep, this business section of Haverhill could be traversed only by boat. Abreast of the rowboat at the right of the photo can be seen the traffic sign that was used in the days of the automobile.

Globe photo by McCormick.



# Hartford Where the Flood Was Deepest



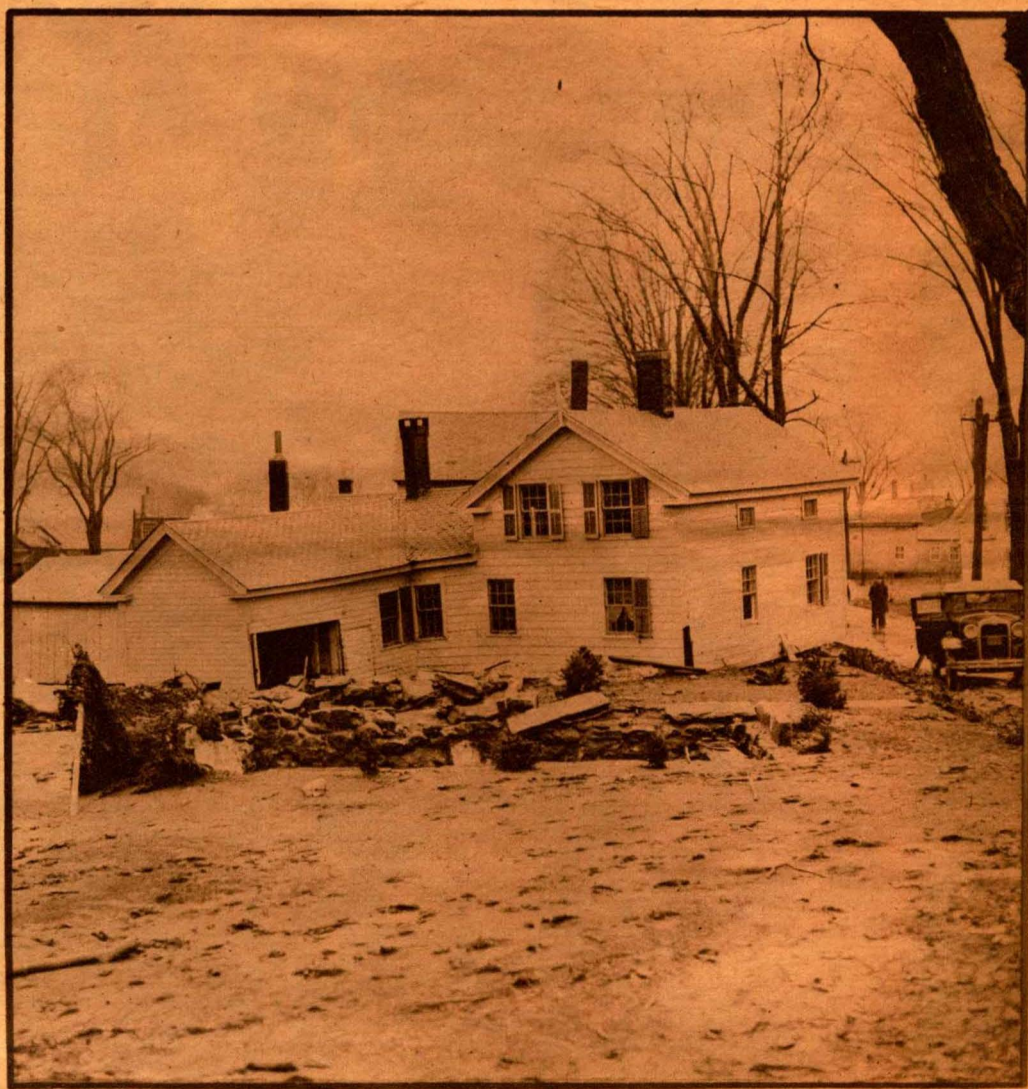
CITY OF CHURCHES WITHOUT SERVICES—Roofs and steeples of two central churches of Hartford, above the flood. Somebody's lumberyard is awash among the buildings in the foreground.

I. N. S. photo



ROOM AND BATH, and bellboy in boots. Hartford's leading hotel ferries its guests across the lobby.

I. N. S. photo

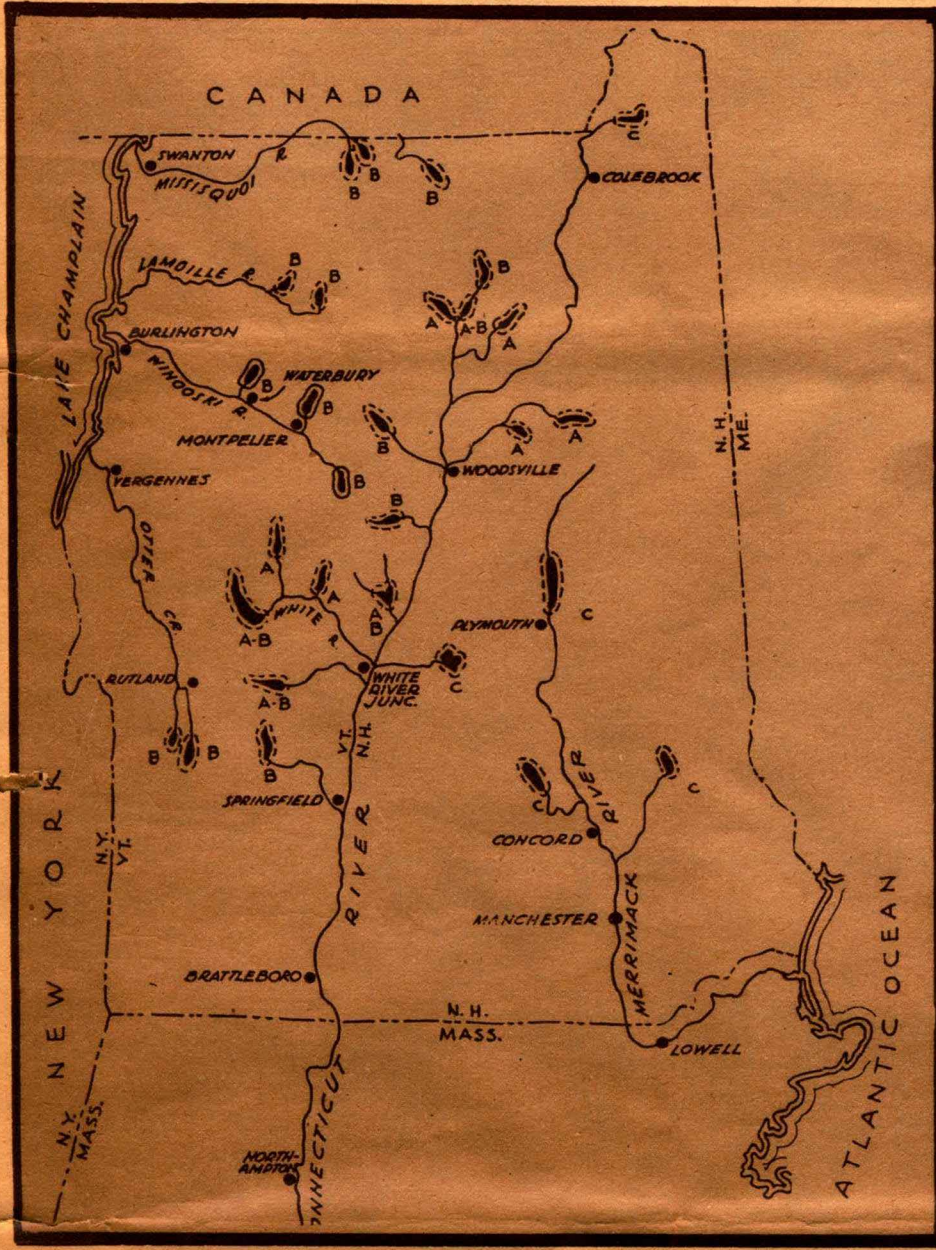


THE FLOOD MADE closer neighbors at Pine Meadows, Conn, where Elmer Gustafson's house was washed from its foundations to fetch up against Dave Ellsworth's front windows.

Globe photo by Hugh E. O'Donnell



# Can Floods Be Prevented in New England?



ENGINEERS SAY that for a fraction of the cost of the 1936 flood in New England dams and reservoirs could be built upon the headwaters of the great river systems that would minimize floods. Three such dams built across the branches of the Winooski River are credited with saving Montpelier and Waterbury from a repetition of the 1927 flood.

Studies of the flood control needs of the Merrimac and Connecticut systems have been made by engineers. They estimate that \$8,000,000 would construct the dams to check the Merrimac at flood. A complete flood control program for the Connecticut system calls for 87 dam sites, at an estimated cost of \$86,000,000. A big start would be to build 17 flood control dams on the Vermont tributaries of the Connecticut to cost \$17,500,000, reports the water resources committee of the New England Regional Planning Committee.

Who would pay for dams built in Vermont that protect cities in Massachusetts and Connecticut? Victor Cutter, chairman of the commission, urges that power development, combined with flood control, would yield a return on the cost. Engineers say, split the cost among the states involved, the river cities, the Federal Government and the participating power companies.

Suggested reservoirs are indicated in this map by a small black area surrounded by a broken line. Existing reservoirs are indicated in the same way except that the encircling line is continuous and not broken. The letters A, B and C indicate whether the reservoir was suggested (A) by army engineers (B) advisory committee of engineers on flood control, state of Vermont or (C) report—conservation of waters in New Hampshire.

Map compiled by Regional Planning Commission, Boston.



IT WOULD HAVE BEEN WORSE IN WATERBURY, VT, had it not been for the three flood-control dams built by the C. C. C. on the Winooski River branches. This time only overflowed roads and wet cellars inconvenienced this northern Vermont valley city which was wrecked by the 1927 flood.

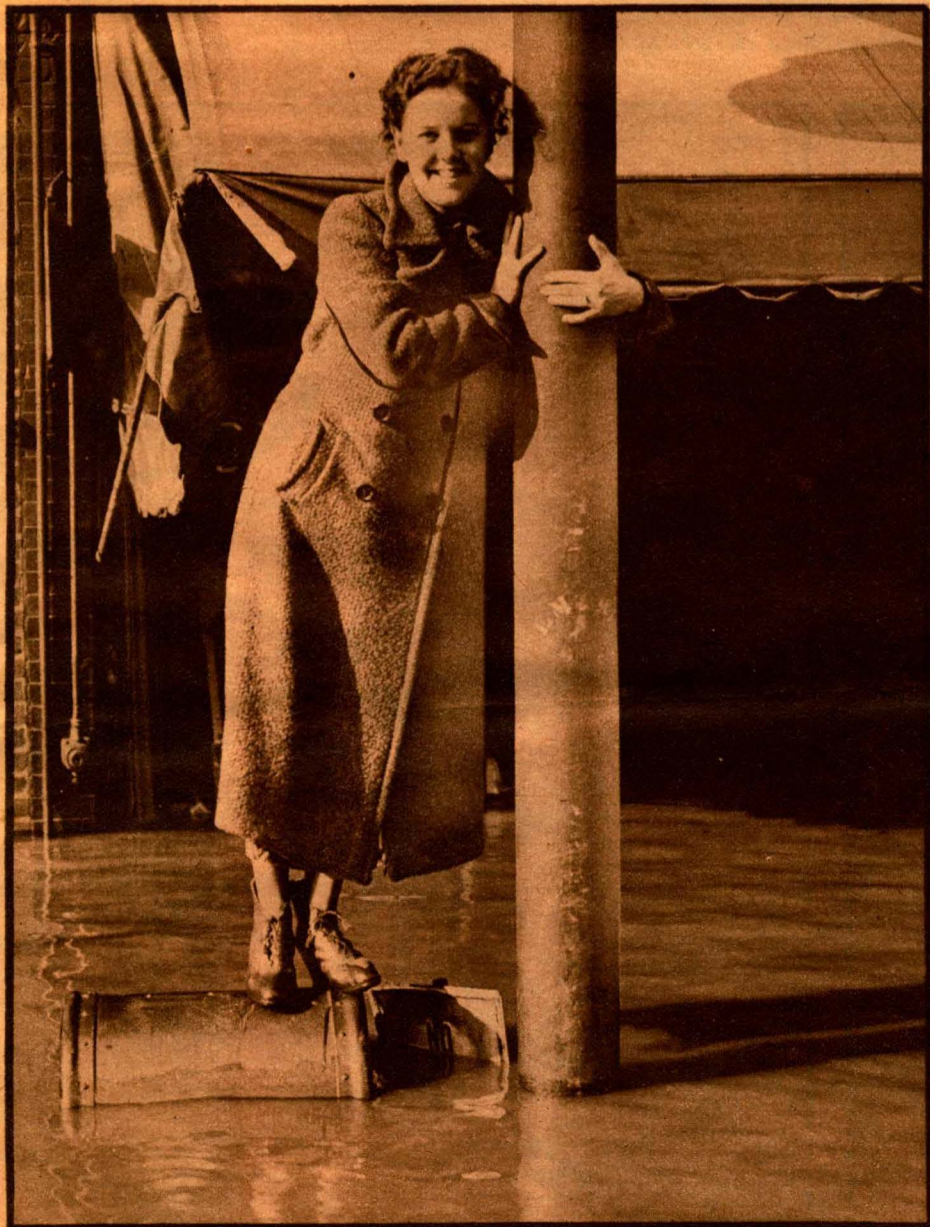
Globe photo by Edmunds E. Bond



# Ten Feet of the Merrimac in Haverhill



WASHINGTON SQ, in Haverhill, with the Merrimac flowing into the tellers' cages and the vaults of the National Bank.



WATER, CHAMPAGNE AND A MAIL BOX—Miss Evelyn Champagne of Haverhill demonstrates the height of the Merrimac by standing on Uncle Sam's mail box.

Globe photo by McCormick



ALL HER BELONGINGS in a little brown bag, this old lady of Haverhill is rescued and brought to dry land from her flooded home.

Globe photo by John Landers

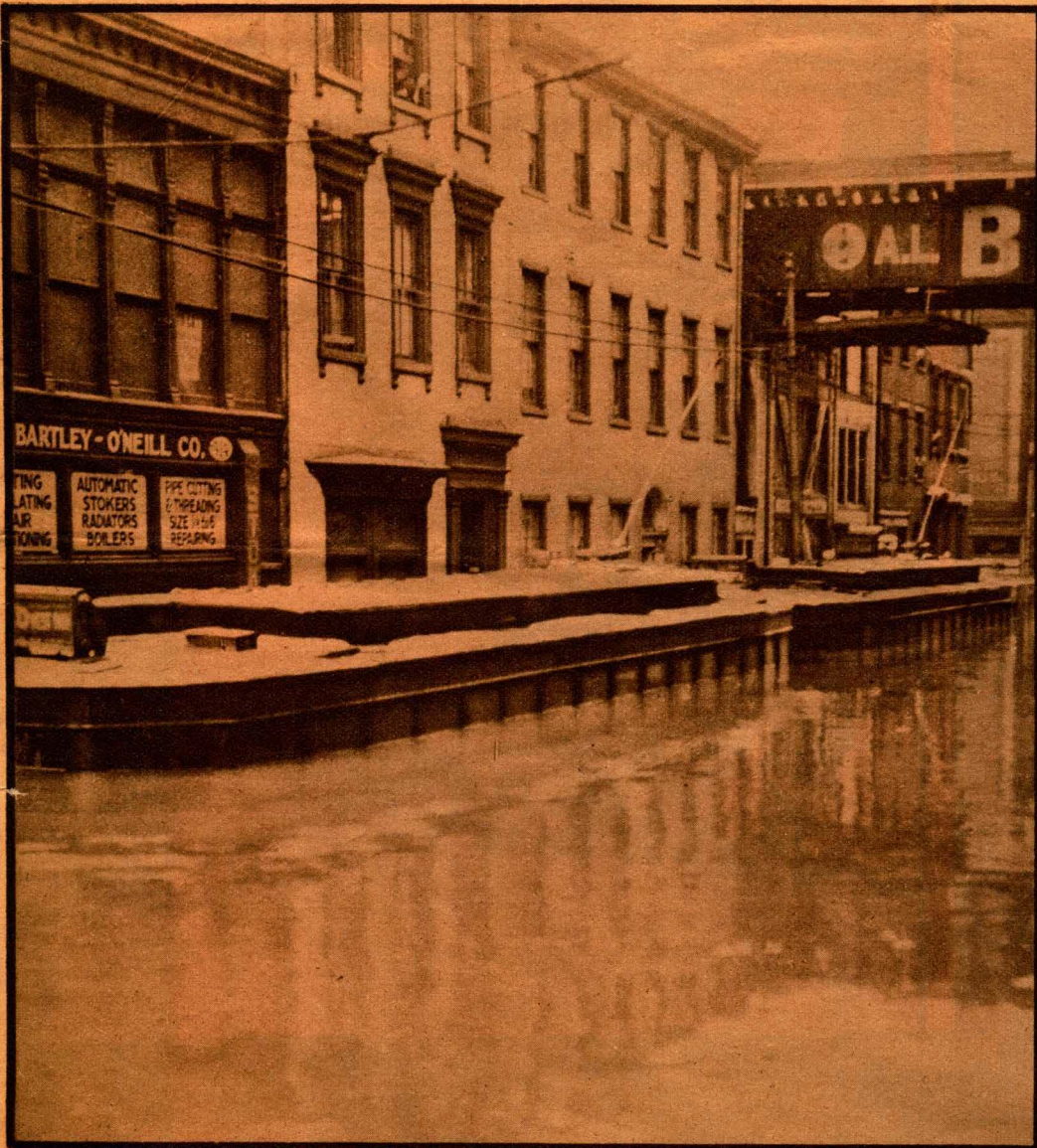


# Meanwhile . . . Outside New England



"RUN FOR YOUR LIVES. The dam has broken." Visualizing a repetition of the flood of 1889 which took 2300 lives, residents of Johnstown, Penn, flee at a false alarm in the lesser flood of 1936.

I. N. S.



BOSTON had the first subway cars but Pittsburg had the first submarine trolleys in the Spring flood of this year. Yes, these are trolley cars in the Smoky City.

I. N. S.



TEN MILES from the White House—Homeless on the Potomac.

I. N. S.

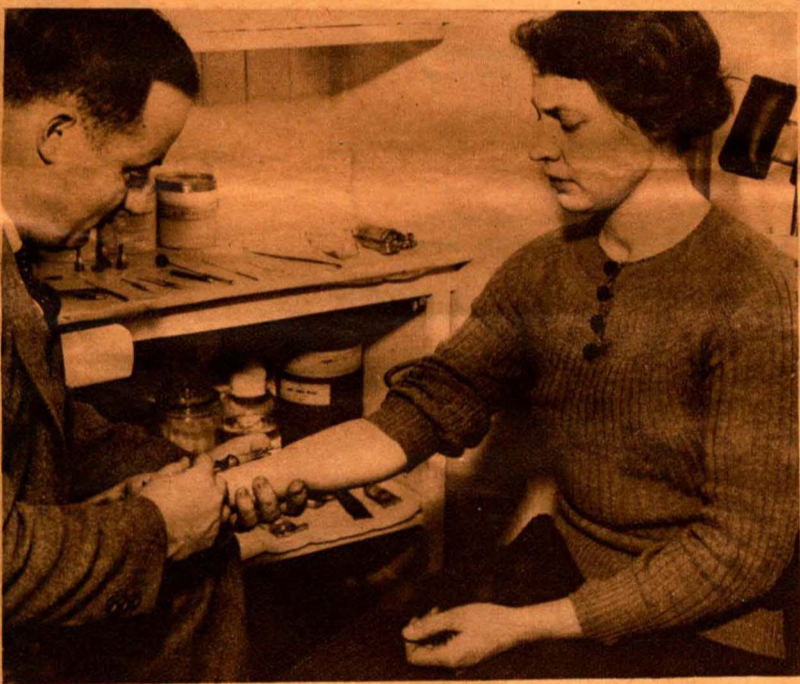


# • • Rescue From the Roof Top • •



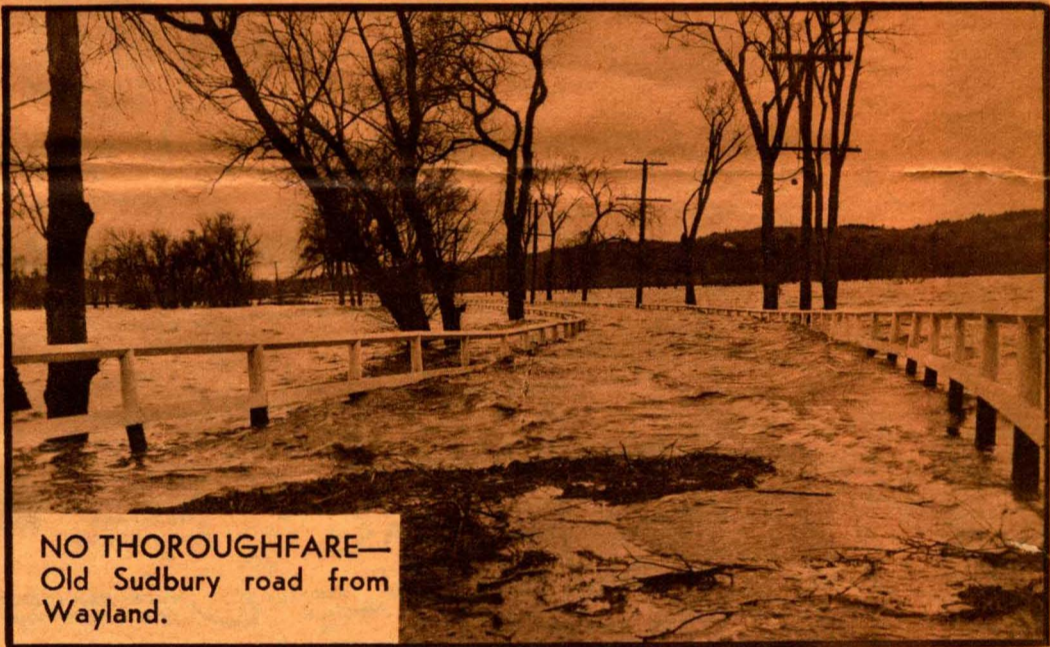
CLIMBING to the ridge pole of their almost submerged home two Manchester, N H, youths shout a neighbor to the rescue.

I. N. S. photo

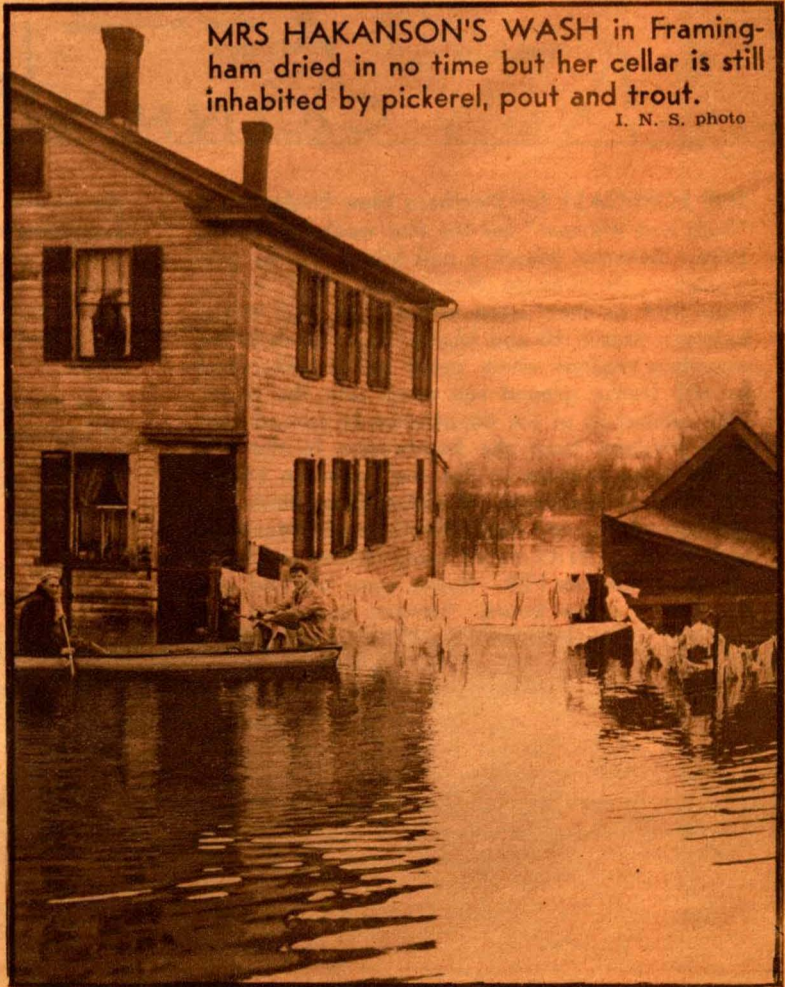


ONE OF 100,000 to be vaccinated against typhus in the flood zones. Miss Dorothy Center is vaccinated by Dr Wilson in Saco, Me.

I. N. S. photo



NO THOROUGHFARE—  
Old Sudbury road from  
Wayland.



MRS HAKANSON'S WASH in Framingham dried in no time but her cellar is still inhabited by pickerel, pout and trout.

I. N. S. photo

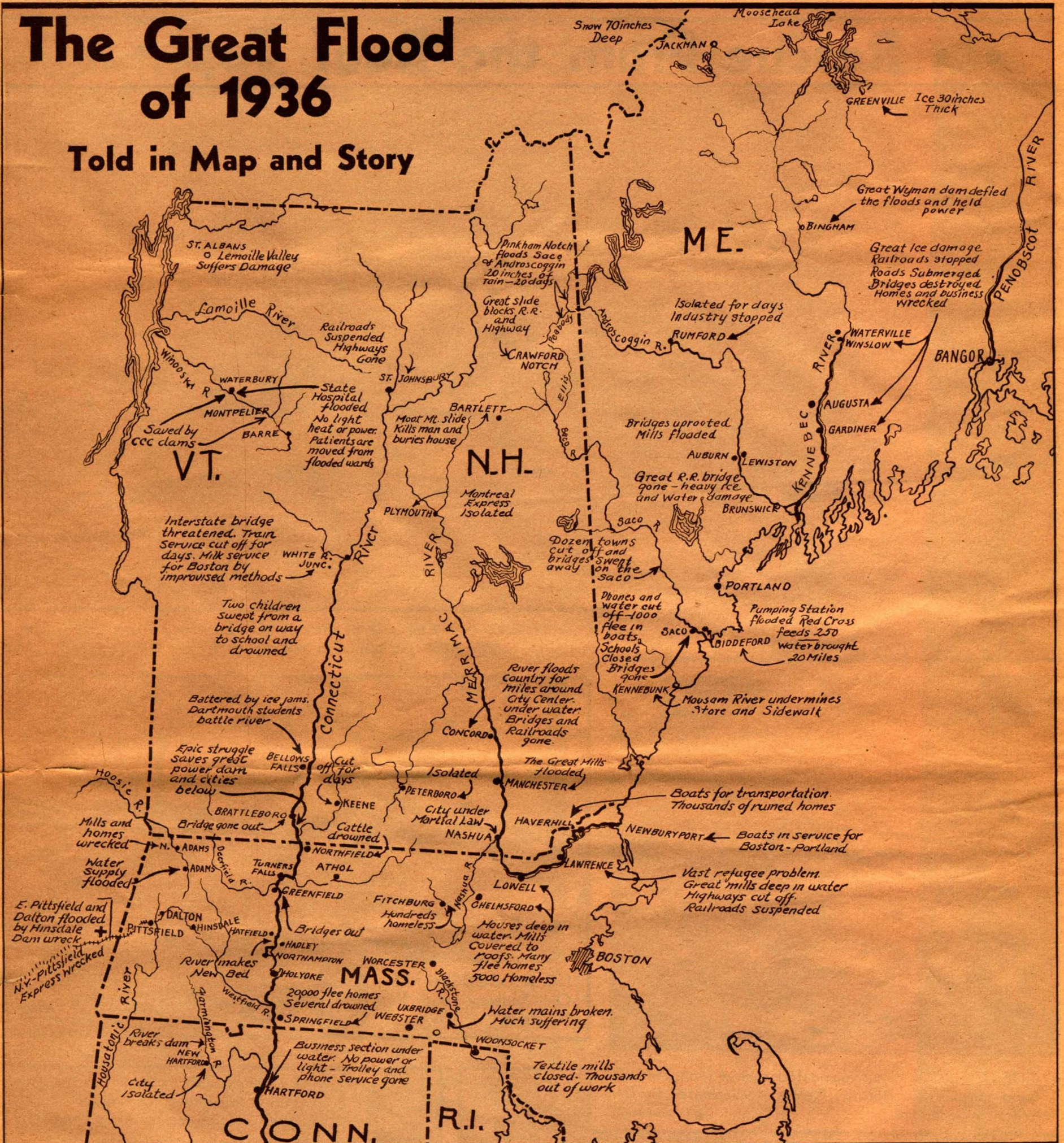


THE FLOOD is over but the memory lingers on at Clinton where great ice cakes were tossed on the shore.



# The Great Flood of 1936

## Told in Map and Story



THE FORECAST for Northern New England was "Rain and Warmer" for the first weeks of March, 1936. Between March 1 and March 20 the precipitation in Pinkham Notch was 20.72 inches. Four feet of snow were reduced to 19.5 inches between March 10 and March 20. Floods in the mountain regions which could not be absorbed by still frozen ground ran down into the rivers. First intimation of the devastation to spread over New England from the headwaters in the hills to the river mouths at the sea came on March 12, when an avalanche of water, snow, slush and soil ripped its way down North Moat Mountain near Conway, N H, swept away houses and killed one man, Eugene Hill. Roads were blocked and flooded in a few hours. Streams began to rise and the worst flood in a hundred years was on. For two days New Hampshire, in the shadow of the mountains, suffered. The greater rivers rumbled with breaking ice, rose and fell again. Between March 16 and March 19 a torrential rain fell over New England. Ice jams were broken and the floods swept down the valleys of the Androscoggin, the Kennebec, the Penobscot, the Pemigewasset, the Merrimac, the Winooski, the Connecticut, Millers, the Blackstone, even the Green River, the Charles, the Sudbury and all

the lesser streams of New England. On the Susquehanna, on the Potomac, the Ohio, the waters rose and the Northeast and Eastern sections of the United States were engulfed. No such widespread wave of destruction has swept over New England in the memory of living men.

New Hampshire's capital, Concord, the mill cities of Manchester and Nashua, the textile centers in Massachusetts, Lowell and Lawrence, the shoe city of Haverhill, all on the Merrimac, were inundated. Thousands were driven from their homes. Thousands lost employment as water swept through mills and power was cut off. Cities in darkness and in hunger went under militia patrol. Epidemic threatened, and doctors were mobilized.

Along the Connecticut the situation was more serious with the more populous cities. Springfield found 16,000 homeless. Hartford, a city of 165,000, was dark, cut off from the world. In Northern Maine, from Bangor to the sea, bridges were swept away. As on the Connecticut, spans cracked and dropped hourly. Railroads ceased to operate. Buses were floodlocked. Travel was impossible. The entire town of Hatfield on the Connecticut was deserted.

The death toll in New England passed 20. Damage was estimated at more than \$100,000,000. The homeless were estimated at 100,000. The unemployed of closed mills were estimated at 75,000. Gov Curley placed a military dictatorship over flood areas of Massachusetts and invoked wartime powers, declaring a state of emergency, which enabled him to commandeer food and supplies, halt profiteering, combat looting, conduct the relief, commence reconstruction. The Red Cross and all private relief organizations went into action. The National Guard in each state took over policing. Schools, armories, public buildings were opened to shelter refugees. Cots and bedding came from the army. Drives for flood relief funds opened. Serums were rushed to stricken zones. Water supplies were threatened by pollution, in many cities cut off. Power and light were gone. But there was no panic; no looting. New England could take it.

Months of rehabilitation loomed ahead for the thousands whose homes were ruined. The Federal Government opened its coffers. State and private funds were added and New England entered a reconstruction period in late March such as her people had never known before.



# Connecticut Sweeps on Springfield



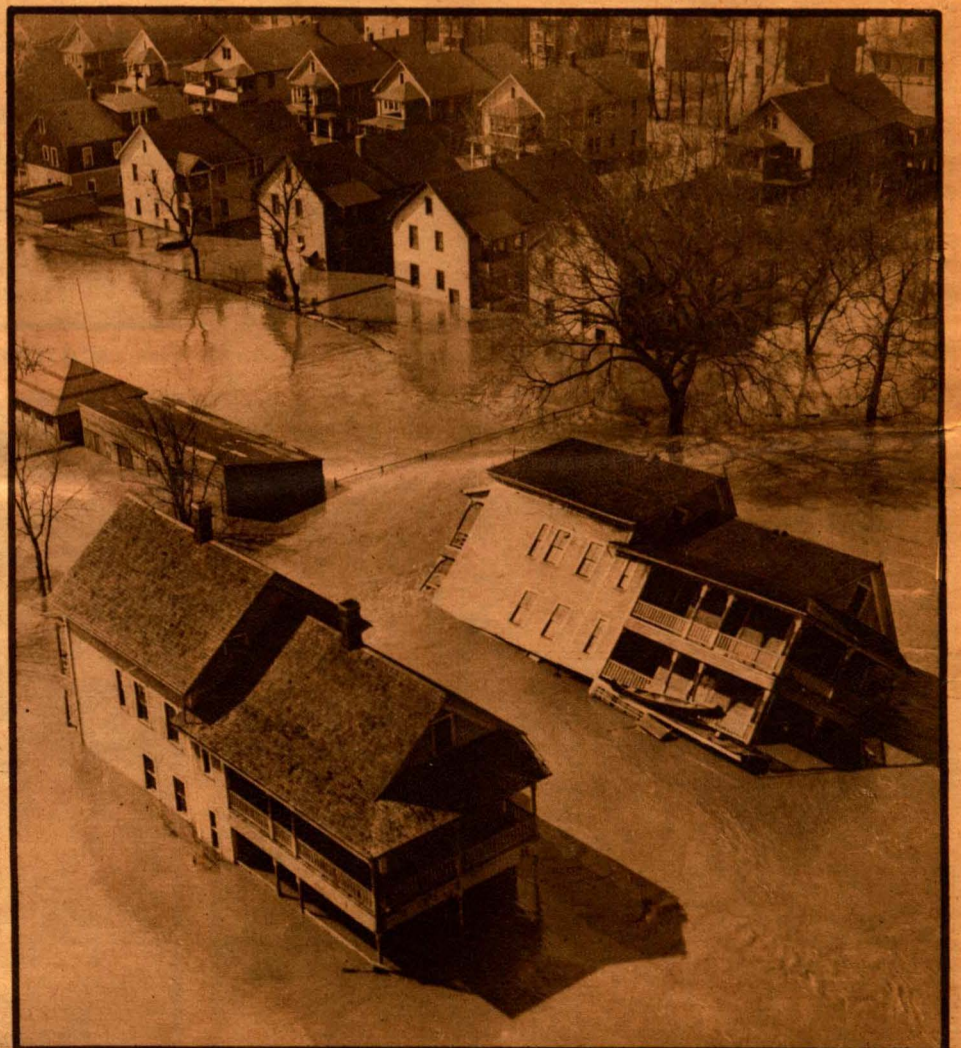
FOR DAYS this ice jam at Mt Tom backed the Connecticut River six miles into Northampton. And then came the breakup and flood to sweep down the valley, inundating the great cities of Springfield and Hartford, Conn.

Globe photo by William O'Connor



GOV CURLEY, as relief dictator, visits the refugees of Springfield for first-hand picture of conditions in the Commonwealth. The baby cries as the mother seeks a roof for her little one.

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HOUSES UPROOTED and tipped over into the flood at Springfield as the Connecticut climbed the banks and surged through the city.

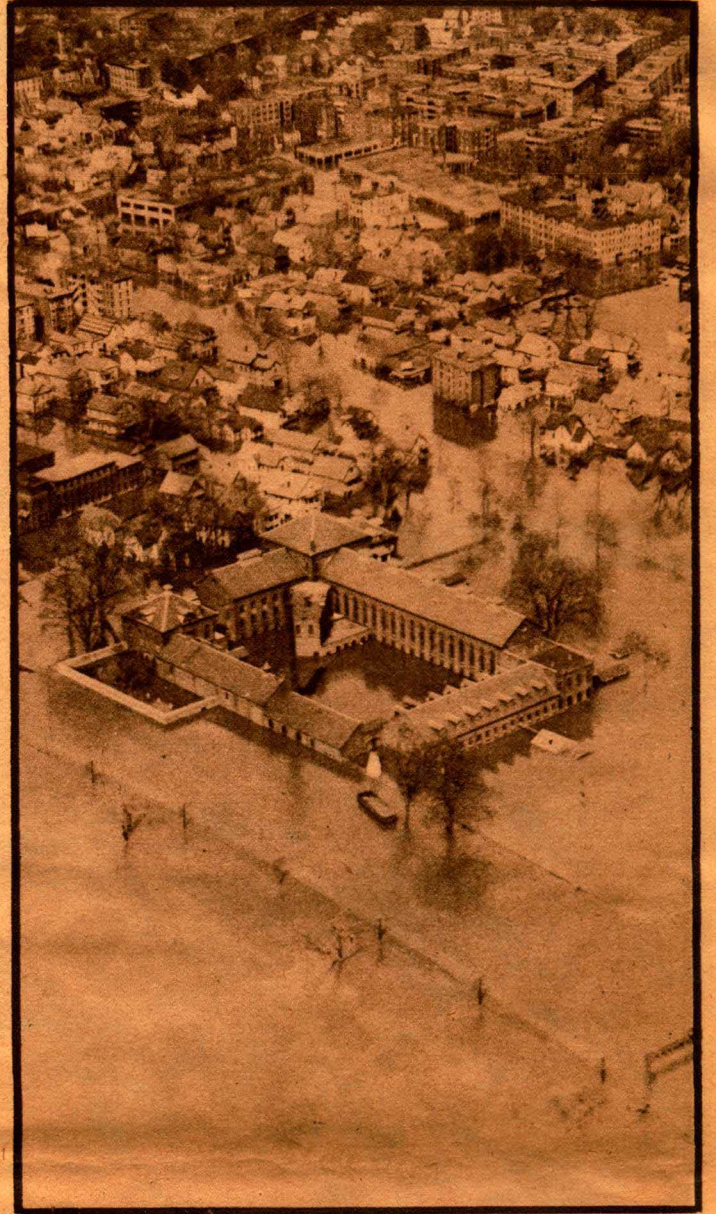
Globe—A. P. photo



# 16,000 Without Homes in Springfield



"We USED to have a nice house near the river in Springfield. All we have left is in the paper bag."  
Globe photo by Callahan



THE ONLY beneficiaries of the flood in Springfield lived here—Springfield jail. Officers released 20 men on probation when the river flooded them out of cells.  
I. N. S.



A DAM to save power in the Springfield Gas Company. It failed of its purpose as the river swept over the sandbags and shut off fuel for cooking to thousands.  
Globe photo by John Kelly



BOSTON-BOUND—Cars caught in the rush of the Agawam River at Springfield.



PUMPING OUT after the flood and deluge, in Springfield.

Globe photo by Callahan



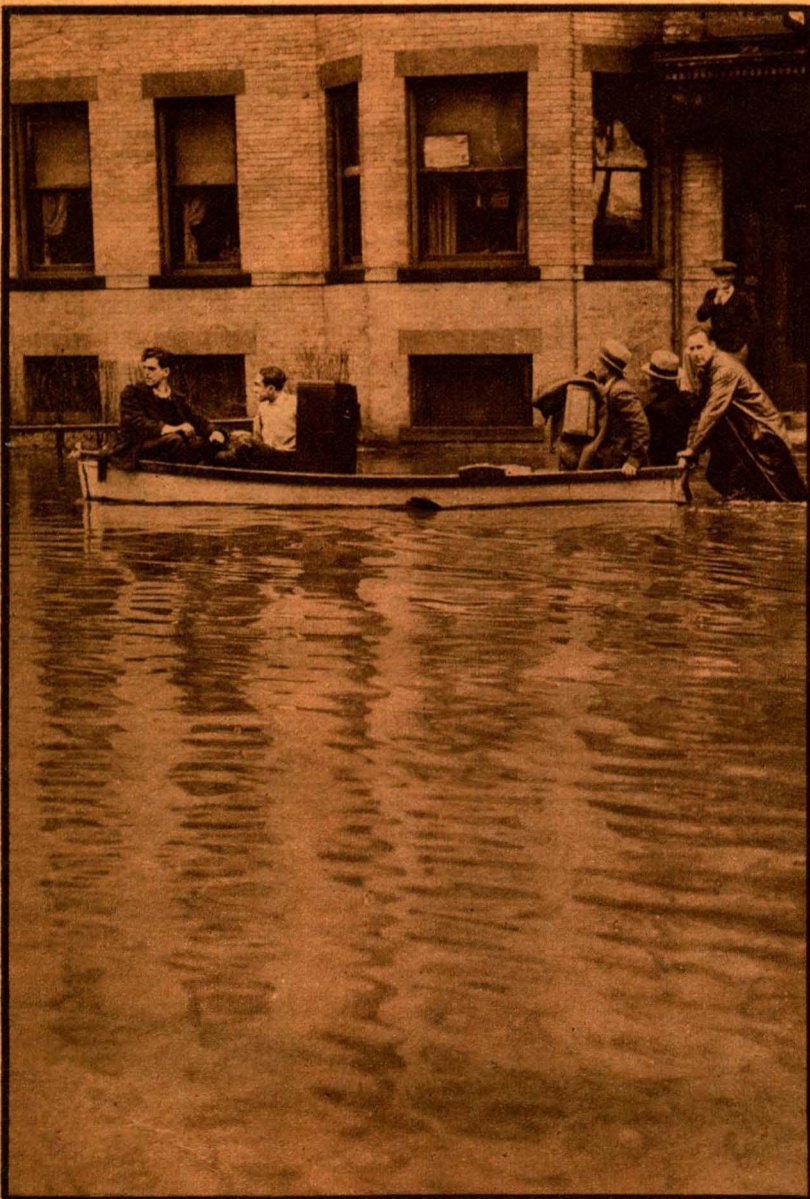
# Boats, Boats, Where Did They Come From?



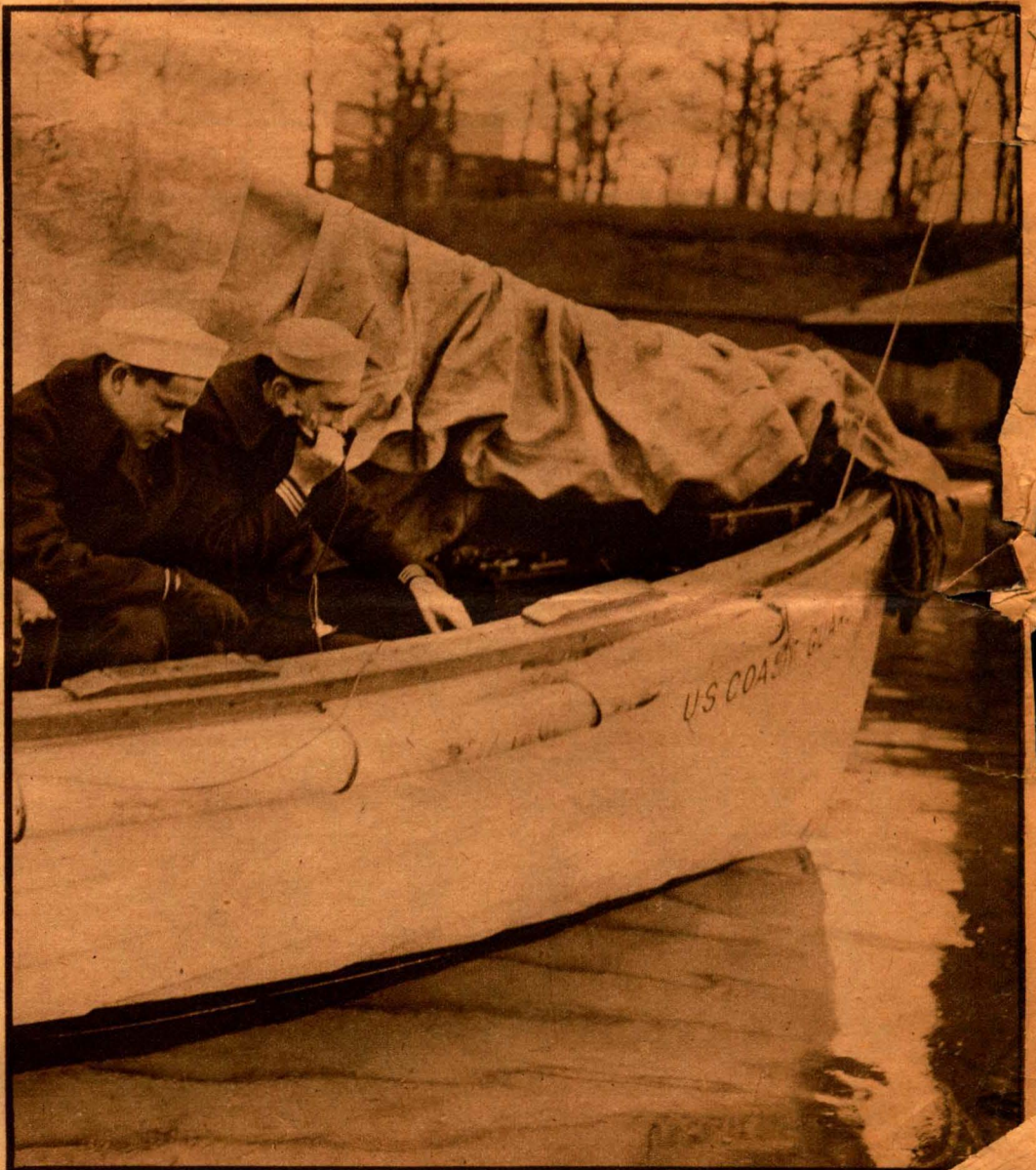
POLICE CRUISER in Springfield. An outboard for the police to pull boxes on routes. Globe-A. P.



A NAUTICAL MILE in a city street. Springfield's Main st in the 1936 Springtime. Globe photo by Callahan



MOVING DAY on Main st, Springfield. In a boat salvaged from the river, this family elected to save the radio and a suitcase of clothing. Globe photo by Callahan



ALL THE WAY from Nantasket came this Coast Guard surf boat of the Allerton Station, with short wave radio for maintenance of communication in the Springfield flood zone. Globe photo by Callahan

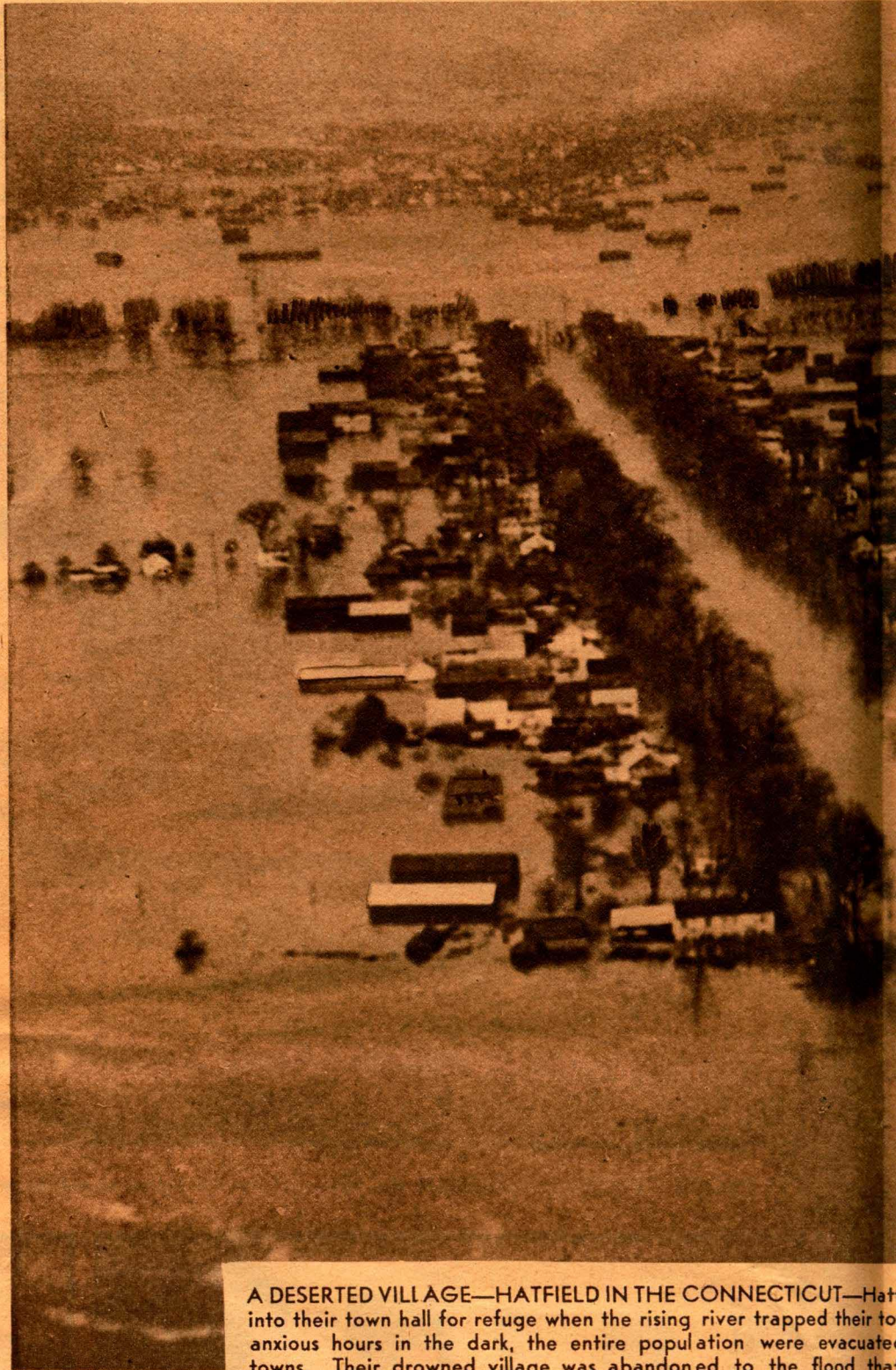


# Every Last Person Had to Move Out o



BORN in the flood and homeless at one day old.

I. N. S.



A DESERTED VILLAGE—HATFIELD IN THE CONNECTICUT—Hatched into their town hall for refuge when the rising river trapped their towns. Their drowned village was abandoned to the flood that either side. It was a week before the river receded to let the homes again.

Globe



"WE HAVE no home. We live in the Springfield High School now."

Globe photo by Callahan

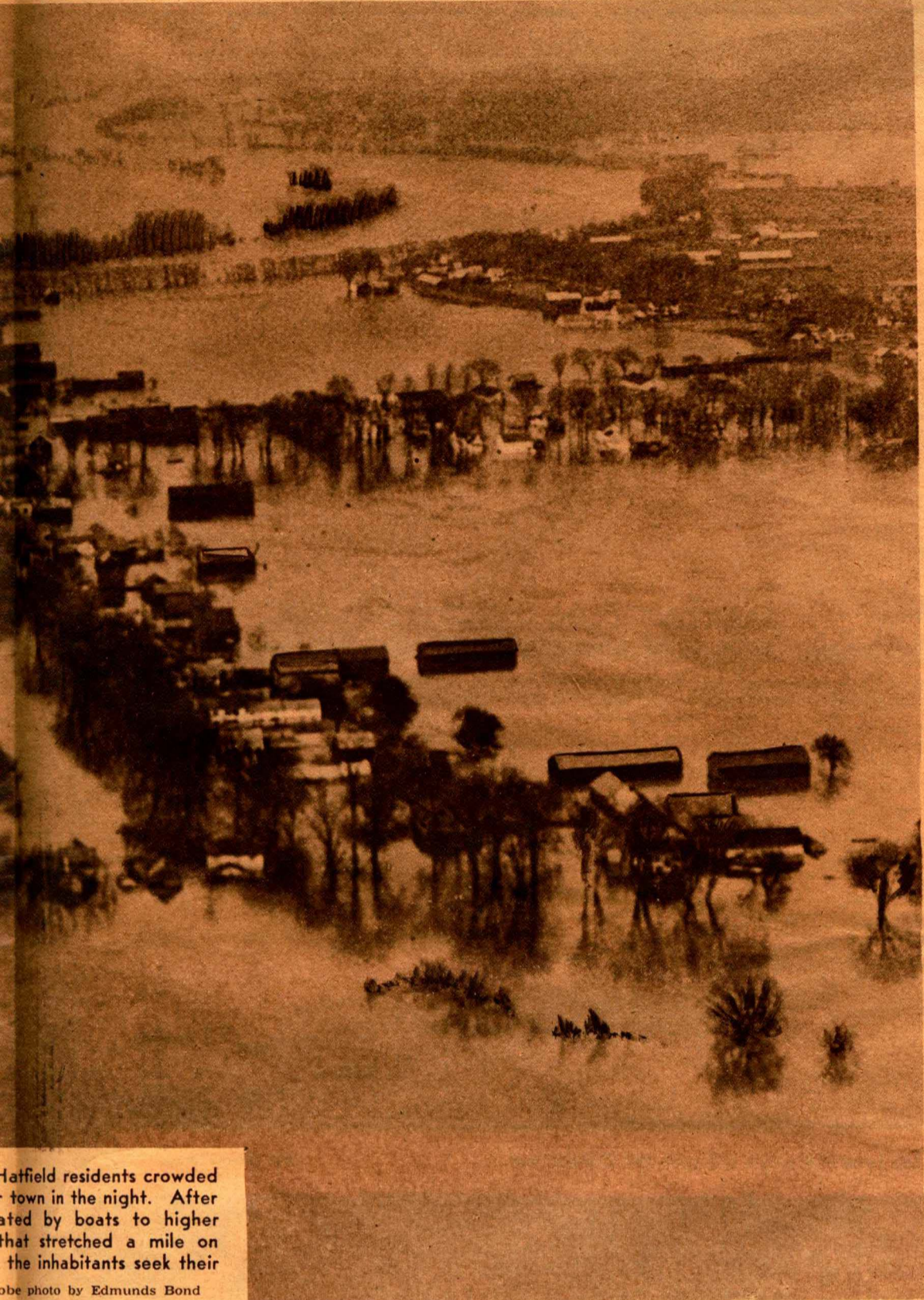


FREE AIR AND WATER—but no gasoline today.

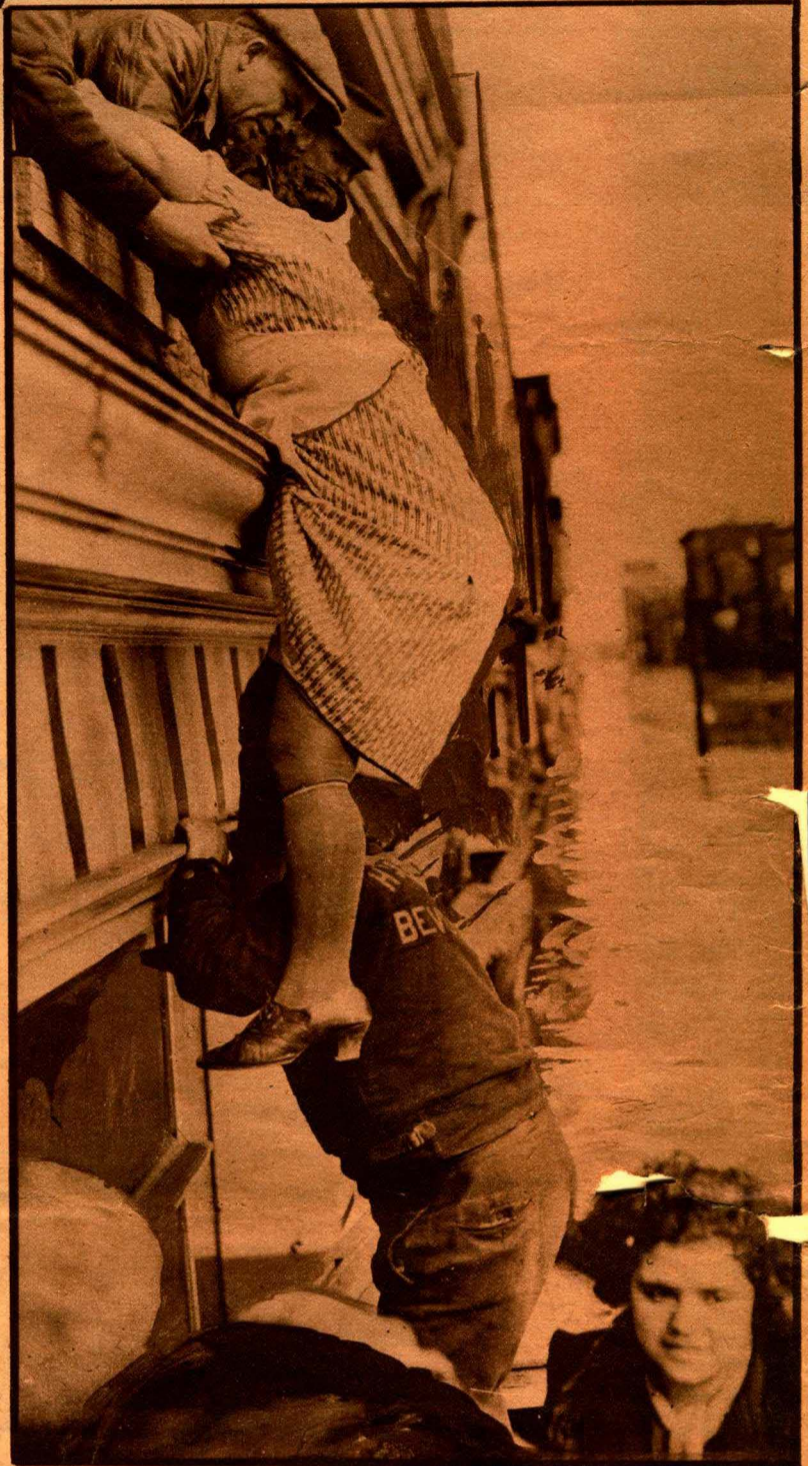
EVEN t



# of This Connecticut Valley Town



Hatfield residents crowded town in the night. After...  
 ...ated by boats to higher...  
 ...that stretched a mile on...  
 ...the inhabitants seek their...  
 ...Globe photo by Edmunds Bond



"DON'T BE AFRAID, Mother. We'll get you down all right."

I. N. S.



In the Hatfield horses had to be led from water.

Globe. A. P.



SANDBAGGING the Holyoke dam night and day the C. C. C. boys stretch out on the bags in exhaustion.

I. N. S.

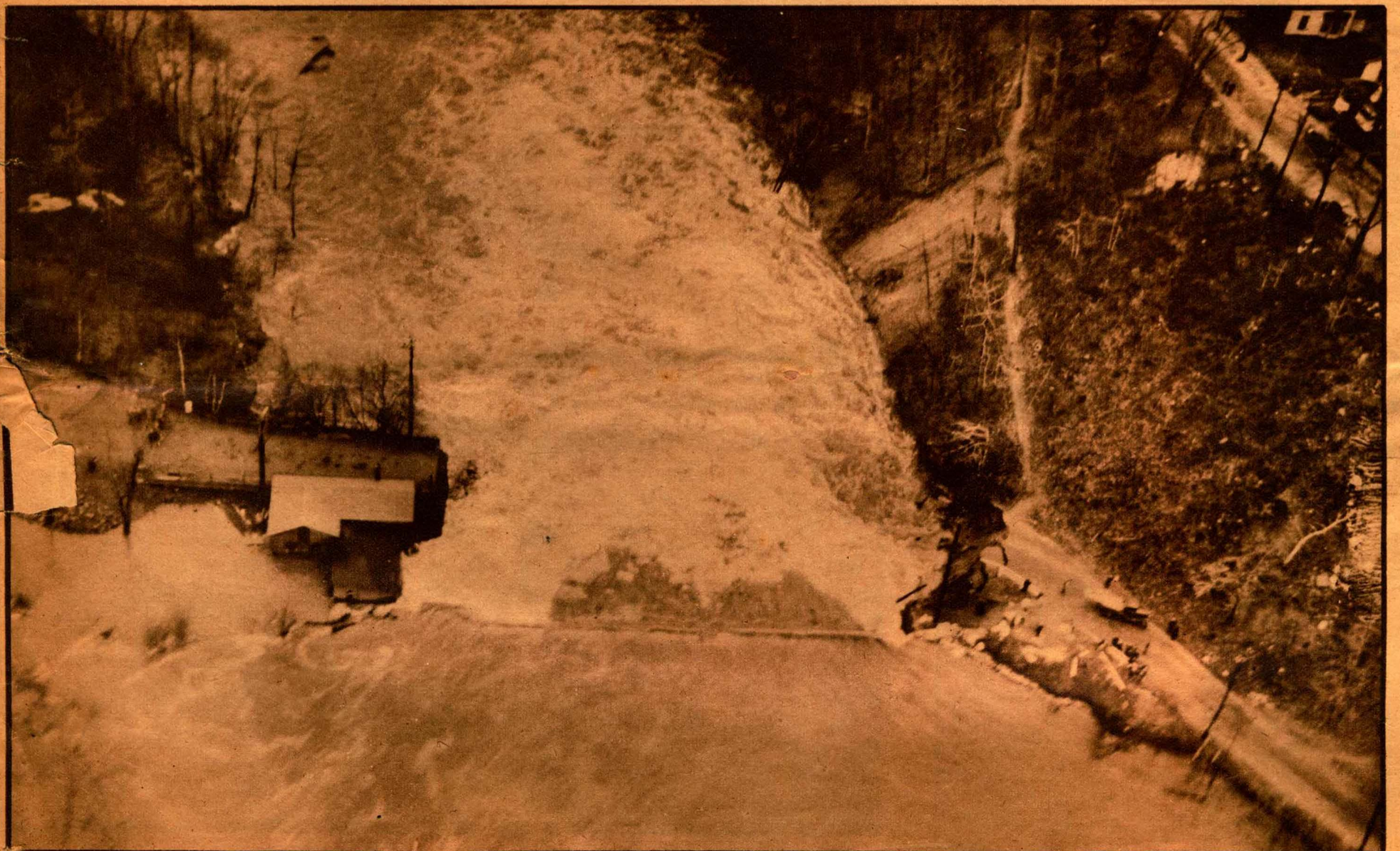


# Bridges Battered by the Connecticut



NORTHAMPTON-HADLEY bridges, clogged and wrenched by ice jams and surge, still span the Connecticut.

Paul Krause photo



DEERFIELD'S bridge could not withstand the fury of the flood. The road ends at the river bank. The bridge has gone down the Connecticut. I. N. S.