

The Big Storm

Men who have lived in this vicinity for thirty years, claim that they have never witnessed a storm of such ferocity as that which spread destruction over the entire four southern townships of Griggs county early Thursday morning. The storm struck Hannaford about 5:00 o'clock, coming from a westerly or south-westerly direction, raged fiercely for a few moments and then whipped around to the east. The rain poured down in torrents, and the hail was driven before the wind like buckshot from a shotgun. Fortunately it came a little too early in the season to do much damage to the crops, but it is estimated that about \$100,000 has been done to barns and buildings in the territory tributary to Hannaford alone.

One of the most remarkable features of the storm, when it is considered that approximately three fourths of the barns in its path were destroyed, is the fact that injuries and fatalities to both men and beasts were very rare. So far reported the only casualties in this neighborhood are as follows; Sim Woods, employed on the Edwin Olson farm one mile east of Hannaford had two ribs broken, shoulder blade fractured and face badly bruised; Chester Wundorliek, near Walum, severely battered when the cooking car in which he was sleeping rolled over and was smashed to splinters; James Vendiver, employed on the Geo. Wellman farm, had his skull fractured, when the cook car in which he was sleeping blew over. The following farmers lost stock: Carl Watne, four cows, E. C. Evenson one horse, Jens Anderson, one colt.

In Hannaford very little serious damage was done. A number of small frame structures, machine and automobile sheds, etc. blew down and were smashed, part of the plate glass in the Aarestad Bros. & Troseth's store front was broken, signs and chimney's were blown down, and much minor damage done.

The St. Olaf church at Walum and the Eidfjord church in Bartley were both completely destroyed, though the loss is somewhat mitigated by insurance; St. Olaf being insured for \$2400 and Eidfjord church for \$3000.

To enumerate all the losses sustained by farmers is an impossibility, a partial list follows: James Beattie, barn; Jens Anderson, barn down and house damaged; E. C. Evenson, barn and sheds; R. H. Larson, barn and house damaged; Wm. Stewart, barn; Andrew Sonju, barn; John and Jacob Mjklethun, barns and sheds; Alex Campbell, granary; C. L. Peterson, barn; P. A. Thoreson, barn; Erik Rud, barn; Odin Swenson, house and barn; Joel Baum, barn and sheds; George Mills, barn; Edgar Haaland, barn; Arnt Njaa, barn; H. G. Rohling, barn and machine sheds; Arne Hovland, shed; E. W. Everson, barn; Andrew Wogslund, shed; Tom Vigesa, barn down and house damaged; Ed Olson, barn, Axel Christenson, barn; Carl Watne, barn; Eric Walslin, machine shed; Iver Skaar, barn; P. P. Christensen, barn; Lars Lerum, barn; Peter Margach, wind-mill down and barn damaged; O. L. Fogderud, shed; August Werth, barn damaged; Chas. Palm, granaries; T. T. Fuglestad, barn, Nels Almaas, barn. On the Olaf Fogderud farm a granary and 2000 bushels oats were destroyed.

E. C. Evenson, Wm. Stewart, Odin Swenson and C. L. Peterson had their losses partially covered by tornado insurance.