

Summary Sheet

IDTO - ID Number :694906
AUTH - Report Author :
TYFU - Tornado Type & Fuji Code :c0
TITL - Report Title or Location :Britannia
PROV - Province :Ontario
COUN - Counties :Ottawa-Carleton
REFS - References :Ottawa Evening
Citizen July 30, 1949 GM July 30, 1949
ZOTO - Touchdown Zone Number & Easting :18436900
NOTO - Touchdown Northing :5022340
LOVA - Touchdown Error Value & Code :150c
DADA - Date of Data Entry :18/06/1990
ZOLO - Liftoff Zone Number & Easting :
NOLO - Liftoff Northing :
UPVA - Liftoff Error Value & Code :
DEAD - Number of Fatalities :
HURT - Number of People Injured :
HERT - Injuries Code :
DATA - Date of Tornado :29/07/1949
DAVA - Date Error Value & Code :
TITO - Time of Tornado :1500
TIMR - Time Meridian :75
TIVA - Time Error Value & Code :30c
AXDA - Maximum Path Width :
AXVA - Max. Path Width Error & Code :
AVDA - Average Damage Width :
AVVA - Avg. Damage Width Error & Code :
SADA - Sample Damage Width :
SAVA - Sample Damage Width Error & Code :
INTO - Initials :JAM
DFTO - Detailed Report Flag :n
JUNK - PRDA & DIMO & DALE :
CODA - Property Damage Code :
MISC - ORDE,PICS_TYPE,PICS_AVAIL,COCO : 112
MANY - Multiple Event Flag :y

MEMO:Free-standing cement block wall blown over.

PHEN - Associated Phenomena :P
TSHP - Townships :Ottawa

JAM, 18/06/1990

TORNADO PROJECT SUMMARY SHEET

~~694904~~
694905
694906

ONT.

1. DATE AND TIME ^{FRIDAY} JULY 29, 1949
2. LOCATION OR PATH (attach map)
OTTAWA ~~OTTAWA~~
3. PATH LENGTH NOT KNOWN <1mi; 1-4mi; 5-10mi; 11-50mi; LENGTH IF >50mi
4. PATH WIDTH 5. TORNADO PART OF SQUALL LINE? YES; NO; UNKNOWN:
6. ANY UNUSUAL COLORATION? YES; NO; UNKNOWN
7. ANY UNUSUAL SOUND? YES; NO; UNKNOWN
8. IF ANSWER TO 6 OR 7 YES, ELABORATE;
9. LIST ANY ASSOCIATED PHENOMENA (Such as hail, vivid lightning heavy rain, no rain, etc.)
10. TOTAL DAMAGE ESTIMATE \$
11. TOTAL DEATHS /
12. TOTAL INJURED
13. TOTAL HOMELESS
14. LIST ALL REFERENCES
15. SUMMARIZE REMARKS PERTAINING TO (a) FUNNEL; (b) INTERESTING OR CAPRICIOUS EVENTS.

East Ontario Storm Kills 1; Damage High

One man died and hydro and telephone poles were knocked over and grain crops were flattened by a sudden, violent storm that swept the Ottawa and Peterborough districts yesterday afternoon.

Edward Kingdon, Bathurst farm worker, died of heart failure while fighting to save the home of a neighbor, Herbert Malcolm, from fire ignited by a bolt of lightning. Lightning struck the Malcolm home 14 miles southwest of Peterborough about 2:45 p.m. Kingdon, working near by, was one of the first volunteers in a bucket brigade. He worked frantically at a pump, then climbed to the roof of the Malcolm house.

Suddenly he groaned and dropped through the hole made in the roof by lightning.

He was carried from the house by Douglas May, Cobourg; Paul Goselin, Bewdley, and a U.S. tourist who had worked valiantly in the battle against the blaze. Kingdon was dead when medical aid reached him. The Malcolm house was badly damaged in the upper story, but volunteers and the heavy rain which accompanied the storm prevented its total demolition.

Basements in the downtown section of Peterborough were flooded, as were some downtown stores. Temperatures in the area dropped 25 degrees from 86 to 61 in half an hour. Water ran almost a foot deep at some intersections when the downpour proved too much for drains. At Clear Lake, 20 miles north, a hailstorm was reported.

Wind which accompanied the rain tore awnings at Anthony's Fruit Store, Hamilton's Grocery and Silver's Shoe Store. A theatre marquee was damaged, and lightning struck the home of Samuel Rath, in Smith Township, and set fire to the building. Mrs. Rath and three children, eating dinner in the kitchen, were missed by only about a foot. Fire did considerable damage before it was extinguished. A tree crashed on Burnham St., and another cut power lines.

At about the same time a storm whipped through Ottawa, snarling communications and felling trees. Top wind speeds of 46 miles an hour, reaching 65 in gusts, were recorded at Rockcliffe Airport. Telephone and telegraph lines were disrupted, and all four Ottawa radio stations were put off the air for a short time.

Seven miles from Ottawa some \$50,000 damage was caused at the Holy Rosary Novitiate and Scholasticate. The wind ripped the roof from the 17-year-old brick building and smashed down a barn, 300 yards from the main building.

A barn also was toppled on the farm of Percy Kenny, near the novitiate.

A foot bridge across the Rideau River, leading from Strathcona Park into the east end to the Rideau Lawn Tennis Club, was blown over, seconds after Saul Gosewitz, Ottawa newspaper photographer, had crossed it.

Ottawa radio stations went off the air when power failed at the stations' transmitters. An hour's rain fell before and after the peak of the storm, and the temperature dropped from nearly 89 degrees to about 70.

A big elm, about 65 feet high and six feet in diameter at the base, crashed across Laurier Ave. E. in the Sandy Hill residential section of Ottawa, knocking out hydro and telephone lines and halting street car traffic for several hours.

The tree dropped at the height of the storm, and carried wires with it. Poles were loosened for a block in either direction, and street cars were held up for more than an hour until lines could be tied off and power turned on to permit the trams to back up and take other routes.

Somerset and Bank St. cars were lined up for blocks after the tree crashed. Heat had caused civil servants to be let off work at 4 o'clock and thousands of Ottawa residents, unable to get transportation, were drenched.

Crews worked last night with power saws to cut up the tree and cranes removed the sections. It was not expected hydro and telephone lines would be repaired until today. The tree crashed a short distance from the home of former Prime Minister King.

HAIL AT CLEAR LAKE

694904

Barn unroofed on Farm of Mr BERTIN, Lot 15, Conc 8, Darlington Tp (now Town of Newcastle). (Info gathered from John Bertin while surveying 0698211) Mr. John Bertin remembered the date because it was his father's birthday.



CLEANING UP STORM DAMAGE

Traffic Still Tangled

New Heat Wave On Way Here

Ottawa and the immediate district is rapidly recovering from the devastating punches of yesterday's cyclonic, 50-mile-an-hour wind and rain storm which created thousands of dollars damage in Orleans, Britannia and several sections of the Capital during its two-hour fury in late afternoon.

In temperatures fast dropping to the forecast high of 78 degrees, workmen from the Ottawa Hydro, the Ottawa Electric and the Bell Telephone companies, combined with a squad of men from the fire alarm division of the Ottawa fire department, to clear tangled wires on Laurier avenue east at Marlboro, ripped from poles and metal standards when a giant elm crashed across them late yesterday afternoon.

Street car traffic on Laurier, both east and westbound, is still

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halted, but workers expect to have cut the fallen tree into moveable sections by afternoon and to have strung a temporary overhead cable to permit a light flow of OTC traffic.

Stringing New Cable

A 4,000 volt electric cable, also severed by the falling tree, has been cut off at a junction point by electric company repairmen and the stringing of a new cable has already begun. Two power poles, ripped from their beds by the weight of the gigantic tree straining and pulling on wires and cables, have been jacked into a firm position until new poles have been set in their places. This latter operation is expected to be finished late this afternoon.

At Orleans, the Holy Rosary Novitiate and Scholasticate which also fell victim to the wind when its roof was ripped away, is being studied by church officials who wish to institute repairs as soon as possible. Considerable debris has already been cleared away from the body of the building and plans for the new roof and other repairs are still being discussed.

At Britannia, a new wing wall to the Drive-in-Theater on No. 17 highway, is already under construction. However, a workshop and lumber storage shed, some 300 yards east, is doomed to be razed by its owner, Albert Quesnel, Britannia lumber dealer. The roof of this building was also torn away by the furious wind which swept in across Britannia Bay.

City Workmen Busy

A battery of city workmen had the lightest of all clean-up tasks. Armed with brooms and shovels, they cruised the city streets sweeping up fallen branches which littered the pavement and carted them away in trucks.

Meteorological experts at Rockcliffe Airport this morning indicated that a second storm was definitely not in the immediate offing.

"I am afraid we are due for a little more warm weather," said the weatherman. "We can forget about storms for a little while."



TOPPLED BY VIOLENT STORM—Ottawa and the most violent wind and rain storm of the year and considerable damage resulted. Picture above shows a giant tree on Laurier avenue east which toppled in the 80-mile gale, disrupting tram, telephone and power services. Photo by Newton.