

Rapid City Journal
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Storm Causes \$25,000 Damage to Deadwood

Reports of minor damage from the terrific rains which drenched the Hills were still filtering in today while Deadwood officials appraised the damage to their streets at approximately \$25,000. Greatest loss there was on Stewart street where 120 feet of the roadway sustained by a wooden bulkhead collapsed, topping tons of earth and rock into the backyard of St. Joseph's hospital.

Street Commissioner Dick Curtis said the accumulation of water behind the old wooden supports sustaining the terraced street on hill back the hospital caused the structure to give way late Wednesday night. Other graveled streets in Deadwood were washed out, deep ditches cut across some of them, but they can be repaired quickly. Restoration of Stewart street will be started as soon as the city engineer completes his survey and plans, Curtis said.

Red Cross

In Sturgis, the Red Cross was preparing to give assistance to families forced from their homes by flooded Bear Butte creek. A dozen houses were pulled from the inundated flat land bordering the creek during the height of the storm and the walls of water washed away all semblance of their foundations. Old-timers can recall worse floods, but it has been many years since damage has been as great along the creek banks in the town.

Damage caused by the 48-hour storm which poured nearly seven inches of rain onto the northern Hills was in large measure discounted by its benefits to crops and range land. All the creeks some of which had been reduced to a mere trickle during the exceptionally dry winter are running bank full and stock-watering dams have been replenished.

Road Passable

The Boulder canyon road is passable but very narrow in spots, it was reported this morning. Guardrail was washed out and the torrent rushing down Boulder creek tore away the highway shoulder in many spots making driving precarious.

Approximately 100 feet of the hard-surface on Highway 24 between Sturgis and Fort Meade was washed out in the vicinity of the old Bismarck crossing.

A bridge was washed away on the Crystal Cave road and another badly damaged, as old timers reported they have never seen so much water in Little Elk creek.

Some precipitation was received in scattered showers over the West River yesterday with Philip measuring .51 of an inch. Deadwood received an additional .19 and Custer .13 but other points counted only sprinkles.

The forecast calls for fair and warmer weather today and tomorrow with the next precipitation slated for the middle of the week.