

# COUNTY RECOVERING FROM STORM DAMAGES

## STORM FLATTENS 5 BUILDINGS, OTHER DAMAGE HEAVY

### Three Stores Suffer Heavy Losses In Merchandise

Matagorda and Saint Joseph Islands Hit Hard by Blow

The biggest disaster in the county when hurricane path was uncovered, was on Saint Joseph and Matagorda Islands. The Sid Richardson estate, showplace of the county, damaged when a reinforced concrete chimney took a high dive through the roof.

All small buildings on the estate were lost, many turkey, deer and other animals and at least 100 head of cattle. Exact live stock losses are not yet known. It is probable that derricks will have to be

**MORRISON'S:** Only one slanting end of Morrison's Boathouse remained standing after wind and water lashed at the wooden structure Sunday. Only three boats were sunk within what was left of the structure.

moved onto the island to lift the concrete blocks out of the building before any reconstruction can begin. Damages will total about \$100,000.

Matagorda Island fared as badly. At Preston Paul's ranch, 25 to 30 head of cattle were lost and every building but the ranch house went down. All pens, chutes and other water front structures were destroyed. Losses will amount to at least \$1,000.

At Matagorda Island Club a \$5,000 stud horse was lost and a number of head of horses. About 200 head of American National bulls and cows were washed off the is-

**TOWNSEND'S:** The cement walls of Clyde Townsend's garage crumbled and fell, battering cars, trucks and machinery with debris. This was one of two Rockport garages leveled and one of five buildings in the Rockport-Fulton area completely demolished.

land. These bulls sell for \$500 and the cows for \$125. All small buildings were destroyed as were six cars. It is too early for all damage to be known on the island still under water where only horseback travel is possible but it is known to be as much as \$50,000.

At Rockport Electric Company, damage was estimated at \$300. Three windows were blown out and stocks water damaged. Bob Hamblin's house, rented by Charles Landrum was damaged to the extent of \$1,500. The back was blown off the house, collapsing four rooms and the roof was blown away, part of it landing two blocks off in the courthouse yard.

At Gloria Beauty Shop, broken windows and damage to jewelry and cosmetics amounted to \$75. Broken windows accounted for \$25 damage at Mundine's Barber Shop. Ventilators were knocked off the top of the Rio Theatre and other damage done to an extent of about \$150.

At Kaufman's Department Store damage when the roof flew off and windows went out to the building and stocks totalled \$12,500. This was covered by insurance. Dudley Bracht's service station owned by Charles Cleveland will cost \$200 to repair as roof and a window went out. Repairs at Cleveland's home where the roof was damaged will amount to \$600.

Hooper's escaped without as much as a leak in the roof as did Dr. Charles F. Cron's office.

At Joe Johnson's Drug Store where the roof went off and plate glass windows out, damage to the building amounted to \$600, to stocks \$5,000 and to fixtures, \$500. Insurance partially covered the loss.

The boiler room and tank at Fred Hunt's Tailor Shop were off at a cost of about \$300. All clothes in the shop were soaked but Hunt said most of them could be reconditioned.

Windows were out at Sparks Dry Goods Store but Mrs. Jim Sparks said she had no damage. Seafood Cafe had no damage but was clos-



### Red Cross Sets Up Disaster Officer in Town

A Red Cross disaster office was set up Wednesday in the back room of the Aransas County Price and Rationing Board and applications for assistance will be taken there from all Aransas County families who have suffered from the hurricane and are in need. A. C. Glass, Red Cross chapter chairman, announced.

Miss Helen T. Johnson, national disaster worker, who has been assigned to Aransas County, said all Red Cross assistance is given on the basis of need, not losses. The Red Cross helps disaster victims meet needs for which their own resources are not sufficient.

"These needs," Miss Johnson explained, "may include maintenance medical aid, repairing and rebuilding of homes, giving of household furnishings, farm supplies, livestock and equipment used on a job."

To speed up the work of rehabilitation, all families are requested to file applications by Saturday.

John Billings, national field representative for the Red Cross, left for Rockport Tuesday night and arrived here to assist Miss Johnson with the work.

Seven applications for assistance were made within a few hours after the office was opened.

### Governor Visits Rockport To Survey Damage

Governor Coke Stevenson, a Rockport fan after his recent visit here, arrived in Rockport by automobile Thursday afternoon to offer the town and state assistance in protecting the health of residents of Aransas County because of danger from stagnant water.

The governor telephoned Austin and requested that a sanitary engineer be sent immediately to study the sewerage disposal problem and make certain water was not contaminated.

He looked over the town, standing in Joe Johnson's where the rain fell as hard as it was coming down in the streets, and made a survey of all serious damages here and in Fulton.

Governor Stevenson expressed his relief that the town suffered no more serious damage and his desire to give all aid possible in recovering from the damages there had been.

With the governor were Ernest Boyett, his secretary; Morris Roberts, former Senator from Victoria and Angus Jones, sergeant in the Department of Public Safety.

### TYPHOID SHOTS TO BE GIVEN AT CITY HALL FRIDAY

Two public health nurses from Corpus Christi will assist Dr. Charles F. Cron in giving typhoid shots to Rockport, Fulton and Lamar adults and children Friday (today).

They will begin giving shots at 10 o'clock this morning at the City Hall. The inoculations will be free of charge.

Doctor Cron advised everyone not already inoculated to take the shots. Stagnant water creates danger of the disease in the entire area and inoculations are the best preventative of an epidemic, he said.

### Nonegenarian Marries Here

A 96-year-old bridegroom walked jauntily out of the Christian Church in Rockport Wednesday afternoon with his 53-year-old bride on his arm.

The groom was John Albert Mayfield, Christian minister at Ingleside who formerly lived in Rockport. His bride was Mrs. Ida Butler of Ingleside. Both had been married previously.

Isham Gibson performed the unusual ceremony. Mayfield said his mother lived

### Rockport Schools Delay Opening Until Sept. 10

The opening of Rockport schools has been postponed to Monday, Sept. 10, Morgan C. Wheeler, superintendent, announced today.

Schools were scheduled to open Tuesday, Sept. 4. Wheeler said many families were unable to prepare clothing for the children and have households running smoothly again after hurricane damage. The postponement will give them six days to get homes and possessions in order.

The Fulton school is scheduled to open Sept. 4. Mrs. Clara Seaton, principal, announced. No change in the original plans has been made public.

### To Undergo Operation

Donald Weber, whose shoulder was injured in a fall on Fulton Beach five weeks ago, will be taken to a Corpus Christi hospital for an operation Monday. Dr. Charles F. Cron said Weber's collarbone was healing satisfactorily after the break but it was necessary to remove a small piece of bone.

to be 'well over a hundred', and he had many years of activity ahead.

### Governor Stevenson Inspects Area, State and Federal Officials Assist In Rehabilitation Work

ARMY PLANES MAY SPRAY COASTAL AREA WITH DDT TO CONQUER MOSQUITO MENACE; BUILDING AND REPAIR ASSISTANCE GIVEN

Carpenters hammers took up where a wrecking 135-mile-an-hour hurricane left off late Monday, as a storm-weary populace began rebuilding their homes and places of business.

In their task of safeguarding public health and getting the area back to normal living conditions, public officials were receiving wholehearted cooperation from the Red Cross, and State and Federal agencies.

Governor Coke Stevenson arrived in Rockport Thursday afternoon for an inspection tour. He secured further expert assistance of sanitary engineers from the State Health Department, who arrived in Rockport Thursday night to make thorough study of sanitary problems here.

Corpus Christi Sewer Superintendent S. L. Allison came to Rockport Thursday afternoon to give assistance to Tom Shults, city sewer and water superintendent, in obtaining maximum efficiency of the city plant during the critical period.

A summary of developments on the storm situation here at Thursday night was:

1. All persons who have not been immunized against typhoid are urged to go to the city hall where public health nurses will be on hand to give the inoculations. Dr. Chas. F. Cron pointed out that it is very necessary to take every precaution at this time to prevent any outbreak of typhoid. There will be no charge for the shots.

2. General Lee Hart, 8th Service Command of Dallas, was contacted by city officials and asked to send Army planes over this section of the coast to spray DDT to kill misquitos. The general immediately sent a plane to Rockport, Ill., to ascertain results obtained there in recent test of spraying DDT. He indicated that if results were satisfactory the coastal area would be sprayed, and thereby eliminate the menace of flies and misquitos.

3. Red Cross representatives arrived here Tuesday and a field office was set up in the War Price and Rationing Board building where applications are being received for assistance in rebuilding and repairing homes and storm damage.

4. Priorities were granted local dealers by the Red Cross for four car loads of lumber and other building and repair material.

5. Supt. Morgan C. Wheeler announced that the opening of schools here have been postponed for one week and will open on September 10.

6. Citizens are urged to use as little water as possible for the next few days to lighten the load on the overtaxed sewer system.

7. The City of Rockport is making every effort to clean away debris and to free the city of standing water. The help situation has been acute and every available worker is being pressed into service. If sufficient local help is not available, it may be possible to secure prisoner of war labor to assist in drainage and other public health work.

### Health Officials Work to Solve Sewage Problems

Five Texas Department of Public Health officials arrived in Rockport from Austin and Corpus Christi Thursday night to assist the city in solving sewage disposal problems and eliminating possibility of disease.

S. L. Allison, superintendent of the Corpus Christi Sewer Department, worked out plans with the assistance of other officials, to meet emergency conditions brought on by the storm.

The clogging of a pump in the city sewage system caused complications which might have led to stoppage of the lines if immediate action had not been taken. Allison is bringing a crew of workers to get the system into proper working order Friday morning. His services and those of his crew were offered to the

### Storm Causes No Serious Injuries

No serious injuries resulted from Sunday's storm. Neither water nor wind caused a casualty.

One man from Fulton and a Lamar woman received bad cuts on their legs from debris left by the storm. Valle Cole had deep lacerations on his leg and Mrs. Reuel Thompson had leg injuries after she stepped through a window light.

city of Rockport without charge to assist local officials.

Conferring with Allison, Mayor Jack Blackwell and Tom Shults, water superintendent, were Capt. Pope A. Lawrence and Bill Enson, chemist, both of the State Health Department, Austin, and Lt. C. R. Bowman and George Cull, Jr., of the Nueces County Public Health Unit, Corpus Christi.

The men worked into Thursday night studying the system and laying plans for its repair.

LOST—12-foot ply board skiff. Red paint. Fred Heun, Rockport.

### Lt. Jack Sanders Signs Contract With Eagle Pro's

Lt. Jack Sanders, USMC, who lost part of his arm in an accident in North Carolina, has signed a contract with the Philadelphia Eagle pro-football team. Sanders, a guard, is believed to be the first one-armed grinder in the National League.

The 28-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Sanders of Fulton is the property of Pittsburgh Steelers but went to the Eagles under loan when he was learned he would have to remain in the Quarker City under treatment at Philadelphia Naval Hospital.

Sanders reported to the Eagles Sunday when they opened their training camp.

He has been in North Carolina for five months of hospital treatment. All but 25 per cent of his hearing, injured by the accident, has been restored.

Sanders and his brother, George played high school football at San Antonio. They were in school at Southern Methodist University when their family moved to Fulton. Track, basketball and football stars the two boys were All Southwest Conference in 1938-39.

Sanders wife and baby had been living in Rockport until recently when they pointed him in Philadelphia.

### Copano Villagers Watch Out Storm In Automobile

An eye witness report of every gust of wind and shower of rain during the storm can be given by Mr. and Mrs. Rene Joubert and son Robbie of Houston, S. T. LePage of Corpus Christi and Mr. and Mrs. Winslow, all of whom watched the hurricane from one automobile.

They were in the Joubert home at Copano Village when the roof blew off the porch of the house, over the house and into the windmill. Not sure whether the house would follow in the track of the roof, the six moved to an automobile and until morning sat with the car buffeted around by the wind.

The rest of the house was much better able to stand than they by daylight.

Miss Josephine Glynn of Kansas City is a guest at the Catholic rectory.

### ROY HINTON BREAKS LEG IN EFFORT TO SERVE

Sometimes there is no justice. Though a hectic day Sunday when the hurricane was an unknown number of hours away, Roy Hinton kept a skeleton crew of workers in his cafe to handle as many customers as was possible.

Monday morning, before winds and rain began to subside and when there was no electricity nor water, he opened again with the same worn out staff and attempted to get food to everyone who needed it. A bucket brigade brought in water and coffee was made for cold, wet workers. Hinton searched the town for milk and sold it only to persons with children who could not get along without it.

Through the day crowds were handled in the cafe with what little food and service could be mustered.

That night, after serving as a disaster canteen for Rockport, Hinton went home to a house he had had no time to inspect. Water stood on the floor, and as he walked over it, he slipped, fell and broke his right leg.

He will be in bed for six weeks, but he did a good job that a lot of people who needed hot coffee or food won't forget.

### Mr. and Mrs. James Rudely Awakened

Two of the most rudely awakened persons in Rockport Sunday night were Mr. and Mrs. Owen James.

They were asleep in a bed near a window when the roof came off of the garage next door. The flying top lodged on the James roof and there it stayed, but a two by four took a different course.

It sailed through the window into the bed, bringing with it pieces of glass. Both Mr. and Mrs. James were cut on the ankles and legs by the glass and both rushed from the room, convinced the whole house had fallen upon them.

**NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING**

In accordance with the provisions of Article 689 R.C.S., notice is hereby given that on September 14th, 1945, beginning at 10 a. m., a public hearing will be held in the County Court Room in the Court House of the City of Rockport on the Budget proposed for Aransas County for the calendar year 1946.

Dated at Rockport, Texas, August 30, 1945.

B. S. FOX, County Judge, In and for Aransas County, Texas

### HOTEL WALLS PART IN STORM, CATCH GOWN IN BETWEEN

If anyone knows how to move walls conveniently, he could retrieve for Mrs. Byron Bushart a gown which appears to be part of the hotel construction.

The gown was on a hanger hooked over a nail in the corner of a room. Evidently the hotel, whipped by rain and water, vibrated enough to part a north-south wall from the east-west connecting wall. While the walls were apart, the gown whipped around the corner and was half in one room and half in the other when the walls met again.

The storm subsided and the gown was found, caught as tightly in the walls as though it was cemented there.

Mrs. Bushart may cut off the blouse and the skirt of the gown but the waist will remain forever as part of the hotel.

### R. R. RICE TAKES GAMBLE WITH STORM, WINS A BOAT

R. R. Rice gave odds on a hurricane and won.

Roy Moyston had a 28-foot pleasure boat anchored in the bay in front of his home. His fishing boats had gone to Back Bay and he had no way to reach the pleasure boat to take it to the Fishbowl.

He asked Rice to take him around to the boat to bring it to protection. He, Rice and Phil Hart started out in the "Ditto." The Sunday afternoon wind and rain was buffeting them around as they got into the more open waters of the bay.

Moyston and Rice began to talk of trade but Moyston was not sure he wished to sell the boat. By the time they reached the beacon and the waves were breaking over them in a dangerous way, Moyston said, "I'll trade."

They turned around and went back to the Fishbowl. Rice had bought a boat. But he might or might not ever take possession of her. When the winds ceased and he could see out over the water, he saw his new boat, secure and undamaged.

Guests in the J. H. Malchar home this week have been Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Pruitt of Aransas Pass, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Scott of Aransas Pass, Mrs. H. L. Hunt and daughters Kay and Caroline of Ingleside, Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Malchar of Corpus Christi and Mr. and Mrs. Filmore Hunt and son David of Laredo.

### DAN GILSTRAP RESCUES FAMILIES DURING STORM

A man in Rockport more concerned over the safety of everyone else in town than his own was Dan Gilstrap, driver of the school bus.

Sunday afternoon Gilstrap started out in the bus making a systematic check of the town. He drove up to each house that was still inhabited and asked "Do you need anything moved or would you like to be taken to the school house for protection?"

Some chose to stay where they were and others piled into the bus soaked by blowing rain. All night Gilstrap rode, bringing families out of unsafe buildings and helping them to avoid the storm dangers. At 6 o'clock in the morning, when danger had passed, Gilstrap was still going from house to house, offering assistance. He had made several trips to some homes, giving the occupants time to pack or to move furniture to protected places.

Without obligation to do so, Gilstrap served as a one-man emergency squad for the town.

### Rockport Damage Mild to Veteran

Pfc. John W. Edwards had the job of cleaning up after buzz bombs in England. In one place nine bombs had fallen, tearing up 18 blocks.

He felt right at home Monday, arriving in Rockport after the overseas service he found a miniature of what he had been looking at all the time.

Rockport didn't look bad to him. It was all order and neatness when compared to the sights he had been seeing.

He will spend a furlough here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Edwards, then report to a Florida station Sept. 16.

### Looters Make Haul at Fulton Boat Works

The only theft reported in damaged buildings in the Rockport-Fulton area was at Perry Bass Boatworks Wednesday night where about \$400 worth of equipment was stolen.

Missing was a welding torch and a large number of tools and other equipment.

The boatworks, flattened by the hurricane, offered no protection from trespassers.

Reports were made at several times after the storm that looters were seen at Joe Johnson's and John Sorenson's but no stock was reported missing and no arrests made. Downtown Rockport streets were guarded by three special police.

Mrs. D. G. Dean is spending a week here with her brother, Charles Cleveland. Her home is at Galveston.

### The Rockport Pilot

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JACK BLACKWELL  
Editor and Publisher

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### Bank Loses Roof, Carries On Under Big Tarpaulins

Banker A. C. Glass may have had a boyhood dream of working "under the big top." He has experienced it with something happening in all three rings every minute and he didn't have to leave his own bank to do it.

The roof departed the bank with a passing wind during the hurricane. Determined to have business as usual, Glass opened up, but he has lived on the coast long enough to know rain may fall after a storm, so he brought in tarpaulins.

They were spread over the section of the bank where the tellers and bookkeepers work. With water splattering on the canvas top, checks were cashed and deposits taken. For the other two rings, Glass and his boat problems and biggest of all, the insurance business. Every client who walked in to make a claim, and there were more than 100 the first day, saw that Glass would have a good sized claim to make to himself.

### Personalities in the Hurricane

Jim Heldenfels, Henry Ballou and their boat crews rode out the storm on tugs and dredges at the Point and saved them from any damage. They were holding three loaded barges from which showers of shell continually hit their boats. One window went out on Ballou's tug and the crew held a covering over the gap for long hours. It was a long night but their efforts were successful.

Dan Sharp, Southwest Bell Telephone man, heard so many people say "my telephone won't ring," and he just couldn't resist answering, "It won't? Mine rings too much." Dan is one of the men Rockport has to thank for a fine job during and after the storm. Local phone service was excellent, the intensity of the wind considered and long distance lines were restored rapidly. Dan worked against heavy odds and without stopping.

Another man to whom we give a rising vote of thanks is B. T. Hardeman. Without sleep, he worked through days and nights restoring lines for Central Power and Light Company, and to the end of it he had a smile on his face and was gracious about every complaint turned in to him. He and his crew really gave light.

R. R. Rice and Slim Ratliff, with the assistance of two sailors, saved the boat "Rusty" at a time when few men would have opened the front door a crack. At midnight when the wind and rain were playing an entire brass section on the waterfront, the four men found the Rusty had broken her mooring. Walking out on a pier that no longer could have been termed navigable, they secured the boat and she came through without damage.

Oscar Stafford and several of friends, know moving day at its worst. At the height of the storm a trailer blew off it blocks and into the side of Stafford's house, taking one wall of the house out with it. Stafford and several others made a hasty move to a neighbor's house that was higher and drier.

Slim Haynes thinks he may have found that long looked for formula of living without sleep. In six days and nights he had six hours of sleep. The formula is: just too busy guarding a town without windows and doors to close an eye.

Dr. Charles F. Cron's fence is a good instrument to measure wind direction. In the 1942 hurricane, one side of it went down. In this week's storm that side was left standing but the other side went down. Just two more directions to go.

Guests of Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Sanders last week were Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Todd, Jr. and Mrs. Mae Clark of Dallas, Mr. and C. C. Clark, Sr., of College Station, Mrs. C. C. Todd, Sr., Maj. and Mrs. R. A. Dismore of Columbus, Ohio. Mrs. Todd's husband, Colonel Todd is aide to General Douglas MacArthur and participating in the peace-making ceremonies.

### Classified

WANTED—Typist with typewriter to type abstracts at Court-house, pay 15c per page. Further details, telephone 422

FOR EXCHANGE—50 acres land on corner of Market St. and Sparks Colony road for Bay front lots, preferably south of town. Dial 2-6058, Corpus Christi. 819-4tpd

FOR RENT—Furnished house. Mrs. Travis Bailey, Phone 259.

FOR RENT—Two furnished apartments for rent. Shady Grove Trailer Camp. Phone 240. 8-23 tf

FOR SALE—The Pat Mixon Home on Sparks Colony Road. 25 acres of land and a nice comfortable home. See Emory M. Spencer.

FOR SALE—Recently remodeled 5 room house and bath with built in cabinets with 4 acres of land. See Emory M. Spencer.

FOR SALE—Three young Jersey cows giving from 12 to 16 quarts per day. Come and see them milked at 6:30 p. m. J. A. Rogers 8-23 tf.

FOR SALE—Six-room furnished house, on the bay, double garage and servants quarters. Owns water rights. Inquire cottage corner of Market and Water Streets. 8-23 2t

FOR SALE—Modern 5-room Stucco house, well, electric pump, garage, on eight 50x150 lots. See H. E. Bahr, Rockport, phone 227. 9-16 tf.

FOR SALE—Five room house to be moved onto your location, 3-piece bath, kitchen sink, butane bottle. See Emory M. Spencer. 8-23 2t.

FOR SALE—Coze five-room house, bath, electric lights, city water, graveled street, 50 x 150 lot. For more particulars see H. E. Bahr, agent, Rockport, Texas, phone 227. 7-26 tf

FOR SALE—26-foot shrimp boat fully equipped. Good condition. Also 18-foot skiff with 10 horse power Johnson outboard motor. A. J. Helm, Rockport, across tracks from post office. 8-23 tf

FOR SALE—18-foot net skiff built by Bass Boat Works. Powered with twin cylinder, 9-horse motor. Wankaska air-cooled motor. Four years old. \$280 takes it. Can be seen at Cedars Cottages, Phone 3801. 9-16 tf.

WILL BUY—Water Tank and tower to be moved. S. T. LePage, LePage Apartments, Corpus Christi, phone 4161. 8-23-3tp.

FOR RENT—Waterfront apartment. Separate entrance, bath and kitchen, electric refrigerator, hot and cold water, butane gas. Retired adult couple preferred. Mrs. Paul Reese, 'Aura Maris', Box 33, Rockport, Texas. 8-30 1tp

WANTED—Woman to do housework and laundry three days a week. Have washing machine. Good pay. Telephone 280.

WANTED—Twin-size (39-inches wide) bed and springs. Must be in good condition. Ring 478 or apply fourth house north of depot. 9-16 tf

WANTED—Mexican couple to live on place. Furnish house and pay good salary. Apply Palm Courts. 8-30 tf

FURNITURE FOR SALE—One Simmons bed, \$20; one inner spring couch, \$30; one studio couch, \$25; one living room table, \$7. Other miscellaneous items. Mrs. C. A. Davis, phone 440. 8-30 1tc

FOR SALE—One 16-foot motor skiff, 7-h.p. Gray marine motor; 1 jersey milk cow; one 25-gal. square boiler-steel fuel tank; one 4-burner oil stove; 2-burner gasoline stove. See E. B. Crawford. 8-30 1tp.

FOR SALE—Building where beauty shop and electric shop are located. Write Emory Spencer of Rockport or Mrs. Otis Henderson, Jefferson, Texas, Route 4.

### FAMILY FINDS MANY PLACES AVAILABLE FOR STORM HOLIDAY

Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Clifton have found out how to get a reservation in Rockport, and filed the information for future use.

From their home at Catarina, they had attempted all summer to get reservations to spend a vacation here. Tourist cottages were filled and they thought were going to be disappointed.

Saturday, they read in a newspaper that a hurricane was headed toward Rockport. They packed rapidly and with their daughter Virginia, started in the same direction. Within a short time after they got in town, many cottages were vacant and they had their pick.

Choosing a cabin on Fulton beach they settled down, rode out the storm without damage and are now spending their week's vacation here.

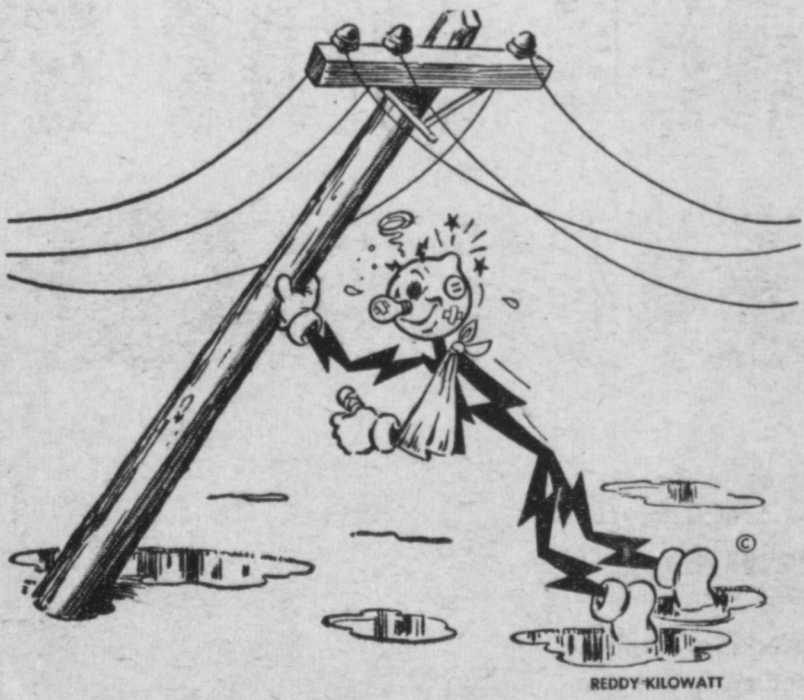
They knew they would find a way to get reservations if they waited long enough.

### Anita Carol Perrenot Receives Bachelor Of Science Degree

Anita Carol Perrenot of Rockport received her bachelor of science degree in elementary education Sunday night at commencement exercises at A and I College, Kingsville.

Miss Perrenot will continue on the faculty of the Kingsville school where she taught last year. Later she intends to study for a law degree at the University of Texas.

### It Was a Bad Storm, Folks----



"And I had to 'take it' along with everybody else. Electric lines were blown down over a wide area. If your electric service has not yet been restored, please be patient. We are doing everything possible to repair the hurricane damage as quickly as possible.

"As soon as the storm hit, all my CPL buddies went to work and they've been at it night and day ever since. CPL line crews from other sections have rushed into the storm area to help local crews and servicemen. You can be sure that everything is being done that can be done.

"Thanks, for bearing with us in this emergency."

REDDY KILOWATT  
Your Electric Servant

CENTRAL POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY

### Prescription Filled Over 15 Million Times

Recommended to do just two things: relieve constipation and ease on the stomach.

This successful prescription is now put up under the name of ADLERKA. Get a bottle of Adlerka next time you step at your drugist's and see for yourself how quickly gas is relieved and gentle but thorough bowel action follows. Good for old and young. Available only as directed.



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Even a dollar spent carelessly helps create inflation. That same dollar saved would help fight the battle against this enemy.

BUY WAR BONDS TOO!

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SERVING GOOD FOOD — TO PLEASE YOU

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Phone 218      Taft, Texas

# Hurricane --- The Wait, The Blow, The End

## The Wait

The long wait, the uncertainty, the possibilities and the rumors make the approach of a hurricane as dreary as the striking of the actual force of the storm.

Rockport and Fulton began their warning vigil at noon Friday. At that time the first radio report of the hurricane warned that it was "dangerous". The barometer was high here and rain squalls would clear up, leaving the sun shining. Everyone waited that night, listening to reports but holding off preparations.

Saturday morning, speculations were twisting as rapidly as winds at the center of the storm. Old timers on the coast were rehearsing past experiences and comparing them to present indications. Weather experts studied conditions and predicted. New comers listened and passed on twice-told tales.

### OPINIONS DIFFERED

As usual in a hurricane wait, no two persons drew the same conclusions. Some said it would go in south of Rockport, others north. A few, including Lt. Comdr. Clyde Armstrong, hit it on the nose and said, "This is it."

By Saturday afternoon, the consensus of opinion was that it was time to make ready. Reports at that time were that the storm would hit between Port Aransas and Port O'Connor about midnight. Later, the weather bureau put out reports that it was headed in south of Corpus Christi.

Boarding up began. Lumber was hard to find. Fred Bracht and others who had tailor-made storm shutters had the job over before long, but the nailing up of odd pieces of lumber was still going on Sunday afternoon. Poultry and livestock were protected as far as possible and furniture and clothing moved to the driest parts of houses.

Boats, always the most formidable problem, were handled in line with each owner's idea of safety. Some were moored in their slips, others anchored away from shore and many taken into Copano and Saint Charles Bay.

The Naval Air Field and the Crash Boat Station were secured and left without personnel, their boats taken into the bay.

Grocery stores did a rushing business as everyone stocked pantry shelves. No one knew how long it might be before stores and cafes would be open.

An under-current during all the work was the feeling that the storm might not come at all and the labor would be wasted. It made the work a little harder to do but didn't stop anyone from doing it.

Tourists, unaccustomed to the coastal country, had been searching for information all day. Some of them couldn't understand why their questions received no definite answers. It is hard for an inlander to realize that despite all the scientific weather checks, no one can say where a hurricane is going, when it is coming and what it might do.

Most of the visitors left for their homes before the day was over. Some adventurous ones decided to see what a hurricane was and settled down in their cottages to wait with residents. Only a few Rockport and Fulton residents locked up their houses and moved to other towns.

Saturday night about 60 men,

women and children moved into the school house for the safety of thick walls and a good roof. Through the night and Sunday morning, a gusty wind blew and rain fell, but the hurricane was still coiled for the strike.

By 3 o'clock Sunday afternoon, there was no longer a wind. There was a gale. Walking on the waterfront or a pier or in any unprotected area was almost impossible. Rain hit flesh like thumb tacks.

At 4 o'clock in the afternoon, the long distance lines went down and Rockport had no way to communicate with any other town. Radios were still bringing in news but none was going out. Streets were filling to curb deep and cars drove slowly through them.

### LIGHTS OUT

Power began to go off for intervals in the afternoon but it was not until after dark that lights gave their last flicker. With the electricity went the water supply because the pump could not operate.

Kerosene lamps were on, candles were lighted, and phone calls were made from house to house with the hope word might come through a battery radio.

By that time, more than 100 persons were in the school house and about 30 in the courthouse. Friends gathered in the most secure home to wait together. Some slept, others sat, eyes on a watch and a barometer, walking to a window to look outward and judge wind velocity and direction.

Still the uncertainty hung on. If the wind came from the east, it might spread salt water over the town.

If this happened . . . if that happened . . . other things happened. It was anybody's guess and no guess was a happy thought.

## The Storm

The hours that a hurricane blows double or triple in length even though the numbing effect of waiting for the storm takes the edge off the tension.

The barometer speeded its drop after 10:30 o'clock at night when it stood at 29.52. Later readings showed: 11:30 p.m., 29.47; 12 midnight, 29.42; 12:30 a.m., 29.41; 1:30 a.m., 29.34; 2:30 a.m., 29.32; 3:30 a.m., 29.24; wind changed direction: 4:30 a.m., 29.13; 5 a.m., 29.09, lowest point; 5:30 a.m., 29.15; 6:30 a.m., 29.24; and 7:30 a.m., 29.36.

Families in homes felt the walls shake around them and waited for a crash that would mean an oak tree had fallen on the roof or flying debris knocked out a window. Many came to the conclusion they would seek higher, drier land before the next blow.

Windmills furnished diversion in many parts of town. A wheel unlocked would spin violently until a vain bent, giving an added clack to each whirl. With every gust the

wheel would begin what might be a flight toward the house.

In some houses, friends played cards or talked all night, everyone was ready to grab a bucket when a new leak developed, to roll back a rug or move furniture to dry corners of the room. A mop was standard equipment.

A few had to leave their home when roofs or walls went out but neighbors were ready to take everyone in.

During the night, the number of families at the school house and courthouse increased. At the school, thick walls kept the sound of wind and rain from penetrating.

Children and grown people curled up on desks, on bedding spread over floors or in the auditorium, and slept. Card, domino and checker games were progressing in every school room. All during the night, coffee was made on the science class burners and lunches were spread for indoor picnics.

Suitcases, bedding and lunch boxes made the school building look like a railroad station at a time of hotel room shortage. H. C. Olive was in charge of the residents seeking protection there.

Every storm in the history of the Texas coast was told that night by someone who had experienced it. Through the conversation and through minds ran the big question of speculation, "has the tide come into town." No one knew how he might find his home or business when he returned to it or whether Rockport was under water.

At 5 o'clock in the morning, when the barometer began its rise from 29.09, there was a raise of spirits. If the wind didn't go to the east, the water wouldn't come in.

By daylight, wind and rain had subsided enough for some movement out of doors, and the waiting was over.

## After the Storm

The first sight of a town damaged by hurricane through the rain still blown by gusty winds in the early hours of daylight leaves mixed sensations.

There is the relief that the damage is no worse, the sinking heart at the damage done and the helpless feeling at the thought of the clean-up job ahead.

Rockport and Fulton in the early morning light were not devastated towns. Although few buildings

escaped without some damage, they were in much better condition than could have been hoped with the height of the wind. Through fallen trees and over pools of water the houses were standing, many solid exteriors promising dry interiors.

Walking over fallen power lines and part of tarpaper roofs everyone reached his house or place of business and before the rain had stopped falling, repair work was under way.

First word from the outside world came in with the State Highway Patrol. Their patrol car shortwaved Rangers in Aransas Pass giving local weather conditions and learning of the progress of the storm along the coast.

Trees, roofs and window glass were moved out of streets, and before too many hours the town showed signs of order.

Until power came on and the sun shone again, many jobs were postponed. When filling stations reopened, cars lined up for gasoline, and opening grocery stores filled quickly with food seekers.

"Drying out" was saved for Tuesday when rain still threatened but did not fall. Clothes and bedding were on every line to dry and cleaners were swamped with wet or discolored garments.

Waxing furniture miledewing from water or gallons of oil took rust out of cars and machinery.

Much damaged property could not be touched until insurance adjusters had made inspections, but boarding up of empty window casings went on to keep out looters. The city kept guards on downtown streets to protect property.

The big job still lies ahead. Rebuilding and repairs may drag out but materials are being made available through Red Cross. Business as usual was quickly the order of the day.

Dead Deer Floats Onto Beach Near Hunt's Courts

A dead deer floated on the beach at Hunt's Cottages Thursday afternoon.

This was assumed to be one of the deer drowned on the islands during the hurricane. A large number of deer, turkeys and other game and fowl were washed from the islands.

## Storm Damage Goes Total Over Half-Million

Damages to boats sunk, aground and with breakage, including estimated costs of moving them and restoring them to service, will amount to \$5,000.

Telephone damage, including repairs to almost every line in town, amounted to more than \$10,000. Another wire damage, that to fences, many of them recently constructed and all difficult to replace, ran about \$2,000. A few cattle were lost in the Port Bay area but not a large number.

At Rouquette and Wendell's, damage to the fish house was not great but three small houses were blown away. An estimated \$2,000 will cover the loss.

Damages to city property were estimated by W. B. Friend, city secretary, to be, city hall and fire station, \$150; water system, \$150; street and drainage system, \$300; and sewer system, \$500.

Residential damage within the county was estimated at \$200,000. The estimate was based on 1,000 houses with an average damage of \$200 to each property, as figured by Leo Whitman, building advisor for American Red Cross. To some homes and grounds, damage ran into several thousand dollars and others escaped with as little as a \$10 cleaning bill.

This brought total damages, as closely as could be estimated by contact with property owners and opinions of building experts, to \$513,400 for Aransas County. Although Aransas Pass suffered less damage, all other coastal towns including Port Aransas, Port Lavaca, Port O'Connor, Bay City and Palacios, recorded much higher damages, each running over the \$1,000,000 mark.

Many Boats Are Beached Or Damaged by Storm

The most heart-warming sight of the aftermath of the hurricane was the majority of the shrimp fleet sailing back into the Fishhowl Tuesday afternoon, enough boats undamaged and in the water so that every commercial fish house will probably be ready to begin the season Sept. 1.

Big headache of the boat owners was not damage to the boats, for that was not extensive, but getting the non-amphibious crafts from the middle of some pasture, where the tide had taken them back into the water which had gone down and left them there. Early efforts to get house movers to put the larger boats back into the water did not succeed. If further negotiations are not fruitful, it may be necessary to dig into some of the boats with a drag line.

Rouquette and Wendell received the center of the blow on their fishing fleet. Three of their boats were beached and the fourth sunk. Boats that stayed in their slips rode the storm most successfully because of the wind direction. If an east or south east wind had come in, boats in protected bays might have had the advantage.

Of the Rouquette and Wendell boats, the "Captain Head" and the "Copano," "Irene G" and "Little Monte" were beached. "Copano" was the only boat in the water Wednesday.

Morris Taylor, an independent for Rouquette and Wendell, had his "Poky Jo" on the ways. Windows and parts of the cabin were broken by flying debris.

One of the biggest boat-moving problems was the \$75,000 Dan Danvers yacht grounded in shallow water.

Only one of Cecil Casterline's fleet, "Clara" was on dry land, but Casterline's independents did not fare well. The two biggest fishing boats in the Rockport-Fulton area, belonging to Hubble and Cook, were left high and dry and moving them presented a big job. Two boats belonging to Lawrence Dietrich and one to Lee Madden went aground.

Bill Johnson's boats went to Aransas Pass harbor and escaped without damage. S. F. Jackson kept his boats in their slips and they were uninjured. Alvin Brundrett was the only independent whose boat went aground.

Only boats belonging to Travis Johnson that met trouble were the "Margaret" which capsized and the "Jay" which lost the top of her cabin. Buddy Warden's "Barbara D" had been launched the

## Utility Services Buses, Cafes Resume Service

Services were resumed in Rockport very soon after the hurricane ended.

Although the shuttle bus to Corpus Christi could not run Sunday, it began making trips Monday and the Houston buses were back on their runs by Wednesday.

The picture show, closed Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, was operating on schedule Wednesday night.

Unlike many of the towns struck by the storm, tourist court facilities were ready and waiting for guests by the time the wind stopped blowing. Tourists began to move in immediately and before long the first fishermen were back at their favorite sports. They made good catches of sheephead and red fish.

Cafes reopened when power came on, and Johnson's Drug Store was opened, but fountain service had not been resumed.

Although the job of cleaning up is not completed, Rockport, Fulton and Lamar are doing business as usual, and before many weeks, there will be no visible signs of the hurricane.

day before the hurricane and had no motor in her. She was towed to safety.

Two of the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission boats did not come through with a clean slate. The "Mary C," patrol boat, went ashore at Port Bay and the oyster boat sank in shallow water. The "KT" rode out the storm.

Of the Navy's four boats, three went on the beach and the other sank. Boom trucks were sent over from Corpus Christi to put them back in the water.

In the boat house, three boats sank. R. B. Cowden's "Kawane," W. C. Evans' "Elibar," and Henry Ballou's speed boat.

The hurricane was an added blow to one of the worst seasons in the history of the local fishermen. One compensation is that the shrimp fleet was saved to start what signs indicate will be a good season.

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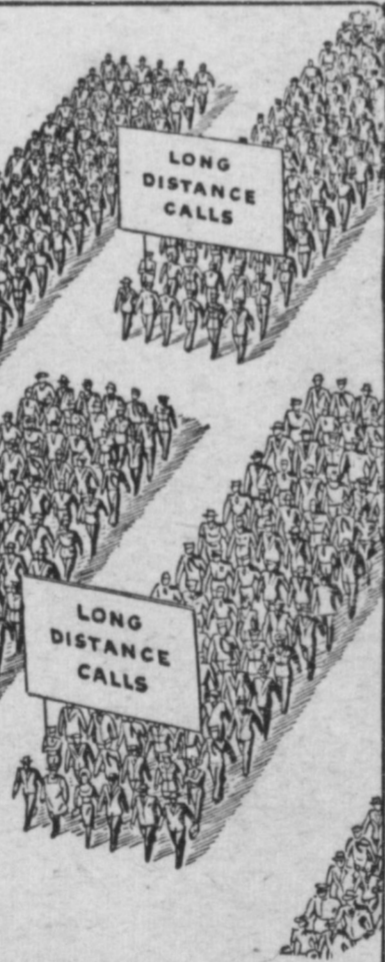
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- JERGEN'S LOTION, 25c size btl 19c**
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- WASH BOARDS, Glass, each 53c**
- BEE-BRAND Insect Spray, pt. 20c**
- MORTON'S SALT, 2 pkgs. 15c**
- APPLE BUTTER 38 oz. jar 26c**
- CATSUP, CHB, 14 oz. bottle 17c**
- PICKLES, Dill, 16 ounce 23c**
- OATS, CW, 16 ounce 12c**
- COFFEE, Admiration, 1 lb. bag 31c**
- SHAVE CREAM, Fitch's 50c sz. 31c**
- CABBAGE, 1 pound 5c**

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**STORM DAMAGE**

(Continued from Front Page)

ed for lack of power to cool ice boxes.

Bruh's Drug Store suffered heavy damage from water. Stocks many of which cannot be replaced were ruined. Damage to stocks was estimated as more than \$2,000 and to fixtures and show cases, \$500.

Gulf Research and Development Company lost about \$750 in trucks and equipment. They were stored in a garage which callapsed.

Bushart's Hotel was completely gutted. Gaps were left where roof and windows had been. Winds appeared to have gained hurricane velocity within the rooms ripped up furniture and fixtures to the amount of \$7,500, Byron Bushart said.

At John Sorenson's store, about \$1,200 damage was done to stock and building when the wind took off part of the roof and broke a plate glass.

Port Bay Club damages were estimated at \$2,000. This included a house turned over, roofs off, fences out, a launch lost, a pier gone, skiffs beached and windows and walls out.

Rockport Boatworks gave the appearance of having had a good month's work by a wrecking crew. Almost every shed was down and will cost about \$4,000 to replace. There was no insurance on them. The mill, partially covered by insurance, was damaged to the extent of \$4,000. The "Ditto" sank and will cost about \$100 to put in shape. All other boats were secure at their moorings.

J. W. Sorenson lost parts of the roof on the apartment house and another house causing \$100 repairs, and a \$200 fruit crop that had the trees loaded. The Gulf truck in Caspary's Service Station was damaged in the falling garage to the extent of about \$200.

Damage to the bank building amounted to \$1,000. The roof went off and 38 windows out. Pete Bracht suffered about \$350 damage to stock in his electric shop.

Electricians estimated damage to outdoor wiring over the county to be about \$16,000. Nearly all outside wiring required replacement. J. S. Caraway said water damage to motors and parts in his shop would amount to \$200.

Fred Bracht said repairs on his two downtown buildings would total \$600. John Young's house suffered as serious damage as any in town. The roof was blown off and the house cut almost in two. One bed was sliced into two pieces.

The roof of the main building of the Rockport School was damaged part of the ceiling fell in and a number of windows fell in. Repairs will total about \$600.

Although the palm leaf roof terrace to the Beach Club remained in place through the blow, a part of the roof of the main building was blown off doing damage to an extent of \$500.

At Hunt's Cottages, both piers were washed out, several roofs



**MORE SERIOUS DAMAGE:**—Port Lavaca took one of the hardest blows in the storm. This street scene shows how most of the down town area of the town looked like late Monday afternoon. Most of the shrimp fleet is out of commission and the job of reconstruction in all parts of the town will be huge.

blown off and glass broken. Repairs will cost about \$5,000. Everything but the piers is covered by insurance.

The Cedars lost a pier and had extensive roof damage amounting to \$500. Two cabins went off the blocks at Shady Grove, doing \$50 worth of damage. At Cage Funeral Home, the roof over the chapel went off, window lights went out and the building was water soaked. Damages are about \$1,000.

The roof was partially blown off at Kelly's Cash Grocery and stock damages will be not more than \$1,000. Charles Picton lost the front of his lumber yard building, one shed and the roof of a house rented by R. H. Dickens. He estimated his damage to be \$4,000.

Power lines, always standing a great loss in a hurricane, went down all over the county. Replacement of poles, lines and equipment was expected to run \$15,000. Telegraph lines, with 150 poles out between here and Ingleside alone, will cost the railroad company around \$1,000 to replace.

Damage to Roy Hinton's buildings and groceries stored in them amounted to \$200. Damage at Liquefied Gas Company amounted to \$100.

Houses shifting on their blocks broke pipes in homes and started leaks in gas lines all over the county. Plumbers estimated this loss to be \$5,000.

Jackson Sales Company had a \$100 loss at the store and warehouse. Jackson Seafood Company sustained a \$600 loss to buildings.

At Forest Park Cottages, loss to the court properties and washing away of one pier accounted for

\$500. The roof went off of Fulton Fish Company and an oyster house, within half a day of completion, was blown down mounting damages to \$1,200.

Gwynn's Courts loss was \$50. The Club at Rattlesnake Point suffered a \$250 loss when a building went off its blocks and was badly damaged.

Palm Courts had extensive roof damage and water damage. Their \$5,000 loss is covered by insurance.

Perry Bass Boat Works was flattened and it will take at least a month to clear the wreckage before a new building can be erected. Loss on the actual building amounted to \$5,000 and other damages to the company is about \$2,000.

Cecil Casteline's two shops and his fish house were badly damaged. Building damage alone will run \$2,000. At Poch's Cottages, a pier went out, a garage was blown down and cottages damaged to the extent of \$750. Fulton Family Cottages also estimated the loss, including a pier, at \$750.

Oak Shore Apartments and Cottages loss was heavy. A pier went out, roofs were damaged, garage and one small house were blown down, several rear porches blown off and windows out. The whole will total \$4,500.

At the will of the wind, windmills stood undamaged in many places and in others were torn to pieces and knocked down. Lamar suffered the heaviest windmill loss. Windmill loss over the county was approximately \$400.

A recently completed garage at Jimmie Heard's went down badly damaging two cars and a truck. There was other damage on his property, bringing the total to \$700.

The partially completed Cornelius' cafe lost walls and Well's Courts were damaged. The total of the Cornelius property damage was about \$1,500.

At Mills' Wharf, one launch was lost and other boats damaged when they were blown from a hill into lowlands. Most of the roof was blown off of the main building and other damage done to the extent of \$2,000.

The Saint Charles Bay Club had both boat and building losses amounting to \$4,000. Trees in the State Park did not suffer as badly as in the 1942 storm but branches littered the ground and roads, many of which were washed out. Big Tree stood without any sign of loss. The roof went off of the park house and did about \$500 worth of damage.

At Preston Paul's Boat Works the mill was blown down and the roof blown off of the office. Total damages were \$5,000. Travis Johnson lost about \$2,000 in damage at his fish house.

Only a corner was left standing at Hugh Morrison's Boat House. Damage to the building amounted to \$5,000 and to the boats, \$2,500. About \$100 damage was done by water at Bracht Brothers Grocery.

Two garages, owned by Alfred Shaylor and Clyde Townsend, were flattened, with loss of building and equipment about \$3,000 in each garage. Damage to automobiles, other than those owned by Gulf was \$2,000. About 25 cars were damaged in other places over the county when trees or garages fell upon them. This damage totalled about \$1,500. Most sensational of the wrecked cars was one owned by Willie Close and parked in front of his house with oak tree all but growing out of it.

**Three Passes Open To Gulf Improve Fishing Prospects**

Offsetting some of the damage to the fishing industry, three passes were opened into the Gulf by the hurricane and sportsmen predict that Aransas Bay will offer this fall and winter the best fishing in many years.

Vincent Slough is opened about 1,000 feet wide and is deep enough that waves come in to the sandhills without breaking and porpoise are playing in the channel. North Pass is open one-half mile wide and Cedar Bayou is opened.

This will give three entrances to the bay for schools of fish from the gulf.

The project of opening one of the passes has been widely discussed here by fishing interests. The opening of a pass was thought to be the most beneficial project for local interests, but the expense of accomplishing it was out of reach.

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ALL STAR

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