

# Saskatchewan River Was 24 Feet Above Low Water Mark Last Night

Heavy Rains Have Converted River Into Swollen, Raging Torrent  
Which Rose 10 Feet in as Many Hours—Heavy Rainfall  
Saturday Afternoon and Evening—Worst is Thought  
to be Over

(BULLETIN—3:30 A.M.)

At 3.30 o'clock this morning the river had risen seventeen feet since the rise first started on Sunday morning. At 3.30 o'clock the river still was rising at a rate of about one foot every hour. The water at this time was within 12 inches of flooding the Mill Creek bridge. Several shacks near Mill Creek were floating early this morning. Streets Superintendent Alton and the police had men watching the three low level bridges. Three shacks were observed floating down the river during the early hours of the morning.

The heavy rains of the past few days have converted the Saskatchewan river into a swollen, raging torrent, and hundreds of spectators watched its progress yesterday as it rose ten feet within as many hours. It began to creep up the banks about 6 o'clock yesterday morning, and rose about one foot per hour until six o'clock last night, and afterwards about five inches per hour. Last night, at eleven o'clock, John Walter said the rise was gradually lessening, and he expected it to cease within an hour or two. At that time the water had risen to exactly twenty-four feet above low water mark, as recorded by the government gauge near Mr. Walter's mill.

The first warning of the rise of the river was received by W. J. Huff and John Walter early Sunday morning, at two o'clock, in a telephone message from Rocky Mountain House, it being stated that the river had risen about twenty feet at that point. Later messages stated that the flood reached its highest point at four o'clock, two hours later. Mr. Walter figured it out that the water would reach its highest point at Edmonton at midnight last night, as he estimated that it would take twenty hours for the full force of the rising waters at

Rocky Mountain House to be felt at Edmonton.

## Torrent Brings Down Debris.

The torrent bore down with it yesterday a tremendous quantity of driftwood, uprooted trees, and stray logs carried from the river banks. Fortunately no logs were cut last winter for the Edmonton mills, and consequently there were none in the booms within the city limits, otherwise the loss would have been enormous.

## Heavy Rainfall Here.

Just over three-quarters of an inch of rain, or to be correct eighty-one hundredths of an inch, fell in Edmonton on Saturday afternoon and evening during the nine and a half hours' storm, from two until eleven-thirty. Contrary to general belief, the precipitation this spring and summer has not been of record volume, although the rains have been very frequent and in some cases very heavy.

H. W. Owen, of the meteorological office, states that the average rainfall in the Edmonton district during the past thirty years has been 6.17 inches. So far this year the electrical machine has measured 6.03 inches. The fall during the present month has been 4.45 inches, although this is eclipsed by the record established in June of last year of 8.53 inches—by far the greatest amount that has ever fallen in one month in Edmonton.

## More Rain Than Usual.

Although the average for the past thirty years has been 6.17 inches, Mr. Owen says that if the two very wet years, 1913 and 1914, are eliminated, the average would be about five inches, so that Edmonton has had a more than usual share of precipitation this year.

H. A. Craig, deputy minister of agriculture, states that sufficient rain has fallen throughout the province to mature the crops, which are in magnificent condition.