

CYCLONE DOES MUCH

DAMAGE TO PROPERTY

A storm which reached the proportions of a cyclone at many points passed over this section Sunday afternoon and great damage was done to farm property, a large percentage of the barns in the path of the storm having been blown down and many of them scattered over a large territory.

From reports received, the storm extended from Bowdon over in Wells county to the Eddy county line on the east, and perhaps still on into Nelson county, the brunt of the storm being borne by a strip of territory about ten miles in width, running east by northeast. Bowdon, Cathay, Barlow and Brantford seemed to be in the center of the storm. Carrington on the south and New Rockford on the north had a heavy wind, apparently the outriders of the main storm. In Carrington the fire wall on the Foster County State Bank was blown onto the roof with the result that the roof caved in, and the plate glass window in the Buchanan block that was occupied by the Penny store was blown in. A few trees were twisted off in New Rockford, leaving only the stump.

Barlow seemed to be the center of the storm and there the Monarch elevator was blown down and totally demolished; the roof was blown off from the Acme elevator, and the driveway of the Farmers elevator was torn from the balance of the building and strewn to the four winds of heaven. The railroad coal sheds containing many tons of coal was moved thru a heavy fence and turned completely around and a box car standing on the tracks was overturned, while one house in the outskirts of the town was moved from its foundation. A party of tourists who had sought shelter from the heavy rain in the drive way of the destroyed elevator had a narrow escape from total annihilation, the automobile top alone saving them from death. A lady in the party received a severe wound in the head, but aside from this and the demolishing of the top of the car, no further damage was done.

The storm started at three o'clock with a strong southwest gale, followed by a downpour of rain. Eye witnesses of the "twister" which caused the damage state that it appeared to move with great rapidity in an east by northeasterly direction, the lower part of the funnel occasionally rising up and then dropping to the earth. This undoubtedly accounts for some of the freak stunts noticed.

By the time the storm reached Binford it had abated somewhat, but blew down part of the railroad windmill. Farmers northwest of town suffered much damage by having their barn blown down.

The heavy rain accompanying the storm was of untold benefit to the crops outside the center of the storm. The downpour lasted for forty-five minutes, and has apparently covered a larger part of the central part of the state.